



Perioperative Nurses Skills Course: Rwanda

Jocelyne Granger and GSO member Michelle Murray with the 2015 graduates of the Perioperative Scrub Skills program (left).

The course was held in Kigali, Rwanda January 12-22, 2015



Team Broken Earth Haiti: January 2015

Andrew Jarvie (right, yellow mask)

The trip I took with Team Broken Earth to Haiti in January certainly showed a different side to OR team work. Eighteen of us – doctors and nurses from the OR, ER and paediatrics – descended on the Bernard Mevs Hospital in Port au Prince for an intense week of work and teaching. The mission started in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake with the founding of Haiti's only trauma centre, by Project Medishare from the University of Miami. Soon after the visionary Dr Furey, an orthopaedic surgeon from Newfoundland, started visiting with teams under the Broken Earth banner. Halifax has been involved since 2013 and our fourth mission goes in April.

Our week was productive and we did 24 cases in the OR, mostly complex trauma beyond the means of the local staff, with patients aged from three months to 92 years! This time we were pleased to have Anaesthesia and Orthopaedics residents from Haiti with us to learn new skills. This was very rewarding and gives us hope for the future that one day, with our help, this troubled nation may be able to stand on its own feet.



Bethune Roundtable at Dalhousie in 2016

The Bethune Round Table (BRT) will be hosted at Dalhousie University, June 3-4, 2016.

The Department of Surgery is leading the development of this exciting conference in collaboration with the Departments of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Anesthesia, Pain Management and Perioperative Medicine as well as the Canadian Network for International Surgery (CNIS).

The BRT is an annual interdisciplinary scientific meeting hosted at Canadian academic centres to discuss the challenges and solutions to improving surgical care to underserved and marginalized populations in low- and middle-income countries. The objective of the BRT is to bring together health professionals from a variety of disciplines, including surgeons, anesthesiologists, obstetricians, pathologists and nurses, as well as public health and government health workers, to share their research and experiences in the delivery of surgery in low-resource settings. The 2016 theme will be *"Building Collaborative Teams to Strengthen Global Surgery"* including collaboration for clinical service, education and research.

Department staff and residents are needed to support various committees leading up to the conference. If you would like to get involved in this exciting event, please contact Course Director, Dr. Marius Hoogerboord (hoogerboord@gmail.com) or Global Health Coordinator, Megan Chipp (megan.chipp@dal.ca).



Initial Impressions: London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Gavin Tansley

Stepping away from clinical work is a rather surreal experience. In many ways I was just beginning to get comfortable with residency. With two years of postgraduate training behind me, the days of feeling completely useless in the OR had been replaced with the much more liberating experience of feeling only somewhat useless. However, when the opportunity to pursue training at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) presented itself, I said a temporary goodbye to Halifax and booked a ticket to England.

Every career path has an ideal institution. Similarly to how physicists go to MIT, people looking to learn about the complex issues of international health go to the LSHTM. Since opening its doors in 1899, the School has amassed a reputation as one of the premier public health schools in the world. Originally committed to researching diseases plaguing the colonists throughout the British Empire, the School now operates research programs in most countries around the world.

Now five months into my public health program, I can truthfully say that my time in London has been life changing. Although it has been a struggle acquiring a taste for tea and incorporating "whilst" into my vocabulary, being surrounded by like-minded individuals *whilst* (nailed it) learning from the field's giants has been an amazing experience. Every day I sit in the same lecture theatre as people whose careers I've envied. It's a rare and invaluable opportunity and I'm incredibly fortunate to have had the support of the Department to pursue what can only be described as a dream.

Although I know I will always reflect fondly on my time in London, I am excited to bring a new perspective and skill set back to Dalhousie and the GSO to continue our own commitment to pursuing excellence in global surgery.



Rostered-on Down Under

Ryan Kelly

I had the recent pleasure to be "rostered-on" at the Royal North Shore Hospital through the University of Sydney in Australia (photo above). I spent six weeks on the Endocrine Surgical Unit working under Professors Sywak, Sidhu, and Delbridge. For this team, retroperitoneal adrenalectomies, minimally invasive parathyroidectomies, and radical neck dissections are routinely performed. The unit is closely collaborative with medical endocrinologists and radiologists. I was responsible for a standard general surgery call allotment and a research project on insular thyroid cancer. It was a valuable rotation that I am thankful for having had the opportunity to experience.



Global Surgery Office

Meet the Advisory Committee

The Global Surgery Office - Advisory Committee advises in the direction of global health initiatives within the Department of Surgery. The group promotes collegiality between divisions of the Department of Surgery global health pursuits. Members are champions for global health within their own divisions and the department as a whole.

Chair: Marius Hoogerboord (General Surgery)
 Chad Coles (Orthopedic Surgery)
 Martin LeBlanc (Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery)
 Madelaine Plourde (Thoracic Surgery)
 William Stanish (Orthopedic Surgery)
 Jonathan Trites (Otolaryngology)
 Ken Wilson (Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery)

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