

# OPEN SKIES

Department of Surgery Newsletter

Vol.4 No.3  
September 2017



\$50 Million Dollar donation for equipment and research to the new Jim Pattison Children's Hospital

*Shelley Brown (J.P.C.H.F. Board Chair), Jim Pattison (Donor), Brad Wall (Premier), Brynn Boback-Lane (CEO, J.P.C.H.F.), Jim Reiter (Minister of Health)*



UNIVERSITY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN



Regina Qu'Appelle  
HEALTH REGION



***“Building capacity in all specialties of pediatric surgery is fundamental for a pediatric center of excellence in Saskatchewan.”***

*The new Jim Pattison Children Hospital of Saskatchewan slated to open in 2019 will provide comprehensive surgical care to the Children of the Province. The Department of Surgery is undergoing a significant expansion in our pediatric surgery faculty. Four new pediatric surgeons have been recruited and their profiles are included in this issue of OPEN SKIES. Building capacity in all specialties of pediatric surgery is fundamental to the establishment of an academic center of excellence in pediatric surgery where clinical service, teaching and research achieve the highest standards.*

*This vision of a pediatric center of excellence received a considerable boost by the 50 million dollar donation from philanthropist Jim Pattison to support research and equipment. Mr. Pattison, originally from Luseland, Saskatchewan epitomizes the philanthropy and generosity of the people of Saskatchewan that continually have contributed to support our clinical, teaching and research programs.*

*Research in the Department continues to thrive and was clearly reflected by the successful Annual Resident Research Day. This year we partnered with the Department of Pathology and 42 papers were presented. Dr. Morad Hameed, President of the Canadian Association of General Surgeons was our Keynote Speaker. I want to thank all our faculty, judges, residents and students from both departments for their contributions.*

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

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It is distributed to all surgical faculty, residents and collaborators of the Department of Surgery, as well as surgical teaching centres in Canada and abroad.

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# JIM PATTISON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



*Rendering of the New Children's Hospital*

A recent donation to the Children's Hospital Foundation has made history in Saskatchewan as the largest one-time donation in Saskatchewan history to a charitable organization.

Businessman and philanthropist Jim Pattison, originally from Luseland, Saskatchewan, announced a donation of \$50 million to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan. The historic gift will help support world-class pediatric and maternal research and equipment at the new Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan. In honour of the unprecedented gift, the new provincial hospital will be renamed Jim Pattison Children's Hospital. Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan is also changing its name accordingly, becoming Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation effective immediately.

The extraordinary gift includes ongoing, sustainable funding for the new provincial children's hospital including pediatric and maternal-newborn equipment and fellowships, pediatric endowment research funds, in-kind advertising, and an endowment for Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation. The bulk of the gift will provide a steady stream of revenue to help meet research and programming needs upon completion of the capital campaign when the doors open in late 2019.

Separate from today's gift, the Foundation's "We Can't Wait" capital campaign has accumulated \$54 million towards a campaign goal of a minimum of \$75 million. Construction on Jim Pattison Children's Hospital is on schedule and over 55% complete.

**For more information on the campaign or to contribute contact the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation. (<https://pattisonchildrens.ca/contact/>)**



*Dr. Khalid Al-Harbi, Pediatric General Surgery*



*Dr. Nathan Ginther, General Surgery*



*Dr. Alex Mortimer, Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery*

Dr. Khalid Al-Harbi is joining the Division of General Surgery in the Department of Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan.

After obtaining his basic medical degree from King Abdulaziz University, Dr. Alharbi served few years in humanitarian medical missions, after which he completed five years of residency training in General Surgery at McMaster University. He then went on to pursue his training for more than two years in Pediatric General Surgery at the University of British Columbia.

Being certified both in General Surgery and Pediatric General Surgery by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and board certified in General Surgery by the American Board of Surgery, Dr. Alharbi accumulated vast experience in this field. He has worked at McMaster University and overseas in major tertiary medical centres. He has special interest in Pediatric Minimally Invasive Surgery, Neonatal Surgery and Evidence-Based Medical Practice.

Dr. Alharbi is delighted to join the Saskatoon Health region and the University of Saskatchewan to provide surgical service to our public and teaching and training of our future physicians.

Dr. Nathan Ginther was born in the Philippines and grew up near Saskatoon. He completed BSc and MD degrees and General Surgery residency at the University of Saskatchewan, followed by Colon & Rectal Surgery fellowship at the University of Manitoba.

He holds certification in General Surgery by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and is board-certified by the American Board of Surgery. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and an associate fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

His clinical interests are in advanced minimally invasive and endoluminal surgery, including transanal total mesorectal excision (taTME). He is looking forward to academic practice, with particular interest in outcomes research of colorectal disease. He is also planning continued involvement in international surgery.

Nathan is happily married to Abbie and together they have two beautiful daughters. In his free time, he enjoys backcountry hiking, cycling, and CrossFit.

Dr. Alexandra Mortimer grew up on the East Coast of Canada. She obtained a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance from York University and was a member of a small contemporary dance company in Toronto. She then went on to study Athletic Therapy at Concordia University in Montreal followed by her MD degree from Dalhousie University in Halifax.

Alex completed her Orthopedic Surgery residency at the University of Saskatchewan in 2016 and obtained her FRCSC. Following residency she traveled to Seattle, Washington to study Pediatric Orthopedics at Seattle Children's Hospital. There she had the opportunity to train with the world's expert in pediatric foot and ankle deformities and malformations. She looks forward to bringing this knowledge and skill back to Saskatchewan and providing orthopedic care to the children of the province.

Alex will be bringing her husband Vincent and daughter Chloé back with her to their home in Saskatoon.



*Dr. Julia Radic, Pediatric Neurosurgery*



*Dr. Katie Rook, Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery*

Dr. Julia Radic originally grew up in Calgary, AB and then moved across the world to Bahrain for high school. She went on to complete her B.Sc at the University of Miami in marine science and physics. Next, she attended Queen's University in Kingston, ON, for medical school, where she developed an interest in neuroscience and surgery.

Following this, she completed her neurosurgery residency training at Dalhousie University in Halifax, NS. In this time, she also completed her MPH at Harvard School of Public Health with a concentration in quantitative methods. Subsequently, she completed her fellowship training in pediatric neurosurgery at BC Children's Hospital in Vancouver, BC, where she then worked as a locum for a period of time as a pediatric neurosurgeon.

She is honored and excited to now be transitioning to Saskatoon to help provide quality neurosurgical care to the children and families of Saskatchewan.

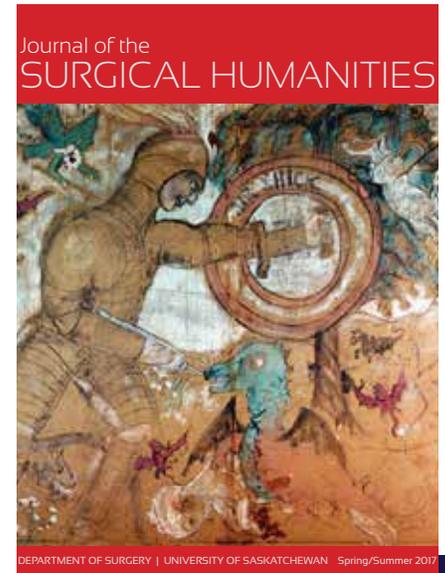
Julia and her wonderful husband, Craig, have an amazing young son, Luke. In her free time, she also enjoys hiking, traveling and kitchen parties with friends.

Dr. Katie Rooks came to Saskatoon at age 13 and since then has called it her home. Her undergraduate degree was in Biochemistry and at graduation she was awarded the Deans Medal in Sciences. During this time, she competed for the Huskie's Track and Field team and was named a Canadian Center for Sport Future Best Athlete. She then completed both her medical school and residency training at the University of Saskatchewan. In addition to her time with Dr. Dzus and Dr. Allen, she studied and worked in Montreal at the Shriners' Hospital, in Vancouver at The BC Women and Children's Hospital, in London, England at the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children and also participated in mission work with the Global Spine Outreach team in Mexico.

She spent the last 18 months at the Starship Children's Hospital in Auckland, New Zealand working with world-renowned experts in the field of Pediatric Orthopedics. She is excited to bring back both her expertise and a new perspective on residency education.

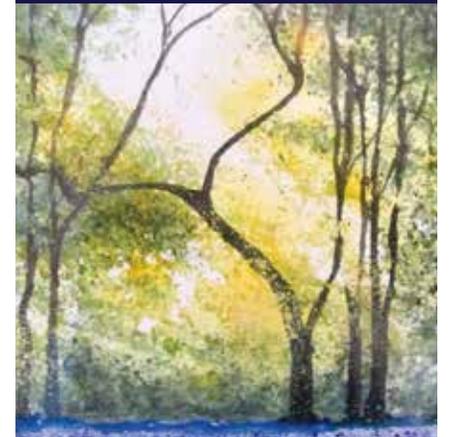
In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with friends and family, trail running, hiking, biking, ocean swimming and boating at the lake.

## Journal of the Surgical Humanities



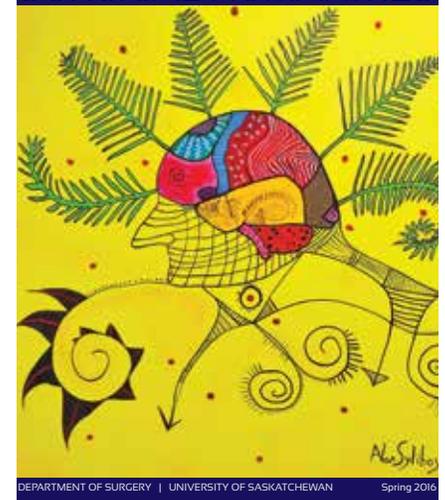
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## Journal of the Surgical Humanities



DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY | UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN Spring 2016

## 2017 RESIDENT RESEARCH DAY



*Dr. Morad Hameed, University of British Columbia, Keynote Speaker*



*Dr. Nael Shoman & Jenna Mann (UGME Award Winner)*

The joint Surgery/Pathology Resident Research Day occurred on May 24, 2017 at the Rependa Centre Auditorium, Saskatoon City Hospital. The judges for this event were Dr. Morad Hameed, Associate Professor and Chief, Trauma and Acute Care Surgery, University of British Columbia; Dr. Michael Levin, MS Chair, Dr. Marek Radomski, Vice Dean, Research, College of Medicine, and Dr. Elliot Pally from Orthopedic Surgery. Forty-two papers were presented.

The Keynote Speaker was Dr. Morad Hameed, the title of his talk was “**Big Data, Statistical Process Control, and the Future of Surgical Quality**”.

The awards banquet followed in the evening at the Delta Bessborough Hotel. Jenna Mann received the **Dash/Reed Award** for her presentation on “Neurological Symptoms associated with Distal Radial Fractures in Women”. Sam Wasyliw received the Excellence in Research Award for his presentation on The FAST VAN Tool for Identifying Large Vessel Occlusion in Acute Stroke”. Amanda Hall received **The Judges Special Award** for her presentation on “Parenteral Nutrition Associated Liver Disease: The Effects of Lipid Composition and Aluminum Contamination on Bile Acid Transporters”. Michael Kindrachuk received the **Surgical Foundations Research Award 1st Prize** for his presentation entitled “Long-term Outcomes of Minimally Invasive Lumbar Microdiscectomy” and Sam Ibrahim received the **Surgical Foundations Research Award 2nd Prize** for his presentation entitled “Patient-Rated Outcomes of Fragility Distal Radial Fractures No Less Than 5 Years Post Fracture in Women 50 Years and Older”. Hui Wang received the **Pathology Research Award** for her presentation entitled “A Diagnosis Not to Miss in Young Men with Bowel Ischemia: Idiopathic Myointimal Hyperplasia of Mesenteric Veins”.

The resident research day gave testimony to all the excellent research that is going on in our Departments.

# INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION

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## INNOVATIONS IN SURGICAL CLINICAL SKILLS TEACHING

Now more than ever, medical educators have to be both effective and efficient when delivering the curriculum to our learners. In the new 2+2 undergraduate curriculum at the University of Saskatchewan, pre-clerkship surgical skills are taught in multiple different small groups using a modular format, ensuring that a multitude of key learning objectives are consistently delivered in a standardized fashion across the province.

With the support of the Clinical Learning Resource Centre in Saskatoon and Dilawri Centre in Regina, we have the facilities and ability to utilize standardized patients and simulators/mannequins to give students hands on experience to help prepare them for their future clinical exposures.

Currently, ENT, vascular surgery, thoracic surgery, general surgery, urology and plastic surgery have developed and delivered surgery "skills days" utilizing this highly effective and efficient model of curriculum delivery.



*Dr. Anthony King, Head of Orthopedic Surgery*

## NEW APPOINTMENT IN SURGERY

### Division Head, Orthopedic Surgery

Dr. Anthony King has been appointed Head of the Division of Orthopedic Surgery effective September 1st.

He is a Clinical Associate Professor in Orthopedic Surgery with specialization in Hip and Knee Reconstructive Surgery working in the Saskatoon Health Region. He completed a successful six year term as the Orthopedic Surgery Program Director in 2016. His Orthopedic Surgery Residency was completed at the University of Saskatchewan. He completed a Sports Knee fellowship at UBC and a Hip and Knee Reconstructive Fellowship at the University of Toronto prior to starting practice in Saskatoon in 1997.

He has remained closely involved in the clinical and academic activities of the division. He is married with three sons and has enjoyed living in Saskatoon for the last three decades.



*Gloving and Gowning instruction with Leona Boyer*



*Surgical Skills Training*



*Orthopedic Resident Jason Shin*

The Early Surgical Experience (ESE) successfully completed its programming this month with an overwhelmingly positive response from its participants! Targeted towards first year medical students at the University of Saskatchewan, ESE aims to increase early exposure to careers in surgery. Through a week long program, ESE offered a mix of hands on workshops, OR and clinical shadowing experiences, and career dialogue which are focused on surgery.

Despite this being its inaugural year, 100% of the participating students expressed that the program was overall a positive experience and addition to their medical education. Students reported greater confidence with basic surgical skills such as suturing, gowning and gloving, and hand ties. In addition, all students who participated expressed increased interest in the field of surgery as a potential career path.

The organizers of ESE would like to thank the Department of Surgery and its divisions, with over 30 surgeons volunteering their time, and residents for all of their support throughout the making of this program. Special mentions of gratitude are expressed for Ms. Leona Boyer, Dr. Melissa Woods, Dr. Haven Roy, Dr. Jeff Gu and Dr. Trustin Domes for their time and commitment to furthering surgical education. We would also like to recognize the Alumni Association and Office of Career Advising and Mentorship for their support of this great initiative.

The unanimously positive feedback from the students provides us with confidence that this program is a worthwhile endeavor and should be continued as an ongoing annual experience for future medical students.

More information on the Department of Surgery can be found on our website at <http://medicine.usask.ca/departments/clinical/surgery.php>