



Department of Anesthesia Newsletter

Focus on International Anesthesia Activities

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

MARCH, 2012

KEY FEATURES:

- International Anesthesia Activities
- Department Messages
- Research & Education
- Faculty Appointments & Awards
- Resident News



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Anesthesia Research Interest Group Meeting
April 4, 2012
University Club, McMaster University

Canadian Conference for Medical Education
April 13-18, 2012
Banff, AB

Program Orals
April 21, 2012
Simulation Centre, McMaster University

Annual Anesthesia Research Retreat
May 2, 2012
TBA

Contemporary Acupuncture Course
May 3-6, 2012
Shearaton Centre, Toronto

National Faculty Meeting of the Michael G. DeGroot National Pain Centre
May 4, 2012
McMaster University

CAN-AM Conference
May 5, 2012
Niagara Falls, ON

Resident Research Exchange Day
June 12, 2012
University of Western Ontario

Canadian Anesthesiologist Society Meeting
June 15-18, 2012
Quebec City, QC

Reach for the Top
June 21, 2012
Hamilton Yacht Club

Message from Dr. Norm Buckley, Department Chair

Congratulations to Anne Wong for her initiative in re-establishing a regular newsletter for the department. (Some may recall a newsletter which was in circulation in the late 80's-early 90's; others may not yet have learned to read at that time). Communicating plans, opportunities and initiatives within the department is always challenging—competing meetings, long OR days and overwhelming volumes of information vie for our attention. We may fail to recognize achievements of our colleagues in a public way or a timely fashion. New projects are communicated to a small number but miss others who have an interest. So this newsletter will focus on department events, new projects, activities in Hamilton and beyond. The idea is to present frequent manageable bits of information rather than infrequent large reports. We must create a departmental report every 5-10 years for purposes of department review and one will be coming up as my term ends in about 2 1/2 years. However in the meantime we hope to keep everyone up to date and also publicize our activities outside our own group. Future newsletters will alternate between plans and accomplishments in both the education and research spheres. Please feel free to be in touch with Dr. Wong about items which you see in the letter or also those which you might want to see. The newsletter will be circulated within the department and the faculty and also to other departments across the country. Enjoy and thanks again Anne!



Stories from the Field

Dr. Dauphin—Report from Haiti/Uganda

In a world that is becoming more a global village, a uniform approach to the way of life is to be expected everywhere if this world is to be universally a fairer place. It is with this motive that the Department of Anesthesia at McMaster University had begun her International Anesthesia Program. Conceived in the early 1900's, it is on of the first novel approaches to changing the face of Anesthesia in the countries where it is involved. This has resulted for example in the elimination of ether as a vapour anesthetic in the main university hospitals in some of those countries. The objectives of this program were and are to bring in those places of engagement a level of anesthesia delivery that is comparable in practice anesthesia delivered in the "first world". The methods used are two-fold: 1) to provide onsite training and equipment for a save and durable service; 2) to facilitate learning in the setting of the developed world with the intent of adaptation of knowledge acquired in one's own setting. The outcome has been an irreversible change in those countries towards a uniform or universal pattern of practice where notes can be compared among the colleagues of distant countries and true bilateral exchange in practice and training can be made on an equitable footing.

This program has brought safer ways of administering anesthesia in those places thereby reducing anesthesia morbidity and mortality. The international mandate of exchange in any program should aim at not creating two different worlds but one world with similar diversity. To accomplish this, it requires similar equipment, similar drugs, similar protocol, similar practice, similar teaching and similar outcomes. Any approach that will create a world other than this world will inevitably generate an environment of sub-standards in training and practice that will never evolve towards equity and normalcy.

Resident—Ryan Pikaluk

In January of 2011, I had the honour of traveling to Uganda with the St. Joseph's International Outreach Program, funded by the St. Joseph's Anesthesia Department. While there I had the opportunity to practice clinical anesthesia using different equipment/drugs, teach residents, and observe systematic issues in providing anesthesia care in an underprivileged area. I spent 2 weeks working in Kampala at Mulago Hospital, with their senior resident, Dr. Andrew Kintu (pictured) and 1 week working at the Mbarara National Referral Hospital with Dr. Steven Ttendo. Both were excellent clinicians, gracious hosts and provided great learning opportunities. I look forward to seeing Dr. Kintu again, during his proposed obstetric anesthesia fellowship with McMaster University.



2000



2011



Department Messages

The McMaster Department of Anesthesia turns 40 this year! To mark this Anniversary, we will be organizing an evening of celebration on Saturday, November 17, 2012. Please keep your eye out for upcoming details.

Faculty Appointments

Promotions:

July, 2011

Dr. Elizabeth Ling - Clinical

Professor

Dr. Karen Raymer - Clinical Professor

New Faculty:

January - September, 2011

Dr. Maria Calvo - Assistant Professor

Dr. Bruno Borges - Assistant Professor

Dr. Peter Darby - Assistant Professor

Dr. Melanie Havers - Assistant

Clinical Professor

Dr. Carine Wood - Assistant Professor

Dr. Adrienne Vraets - Assistant

Clinical Professor

Dr. Harsha Shanthanna - Assistant

Professor



Message from the Associate Chair of Education, Dr. Anne Wong — Guyana

Welcome to the Department of Anesthesia inaugural issue! The focus of this inaugural issue is International Anesthesia Education, featuring stories from the field from Drs. Alez Dauphin, Kara Gibson and Ryan Pikaluk. The Department of Anesthesia at McMaster University has played a major role in participating in the global community, particularly in Haiti and Uganda under the leadership of Dr. Dauphin. More recently, we have been invited to participate in the development of an anesthesia residency training program at Georgetown Public Hospital (GPHC) in Guyana by Dr.

Alexandra Harvey, Chief of Anesthesia. Pre-existing collaborative relationships exist between GPHC and McMaster's Departments of Surgery and Pediatrics. Dr. Dauphin and I visited GPHC in November 2011 and were struck by the beauty of the country and hospitality of its people. A country of only 750,000, Guyana has only 9 certified anesthesiologists, 4 of whom work in Georgetown. The potential to contribute to anesthesia care is great. We hope to continue to formalize our collaboration and invite interested Department members to join our efforts.



Drs. Wong and Dauphin in Guyana, November, 2011

DID WE MISS YOUR NEWS?

HOW TO CONTACT US:

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Dr. Kara Gibson — Haiti

Six days after the earthquake in Haiti in January of 2010, Dr. Kara Gibson set off for 3 weeks with Samaritan's Purse as the only anesthesiologist on a team with 5 surgeons and 2 nurses to provide care to victims of the earthquake. The receiving hospital's OR hadn't been used in years. Supplies were what existed on the grounds at the time or what was carried in with the team. Almost all systems had to be established including triage, PAR, ICU, transfusion and a

code team. In March 2010, Dr. Gibson returned to Haiti as the medical director for Samaritan's Purse. Initially teams provided primary care in tent camps, but in October 2010, a massive response to the cholera epidemic began. In 10 days, 2 cholera field hospitals of 100 patients each were established, one in Cite Soleil, the nation's worst slum. Over 1500 patients received 24h care over the next 6 months. Currently Dr. Gibson continues to volunteer at

various Haitian hospitals including Project Medishare and Albert Schweitzer.



Dr. Kara Gibson in Haiti

Research & Education

We would like to congratulate two of our Anesthesia Residents, **Drs. John Centofanti** and **Andrew Heikila** who both won RMA Scholarships for 2011-12. It is fantastic that out of 7 recipients, 2 of them came from Anesthesia! John's study is "ICU Daily Goals Checklist: A mixed-methods analysis of effects on communication and patient care" with Dr. Cook as project supervisor and Andrew's study is "Lumbar transverses abdominal plane (TAP) block: Does volume make a difference?" with Dr. Forero as project supervisor. Great work! The Anesthesia Research Office would like to announce the launch of our Research website. The site includes recent news, upcoming meetings, recent publications, active projects, links to granting agencies, research reporting guidelines, REB information and a guide for students and residents interested in starting a research project. Please have a look at <http://fhs.mcmaster.ca/anesthesiaresearch/>. Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, April 4, 2012** for our next meeting of the Anesthesia Interest Group which will be focused on educa-

tional research featuring guest speaker **Dr. Kelly Dore** from the Program for Educational Research and Development as well as **Drs. Bruno Borges** and **Kurt Domaracki** who will be speaking about their educational projects. Over the next few months, we will be moving forward with other initiatives aimed at enhancing our department's educational mandate and scholarship.

Postgraduate Education

Sincere thanks for all his dedication and hard work to **Dr. Fred Baxter** who will be stepping down after 6 years as the Residency Program Director. Congratulations and welcome to **Dr. Lori Olivieri** who will be stepping into the position on April 1, 2012.

Congratulations to **Dr. Greg Kostandoff (PGY5)** who received the St. Joseph's Healthcare Best Resident Award for Anesthesia.