Message from the Physician-in-Chief

Dear Colleagues,

Things are going well in the Department of Medicine at Sunnybrook. We are finalizing recruitment of seven new faculty members for this coming July—details forthcoming shortly. These are wonderful young faculty members who will add greatly to our academic programs.

On April 28 we are holding our “Spring Fling” with a dinner and dance. We will be honouring the faculty members who have been part of our Department for over 20 years. This should be a joyous event to celebrate together.

Finally, I am sure you are aware that I have decided to resign as Physician-in-Chief at Sunnybrook. As I explained in my prior emails, I feel that the time is right to recruit a full time PIC who can devote all his or her energy to building the next chapter. We have made a good deal of progress; it is a great opportunity for our Department and a new PIC to take the next steps.

All the best, Wendy

Spotlight- Dr. Michelle Hladunewich

Kidney Disease in Women
By Dr. Michelle Hladunewich

Pre-eclampsia is a disease of the glomerular endothelial cell that presents with hypertension, proteinuria and depression of the glomerular filtration rate (GFR). It is now recognized that pre-eclampsia is not a disease confined to pregnancy and that women with a history of pre-eclampsia are at increased risk for the future development of hypertension, cardiovascular disease as well as end stage renal disease (ESRD). However little is known about the aberrant physiological processes that might place these women at increased risk for untoward future outcomes. In the renal physiology laboratory at the University Health Network, I study glomerular physiology, the renin angiotensin system and endothelial function utilizing precise physiological techniques. My research is conducted in collaboration with Dr. Judith Miller (UHN) and Dr. John Kingdom (MSH Obstetrics) and sponsored by the Physician Services Incorporated Foundation.
and the Kidney Foundation of Canada. I also collaborate with investigators from Kingston (Dr. G. Smith, Obstetrics) and Ottawa (Dr. Mark Walker, Obstetrics) to populate a large prospective follow-up study funded by the CIHR pre-eclampsia NET grant. It is my hope that the identification of physiological abnormalities will serve to inform randomized controlled trails of future potential therapeutic targets.

My other passion is the understanding of Kidney Disease in Pregnancy. I am interested in a kidney's ability to accommodate to pregnancy. I already conducted a thorough physiological assessment of the renal accommodation to pregnancy in healthy women and I am currently extending these observations to women with underlying kidney disease in the hopes of better understanding why kidney function worsens in some women during pregnancy. I have established a clinic dedicated to young women with underlying kidney disease who are either planning a pregnancy, are pregnant or are being followed in the postpartum period. The clinic is a multidisciplinary clinic located at MSH. I work closely with Dr. Johannes Keunen, the designated obstetrician in this clinic. We see patients from all over Ontario and have a rapidly expanding prospective database, which will provide ongoing research and teaching opportunities. I look forward to establishing a similar clinic at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre once the Prenatal and Gynecology Program is on site.

Dr. Michelle Hladunewich is a Clinician Investigator and Assistant Professor in the Division of Nephrology, Department of Medicine at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and the University of Toronto. She is also the Director of acute Dialysis and Inpatient Services in the divisions of Nephrology and Critical Care at Sunnybrook. Dr. Hladunewich completed her Medical Degree at the University of Alberta in 1994. She subsequently completed Fellowships in General Internal Medicine (1998 U of T) Critical Care Medicine (1999 Stanford University and Nephrology (2003 Stanford University). She completed a Masters of Science in (Clinical Epidemiology) in 2003. Dr. Hladunewich has received many honours and awards including the Sunnybrook Department of Medicine Women’s Health teaching Award in 2005. She is also well published in refereed publications and has held several peer-reviewed-grants as principal investigator. Her key area of interest is kidney disease in pregnancy, pre-eclampsia, gender differences in progression of Glomerular-Based Kidney Disease and Gender difference in Critical Care.

Internal Grant Review Service

Submitting a Grant?

The University of Toronto DOM’s Internal Grant Review Service is for you. The service is directed specifically for junior faculty members at the Assistant and Lecturer ranks. It is a non-threatening review of your grant designed to help improve your odds of getting funded. All you need to do is have your grant prepared 30 days prior to the submission date to allow time for the review. As you prepare your grant, talk to your University Division Director (ie at least 6 weeks before the grant deadline). They will help you choose 2 reviewers. For more information, go to the DOM web site.

http://www.deptmedicine.utoronto.ca/Research/internalgrant.htm

You can also call Conrad Liles (416 340 3183) conrad.liles@uhn.on.ca, Professor and Vice Chair of Medicine who has created this program. Or contact Sheldon Tobe at Sunnybrook x 6901, Sheldon.tobe@sunnybrook.ca.
Dr. Conrad Liles will be presenting information on the Internal Grant Review Process. The presentation will be held on Thursday May 28th 12 noon – 1pm in Room EG61.

**Selected Publications January 2009**

**Endocrinology**

Jay Silverberg:


Baiju Shah:

**General Internal Medicine**

Jan Hux :
Medical Oncology/Haematology

Georg Bjarnason:

Craig Earle:
- Racial and Ethnic Differences in End of life Care Among Fee-for-Service Medicare Beneficiaries with Advanced Cancer. Smith AK, Earle CC, McCarthy EP. JAGS 2009 Jan;57(1):153-158, 2009 (Collaborator)

- Provider case volume and outcomes following prostate brachytherapy. Chen AB, D’Amico AV, Neville BA, Steyerberger EW, Earle CC. J Urol 2009 Jan;181(1):113-118 (Senior Responsible Author)

Urban Emmenegger:

Kevin Imrie:
- (peer-reviewed publications)


(Abstracts)


Dr. Maureen Trudeau:

(peer-reviewed publications)

(abstracts)

Nephrology

Sheldon Tobe:

Grants Received January 2009

Cardiology

Brad Strauss:
- A Phase 1, First-in-man Trial of Intracoronary Collagenase Therapy for Chronic Total Occlusions, Principal Investigator, Canadian Institute of Health Research, 2009-2011, $139,338/yr

Rheumatology

Mary Bell:
- 2009 Mar - 2010 Feb: Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR): Operating Grant - Priority Announcement: Knowledge Translation. Exploring mentorship as a strategy to build capacity for knowledge translation research and practice. Pi: Gagliardi, Anna R. Collaborators: Bell, Mary J; Leslie, Karen; Levinson, Wendy; Morrison, Laurie J; Rotstein, Ori D; Silver, Ivan L; Straus, Sharon E; Tourangeau, Ann Elizabeth. Co-Principal Investigator. 83,765 (CAD).
Urban Emmenegger:
- Dean's Fund Grant 2009: Hypoxia: a mediator of PSA surge in prostate cancer patients undergoing antiangiogenic therapy?

**Department News**

**WebCV Update:**
- Onsite training is ongoing. If your CV has already been entered in the system, you should have received an e-mail requesting you to book a training session with the WebCV trainers. If you have not already done so, please contact Hira Syed at hiraa.syed@utoronto.ca or by calling 416-480-6100 x83627. The WebCV trainers are located in Room D470a.

**Spring Fling:**
- Drs. Levinson and Fettes will be hosting an evening of entertainment, “DOM Spring Fling” on April 28th, 2009 from 6:30pm – 9:00 pm in the Main Ballroom at the Vaughan Estates. The event will feature dinner and a Jazz band and will be in celebration of long standing full-time members in the department who have been at Sunnybrook for 20 years or more. The event is opened to all full-time faculty members and their partner/friend. Please contact the department office by phone 416-480-4592 or by e-mail department.medicine@sunnybrook.ca, to confirm your attendance. The honourees are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Number of Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fred Saibil</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Myers</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita Rachlis</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Webster</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivy Fettes</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Dubbin</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Silverberg</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campbell Joyner</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neil Shear</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Black</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Cohen</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Geerts</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Pritchard</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Berbrayer</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Morgan</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peeter Poldre</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PAIRO Trust Fund Resident Teaching Award:**
- Congratulations to Dr. Rick Swartz (Clinical Associate) who is one of the two recipients to receive the 2009 PAIRO Trust Fund Resident Teaching Award.

**Appointment:**
- Dr Ayelet Kuper has been appointed an Associate Scientist at the Sunnybrook Research Institute, congratulations!