NEUROSURGE

MONTHLY INFORMATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, DIVISION OF NEUROSURGERY

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

AVE ATQUE VALE

On Saturday July 15th, 2006, the annual resident welcome party was held at our home on 149 Mossgrove Trail. In addition to welcoming new PGY1 residents Victor Yang, Carlo Santaguida, Suneil Kalia, and David Cadotte, we had the occasion to celebrate the career of Dr Harley Smyth and his 31 years of dedication and devotion to the care of neurosurgical patients at the Wellesley and St Michael's hospitals. That evening, Harley gave a moving and passionate account of his career in neurosurgery entitled "Ave Atque Vale". I am pleased that Harley committed this speech to paper, and that I can share it with you in this issue of Neurosurge. Please see the attached document for the entire text of Harley's memorable speech, and a photo of Harley with the new PGY1 residents.

On Sunday July 30th, residents and faculty members enjoyed an outstanding golf outing at Angus Glen Golf Course. Some of the hi-lites included: Closest to the pin, Adrian Laxton; longest drive, Jim Rutka; winning foursome, DJ Cook, Ryan DiMarchi, Sarah Woodrow, and Jim Rutka. Attached please see a photo of the captain of the winning team wearing the coveted green golf jacket that was brought forward by Dr Abhaya Kulkarni. Special thanks to Todd McDowell from Codman for sponsoring the tournament, and to DJ Cook for organizing the event.

On September 8 - 10, 17 residents and faculty took part in the Annual Chairman's Canoe Trip to Five Finger Rapids along the French River. Despite a somewhat inauspicious start to the trip with heavy rain and cool temperatures, Saturday and Sunday were bright and sunny, and filled with good fun, rest and some relaxation. At the French River
campsite, we welcomed our first visiting professor of the academic year, Mr Michael Carter, consultant pediatric neurosurgeon at the Frenchay Hospital in Bristol England. Please see the attached photo taken on the French River.

Finally, at the start of this new Academic Year, I should like to take this opportunity to welcome new faculty members Julian Spears at St Michael's, and Nicolas Phan at Sunnybrook. Julian and Nick are both graduates of the University of Toronto Training program in neurosurgery, and will respectively build practices and research expertise in cerebrovascular surgery and trauma neurosurgery. Welcome Julian and Nick!

HONOURS AND AWARDS
Scellig Stone is the recipient of a Michael J. Fox Foundation research fellowship

Michael Fehlings has accepted the invitation to serve on the 2007 Scientific Advisory Committee for the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS).

Michael Fehlings was awarded a 2-year grant from the Physicians’ Services Incorporated Foundation for his project entitled “Neuroprotection of the injured spinal cord through inhibition of FAS-mediated apoptosis”.

Gregory Hawryluk received a 2-year Medical Scientist Training Fellowship from the McLaughlin Centre for Molecular Medicine.

Julian Spears received a 3 year Heart and Stroke Foundation Phase I Clinician Scientist Award.

Ab Guha received funding for 2 years from the Cancer Research Society for his work on “Conditional Knockout of Gata6”.

David Houlden has been appointed to the editorial board of the Journal of Clinical Monitoring and Computing.

Michael Taylor received a 4 year grant from the CIHR for his work entitled “Characterization of Amplified Oncogenes from Pediatric Ependymoma”.

Robin Humphreys has been named Chair of the Grants Advisory Committee of the SickKids Foundation.

Ab Guha received an NCIC Grant Award for his project titled: Functional Analysis of GATA6 in Human Gliomas: A Novel Tumour Suppressor Gene Identified from Genetically Engineered Murine (GEM) Glioma Model by Gene-trapping”.

Nicolas Phan was awarded a McLaughlin Centre for Molecular Medicine Medical Scientist Training Fellowship for 2 years.
Cian O’Kelly received the Claire Bombardier Award in Clinical Epidemiology for the Most Promising Student.

Andres Lozano has been appointed Chair, Archives Committee, Movement Disorder Society. - 2007-2008

Andres Lozano has been appointed as the Fellowship Director for the Division of Neurosurgery in the Department of Surgery.

PUBLICATIONS


Bernstein M: Conspiring to save a life. The Globe and Mail August 1, 2006. page A16


VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS

Chris Wallace was Visiting Professor, University of Utah, Department of Neurosurgery, Salt Lake City, Utah. “Vascular malformations: When to treat and when not to treat.” September 19 - 20, 2006

Chris Wallace was a Guest Speaker at the 19th Biennial Congress of the Society of Neurosurgeons of South Africa, Cape Town, South Africa. 1/ “Clip or coil?” 2/ “Management of neurosurgical vascular disease.” 3/ “Resident training in Canada”. September 3 – 6, 2006

Michael Fehlings was invited to the Annual Meeting of the American Spinal Injury Association, Boston, MA, Jun 22-24. 1/ Invited Keynote Address: “Update on clinical trials in spinal cord injury: Opportunities for clinical translation of basic discoveries”; and 2/ Co-Chair, Spine Trauma Study Group.

Michael Fehlings was an Invited Speaker at the 24th Annual National Neurotrauma Symposium, St. Louis, MO. “New developments in the early management of acute spinal cord injury: Updates from the STASCIS & Cethrin clinical trials”. July 7-9, 2006

Jim Rutka was the George Perrett Memorial Lecturer, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, "The Neurosurgical Management of Rolandic Epilepsy in Children”. Iowa City, Iowa, August 25, 2006

Jim Rutka was Guest Visitor at Hospital do Clinicas de Porto Alegre, Brazil, "Medulloblastoma: a quest for novel therapeutic targets" September 14-15, 2006


Jim Rutka was Visiting Professor at Calgary and Alberta Neurosurgery Society Meeting. 1/ "neurosurgery resident research: a new paradigm shift" and 2/ "brainstem tumors in children: diagnosis, classification and management”. September 29-October 1, 2006

Ab Guha was invited to attend the Cold Spring Harbour Course, New York, July 6-12,2006. 1/ Organizer of "Mechanism of Neural differentiation and Brain Tumors”; and 2/ Study of Genetic Interactions and Gene Discovery.
Ab Guha was invited to attend the Canadian Virtual Nervous System Tumor Bank-Temadar Update: Vienna, Austria. September 12-17, 2006

Michael Taylor was an Invited Speaker at the ISPN meeting. "Molecular Genetics of Pediatric Brain Tumors", Taipei, Taiwan, September 6-14, 2006

Andres Lozano was a Guest Speaker, WSSFN Shanghai Meeting. 1/ Central procedures for dystonia, 2/ Patient selection and post-up management for DBS, 3/ Imaging and microelectrode recordings, 4/ DBS for depression, 5/ DBS for epilepsy. Pudong, Shanghai, China. July 7-8, 2006


Andres Lozano was an Invited International Speaker. 2006 Brazilian Congress of Neurosurgery. Florianopolis, Brazil. DBS for movement disorders; Surgery for dystonia. Sept 16, 2006

Andres Lozano was an Invited international speaker. ECNP Congress. Paris, France. The new neurosurgery for depression. Paris, France. Sept 19, 2006

Andres Lozano was an Invited Speaker at a Human Neuroanatomy Course. Neurosurgical circuits in Psychiatric disorders. St Louis University, Sept 28-30, 2006.

RESIDENTS’ CORNER
BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS – This was a productive summer in the Division of Neurosurgery.

Born to Ab and Shibani Kulkarni, a baby girl, Nisha Tara, September 27th, 2006

Born to Scellig and Angie Stone, a baby boy, William Aidan, 9 pounds and 4 ounces on September 13th, 2006

Born to Victor Yang and Jenny Yeow, a baby girl, Yvette born August 28th, 2006 weighing 6 lb. 10 oz.

Born to Mandeep and Anoo Tamber, a baby girl, Amritha, 6 lbs, 13 oz on July 3, 2006

Born to Adrienne Weeks and Richard Hurley, a baby boy, Jackson, 7 lb. 10 oz, July 26th, 2006

QUESTION OF THE MONTH (Prepared by Robin Humphreys)
In the process of histogenesis, neuronal death can occur as a function of apoptosis. What is the most likely basis for apoptosis?

A. Excessive stimulation of an afferent nerve fibre?
B. Loss of acetylcholine released at nerve endings?
C. The beginning of myelin formation?
D. Elimination of nerve growth factor?
E. Reduction in brain serotonin levels?

ANSWER TO THE LAST QUESTION (JUNE NEUROSURGE Volume 7; Issue 10)

Hugh CAIRNS  
Encouraged fellow Australian Dorothy Russell to turn her attention from renal pathology (which had been her preoccupation for the prior 10 years) to neuropathology. (*Surg Neurol* 5:267, 1976)

W. Kemp CLARK  
Pronounced John F. Kennedy dead. (1300h, November 22, 1963)

Harvey CUSHING  
“The patient on the table like the passenger in a car, runs great risks if he has a loquacious driver, or one who takes close corners, exceeds the speed limit, or rides to applause.” (*Realignments in greater medicine*. Address given at the Seventeenth International Congress of Medicine, London 1913)

Walter DANDY  
First experimental development of hydrocephalus by blocking the aqueduct of Sylvius. (*Amer J Dis Child*, 8:406-482, 1914.)

Norman DOTT  
“Such success as I have had I owe, very largely, to my little patients. I would commend paediatric surgery, as the first training ground in surgical technique and management”. (Rush C, Shaw J: With Sharp Compassion, Norman Dott Freeman Surgeon of Edinburgh. Aberdeen: Aberdeen University Press; 1990)

Charles DRAKE  
“How can we do this better?” (*Clin Neurosurg* 26:6, 1979)

Bruce HENDRICK  
“Treachery and old age will overcome youth and skill.”  
(Whenever the occasion arose)

Victor HORSLEY  
Father of stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. (1857 - 1916)

Franc INGRAHAM  
North American father of pediatric neurosurgery. (1898-1965)
Geoffrey JEFFERSON  “I can say what one ought to be able to say of one’s life work, ‘It has been the greatest fun.’” *(Brit Med Students’ J, Vol 6, No. I, 1951)*


William MACEWAN  First report of successful brain abscess treatment. *(Pyogenic Infectious Disease of the Brain and Spinal Cord. J. Maclehose & Sons, 1893)*

Kenneth McKENZIE  “I will try to write something that will assist other golfers.” *(Kenneth George McKenzie and the Founding of Neurosurgery in Canada. 2004, pp 176)*

Axel H. OLIVECRONA  First to completely excise a cerebral arteriovenous malformation. *(Arch Neurol Psychiatry 59:567-602, 1948)*

Wilder PENFIELD  Rhode’s Scholar and Canadian program director. (1891-1976)

Henry PEROWNE  Central fictitious character (London neurosurgeon) in nominated Booker Prize novel. *(Saturday, Ian McEwan 2006)*

David ROWED  First Canadian neurosurgeon to have on site pre-publication exposure to the Glasgow Coma Scale. *(While a fellow at the Institute of Neurological Sciences, Glasgow, 1974)*

William SWEET  “Good scientific writing comes easily to virtually no one.” *(Clin Neurosurg 28:200, 1980)*

Frank TURNBULL  President Canadian Medical Association. (1964-1965)

PDF OF THE MONTH
This is an important article published by Sarah Woodrow, Cian O’Kelly, Stan Hamstra and Chris Wallace on the need for a co-ordinated workforce plan for neurosurgery. As
this is a topic that is on the minds of all of our residents, I wanted to thank Sarah and Cian in particular for doing the research that led to this publication. The topic of workforce planning should be discussed at the highest levels in neurosurgery in this country, and Chris Wallace and I are dedicating ourselves to ensuring that this happens. Congratulations to Sarah and Cian for making this topic visible and public at this time.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH
http://www.emedicine.com/med/topic2907.htm
At this website in the emedicine corridor, you will find a nice review of posterior fossa tumours. Emedicine frequently has reviews of neurosurgical topics that are of interest to a broad audience. You may wish to search the other topics in neurosurgery covered at this website, too.

UPCOMING NEUROSURGICAL MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Department of Surgery, University of Toronto Surgical Rounds, Inaugural Bigelow Lecture, Auditorium, MaRS Collaboration Centre, 101 College Street, October 6th, 2006 @ 7:30 a.m.

5th Annual Charles Tator-Barbara Turnbull Lectureship in Spinal Cord Injury, Health Sciences Building, University of Toronto, 155 College Street, 6th Floor, Room 610 Auditorium, Friday, October 6th, 2006 1 – 5:30 p.m.. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Arthur Prochazka, inventor of the “Bionic Glove”.

Congress of Neurological Surgeons, Boston, Massachusetts, October 8-13, 2005.

Guest Lecturer (Brainchild), Dr. Mark Souweidane, Vice-Chairman and Associate Professor, Department of Neurological Surgery, The Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York. “The role of endoscopic surgery in pediatric neurooncology” Tuesday, October 17th, 2006, 5 – 6 p.m., IGT Multi-Media Room, Room 2810J, The Hospital for Sick Children.

City-wide Rounds hosted by Toronto Western Hospital, Main Auditorium, West Wing 2-401, Friday, October 27th, 2006 @ 7 a.m. – 8 a.m. Dr. Warren Selman, Professor and Chair, The Harvey Huntington Brown Department of Neurological Surgery, Case School of Medicine and University Hospitals of Cleveland. “The ischemic penumbra: Paradox in practice”

2006 E. Harry Botterell Lectureship, October 30-31, 2006, Toronto Western Hospital. Guest Lecturer: Dr. Ziya Gokaslan, Professor of Neurosurgery, Oncology and Orthopedic Surgery at John Hopkins University Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland.

Guest Speaker, Dr. Mark Bernstein, “The Voices of Neurosurgeons”. Main auditorium 1st Floor, Elm Wing, The Hospital for Sick Children, Friday, November 24th, 2006, 7 – 8 a.m.
2006 AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, November 28 – December 1, 2006

Craniofacial surgery & Transfacial Approaches to the Skull Base. St. Louis, MO, December 2-3, 2006


20th Annual Marshall Lectureship, Dr. Sean Grady, Charles Harrison Frazier Professor & Chairman of Neurosurgery, The Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Thursday, January 18th, 2007 5 – 6 p.m., Main Auditorium, The Hospital for Sick Children.

2007 International Stroke Conference, San Francisco, California, February 7 – 9, 2007

Epilepsy, Mind & Brain, Prague, Czech Republic, March 2-4, 2007


2007 AANS/CNS Section on Tumors Seventh Biennial Symposium, Washington, DC. April 13-14, 2007


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

Friday, October 6, 2006
5th Annual Charles Tator – Barbara Turnbull Lectureship in Spinal Cord Injury
1300-1730 Health Sciences Building, University of Toronto, 155 College Street, 6th Floor Auditorium, Room 610
Guest Lecturer: Dr. Arthur Prochazka, University of Alberta, Inventor of the “Bionic Glove”

Friday, October 13, 2006
Topic: Carotid Disease
Review of TIA's, Carotid Stenosis
Surgical Trials
Endovascular Stenting

Tuesday, October 17, 2006
**1700-1800** Hospital for Sick Children, IGT Multi-Media Room, Room 2810J, 2nd Floor, Atrium
Guest Lecturer: Dr. Mark Souweidane
Vice-Chairman and Associate Professor, Department of Neurological Surgery, The Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York
“The role of endoscopic surgery in pediatric neurooncology”

**Friday, October 20, 2006**
Topic: Ischemia
Treatment: Endovascular Prevention

**Friday, October 27, 2006**
**0700-0800** City-Wide Rounds hosted by Division of Neurosurgery, Toronto Western Hospital, Main Auditorium, West Wing 2-401
Professor Warren R. Selman, Jr.
Professor and Chair, The Harvey Huntington Brown Department of Neurological Surgery
Director, The Neurological Institute, CASE School of Medicine and University Hospitals of Cleveland
“The ischemic penumbra: Paradox in practice”

**October 30-31, 2006 (details below)**
2006 E. Harry Botterell Visiting Professorship
Toronto Western Hospital, Main Auditorium, West Wing 2-401
Guest Lecturer: Professor Ziya Gokaslan
Professor of Neurosurgery, Oncology and Orthopedic Surgery
Vice Chairman, Department of Neurosurgery, Director of Neurosurgical Spine Program, John Hopkins University Medical Center, Baltimore, Maryland

**Monday, October 30th:**
0900-1200 Case Presentations by University of Toronto Neurosurgical Residents
1330-1600 Resident Clinical Research Presentations for the William J. Horsey Prizes
1600-1700 Professor Ziya Gokaslan “Surgical treatment of spinal cord ependymomas“

**Tuesday, October 31st:**
0910-1010 Professor Ziya Gokaslan “Management of spinal column neoplasms”
1010-1530 Mini-Symposia: Spinal Oncology
1530-1630 Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Lecture

Professor Ziya Gokaslan “Sacral tumors”

**HEADS OF DIVISIONS MEETING**
Thursday, October 5th, 2006, Room 1503G, The Hospital for Sick Children, 7 – 8 a.m.

**RESIDENCY PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING**
Tuesday, October 17th 2006, Room 7246, Black Wing, The Hospital for Sick Children 7 – 8 a.m.