

Advancing Care Through Leadership

2011 Annual Report



Front Cover Image
Dr. Haemi Lee, PGY5,
Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

The Department of Surgery gratefully acknowledges the following partners and affiliates:





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“As a whole, the Western University Department of Surgery continues to demonstrate its leadership locally, nationally and internationally.”

Demonstrating Leadership, Sustainable Excellence and Exciting Opportunities

A Message from the Chair

Leadership in a clinical academic environment is about creating a platform that positions us for both continuous improvement and sustainable excellence. In leading a large and diverse Department of Surgery, the challenge is to harness the components (Divisions and Programs) in order to create something that is larger than the sum of its parts. Uniting the entire group together towards a common purpose is a challenge that I believe the Western University, Department of Surgery is rising to meet.

There are many facets to providing strong surgical leadership but at the top include: recruiting and mentoring good people; managing and paying attention to details while maintaining an overall strategic focus; being fair and transparent in decision-making; finding compromise in difficult situations; leading by example; fostering the development of future leaders; being visible; and communicating clearly and effectively. These are certainly amongst the most important leadership skills necessary to succeed in a demanding and competitive clinical and academic environment.

As a whole, the Western University Department of Surgery continues to demonstrate its leadership locally, nationally and internationally. Our dedicated surgeons continue to provide the

highest quality of surgical care on a day-to-day basis; actively participate as members and leaders on many Hospital and University committees; and contribute as academic leaders at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry and the affiliated Research Institutes. Nationally, many Western surgeons serve as leaders of surgical societies, subspecialty organizations, Royal College Exam Committees, and frequently as external reviewers of other surgical programs across the country. Many of these roles and accomplishments are highlighted in this year's annual report.

The Department is at the forefront internationally with its contributions to internationalization initiatives of the Schulich School and Western University, as exemplified by the robust relationship developed with the West China School of Medicine in Chengdu, China. The vast number of guest professorships by Department members throughout the world, prominence on Journal editorial boards, and collaborative research partnerships with other institutions are further examples of our Department's influence in the global health and academic arena.

The Department has continued to deliver on its 2009-2014 Strategic Plan with many goals already achieved and others well underway in development. The stellar performance of our



Dr. John Denstedt, Richard Ivey Professor & Chair/Chief, Department of Surgery

residents at the Royal College examinations and achievements of medical students in the surgery component of the LMCC exam are examples that highlight dedication and commitment of Department of Surgery members to the teaching mandate and the exceptional quality of trainees and faculty that we are able to attract to London. Overall, research productivity in the Department continues to grow as measured by grants and publications in which Department members are involved. We have also proposed a Master's of Science in Surgery at Western University, which promises to further enhance our graduate student base and research efforts with the approval process on-track for fall 2012.

The Department of Surgery has demonstrated its leadership in fundraising and development with the establishment of two fully endowed Chairs over the last year: the J. C. Kennedy Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery, and the Ray & Margaret Elliott Chair in

Surgical Innovation. The Department of Surgery is grateful for the support of our President, Dr. Amit Chakma and his team, who have been essential partners in the process to build a solid foundation supporting our academic and research leadership.

This annual report highlights the many accomplishments of Western's Department of Surgery over the past year. The future holds challenges but also opportunities and I look forward to further success over the course of the next year and beyond.

Advancing Care With Teamwork And Collaboration

Division of Cardiac Surgery



**Dr. Bob Kiaii, Chair/Chief,
Division of Cardiac Surgery**

"Leadership is about communication," states Dr. Bob Kiaii, Chair/Chief, Division of Cardiac Surgery. "It is the vital link that connects team members in providing clinical care, pursuing research opportunities, and educating the health care providers of the future." Dr. Kiaii believes as a leader, it is his responsibility to ensure he is able to bring together his Division members and represent

their interests as a cohesive unit. "Each member of the Division is a leader in his or her area of interest in cardiac surgery. As Chair/Chief, I ensure we move forward collectively and that the Division benefits as a whole."

Collaboration is at the heart of the Division's efforts, particularly in the recent development of a Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI) program at London Health Sciences Centre. "Backed by the support of Dr. John Denstedt and the London Health Sciences Foundation, cardiac surgeons worked closely with cardiologists, anesthesiologists, and nurses to develop a model of care for patients," explains Dr. Kiaii. "With leadership and multi-disciplinary collaboration, we were able to quickly and successfully implement a new procedure, establish a clinic, and dedicate operating room time using this exciting technological advancement."

In the past year, Drs. Bob Kiaii and Ray Guo have also brought the Correx AVB device into more widespread clinical practice and are training a national and international cohort of surgeons to use the device.

"CSTAR (Canadian Surgical Technologies & Advanced Robotics) and the Kelman Centre for Education, have been a catalyst in our ability to bring new and innovative surgical techniques to patients that ultimately improve outcomes," observes Dr. Kiaii. "We have one of the best facilities in the world for medical device validation and testing. Surgeons from Canada, the US, Europe, Latin America, and Japan are thrilled to participate in the educational opportunities we are able to offer."

With one of the largest robotics programs in North America, Dr. Kiaii believes it is also important that we demonstrate the effectiveness of pioneering techniques through rigorous interdisciplinary scientific research. "Engineering, Anesthesia, and Imaging are outstanding partners in research development," notes Dr. Kiaii. "CSTAR has also allowed us to incorporate simulation into research and team training that has never been done before."

Dr. Ray Guo brings this progress to the Division's trainees as the Program Director for Cardiac Surgery. "Dr. Guo provides impressive leadership as Program Director, particularly in light of significant changes to the provision of cardiac surgery residency training," says Dr. Kiaii. In addition, Dr. Michael Tong, PGY6, recently had an opportunity to embark on a residency exchange period at the West China Hospital, in Chengdu, China. "These new clinical and academic experiences are adding an extra dimension to training and international collaboration," adds Dr. Kiaii.

"With teamwork and collaboration, we will advance the standard of care for patients with heart disease."

"We each have a leadership role in creating a responsive Division, a strong Department, and an innovative Academic Health Science Centre," states Dr. Kiaii. "It is with teamwork and collaboration that we will advance the standard of care for patients with heart disease."



Dr. Bob Kiaii in the operating room at University Hospital

Journal Articles

Adams C, McClure A, Bainbridge D, Kostuk W, **Kiaii B**. Simultaneous Robotic Assisted Mitral Valve Repair and Percutaneous Coronary Intervention: A Case Report. *Innovations: Technology and Techniques in Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery* 2010;5:375-377

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artery bypass surgery: an anatomic, cadaveric evaluation. *Plast Reconstr Surg*. 2011 May;127(5):1783-9.

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Book Chapters / Conference Proceedings / Invited Editorials

Ivan Iglesias, Daniel Bainbridge, John M. Murkin, **Mackenzie A. Quantz**. Transesophageal Echocardiography Multimedia Manual: A Perioperative Transdisciplinary Approach. Second Addition, Chapter 23 - Aorta Pages 561-587

★ **Honours and Teaching Awards from July 2010 to June 2011**

Chu, Michael. Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Surgery Clerkship Teaching

Chu, Michael. Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, UWO Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award

Guo, Ray. Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Cardiac Resident Teaching Award

Kiaii, Bob. Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Department of Surgery, Clinician Scientist Award

A Strategic Leader of General Surgery In Canada

Division of General Surgery



**Dr. Ward Davies, Chair/Chief,
Division of General Surgery**

As the population ages, our specialty is facing an exponential rise in the number of urgent and emergent patients for which we care. It will be essential to develop a rational plan for acute and urgent surgical care for the patients in our LHIN and those outside of it who come to London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Health Care, London for our expertise."

Dr. Davies sees an example of this in the development of programs such as the acute care surgery service at Victoria Hospital and the Breast Program at St. Joseph's Health Care, London. "It is not just better access to clinical services that drives the need for progress. The acute care surgery teams improve access to care and shorten wait times for patients in the ER to receive surgical care. The breast program initiative brings together the

Issues in delivering surgical care in our complex health care environment are an ongoing challenge for the Division of General Surgery. Dr. Ward Davies, Chair/Chief of the Division of General Surgery, believes "We must be proactive in adapting the way we deliver surgical services to harness the resources of the Academic Health Science Centre and fully utilize the resources available with our regional community hospitals. As the

St. Joseph's Health Care Foundation, general surgeons, plastic surgeons, imaging specialists, nurses, and others to create an entirely new level of care for patients and their families," describes Dr. Davies. In fact, he sees embracing quality of care initiatives as central to all general surgeons. "Each surgeon, as a team leader, has been a positive influence in hand washing, implementing the surgical safety checklist, and in bringing down wait times to provincially acceptable levels for breast, HPB, colorectal, GI and endocrine cancer surgeries."

The Division of General Surgery has been a leader in the provincial wait time strategy. "Our Division members work extremely hard at managing and prioritizing cases to allow us to meet provincial guidelines for wait times." The Division of General Surgery has established a robotic common bile duct initiative, which has the largest experience with robotic bile duct explorations in the world. "Our robotics program is the new frontier for general surgery," notes Dr. Davies, "and our challenge

will be to develop dedicated programs that provide innovative surgical care for diseases that are becoming more prevalent in an aging population, such as complex cancers." A new operating room specifically designed for minimally invasive surgery and robotics opened this year at London Health Sciences Centre's University Hospital and plans for a similar operating room is

"With state-of-the-art equipment and global broadcast capability, our operating rooms are among the best in the country."



Dr. Davies in the operating room performing a gallbladder surgery

underway at Victoria Hospital. With state-of-the-art equipment and global broadcast capability, Dr. Davies believes our operating rooms are among the best in the country.

This clinical infrastructure also helps to support the Division of General Surgery's tradition of excellence in surgical education. Dr. Brian Taylor, Associate Chair of Surgical Education – UGE, was recently announced as this year's John Provan Outstanding Canadian Surgical Educator Award winner by the Canadian Undergraduate Surgery Education Committee, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to surgical education in Canada.

Dr. Davies adds, "We see the recruitment of faculty with advanced degrees in education as crucial to continuing as a pillar for academic quality; and CSTAR (Canadian Surgical Technologies & Advanced Robotics) provides an outstanding platform for pioneering work in simulation and education research."

Division of General Surgery members are also well represented in national organizations, including the Canadian Association of

General Surgeons, the Ontario Medical Association, the Royal College, and the Trauma Association of Canada. "Our members are at the strategic centre of organizations guiding general surgery in Canada," says Dr. Davies. "The future will include expansion into acute care surgical services and our leaders are well positioned to be responsive in meeting the clinical and academic requirements to bring this to fruition."

Dr. Davies steps down from his role as Chair/Chief of the Division of General Surgery in 2012. "It will always be a challenge to manage resources," he states. "The reward is to see the leadership potential develop in each resident and faculty member as we move forward collectively in our clinical and academic pursuits. I am confident that Western's Division of General Surgery will maintain its leadership position in the country for the foreseeable future".

Journal Articles

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Doria-Rose VP, **Vinden C**, Ransohoff DF, Prorok PC. Flexible sigmoidoscopy to prevent colorectal cancer. *Lancet*. 2010 Sep 11;376(9744):871; author reply 871-2

Dubois L, **Gray DK**. Case series: splenectomy: does it still play a role in the management of thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura? *Can J Surg*. 2010 Oct;53(5):349-55. Review.

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, Marotta P, **Hernandez-Alejandro R**. The clinical consequences of utilizing donation after cardiac death liver grafts into hepatitis C recipients. *Hepatol Int*. 2011 Jan 15. [Epub ahead of print]

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★ Honours and Teaching Awards from July 2010 to June 2011

Brackstone, Muriel. Excellence in Oncology – Academics, University of Western Ontario

Hernandez-Alejandro, Roberto. Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Clerkship Professor of The Year (Department of Surgery)

Hernandez-Alejandro, Roberto. United States, Kentucky, Louisville, Faculty Development Mini Fellowship Award

Hernandez-Alejandro, Roberto. USC Teaching Honour Roll Award of Excellence

Leslie, Ken. GAME Certificate of Merit

Leslie, Ken. Resident Mentor Award

McAlister, Vivian. Operational Service Medal – Haiti (OSM-H), Government of Canada

McAlister, Vivian. Surgeon General's Award of Excellence Commendation, Canadian Forces

Mele, Tina. Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, USC Teaching Honour Roll

Rajgopal, Chellappa. Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Resident Teaching Award

Schlachta, Christopher. Ambassador Award, 2011 Canadian Surgery Forum

Schlachta, Christopher. John H. Duff Award, for excellence in teaching general surgery residents

Taylor, Brian. John Provan Outstanding Canadian Surgical Educator Award

Wall, William. Lamp of Learning Award, Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation

Wall, William. Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry Department of Surgery, Surgery Clerkship Teaching Award

An International Reputation For Excellence

Division of Orthopaedic Surgery



**Dr. James Roth, Chair/Chief,
Division of Orthopaedic Surgery**

Dr. James Roth, Chair/Chief, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, describes leadership with a sports analogy: "On a baseball team, not everyone can be a pitcher," he explains. "Each individual has a unique and important role to play that contributes to the success of the team." Dr. Roth sees his role as ensuring that each Division member understands their position and has the mentorship and resources necessary to succeed. He also shoulders a significant

administrative workload as Chair/Chief of the largest Division in the Department of Surgery, Medical Director of the Hand and Upper Limb Centre, and Site Chief of Surgery for St. Joseph's Health Care, London.

"It is especially important to protect the time of our younger Division members so that they can focus on their clinical and academic responsibilities," says Dr. Roth. "However, it is equally essential to ensure appropriate succession planning and to involve more senior Division members with leadership opportunities," he adds.

The Division of Orthopaedic Surgery at Western has an international reputation for excellence in orthopaedic research

and clinical care, which started with the contributions of its first Chair, Dr. J.C. Kennedy. It was a fitting tribute therefore, that the Division members joined together to raise more than \$1.5M to establish the J.C. Kennedy Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery, which will allow the Department of Surgery and the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery to recruit and/or retain an individual of high standing in the field of Orthopaedic Surgery. These funds are being matched by Western University to fully endow the Chair.

Division of Orthopaedic Surgery members, in collaboration with Foundation Western, the London Health Sciences Foundation, and the St. Joseph's Health Care Foundation, have been leaders in guaranteeing that the traditions of clinical and academic excellence will endure in perpetuity. "The Dr. Sandy Kirkley Chair, the Graham King Chair, the Rorabeck-Bourne Joint Replacement Centre, and the Cecil and Linda Rorabeck Chair in Molecular Neuroscience and Vascular Biology, each speak to the commitment of our faculty to investing in the future of our Academic Health Science Centre."

Dr. Roth is also proud of the accomplishments of residents, fellows, and faculty this past year. "Each year, six residents graduate from Orthopaedic Surgery, with a 100% pass rate in Royal College exams since 1986." In addition, candidates from centres around the world compete for 20 fellowship positions for educational advancement in joint surgery, sports medicine, hand and upper limb, spine, and trauma. Faculty have also continued to advance their clinical expertise. Drs. George Athwal and James Howard have been awarded prestigious Travelling Fellowships from the American Shoulder and Elbow Society and the British



Dr. James Roth performing surgery

Hip Society, respectively, in 2010-11. Another highlight of 2011 occurred when Dr. Robert McMurtry was awarded Canada's highest civilian honor, the Order of Canada, in recognition of his leadership and vision in helping to strengthen health care delivery in Canada.

Dr. Roth has also brought leadership in faculty renewal. With at least three surgeons in each clinical teaching unit, Dr. Roth is excited about the possibilities in education and research for each site. Dr. Megan Cashin, paediatric orthopaedic Surgery, brings a focus on education and Dr. Fawaz Siddiqi, neurosurgery, joins the spine surgery faculty at Victoria Hospital, with a focus on intraspinal surgery. Recruitment searches are underway for a number of positions and Dr. Roth is committed to ensuring the right candidate with an academic focus is selected. Dr. Roth clarifies, "With the redevelopment of OR 15 at University Hospital underway, we will be able to centralize patient care, teaching, and research for arthroplasty at one site. We must ensure that we are appropriately and effectively matching our clinical resources with our academic focus and strengths."

Research activities in the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery will be bolstered with the opening of the Kirkley Centre at University Hospital and the expansion and co-location of the SJH laboratories at St. Joseph's Hospital. "The cell biology lab, surgical skills lab, bioengineering lab, and mechatronics lab, will

"We must ensure that we are appropriately and effectively matching our clinical resources with our academic focus and strengths."

take up most of a floor at Lawson Health Research Institute," notes Dr. Roth. "Additionally, with lab support city-wide, our researchers successfully compete for CIHR, peer-reviewed funded research, and continue to publish at the forefront of the orthopaedic surgery literature." Dr. Louis Ferreira is the newest scientist to join the Division. As a joint appointee with the Departments of Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering, Dr. Ferreira's focus on computer-navigation and robotics for surgical applications, medical transducer design, and virtual simulations and haptics for orthopaedic surgery will add a new dimension to the Division's research core.

Dr. Roth is in his fifth year of his first term appointment as Chair/Chief of the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery. He notes, "It's been a privilege for me to work with such an outstanding group of orthopaedic surgeons who are dedicated to teaching, research, and care of their patients."

Dr. Roth concludes with a salute to his predecessor, Dr. Robert Bourne, who recently retired after more than 30 years as a stellar leader, clinician, teacher, and researcher. "Bob's dedication to his patients, colleagues, and research is an incredible example for each of us to follow," Dr. Roth explains. "He brought out the strengths in so many individuals across a long and impactful career. The best way to honour his work is to continue to strive for excellence."

Journal Articles

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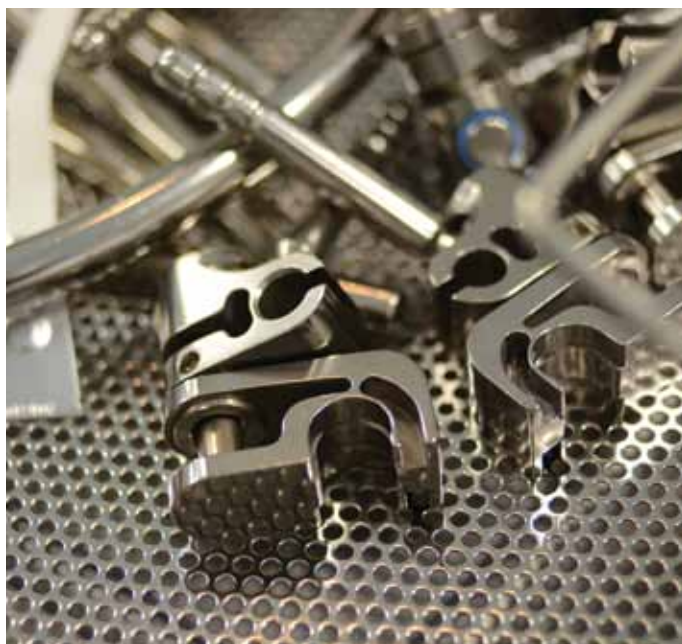
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Dr. Izavela Apriasz, PGY5 (left), Dr. Jacqueline Piggot, PGY1, with Dr. Ward Davies in the operating room.

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★ Honours and Teaching Awards

Athwal, George. American Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons European Exchange Fellowship

Athwal, George. Dean's Award of Excellence, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry

Bailey, Christopher. CSCI Resident Research Award

Bailey, Christopher. Best Basic Science Paper Award, Anterior versus posterior fixation for an isolated posterior facet →



complex injury in the sub-axial cervical spine Rasoulinejad (President winner), 38th Clinical Seminar in Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Western Ontario

Bailey, Christopher. Best Basic Science Paper Award, No orthosis is equivalent of TLSO for the treatment of thoracolumbar burst fractures without neurologic injury: Results from a multi-centred RCT. The North American Spine Society 27th annual meeting

Bailey, Christopher. Best Paper Award, Model of cauda equina compression in the rat: Relationship between duration of compression and functional outcome. Fleming JC, Glennie AR, **Lawendy A, Gurr KR**, Bailey SI, **Bailey CS**, Lawson Health Research Institute Research Day

Bailey, Christopher. Clinical Scientist, Department of Surgery, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry

Bailey, Christopher. PSI Foundation Resident Research Award, Assessment of Hepatic Inflammation after Spinal Cord Injury using Intravital Microscopy Hundt H (resident winner)

Faber, Ken. Surgery Clerkship Teaching Award

King, Graham. Best Poster in Shoulder and Elbow American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Supervisor, American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons

King, Graham. Cecil Rorabeck Award for Intra-operative Teaching Excellence, Intraoperative Teaching Award

King, Graham. Dean's Award of Excellence, Research Contributions to Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry

Lawendy, Abdel-Rahman. H.S. Cameron Award for Teaching Excellence

Sanders, David. Highlight Paper, Functional and Cardiac Outcomes comparing Symptomatic versus 10 g/dL Transfusion Threshold: A Randomized Trial in over 2000 Patients with Hip Fractures. Co-Autor, 26th Annual Meeting of the Orthopaedic Trauma Association

Sanders, David. Highlight Paper, Operative versus Non-Operative Treatment of Unstable Lateral Malleolar Fractures: A Randomized, Multi-Centre Trial. Co-Author, 26th Annual Meeting of the Orthopaedic Trauma Association

Sanders, David. Highlight Paper, The Critical-Sized Defect in the Tibia: Is it Critical? Results from the SPRINT Trial. Co-Author, 26th Annual Meeting of the Orthopaedic Trauma Association

Sanders, David. The Edwin G. Bovill Jr. MD Memorial Lecture Award, Operative Versus Non-Operative Treatment of Undisplaced, Unstable Lateral Malleolar Weber B Ankle Fractures, Principal Investigator of Multi-Centre RTC, 26th Annual Meeting of the Orthopaedic Trauma Association



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Dr. Douglas Ross, Chair/Chief,
Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery



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At The Forefront of Surgical Treatments for Children

Division of Paediatric Surgery



**Dr. Leslie Scott, Chair/Chief,
Division of Paediatric Surgery**

The newest Division Chair/Chief, Dr. Leslie Scott, brings leadership to the most diverse group of physicians in the Department of Surgery. With thirteen surgeons from seven sub-specialties, Division members form a cohesive entity with a passion for caring for children and their families. "During the past year we have really worked closely as a team to develop the Division's identity," explains Dr. Scott.

"The consolidation of resources, physical move to an outstanding facility, and academic growth among our members has solidified our foundation for future growth."

A paediatric general surgeon, Dr. Scott meets frequently with her Division members to understand their strengths, interests, academic goals, and concerns. It is a learning curve for all new leaders; yet Dr. Scott has the additional challenge of providing guidance and direction to members who are also specialists in orthopaedic surgery, plastic surgery, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, dentistry, and urology. "Despite our differences, our members are incredibly supportive of each other's research and teaching." Dr. Scott adds, "We established a Division of Paediatric Surgery Internal Research Grant competition three

years ago and the quality of applications is impressive for such a young Division." Dr. Sandrine De Ribaupierre leads the Division's Research Committee and Dr. Scott is pleased with the growth in Division member's research productivity. Drs. Adrianna Ranger and Andreana Bütter are currently examining the feasibility of an antenatal intervention program for congenital defects in collaboration with CSTAR (Canadian Surgical Technologies & Advanced Robotics).

Dr. Scott's leadership has also caught the attention of the Children's Health Foundation. "As a non-voting health care professional resource member of the Board, I am delighted to work closely with the Children's Health Foundation to bring forward opportunities for fundraising that will benefit our paediatric surgical patients." With over \$200,000 already raised in collaboration with the Children's

Health Foundation for a major capital equipment purchase, Dr. Scott speaks excitedly about an O-arm surgical imaging system that will bring CT-like capability to the operating room for paediatric orthopaedic surgery. "We are at the forefront of surgical treatments for children," says Dr. Scott. Performing over 3,500 surgical cases per year, Division members serve a population of 400,000 children across southwestern Ontario. "Paediatric patients are not just miniature adults

**"Together, our progress
allows us to make a
powerful difference in the
lives of children across
southwestern Ontario."**



Dr. Leslie Scott in the new North Tower at Victoria Hospital

with procedures scaled down to a smaller size. Their unique and special requirements are now strongly supported by a vision of excellence for Children's Hospital at London Health Sciences Centre and the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western University."

The new tower at Victoria Hospital, with dedicated space for the Children's Hospital, has brought together paediatric surgeons with many other subspecialties to provide child-centered care in a warm family oriented environment. Dr. Scott believes the new space has also encouraged more collaboration among Division members and with other Departments, including the Department of Paediatrics, particularly in coordination of teaching and discussion of clinical care issues.

Growth in the Division of Paediatric Surgery has also enabled its members to take on leadership roles. "As leaders representing

the Division of Paediatric Surgery, our members have a strong identity and the resources and support they need to be successful advocates." Dr. Scott explains, "Dr. Neil Merritt is now the Director of Paediatric Trauma – an incredibly important role given our status as a Level 1 Trauma Centre. In addition, Dr. Andreana Bütter just took on the role of Director of the Surgery Clerkship for Victoria Hospital – a role which touches every undergraduate medical education student at Western."

Dr. Scott sees her own leadership role as one of building relationships with the Division members, Department, Hospital, and University leaders; enabling Division members to accomplish their clinical and academic goals; and in improving the consolidation of resources in the Division. "Together, our progress allows us to make a powerful difference in the lives of children across southwestern Ontario."

Journal Articles

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★ Honours and Teaching Awards from July 2010 to June 2011

Bütter, Andreana. USC Teaching Honour Roll Award of Excellence

Dave, Sumit. Resident's Teaching Award, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry

Merritt, Neil. Surgery Clerkship Teaching Award

Scott, Leslie. USC Teaching Honour Roll Award of Excellence

A Leader In Clinical and Academic Innovation

Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery



Dr. Douglas Ross, Chair/Chief, Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

overcome challenges but to lead proactively in clinical and academic innovation."

The Chair of the Examination Board for Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery and a member of the Evaluation Committee, Dr. Ross sees the Royal College as an excellent venue for leadership development.

"My responsibilities on these Committees include setting standards for my subspecialty as well as formulating the structure and timing of examinations for all subspecialties," Dr. Ross explains. "In addition, addressing issues such as assessing and certifying foreign medical graduates is a significant professional responsibility that has an immediate and direct effect on expectations for physician competency and societal need."

As Director of Surgical Education for the Department of Surgery, Dr. Ross is enthusiastic about the quality and comprehensiveness of the undergraduate and postgraduate curricula at Western. "We have a state-of-the-art PGY1 Core Surgery program in a world-class facility," observes Dr. Ross. "CSTAR (Canadian Surgical Technologies & Advanced Robotics) and the Kelman Centre for Education infrastructure are key components in our ability to expand and enrich the student experience."

"Being a leader is to encourage leadership in others," asserts Dr. Douglas Ross, Chair/Chief, Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery. "New faculty, new directions, and new technology all impact the clinical and research endeavours of the Division. My role is to ensure each member

has the preparation and

connections not only to

"New patient-centered services integrate cutting-edge technology and advanced treatment options with intra-professional care."

Adding significant depth in developing advanced training practices are surgeons and staff with graduate degrees in education. Dr. Michael Ott, Director of the Core Surgery program, is completing a Master's Degree in Education and is simultaneously undertaking a fellowship with the Centre for Education Research and Innovation at Western University. His work, in collaboration with Dr. Sayra Cristancho and Ms. Terri MacDougall, will further incorporate simulation and assessment practices into advanced surgical skill training.

Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery members also have a local, national, and international impact with leadership in the fields of facial injury and reconstruction, cleft lip and palette, peripheral nerve injuries, wound healing, and Dupuytren's contracture. Dr. Damir Matic serves on the Board of the AO North America CMF Specialty Council, an international multi-specialty organization focusing on craniomaxillofacial trauma and reconstruction. Dr. Bing Gan is Secretary of the

Ontario Society of Plastic Surgeons, a member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons, and serves on the Regional Advisory Committee of the Royal College. Together with Dr. David O'Gorman, Dr. Gan's CIHR

funded research is conducted in the Hand and Upper Limb Centre's Cell and Molecular Biology Laboratory.

Locally, Division members have been leading collaborative efforts to establish the new Breast Health Centre at St. Joseph's Health Care, London, and to create a facial trauma service at London Health Sciences Centre together with Rehabilitation Medicine and the Trauma Program. Aimed at providing a comprehensive clinical care model, these new patient-centered services integrate cutting-edge technology and advanced treatment options with intraprofessional care.

"As clinicians, teachers, and researchers, our goals are to provide excellence in clinical care, to produce caring and competent physicians, and to bring innovation to the scientific community. Then more importantly, to inspire the next generation of leaders to continue in this meaningful work," says Dr. Ross.



The leading edge, minimally invasive surgery operating room at CSTAR (Canadian Surgical Technologies & Advanced Robotics)

Journal Articles

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Book Chapter

Ross DC, Gan BS. Acquired diseases of the Hand. *Textbook of Plastic Surgery* (Ed: Siemionow M) Springer New York 2010: pp 583-597

★ Honours and Teaching Awards from July 2010 to June 2011

Yazdani, Arjang. Dr. W.K. Stavsky Teaching Award

Evans, Brian. Surgery Clerkship Teaching Award

Well Positioned To Thrive As International Leaders

Division of Thoracic Surgery



**Dr. Richard Inculet, Chair/Chief,
Division of Thoracic Surgery**

As head of the Division of Thoracic Surgery, Dr. Richard Inculet believes that leadership is a shared responsibility among all three Division members. "As equal partners, we are able to discuss issues and come to consensus. I am privileged to represent the members at the executive and leadership levels and move forward with solutions that will benefit us collectively."

Dr. Inculet proudly commends the members of his Division for their local, national, and international accomplishments. "Dr. Dalilah Fortin is a national leader for thoracic surgical education and a leader for education in critical care. Dr. Richard Malthaner, the Division's Director of Research, plays a critical role in the development of the Cancer Care Ontario Provincial Thoracic Surgery guidelines. He has been instrumental in making the Division a recognized international leader in clinical trials." All three members of the Division are heavily involved in the Canadian Association of Thoracic Surgeons (CATS). Currently Vice President, Dr. Richard Inculet takes the reigns of the group as President in 2012. Drs. Fortin and Malthaner are both members of key committees for CATS and the Division hosted the 14th Annual CATS meeting in September 2011. "Our education courses for thoracic surgeons are known as the one of the best in Canada. With CSTAR (Canadian Surgical Technologies & Advanced Robotics) as our education and research platform,

we are able to combine cutting edge developments with a world-class facility and attract international participants."

One of the newest developments in thoracic surgery is the increasing use of ultrasound. One example is endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) to biopsy lymph nodes in the mediastinum. This less invasive technique can be performed as an outpatient and is fast becoming a gold standard in diagnosing and staging thoracic malignancies.

The Division of Thoracic Surgery is a national leader in MIS (minimally invasive surgery) techniques, and is looking forward to moving into its new modern MIS equipped operating room in 2013–14.

There has been consolidation of Ontario Thoracic Cancer Surgery care into designated Centers of Excellence (Level 1) and elimination of all Level 2 and 3 centers. This has greatly increased the need to provide additional patient care among all three Division members while maintaining appropriate wait-times in accordance with the Provincial strategy. Efforts are underway to recruit a fourth member to the Division, to continue to build on the Division's academic and clinical attributes.

**"Our education
courses for thoracic
surgeons are known
as the one of the
best in Canada."**

The Division looks forward to 2012, as it continues to move forward with providing national leadership in thoracic surgery, developing innovative research, and providing timely modern clinical care.

Journal Articles

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★ Honours and Teaching Awards from July 2010 to June 2011

Fortin, Dalilah. Nominated for Frank S Rutledge Award of Excellence for Critical Care Teaching

Malthaner, Richard. Clinical Clerkship Faculty Teaching Award

“A tangible benefit of our program’s highly regarded stature in the urological community is our ability to attract high quality new faculty”

Success Driven by Vision and Mentorship

Division Of Urology



**Dr. Hassan Razvi, Chair/Chief,
Division of Urology**

“Leadership has many facets, but I believe vision and mentorship are key aspects,” describes Dr. Hassan Razvi, Chair/Chief of the Division of Urology. “Without commitment to these two principles, a leader cannot have a positive impact on an organization’s future, nor provide a lasting legacy. Vision ensures the group has purpose and long-term goals. Effective mentorship allows achievement of the goals by involving the junior faculty members in implementation, especially for those most important initiatives with a long time horizon,” he explains.

“Within our Division we are fortunate to have a number of faculty members who espouse these leadership ideals. By serving as role models and providing a supportive environment, our junior faculty and trainees are given opportunities to excel clinically and academically. Several members of our faculty have assumed national and international leadership positions opening doors for our junior faculty to also become involved as their careers progress.”

Examples of Division member’s leadership activities include, Dr. John Denstedt’s appointment as Editor of the Journal of

Endourology (a major international periodical devoted to endoscopic urology), Dr. Razvi’s position as incoming President of the American Urological Association’s Northeastern Section, Dr. Joseph Chin’s term as Chair of the Canadian Urological Association’s Resident Affairs Committee and Dr. Gerald Brock’s appointment as Vice-President of Education of the Canadian Urological Association.

Effective leadership pays dividends in many ways. “These leadership positions held by our faculty enhance the reputation of Western’s Urology Program, further raising our profile in the urological community.” Dr. Razvi goes on to say, “A tangible benefit of our program’s highly regarded stature in the urological community is our ability to attract high quality new faculty. In the past five years we have been able to recruit Dr. Sumit Dave, a highly trained pediatric urologist, Dr. Alp Sener, a future leader in transplantation and most recently Dr. Blayne Welk, with expertise in urinary incontinence/reconstruction and outcomes research.”



Dr. Hassan Razvi in the Lithotripsy Operating Room at St. Joseph's Hospital in London, Ontario

Journal Articles

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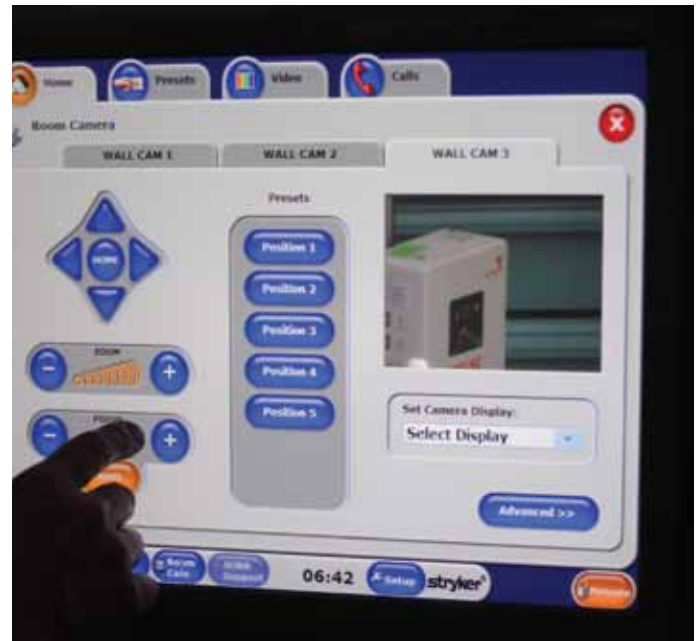
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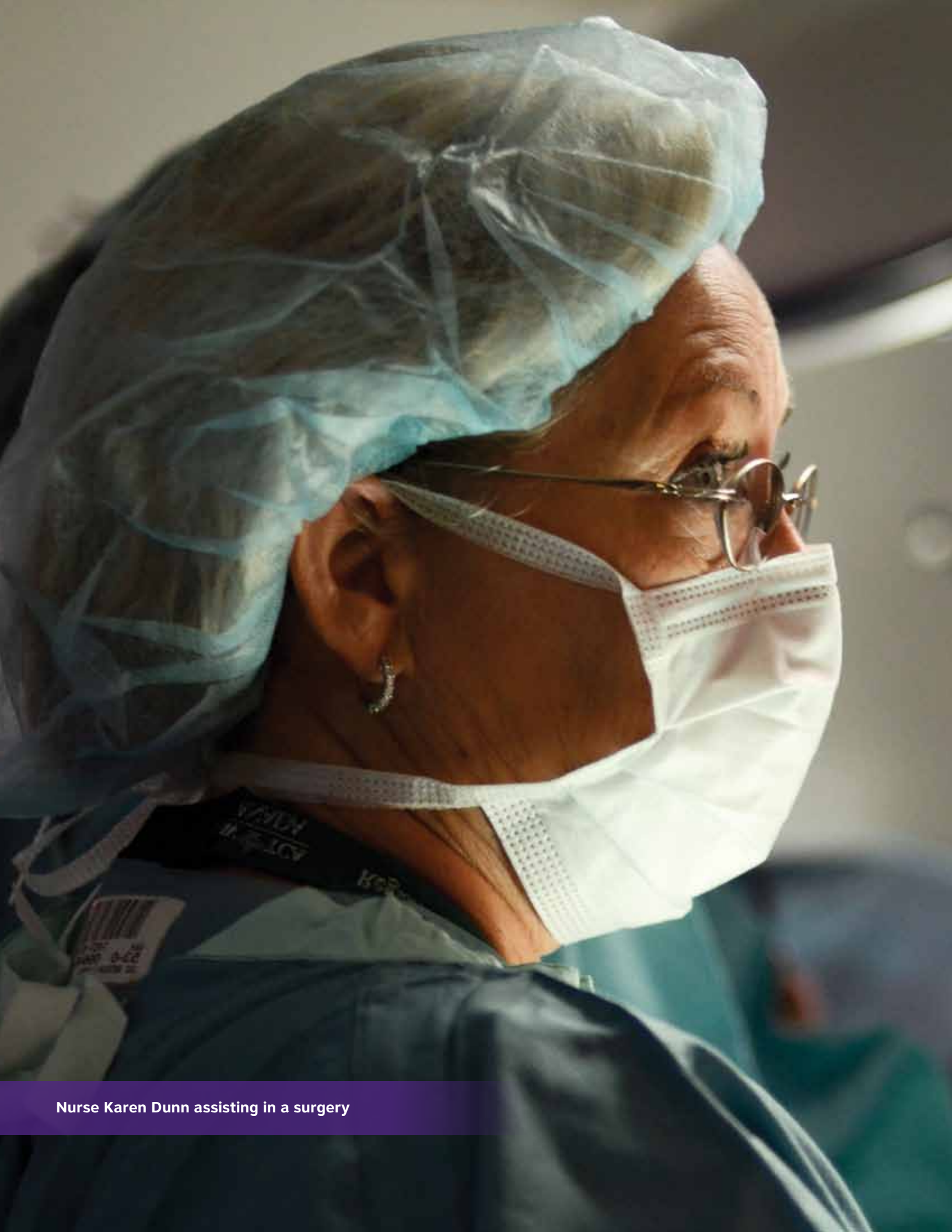
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Nurse Karen Dunn assisting in a surgery

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★ Honours and Teaching Awards from July 2010 to June 2011

Brock, Gerald, USC Teaching Honour Role

Chin, Joseph. Order of Ontario

Dave, Sumit. Resident's Teaching Award

Denstedt, John, USC Teaching Honour Roll

Denstedt, John. Best Poster: Stone Session, Méndez-Probst CE, Nott L, Denstedt JD, Razvi H: Percutaneous nephrolithotomy of calyceal diverticular calculi. Collaborator, World Congress of Endourology & SWL

Izawa, Jonathan. University of Western Ontario Residents' Clinical Teaching Award

Luke, Patrick. Surgery Clerkship Teaching Award

Luke, Patrick. CUA EUA Travelling Scholarship Award

Pautler, Stephen, USC Teaching Honour Roll

Pautler, Stephen. 1st Prize, Endourology Society Essay Contest - Clinical Category: 29th World Congress on Endourology & SWL, Fernandez A, Chen E, Moore J, Cheung C, Erdeljan P, Fuller A, McDougall EM, Peters TM, Pautler SE. A Phantom Model as a Teaching Modality for Laparoscopic Partial Nephrectomy, Supervisor

Pautler, Stephen. 5 Star Distinction, Fernandez A, Chen E, Moore J, Peters T, Erdeljan P, Fuller A, Pautler S, McDougall E. Preliminary assessment of a renal tumor materials model, Canadian Urological Association

Pautler, Stephen. First Place Poster, Cheung C: OICR One Millimetre Cancer Challenge Program and Imaging Pipeline Platform. Imaging Network Ontario, 8th Annual Imaging Symposium

Razvi, Hassan Teaching Award of Excellence

Razvi, Hassan. World Congress of Endourology & SWL, Carlos Mendez-Probst, Supervised Fellow, 3rd Prize Essay Contest

Razvi, Hassan. World Congress of Endourology & SWL, Mendez-Probst CE, Nott L, Denstedt JD, Razvi H: Percutaneous nephrolithotomy of calyceal diverticular calculi, Best Poster: Stone Session

Sener, Alp. Best Poster and Presentation, Renal perfusion pump vs. cold storage for donation after cardiac death kidneys: A systematic review, Northeastern Section of the American Urological Association

Sener, Alp. Presentation of Distinction, Hydrogen Sulphide Improves Early Graft Function and Survival Following Transplantation of Syngeneic Renal Grafts Following Prolonged Cold Storage, Annual meeting of the American Transplant Congress

Sener, Alp. Schulich Clinician Scientist Award

Sener, Alp. Summer Research Training Program Award

Welk, Blayne. Canadian Urology Association Scholarship Recipient

Longstanding Reputation As A National Leader In Therapy and Care

Division of Vascular Surgery



**Dr. Thomas Forbes, Chair/Chief,
Division of Vascular Surgery**

teams that educate the next generation of practitioners, promote research and innovation, and improve patient care.”

Dr. Ken Harris, previous Chair/Chief of the Department of Surgery and Postgraduate Associate Dean of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, was appointed the Director of Education for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in 2008. His commitment to excellence in medical education and stellar leadership continue to have a national impact and inspire many individuals across the Academic Health Science Centre. Dr. Harris’ legacy at Western continues through the Dr. Ken Harris Bursary, which is awarded annually to a graduating medical student who demonstrates excellence in vascular surgery. This year, the award was presented to Dr. Kedar Patil, who showed exemplary clinical skills, acumen, and leadership abilities during his clerkship rotations.

“The stereotype of yesterday’s surgeon as an authoritarian figure has been completely dispelled by the quiet confidence and remarkable leadership skills that all of our Department members emanate.” Dr. Forbes adds that leadership roles and skills are situational. “It can mean consensus building or decision-making;

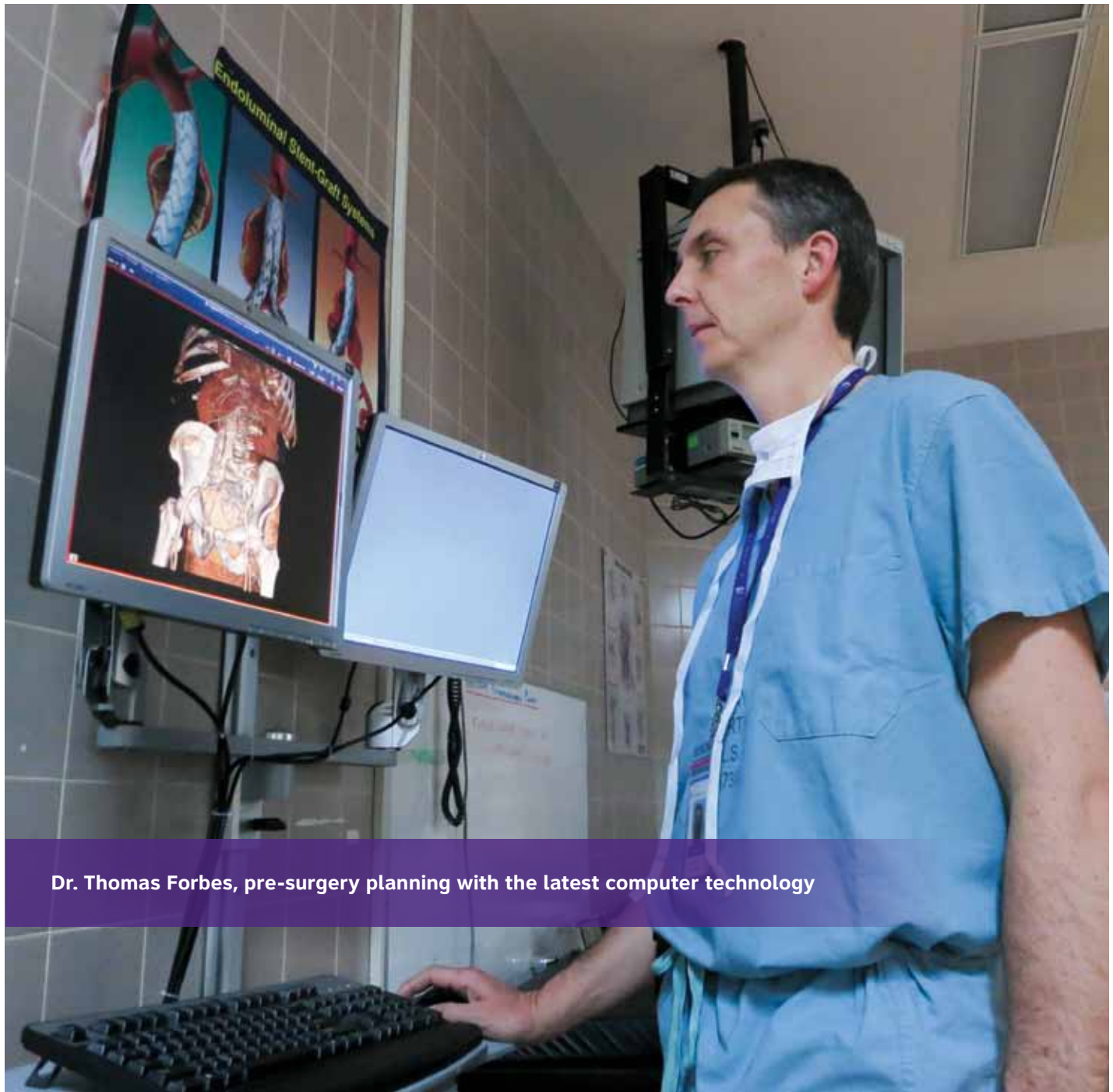
Although one of the smallest Divisions in the Department of Surgery, The Division of Vascular Surgery is a powerful voice for leadership at many levels. Dr. Thomas Forbes, Chair/Chief of the Division of Vascular Surgery believes it is the environment of leadership and a range of expertise that has led to their success. “Every surgeon is a leader and a role model,” he observes, “uniting multi-disciplinary

but in all cases demands a critical awareness of what is required in a complex clinical and academic setting, and the ability to adapt their leadership style in order to achieve success in each goal.” Division of Vascular Surgery members work closely with specialists in interventional radiology, medical imaging, internal medicine, anesthesia, cardiac surgery, scientists, and nursing personnel. This multi-disciplinary team has enabled surgeons to develop and implement safer and more precise aortic surgical treatment options in even the most complex cases that ultimately improve patient outcomes.

The Division of Vascular Surgery has a reputation as national leader in complex vascular care and aortic endovascular therapy. Dr. Guy DeRose, longstanding Site-Chief of Surgery at Victoria Hospital, facilitates the resource requirements of all Department members at that site. Dr. DeRose has also been a leader in bringing the clinical use of endovascular stents to the mainstream of vascular treatment. Dr. Forbes comments, “The surgeon’s role is to learn more about technology – but not just to bring it into use for the sake of technology. We must ensure it is used appropriately and skillfully and then evaluated fully to gauge its benefit in treating patients. Once it has been proven beneficial, it is our responsibility as leaders and educators to enable its use and teach it to the next generation of medical practitioners.”

Along these lines, Dr. Jeremy Harris is leading a new academic initiative in Health Technology Assessment (HTA). This is a multi-disciplinary initiative exploring a new clinical realm in peripheral interventions. Dr. Harris’ work in advanced image-guided interventional techniques has the potential to revolutionize the

“A commitment to excellence in medical education and stellar leadership continues to have a national impact and to inspire many individuals.”



Dr. Thomas Forbes, pre-surgery planning with the latest computer technology

treatment of patients who would otherwise have a traditional (invasive) by-pass and longer recovery period.

Dr. Adam Power is the Division of Vascular Surgery's newest recruit, joining the Department of Surgery in 2012. Already known as an inventor and educator, Dr. Power brings new strengths to the Division of Vascular Surgery. Dr. Forbes believes that his role as Chair/Chief is to create the conditions which enable success: access to resources, protect time, and provide linkages and mentorship. The academic and clinical contributions of each

member have wide implications across the Academic Health Science Centre. "Leaders stimulate and inspire others in the overall mission. They facilitate the success of others by ensuring they have adequate resources, time, and mentorship, and coordinate people around an idea or towards a common purpose. Ultimately, our success is not just as an individual surgeon, but as a collective."

Journal Articles

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★ Honours and Teaching Awards from July 2010 to June 2011

Harris, Jeremy. Surgery Clerkship Teaching Award, In recognition of being voted the most outstanding faculty teacher in the Division of Vascular Surgery by the Clinical Clerks

Forbes, Thomas. James IV Association of Surgeons Traveling Fellowship, James IV Association of Surgeons

Forbes, Thomas. ACS/SVS Health Policy Scholarship - Brandeis University, Heller School for Social Policy & Management, Leadership Program in Health Policy & Management

Forbes, Thomas. UWO Students' Council Teaching Honour Role Award of Excellence

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