FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
The first World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS) Tumor Section Meeting was held in Jaipur, India, October 11-13, with a Satellite Symposium held in Kolkata October 15-16, 2004. Special thanks are given to Ab Guha who organized outstanding scientific sessions at both sites. Over 40 International Speakers came to present their work to the delegation. University of Toronto participants included Mark Bernstein, Richard Perrin, Jim Rutka, Ab Guha, Norm Laperriere. Special thanks also to Sandi Amaral and Jennifer Glen for their help in organizing the meeting. Please see the attached photo taken during the meeting in Jaipur.

This fall’s Lougheed visiting professor was Dr John Girvin from King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Dr Girvin instructed the residents taking the course in the art of temporal lobectomy, and spoke to the U of T residents during their curriculum on the importance of febrile seizures in predicting for mesial temporal lobe sclerosis. Special thanks to Chris Wallace once again for hosting the Lougheed Professorship, and the soiree at La Bodega, September 30th, 2004.

IN MEMORIAM
William Lougheed, Emeritus Professor of neurosurgery, passed away on September 30th, 2004. News of his passing reached the Lougheed Course participants on the last day of the course.

HONOURS AND AWARDS
Andres Lozano gave the Lister Prize Lecture at the Department of Surgery, University Rounds, Mount Sinai Hospital. Improving brain function with neurosurgery. October 8, 2004. This is the most prestigious award offered in the Department of Surgery at the University of Toronto. Congratulations Andres!
Jim Rutka was appointed to the position of Treasurer of the Academy of Neurological Surgery.

PUBLICATIONS

Bernstein M: Internet censorship in the hospital: Bad ethics and great irony. Healthcare Quarterly 7:8, 2004


VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS
Peter Dirks was an Invited Speaker at the British Association for Cancer Research Conference, Salamis Bay, Cyprus “Identification of Human Brain Tumor Stem Cells”. October 13, 2004

Ab Guha was the Keynote Speaker at the Brain Tumor Center of Excellence: Wake Forest. “Glioma Models: Study of Genetic Interactions and Discovery of Novel Glioma Genes”. September 24, 2004

Ab Guha sat on the External Advisory Review, Alabama Brain Tumor SPORE:, September 22-23, 2004
Ab Guha was an Invited Speaker at the American Society of Human Genetics. Toronto. “Schwann Cell Specific Gene Expression Profile in NF1-Associated Peripheral Nerve Tumors & Neurofibromin Interacting Proteins. October 26, 2004

Ab Guha organized and spoke at the WFNS: Tumor Section Meeting: Jaipur, India. 1/ Neurofibromatosis; 2/ Mol. Biology of Gliomas; 3/ Management of Peripheral Nerve Tumors. October 11-13, 2004

Ab Guha organized and spoke at the WFNS: Tumor Section Satellite Meeting: Kolkata, India. 1/ Mol. Biology of Adult Gliomas; 2/ Management of Peripheral Nerve Tumors. October 15-16, 2004

Andres Lozano was an Invited International Speaker at the American Society for Stereotactic and functional Neurosurgery. 1) Neuromodulation and Movement Disorders: What does the future hold? 2) Thalamic stimulation: Anterior nucleus. Cleveland, Ohio. October 1-2, 2004

Jim Rutka was an Invited Speaker at the WFNS Tumour Section Meeting in Jaipur, India, October 11-13th, 2004. 1/ Molecular determinants of glioma invasion. 2/ Brainstem tumors in children. 3/ Avoiding complications in posterior fossa surgery. 4/ Improving patient outcome while maintaining morbidity.

Jim Rutka was an Invited Speaker at the WFNS Tumour Section Satellite Meeting, Calcutta, India, October 15th & 16th, 2004. 1/ Molecular Biology of pediatric CNS Tumors. 2/ Brainstem Tumors in children. 3/ Surgical Management of medulloblastoma

Jim Rutka presented on behalf of Dr. Alan Hudson at The American Academy of Neurological Surgery Joint Meeting with the Germany Academy of Neurosurgery and the Germany Society of Neurosurgery. “Cancer Care Ontario Policies Regarding Malignant Brain Tumors.” Berlin, Germany, October 4, 2004

Michael Fehlings was an Invited Speaker at the Institute of Experimental Medicine, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Symposium on “Brain research: Where is it going?” “Pathophysiology of white matter dysfunction after neurotrauma”. Prague, Czech Republic, July 1-3, 2004


Michael Fehlings was an Invited Speaker at the 7th International Neurotrauma Symposium, South Adelaide, Australia. 1/ Chair Session 7.1: Neuroprotection; 2/ The FAS death receptor as a target for neuroprotective therapy of acute spinal cord injury. Sept. 16, 2004

Michael Fehlings attended the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation, La Jolla, CA to sit on the Scientific Advisory Committee for grant reviews Sept. 27, 2004.


Michael Fehlings was the Keynote Speaker at the Research Symposium, “The future of spinal cord research”New Jersey Commission on Spinal Cord Research, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. October 12 2004

Michael Fehlings was a Member of External Advisory Panel, International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD), University of British Columbia, Vancouver. October 19, 2004.

Michael Fehlings was Co-Moderator of the Session on Spinal Cord Injury; and Moderator: Concurrent Session: Cell Biology at the North American Spine Society 19th Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. October 27-30, 2004


Andres Lozano was a Plenary Speaker. The future of DBS and lesion surgery for Parkinson’s disease. Movement Disorder Society Meeting, Rome, Italy, June 18, 2004

Andres Lozano was an Invited International Speaker. XVI Congress of the European Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery. Functional neurosurgery; Yesterday, today and tomorrow. Vienna, Austria, June 23-26, 2004


Andres Lozano was an Invited Lecturer at the XXV Brazilian Congress of Neurosurgery. 1) Surgical treatment of Parkinson’s disease: Where are we and where are we heading to? 2) Genic therapy, transplants, and iontoforesis: News advances in the treatment of neurological disease. Goias, Brazil, September 6, 2004.

Andres Lozano was an Invited International Speaker. Contemporary surgical treatment of Parkinson’s disease. 2nd American Japanese Neurosurgical Symposium, Nagoya, Japan, October 5, 2004
Andres Lozano was a Plenary Speaker. Developments in Functional Neurosurgery for Movement Disorders. Neurosurgery in the 21st Century Symposium, Japanese Neurosurgical Society. October 6, 2004

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO NEUROSURGEONS AT THE CNS ANNUAL MEETING, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, OCTOBER 16 TO 21, 2004

Practical Courses
Eric Massicotte, Adult and Pediatric Spinal Trauma

Luncheon Seminars
James Rutka, Moderator, Emerging Techniques in Brain Tumor Diagnosis and Treatment
Andres Lozano, Functional Neurosurgery: Emerging Applications
Eve Tsai, Cervical Spine Trauma and Spinal Cord Injury: Advances in Medical and Surgical Management

General Scientific Sessions
Andres Lozano, Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, Thalamic DBS
Eve Tsai, Charles Tator, Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves, Matrix Supplemented Hydrogel Channels Improve Functional Recovery after Complete Spinal Cord Transection
Andres Lozano, Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, Bilateral Intraputaminal Infusion of Liatermin (Glial Cell Line-derived Neurotrophic Factor; r-metHuGDNF) in Subjects with Advanced Parkinson’s Disease
Gelareh Zadeh, Michael Schwartz, Pediatric Neurological Surgery, Results of Stereotactic Radiosurgery for Brain Arteriovenous Malformations in Children: The University of Toronto Experience

Digital Masters Video Symposium
Andres Lozano, Subthalamic Deep Brain Stimulation for Parkinson’s Disease

Tumor Section
Peter Dirks, Brain Tumor Stem Cells

RESIDENTS’ CORNER
If any resident has an interest in the Surgeon Scientist program for 2005, please contact Val Cabral, Research Program Co-ordinator for Surgical Research in the Department of Surgery Research Office, University of Toronto, and University Health Network, 200 Elizabeth Street, EN 9-232. tel: 416-340-3105; fax: 416-595-9486; email: Val.Cabral@uhn.on.ca

Melanie and Cian O’Kelly are the proud parents of Emmeline Eva O’Kelly born on Saturday, October 16th, 2004.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH (Prepared by Robin Humphreys)

See attached power point file attached.
Label the 36 anatomical structures in this section of brain taken through the mid-level of the diencephalon.

ANSWER TO THE LAST QUESTION (September NEUROSURGE Volume 6; Issue 1)

1. The two post-mortem gross specimens are taken of the eye and adjacent portions of the optic nerve. Common to each is the presence of blood in the subdural/subarachnoid space within the optic nerve sheath, as well as scattered throughout the globe, partially dissecting away the retina.

2. While it might be presumed that the specimen was obtained in an adult who perished from a severe, spontaneous subarachnoid hemorrhage, the next question (#3) would seem inappropriate for an adult patient. Thus the diagnosis in this case is of a non-accidental head injury sustained by an infant.

3. The neurosurgeon must,
   a. First be alert to the following features of non-accidental trauma (head injury)
   i. That usually occurs in a child < 3 years of age, and most commonly in the first 12 months of life.
   ii. When the history of trauma is often trivial and mismatched to the severity of the injury(ies) sustained.
   iii. When the history is frequently incompatible with the infant’s developmental abilities.
   iv. If the description of the presenting symptoms, poor feeding, irritability, lethargy, seizures, apnea or unresponsiveness, may appear to be vague, and could lead one down the wrong path.
   v. That retinal hemorrhages are present in more than 80% of victims with whiplash-shake syndrome.
   vi. And possibly additional superficial soft tissue features of recent or remote trauma.
   vii. In which there is imaging evidence of skull, rib and/or extremity fractures.

Be aware that he/she while managing the medical issues cannot be expected to address the social and criminal justice matters in isolation from the other related experts. A partnership must exist with representatives from pediatric medicine, social work, police, etc. What they expect from the surgeon is an accurate description of the CNS findings, their causation (if possible) and the expected outcome.

In Canada, an average of 54 children are murdered annually, at least one-third of whom are less than 12 months of age. More than 70% are killed before age 5 years.

b. Importantly, it is incumbent upon the surgeon who is frequently the first professional who has contact with the caretakers of the child, to inform them that other professionals will be speaking with them, and to provide the reasons for this intervention.

PDF OF THE MONTH
Journal of Neurosurgery 101: 1-6, 2004
Juvenile pilocytic astrocytoma of the brainstem in children. In this article by former U of T Neurosurgery graduate, John Kestle, the role of surgery is espoused for children with brainstem tumors.
WEBSITE OF THE MONTH
http://www.cjns.org/
This is the website for the Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences. All residents and faculty are encouraged to visit this website, and to submit their clinical and research studies to the journal. Articles are now available on line as PDFs from 1999-2004.

UPCOMING NEUROSURGICAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS
Department of Surgery University Rounds, Friday, November 5th, 2004 @ 7:30 a.m., Sunnybrook & Women’s College Health Science Centre, McLaughlin Lecture Theatre EG.61. Trauma: Dr. Jameel Ali, “ATLS: What Have We Achieved”; and Dr. Lorraine Tremblay, “The Trauma Abdomen: Not an Open & Shut Case”.

November 29-30th
2004 E. Harry Botterell Lectureship in Neurosurgery
Guest Lecturer: Professor Albert L. Rhoton Jr., Professor and Chairman Emeritus Department of Neurosurgery, University of Florida
Monday, November 29th: Toronto Western Hospital, Main Auditorium, West Wing, 2-401
0900-1200 Case Presentations by University of Toronto Neurosurgical Residents
1400-1600 Resident Clinical Research Presentations for the William J. Horsey Prize
1600-1700 Professor Albert L. Rhoton Jr. “Temporal Bone Anatomy 3-D Presentation”

Tuesday, November 30th: Toronto Western Hospital, Main Auditorium, West Wing, 2-401
Faculty Family Holiday Reception hosted by the Department of Surgery, University of Toronto, Thursday, December 2nd, 2004 @ 6:30 p.m., Acqua Ristorante, BCE place.


NEUROSURGERY RESIDENT SEMINARS
November 5th
0900-1200 Hospital for Sick Children, Roy Hill Wing, 1st Floor, Room 1527
Functional Neurosurgery:
Anatomy of the basal ganglia and connecting circuits
Physiology/imaging of the basal ganglia
Neuropathology - Review of Neurodegenerative disorders

November 12th
0900-1200 Hospital for Sick Children, Roy Hill Wing, 1st Floor, Room 1527
Functional Neurosurgery:
Parkinson's disease - clinical assessment and medical treatment
Parkinson's disease - Who is a surgical candidate?
Essential tremor and dystonia - Diagnosis, medical and surgical management

November 19th
0900-1200
Hospital for Sick Children, Roy Hill Wing – 1st Floor, Room 1527
Functional Neurosurgery:
Surgery for Parkinson's disease - history
Principles of stereotactic neurosurgery - Frames, calculation of coordinates
Intraoperative electrophysiological recordings
Deep brain stimulation

November 26th
0900-1200
Hospital for Sick Children, Roy Hill Wing – 1st Floor, Room 1527
Radiosurgery Symposium

November 29-30th

2004 E. Harry Botterell Lectureship in Neurosurgery

Guest Lecturer: Professor Albert L. Rhoton Jr., Professor and Chairman Emeritus
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Tuesday, November 30th: Toronto Western Hospital, Main Auditorium, West Wing, 2-401
0900-1000 Professor Albert Rhoton “The Art and Beauty of the Brain in Neurosurgery”
1000-1600 Mini-Symposia: Current Controversies in Neurosurgery
1600-1700 Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Lecture by Professor Albert L. Rhoton Jr. “Anatomy and surgical approaches to the CP-angle”

HEADS OF DIVISIONS MEETING
Thursday, November 11th, 2004, 0700 to 0800 hours, North Conference Room, The Hospital for Sick Children

RESIDENCY PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, November 23rd, 2004, 0700 to 0800 hours, North Conference Room, The Hospital for Sick Children.