Welcome to Dr. Kate Montgomery, Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Dr. Montgomery joined us on July 9. She has just completed her residency in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at the University of Ottawa.

Best wishes to Dr. Des Leddin, Division of Digestive Care & Endoscopy, retired on March 31. Dr. Leddin provided 29 years of service to the Department. We also congratulate Des in his new role as the Dean of Medicine, University of Limerick Medical School, Ireland.

Dr. Andrew Moeller, Cardiology, joins us from the University of Ottawa Heart Institute where he just completed his Clinical Fellowship in Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplantation. Dr. Moeller, who joined the Division on July 1, completed his MD and residencies in internal medicine and cardiology at Dalhousie.

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Dr. John Hanly, Division of Rheumatology, received the Canadian Rheumatology Association’s Distinguished Investigator Award for 2018. The national award was presented to Dr. Hanly for his accomplished professional research career along with the impact his leadership has had locally, nationally and internationally.

Dr. Stephen Phillips was awarded the Dr. Gerald W. Archibald Gold-haded Cane Award in the Humanities on June 2. Dr. Phillips was nominated by an interprofessional group of colleagues, who value his teams-based approach to clinical care and his integration of the visual arts into his patient care and teaching.

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With Kathy Tanner all the best in her retirement. Kathy joined the Department in 2005. She was a Billing Clerk with Physician Services.

Dr. Charles Maxner, who retired from the Division of Neurology in June. Both individuals have made significant contributions in the Department notably in medical education, the MS Clinic, as well as both serving as Division Head. Dr. Chuck Maxner will continue his work in neuro-ophthalmology. Joanne Slack will continue her administrative support to Dr. Maxner in neuro-ophthalmology and has moved to the VG Site. Dr. Bhan will be doing some part time work in British Columbia while taking more time with family including his much loved grandchildren.

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Professor Timothy Caulfield, CRC Research Chair in Health Law & Policy at the University of Alberta, was an entertaining and informative guest speaker on the topic of “Genopolitics: How Research Is Twisted to Sell Bank (and How to Fight Back?)”. Congratulations to the Research Day award recipients:

**BEST UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION**
John Bartolacci, Undergraduate Student
Supervisor: Dr. Amanda Vinson, Division of Nephrology
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**BEST CORE RESIDENT PRESENTATION**
Dr. Alex Legge, PGY3/Clinical Fellow
Supervisor: Dr. John Kell, Division of Rheumatology
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Supervisor: Dr. Karthik Tennakone, Division of Nephrology
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Supervisor: Dr. Rob Horton, Division of Palliative Medicine
“A Feasibility Study of Home-Based Palliative Care Telemedicine in Rural Nova Scotia” (Poster)

**SAINT JOHN RESIDENCY PROGRAM**
Congratulations to Dr. Alex Smith who is the new Associate Director for Dalhousie Internal Medicine Residency Training Program in Saint John. Dr. Smith assumed this role effective April 1, where she is working alongside current Site Director Dr. Eric Grant. Effective January 1, 2019, Dr. Smith will assume the duties of the Site Director, upon Dr. Grant’s retirement.

**MANAGING PREMATURE ATHEROSCLEROSIS IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC INFLAMMATORY DISEASES**
Dr. Alex Legge, PGY3, was published in the April 2018 CMAJ. Her study: “Managing premature atherosclerosis in patients with chronic inflammatory diseases, including patients with chronic inflammatory conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis are twice as likely to develop cardiovascular disease.”

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Congratulations to our Core IM PGY3’s for completing their core training. We wish them well in their specialty training.

Dr. Rayan Alhaeni
Dr. Jacoba Mallett
Dr. Mujtaba Alzahaf
Dr. Ahmed Mokhtar
Dr. Faisal Basunbul
Dr. Tyler Mullin
Dr. Iain Arsenault
Dr. Pierre O’Brien
Dr. Edwin Baruah
Dr. Jenifer Parker
Dr. Rachelle Blackman
Dr. Mehrnoosh Pasha
Dr. Heather Chambers
Dr. Harrison Petropolis
Dr. Bruce Clark
Dr. Mark Robb
Dr. Chis Green
Dr. Kara Robertson
Dr. Jean-Gregoire Leduc
Dr. Lyndsay Sprigg
Dr. Scott Lee
Dr. Willi Weng

Congratulations to all of our subspecialty residents who completed their Dalhousie Postgraduate Training this year.

PGY6 Cardiology
Dr. Abdulaziz AlAhmadi
Dr. Nabeel AlDefi
PGY6 Infectious Diseases
Dr. Glen Patquin
PGY5 Endocrinology
Dr. Amit Rahulak
PGY5 Gastroenterology
Dr. Abdulaziz AlAhmadi
PGY5 Gastroenterology
Dr. Tasha Kauli
PGY5 General Internal Medicine
Dr. Victor Rogovosky
PGY5 General Internal Medicine
Dr. Colin Turner
PGY5 General Internal Medicine
Dr. Leah Nimitoff
PGY5 General Medicine
Dr. Alison Rodgers
PGY5 Hematology
Dr. Ben Basendah
PGY5 Hematology
Dr. Cindy Hickey
PGY5 Medical Oncology
Dr. Jennifer Melvin
PGY5 Neurology
Dr. Sonoud Ahmadi
PGY5 Neorology
Dr. Adnan Badalah
PGY5 Neurology
Dr. Ben Whaley
PGY5 Respiratory
Dr. Kathryn Whittemore
PGY5 Respiratory
Dr. Erin O’Toole
PGY5 Rheumatology
Dr. Carolee Barry
PGY4 General Internal Medicine
Dr. Chiyere Esuwa
PGY4 General Internal Medicine
Dr. Stephen Walsh

CONGRATULATIONS! To Dr. Amrit Shetty who is the new Associate Director for Dalhousie Internal Medicine Residency Training Program in Saint John. Dr. Shetty assumed this role effective April 1, where she is working alongside current Site Director Dr. Eric Grant. Effective January 1, 2019, Dr. Smith will assume the duties of the Site Director, upon Dr. Grant’s retirement. Dr. Shetty is a highly motivated, decisive, clear-thinking addition to the faculty of General Internal Medicine who is clearly going to continue to provide excellence in research and research education. She has been an extremely important addition to the Division. I think that her commitment to education is exemplary.”

**OUTSTANDING FACULTY – RESIDENTS’ CHOICE AWARD**
Dr. Haase, Haemotology and Infectious Disease Specialist
“Dr. Koeller is an extremely kind, supportive and approachable individual who is always willing to help and make you feel comfortable. He has been an excellent mentor to all residents in the program.”

**BRIAN M. CHANDLER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN MEDICAL EDUCATION**
Dr. Eric Grant, Rheumatology
Dr. Grant has been the driving force and leader behind the vibrant residency training program in Saint John, New Brunswick. He has dedicated more than 20 years to developing and growing the program, leaving an education legacy as he retires in 2018.

**2018 DOCTOR AWARD ACHIEVEMENT**
Dr. Catherine Kells, Cardiology
Dr. Kells is a long-time member of the Division of Cardiology. She has taken on many roles during her time in the Department from a clinical, academic and leadership perspective. She has been dedicated to achieving excellence in cardiology for all Nova Scotians and supporting the mission and vision of the Department. Dr. Kells is currently the President of the Canadian Cardiology Society.

**25 YEAR SERVICE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**
Dr. Jibrael Buta, Cardiology
Dr. George Majavis, Medical Physics Dr. Eric Grant, Respiratory Dr. Paul Sobi, Nephrology

Academic Promotion
Congratulations to Dr. Karthik Tennakone, who was promoted to Associate Professor, July 1.

Between the Department’s Annual Spring Party and the annual Faculty of Medicine awards, many Department members were applauded and honoured for their service to the Department, Dalhousie University and beyond. Congratulations to all the recipients.

**FACULTY EXCELLENCE IN MEDICAL EDUCATION**
Dr. Katarin Koller, Geriatric Medicine
“Dr. Koller is a passionate advocate when it comes to educating trainees at all levels about Geriatrics and improving how we care for older adults. She demonstrates compassion in the care of patients and their families and is an excellent role model for the learners. She is keen to teach on clinical rotations and learners find her approachable and kind.”

Dr. Ravi Ramjesingh, Medical Oncology
“Dr. Ramjesingh is an active teacher and researcher and has been an excellent mentor to learners at various levels. He has clearly demonstrated an interest in teaching that is characterized by direct engagement of his learners, mentorship and a dedication to improving the quality of teaching.”

Dr. Nabh Shetty, General Internal Medicine
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**AWARD SEASON**

**CLINICAL AWARD AWARD**
Dr. Lori Wood, Medical Oncology
This award acknowledges Dr. Wood as an advocate, a role model and in particular for her unwavering commitment to her patients. In addition to providing exemplary care, she makes a point to know the latest research, and above all else, she is actively involved in training her patients, cares for them deeply, and available to them above and beyond the normal call of duty. Dr. Wood also serves on various national bodies including the Kidney Cancer Medical Advisory Board, the Trastuzumab Canada Medical Advisory Board and the Blacker Cancer Medical Advisory Board.

**RESEARCH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**
Dr. R. Lee Kirby, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Dr. Kirby is a long-time contributor to the Department and its research efforts. His primary research interest is the safety and performance of wheelchairs. He heads the team that developed the Wheelchair Skills Program, a low-tech, high-impact program that is increasingly being used in both highly developed and less-resourced nations around the world.

**2018 RESIDENT WINNERS**
Dr. Mark Robb, Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Education Dr. Chls Green, Award for Excellence in Summer Grand Rounds Dr. Alexandra Saunders, Outstanding Resident Award, PGY1 Dr. Eric Pond, Outstanding Resident Award, PGY2 Dr. Jennie Parker, Angie McGibbons Outstanding PGY3 Resident Award (This award was renamed in honour of colleague Dr. Angie McGibbons who passed away earlier this year.)
Dr. Curtis Grant, Outstanding Academic Award, PGY1 Dr. Eric Pond, Outstanding Academic Performance Award, PGY2 Dr. Mark Robb, Outstanding Academic Performance Award, PGY3

**FACULTY OF MEDICINE AWARDS**
The Faculty of Medicine singled out various Department of Medicine members during this year’s award ceremony.

Award of Excellence in Leadership Dr. Simon Jackson Award of Excellence in Education Dr. Trudy Taylor
Community Teacher of the Year Dr. Daniel Smyth
Excellence in Patient-Oriented Research Dr. John Sapp
Dr. Robert C. Dickson Prize Dr. W. H. Hattie Prize
Dr. Robert C. Dickson Prize Dr. Amy Harrison
Best Research Award for Senior Resident Dr. Opepezi Fadduha
Best Work in Clinical Research Dr. Reigan Moger

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
On April 19 just over 150 people met at Pier 21 to learn more about the research taking place in the Department of Medicine. Research Day 2018 featured nine presentations and 100 posters by Department members, undergraduate students, residents, research fellows, graduate students, and research associates.

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Supervisor: Dr. Amanda Vinson, Division of Nephrology
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Dr. Iain Arsenau Dr. Pierre O’Brien
Dr. Edwin Babayya Dr. Jenny Parker
Dr. Rachelle Blackburn Dr. Mehroohnah Paas
Dr. Heather Chambers Dr. Harrison Petropolis
Dr. Brucy Runa Dr. Mark Robins
Dr. Chi Green Dr. Kara Robertson
Dr. Jean-Gregoire Leduc Dr. Lyndsay Sprigg
Dr. Scott Lee Dr. Willi Weng

On April 12, Dr. Rayson presented to the Mayo Clinic Oncology Society: “The Power of Narrative in Oncology”. The topic spanned a variety of clinical challenges in communication as well as the implications of a narrative approach, with a way to communicate more effectively with patients and as a means to process one’s own emotions and stress when dealing with difficult discussions and conversations.

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Effective May 22, Cindy Bergeron, joined the Division of Endocrinology as an Administrative Assistant. Cindy most recently worked in clerical administration at Twin Oaks Memorial Hospital. Cindy has past experience working in both the division of rheumatology as well as the Education department.

Christa Burton has joined Physician Services as a casual Billing Clerk.

Julie Adams joined the Division of General Internal Medicine as an Administrative Assistant on Feb. 21. Before joining CIM, Julie provided administrative support to the Director of Veterans Services.

Dr. John Hardy, Division of Rheumatology, received the Canadian Rheumatology Association’s Distinguished Investigator Award for 2019. The national award was presented to Dr. Hardy for his accomplished personal research career along with the impact his leadership has had locally, nationally and internationally.

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Save the Date

DoM Research Evening – Prince George Hotel – November 8

Medicine Matters – Lord Nelson Hotel – November 23

DoM Christmas Party – Lord Nelson Hotel – December 6

15th Anniversary Gala Weekend Celebration – Nov. 24 Tickets on sale now

Dear Colleges,
This past month marked a huge milestone when the Department of Medicine endowed a new Practice Plan. This plan, which replaces the 12-year old plan, is an important document for physicians and our health partners. It helps ensure we are running our Department in a way that promotes productivity, and ensures transparency. This latest plan also introduces new ways in which we can be accountable from a quantity perspective – as required in our Clinical/Academic Funding Plan - while also placing new emphasis on the quality of our work. As we implement the practice plan over the remainder of this fiscal year we will be working with all divisions to develop objective metrics that reflect the valuable clinical and non-clinical work you are all doing.

Throughout the summer, we will continue the work of our next strategic plan. Our working and advisory groups are currently focused on getting a clear view to our working environment today and into the future. We are meeting with all our health partners – other Department Heads, NSHA, Dalhousie, IWK, Doctors Nova Scotia – to discuss the future of the Division to advance health-care, education and research. With this landscape, we will meet with each of you through your divisions in September and October to shape the strategic priorities that best fit into that landscape. We are fortunate to have an Advisory Committee.

 Morrow regards,

Christine Short, MD, FRCP(C), FACP
Head, Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University
National Lead, Department of Medicine, Central, Nova Scotia Health Authority
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Dalhousie University

Making Media Headlines

Department of Medicine members are go-to experts for local and national media. Each month they consistently help shape media headlines and share their expertise with the public.

This a sampling of the topics were media were recently pursuing: aspirin equally effective post-op hip or knee arthroplasty (Dr. David Anderson), Canada’s health leadership obligations (Dr. Ashley Miller), research progress in studying Alzheimer’s (Dr. Ken Rockwood), finding links between bipolar disorder and insulin resistance (Dr. Tom Ramsom), advocating for improved care for inmates with Hepatitis C (Dr. Lisa Burrell), and women’s heart health (Dr. Sharon Mulvagh). To see more DoM members on local and national TV, radio and in newspapers, visit In the Media.

Department Head Message

Dr. David Dupere
departmenthead@dohouse.ca

Associate Professor of Medicine, Dalhousie University
District Chief, Department of Medicine, Central Zone, Nova Scotia Health Authority

Palliative welcomes 1st resident

It’s official. On July 1, the Division of Palliative Medicine welcomed its first Royal College graduate, Dr. Erin Gorman Corsten. Dr. Lee completed her MD at McMaster University in 2013 and recently completed her Internal Medicine residency and Clinician Investigator Program at Dalhousie University: The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada approved the two-year residency program in March 2018.

“Our goal is to ensure we are providing the very best palliative medicine training for the Maritime Provinces and beyond,” said Dr. David Dupere, Palliative Medicine Division Head. “This will help us increase our academic focus and keep pace with the rest of the country in the quality of the palliative care we provide.” Program Director, Dr. Erin Gorman Corsten, and Dr. Dupere also expect this program will help attract new physicians to the province in a more competitive way.

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Dr. John Hardy, Division of Rheumatology, received the Canadian Rheumatology Association’s Distinguished Investigator Award for 2019. The national award was presented to Dr. Hardy for his accomplished personal research career along with the impact his leadership has had locally, nationally and internationally.

Dr. Stephen Phillips was awarded the Dr. Gerald W. Archibald Gold-haired Cane Award in the Humanities on June 2. Dr. Phillips was nominated by an interprofessional group of colleagues, who value his teams-based approach to clinical care and his integration of the visual arts into his patient care and teaching.

Dr. Thomas Brothers, internal medicine resident, received the Dr. Jack Murray Award for Resident Leadership in Global Health for his exceptional leadership in the global health space. The award recognizes a resident who demonstrates a commitment to global health as they advocate for marginalized populations and explore new ways to engage in clinical service, education, and research. Dr. Brothers’ Acceptance Video.

Welcome to Dr. Kate Montgomery, Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Dr. Montgomery joined us on July 9. She has just completed her residency in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, at the University of Ottawa.