Congratulations Surgical Resident Graduates!

The Department remembers Dr. Winston Parkhill. A tribute can be found on page 10

Stalled AFP negotiations, our frequently gridlocked hospital system, and the never ending pressure to contain costs can all contribute to feeling a bit discouraged by times. On the other hand there have been some recent developments that are great cause for celebration and optimism.

Our former Dean, and two term University of Alberta Dean, DR. TOM MARRIE has been appointed interim Deputy Minister of Health and Wellness signaling a new era of cooperation between the department and all that they interact with.

DR. GREG HIRSCH has been appointed Senior Medical Director of the Provincial Perioperative Program of Care. As such he will share responsibility for co-leading the development of the provincial surgical strategy to consolidate and integrate surgical services across the province as a care network. He is an experienced clinical leader having served as Head of the Division of Cardiac Surgery for more than ten years and Director of Research for the Department of Surgery for ten years as well. He is a long serving member of the QEII OR Committee and is the chair of the Department of Surgery Quality Committee. He is also the clinical lead for the provincial NSQIP Collaborative, which has been instituted at eleven sites across the province. Greg brings enthusiasm, a broad base of experience and an uncommon ability to develop consensus to these roles.

DR. GAIL TOMBLIN MURPHY is now the NSHA Vice President of Research and Innovation. Gail comes to NSHA with a strong background in senior academic leadership, and a track record as a promoter of research networks and global health initiatives.
In her, we have a powerful advocate for the academic mission. Her appointment at this time is fortuitous for the QEII Redevelopment Project which needs someone with her background to provide oversight of the development of the academic infrastructure.

**DR. KRISTA JANGAARD** was appointed permanent CEO of the IWK last fall. She quickly rose though the medical leadership ranks at the IWK having served as Vice President Medicine before becoming Interim CEO two years ago. She is highly respected and brings solid, stable leadership to the IWK Health Authority. It is noteworthy that she is the only physician Health Authority CEO in recent memory save for a short stint at the South Shore Regional by our former Deputy Minister of Health and Wellness, Peter Vaughan a decade ago.

**JANET KNOX** was appointed CEO of the Nova Scotia Health Authority when it was newly created in 2014 and will retire in August. She has been a strong supporter of the QEII brand and has led with a generous heart, consulting widely in establishing the third ever provincial health authority in Canadian history. During this time a number of provincial programs of care have been established and most of us have gradually become socialized to this new world order. The new CEO will have the mandate to take things to the next level and we are now better prepared to actively participate in that process than we were five years ago.

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**Dalhousie Medical School Convocation was held May 27, 2019.** Dr. Kirkpatrick participated in the ceremony, handing out surgical awards; Dean, Dr. David Anderson and Department of Surgery Head, Dr. David Kirkpatrick seen with award recipients.

**DR. JOHN F. BLACK PRIZE**
*Awarded to a student on completion of the fourth year who reaches the highest standing in Surgery.*

Rebeccah Munn

**THE ALBERT A. SCHWARTZ PRIZE IN ORTHOPEDICS**
*Awarded to the graduating medical student who had demonstrated aptitude and excellence in Orthopedics.*

Christopher Moran

**DR. J. W. MERRITT PRIZE**
*Awarded to a student in fourth year who has attained the highest standing in Surgery over the four year of the medical course.*

Amanda Glenn
UNDERGRADUATE MEDICINE

**DR. ANDREW GLENNIE** from the Division of Orthopedics has succeeded Dr. Chad Coles in the role of Clerkship Director. Chad deserves our appreciation for his very capable dedication to this role during the past several years.

Following a survey of the 3rd year students rotating on Surgery last year the weekly late afternoon seminar schedule was revised to permit increased student participation in clinical learning events during their rotation. The number of live seminars provided to students was reduced by 40% in September. Those seminars that are no longer presented live have been archived for review by students during non-clinical time. Students are expected to remain in the hospital until 1800 on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday during the final weeks of the Unit when live seminars are not scheduled. During this time they are available to participate in clinics or cases in the Operating Room. If learning opportunities are not available during these periods they are free to review the seminar content and prepare for the end of Unit examination.

The Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME) office is directing a transition in the examination process to include an end of year summative exam with contributions from all disciplines similar to the Medical Council of Canada (MCC) examination that students write at the completion of Med 4. The surgical content in the exam will include questions from all Divisions within the Department. The current exam written by third year students at the completion of each unit will take the on the structure of a formative learning examination. Representatives to the Surgical Undergraduate Education Committee from each Division will contribute questions.

As a means of providing fourth year students with increased time to experience electives the first Unit at the beginning of the academic year in August will be moved up by 2 weeks resulting in an overlap period during which the number of students assigned to each surgical service will be doubled.

The Canadian Undergraduate Surgical Education Committee has organized C-CASE, The Canadian Conference for the Advancement of Surgical Education to be held in Ottawa this year September 25-26. This conference precedes the International Conference on Residency Education (ICRE) and the conference theme is “Transitions in Surgical Education”. Staff, residents and students from the Department of Surgery are encouraged to attend and to submit abstracts for presentation.

Once again this year the Department of Surgery provided a 2 week introductory (SEAD) course to a group of 28 students interested in a possible career in surgery under the direction of **DR. DAFYDD DAVIES** from Pediatric General Surgery.

The annual award for outstanding teaching by a resident in 2018 was given to **DR. DAVID FORNER** from Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery. **DR. JASON WILLIAMS**, the Head of the Division of Plastic Surgery, received the award for excellence in teaching by a faculty member.
FOUNDATIONS OF SURGERY

The Foundations program continues to develop and mature under the capable Co-leadership provided by Dr. Dafydd Davies and **Dr. Andrew Trenholm**. The Department is grateful to **Dr. David Tang** for his outstanding work in structuring and improving Surgical Foundations during the past 5 years.

The first year of Competence Based Medical Education (CBME) within Foundations has progressed very well requiring junior residents and staff to negotiate the unfamiliar challenges presented by the new concepts of milestones and Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs).

RESIDENCY TRAINING

The following programs within the Department received accreditation during the Royal College accreditation visit in November: Cardiac Surgery, Neurosurgery, Orthopaedic Surgery, Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery, Pediatric Surgery, and Plastic Surgery. Congratulations to Program Directors and Administrative assistants for their hard work in bringing their programs to levels of success!

Otolaryngology / Head and Neck Surgery is currently at the end of the second year of CBME. Programs in Cardiac and Neurosurgery are scheduled to adopt CBME in July.

FELLOWSHIP TRAINING

The Fellowship Committee, under the Chairmanship of **Dr. Mark Glazebrook** and administrative support of Ms. Lesli Smith, has developed a number of standards related to the educational experience of Fellows. These include the fellowship application process, funding issues, objectives related to academic, operative and research participation, a fellowship teaching policy and documentation outlining the role of the fellow in relation to the resident. There are currently approximately 25 Fellows registered for training in the Department of Surgery.

SIMULATION AND SKILLS PROGRAM

**Dr. Jessica Mills** from Pediatric Surgery has taken on the role of Simulation Clinical Lead for the Department of Surgery. Jessica engages residents rotating at the IWK in simulation scenarios and participates in multi-disciplinary simulations in the QE2 Operating Rooms.

**Dr. Sam Minor** from General Surgery completed the Simulation Leader Interprofessional Instructor's Course last year. Sam facilitates multi disciplinary trauma simulations at the HI and VG hospitals.

A state of the art renovated facility was opened at the HI Emergency Department in November. The Sim Bay, a $1.8 million resource for both simulation and cadaver based skills training was the result of over 4 years of dedicated work from the QE2 Simulation Program with support from the QE2 Foundation.
The Department of Surgery Research Day was held on April 10, 2019. The day’s program demonstrated the excellent research work being done by our residents, grad students and medical students. The day’s presentations were grouped into common themed research areas: Big Data – Clinical Perspectives, Cell Biology, Decision Support/Medical Education, Clinical Perspectives – Randomized Control Trials & Case Series, and New Insights. The 2019 Dr. Gordon Bethune Visiting Professor was DR. LEONARD D’AVOLIO. His noon time lecture “Building the (Machine) Learning System” was overwhelmingly received by our faculty, our welcomed colleagues in the Departments of Anesthesia and Ophthalmology and invited members from CDHA Executive, Faculty of Medicine, Business Partners in the Community and Board Members from The QEII Foundation. The QEII partnered with our Research Office to host Dr. D’Avolio. His expertise on HEALTH DATA and its profound importance in using it to streamline access to care and manage patient outcomes and efficiency was presented.

Department of Surgery Research Day 2019 Winners

The Dr. Robert Stone Traveling Fellowship
Dr. David Forner, PGY 2 Otolaryngology Resident
Turn Analysis and Patient Centeredness in Pediatric Otolaryngology Surgical Consultations

The Best Resident Presentation
Dr. Jonathan Melong, PGY3 Otolaryngology Resident
The Effect of Tongue-tie Release on Speech Sound Articulation in Children Presenting with Speech Concerns

The Best Student Presentation
Connor McGuire, Medical Student
The Effect of Tranexamic Acid in Lowering Bleeding, Edema and Ecchymosis in Primary Rhinoplasty: A Systematic Review & Meta-Analysis

The Best Basic Science Presentation
Colton Boudreau, Medical Student
Effect of Compound 21, a Selective Angiotensin II Type 2 Receptor Agonist, in an Abdominal Adhesion Murine Model

Mark your Calendars!
Research Day 2020
Wednesday April 8, 2020
Dr. Jim Fawcett
Basic Science Lead

DR. JIM FAWCETT, our Basic Science Liaison on the Department of Surgery Research Committee lead a rebuilding and investment exercise for the departmental clinician scientists. With recent departures of basic science leaders in the Department, the DOS Research Committee strategized ways to continue to support existing research programs and a means to help sustain our basic science researchers in the Department.

Within this smaller group in the Department, a collegial review of all research activities was undertaken. From this exercise, research synergies were demonstrated, pulling and sharing resources were identified, and pathways for our Clinician Scientists to stay connected were established. A $125,000.00 investment from the Department of Surgery Research Committee was earmarked to invest in our Clinician Scientists.

In hope to re-build a strong basic science contingent in the Department, Dr. Fawcett continues to find ways to support research activities. There will be a designated research day for those in the Department dedicated to basic science research; to celebrate and share accomplishments, and continue to meet collectively to mentor and encourage collaborative research.

Clinical Investigator Program

Dr. Claudia Cote, PGY3 Cardiac Surgery. Dr. Cote is pursuing a Master’s in Health Administration, “The Effects of Socioeconomic status and distance from treating hospital on outcomes in patients undergoing thoracic aortic surgery”. Dr. Cote has received full ministry salary funding support.

Dr. Rakesh Gudimella, PGY3, Plastic Surgery. Dr. Gudimella has been accepted to pursue a MSc in Biomedical Engineering for his project "Validation of a novel force-based human machine interface with proprioceptive feedback for prosthesis control”

Dr. Phillippe Tremblay, PGY5 Cardiac Surgery is preparing to defend his MSC in CH&E “The effect of left ventricular assist devices on pulmonary hypertension in end-stage heart failure”.

Dr. Catherine Deshaies, PGY5 Cardiac Surgery is continuing in her PhD project at the Université de Montréal “Atrial Arrhythmias, Thromboprophylaxis Strategies and Risks of Thrombotic and Bleeding Events After Fontan Repair: A TACTIC Sub-Study. “

Congratulations to Dr. Sam Jessula and Dr. Ashely Drohan on successfully defended their Master’s this past year. Both resident researchers were successful in obtaining external funding through CIHR (Banting and Best Award), NSHRF, Ross Smith Memorial Fellowship in PGME and many research day monetary awards.
DR. EDGAR GEORGE CHEDRAWY graduated from the combined BSc (Med) / MD program at Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, Canada in 1997 and completed Cardiac Surgery residency training at McGill University Health Centre, Montreal, QC, in 2003. During residency, Dr. Chedrawy pursued a Master’s of Science (MSc) in Experimental Surgery, in the McGill Surgeon-Scientist training program, followed by an advanced fellowship in heart and lung transplantation and mechanical circulatory support at Stanford University Medical Center, Palo Alto, CA, USA. Dr. Chedrawy began practice in 2004 at Northshore University Health System in Evanston, IL as an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Northwestern University. In 2007, he was recruited to University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) to lead both the advanced aortic surgery and heart failure programs; he was promoted to Associate Professor of Surgery (with tenure) in 2011. During his 10 years at UIC, Chedrawy served as Medical Director for Cardiothoracic Surgery and Vice-Chairman of Department of Surgery (Quality and Education) at Tenet Healthcare Weiss Hospital. With his completion of a Master's in Health Administration (MHA) at the UIC School of Public Health, he subsequently pursued Certified Physician Executive (CPE) certification before moving home to Nova Scotia in May 2017. Chedrawy currently practices at Queen Elisabeth II Health Sciences Center in Halifax, Nova Scotia and is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Health Administration at Dalhousie University. Dr. Chedrawy was promoted to Head, Division of Cardiac Surgery, at Nova Scotia Health Authority in November 2018. Chedrawy’s clinical career has focused on minimally invasive cardiothoracic surgery and cardiac surgery for advanced heart failure including heart transplantation and mechanical circulatory support; academically, his primary focus has been medical education.

Administratively, he has served in leadership roles with regard to medical staff issues, medical education, Quality and Patient Safety, as well as physician practice management and strategic planning for surgical programs. Dr. Chedrawy currently serves on the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Workforce for Patient Safety and functions as a Cohort Leader for CPE Certification by the American Association for Physician Leadership.

OUR MISSION, VISION, VALUES: The Division of Cardiac Surgery, Nova Scotia Health Authority, and Dalhousie University, Department of Surgery serve a combined mission as sole tertiary care cardiac surgery provider in Nova Scotia, designated quaternary care and congenital cardiac surgery program for Atlantic Canada and partner to Dalhousie University for education and research. Our vision to become the preferred clinical provider/innovator for cardiac surgery, education center of excellence and research hub for Atlantic Canada and to lead our health system administratively, to better serve our community, is guided by our core values of transparency, accountability, teamwork and quality.
Otolaryngology: **DR. MARTIN CORSTEN** holds an undergrad degree in Physics from St. Francis Xavier University and obtained his medical degree from the University of Western Ontario. He completed his ENT residency at University of Ottawa, and his Fellowship in Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery was completed at the University of California, Davis. Martin returned to the University of Ottawa as a staff surgeon, and served as the Department Chair at the University of Ottawa. Dr. Corsten was also the Department Chair in Otolaryngology for Aurora Health Care in Wisconsin. Martin is the Past President of the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery and Past Chair of the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada Examination Board in Otolaryngology. Dr. Corsten returned home and is member in the Division of Otolaryngology practicing head and neck cancer surgery, microvascular reconstructive surgery of the head and neck, skull base surgery, and thyroid/parathyroid surgery. Welcome Dr. Corsten!

Plastic Surgery: **DR. JACK RASMUSSEN**, a native of Antigonish, Nova Scotia, completed his undergraduate degree in Human Kinetics at St. Francis Xavier University before undertaking his MD degree at Dalhousie University. He went on to complete his residency in Plastic Surgery here in Halifax, where he developed an interest in burn care. With this in mind, Jack undertook a two-year Critical Care Medicine fellowship based in Halifax, but devoted a portion of his training to burn care, working with the team at the Ross Tilley Burn Center at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto. Since completing his training, he has joined the Division of Plastic Surgery and the Department of Critical Care in Halifax, and assumed directorship of the QEII Burn Unit. His clinical interests include both the surgical and medical management of burn patients, complex wound care, and procedural skills teaching for medical trainees.

Pediatric General Surgery: **DR. CHRISTOPHER BLACKMORE** completed medical school at the University of Alberta before moving to the University of Calgary for General Surgery residency. During residency, he also pursued a Masters of Science in Medical Education. The focus of his thesis was the development of a national competency based Pediatric General Surgery Boot Camp to help new trainees transition into the discipline. He subsequently moved to Halifax to complete the next stage of training, Pediatric General Surgery, finishing in 2018. During fellowship, he was involved in the implementation of the first Pediatric Surgery Boot Camp in Montreal in July, 2017. This has since been followed up by the second iteration of the Boot Camp in Calgary in July, 2018. As a new Pediatric General Surgery staff at the IWK Health Centre, Dr. Blackmore is keen to continue participating in medical education at both the undergraduate and postgraduate level. He also looks forward to exploring the Maritimes, learning French, and perhaps trying his hand at sailing! Welcome to the Department Dr. Blackmore!
A giant of a man was lost in January with the death of Dr. Winston Parkhill.

Dr. Parkhill was a Professor of Surgery in the Division of Plastic Surgery and was a much loved, respected and accomplished surgeon and teacher. He was born in 1942 in New Brunswick, and graduated from Dalhousie Medical School in 1968. He completed his Plastic Surgery residency at University of Toronto, then returned to Halifax in 1973 to work alongside Dr. Jim Ross, who had established the plastic surgery residency program at Dalhousie. His career, and his family life with his wife Mary and their 5 children, flourished.

When asked the secret of success for a surgeon, Dr. Parkhill’s answer was that you must have these qualities: Ability, Availability and Affability. He embodied these qualities and modeled them for his residents and students. He was also an advocate for balance in life before it was the mainstream consideration that it is today. Dr. Parkhill’s time here in the Department of Surgery was marked with significant accomplishments. He was a dedicated and passionate teacher, mentor and clinician. He touched the lives of many through these roles, taking great pride in the relationships he developed throughout his career.

He was a Professor in the Faculty of Medicine, Head of the Division of Plastic Surgery for 16 years, an active staff member at the QEII Health Sciences Centre and the IWK, as well as a popular lecturer at the Dalhousie Medical School. He was instrumental in the adoption sentinel node biopsy for melanoma patients, and led advancements in hand surgery, particularly rheumatoid hand deformities.

He received many awards in recognition of his vast contributions to the fabric of our community, including twice receiving the Department of Surgery Excellence in Teaching Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons.

Interestingly, at Dr. Parkhill’s memorial service in January, his various accomplishments in surgery were not a focus. Rather, what came across was that his authenticity as a person ran through all aspects of his life. Whether you were a family member, colleague, patient, resident or friend, he was the same kind, generous, larger than life person who showed a genuine interest in you, and had a way of making you feel special and important. This is what made him who he was, no matter the context, and what drew people to him.

Even after retirement in 2007 Dr. Parkhill maintained an active connection with the Department of Surgery, attending the Annual Golf Day, journal club, and social events. While he no longer walks with us, his legacy will live on through those whose lives he touched.

“I feel that my patients benefit from well-rounded training and experience. Because of the opportunity that I have been afforded, I feel that I have an academic responsibility to foster a teaching atmosphere for medical students to aid in their academic knowledge and to help a way of life that will be balanced. My time allotment throughout my academic career has been divided into 5 definitive foci: Family Life, Clinical Practice Teaching, Administration and Research”

- Quote from the teaching dossier of Dr. Parkhill

“Dr. Parkhill was a role model to the residents in our training program. His legacy is one of kindness, humanity, doing the right thing for your patients, yet managing to still put your family first. His role as a mentor transcends the usual professor-student relationship When you were his resident he cared deeply about your education and success, and he showed it. He and Mary made you feel like a member of the family.”

–Dr. Jason Williams
# Committees 2019-2020

## Fellowship Directors – Committee
**Dr. Mark Glazebrook – Chair**
**Dr. Brock Vair – Education Director**

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<th>Position</th>
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Contact Lesli Smith – lesli1smith@nshealth.ca

## Promotions Committee
**Dr. Ivan Wong – Chair**

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Contact Lesli Smith – lesli1smith@nshealth.ca

## Research Committee
**Dr. Mike Dunbar – Director**

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<td>Dr. Paul Hong</td>
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<td>Dr. Thomas Issekkutz</td>
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## Congratulations on the following promotions

- Dr. Sean Christie – Professor
- Dr. Lucy Helyer – Associate Professor
- Dr. Jim Ellsmere – Associate Professor
- Dr. Rodrigo Romao – Associate Professor
Welcome New Surgical Residents!

Orthopaedics
- Kaleena Johnston
  U of Calgary
- Fares Al-Jahdall
  King Saud University
- Christopher Moran
  Dalhousie

Cardiac Surgery
- Ahmed Allawati
  Sultan Qaboos University

Neurosurgery
- Abdulaziz Bokeris
  RCSI Dublin, Ireland
- Jenna Smith-Forrester
  U of British Columbia

Plastic Surgery
- Connor McGuire
  Dalhousie
- Anna Duncan
  Dalhousie -NB

General Surgery
- Robert Raskin
  University of Western Ontario
- Adam Southcott
  King Abdulaziz U
- Lujain Attar
  Dalhousie
- Jillian Tweedy
  Dalhousie
- Pooja Patel
  U of Calgary
- Ashley Robinson
  Dalhousie

Otolaryngology
- Chad Purcell
  Dalhousie
- Victoria Kuta
  Dalhousie
- Abdullah Al Daihani
  Kuwait University

https://medicine.dal.ca/departments/department-sites/surgery.html
Department of Surgery
Research
@DALsurgresearch