

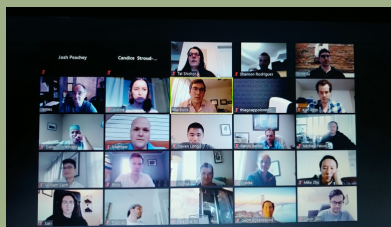
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Reach for the Top Celebrated Virtually



The much-anticipated end of year Reach for the Top celebration had a bit of a different feel this year! Awards and congratulation messages were delivered virtually for the first time ever in the history of the Residency Program. Peak inside this issue to see the winners! (pg. 2)

Dr. Fred Baxter Award



Dr. Dillon Horth PGY4, the 2019/2020 recipient of the Dr. Fred Baxter Award for Excellence in Nephrology and Patient Care.

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIA NEWSLETTER

_____ **PANDEMIC EDITION**_____

Message from the Chair



J. Paul, Chair,
Dept. Anesthesia

It's been an unprecedented and challenging spring for us all as we learned to adjust and adapt to life during the COVID-19 pandemic. The first presumptive case of the illness in Ontario was on January 25th, the first death was on March 11th, public schools closed the next day to remain so until the fall, a state of emergency was declared in Ontario on March 17th, travel between the US and Canada was restricted the

following day, non-essential businesses were closed on March 23rd and Canadian Armed Forces teams were deployed to five of the provinces worst hit long-term care facilities on May 26.th During that time, the virus spread in Ontario increased, peaking at 640 per day on April 24th and since then things have improved with the number of new cases trending down to below 200 in early June. Many were worried about a surge of cases hitting and overwhelming the healthcare system. Fortunately, things turned out better than anticipated and our hospitals were able to accommodate all of the patients with COVID-19, both on the wards and in the ICUs. We are now in the process of gradually reopening the province, easing restrictions and getting people back to work. Hamilton has just reached Stage 2. This means people with hair down to their backs can finally get a haircut and more stores and services will be open. The hospitals are slowly ramping up surgeries, while keeping 15% vacancy available, for potential COVID patients and the University is slowly restarting lab research with clinical trials expected to be restarted sometime this summer. Education at McMaster and in our Department will continue to be online, except for essential clinical training. People have proved incredibly resilient during the past several weeks with clinicians learning how to don and doff personal protective equipment, students learning online via Zoom, and support staff and researchers working remotely from home. In addition, our faculty contributed to a number of innovations addressing the COVID pandemic. **Dr. John Centofanti** has co-authored guidelines on managing ICU patients with COVID-19, **Dr. Harsha Shanthanna** has co-authored a set of clinical practice recommendations for caring for chronic pain patients during the pandemic, **Drs. Ekta Khemani** and **Saeda Nair** have co-authored guidelines for managing sedation of COVID-19 patients outside the operating room, and **Dr. Anne Wong** has organized weekly online peer support meetings and a weekly wellness bulletin with curated resources for maintaining well-being during these challenging times. I'm proud and thankful how everyone has worked together to keep the wheels of the Department turning during life under COVID.

RESIDENT AND MEDICAL STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

REACH FOR THE TOP WINNERS CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

Dr. Laurence Chiu Award for Professionalism and Collegiality – Dr. Mike Parrish

Dr. Vince Politi Award for Best Clinical Teacher – Dr. Desi Reddy

Dr. Brijesh Ayra Award given to a Junior Resident that best exemplifies compassion, generosity and respect for fellow residents – Dr. Shannon Rodriguez

Dr. Hisham Zokari Award – awarded to a resident in their final year of training who exemplifies compassion, understanding, concern and generosity toward fellow residents, staff, patients and co-workers – Dr. Tyler Oswald



Thomas Reiki, PGY4 at the ASA meeting in Orlando, FL, October 2019, presented his case report on "Intraoperative Phlebotomy Via A Hepatectomy? A Case of Uncontrolled Polycythemia Vera"

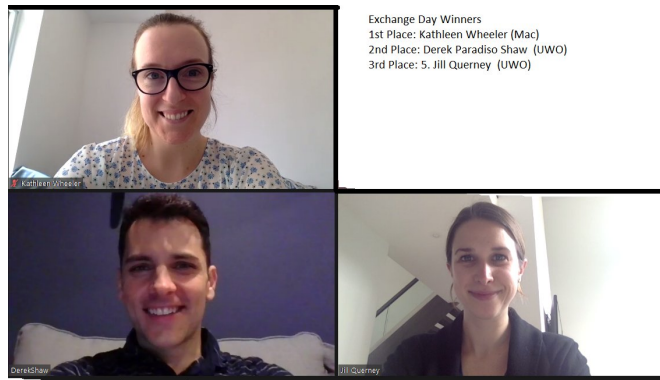


Residency Program Changes During COVID

With the closure of the University during COVID, both the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Residency Programs (Anesthesia, Pain Medicine and Critical Care Medicine) have undergone major transformations in the way they are now teaching. Shout out to the Administrative Staff who have adapted in numerous ways with limited equipment and resources, working in make-shift offices and home schooling their children while working at home full time since March. Organizing meetings, Academic Half Days, Journal Clubs, Rounds, Research Days and awards presentations via Zoom, Microsoft Teams and Webex have become the norm. Some training sessions have moved online for what would normally take place in the classroom or simulation labs. Residents, Fellows and Students are to be commended for their ability to adapt and respond to changes in scheduling (clinical and examination dates) whether reduced or placed on an immediate surge list, resulting in the cancellation of electives and community rotations. Their continuous commitment to provide high-quality care to patients and colleagues through what will be one of the more challenging portions of their career is to be commended.



Research Day Winners



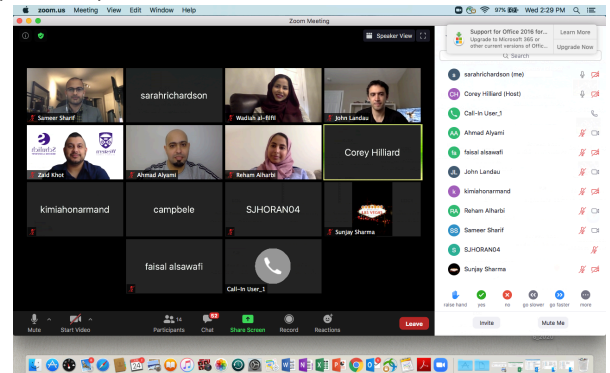
Exchange Day Winners
 1st Place: Kathleen Wheeler (Mac)
 2nd Place: Derek Paradiso Shaw (UWO)
 3rd Place: S. Jill Querney (UWO)

Anesthesia Research Day Winners

Congratulations to the Research Team, **Dr. Harsha Shanthanna, Toni Tidy, Sara Miller and PA, Candice Stroud** for organizing a virtual **Research**

Day with Western University on May 15, 2020. This year's winners were **1st Place Kathleen Wheeler, McMaster, "Adjuvant Analgesic Use in the Critically Ill: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis"**. **2nd Place Derek Paradiso Shaw (Western)** and **3rd Place Jill Querney (Western)**.

Western University virtually hosted the annual **Critical Care Medicine Research Exchange Day** on June 24, 2020. Congratulations to the following virtual winners! **1st – Sameer Sharif, McMaster, "Neuromuscular Blocking Agents in Acute Respiratory Distress**



CCM Research Day

Syndrome: Updated Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Trials", **2nd – John Landau, "The AORTUS trial: Ultrasound Guided Resuscitation After Open Abdominal Aortic Surgery"** (Western) and **3rd – Wadiah Alfilfil & Reham AlHarbi, McMaster, "The Proportion & Characteristics of Positive & Negative Trials in Adult Critical Care from 2013-2019, A Systematic Review/Meta Epidemiological Study.** Fantastic attendance was noted by both groups! Perhaps a sign of things to come!



Congratulations Graduates!

Anesthesia

Thiago Appoloni, Justine Denomme, Natalie Lidster, Scott McCusker, Tyler Oswald, Jeff Overington, Brody Rutherglen, William Sanh, Josh Tobe, Anthony Valente

Pain Medicine

Eugene Maida

Critical Care Medicine

Wadiyah AlFilfil, Reham AlHarbi, Shaya Alqahtani, Dipayan Chadhuri, Joshua Pitcaru, Sameer Sharif, Jessica Spence



Welcome to Our Incoming Trainees!

Anesthesia

Tala Abdali, Melissa Allwood, Ellen Connelly, Iona Cozma, Alexandra Dilazzaro, Sarah Douville, Emanuel Ebrahim, Julia, Lombardi, Yvegniy Oparin, Karun Tandon

Pain Medicine

David Clinkard

Critical Care Medicine

Fatma Al Alawi, Mohammed Alfawaz, Ali Aljanoubi, Kumait Al Lawati, Laiya Carayannopoulos, Daniel Durocher, Natasha Ovtcharenko, Nehal Tarazan, Shannon Theune

“The Construct Validity of the Clinical Assessment of Clerks in Anesthesia” published by students **Amir Hamid** and **Mary Lou Shmuck** https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32095991/?from_term=cordovani&from_pos=7

Gwendolyn Lovestead had her work published in the Hamilton Spectator, “Pain During Labour”.

<https://www.thespec.com/opinion/contributors/2020/04/28/delivering-the-facts-on-pain-during-labour.html>

McMaster student author and editor, **Grace Xu** wrote “Anesthesia: A Clerkship Pocket Guide” which was published in April. The book can be downloaded for free at <https://mcmasteracp.ca>



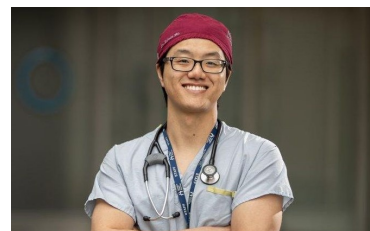
Restructuring the MCQ exam for the Anesthesia Clerkship rotation. Project lead by **PGY 4 Dillon Horth** as part of his Clinical Educator Diploma. This project was published at the CJA

https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32240520/?from_term=cordovani&from_pos=10

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dr. Alex Dauphin provided a moving interview on CBC’s, “The Current” on January 13, 2020 about his experiences during the Haiti earthquake and the 10 year aftermath. You can access the interview at 21:34 minutes into the episode. <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/the-current-for-jan-13-2020-1.5424683>

Dr. Edwin Ho was featured in the Hamilton Spectator as a frontline anesthesiologist on the Airway Response Team during COVID-19. https://www.thespec.com/news/hamilton-region/opinion/2020/05/01/qa-hamilton-physicians-speak-to-covid-19-experiences-for-doctors-day.html?fbclid=IwAR2ziQZQaqH-WL3EP3SMo7IbDxq2IaGt_ziU6iDRActx8m_CrJCK8sT



Drs. Tracey Bruce and **Deepa Kattail** have been featured on the **Hamilton Health Sciences** website for their outstanding contributions to pediatric care. See links below for their stories of commitment and passion in Pediatric Anesthesia.

<https://www.hamiltonhealthsciences.ca/share/triple-jump-tumour-scans/>





The Department of Anesthesia will be celebrating 50 years in 2020! Stay tuned for details regarding a look down memory lane and celebration plans.

Welcome to new **FACULTY MEMBERS**, Drs. Fady Ebrahim, Basem Eldeyasty, Aya Elsharty, Etka Khemani, Jennifer Nash, Benham Sadeghirad, Andrew Syrett

And new **CLINICAL SCHOLARS**, Drs. Scott McCusker and Caitlin VanDeCappelle

Be Kind

Wash Your Hands

Stay Home if You Are Sick

Have Faith

Cover Your Mouth

Stay Positive

Be Kind



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<https://www.hamiltonhealthsciences.ca/share/pediatric-anesthesiologist/>



Congratulations to **Dr. Lehana Thabane**, Director of the Biostatistics Unit at the Research Institute of St. Joseph's Hospital and the interim chair of the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact (HEI) at McMaster! As an acclaimed researcher, methodologist, and statistician he has been recognized with two honours: induction as a **Fellow of the Society for Clinical Trials (SCT)** and **The American Statistical Association (ASA)**.

Congratulations to **Dr. Saroo Sharda**, on becoming a **CPSO Medical Advisor**, and the **Chair of the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society Wellness Committee**.

<https://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2020/03/05/saroo-sharda-we-need-to-talk-about-racism/>



Congratulations to **Ksenija Kasumovich** who received the **Employee Leadership Award** in January, 2020. The TMG Peer-to-Peer Recognition Program Recognizes managers who are doing outstanding work while demonstrating and reinforcing McMaster's core leadership capabilities.

Congratulations to **Dr. Harsha Shanthanna**, Associate Professor and Associate Chair Research who has completed his PhD and also led the joint recommendation statement from ESRA and ASRA on Chronic Pain Practice during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
<https://www.arsa.com/age/2903/recommendations-on-chronic-pain-practice-during-the-covid-19-pandemic>.



Congratulations to **Dr. Jason Busse**, Associate Professor and Associate Director of the Michael G. DeGroot Centre for Medicinal Cannabis Research and his research team for receiving a new **CIHR Team Grant** for their study, "Guideline for cannabis use in chronic pain" Dr. Busse and his team ranked #1 in the competition and received a grant of \$1,500,000.

Congratulations to **Dr. Anne Wong**, Professor and Associate Chair of Education who is the recipient of the Canadian Association of Medical Education Certificate of Merit. This award recognizes and rewards faculty commitment to promoting medical education in Canadian Medical Schools.

