

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIA NEWSLETTER

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Trainee Achievements Within the Department of Anesthesia

This past year, our very impressive residents had some very impressive accomplishments!

Our presence in research and publications was established with contributions from **Kathleen Wheeler, Davin Jain, Denise Dawmawikarta (PGY3)** and **Justine Denomme and Scott McCusker (PGY4)**. Kathleen's paper "**A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Examining the Impact of Incident Postoperative Delirium on Mortality**" was published in **Anesthesiology**. Davin, assisted by former resident Dr. Kan Ma and Dr.

Dr. Norman Buckley, had his project, "**Impact of ENIGMA trials on Nitrous Oxide: A Survey of Canadian Anesthesiologists and Residents**" published in the **Canadian Journal of Anesthesiology**. Denise, supervised by Dr. Harsha Shanthanna, presented "**A Systematic Review on Opioid Free Analgesic Techniques for Supratentorial Craniotomies**" at the **American Society of Regional Anesthesia**. Justine's work, developed with **Janice Yu (PGY1)**, entitled "**Evaluation of a Novel Written Handover Tool for Postoperative Patients in the Cardiac ICU**", was presented at the **Canadian Critical Care Forum**. She is supervised by Dr. Michelle Isac, Dr. Summer Syed, and Dr. John Centofanti. Scott presented "**Sedation During Vitreoretinal Surgery: Practice Patterns in Canada**" at the **Canadian Ophthalmological Society Meeting and Exhibition** and was supervised by Drs. Tania Ligor and Phillip Blew. Thank you to all our faculty supervisors for investing your time and expertise in resident projects!

Congratulations to newly graduated resident **Jessica Spence (PGY6 CCM)**, for being awarded a **Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarship!** This CIHR doctoral award recognizes Jessica's work on evaluating **Functional Outcomes of Adults Undergoing Cardiac Surgery**. Jessica collaborated with **Steven Long (PGY1)** and is supervised by Dr. Summer Syed and Dr. Yannick Le Manach. As well, **Dr. Anne Scheidecker**, a fellow in the Pain Residency Program, was recognized with a **MacPherson Leadership in Teaching and Learning Fellowship** to further her work in medical education and simulation.

Noticeable standouts at the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society Meeting in Montreal include Jessica, Justine, and Scott who presented their work. Newly graduated resident **Jessie Ursenbach** presented her abstract "**Incidence of Failure of Resited Epidurals in Labouring Parturients**", supervised by Drs. Annemaria De Tina, Ryan Smith, and Cyndie Horner.

The Simulation Olympics also took place at this year's meeting. Resident teams from across the country participated in an elimination round style of competition based on their performance in simulation scenarios. Congratulations to **Justine, Scott, and Jeff Overington (PGY4)** for placing first among 8 other teams in the competition, winning a \$3000 prize for their quick thinking, excellent judgement, and terrific knowledge. Fourth place was a mixed team of residents from various institutions including **Rui Hu** from McMaster—the only medical student to participate in the Simulation Olympics. The competition would not have been possible without the hard work of **Natalie Lidster (PGY4)**, who was instrumental to the design and success of the event.

The American Society of Anesthesiologists Annual meeting (October) in San Francisco included presentations from **Jeff Overington** and **Dillon Horth (PGY3)**. Jeff worked with Dr. Melanie Havers and presented "**Anesthetic Management of a Patient with Laurence Moon Biedl Syndrome, Severe Aortic Stenosis, Morbid Obesity, and a Difficult Airway for Emergency Laparotomy**." Dillon worked with **Dr. Saeda Nair** and presented "**The Trigeminal Cardiac Reflex: A Case Report of Intraoperative Asystole During an Orbitozygomatic Craniotomy**." Congratulations to all trainees!



PGY3 Residents Justine Denomme, Jeff Overington and Scott McCusker. Winners of the Simulation Olympics at the Canadian Anesthesiologists Society Meeting in June, 2018

Welcome to New Program Directors, Drs. Desi Reddy & Mike Parrish

Dr. Desi Reddy has been appointed as the new **Anesthesia Residency Program Director**. Dr. Reddy is a senior Anesthesiologist in our Department who has demonstrated a deep and long-term commitment to clinical education. He was the Clinical Teaching Unit (CTU) Director for McMaster and an active member of the Residency Training Committee for many years. Dr. Reddy has also been a Royal College Examiner and recently completed a Masters in Health Sciences in Education. **Dr. Mike Parrish** has been appointed into the new role of **Assistant Program Director** in a renewable 3-year term which began in September. Dr. Parrish will be assisting Dr. Reddy in his role as Program Director in managing the Residency Program. Dr. Parrish is a graduate of McMaster in both medical school and residency. As a senior faculty member, he brings a wealth of administrative and teaching experience to the role. He was the Site Lead at the McMaster site for many years, a Royal College Examiner since 2011 and most recently, became the CTU Director for the McMaster site earlier this year.



Residency Program Director,
Dr. Desi Reddy



Assistant Residency Program
Director, Dr. Mike Parrish



Dr. Rob Whyte,
Assistant Dean
Undergraduate M.D.
Program

Dr. Rob Whyte was awarded the **Health Professional Education Award** in June, 2018. The MSc Health Science Education Program along with the Faculty of Health Sciences award encourages and rewards the continued excellence of health professions education research within McMaster University Faculty of Health Sciences and/or the Masters of Health Science Education Program. Dr. Whyte was nominated based on his contributions to education in the health professions including teaching, mentorship, educational scholarship, or research, and as a leader.

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Dr. Harsha Shanthanna,
Associate Professor &
Associate Chair of Research

Congratulations to **Dr. Harsha Shanthanna** in receiving the **Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society "Career Scientist Award"**! This prestigious award recognizes his ongoing research of "High Quality Clinical Trials to Optimize Perioperative Analgesia, Reduction of Harms and Improvement of Patient Outcomes and their Synergy Towards Establishing a Strong and Sustainable Perioperative Anesthesia and Pain Research Program of Excellence."

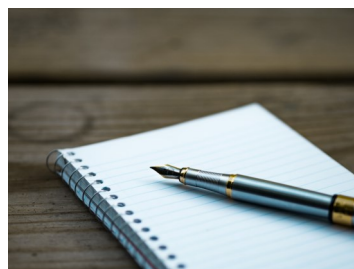
Perioperative Anesthesia and Pain Research Program of Excellence."

Undergraduate Published Essays

The **Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society**, holds an annual essay contest for medical students. This year, the first-place prize was awarded to **Rui Hu**, a third year medical student from McMaster, for her essay entitled, "**The First Minute of Life: the Development and Legacy of the Apgar Score**". The essay will be published in the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society Newsletter and an abbreviated version was published in the Hamilton Spectator.



CAS Essay Contest Winner,
Graduate Student, Rui Hu



The essays submitted by McMaster Medical Students expressed remarkable insight into the field of anesthesiology. These essays raised public awareness of the field of anesthesia and generated discussion from the public regarding their experiences with anesthesiology. Under the guidance of Dr. Daniel Cordovani, numerous medical student essays were published in the Hamilton Spectator this year, including:

Rebekah Bauman, "Anesthesiologists: The Guard Dogs of Medicine"
Mike Hao, "Anesthesiology: an Under Recognized Medical Specialty?"
Edward Zhou, "Mostly Unseen on the Television Screen"
Mario Kovacevic, "Anesthesiologists Critical to Surgical Success" and "The Long and Competitive Road to Medical School"

Awards and Achievements

Congratulations to **Dr. Daniel Cordovani** who is the recipient of the **Preceptor Teaching Award for Anesthesia** from the graduating Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine Class of 2018. Dr. Cordovani has also promoted our profession and department by encouraging our medical students to write about anesthesia for both the Canadian Anesthesia Society and for the public. Congratulations!



Dr. Daniel Cordovani,
Assistant Professor and
Undergraduate
Program Director

Dr. Alena Skrinskas has been awarded the **Postgraduate Medical Education Award: Faculty Award for Innovation in Education**. This award recognizes outstanding contributions made by a faculty member in advancing Residency Education. Dr. Skrinskas demonstrates exemplary teaching of residents and has made significant contributions to program development and administration demonstrating leadership and organizational skills, innovative approaches to teaching and assessment, development of novel curricula promoting intrinsic CanMEDS roles, research contributions to teaching and assessment or other aspects of residency education. Congratulations!



Dr. Caitlin VanDeCappelle, PGY5

Dr. Caitlin VanDeCappelle PGY5 was awarded the **Dr. Fred Baxter Award for Excellence in Nephrology and Patient Care**. Dr. Baxter has been integral in collaborating with the Division of Nephrology and has always had a strong commitment in the provision of comprehensive and patient-centred care to individuals with renal failure. During Caitlin's Nephrology and AKI rotations, she exemplified many of these traits, including comprehensive and dedicated patient care, exemplary communication and collaboration. Congratulations!

Resident's Corner

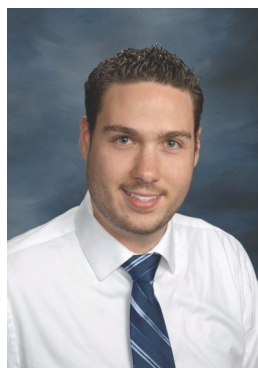
The 2018/2019 academic year is in full swing, and we have already had some significant new developments within the program. On behalf of all the residents, I

would like to extend our most sincere gratitude to Dr. Karen Raymer for her tireless dedication to the development and advancement of our Residency Training Program. Her devoted leadership and commitment to our learning will undoubtedly make us the best anesthesiologists we can be. As we move into this new era, we would like to thank Drs. Reddy and Parrish for taking on their new roles, and look forward to continuing our education under their leadership.

Next, on behalf of all the residents, I would like to congratulate the **Graduating class of 2018 – Drs. Leora Bernstein, Matt Conway, Sean Donald, Suzan Ergun, Thomas Kim, Mohammed Nassef, Stefanie Smulski, Jessica Spence, Emily Trenker and Jessie Ursenbach** – and wish them luck in their fellowships and future careers. We had the opportunity to celebrate their successes at the annual Reach For The Top event and I would like to thank all who attended to show their support.

Looking ahead, we are looking forward to showcasing the strengths of our program at our annual CaRMS day in January, and are excited to meet the next group of McMaster Anesthesia residents.

Happy Holidays, and best wishes for a happy and successful 2018/2019!



Dr. Andrew Syrett,
Anesthesia Chief
Resident



A Warm Welcome to Our New Trainees Anesthesia

Rory Blackler, Matthew Foss, Catherine Moores, Michael Nixon, Cieran Tran, Sebastian Vuong, Trevor Wilkieson, Janice Yu

Critical Care Medicine

Reham Al-Harbi, Wadiah Alfifil, Shaya Alqahtani, Dipayan Chaduhuri, Joanita Nalayazi, Joshua Piticar, Sameer Sharif, Jessica Spence

Other Accolades

•**Dr. Jason Busse**, Associate Professor of Anesthesia received \$2.2 million from the **Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)**. He is leading research looking at how cognitive behavioural therapy could improve patient outcomes from trauma surgery.

•**Dr. Joanna Dionne, PGY7** has been awarded the 2018 Canadian Association of Gastroenterology Studentship Award for her outstanding work on "Diarrhea, Interventions, Consequences and Epidemiology in the ICU".

•**Dr. Jessica Spence, PGY6** received the CVT Raymond Martineau Prize for Best Paper in Cardiovascular and Thoracic Anesthesia.

Dr. Richard McLean, Hamilton Health Sciences Chief of Anesthesia, Says Goodbye After 34 Years



Dr. Richard (Dick) MacLean

Dr. Richard (Dick) McLean will be retired in October after a distinguished career in anesthesia, research, critical care and medical administration.

Dick joined HHS in 1998 as the Chief of Anesthesia and as an Associate Professor at McMaster University. Prior to that, he worked in leadership roles in critical care at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto. When he arrived in Hamilton, he was challenged with merging the Hamilton Civics Department of Anesthesia with the Anesthesia Department at McMaster. Dick very successfully shepherded the group to become one cohesive Department under the HHS umbrella. After serving two terms as Chief of Anesthesia he joined the hospital's executive team in 2009 as the Vice President of Medical Affairs and Quality. One of his key accomplishments in that role was his leadership in Continuous Quality Improvement and this work has resulted in over 1000 improvements in the hospital. We congratulate Dick in his

retirement and thank him for his many contributions to anesthesia, critical care and hospital quality over his 34-year career.

Thank You to Dr. Karen Raymer, Department of Anesthesia Program Director

A special thank you to Dr. Raymer's contribution as the Program Director for the past four-plus years. "She has moved the core residency program to a position of robustness and strength, leaving very little 'wobble-room' for improvement. This is a very good thing", said incoming co-program director, Dr. Desi Reddy. Noting it has been as a result of countless hours of dedicated commitment and passion for excellence. The time and commitment it has taken to move the program from a challenging internal review and through an even more challenging adoption of Competency by Design. If we are just able to maintain most of the excellent constructs of the program already in place, we will be in a very good spot in terms of continuing to train excellent and competent anesthesiologists. Dr. Raymer is going to be a hard "act to follow", and I know that I am going to lean on her occasionally for some sage advice.

-D. Reddy



Dr. Karen Raymer

Wild Ride at the Chair's BBQ



Dr. James Paul



Drs. Madi Ali & Alex Dauphin

Dr. James Paul and Family hosted the Chair's Annual BBQ at their home on September 8, 2018. In honour of Dr. Paul's home-town, of Calgary, Alberta, the Stampede like-setting was an obvious theme throughout the day. Guests were greeted with delicious food and a bucking bronco—challenging each other on who ride the bull the

longest. Despite cooler temperatures than what we had experienced during the summer, the pool was open and department members and their families enjoyed a wonderful afternoon in their backyard oasis.

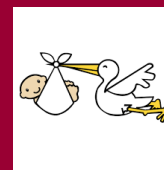
Promotions

- Dr. Julian Mulcaster, Associate Clinical Professor, July 1, 2018

Outstanding Resident Awards

- Stefanie Smulski, St. Josephs Healthcare Department of Anesthesia Outstanding Resident Award
- Suzan Ergun, Hamilton Health Sciences Department of Anesthesia Outstanding Resident Award.

Congratulations!



Lots of milestones to celebrate this year! Anthony (PGY4) and Jen Valente welcomed a beautiful baby girl,

Isla, in the spring. Caitlin VanDeCappelle (PGY5) and Matt Stagg had their lovely baby, Payton, this summer and Mathew (PGY1) and Rachel Foss celebrated the start of Matt's residency as a family of three with the arrival of Rory! Congratulations to Thomas Reikki (PGY2) and his wife Meghan on their marriage! Enjoy this special time!



Thank You to
Contributing Writers
Natalie Lidster
and
Rui Hu!

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