


DEPARTMENT OF Surgery Newsletter

Spring | Summer 2019



THE CANADIAN MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION AWARDS THE
JOHN MCRAE MEMORIAL MEDAL
TO DR. VIVIAN MCALISTER.
DETAILS ON PAGE 2.

Chair's Column

The Master of Science in Surgery degree is one of but a handful around the globe and has recently earned the highest rating from the quality review process which occurs every five years for basic science graduate programs. Our faculty and students were recognized by our reviewers to be of the highest caliber and extremely productive; with 60 graduates since its inception producing more than 50 peer-reviewed publications. We have been proud to award eight students with Ontario Graduate Scholarships and six Canada Graduate Scholarships (Masters). This is an astounding accomplishment and I would like to congratulate all the members of our Graduate Program Committee; our faculty who participate in the program as teachers and supervisors; and our staff

who provide stellar support.

As we move forward to Royal College accreditation this fall and undergraduate accreditation next fall, I would also like to highlight the importance of faculty participation in education initiatives for the Department of Surgery and the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. The shift to competency based medical education at both the undergraduate and



postgraduate levels as well as changes to the medical school admissions process provide opportunities for surgeon input at many levels into the future of medical education and patient care. Thank you to everyone for devoting time, energy, and expertise to this pillar of our academic mission.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer.

Sincerely,

Emil H. Schemitsch, MD, FRCS
Richard Ivey Professor
Chair/Chief, Department of Surgery
Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry
Western University

Surgery News

Dr. Vivian McAlister awarded John McCrae Memorial Medal by Canadian Medical Association



Dr. Vivian McAlister was awarded the John McCrae Memorial Medal by the Canadian Medical Association in recognition of his compassion, dedication to improving patient care, and exemplary service.

In the 11 years Dr. McAlister has served on the Canadian Forces Health Services as a combat surgeon, he completed five missions in Afghanistan, one in Iraq, and one in Haiti. Responding to the catastrophic injuries resulting from the use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), Dr. McAlister and his team developed trauma protocols with strategies to reduce hemorrhage and preserve limbs and tissue. "When I started," Dr. McAlister tells the CMA, "if that type of injury occurred to a civilian in Canada, they would not survive. Now we are able to regularly bring these patients home from Afghanistan – but their road to recovery is life-long."

The John McCrae Memorial Medal is a special honour for Dr. McAlister as John McCrae is a significant figure in Canadian history. "He personifies everything you would like to think about in terms of the requirements of a good medical officer in the Canadian Forces," said Dr. McAlister in an interview with *Western News*. "For a medical officer in the Canadian Forces, he represents the pinnacle of our activity in that he was consumed by his desire to aid soldiers injured in combat, putting himself at risk as necessary, being as close to the line of combat and giving them immediate care."

Dr. McCrae's many accomplishments are not common knowledge. When speaking to the *London Free Press*, regarding McCrae's medical career Dr. McAlister noted, "He was a specialist physician who was one of the most published and active academic physicians in Canada at that time. When he volunteered to go overseas, he really gave his life to that endeavour." Dr. McAlister will be presented with his award at a gala in Toronto this August.

Dr. Leslie Scott awarded Dr. Graham Chance Award



Dr. Leslie Scott, Chair/Chief, Division of Paediatric Surgery, received the Dr. Graham Chance award at the 2019 Children's Health Foundation Guiding Star Awards. Named after Dr. Chance, who exemplified paediatric Patient, Client Family-Centred Care in Southwestern Ontario for over thirty years, the award is in recognition of an individual who goes above and beyond for their patients. More than 37 nominations were received for this top award.

Dr. Shelley McKellar selected for Faculty Scholar Award

Shelley McKellar, PhD, associate professor and Jason A. Hannah Chair in the History of Medicine, was recognized by Western University with a Faculty Scholar Award. Holding a joint appointment in the Department of Surgery and the Department of History, Dr. McKellar's research focuses on the history of medicine and disease, with a special interest in the history of medical technology, instruments and devices, the history of surgery, and medical biography.



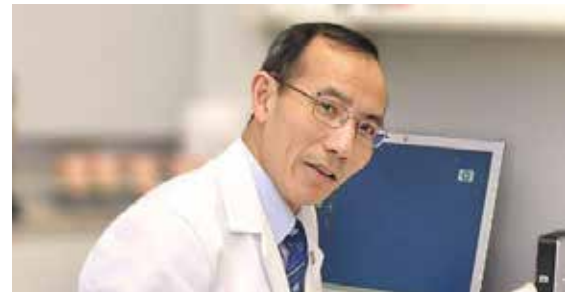
Dr. Sayra Cristancho honoured with ECME Champion Award

Sayra Cristancho, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Surgery and Scientist at Centre for Education Research & Innovation, was awarded the Early Career Medical Educators (ECME) Champion Award. ECME Champion Awards honour an early career medical educator who, through their advocacy, role modelling, and mentorship, advances the growth, success, and recognition of fellow early career medical educators.



Dr. Joseph Chin appointed Senior Advisor and Guide for part of CUA-European Association of Urology Academic Exchange.

Dr. Chin was appointed by the Canadian Urological Association (CUA) as Senior Advisor and Guide for three young academic Urologists from across Canada (Quebec City, Ottawa and Saskatoon) on a European Tour as part of a CUA-European Association of Urology Academic Exchange. The role of the “Senior Advisor and Guide” is to facilitate development of research networks and academic collaborative opportunities between Canadian and European academic Urologists.



Dr. John Denstedt selected for Karl Storz Lifetime Achievement Award by Endourological Society

Dr. John Denstedt was selected by the Endourological Society’s Awards Committee as this year’s recipient of the Karl Storz Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is presented to a urologist whose lifetime contributions have had a significant and lasting impact on the field of Endourology. Founded in 1983 by a group of international urologists, the society was established in an effort to facilitate scientific dialogue among endourologists worldwide. Dr. Denstedt will receive his award at the Society’s World Congress of Endourology in Abu Dhabi later this year.



Dr. Christopher Schlachta elected second Vice President of SAGES

Dr. Christopher Schlachta was elected second Vice President of the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES). With approximately 7,000 members, SAGES is the largest general surgery society in the USA, after the multispecialty society American College of Surgeons. Having pioneered the Fellowship Council, SAGES has been highly influential over the past few decades. Amongst many other things, the Society developed the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery and Fundamentals of Endoscopist Surgery programs, both of which are now required for American Board Certification. SAGES annual meetings now draw upwards of 2,500 registrants and cover a wide range of specialty areas from Surgical Oncology to HPB, Bariatrics, Colorectal and Hernia, as well as sessions specifically focused on simulation, training, technology development and, as of next year, artificial intelligence.



Surgery News

In memoriam: Dr. Gérard Guiraudon



Cardiac surgeon Dr. Gérard Guiraudon was known internationally as a pioneer in the relatively new field of surgery for cardiac rhythm disorders. His innovative and ground-breaking operative techniques were foundational for much of the current management of heart rhythm disorders. Throughout his esteemed career, Dr. Guiraudon pioneered numerous cardiac surgical techniques and trained hundreds of cardiac surgeons throughout the world.

As a professor of medicine based in Paris, Dr. Guiraudon performed the first human heart transplant in Europe in 1968 and pioneered the research and implementation of surgical procedures to correct heart arrhythmias, a condition that was long regarded as unmanageable by surgery.

In 1981, Dr. Guiraudon was recruited to London for his expertise and the desire to establish London as a centre for treating cardiac arrhythmias. At University Hospital, he designed the Corridor procedures for treatment of Atrial Fibrillation and performed the first cardiomyoplasty using the latissimus dorsi muscle. This procedure involves removing the healthy latissimus dorsi muscle from the back and wrapping it around the failing heart to provide support before implanting a pacemaker to improve cardiac output. Dr. Guiraudon also invented a closed heart surgical technique to treat Wolff-Parkinson-White (WPW) syndrome, a condition in which there is an extra electrical pathway in the heart, leading to periods of rapid heart rate. The ability for London Health Sciences Centre to provide this catheter-based approach to treating WPW has resulted in quicker recovery times and improved clinical outcomes.

Tribute by: LHSC Corporate Communications and Public Relations.

HOMEcoming: October 19-20, 2019



Revisit your roots at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry and join us for Homecoming this October. With a full weekend of events scheduled, it's a perfect time to reconnect with friends and colleagues and revisit where it all began. More details available at: <https://www.schulich.uwo.ca/homecoming/>

Class of Meds '49 Awards

Congratulations to this year's recipients:

Dr. George Pang

PGY 2, General Surgery

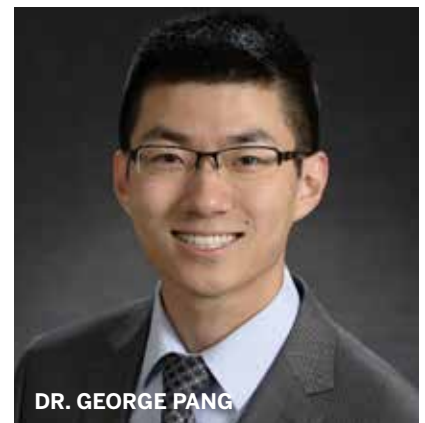
Class of Meds '49 Award for Excellence in Teaching by residents for teaching in 2017-2018 – Junior Resident

Dr. Shane Smith

PGY 5, General Surgery

Class of Meds '49 Award for Excellence in Teaching by residents for 2017-2018 – Senior Resident

Established by the Class of Meds '49, the awards recognize and reward residents with exceptional teaching ability who have made significant contributions to the undergraduate medical education of clinical clerks.



DR. GEORGE PANG



DR. SHANE SMITH

Surgical Quality Council Update

Surgical Quality Council (SQC)

The SQC quarterly meeting occurred on Thursday, June 13, 2019. The topics included the ACS NSQIP® Semiannual Report (SAR), London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) Quality Improvement Projects, Surgical Quality Improvement Plan provincial campaign 2019/20 to reduce narcotic prescriptions, Discharge Summary turn around (<https://youtu.be/eb13AAT2smc>) and Structured M&M Rounds, and the Antibiotic Prophylaxis Guideline from the Antimicrobial Stewardship. For more information, please contact your representative.

Surgical Services QI Representatives:	Dr. Julie Strychowsky, Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery
Dr. Ian Herrick, Anesthesia	Dr. Leslie Scott, Paediatric Surgery
Dr. Mackenzie Quantz, Cardiac Surgery	Dr. Aaron Grant, Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Dr. Joe Armstrong, Dentistry	Dr. Richard Malthaner, Thoracic Surgery
Dr. Steven Latosinsky, General Surgery	Dr. Anton Skaro, Transplant
Dr. Andrew Parrent, Neurosurgery	Dr. Nicholas Power, Urology
Dr. Jacob McGee, Obstetrics and Gynecology	Dr. Luc Dubois, Vascular Surgery
Dr. Ted Vasarhelyi, Orthopaedic Surgery	TBD, Ophthalmology

American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP®)

The ACS NSQIP® January 2019 SAR was delivered to each Chair/Chief and SQC Representative to establish a standard for quality improvement projects in each surgical service. Exemplary performance was demonstrated at University Hospital for the areas of low cardiac, respiratory, septic (incidence of sepsis), and readmission rates. Noticeably, the areas that continue to trend in the tenth decile and require attention are surgical site infections (SSI) and urinary tract infections (UTI). The ACS NSQIP® program is relatively new at Victoria Hospital, therefore, future SARs will have more data and comprehensive results to help better guide these projects.



The ACS annual Quality and Safety Conference is taking place this summer, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Centre in Washington, DC. LHSC will be well represented at the conference with two abstracts submitted. Dr. Kelly Vogt will be discussing Patient Reported Outcomes in General Surgery, while Dr. Luke Hartford will be presenting Standardization of Outpatient Procedure (STOP) Narcotics: A Prospective Non-Inferiority Study to Reduce Opioid Use in Outpatient General Surgical Procedures.

Ontario Surgical Quality Improvement Network (ON-SQIN)

There are 46 Ontario hospitals participating in ACS NSQIP® and the ON-SQIN collaborative. Now, 76% of surgeries in Ontario take place in an ON-SQIN hospital. This collaborative provides resources for provincial campaigns, also referred to as Surgical Quality Improvement Plans (SQIPs). University Hospital's 2018/19 SQIP, Committed to Better: Reducing Infections After Surgery surpassed the campaign target, by decreasing General Surgery's SSI (70%) and UTI (41%) rates. The 2019/20 SQIP Cut the Count: Reducing Opioids After Surgery campaign has launched! Dr. Ken Leslie and team have been leaders in the campaign and were instrumental in establishing a framework to reduce opioids after outpatient surgery. The STOP Narcotics study is being shared and has set a precedent for Ontario hospitals.



DR. KEN LESLIE

NSQIP Research

As a NSQIP participating hospital, LHSC is able to access and use the ACS NSQIP® Participant Use Data File (PUF). The 2017 PUF is now available and contains 1,028,713 surgical cases submitted from 708 NSQIP participating hospital sites. Please contact Celia Dann (Celia.Dann@lhsc.on.ca) for further details.

Research News

Stability study team received the Jan Gillquist scientific award at the 2019 ISAKOS meeting



MEMBERS OF THE STABILITY STUDY TEAM RECEIVE THEIR AWARD FROM MEMBERS OF THE ISAKOS SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AT THE SOCIETY'S 2019 MEETING. LEFT TO RIGHT: FEMI AYENI (MACMASTER, ISAKOS SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE), MARK HEARD (BANFF), DIANNE BRYANT, ALAN GETGOOD (WESTERN COMMITTEE), JASON KOH (CHICAGO, ISAKOS SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE)

Congratulations to Drs. Alan Getgood, Dianne Bryant, and the rest of the Stability Study team on being awarded the Jan Gillquist Scientific Research Award for their paper, "Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction with or without a Lateral Extra-Articular Tenodesis: Analysis of complications from the ISAKOS Sponsored Stability Study."

The team received their award at the 12th Biennial Congress of the International Society of Arthroscopy, Knee Surgery and Orthopaedic Sports Medicine (ISAKOS), which took place from May 12-16 in Cancun, Mexico.

The award was created in remembrance of Jan Gillquist, a pioneer in the field of knee arthroscopy, whose passion was good science, correct science. The award is presented to the best abstract and presentation. Finalists are judged on quality of the manuscript submitted, originality and importance, experimental design and execution, and clarity of the presentation.

Schulich Awards of Excellence

The Department of Surgery celebrated three members at this year's Celebration of Excellence reception. Congratulations to all members on their achievements:

Dr. Matthew Teeter —
Schulich Excellence in Education Awards for Graduate/Postgraduate Education

Dr. Nicholas Power —
Dean's Awards of Excellence for Faculty

Ms. Janice Sutherland —
Dean's Awards of Excellence for Staff

**PICTURED BELOW:
MS. JANICE SUTHERLAND AND
DR. NICHOLAS POWER**



Division of Orthopaedic Surgery 2018 Residents' Research Day Award Winners

Congratulations to the recipients of the Orthopaedic Residents' Research Day Awards:

Dr. Douglas Naudie:	The C.H. Rorabeck Award for the best intraoperative teacher
Dr. Parham Rasoulinejad:	The H.S. Cameron Award for the best clinical teacher
Dr. Charles Dion (PGY-4):	Harvey Bailey Award for the Best Resident Teacher; nominated by the first year clerks for a teaching award given at the annual Department of Surgery celebration dinner.
Dr. Kenneth Faber:	Divisional Award (Orthopaedic Surgery) for Undergraduate Teaching

Funding competition results

Congratulations to all faculty members whose research applications were funded:

ACADEMIC MEDICAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO (AMOSO)

Dr. Mayur Brahmania, Department of Medicine, **Dr. Anton Skaro**, Division of General Surgery, "Abdominal Regional Perfusion in Donation After Cardiac Death: Increasing the Donor Organ Pool and Predicting Graft Success" \$65,000

CLINICAL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION AT WESTERN (CTA-UWO) FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Dr. Michael Chu, Division of Cardiac Surgery, "Developing Innovative, Transformative, Surgical Leadership for Effective, Sustainable Change" \$8,500

Dr. Alp Sener, Division of Urology, "Surgical Leadership Program" \$8,500

HEART AND STROKE FOUNDATION

Dr. Wei-Ping Min, Division of General Surgery, "The Role of DLC1 in Cardiac Ischemia-reperfusion Injury" \$229,000

LONDON REGIONAL CANCER PROGRAM CATALYST GRANT COMPETITION

Dr. Muriel Brackstone, Division of

General Surgery, "Evaluating Impact of Preoperative Radiation Dosage and Fractionation of Serial Immune Priming Markers in Breast Cancer" \$29,362

Dr. Richard Malthaner, Division of Thoracic Surgery, "Evaluation of the Young's Elastic Modulus of Human Lung Cancers" \$18,876

NEW FRONTIERS IN RESEARCH FUND - EXPLORATION

Dr. Peter Wang, Divisions of Paediatric Surgery and Urology, "Investigating the Relationship Between Psychological and Physiological Factors on Surgical Trainability: A Surgical Simulation Study" \$247,103

NSERC

Dr. Louis Ferreira, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, "Multi-Directional Mechanical Testing of Bone Using CTCompatible Loading Mechanisms." \$160,000

Dr. Xiufen Zheng, Division of General Surgery, "The Role of Circular RNA AEBP2 in Dendritic Cells." \$160,000

SCHULICH MEDICINE & DENTISTRY COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SEED GRANTS (CRSG)

Drs. Matthew Teeter, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, **Jeremy Burton**, Miriam Burnett Research Chair in Urological Sciences, Division

of Urology, **Brent Lanting**, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, **David O'Gorman**, Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, **Edward Vasarhelyi**, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, "Potential Roles for Microorganisms in Hip and Knee Joint Implant Failures" \$30,000

ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION

Dr. Muriel Brackstone, Division of General Surgery "London Tumour Biobank" \$143,000

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM IDEA DEVELOPMENT AWARD COMPETITION

Drs. Joseph Chin, **Stephen Pautler**, Division of Urology, and **Dr. Timothy Scholl**, Department of Medical Biophysics and Robarts Research Institute, "Characterizing the Aggressiveness of Prostate Cancer with Multimodality Imaging" \$730,914 US

WESTERN UNIVERSITY BONE AND JOINT INSTITUTE MSK INNOVATION COMPETITION

Dr. Parham Rasoulinejad, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, "Team Laswell: Edge Upper Cervical System by A-LINE ORTHOPAEDICS" \$30,000

C-CASE

CANADIAN CONFERENCE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SURGICAL EDUCATION

SAVE THE DATE

**Sept 25 – 26, 2019
Ottawa, Ontario**

Registration now open and preliminary program available!

<https://www.cusec-ccecp.com/>

Abstract submission until July 15th

CALLING ALL SURGICAL EDUCATORS

and everyone interested in

Surgical Education

POSTGRAD & UNDERGRAD!

The inaugural

CANADIAN CONFERENCE

for the

ADVANCEMENT of SURGICAL EDUCATION (C-CASE)

will be held on September 25th and 26th, 2019 - immediately preceding ICRE

This two day conference is being organized by the Canadian Undergraduate Surgical Education Committee and will be held at the Alumni Auditorium on Main Campus at uOttawa.

Over the two days, we'll learn and share through plenary sessions, guest speakers, panels and scientific sessions as well as a beautiful banquet dinner at the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum (Sept 25th) – and all is included in your registration.

In Canada, we have a wealth of expertise and enthusiasm in Surgical Education. C-CASE will be our chance to share our great ideas – breaking down the walls between regions, between universities and between the undergraduate and postgraduate 'silos'.

If you are interested in Surgical Education in any capacity then:

PLAN TO ATTEND!

The Western Surgery
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All members of the Department are invited to submit story ideas, articles, photos, or comments for the fall issue. Please send them to: Surgery_E-CAST@lhsc.on.ca, or call **519.646.6100 ext. 34776**

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