FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

The spring 2005 Lougheed Microvascular Course was held April 4-8. Dr. Frederic Boop from St Jude's, The University of Tennessee, Memphis, was the invited guest lecturer and demonstrator. This was the first course to be held since Dr Lougheed's passing last year. Dr Boop lectured on the surgical treatment of Thalamic Tumors, and provided hands-on practical points for the approach to tumors in the pineal region. A splendid social event was held once again at La Bodega. Many thanks to Chris Wallace for organizing another successful Lougheed Microvascular Course. Please see attached photo of Dr Boop with the neurosurgery residents.

The 2005 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons took place in New Orleans April 16-21. This was perhaps the finest showing ever for University of Toronto Neurosurgery faculty and residents at the AANS meeting. Congratulations to Eve Tsai for winning the Synthes Award for resident research on spinal cord and spinal injury, and to Sarah Woodrow who received the Cone Pevehouse Award for her presentation in the Socio-Economic session on practice patterns amongst women in neurosurgery. The opening reception at the meeting was held at Mardi Gras World in Algiers, Louisiana. Please see attached photo from the opening reception (courtesy of Eve Tsai).

HONOURS AND AWARDS
Jim Rutka and Michael Taylor received a 3 year NCIC grant for their work entitled “Role of Hedgehog Signaling in the Pathogenesis of Medulloblastoma.”
Michael Taylor received a 2 year fellowship from the American Brain Tumor Association for his project "Identification of Novel Medulloblastoma Oncogenes Using Functional Genomics".

Sheila Singh is the recipient of this year’s Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Resident Research Award.

Jim Rutka received a 3 year NCIC grant for his work entitled “The Role of Cytoskeletal GTPases in astrocytoma migration.

U. OF T. NEUROSURGERY AT THE NORTH AMERICAN SKULL BASE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING, TORONTO APRIL 7-10, 2005
The following neurosurgical faculty and residents were involved in the program of the NASBS meeting.
Michael Cusimano, Moderator, Scientific Session

David Rowed, David Houlden “Prediction of Hearing Preservation in Vestibular Schwannoma Removal by the Retrosigmoid Approach”

Fred Gentili, Instructional Course, “Management of Complex Meningiomas

Chris Wallace, Instructional Course, “Neurovascular disease in post fossa: Indications and approaches”.

Fred Gentili, Moderator, “Complications in the Skull Base and Their Avoidance”

Michael Cusimano, “Petrosal Apex Lesions”

Farhad Pirouzmand, “The Emerging Trends in the Epidemiology of Traumatic Optic neuropathy at the largest Adult Trauma Center in Canada”

Fred Gentili, “Esthesioneuroblastoma: Long Term Follow-up and Recurrence Patterns”

Chris Wallace, Moderator, Scientific Session

Michael Tymianski, “Transmastoid Partial Labyrinthectomy Approach for Medial Skull Base Vascular Lesions”

Jim Rutka, Keynote Address, “Molecular Biology Meets the Skull Base

Fred Gentili, Scientific Poster, “Giant Paranasal Schwannoma – Three Cases and Review of the Literature

PUBLICATIONS


Andrade-Souza YM, Schwalb JM, Hamani C, Hoque T, Saint-Cyr J, Lozano AM. Comparison of 2-dimensional magnetic resonance imaging and 3-planar reconstruction methods for targeting the subthalamic nucleus in Parkinson disease. Surg Neurol. 63(4):357-62, 2005


Bernstein M: A good addiction. Globe and Mail, Friday, April 1, 2005, page A22


Bernstein M: No wares to hide. University of Toronto Bulletin Number 17, April 25, 2005, page 7


VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS
Peter Dirks presented the McArdle Cancer Biology Seminar at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, "Brain Tumour Stem Cells: Linking Neural Stem Cell Biology to Brain Cancer" March 30, 2005.

Andres Lozano was an invited International Speaker. Medtronic Activa User’s Group Meeting: “Mechanism of Action of DBS – DBS for Dystonia.” Gold Coast, Australia. April 17, 2005

Andres Lozano was a Keynote Speaker. Movement Disorder Society of Australia Conference: (1) “Pathogenesis & Surgical Treatment of Parkinson Disease and other Movement Disorder,” (2) Long Term Observations & Challenges in Movement Disorder Surgery.” Gold Coast, Australia. April 18, 2005

Chris Wallace was Visiting Professor at the Hospital Mointos de Vento, Brazil, Mar 30, 2005. “The multidisciplinary management of cerebrovascular disease”.

Chris Wallace was Visiting Professor at the Universidate Federal do Rio Grande do sol, Brazil, Mar 31, 2005. “Mechanisms of neuronal death after experimental cerebral ischemia”.

Chris Wallace was an Invited Speaker at the 3 Congresso Gaucho de Neurologica e Neurocirurgia. 1/ DVAF classification and treatment; 2/ Hypertensive hematomas - What are the news. 3/ Neurovascular Program in Toronto - The Neurosurgeon's Role. 4/ Treatment of ruptured/unruptured aneurysm. What should the neurosurgeon do? Toronto Western experience? An interactive session. Brazil, April 2-3, 2005

Moji Hodaie was an Invited speaker at 7th IATM Advanced MR Imaging Symposium in Medellin, Colombia, April 14-17, 2005. 1/ "Neuromodulation for the treatment of epilepsy", 2/ "Neuroimaging in movement disorders" and 3/ "Functional Neurosurgery: localization using MR techniques".

Ab Guha was an Invited Speaker at the AACR Organ Specific Site Symposia: New Concepts in Brain Tumor Therapy, Annaheim,CA April 18, 2005. 1/ "Embryonic Stem Cell Transgenic Gliomas: Progression, Interactions, Angiogenesis and Gene Discovery", and 2/ AACR Mini-Symposia " GATA-6, a Potential Astrocytoma Tumor Suppressor Gene (TSG), Identified by Gene Trapping of Genetically Engineered Mouse (GEM) Glioma Astrocytes"

Michael Fehlings attended the NRRRC Advisory Board Meeting, Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation, April 23-24, 2005, Philadelphia, PA
RESIDENTS’ CORNER
The faculty vs. residents Spring hockey match was held April 3rd, 2005. Pictured in this photo from left to right are: DJ Cook, Ryan DeMarchi, Jim Rutka, Amro Al-Habib and Merdas Al-Otaibi (see photo below). Congratulations to Amro who scored his first goal against the faculty!

Mock Orals will be held all day Saturday, April 30th, 2005 at The Hospital for Sick Children.

Residents Welcome Party, Saturday, July 16th, 2005 at the home of Mari and Jim Rutka. Please mark your calendar. Invitations will follow.

Annual Canoe Trip, Killarney, September 9-11, 2005. Please let Stephanie know if you are interested in going.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH (Prepared by Robin Humphreys)
All the following events occur during the process of retrograde degeneration, EXCEPT (A) a displacement of the nucleus toward the periphery of the cell. (B) an initial swelling of the cell body. (C) a proliferation of Nissl granules. (D) degeneration of processes along the axon distal to the lesion. (E) an initial accumulation of mitochondria in the axoplasm at the nodes of Ranvier.

ANSWER TO THE LAST QUESTION (March NEUROSURGE Volume 6; Issue 7) Cranial Autonomic Gangli
The cranial autonomic ganglia, that actually are not cranial because they lie in the face, are four in number. The ganglia belong to the cranial part of the parasympathetic nervous system, i.e. no cell bodies and synapses other than parasympathetic, are to be found in them.1

The components and function of each are listed in the accompanying chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ciliary</th>
<th>Speno-palatine</th>
<th>Submandibular</th>
<th>Otic</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Parasympathetic</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Root (PSR)</strong></td>
<td>E-W nucleus =&gt; CN:III.</td>
<td>Superior salivatory nucleus =&gt; CN:VII.</td>
<td>Superior salivatory nucleus =&gt; CN:VII.</td>
<td>Inferior salivatory nucleus =&gt; CN:IX.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sympathetic</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Root (SyR)</strong></td>
<td>Superior cervical ganglion =&gt; ICA.</td>
<td>Superior cervical ganglion =&gt; ICA.</td>
<td>Inferior cervical ganglion =&gt; ECA.</td>
<td>Inferior cervical ganglion =&gt; ECA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sensory Root</strong></td>
<td>CN:V1</td>
<td>CN:V2</td>
<td>CN:V3</td>
<td>CN:V3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


PDF OF THE MONTH
In this PDF, you will read about the results of patients whose aneurysms were clipped by neurosurgery residents. This study shows the emphasis placed on resident surgical education at the University of Toronto, and the good outcomes that can be achieved in their hands. Congratulations to Sarah, Mark and Chris for this important paper on surgical education.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH
www.amedeo.com
By going to this website, you will be able to register to receive weekly notices of the latest articles published in any field of medicine of interest. For example, you may wish to register to receive articles on CNS tumors, or neurosurgery, or neurology. This is a very useful way to stay in touch with the literature, and to be aware of the latest advances in the field of neurosciences.

UPCOMING NEUROSURGICAL MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Dr. David Naylor has been appointed as President of the University of Toronto.

Department of Surgery, Gallie Day, The Liberty Grand Entertainment Complex, Centennial Room, Exhibition Place, Friday, May 6th, 2005 @ 7:30 a.m. Dr. David Herndon, Jesse H. Jones Distinguished Chair in Burn Surgery, University of Texas Medical Branch; Chief of Staff, Shriners Hospital for Children, Galveston, Texas is this year’s Gordon Murray Lecturer “Modulation of the Catabolic Response to Injury”

Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences, June 14-18, 2005, Ottawa, Ontario.

Congress of Neurological Surgeons, Boston, Massachusetts, October 8-13, 2005. Abstracts can now be submitted to http://www.abstrak.com/core/cns2005
CIHR Lou Siminovitch Lectureship hosted by the University Department of Surgery, Friday, October 14th, 2005 @ 7:30 a.m., The Hospital for Sick Children, Auditorium, Main Floor, Elm Wing. Dr. Donald E. Ingber, Judah Folkman Professor of Vascular Biology, Harvard Medical School, Children’s Hospital, Boston, MA

NEUROSURGERY RESIDENT SEMINARS, 9 a.m. to noon, Room 1527, The Hospital for Sick Children unless otherwise noted.

Friday, May 6th, 2005, 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
Gallie Day, Poster sessions and talks: Dr. David Herndon, Gordon Murray Lecturer. **Liberty Grand Entertainment Complex, Exhibition Place**

Friday, May 13th, 2005
Dr. Steve McCluskey: Extradural spinal tumours
Dr. Anna Bendszak: Tumours in first 2 years of life
Dr. Peter Dirks: Moyamoya
Dr. Robin Humphreys: Hemorrhagic stroke

Friday, May 20th, 2005
Dr. Karel TerBrugge: Vein of Galen
Dr. Micahel Taylor: Molecular oncology/hereditary brain tumors
Dr. Robin Humphreys: Intradural spinal tumours

Friday, May 27th, 2005
E. Bruce Hendrick Lectureship and City-Wide Rounds, **The Hospital for Sick Children, Main Auditorium, Elm Street Wing, 1st Floor**
7:00 to 8:00 a.m.
Guest Lecturer: Dr. Alain Pierre-Kahn, Department of Neurosurgery, Hopital des Enfants Malades, Paris, France
“Natural History and Management of Lumbosacral Lipomas”

9:00-12:00
Case Presentations

HEADS OF DIVISIONS MEETING
Thursday, May 19th, 2005, 0700 to 0800 hours, North Conference Room, The Hospital for Sick Children

RESIDENCY PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, May 31st, 2005, 0700 to 0800 hours, North Conference Room, The Hospital for Sick Children.