DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Inspiring Minds

DAL Surgery

THE UPDATE

July 2009

— *Graduating residents 2009* —

on the cover: ***Graduating Residents***

L-R: Lara Williams, Amy Gillis, Abdulelah Alhawsawi, Sandra de Montbrun, Dimitri Kalavrouziotis, Madelaine Plourde and Murad Aljiffry.

Absent: Donald Glasgow, Paul Hong, Tracey Wentzell and Shannon Wiebe.

IN THIS ISSUE

IMPORTANT DATES

Research Information Day
Friday October 30, 2009

THE UPDATE

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Message from the Department Head

Dr. Jaap Bonjer

AS YOU NOW KNOW, I HAVE BEEN OFFERED THE POSITION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY AT THE FREE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTRE IN AMSTERDAM.

It has been a great privilege to serve the patients of the Atlantic Provinces and to work with dedicated health care professionals across Atlantic Canada. I consider myself very fortunate to have worked with you on transforming surgical services. I want to express my gratitude to Capital Health, IWK, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia Department of Health and the Canadian Military Forces for their agility to improve care for our patients. Working as a team, thinking as a system and realizing that anything is possible when it comes to taking care of our patients are and will be the founding principles of making a difference.

I applaud your passion for research and education which are the pillars of our academic mission. Dal Surgery's research can count itself among the best. Undergraduate and postgraduate surgical education at Dal Surgery are amidst the finest in Canada.

I want to thank you for your trust bestowed upon me to lead Dal Surgery. I am looking forward to establishing a collaboration between Dalhousie University and the Free University in Amsterdam.

Our attachment as a family to Nova Scotia will prevail and we are looking forward to spending our summer vacations at the beautiful shore of the Northumberland Strait.

I wish you well.

Jaap Bonjer, M.D., Ph.D., FRCSC
Professor and Head Dal Surgery

Message from the Director of Research

Dr. Greg Hirsch

OUR DAL SURGERY RESEARCH OFFICE HAS COMPLETED AN INITIAL INVENTORY OF FACULTY RESEARCH ACTIVITIES. These data will be used to mark our progress in research allowing us to measure our progress and to benchmark Dal Surgery Research with comparable institutions in North America and Europe. Using the scoring system that we have developed we will be able to illustrate research activities on an individual and a divisional basis. This will help to inform the department about the investments we are making in the current AFP in protected time and financial support of research programmes. Given our overall success in research that these data demonstrate we will be able to use the aggregate data to attract support for our research activities and to inform CDHA, government and the public of our ongoing research accomplishments.

Dal Surgery Research Day was held in April with 33 presentations and excellent attendance throughout the day. Again this year, the programme was a testament to the strength and breadth of our research programmes and our ability to train the next generation of researchers. This year's winner of the Robert Stone Travelling Fellowship, Dr. Michael Bezuhly of The Division of Plastic Surgery went on to win first place at the PGME Faculty of Medicine Research Day.

The call for this year's Dal Surgery Research Grants has gone out and peer review is being organized by the office. This year we have initiated a competition for Programme Support.

Sadly, we have learned of the imminent departure of Dr. Jaap Bonjer. With Jaap's unwavering support Dal Surgery Research has enjoyed strong support from the Department that has translated into expanding grant capture and productivity. We wish him Godspeed in his new and exciting endeavor at the Free University of Amsterdam (VU). I am confident as research director that all of us will see the success that we enjoyed under Dr. Bonjer's stewardship continue into the future.

MOTP Bids Farewell to Patti Snarr

The Multi-Organ Transplant Group bid farewell to their executive assistant, Ms. Patti Snarr in April of this year. Patti has held this position since 2004 and will be missed for her dedication to this growing program. We wish her the best of luck in her new endeavors in Toronto, Ontario. Ms. Janet Hartnett has been named the new executive assistant, and she is welcomed in her new challenging role.

Patti Snarr (left) and Janet Hartnett on the (right).

Message from the Director of Education

Dr. Brock Vair

Dr. Brock Vair

UNDERGRADUATE

EVALUATION:

All students rotating on surgical services should be evaluated in a round-table format permitting evaluation and feedback from all staff involved in their training including resident staff.

It is important to observe students obtaining a history and performing a physical examination as well as technical skills (suturing, cast application, drain insertion, etc).

When filling out evaluation forms try to avoid "exceeds expectations" unless the student is truly outstanding. The most important components of the evaluation are the narrative comments.

ED-2:

This is a component of accreditation stating that each Division of Surgery should define a list of essential clinical issues that students must have experienced while on each rotation (acute abdominal pain, Colle's fracture, tendon injury, etc). The undergraduate representatives are compiling a list from each Division and the students will be provided with a log to document their experience.

COMPUTER MODULES:

Most medical schools across the country have a series of computer modules that are available to students in order to provide on-line access to basic elements of surgical education (acute cholecystitis, knee injury, etc). We are currently at the stage of adapting these from a wide number of sources and will include a basic science component that is being developed by Ian Mobbs and his associates at the medical school. By having these modules available students who do not rotate on one of the sub-specialties, who miss a seminar due to post call rules, or who need remediation will be able to access a wide variety of instructional aids in surgery.

SUTURE SETS:

At present the first hour of the third year student rotation on General Surgery is spent in the Skills Centre learning and practicing suturing and knot tying. Michelle has access to inexpensive suture sets that will be provided to the students for practicing at home.

PATIENT-DOCTOR TEACHING:

Several Divisions participate in the Patient-Doctor unit for first and second year students. This unit originates from Internal Medicine and the objectives are less than stimulating (examination for hepatomegaly, etc). As we are aware there is an increasing trend away from surgical training among medical students and this is our opportunity to provide a stimulating patient contact experience for them. These Divisions are encouraged to give some consideration to how the first and second year Patient-Doctor sessions can be enhanced and made more stimulating.

SURGICAL INTEREST GROUP:

For the past couple of years a Surgical Interest Group has been formed among first and second year students. This has been mainly student driven and it is our intent to appoint a staff member to oversee this group in order to arrange presentations etc. in order to stimulate interest among students in pursuing a surgical career.

POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

SKILLS CENTRE:

As the Surgical Skills Centre is a showpiece for our student and Resident education it is important for all Divisions to have a well defined curriculum for both core and senior levels of training. Ideally the curriculum should involve attending staff instructing in areas of technical specialty.

CANMEDS:

Since the Royal College has made teaching and evaluation of the CANMEDS proficiencies beyond medical expert a mandatory component of Training Program accreditation, it is important

to provide this training without compromising clinical and operative experience. Within the medical school community there are various champions in each of the CANMEDS proficiencies who are available to provide training to staff and Residents. Rather than ask each Division to provide CANMEDS sessions we plan to ask each of these champions to provide a session in each of the proficiencies that will involve Residents from all sub-specialties. As CANMEDS sessions are provided to the core Residents via the Postgraduate Medical Education Office this will apply to the senior Resident group.

PEER EVALUATION:

Attending staff encounter difficulty in evaluating the CANMEDS proficiencies such as communicator, collaborator, manager, professional and advocate because to do so requires that we spend almost every hour of the day with the Resident as they talk to families, obtain consents, collaborate with other health professionals and deal with conflicts. In order to achieve more accurate assessment, evaluations from nursing staff have been used with mixed success. Another option that has been used effectively in other medical schools involves senior and junior residents evaluating each other anonymously during each rotation. This will start as a trial during the next academic year.

MEDICAL RECONCILIATION:

Although the institution of medical reconciliation forms has apparently reduced medication errors and made discharge issues easier for pharmacists and family doctors, it has created an excessive quantity of paperwork for Residents at all levels. Discussions are on-going with pharmacy staff to reduce this workload via computerization and reducing the need for reconciliation with intra-hospital transfers.

CONTRACT ISSUES:

The new PAR-IMP contract restricting Resident work hours, which has been extended to medical students as well, will have a significant effect on education. With Residents leaving at 8:30 am following call the remaining house staff will be left responsible for a wide variety of clerical issues including interim reports, discharge summaries, prescriptions etc. As a result of this the Residents will miss clinical experience in the OR and clinics as well as teaching sessions. Strategies to deal with this will require some form of off-loading of these responsibilities to clinical associates or attending staff.

Departmental News:

Dr. J.F. Legare was awarded the Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation Excellence in Research Award for Clinical Research.

Dr. Gwynedd Pickett, Division of Neurosurgery was the lead in Capital Health's musical "General Hospital".

Dr. Ross Leighton, Division of Orthopaedics, has been named the new President for Doctors Nova Scotia.

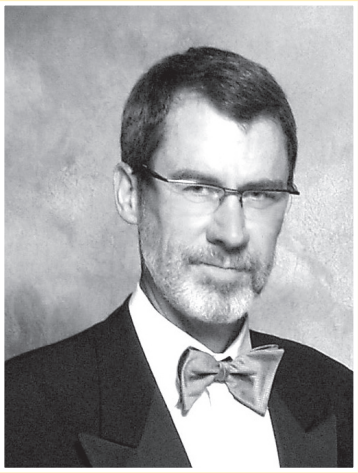
Dr. Mark Glazebrook, Division of Orthopaedics, was awarded the prestigious ABC Traveling Fellowship through the Canadian Orthopaedic Association.

Faculty of Medicine Resident Research Day: Best Overall Presentation: ***Dr. Michael Bezuhly,*** Division of Plastic Surgery.

Dal Surgery Research Day 2009

DAL SURGERY RESEARCH DAY WAS HELD ON APRIL 29, 2009 AT THE WESTIN HOTEL.

We had an excellent programme this year with 33 original abstracts for presentation from our residents, fellows and students. The programme offered insight and appreciation into the superb research work from both basic science and clinical science expertise. The day's programme demonstrated varied interests spanning from the fundamental basic science, concerning cell signaling in myocardiac fibrosis to prevalence studies in sub-arachnoid hemorrhage using province-wide data sets that will carry health policy implications.



THIS YEAR'S DR. GORDON BETHUNE VISITING PROFESSOR WAS DR. NORMAN KNETEMAN FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA. Dr. Kneteman is a world leader in both basic science and clinical research in transplantation. His noon time lecture entitled, "Can We Prevent HCV Recurrence After Liver Transplantation?" was compelling. Dr. Kneteman was a judge this year at research day along with Dr. J.F. Legare, Assistant Professor from the Division of Cardiac Surgery and Dr. David Hoskin, a Professor in The Department of Pathology and The Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation – Atlantic Region Endowed Chair in Breast Cancer Research.

Dr. Norman Kneteman

~ *This Year's Winners* ~

Dr. Michael Bezuhly
Division of Plastic Surgery
First Place Resident
Recipient of The Dr. Robert Stone Traveling Fellowship
"Activated Protein C Improves Ischemic Flap Survival and Modulates Proangiogenic and Anti-Inflammatory Gene Expression."

Dr. Maral Ouzounian
Division of Cardiac Surgery
2nd Place Resident
"Impaired Protein Processing in Hypertensive Rats with Diabetes Mellitus and Diastolic Dysfunction."

Dr. Paul Yaffe
Division of General Surgery
3rd Place Resident
"The Phytochemical Piperine Inhibits Human Colorectal Carcinoma Cell Growth."

Dr. Adrienne Kelly
Honorable Mention – Resident
"A Biomedical Comparison of Cloverleaf and Locked Plates for Unstable Fractures of the Proximal Humerus in Synthetic Osteoporotic Model."

Amr Zaki
First Place Student, Department of Immunolgy

Irene Ma
2nd Place Student, Cardiac Surgery

Jennifer Devitt
3rd Place Student, Cardiac Surgery

Mathew O'Brien
Honorable Mention - Student
Department of Pharmacology

"The growing DAL Surgery Research Program continues to make a difference for patients in and outside Atlantic Canada." ***Dr. Jaap Bonjer***

Research Profile: Dr. Jeremy Brown

Dr. Jeremy Brown

DR. BROWN RECEIVED A B.SC.ENG. DEGREE IN ENGINEERING PHYSICS FROM QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN 2001 AND HIS PH.D. IN APPLIED PHYSICS FROM QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN 2005. Between 2006 and Jan. 2008, Dr. Brown completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto and in Feb. 2008, Dr. Brown began a tenure-track faculty position in Biomedical Engineering at Dalhousie University (with a cross-appointment to the department of Surgery beginning in the summer of 2008). His research is focused on the design, fabrication, and testing of both ultrasonic and sonic frequency piezoelectric transducers. His research in ultrasonic technology is concentrated on the development of high-frequency (>30MHz) array transducers and novel piezo-composite materials for high-resolution medical imaging and his research in sonic-frequency technology is focused on the development of bone-conduction hearing aid transducers.

Dr. Brown has made several significant contributions to the development of high-frequency ultrasound imaging systems. His most significant contribution to this field was the development of the first high-frequency array-based ultrasound system capable of generating in-vivo images. By increasing the ultrasound frequency, the wavelength is decreased and better image resolution can be obtained. Recently, several high-frequency ultrasound systems have been developed for imaging the eye, skin, vascular system, and small animals for biological studies. Although these high-frequency systems can resolve tissue structures ranging from 20 to 100 microns in size they are not routinely used in clinical practice because they are based on single-element transducers with a very limited depth-of-field. In low-frequency ultrasound systems, a great improvement in depth-of-field is achieved by replacing the single-element transducer with an array transducer. Arrays suitable for high-frequency imaging were not previously available and the primary reason for the slow development was that the dimensions of the array elements decrease in proportion to the ultrasound wavelength, and therefore fabricating these 'micro-arrays' is extremely challenging. Dr. Brown has recently been awarded a CFI Leaders Opportunity Fund infrastructure grant to purchase state of the art micro-fabrication equipment for his newly established microfabrication lab located in the Centre for Clinical Research in order to continue his research in developing next generation high-resolution ultrasound transducers.

Currently, Dr. Brown has a very strong collaboration with otologic surgeon Dr. Manohar Bance, as part of the 'bench-top to bedside' strategic plan currently being implemented by the School Biomedical Engineering. The strategy is intended to bridge the gap between engineers and clinicians by bringing them together on applied research projects. Synergistic to Dr. Brown's recently established micro-fabrication facility, Dr. Bance has a long established ear and auditory research (EAR) laboratory concentrated on investigating cadaveric ear tissues to gain better understanding of middle and inner ear mechanics. Recently, Dr. Brown and Dr. Bance have obtained the first high-resolution ultrasound images visualizing the micro-anatomy of the auditory system, and have also received NSERC funding to further develop an ultrasonic endoscope for the ear.

With regards to sonic frequency transducers, Dr. Brown and Dr. Bance are collaborating on the development of novel piezoelectric bone-conduction hearing aid transducers as part of Dr. Bance's AIF bone-conduction technologies project. Bone-conduction is often an attractive alternative to air conduction for the transmission of sound waves to the cochlea for many hearing disorders. In addition to transducer development, this project is also strongly focused on improving the basic understanding of physiological mechanisms of bone conducted sound. This collaborative research effort has initiated other complementary research

Cont page 8...

Research Profile: Dr. Jeremy Brown *Cont from page 7 ...*

projects including the development of a novel surgically implantable sub-cutaneous bone-conduction transducer, which began with seed funding from the Department of Surgery, as well as the development of tactile vibrational transducers to assist cochlear implant and BAHA patients in sound localization using a multisensory approach (funded by NSHRF).

Dr. Brown and Dr. Bance's research team is rapidly expanding and they work directly with other otologists (Dr. David Morris), Audiologists (Drs.Steve Aiken, Laura Curran), and research Scientists/Engineers (Dr. Rob Adamson, Dr. Jian Wang, Rene Van Wijhe) in a shared laboratory space, with additional trainees such as fellows, residents, and graduate students directly involved in the research. The research team is also strongly involved in psychoacoustics research (how the brain perceives sound) collaborating with experts in the field such as Dr. Aaron Newman, Dr. Dennis Phillips, Dr. Michael Kiefte, and Dr. Ross Deas. This intense amalgamation of clinical and engineering expertise (with engineers attending clinics and the OR frequently) has provided a very strong bidirectional education, with true sharing and growth of synthesized knowledge.

Dr. A. S. MacDonald Lectureship

Dr. A.S. MacDonald

THE END OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR IS ALWAYS MARKED BY THE ANNUAL DR. A.S. MACDONALD LECTURESHIP. Dr. MacDonald is now a member of the Department of Surgery's Amherst division, but despite almost a lifetime in Halifax both he and his wife Lorna have remained true to their Cape Breton Island roots, and their summer bungalow "out on the Mira." Dr. MacDonald was a beacon for transplant surgery. His professional commitment to the launching of a liver and pancreas transplant program, and introduction of laparoscopic cholecystectomies here in Halifax is legendary. He is honoured annually for his contributions to the Department, his enthusiastic teaching of residents and medical students, and his upstart of training programs for residents and colleagues in transplant surgeries.

This year's A.S. MacDonald Lectureship was held on June 24th, followed by the annual Departmental Golf Day. Teaching awards are handed out for undergrad teaching for both faculty and resident teachers. This year, Dr. Ben Orlik from Orthopaedics won the Resident Teaching award and Dr. Brock Vair was awarded the Faculty Teaching award.

This year's Dr. A.S. MacDonald Lecturer was Dr. Bill Fitzgerald from Newfoundland. Dr. Fitzgerald has been practicing general surgery in rural Newfoundland for the past 30 years. He spoke of the many experiences he has had in Africa during his career and his lecture was a sobering reminder of the world health services disparity. He eloquently expressed the opinion of the profound contributions young medical professionals can make in third world countries and encouraged all residents to consider doing part of their training in these much needed areas of the globe. Dr. Fitzgerald issued a sincere open invitation to any surgical resident wishing to be trained in rural Newfoundland!!

Dr. Bill Fitzgerald on the left & Dr. Jaap Bonjer on the right

New Faculty: Dr. Jason Howard

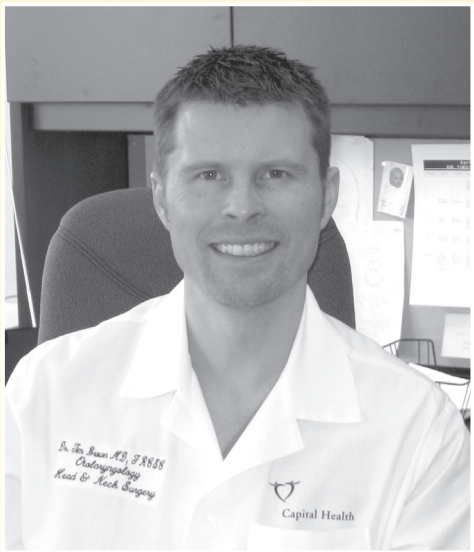
Dr. Jason Howard

DR. JASON HOWARD IS A PAEDIATRIC ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON SPECIALIZING IN THE TREATMENT OF SPINAL DEFORMITY AND NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS (PRIMARILY CEREBRAL PALSY). He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at Dalhousie University and is active in residency and medical school teaching. He completed his own residency training at the University of Calgary and holds clinical fellowships in paediatric orthopaedics (Melbourne, Australia) and paediatric spine (Auckland, New Zealand). He was also the Japanese Paediatric Orthopaedic Association's 2004 International Traveling Fellow.

Dr. Howard recently relocated to the IWK Health Centre in Halifax after four years of service at the Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH) in Calgary. He is the former Clinical Director for the C.H. Riddell Family Movement Assessment Centre at the ACH and he helped develop the Centre into a world class clinical gait laboratory. His research interests include the use of torso surface topography for the non-radiographic detection of scoliosis progression and 3-D assessment of truncal deformity, functional assessment and treatment of gait disorders in cerebral palsy, in addition to other paediatric orthopaedic conditions. Dr. Howard plans to work closely with the School of Biomedical Engineering at Dalhousie to help develop a Clinical Gait Laboratory which will benefit children with gait disorders and help further research into mechanisms of pathologic gait.

Dr. Howard and his wife, Rhonda, are both originally from St. John's, NL and are ecstatic to be back to the East Coast and to be closer to their families. They welcomed their first child, Seamus in early June 2009.

New Faculty: Dr. Timothy Brown



Dr. Timothy Brown

DR. TIMOTHY BROWN JOINED THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY IN THE DIVISION OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY EARLIER THIS YEAR AS AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR. Dr. Brown completed medical school at McMaster University in 1999 and finished his residency in Otolaryngology in 2004 at Dalhousie. After his residency he had a community-based Otolaryngology practice in Ontario from 2004 until 2008 while his wife, Marianne Pierce, finished her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Queen's University. Dr. Brown returned to Dalhousie to complete a Fellowship in Laryngology with Dr. Elhamy Attia in 2008.

Both his wife and he are extremely excited to be back in Halifax to begin their professional lives.

Welcome Dr. Brown!

Research Profile: Dr. William Stanish

Dr. William Stanish

"The thing about Bill, he could be your best friend, talking about anything in the locker room, but the minute he hit the ice, he was a fierce competitor. He was there to win, and did anything it took to win the game. He would hit you hard and fight for the puck never giving up, but afterwards, friendships and cordial exchanges ensued. He is a great likable guy."

Bill Mulligan
University of Prince Edward Island Hockey

DR. STANISH'S CONTRIBUTION TO UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS IS LEGENDARY. The most recent award from the University of Prince Edward Island Sports Hall of Fame in 2008 can be added to the plethora of awards and accomplishments Dr. Stanish has received in the past. He has been inducted into both the Dalhousie Sports Hall of Fame as well as the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame. He was the recipient of the highly coveted A.J. Young award in 2000 which celebrates a great contribution to sport in Nova Scotia.

Dr. Stanish has a long standing history in sports. During full time study in medical school he participated in hockey, football and varsity basketball. He was twice named the Dalhousie Athlete of the Year. This love for athletics and his affection for competitive athletics has translated naturally into the field of Orthopaedics. Since coming on board as a faculty member in 1976, Dr. Stanish's affection for athletics has followed him for much of his career. In 2007, he received the Order of Nova Scotia, for promoting equality of sports medicine for Nova Scotia.

He is the figure head for sports medicine in Nova Scotia, and many-an-athlete can attest to his gentle hand, his expertise and follow up care. Dr. Stanish has served as Chief Medical Officer for the Canadian Olympic teams in 1984 and 1988. His efforts have been acclaimed by the Arthritis Society as he was their honoree at their 2008 celebrity roast. Dr. Stanish received his medical degree at Dalhousie, he trained in orthopaedics under Professor Reginald Yabsley and then did Fellowship training with Professor John Hall and Dr. Lyle Micheli at Harvard University. In 1978, Dr. Stanish received the COA French Traveling Fellowship.

He remains committed to resident training and student teaching which has resulted in a second generation of successful orthopedic surgeons and sports medicine MDs. He has been described by one of his fellow orthopaedic surgeons as "the pinnacle of inspiration for training health care professionals in the field of sports medicine fostering excellence."

Dr. Stanish is a leading clinical scientist and his research interests are in the areas of soft tissue tendon biology and biomechanics. Dr. Stanish is an established leader in sports medicine, co-authoring the "bible" in this field, "Oxford Textbook of Sports Medicine", a staple for any orthopaedic resident or fellow.

Dr. Stanish remains a "much in demand" professor who balances his very busy clinical and research time with his family. In his professorial years he remains a valuable asset to the Department of Surgery.

The Skills Centre for Health Sciences

IN APRIL 2008, THE SKILLS CENTRE FOR HEALTH SCIENCES OPENED ITS DOORS TO THE DALHOUSIE MEDICAL COMMUNITY. The skills centre has been a conduit for operating room skill development to all medical professionals and students in the Dalhousie Medical Community. This centre remains a safe environment where all members of the medical community can learn free from ethical and legal complications involved in treating human beings.

Dr. Bonjer and Michelle Murray, Coordinator

Dr. Bonjer, the Head of the Department of Surgery, is seen as the key figure head in bringing the skills centre to Nova Scotia. Much generous corporate sponsorship has been captured under his leadership. This was Dr. Bonjer's unrelenting vision for the Dal Medical Community, and has been, on occasion, referred to as "his passion". The Skills centre will continue to be associated with Dr. Bonjer's strong conviction that Nova Scotians deserve progressive and innovative surgical techniques delivered by highly qualified individuals. Through teaching our young trainees and more established surgeons the most current techniques of the operating room, Dr. Bonjer has said, "that this facilty can only improve patient safety, and keep Atlantic Canada at the forefront of medical care and facilitate the recruitment of health care professionals to the area".*

Since opening there have been over 2500 surgical trainees and other medical professionals come through the doors of the skills centre.

Category		Number of Participants 2009			Category
		Jan1 - Feb 28, 2009	Mar 1 - May 31, 2009		Total
Staff/Visiting Doctors		105	141		246
Residents		105	108		213
Students (Medical, Nursing, RT, etc.)		95	302		397
Nurses		4	207		211
Instructors		29	82		111
Sales Representatives		29	31		60
Other		10	22		32
	Total	**377**	**893**		**1270**
Total 2008	**1325**				
Total Jan. 1 - May 31, 2009	**1270**				
Grand Total to date	**2595**				

It is with much thanks that we remember Dr. Bonjer's dedication to the Department of Surgery. He has forged both friendships and respect during his tenure at Dalhousie. Dr. Bonjer is a graduate of the University of Leiden in the Netherlands. He completed his general surgery training in 1993 at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, the Netherlands and soon after, joined the surgical staff there. He was awarded a Chair in Endoscopic Surgery in 2000. Dr. Bonjer joined the Department of Surgery at Dalhousie University in 2004. He was appointed Chair of the Department of Surgery and Chief of Surgery of Capital District in 2006. Dr. Bonjer is returning to his homeland, the Netherlands to procure the Head of Surgery at Free University in Amsterdam with his wife Martha Canning and their two daughters Julia and Emma. We wish them every happiness!

**Natalie Parks, DMJ, 2009 36(1)*

Table: Jason Follet, Skills Centre Administration

Dal Surgery 2009-2010 Committees

RESEARCH COMMITTEE: DR. GREG HIRSCH, CHAIR

Dr. Ian Alwayn
Dr. Manohar Bance
Dr. Michael Dunbar
Dr. James Fawcett
Dr. Mark Glazebrook
Dr. Natalie Yanchar
Dr. Dave Hoskin
Dr. Thomas Issekutz
Dr. Tim Lee
Dr. Steve Morris
Dr. Paul Johnson

Resident Represent: Dr. Paul Yaffe
Administrator: Elaine Marsh

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DR. GERALD MACKEAN, CHAIR

Dr. Ross Leighton
Dr. Jeremy Wood

Administrator: Theresa Halliday
Administration Assistant: Giselle Romans

PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE: DR. STEVE MORRIS, CHAIR

Dr. Bill Oxner
Dr. Leanne Johnson
Dr. Joe Hyndman
Dr. Harry Henteleff

Administrator: Lesli Smith

CABINET: DR. JAAP BONJER, HEAD

Dr. David Kirkpatrick
Dr. Trevor Topp
Dr. Brock Vair
Dr. Greg Hirsh
Dr. David Amirault
Dr. Ivar Mendez
Dr. Justin Paletz
Dr. Gerry MacKean
Dr. Gerald Corsten
Dr. Drew Bethune