

OPEN SKIES

Department of Surgery Newsletter

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Saskatoon Breast Centre of Care Surgeons

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UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN



 Regina Qu'Appelle
HEALTH REGION

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATION

Two major objectives for our Department in 2015 are to substantially enhance our commitment to quality improvement and innovation. We have already started to strengthen the administrative infrastructure of the Department by appointing a new Director of Undergraduate Medical Education, a new Director of Research and a Clinical Affairs Officer. Their biographies are included in the present issue of Open Skies.

A quality improvement and patient safety initiative will be established in the Department and we will work closely with the leadership of the SHR in this important initiative. A greater emphasis on supporting research and innovation at all levels within the Department has begun with the first combined Anesthesia-Surgery Resident Research Day that was a resounding success this past April. A research retreat is being organized under the leadership of the new Director of Research that will provide us with a roadmap for enhancing research in the Department over the next 5 years. Our success in peer-reviewed grant capture is advancing steadily with new surgeon-leading research projects featured in this issue of our newsletter.

The Department is firmly on its way to a successful future with rapid expansion of our clinical and academic programs and renewed energy and optimism.

*Ivar Mendez, MD, PhD, FRCSC, FACS
F.H. Wigmore Professor of Surgery*

ON THE COVER: *Saskatoon Breast Centre of Care Surgeons*

(left to right): Dr. Jeff Gaboury, Dr. Gary Groot, Dr. Jennifer Oucharek, Dr. Michael Harington, Dr. Raymond Deobald, Dr. Pam Meiers, Dr. Paul Hayes, Dr. Joseph Pfeifer

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IRENE AND LES DUBÉ BREAST CENTRE OF CARE



The Irene and Leslie Dubé Breast Centre of Care is Saskatchewan's first multidisciplinary Breast Centre. It opened in October 2011 and its primary goal is to provide patients with a team of health care professionals to collaborate and develop an individual treatment plan under one roof. The team of Breast Centre professionals see benign and malignant breast concerns for both men and women. We are also the site of the Provincial High Risk Breast Clinic. This clinic assesses and counsels patients with genetic predispositions for the development of breast cancer. Our multidisciplinary team includes breast surgeons (oncologic and reconstructive), radiologists, pathologists, oncologists, nurse navigators, mammography, technologists and sonographers, social workers, and physiotherapists.

We strive to provide each patient with timely and comprehensive care with access to education and support for them and their families. Each patient referral at the Breast Centre is reviewed by the team. The patient is seen in consultation by the Breast Centre surgeon. All subsequent investigations including imaging and biopsies are performed by the Breast Centre radiologists. The patient is accompanied through these steps with our nurse navigators. To ensure the highest quality standards, the Breast Centre conducts weekly quality assurance rounds for review of radiology and pathology as well as weekly multidisciplinary tumour boards to discuss and make recommendations.

We are ideally positioned for the collection and synthesis of data and for the participation in major national and international trials. Each patient completes a comprehensive questionnaire. Data collected includes demographics as well as risk factors and family history. We are currently in the process of utilizing the database to embark on a very exciting national, multicenter, prospective trial evaluating breast cancer risk assessment in women under forty ("Reducing the Burden of Breast Cancer in Young Women: The RUBY trial"). Most recently, we are participating in the Canadian F.I.G.H.T. (Fluorescence Image-Guided Help in Treating) Breast Cancer Surgical Trial. We also participate in studies in collaboration with our scientists and clinicians affiliated with the University of Saskatchewan and the Schools of Physiotherapy, Community Health and Epidemiology, Nursing and the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency.

The Breast Centre has provided a multidisciplinary approach to the provision of quality care. We are excited about the future of innovation and research that will flourish in such a dedicated team environment.

GRAND ROUNDS ON WAR SURGERY



Ms. Dawn Anderson and Dr. Nelson Olim of the ICRC



The ICRC Comes to the Department of Surgery

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is a humanitarian organization headquartered in Geneva. Its significant contributions in times of war and disaster have been recognized by no less than three Nobel Peace Prizes.

The Surgical Humanities program of the Department of Surgery was privileged to host Nelson Olim, senior surgeon at the ICRC, and Dawn Anderson, Nurse with the ICRC, both of whom are based in Geneva.

Dr. Olim and Ms Anderson addressed the Department of Surgery (and several others in the audience) on the 27th of February at the Department's Grand Rounds. The topic of the address was: "Healthcare in War and Disaster Zones - Reports from the Frontlines." Participants at the Grand Rounds were given a first hand account of how medical personnel, at considerable personal risk to themselves, are delivering surgical care in some of the most dangerous places on earth.

The next day, Dr. Olim conducted a workshop on the "Surgical Principles of War Surgery." Residents and surgeons who attended the workshop have given very positive feedback indicating that the Workshop was informative, fascinating and "eye-opening"! The Department of Surgery thanks Dr. Olim and Ms Anderson for traveling from Geneva to be with us and we wish them well in the essential work they do in the service of desperately ill and injured people in conflict and disaster zones.

NEW APPOINTMENTS



Dr. Trustin Domes



Dr. Nael Shoman



Dr. John Shaw

Director of Undergraduate Medical Education

Trustin Domes, BSc, MEd, MD, FRCSC, has been practicing urology in Saskatoon for almost four years and is an Adjunct Professor of Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan. His subspecialty training is in male reproductive health and microsurgery.

He is currently the Director of Undergraduate Surgical Education and is involved in the design, delivery, and administration of numerous endeavors involving undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing medical education. His current research interests include developing and evaluating strategies to improve the delivery of medical education, including surgical simulation and team-based learning.

Director of Research

Dr. Shoman is a faculty member of the Division of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery. He is also an associate member of the Division of Neurosurgery.

He graduated from the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan, before attending residency in Otolaryngology at the University of British Columbia, graduating in 2009. He then completed a two year fellowship in Otolaryngology and Neurotology at the University of Cincinnati and Cincinnati Children's Hospital. He returned back to join the University of Saskatchewan in 2011, with an aspiration of advancing otologic surgery, developing programs for auditory rehabilitation, and expanding a skull base program. His clinical interests involve management of adult and pediatric patients with hearing loss, balance disorders, and skull base tumors.

Clinical Affairs Officer

Dr. Shaw is a Hepatobiliary Surgeon, currently working at the Royal University Hospital. He holds a Clinical Professor appointment in the Department of Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan. He also serves as the assistant Program Director in General Surgery Residency Program.

His undergraduate training, General Surgery Residency and Hepatobiliary Fellowship were all completed in South Africa at the University of Cape Town prior to him emigrating to Canada with his family five years ago. He has subsequently completed his Canadian equivalency exams, including the LMCC and the FRCS. He is married with two daughters and is happy to call Saskatoon his home.

ORTHOPEDIC RESEARCH: 3D PRINTING

DR. ELLIOTT PALLY



3D Printer



3D Print of AP Pelvis

Dr. Elliot Pally is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan. His current research interests are varied, but have the common goal to improved fracture care. Specific areas of investigation include: developing improved communication methods in the use of imaging in the operating room, evaluating nerve blockade techniques for the management of pain in elderly hip fracture patients, randomized trials evaluating management options for a number of fracture types, and the use of 3D printing as a tool for education and surgical planning and performance.

In an era of evidenced based medicine, deciding with patients the most appropriate course for management of their injury requires high quality information. Often this evidence can only be acquired through properly designed, appropriately powered, multicenter, randomized controlled trials. The Canadian Orthopedic Trauma Society has an internationally recognized history of executing investigations of this nature. Dr. Pally is currently engaged in four studies of this kind, representing the first instance that the University of Saskatchewan has ventured to contribute to this national effort.

With the aid of a generous grant from the Department of Surgery, a particularly exciting area of active investigation involves the use of 3D printing technology. While the possibilities for this technology are endless, we are focusing on education and increased accuracy and efficiency in acetabular fracture fixation. Orthopedic resident Dr. Paul Kulyk has refined the use of open source software to generate high resolution 3D models of patients' own injured anatomy. Already these models have been used intra-operatively to aid in reduction and instrumentation of complex acetabular fractures.

RESIDENT RESEARCH DAY



The inaugural Surgery and Anesthesiology Resident Research Day was held on April 10th in the new E-wing of the Health Sciences Building at the University of Saskatchewan. This year the Department of Surgery combined Resident Research Day with Anesthesia showing our firm commitment to interdisciplinary research, a commitment to support research at all levels, and especially to promote the involvement of residents in research both at the laboratory bench and at the bedside. We are convinced that research leads to better patient care and it is a priority to enhance research in both Departments.

Dr. Preston Smith, Dean of the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan, Dr. Ivar Mendez, Fred H. Wigmore Professor and Unified Head of the Department of Surgery and Dr. David Campbell, Unified Head of the Department of Anesthesiology, opened the day welcoming both faculty and students and expressing the excitement of the overwhelming success of the day already based on the unprecedented number and quality of the abstracts that had been submitted between the two Departments. The success of the day continued and was seen in the 20 oral presentations and 12 poster presentations from residents and students with topics spanning across both disciplinarians and much more. The knowledge base and expanse of interesting research at the University of Saskatchewan was very promising and exciting. Our guest speaker this year was Dr. Vivian McAlister, Angus D. McLachlin Professor of Surgery at the University of Western Ontario. He also served as one of our distinguished judges for the day along with Dr. Nael Shoman, Clinical Assistant Professor and Director of Research in the Department of Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan and Dr. Mike Rooney, Clinical Assistant Professor and Executive Director of Clinical Operations in the Department of Anesthesiology at the University of Saskatchewan. The event was brought to a finish with a Banquet held at the Willows Golf and Country Club, where awards and scholarships were handed out to multiple residents and undergraduate students based on their oral and poster presentations. The success of the event was seen by many and holds promise for the exciting year ahead in the Department of Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan.

For further information about presentations and research in the Department of Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan, please go to our website at <https://www.medicine.usask.ca/surgery/research/research-day/index.php>.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

RESEARCH AWARDS



Division of Neurosurgery

DR. LISSA PEELING, awarded the 1st Joe Niekro Research Grant



Division of General Surgery

DR. GARY GROOT, awarded a Saskatoon Health Region Research Grant



Division of General Surgery

DR. YIGANG LUO, awarded a Saskatoon Health Region Research Grant

Journal of the SURGICAL HUMANITIES



DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY | UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Spring 2015

COMING SOON ...

NEW ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL OF THE SURGICAL HUMANITIES

NEW UNDERGRADUATE OFFICE



The Department of Surgery Undergrad Office has moved to **B413 IN THE HEALTH SCIENCES BUILDING.**

Department of Surgery would like to welcome Renee Ryan to the Department of Surgery. Renee will be supporting the Undergraduate Office and will be focused on the pre-clinical program.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT ...

[HTTP://WWW.MEDICINE.USASK.CA/SURGERY/EDUCATION/INDEX.PHP](http://www.medicine.usask.ca/surgery/education/index.php)