Dr. Nancy MacDonald retired from the Division of Cardiology after over 35 years of practice. Throughout her career, many – her colleagues and patients alike – have benefited from her expertise, leadership and clinical competence. In addition to her busy clinical practice she has also held many leadership roles throughout the span of her career including Medical Director IC1, Dartmouth General Hospital, Chair of Metropolis Cardiac Program on Prevention and Rehabilitation and Director of the Heart and Stroke Foundation Nova Scotia. Nancy and her skill, professionalism and kindness will be missed.

Dr. Paul McIntyre, Division of Palliative Medicine, has retired after a 30-year career. Paul was the first physician with palliative care training in Nova Scotia and was instrumental in establishing the service and served as division head for 11 years. In 2001, he founded the postgraduate training program. In 2008, his contributions were honoured nationally with the Eduardo Bruera Award (from the Canadian Society of Palliative Care Physicians). Moving into retirement, Paul will be missed for his wealth of knowledge and unwavering dedication to the advancement of palliative care locally and beyond.

Dr. Allan Purdy retired from the Division of Neurology in July after 42-years with the department. He has numerous achievements, including Head/Chief Department of Medicine/CDHA, Head Division of Neurology and Program Director Neurology. His teaching achievements are legendary, having won numerous teaching awards (local, national and international) and been a mentor for most neurologists in the division. He is an excellent general neurologist, with special expertise in the subspecialty of Headache. Dr. Purdy continues to have a strong presence in the “Headache World”, serving currently as the President of American Headache Society and the Chair for the International Headache Society. We will miss his unique teaching style and wicked sense of humor.

Dr. John Stewart has retired from the Division of Cardiology after 37-years of practice. Dr. Stewart has worked with the Division of Cardiology for most of his career, except for a decade where he worked at the Aberdeen Hospital in New Glasgow. Throughout his career, he has provided exceptional service establishing a large and loyal patient following. He has been a teacher and mentor to many. He and the significant contributions he made to ambulatory cardiology care and more recently the Consult Service, Pacemaker Clinic and Exercise and MIBI labs will be missed.

As always, the Spring is an extremely busy time for our Department. This issue of Medicine Matters will showcase much of that activity. I hope all my colleagues have an opportunity to enjoy some relaxation this summer. I thoroughly enjoyed our Spring Party where we celebrated one another and acknowledged the great work and talent within our Department. Every day we work in an environment where we are in crisis management or striving to solve complex patient problems. For this reason, it is important we take the time to acknowledge our positive impact and areas of excellence – which are plentiful. Congratulations to this year’s award recipients.

We are pleased to offer a Research Award Grant for this issue of Medicine Matters to highlight the many accomplishments, milestones and achievements by our colleagues who are advancing important research on our behalf. We are fortunate to have such a diverse and talented group of researchers amongst us. In addition, if you are reading the paper version, you will also see included the list of PGY1-3 Core Internal Medicine residents, with photos, to help put names to faces.

You will also see we are in a period of transition with nine people leaving our Department, either by retiring or for other reasons, while we welcome 11 more. To those leaving, I offer sincere best wishes and to those joining us, I look forward to witnessing what I know will be excellent contributions to our Department.
The Division of Neurology has recently experienced an upgrade with the expansion of the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU) – from two to four beds this spring. The unit is used to monitor epilepsy patients to help determine if surgery is an option.

Dr. Samuel Searle joins the Division of Geriatric Medicine effective July 15. Dr. Searle completed his medical degree at Dalhousie University and his residencies in Internal Medicine and most recently geriatric medicine this year. During his medical school career, Dr. Searle has been active in research, receiving awards and publishing nine peer-reviewed papers, including one with over 350 citations. This Truro native, is also a talented singer. He joins us for a one year locum, with plans to travel to the UK to obtain further qualifications in the acute care of the frail elderly in the subsequent years.

Dr. Allen Truax, Division of General Internal Medicine, completed his medical degree at the University of Edmonston. He then completed his core training in internal medicine at Dalhousie, followed by GIM subspecialty training. During his residency at Dalhousie he has been very involved in quality improvement initiatives involving the Medical Teaching Unit and the Canadian Society of Internal Medicine Choosing Wisely Campaigns. He was an associate chief resident in 2014-2015 for the core internal medicine program and he was co-chief resident for the GIM program in 2016-2017. Allen won the Dr. Elizabeth Mann award for excellence in GIM in 2017 in recognition of his clinical expertise, collegiality, and contributions to the practice of GIM. We welcome Allen to the division and look forward to his continued development as an academic clinician.

We are also pleased to see the following physicians agree to extend their locum:

- Dr. Osama Elkhateeb (Cardiology) – extended until January 2018
- Dr. Kelvin Young (Medical Oncology) – extended until June 2017
- Dr. Evan Merrick (Cardiology) – faculty member now extending his profile to include locum services for General Internal Medicine

Lastly, the planning continues to upgrade and replace the QEH facilities. This spring, the new location for Community Outpatient Centre was chosen to be at the Buyers Lake Business Park. To stay up-to-date on development visit: https://qe2redevelopment.novascotia.ca
We are pleased to welcome many new physicians to our Department, some of whom are residents who just completed their residencies with us.

Dr. Paul Bonnar is joining the Infections Diseases Division as an Infectious Diseases physician and Medical Director of the NSHA Antimicrobial Stewardship Program. Dr. Paul Bonnar completed his Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases training at Dalhousie University. He recently completed a clinical fellowship in Antimicrobial Stewardship at the Sinai Health System – University Health Network Antimicrobial Stewardship Program. Dr. Bonnar will use his training and expertise in the stewardship program to help optimize antimicrobial use across the NSHA and lead quality improvement projects to identify interventions that improve antimicrobial use behaviours.

Dr. Natalie Cunningham, Division of Interventional Nephrology at Western University. She has been hired as the new Manager of Human Resources for the Division of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and will be splitting her year between Halifax and Hamilton, Ontario where he will receive further training and mentoring in peripertoneal medicine working with the internationally renowned perioperative program established by PJ Devereaux, a Dalhousie graduate.

Dr. Nicholas Forward, Division of Hematology, completed his residency in Internal Medicine and Hematology at Dalhousie University. Before completing medical school, also at Dalhousie, he did his Masters in Microbiology and Immunology, training to work with the world-renowned Dr. Forward and will have a keen interest in medical education, recently completing the requirements for MSc (Community Health) in Health Practitioner Teacher Education at the Dalhousie University.

Dr. Lesley Dagley has been hired as the Department's new Manager of Industrial/Organization Psychology from St. Mary's University and has over 17 years of progressively more responsible roles in human resources both in health care at the Nova Scotia Health Authority and PBEK and in the private sector. Most recently, she was a Human Resources Consultant supporting the Department of Medicine and related clinical areas. Lesley has expert knowledge of recruitment, management and retention of employees including coaching and mentoring and has co-developed and facilitated education sessions on the topics of performance feedback and performance management.

Dr. David Clark joined the Division of Nephrology, as a locum tenens, on July 1. Dr. Clark completed medical degree at the University of Ottawa and residency in both Internal Medicine and Nephrology here at Dalhousie University. He is pursuing subspecialty training in the areas of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Interventional Nephrology at Western University.

Dr. Dr. Ata Quraishi, Division of Hematology) was the recipient of the inaugural Clinical Excellence Award; an award created to honour a clinician who contributes to patient care, through excellence in their craft, compassion, availability, and the highest standards of the profession. This highly respected colleague, is described as the cardiologist you hope to see at your own bedside if ever in need. Known to take on the most complex and high risk cases, often redirecting a patient's path to a positive outcome. The busy clinician, holds himself to an extremely high standard of care and professionalism, while exercising a strong work ethic. He is a dependable colleague, volunteering for clinical service when there is a gap and makes himself available night and day, without a complaint or expectation.

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Faculty Excellence in Medical Education

Congratulations to those honoured for Faculty Excellence in Medical Education.

Dr. Nathan Lamond: Assistant Professor, Medical Oncology
“Education is of great significance to Dr. Lamond and being able to provide knowledge to others is of paramount importance. He has made significant contributions to local, regional and national oncology education.” - Nominator

Dr. Gordon Gubitz: Program Director, Neurology
“Dr. Gubitz is passionate about residency education and ensures a high quality in the training program. He is a gifted teacher who devotes considerable time and energy to medical education.” - Nominator

Dr. Trudy Taylor: Program Director, Rheumatology
“You can see her video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmuxqUGLOHU

Dr. Erin Gorman-Corsten: Program Director, Palliative Medicine
“Dr. Gorman-Corsten is highly involved in educational administrative work at the Faculty of Medicine and Department of Medicine. She exemplifies the motivation and accomplishment we seek to inspire and recognize.” - Nominator

Iype/Wilfred Resident Award

The New Brunswick Medical Society celebrates excellence in medicine with the Iype/Wilfred Resident Award given to residents who have demonstrated outstanding achievements during their residency training in New Brunswick. This award recognizes achievements in research, professionalism, compassion and caring and is presented during the Celebration of Medicine Event. Five NB-based Dalhousie internal medicine residents have won this award in the past seven years, including this year’s winner, Jacquelyn LeBlanc.

2017 - Jacquelyn LeBlanc
2016 - Aaron Leblanc
2013 - Brent McGrath
2012 - John Paul Harmon
2011 - Joe Rigley

You can see her video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmuxqUGLOHU

25 Years’ Service Awards

Our long-standing members provide a unique and valued contribution to our Department with their wealth of experience and knowledge. Congratulations to three of our colleagues who are celebrating 25 years with the Department:

- Dr. Colm McParland – Division of Respiratory Medicine
- Dr. David Anderson – Dean, Dalhousie Medical School (Division of Hematology)
- Dr. Vernon Paddock – Division of Cardiology

Outstanding Academic Performance Awards

Dr. Kyle Murray (PGY1)
Dr. Mark Robbins (PGY2)
Dr. Alexandra Legge (PGY3)

Outstanding Resident Awards

Dr. Eric Pond (PGY1)
Dr. Jean-Gregoire Leduc (PGY2)
Dr. Alison Dixon (PGY3)

Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Dr. Chris Green (PGY2)

Award for Excellence in Summer Grand Rounds

Dr. Andrew Caddell (PGY3)

Outstanding Faculty – Residents’ Choice Award

Dr. Trudy Taylor: Program Director, Rheumatology
“Dr. Taylor is an outstanding medical educator. She is not only a wonderful role model for residents, she is an active contributor to the postgraduate medical education curriculum. She is a leader, an outstanding clinician and the kind of teacher we all aspire to be.” - Nominator

Outgoing Chief Residents – Thank You

Thanks to our outgoing Chief Residents (& Associate Chief) for their leadership in 2016/17: Dr. Keigan More, Dr. Kate MacEachen, Dr. Aimee Noel and Dr. Andrew Caddell (Associate Chief).

Vision: To be leaders in academic medicine providing innovative, collaborative and appropriate care that is sustainable.

Mission: We are a diverse group of highly trained professionals dedicated to improving health through education, research and providing exemplary clinical care to our community.

Congratulations to our Graduating Residents – June 30, 2017

Congratulations to our residents who graduated from their programs. Thank you for demonstrating such commitment, drive and curiosity during your residency! We wish you all the best as your journey in medicine continues.

Core Internal Medicine Residents (PGY3)
Dr. Ahmad Alkharaza
Dr. Andrew Caddell
Dr. Paul Cameron
Dr. Allison Dixon
Dr. Pascale Dupuis
Dr. Chinyere Iwuala
Dr. Lucy Liu
Dr. Jacqueline LeBlanc
Dr. Heather Mackenzie
Dr. Kate MacEachen
Dr. Matthew Miles
Dr. Sanju Mishra
Dr. Keigan More
Dr. Aimee Noel
Dr. Myuran Thana
Dr. Steve Walsh

Subspecialty Graduating Residents

Resident Postgraduate Year (PGY) Subspecialty Residency Training Program (Dalhousie University)
Dr. Adam Howes PGY6 Cardiology
Dr. Andrew Moeller PGY6 Cardiology
Dr. Paul Morrison PGY6 Cardiology
Dr. Jordan Webler PGY6 Cardiology
Dr. Natalie Cunningham PGY5 Clinical Dermatology & Cutaneous Science
Dr. Nadine Vaniotti PGY5 Endocrinology & Metabolism
Dr. Adel Al Ghamdi PGY5 Digestive Care & Endoscopy
Dr. Allan Dorrington PGY5 Digestive Care & Endoscopy
Dr. Chinnay Gowdharu PGY5 General Internal Medicine
Dr. Allen Tran PGY5 General Internal Medicine
Dr. Samuel Searle PGY5 Geriatric Medicine
Dr. Nicholas Forward PGY5 Hematology
Dr. Hilal Al Sidari PGY5 Infectious Diseases
Dr. Jessica Cobert PGY5 Medical Oncology
Dr. David Clark PGY5 Nephrology
Dr. Stephen Douglas PGY5 Neurology
Dr. Andrew Caddell PGY5 Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

CongratulationS to ouR gRaDuating ReSiDentS – June 30, 2017

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“Education is of great significance to Dr. Lamond and being able to provide knowledge to others is of paramount importance. He has made significant contributions to local, regional and national oncology education.” - Nominator

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“Dr. Gubitz is passionate about residency education and ensures a high quality in the training program. He is a gifted teacher who devotes considerable time and energy to medical education.” - Nominator

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“Dr. Gorman-Corsten is highly involved in educational administrative work at the Faculty of Medicine and Department of Medicine. She exemplifies the motivation and accomplishment we seek to inspire and recognize.” - Nominator

Dr. Trudy Taylor: Program Director, Rheumatology

“Dr. Taylor is an outstanding medical educator. She is not only a tremendous asset to the Division of Rheumatology and the Department of Medicine.” - Nominator

Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Dr. Chris Green (PGY2)

Awards for Excellence in Summer Grand Rounds

Dr. Andrew Caddell (PGY3)

Outstanding Faculty – Residents’ Choice Award

Dr. Trudy Taylor: Program Director, Rheumatology

“Dr. Taylor continues to make exceptional contributions to undergraduate, postgraduate, and continuing medical education not only here at Dalhousie, but also at the national level. She is a wonderful role model for residents, she is an active contributor to educational administrative work at the Faculty of Medicine and Department of Medicine.” - Nominator

Outstanding Academic Performance Awards

Dr. Kyle Murnaghan (PGY1)
Dr. Mark Robbins (PGY2)
Dr. Alexandra Legge (PGY3)

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Dr. Simon Jackson, Missing: Dr. Vernon Paddock

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Dr. Andrew Caddell
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Dr. Pascale Dupuis
Dr. Chinyere Iwuala
Dr. Lucy Liu
Dr. Jacqueline LeBlanc
Dr. Heather MacKenzie
Dr. Kate MacEachen
Dr. Matthew Miles
Dr. Sanju Mishra
Dr. Keigan More
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Dr. Myuran Thana
Dr. Steve Walsh

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We are pleased to welcome many new physicians to our Department, some of whom are residents who just completed their residencies with us.

Dr. Paul Bonnar is joining the Infections Diseases Division as an Infectious Diseases physician and Medical Director of the NSHA Antimicrobial Stewardship Program. Dr. Paul Bonnar completed his Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases training at Dalhousie University. He recently completed a clinical fellowship in Antimicrobial Stewardship at the Sinai Health System – University Health Network Antimicrobial Stewardship Program. Dr. Bonnar will use his training and expertise in the stewardship program to help optimize antimicrobial use across the NSHA and lead quality improvement projects to identify interventions that improve antimicrobial use behaviours.

Dr. Chinmoy Chowdhury, Division of General Internal Medicine, completed his five years of residency at Dalhousie and his medical degree at Queen’s University. He is marrying his interests in cardiology and GIM and will have the goal of establishing a multidisciplinary perioperative service at the NSHA, splitting his year between Halifax and Hamilton, Ontario where he will receive further training and mentoring in perioperative medicine working with the internationally renowned perioperative program established by PJ Devereaux, a Dalhousie graduate.

Dr. David Clark joined the Division of Nephrology, as a locum tenens, on July 1. Dr. Clark completed medical degree at the University of Ottawa and residency in both Internal Medicine and Nephrology here at Dalhousie University. He is pursuing subspecialty training in the areas of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Interventional Nephrology at Western University.

Dr. Natalie Cunningham, born and educated in Halifax, will join the Division of Clinical Dermatology and Cutaneous Science on July 31. Dr. Cunningham received her BSc with Distinction from the Faculty of Neuroscience Dalhousie before completing her MD degree at Dalhousie. She joined the Dalhousie Residency Program in 2012 and completed her Royal College examination in June 2017. Dr. Cunningham is described as the consummate dermatologist and a skilled surgeon, with all-round competency in skin diseases. She is keen to help and an unstoppable teacher. She will be taking an active role in pediatric dermatology at the PBK and we look forward to her ongoing participation in our academic teaching program.

Dr. Nicholas Forward, Division of Hematology, completed his residency in Internal Medicine and Hematology at Dalhousie. Before completing medical school, also at Dalhousie, he did his Masters in Microbiology and Immunology. Dr. Forward will have a clinical focus in lymphoma and myeloma and will Co-Chair the Lymphoma Tumour Board with Dr. Mary Margaret Keating.

Dr. Simon Houston, Division of Respiriology, brings a highly specialized new skill set in interventional respiratory medicine, including bronchial ultrasound (EBUS) guided intrathoracic biopsy and interventional techniques for assessment and management of benign and malignant pleural disorders. Dr. Houston recently completed a clinical fellowship in Interventional Thoracic Surgery under the primary supervision of Dr. Yasufuku at the University of Toronto. He also brings a keen interest in medical education, recently completing the requirements for M.Sc. (Community Health) in health practitioner teacher education at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Kristin Ikeda will join the Division of Neurology in August. She did her neurology training and an Epilepsy/EEG Fellowship in in University of Western Ontario. She is completing her Master's degree this month (July 2017) and will bring special expertise in the discipline of epilepsy and EEG. Kristin will have a major clinical appointment, specifically working in the recently opened Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU), and will have research and teaching commitments as well.

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Dr. Brian Chandler Lifetime Achievement Award in Medical Education

On June 8, the Department hosted its Spring Party where we honoured our colleagues. (Note: The Research Awards are highlighted in the included Research Supplement.)

Brian M. Chandler Lifetime Achievement Award in Medical Education

Deserving recipient Dr. David Simpson (Division of General Internal Medicine) was honoured for his more than two decades of commitment and dedication to medical education. Known for creating a secure, encouraging, yet challenging teaching environment, he is highly respected and admired by his students, residents and colleagues. Not only is he a stellar educator, but a role model for many. One student's assessment of Dr. Simpson offers insight into how well regarded he is:

“His commitment to teaching and feedback is truly outstanding and he makes the MTU a wonderful learning experience for all levels of learners. Not every staff person dedicates that amount of time to direct one-on-one teaching. Dr. Simpson would often stay late after work to ensure we all had time to work on clinical encounters. We should all be so lucky to learn from such an incredible internist and teacher.”

Dr. Ata Quraishi (Division of Cardiology) was the recipient of the inaugural Clinical Excellence Award; an award created to honour a clinician who contributes to patient care, through excellence in their craft, compassion, availability, and the highest standards of the profession. This highly respected colleague, is described as the cardiologist you hope to see at your own bedside if ever in need. Known to take on the most complex and high risk cases, often redirecting a patient's path to a positive outcome. The busy clinician, holds himself to an extremely high standard of care and professionalism, while exercising a strong work ethic. He is a dependable colleague, volunteering for clinical service when there is a gap and makes himself available night and day, without a complaint or expectation.

DoM Achievement Award

Dr. Stephen Couban (Division of Hematology) was the recipient of the 2017 DoM Achievement Award. This award is presented to a person who makes a significant contribution to all aspects of the Department of Medicine. Dr. Couban’s contributions to the Department are vast and meaningful. In addition to being an excellent clinician, he has led the large clinical Blood and Marrow Transplantation program through extensive growth. He is a respected leader serving as both Division Head for Hematology and acting as the Department’s Interim Deputy Head. He continues to actively publish and teach, and serves on countless local and national committees. Dr. Couban’s leadership provides a tremendous contribution to the Department’s overall success.

Continued...
The Division of Neurology has recently experienced an upgrade with the expansion of the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU) – from two to four beds this spring. The unit is used to monitor epilepsy patients to help determine if surgery is an option.

Lastly, the planning continues to upgrade and replace the QEII Unit (EMU) – from two to four beds this spring. The unit is used to monitor epilepsy patients to help determine if surgery is an option.

Dr. Natalie Parks, has joined the Division of Neurology on July 1. Dr. Parks completed her residency at Dalhousie in 2016 and her Multiple Sclerosis Fellowship with the Mayo Clinic. Dr. Parks brings special expertise in the area on multiple sclerosis and related CNS disorders and has also enrolled for a Master’s degree with the Department of Community Health and Epidemiology. Dr. Parks will have major clinical role, with some teaching and research activities as well.

Dr. Samuel Searle joins the Division of Geriatric Medicine effective July 15. Dr. Searle completed his medical degree at Dalhousie University and his residencies in Internal Medicine and most recently geriatric medicine this year. During his medical school career, Dr. Searle has been active in research, receiving awards and publishing nine peer-reviewed papers, including one with over 350 citations. This Truro native, is also a talented singer. He joins us for a one year locum, with plans to travel to the UK to obtain further qualifications in the acute care of the frail elderly in the subsequent years.

Dr. Allen Tuan, Division of General Internal Medicine, completed his medical degree at the University of Edmonton. He then completed his core training in internal medicine at Dalhousie followed by GIM subspecialty training. During his residency at Dalhousie he has been very involved in quality improvement initiatives involving the Medical Teaching Unit and the Canadian Society of Internal Medicine Choosing Wisely Campaign. He was an associate chief resident in 2014-2015 for the core internal medicine program and he was co-chief resident for the GIM program in 2016-2017. Allen won the Dr. Elizabeth Mann award for excellence in GIM in 2017, in recognition of his clinical expertise, collegiality, and contributions to the practice of GIM. We welcome Allen to the division and look forward to his continued development as an academic clinician.

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Dr. Gregor has been an Investigator of the WHO MONICA project; produced several abstracts and manuscripts. He has been active in research, receiving awards and publishing nine peer-reviewed papers, including one with over 350 citations. This Truro native, is also a talented singer. He joins us for a one year locum, with plans to travel to the UK to obtain further qualifications in the acute care of the frail elderly in the subsequent years.

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Dr. Nancy MacDonald retired from the Division of Cardiology after over 35 years of practice. Throughout her career, many – her colleagues and patients alike – have benefited from her expertise, leadership and clinical competence. In addition to her busy clinical practice she has also held many leadership roles throughout the span of her career including Medical Director ICI, Dartmouth General Hospital, Chair of Metropolitan Cardiac Program on Prevention and Rehabilitation and Director of the Heart and Stroke Foundation Nova Scotia. Nancy and her skill, professionalism and kindness will be missed.

Dr. Paul McIntyre, Division of Palliative Medicine, has retired after a 30-year career. Paul was the first physician with palliative care training in Nova Scotia and was instrumental in establishing the service and served as division head for 11 years. In 2001, he founded the postgraduate training program. In 2008, his contributions were honoured nationally with the Eduardo Bruera Award (from the Canadian Society of Palliative Care Physicians). Moving into retirement, Paul will be missed for his passion for palliative care locally and beyond.

Dr. Allan Purdy retired from the Division of Neurology in July after 42-years with the department. He has numerous achievements, including Head/Chief Department of Medicine/CDHA, Head Division of Neurology and Program Director Neurology. His teaching achievements are legendary, having won numerous teaching awards (local, national and international) and been a mentor for most neurologists in the division. He is an excellent general neurologist, with special expertise in the subspecialty of Headache. Dr. Purdy continues to have a strong presence in the “Headache World”, serving currently as the President of American Headache Society and the Chair for the International Headache Society. We will miss his unique teaching style and wicked sense of humor.

Dr. John Stewart has retired from the Division of Cardiology after 37-years of practice. Dr. Stewart has worked with the Division of Cardiology for most of his career, except for a decade where he worked at the Aberdeen Hospital in New Glasgow. Throughout his career, he has provided exceptional service establishing a large and loyal patient following. He has been a teacher and mentor to many. He and the significant contributions he made to ambulatory cardiology care and more recently the Consult Service, Pacemaker Clinic and Exercise and MIBI labs will be missed.

Congratulations to Dr. Elizabeth Mann for winning the CMA Honorary Membership from Doctors Nova Scotia.

Congratulations to Dr. Geoffrey Williams for winning the 2017 Patient Choice Award from Doctors Nova Scotia.

Congratulations to Department Chief Financial Officer, Mary Sue Radford, for winning gold at World Seniors Curling Championship in April 2017.

As always, the Spring is an extremely busy time for our Department. This issue of Medicine Matters will showcase much of that activity. I hope all my colleagues have an opportunity to enjoy some relaxation this summer.

I thoroughly enjoyed our Spring Party where we celebrated one another and acknowledged the great work and talent within our Department. Every day we work in an environment where we are in crisis management or striving to solve complex patient problems. For this reason, it is important we take the time to acknowledge our positive impact and areas of excellence – which are plentiful. Congratulations to this year’s award recipients.

We are pleased to offer a Research Award Supplement in this issue of Medicine Matters to highlight the many accomplishments and milestones achieved by your colleagues who are advancing important research on our behalf. We are fortunate to have such a diverse and talented group of researchers amongst us. In addition, if you are reading the paper version, you will also see included the list of PGY1-3 Core Internal Medicine residents, with photos, to help put names to faces.

You will also see we are in a period of transition with nine people leaving our Department, either by retiring or for other reasons, while we welcome 11 more. To those leaving, I offer sincere best wishes and thank you for the service you have provided. And I welcome those joining our team, I look forward to witnessing what I know will be excellent contributions to our Department.

Room 442 Bethune Building, 1276 South Park Street, Halifax, NS B3H 2V9, Phone 902-473-2379 medicine.dal.ca/doi

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The end of the academic year is a good time to take the opportunity to thank the DoM Research Committee for their work in 2016-17. Drs. John Hanly (chair), Lisa Barrett, Chris Blanchard, Leah Cahill, Peter Hall, Jennifer Jones, John Sapp, Ferhan Siddiqi, Kariuki Tembeakard, Tallal Younis and two members who are completing their term on the Committee Martin Gardner and Chadwick Williams (NBl reg). Special thanks to Dr. Simon Jackson for his support, involvement and encouragement. The Committee was busy and productive this year with UIMRF application reviews, the Special Ad Hoc Operating Grant competition reviews, productivity evaluations, DoM Research Day abstracts reviews and research excellence awards.

Thanks as well to the DoM Research Committee, Drs. Lisa Barrett (chair), Leah Cahill, Sultan Darvesh, Ian Epstein, Nathan Lamond, Ravi Ramjiesingh, Sudeep Shrikumar, Daniel Smyth, resident reps Badar Alami and Lucy Liu. The Committee is in transition as Royal College changes, curriculum changes, etc impact the research aspect of residency training.

DoM Research Day 2017

DoM Research Day on April 13, 2017, continued the steady growth of both the number (and quality) of abstract submissions and the number in attendance. In fact, the number of abstracts has doubled since 2011/12 and tripled since 2002.

Thank you for participating in Research Day 2017!

DoM Research Day Abstracts

With our thanks

DoM Strategic Research Incentive Grants

The Department is pleased to announce the creation of a DoM Strategic Research Incentive Grant program for 2017-18. The purpose is to further support DoM researchers who are successful in the Nova Scotia Health Authority Research Fund's September 2017 and March 2018 competitions. The Department of Medicine Strategic Plan recognizes research as one of the pillars of the Department of Medicine. Funds were identified by the Department to help implement the Strategic Plan. From those funds, three companion incentive grants were created.

With the agreement of NSHA, the highest ranked application by a faculty member with their primary appointment in the Department of Medicine (NSHA RF Category 2), will be given a $10,000 award from the DoM in addition to the award from the NSHA Research Fund, and the next highest ranked faculty member with their primary appointment in the Department of Medicine (NSHA RF Category 2), will receive an additional $5,000 award. These awards are in place for the September 15, 2017, and the March 15, 2018, NSHA Research Fund competitions. The funds must be used to support the member's research program and are not restricted to the budgets that accompanies their application to the NSHA competition. There is no separate application process. Application to the NSHA Research Fund competitions Category 2 automatically makes you eligible. http://www.cdha.nshealth.ca/discover-innovation/research-fund

DoM Lifetime Achievement Award

The 2017 Department of Medicine Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Dr. Arnold Mininkski at the Spring Party by Dr. John Hanly.

Born and educated in Russia, Arnold moved to Montréal in 1992, and joined the Dalhousie Department of Medicine in 2002, where he currently holds a post-retirement position. He is an applied mathematician. As part of a longstanding collaboration with Dr. Kenneth Rockwood, he is a member of the team that developed an integrated measure of human health known as the Frailty Index (FI), which now has numerous applications in epidemiology, medicine and economics. Dr. Rockwood says “Arnold is the model of a thoughtful, careful and most fortunately for me - a patient scholar. He remains an outstanding colleague.”

Dr. Mininks has published over 100 peer reviewed papers and has delivered a number of presentations at national and international scientific meetings. He is a Fellow of the American Gerontological Society, and has received several distinctions, including a prestigious Dalhousie University Research Professorship in 2011. And now this Department is pleased to add the Research Lifetime Achievement Award.

DoM Strategic Research Incentive Grant

Dr. Shirin (Lucy) Liu received the Research Excellence Award for 2016-17. Dr. Lisa Barrett, Chair of the Resident Research Committee, presented the award to Dr. Liu at the Spring Party.

Dr. Liu has 4 peer reviewed publications (2 as lead author in 2017), two online publications and made six national/international presentations. She was one of the resident representatives on the DoM Resident Research Committee in 2016-17.

We wish Lucy all the best as she leaves Nova Scotia to continue her training in the medical oncology subspecialty residency training program at the University of British Columbia.

For your calendar – Upcoming DoM Research Dates

NSHA Research Fund Competition deadline / DoM Strategic Research Incentive Grant

Sep. 15, 2017

Deadline for nominations for the DoM Research Excellence Awards*

Sep. 30, 2017

UIMRF Internal and External Fellowship grant application deadlines*

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Oct. 3, 2017

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DoM Research Day, Pier 21

Apr. 19, 2018

*Application forms available from kathryn.nelson@nshealth.ca and on the DoM shared drive, DoM Research folder

Reminder: DoM Research Excellence Award Nominations – Deadline September 30, 2017

Dr. John Sapp, Division of Cardiology, had the highest rated DoM Grand Rounds presentation in 2016-17 and received the DoM Grand Rounds Overall Excellence Award for the presentation “Corticosteroids: From Research to Practice” he made on behalf of research in October 2016.

The 2017-18 DoM Grand Rounds for research will be presented by Dr. Olga Theou on October 31.
The Faculty of Medicine presented their resident research awards at a reception on June 8th. Departments were invited to submit their departmental research day award winning abstracts (27 nominations in total). Five awards were made, and we are very pleased that two of the awards went to DoM residents:

**Best Overall Award**
Dr. Alexandra Legge, PGY3/CIP
Sponsored by Dalhousie Alumni Association ($1,000)
“Feasibility and Usefulness of Ultrasound in Older Hospitalized Adults: What Does it Offer?”
*Supervisor:* Dr. Barna Tugwell

Two residents enrolled in the Dalhousie Clinical Investigator Program (CIP), Dr. Sultan Darvesh and Dr. Jennifer Jones, have received CIHR Postgraduate Biomedical research grant for “Feasibility and Usefulness of Ultrasound in Older Hospitalized Adults: What Does it Offer?”

**$1.46M CIHR Award**
- Dr. Sultan Darvesh, Division of Neurology was one of 275 CIHR Project Award recipients. The award, one of nine at Dalhousie University, is the largest grant in Nova Scotia and in the top twelve in Canada.

The projects “P75 and P83/C82: Proofs for the Diagnosis of Alzheimer’s Disease and Rett Syndrome” with co-investigators Steven Burrell and Ian Potier, has received $1,457,325 over five years.

- Dr. Darvesh’s leading-edge research has garnered him many accolades, including the 2016 DoM Research Lifetime Achievement Award and the Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation - Irene MacDonald Sohey Chair in Cerebral Approaches to Alzheimer’s Disease, Faculty of Medicine. Sultan is the Assistant Dean, Research - Clinical Departments, Faculty of Medicine, and Director of the Maritime Brain Tissue Bank. He holds a number of patents and is a scientific co-founder of Treventis Corporation.

The Canadian Institutes for Health Research continues in its process of review and reform. As a result, the Project Grant Competition was delayed until May 30, 2017 to better support the balance between the Foundation Grant (20%) and the Project Grant (80%) programs. The Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) has announced the successful recipients of its 2016-17 Foundation Grant competition to the fall 2016 Project Grant competition.

As a result of the decision to delay the spring 2017 Project Grant competition, an additional $100 million was invested in the fall 2016 competition. This allowed CIHR to fund a larger number of highly ranked projects.

The following applications, Dalhousie/NSHA/JWK have enhanced the internal review of CIHR applications.

- **Dr. Jennifer Jones**, Division of Digestive Care and Endoscopy, received a CIHR Patient-Oriented Research Collaboration Grant for “Optimized Exercise Training in Breast Cancer Survivors: Pilot Study”.

- **Dr. Leah Cahill**, Division of Medical Oncology, received a CIHR Patient-Oriented Research Collaboration Grant for “Can frailty predict adverse health outcomes in Emergency Department older patients?”

- **Dr. Lisa Barrett**, Division of Infectious Diseases, received a CIHR Strategic Grant for “Development of an eHealth/mHealth physical activity and sedentary behaviour change program among breast cancer survivors”.

- **Dr. Ketan Kulkarni**, Division of Cardiology, received a CIHR Strategic Grant for “Validation of a Real-Time Localization Algorithm for Ventricular Tachycardia using a 12-lead Electrocardiogram”.

- **Dr. Karthik Tennankore**, Division of Respirology, received a CIHR Strategic Grant for “Computer Simulated Atrial Fibrillation Tool to Reduce Hospitalizations and Emergency Department Visits”.

The DoM special ad hoc operating grants for summer 2017 competition, organized by Dr. John MacPherson, Division of Geriatric Medicine, was reviewed by the Research Committee.

- **Category 2 (up to $25,000 for staff):**
  - **Dr. Ravi Ramjeesingh**, Division of Infectious Diseases, with Dr. Chris Blanchard and John Sopp ($25,000)

  - “Computer Simulated Atrial Fibrillation Tool to Reduce Hospitalizations and Emergency Department Visits”

- **Category 3 (up to $5,000 for trainees):**
  - **David Clark**, Supervisor Dr. Karthik Tennankore ($5,000)

  - “Towards a Better Understanding of Macrophage Hypertension in Diabetes: A Cohort Study”

The remaining four UIMRF awards were to:

- **Joel Bergman**, supervised by Dr. Karthik Tennankore
- **Jordan Boudreau**, supervised by Dr. Lisa Barrett
- **Eileen Burns**, supervised by Dr. Jennifer Jones
- **Sophie Church**, supervised by Dr. Olga Theou

We hope these students, as well as all of the other DoM residents, will find their summer informative and enjoyable.

**NSHA Research Fund Awards**
In addition to the three awards above, the Nova Scotia Health Authority Research Fund funded the following DoM projects through their spring 2017 competition:
Departments were invited to submit their department's best research abstracts. Five awards with at least $50,000 each for the two-year program and a Faculty of Medicine Killam Postgraduate Research Award of $100,000 were given. The Biomedical Research Unit competition had 90 nominations, with 21 candidates receiving grant funding. Additional funding was provided by CIHR, NSERC, and various non-profit organizations. Over $100 million was invested in research funding through these competitions. The DoM funds were used to support researchers in their work, and the recipients were recognized for their contributions to medical research and patient care.
CONGRATULATIONS

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DoM Resident Research Excellence Award

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DoM Research Day Abstracts


- Faculty
- Research Fellow/Grad Students
- Visiting/Research Associates
- Core Residents
- Medical Student Residents

Research 4