

# Western Surgery

## Welcome from the Chair/Chief

For many, summer means a more relaxed pace and a time to savour our recent accomplishments while thinking ahead to the challenges of a new academic year. Across the Academic Health Science Centre though, the summer flew by swiftly and was filled with activity: transitions in leadership; international pursuits; and in achieving support towards our fundraising goals in the Department of Surgery.

First, I would like to extend my congratulations to the new Dean of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Dr. Michael Strong. Dr. Strong is an internationally



Dr. John Denstedt Richard Ivey Professor and Chair/Chief

try, Dr. Michael Strong. Dr. Strong is an internationally renowned clinician, educator and researcher in neurology, with his main focus on ALS. Dr. Strong is an experienced leader at the Schulich School in the Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences. He has brought fresh ideas and I support him fully in the changes he and his team have already begun to make in the governance and operation of the Medical School.

Second, I am very pleased to extend a warm welcome to the new CEO of London Health Sciences Centre, Ms. Bonnie Adamson. Ms. Adamson is known for her transformative impact in finance, patient safety, and quality results. She most recently served as the President and CEO of North York General Hospital. Previously, she was founding President and CEO of Huron Perth Partnership. Ms. Adamson is returning to her London roots, having acquired 20-years of experience at LHSC, Victoria Hospital.

Third, I would like to congratulate Dr. Gillian Kernaghan on her appointment as CEO of St. Joseph's Health Care, London. Dr. Kernaghan most recently held the position of Integrated Vice-President, Medical Education and Medical Affairs for LHSC & SJHC; and has been a practicing family physician for the past 25 years. Her foundation of skills and experience combined with her commitment to compassionate care in the community have been noted as a significant asset in moving St. Joseph's forward as a part of the city-wide vision for health care and medical education in London.

I, and the entire surgical leadership team, look forward to working with Dr. Strong, Ms. Adamson and Dr. Kernaghan in their new roles. I would also like to extend my thanks and best wishes to Mr. Cliff Nordal for his many years of respected leadership and support as he transitions from President Continued on p. 2

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**Fall 2010** 

and CEO of LHSC & SJHC to a happy and healthy retirement; and to Dr. Carol Herbert for more than ten years of excellent direction of the Schulich School and support of Surgery's initiatives.

There are also a number of important leadership announcements to make in the Department of Surgery, and these are highlighted on page 5.

Internationally, the Department of Surgery and CSTAR have been making our mark across the globe. Together we journeyed to Israel on the Government of Ontario's Life Sciences Trade Mission; and throughout the summer and fall have dedicated travel, effort, and energy into the formation and implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding with West China Hospital (WCH) and Sichuan University. Our evolving relationships in China have assisted WCH in their application for accreditation with the American College of Surgeons; promoted education and accreditation processes in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons; and began to define parameters for student, faculty, and research exchanges.

Summer 2010 has been full of exciting change, progress, and achievements — and Fall/Winter 2010 holds promise for even more — and I welcome everyone's involvement. Please feel free to contact me if there is any area where you feel your contributions can make a difference.

Sincerely,

John D. Denstedt, MD, FRCSC, FACS

Richard Ivey Professor & Chair/Chief, Department of Surgery

### **CSTAR News**

# CSTAR Expansion to China Announced at Industry Roundtable

CSTAR has announced an international expansion of its programs in collaboration with West China Hospital (WCH), one of the world's largest hospital facilities.

A memorandum of understanding between CSTAR and WCH was described at the semi-annual CSTAR Industry Roundtable that took place at the London Convention Centre June 18, 2010. CSTAR has committed to providing education and expert support to assist WCH with the accreditation process for the American College of Surgeons.

"My colleagues at West China Hospital are committed to the international standards of patient care quality and safety. CSTAR's simulation training expertise will provide West China Hospital with the means to attain this standard," says Dr. John Denstedt, Chair, Department of Surgery.

CSTAR also announced a collaboration with Canada's

Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to establish a CSTAR office at West China Hospital. The purpose of this office is to facilitate medical device research, validation and training.

"London is uniquely positioned to market highly specialized services such as device validation because it can provide access to high quality patient care, advanced medical academics and research that is done collaboratively between hospitals and the university. I see CSTAR's role as not only providing the means to validate medical devices, but to bring together and strengthen partnerships between organizations who share a common interest in advancing safe patient care," explains John Parker, Director of CSTAR.

CSTAR will hold its first International Industry Roundtable in Chengdu, China in November 2010.

CSTAR is a collaborative research and education program of London Health Sciences Centre & St. Joseph's Health Care, London; Lawson Health Research Institute; and The University of Western On-

tario.

Situated in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, WCH has over 4,300 beds. In 2009, it performed more than 69,000 in patient-surgeries and treated more 2.73 million outpatients.

### Dr. Denstedt Meets with Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada

Dr. Denstedt, Chair/Chief of Surgery at Schulich was recently in China at the West China School of Medicine. Dr. Denstedt attended celebrations of the 100 year anniversary of the West China Hospital, which was founded by Canadians Drs. Omar and Retta Kilborn. Also in attendance at the anniversary events

were Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, the Canadian Ambassador to China David Mulroney, and Federal Cabinet Minister Jim Prentice.

Dr. Denstedt was also working on a series of collaborative projects with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the West China Hospital which are aimed at strengthening the delivery and assessment of medical education. The Royal College is proud of its heritage in supporting initiatives with the West China Hospital. Dr. Robert Kilborn, grandson of Drs. Omar and Retta Kilborn and son of Dr. Leslie Kilborn, honoured the legacy of his family service in Chengdu, China by establishing the Royal College Kilborn Memorial Visiting Professorship in 1999.



### Photo (in no specific order):

Governor General, Michaëlle Jean and her husband Jean-Daniel Lafond; Canadian Ambassador to China, David Mulroney; Federal Cabinet Minister, Jim Prentice; The President of Sichuan University; Dean and President of West China Hospital; Other representatives from China; David Jiang, from Dalhousie University; Dr. John Denstedt, Chair/Chief of Department of Surgery (6th from the right)

### CSTAR MOU Signed in Chengdu, China

A Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony was held in Chengdu, China between West China Clinical Skills Training Centre of West China School of Medicine /West China Hospital, Sichuan University and CSTAR in collaboration with Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, The University of Western Ontario.

David Mulroney, Canada's Ambassador to China, Dr. John Denstedt, Mr. John Parker, Director of CSTAR, Dr Yingkang Shi, Dean of WCSM, Dr Jing Jing, Vice President, WCH, Shijin Yan, Director of Department of Foreign Affairs, SCU, and other leaders of related Departments of WCH were present at the signing ceremony. Xuehong Wan, Vice President, WCH, served as Master of Ceremonies.



Dr. John Denstedt and Dr. Yingkang Shi signing the MOU between CSTAR and WCCSTC. Ambassador Mulroney and other WCH officials stand in the background.

In his speech, the Ambassador referred to the recent and very successful visit of Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, to WCH on July 4, 2010. He then offered his praise for the co-operation between two Centres saying that this collaboration is "good for Canada" and good for Sino-Canadian relations.

Dr John Denstedt emphasized that both SSMD and WCMS are dedicated to establishing a strong relationship to develop and deliver world-class individual and team-based simulation education and training programs for international health professionals. He went on to say that much progress has been made in a very short period of time thanks to the remarkable commitment and efforts of both Centres. He highlighted the establishment of the CSTAR-WCCSTC office as an excellent example of this commitment. He expressed his gratitude to WCH for its collaborative dedication and substantial efforts to move the

relationship forward.



Ambassador David Mulroney and Dr. Yingkang Shi unveiling the CSTAR-WCCSTC plaque.

Dean Yingkang Shi expressed his gratitude to the Canadian missionaries and pioneers who, with others, established WCH one hundred years ago. He went on to say that the partnership has much potential to introduce international and advanced medical education models and teaching methods to China. The partnership will also bring opportunities to import cutting-edge surgical technologies to WCH which will benefit Western China. Finally, Dean Shi gave his best wishes for the friendship between Canada and China and is looking forward to the collaborative efforts and results of the two Centres.

### **Kelman Centre Opens October 2010**

CSTAR's state-of-the-art Brent and Marilyn Kelman Centre for Education opened in October 2010. The



Eric Lindros uses a laparascopic box trainer (photo from The London Free Press, www.lfpress.com)

The Kelman Centre is comprised of 8,000 sq ft of simulation modules and suites, debriefing and meeting rooms, and other advanced training media. Surgeons and trainees will be able to receive instruction in the latest minimally invasive surgical technology and robotics. The Kelman Centre fully occupies one of CSTAR's three floors in the Lindros Research Building at London Health Sciences Centre.

The exciting opening event was attended by Mr. Eric Lindros, who donated \$5 million to London Health Sciences Foundation in 2008 just after his retirement from professional hockey.

## **Development News**

### **Blair Gift to Vascular Surgery**

Mr. William Blair has confirmed a generous gift of \$250,000 toward the Division of Vascular Surgery in the Department of Surgery at The University of Western Ontario.

Mr. Blair ran a very successful medical devices distribution business for 30+ years and it was through this work that he became keenly interested in vascular surgery. His affiliation with the Division was gained through his relationship with former and current Chair/Chiefs: Drs. Ken Harris and Tom Forbes. Mr. Blair was so pleased with the advancement in research and education taking place in the program that he decided to make a second investment in the Vascular Surgery program, with his first gift establishing the Vicky Blair Fellowship in Vascular Surgery.

Our gratitude is extended to Dr. Forbes for his role in achieving this remarkable gift.

## **Appointments**

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

After an international search, Dr. Bob Kiaii has been selected for the role of Chair/Chief, Division of Cardiac Surgery, The University of Western Ontario and London Health Sciences Centre, effective July I, 20 I0 to June 30, 2015.

Dr. Kiaii graduated from medical school at The University of Western Ontario, followed by residen-

cies at the University of Calgary and the University of

Western Ontario. He completed two fellowships in cardiac transplantation and minimally invasive/robotic cardiac surgery at The University of Western Ontario and the University of Leipzig Heart Centre in Leipzig, Germany, respectively. Dr. Kiaii was appointed as Assistant Professor in 2003 in the Division of Cardiac Surgery at Western, and promoted to Associate Professor in 2008.

Dr. Kiaii is a successful researcher with interests in minimally invasive/robotically assisted cardiac surgical procedures; transapical/percutaneous valve technologies; surgical treatment of atrial fibrillation; and preoperative imaging and navigation related to minimally invasive robotic cardiac surgery, He is currently PI or Co-Investigator on more than \$4.6M in peerreviewed grants and has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals. He is a sought-after speaker, nationally and internationally. Dr. Kiaii is also an acclaimed teacher, having won the Department of Surgery Clerkship teaching award three times and the Best Resident Teacher Award for teaching Clinical Clerks.

Clinically, Dr. Kiaii is known for his surgical skills and leadership as a part of the Cardiac Surgery team at LHSC on a number of Canadian and North American medical firsts.

Dr. Kiaii succeeds Dr. Richard Novick as Chair/Chief, whose capable leadership over the past ten years has strengthened the Division of Cardiac Surgery's expertise in research, teaching, and clinical care.

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

Following a successful external review, Dr. Hassan Razvi has agreed to serve a second term as Chair/Chief, Division of Urology, at The University of Western Ontario, London Health Sciences Centre & St. Joseph's Health Care, London, effective July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2015.



Dr. Razvi graduated from the University of Saskatchewan College of Medicine in 1988, followed by a one-year internship in Ohio and residency training at The University of Western Ontario. He completed two fellowships in endourology and prostate disorders at Western and the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Centre in New York City, respectively. He was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at Western in 1995;

promoted to Associate Professor in 2001; and promoted to full Professor in 2008. He has served as Chair/Chief of the Division of Urology since 2005.

Dr. Razvi is a successful clinician and researcher with interests in alternative medical and surgical treatments for benign prostatic hyperplasia and metabolic and surgical aspects of urinary stone disease. He has authored over 90 scientific papers and 11 book chapters. He has been a guest professor at over 100 universities world-wide and is actively involved in American Urological Association and the Canadian Urological Association. Under Dr. Razvi's leadership, the Division of Urology has continued to build on its reputation as an extremely strong national and international centre for academic productivity and excellence in patient care.

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

Dr. Leslie Scott was appointed into the role of Acting Chair/Chief for the Division of Paediatric Surgery effective July I to December 31, 2010. Dr. Scott replaces Dr. David Girvan, who capably led the Division in the Acting Chair/Chief role in 2009-10.



Dr. Scott graduated from medical school at Queen's University, followed by residency at Queen's and a fellowship at the University of British Columbia. She was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Departments of Surgery and Paediatrics in 1999 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2009.

Dr. Scott is a strong contributor to educational and clinical activities in paediatric and adult general surgery. She is an acclaimed teacher and role model, having won an Award of Excellence from the University Students Council five times. Dr. Scott also has an active collaborative research portfolio with involvement in clinical breast cancer prevention; lab research examining the effects of congenital diaphragmatic hernia on molecular markers of lung growth; and as a member of the Ontario Congenital Anomalies Study Group.

### Dr. Brian Taylor Associate Director of Surgical Education – UGE

Dr. Brian Taylor has been appointed to the role of Associate Director of Surgical Education – UGE. Re-

porting to the Director of Surgical Education, this is a key leadership role to oversee undergraduate education activities in the Department, including the surgical clerkship. Dr. Taylor will continue to foster the outstanding reputation of our surgical clerkship built by dedicated Department members across the city and most recently led by his predecessor, Dr. Kirk Lawlor.



Dr. Taylor completed medical school at the University of Western Ontario. This was followed by residency at Victoria Hospital in London then by clinical and research fellowships at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota in Colon and Rectal Surgery and Gastroenterology. Dr. Taylor was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at The University of Western Ontario in 1983 and promoted to Associate Professor in 1990. He has held a number of leadership roles including President, Canadian Association of University Surgeons; Chair, Division of General Surgery; Chief, SJHC Department of Surgery; and Clinical Clerkship Director, SJHC. He is currently the President-Elect of the Southwestern Ontario Surgical Association. A longstanding and esteemed role model, Dr. Taylor is a sought-after teacher in the Department and has won ten awards for teaching at the Division, Department and University levels. He continues to present at national and international conferences related to his work in colorectal surgery and gastroenterology.

The Department thanks Dr. Kirk Lawlor for his outstanding work as he embarks on a new career in British Columbia and congratulates Dr. Taylor on his appointment to this key leadership role in the Department of Surgery.

### Dr. Neil Merritt Division of Paediatric Surgery Director of Paediatric Trauma

Dr. Neil Merritt has been appointed into the role of Director of Paediatric Trauma, Department of Surgery, Children's Hospital of Western Ontario and London Health Sciences Centre, effective July 1, 2010.



Dr. Merritt graduated from Medical School at

McMaster University, followed by residency at Queen's University in General Surgery. He subsequently completed two fellowships at the University of Ottawa in Paediatric General Surgery and Paediatric Critical Care/Trauma respectively. Dr. Merritt was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Divisions of Paediatric Surgery and General Surgery at The University of Western Ontario in 2009.

Dr. Merritt is an active participant in teaching activities in the Department of Surgery. His research interests include pediatric focused abdominal sonography for trauma and avoidance of radiation risk associated with more conventional forms of imaging in children.

The Department of Surgery would also like to thank Dr. Tim Carey for his strong leadership in this position; and in congratulating Dr. Merritt on his appointment to this important role.

### Dr. Sayra Cristancho PhD Education Researcher

The Department of Surgery has successfully recruited an outstanding individual to the position of PhD Education Researcher. Dr. Sayra Cristancho's appointment as Assistant Professor commenced September 1, 2010. She will also be a member of the Centre for Education Research and Innovation (CERI), led by Dr. Lorelei Lingard. Dr.



Cristancho will be working closely with Dr. Doug Ross, Director of the Office of Surgical Education, and other faculty members in the Department who have a strong interest in scholarly work in surgical education. Dr. Cristancho holds a cross appointment in the Department of Medical Biophysics.

Dr. Cristancho completed a Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering at the Universidad de Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia; followed by a PhD in Mechanical Engineering at the University of British Columbia. Her dissertation focused on Quantitative Modeling and Assessment of Surgical Motor Actions in Minimally Invasive Surgery. Dr. Cristancho recently completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Sick Kids Learning Institute. Her work there involved designing simulation-based curriculums for training complex procedures in adult/pediatric cardiovascular surgery and anesthesia; developing and validating a new assessment tool for monitoring performance in the operating room and in simulation for orthopedic

surgery; and developing bench-top models to acquire information about the performance of basic surgical skills.

Dr. Cristancho's office will be located in CERI in the Health Sciences Addition, UWO. She will also be working closely with faculty and research personnel in CSTAR. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Cristancho to London and the Department of Surgery.

### Dr. Elspeth McDougall Division of Urology, Visiting Professor

The Department of Surgery and the Division of Urology are pleased to welcome Dr. Elspeth McDougall while she is on sabbatical from the University of California, Irvine. Dr. McDougall is presently the Director of Education for the American Urological Association. She will be an asset to our surgical education and re-



search initiatives and will have some limited clinical activities based at St. Joseph's Health Care, London.

## Dr. Peter Fowler Returns to the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery

Welcome back to Dr. Peter Fowler, who has returned to the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery after three years in Qatar. He will be looking after the Mustang Sports teams and patients in the Fowler-Kennedy Sports Medicine Clinic.

## Awards and Accolades

### Dr. Graham King Division of Orthopaedic Surgery Deans Award of Excellence Winner

Dr. Graham King was awarded the Dean's Award of Excellence for Research in May 2010. Dr. King is a prototype model of a successful surgeon-scientist. He developed the HULC Bioengineering Laboratory from a dream in 1992 to a nationally and internationally recognized lab of excellence that it is today.



Dr. King is so respected by his colleagues that the Division of Orthopedic Surgery has completed the fundraising to establish the Graham King Research Chair at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry.

### Dr. Thomas Forbes Division of Vascular Surgery American College of Surgeons 2010 Health Policy Scholar

Dr. Thomas Forbes was among fourteen surgeons selected to attend the American College of Surgeons Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management that took place at Brandeis University. Each scholarship included participation in the week long intensive course followed by a year's service in a health-policy related capacity to the College



and the surgical specialty society co-sponsoring the awardee.

### Ms. Terri MacDougall Coordinator, Office of Surgical Education Earns Masters in Education

Congratulations to Ms. Terri MacDougall who has successfully completed the requirements to earn her Masters Degree in Education from the University of Athabasca. Her degree focused on teaching and learning with technology.

# **Dr. John Denstedt Elected Chair of Surgical Chairs**

Dr. John Denstedt has been elected Chair of the Canadian Association of Surgical Chairs (CASC) for a two-year term, effective July 1, 2010. This group includes the Chairs of Surgery from Academic Health Sciences Centre across Canada and meets semi-annually to discuss issues of national interest.

### Dr. John Lewis Division of Urology Receives Cancer Research Award

Three London scientists are receiving new funding from the Canadian Cancer Society for their work in cancer research.

Dr John Lewis at the Lawson Health Research Institute is investigating a protein called CD151, which plays a key role in the ability of cancer cells to spread, or metastasize, to other



parts of the body. Through studying the molecular

basis of this protein and others involved in the spread of cancer, he hopes that this research could lead to new therapies that prevent cancer from metastasizing.

Dr Lewis is receiving \$389,667 for the project. In London, 150 cancer patients have been involved in the project, having donated their tissue to be screened for the CD151 protein.

### Dr. Alp Sener Division of Urology Wins AUA Award

Dr. Alp Sener was selected as the recipient of the 2010 Robert J. Krane, MD, Urology Research Success Award from the American Urological Association. This award will support Dr. Sener's research efforts.



### Dr. Weiping Min Division of General Surgery Awarded Department of Surgery Institute Scientist Position

Dr. Weiping Min was awarded a Department of Surgery Institute Scientist position, effective July 1, 2010. This competitive award provides \$50,000 per year of funding for five years in order to protect Dr. Min's time towards his research



endeavours in gene therapy and immune modulation.

### Dr. Hao Wang Division of General Surgery Receives Award from Transplant Society

Dr. Hao Wang received the "International Basic Science Mentor Award" from The Transplantation Society in 2010. This award recognizes the efforts of scientists, who have advanced our understanding of transplant science/immunobiology and/or treatment of transplant recipients, as well as supervised young investigators in furthering the



basic science of transplantation. Only 20 awardees from total of more than 3,000 applicants have been awarded based on the scientific excellence of the work.

### Dr. Roberto Hernandez Division of General Surgery Wins Undergraduate Teacher of the Year Award

Dr. Roberto Hernandez-Alejandro was selected by the Meds 2011 Class as Undergraduate Teacher of the year for Surgery. This is the inaugural year for this award developed by the Clerkship & Electives Committee of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry.



### Dr. David White Division of General Surgery Elected Royal College Fellow

Dr. David White was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine in the fall of 2010. The Royal Society of Medicine is an independent, apolitical organization, founded over 200 years ago. It is the largest provider of continuing medical education in the U.K.



## Windsor Announcements

### Dr. Mark Awuku Named Acting Associate Dean, Windsor Program

The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is pleased to announce that Windsor paediatrician Dr. Mark Awuku will assume the role of Acting Associate Dean, Windsor Program effective June 1, 2010.

Dr. Awuku graduated from The University of Ghana Medical School in 1975, and completed his residency in paediatrics at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. He now works at Windsor Regional Hospital, and is an Associate Professor of Paediatrics at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry, and the Academic Director of Paediatrics for the Southwestern Ontario Medical Education Network (SWOMEN). In 2008, Dr. Awuku was awarded the Green Shield Scholar of Medical Education for being a renowned medical educator and for his contributions to the development of

SWOMEN, and the success of the Windsor clerkship.

Dr. Awuku has always had a passion for teaching and has won numerous teaching awards including the LOM Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching, Best Fellow ICU Award, Best Teacher Award (Schulich Medicine & Dentistry's Department of Paediatrics, 2004), and Best Teacher Award for SWOMEN (2004 -2008). He was also awarded the 2005 PAIRO Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award and the 2008 Ontario Medical Association Student Advocate Award.

### Dr. Andrew Petrakos Appointed Postgraduate Program Coordinator for the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry –Windsor Program

Dr. Andrew Petrakos has been appointed as the new Postgraduate Program Coordinator for the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry –Windsor Program. Dr. Petrakos took up his role on March 1, 2010 for a three year term ending June 30, 2013.

Dr. Petrakos is a University of Western Ontario graduate completing medical school in 1978. After an internship at the University of Toronto, he returned to London as a Surgery Resident, and then as a Fellow in Anatomic Pathology and Peripheral Vascular Surgery. In 1984, he joined general surgery at Windsor Regional Hospital where he has held several leadership roles including Chief of Staff, President of Medical Staff and Vice President of Medical Staff on the Board of Directors.

## **Fall 2010 Windsor Program Expands**

Fall 2010 welcomed 38 new first-year medical students to the Windsor Program of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry while the inaugural class of 2008 began their Clerkship year.



Windsor Medical Education Building

## **Department of Surgery Research Day**

## Department of Surgery Research Day Showcases New Research and Areas for Collaboration

The Department of Surgery held its annual Robert Zhong Department of Surgery Research Day on Friday, June 25th at St. Joseph's Health Care, London. Presentations were made by new Department recruits, residents, recent research award winners, as well as outstanding researchers in the Department.

This year's keynote speaker was Dr. John Monson, Chief of Colorectal Surgery at The University of Rochester. The title of his talk was The Failing Surgeon. He spoke about the importance of having strong emotional intelligence and communication skills when treating surgical patients.

Throughout the day, participants gained an understanding of the importance of the humerus on upper limb function; how diaphragmatic hernias influence lung development; factors important in surgeon performance; strategies to develop patient centered health programs; the beneficial role of microbes in surgery; and the key research areas of new Departmental recruits and potential roles for collaboration.

This year's speakers included:

**Dr. Amanda Fortin**, Plastic Surgery Research Beginnings: Reconstructive Surgery Overlaps and Encouraging Young Women

**Dr. George Athwal**, Orthopaedic Surgery Humerus Research

**Dr. Andreana Butter**, Paediatric Surgery The Effect of Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia on Molecular Markers of Lung Growth

**Dr. Stephanie Power**, Plastic Surgery Critical Evaluation of Consecutive Unilateral Cleft Lip Repairs: Determining Ideal Sample Size

**Dr. Hans Hundt**, Orthopaedic Surgery Assessment Of Hepatic Inflammation After Spinal Cord Injury Using Intravital Microscopy

**Dr. Kelly Vogt**, General Surgery The use of ileostomy in the Quality Initiative in Rectal Cancer Trial

**Dr. Michael Tong**, Cardiac Surgery Using Discrete Event Simulation to Understand and Improve the Flow of Patients Through a Department of Cardiac Surgery **Dr. Linda Lee**, Urology

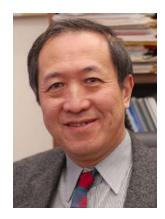
Topical cadherin antagonist as an absorption enhancer for vasoactive agents in the treatment of erectile dysfunction

**Ms. Margo Bettger-Hahn**, Nursing SJHC Circle of Sharing: Responding to Women's Voices

**Dr. Gregor Reid**, Urology-Microbiology and Immunology The Role of Beneficial Microbes in Surgical Care

**Dr. Neil McKenzie**, Cardiac Surgery Surgical Research: Why, Where, Who, What, When, How?

The Robert Zhong Department of Surgery Research Day was named in honour of Dr. Robert Zhong, a brilliant scientist and colleague who passed away in 2006.



#### SAVE THE DATE

The Robert Zhong Department of Surgery Research Day and Resident Recognition Event will be held on Friday, June 24, 2011.

### Graduation

### **Congratulations to our Graduates!**

The class of 2010 celebrated their success at the Resident Recognition Event on June 25th at the London Hunt & Country Club.

The Resident Recognition Event was held in the evening at the London Hunt & Country Club, following the Department of Surgery Research Day, where the Best Resident Research Paper award was awarded. Dr. Stephanie Power, from Plastic Surgery received this honour for her talk titled Critical Evaluation of Consecutive Unilateral Cleft Lip Repairs: Determining Ideal Sample Size. Dr. Power also tied for first Bhatia place in last year's competition.



(L-R) Michael Brandt, Erin Dyer, Trustin Domes, Livia Lee, Mark Roberts, Marlis Sabo, Dave Nagpal, Rob Humphrey, Graham Heaton, Tim Bell, Pankaj Bhatia

Not Pictured: Jen Robinson, Andre Nimigan, Irene Zhang

## **Promotions**

# Congratulations to our Faculty Promoted July 1, 2010:

**Dr. Linrui Guo**, Promotion to Associate Professor, Provost Stream

**Dr. Kirk Lawlor**, Promotion to Associate Professor, Provost Stream

**Dr. Richard Malthaner**, Promotion to Professor, Provost Stream

**Dr. Neil Parry**, Promotion to Associate Professor, Provost Stream

**Dr. Doug Ross**, Promotion to Professor, Senate Stream

**Dr. Christopher Schlachta**, Promotion to Professor, Senate Stream

**Dr. Claire Temple**, Promotion to Associate Professor, Senate Stream

**Dr. Chris Vinden**, Promotion to Associate Professor, Provost Stream

**Dr. Kevin Willits**, Promotion to Associate Professor, Provost Stream

## Retirements

Farewell and thank you to Dr. David Girvan, Paediatric General Surgeon, who retired July 1, 2010. Dr. Girvan has been the Acting Chair/Chief of the Division of Paediatric Surgery for the past year, and we are grateful for his many years of service to the Hospital and the University.

Farewell and thank you to Dr. Ron Holliday, General Surgeon, who retired July 1, 2010. Dr. Holliday has been an active contributor to medical education and clinical care at Victoria Hospital and we are grateful for his many years of service.

We wish Drs. Girvan and Holliday a happy, healthy retirement.







### **ACUITY STAR NEWS**

A new Acuity STAR Version Update is coming December 2, 2010 and features a new and Improved User Interface, featuring CV Report View.

Look for special 30 minute "All Hands" training classes coming soon to demonstrate the changes and updates with the new STAR version. "All Hands" classes will be held at 7am and 11am, at each Hospital site and will be scheduled during the last week of November 2010. Feel free to drop in to any class you like. Sign-up is not required.

Project Website: http://www.star.schulich.uwo.ca/
Login to Acuity: https://uwo.activityreporter.ca/

"When did you last update your STAR Records?"

The Western Surgery newsletter is produced by:

The Department of Surgery

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All members of the Department are invited to submit story ideas, articles, photos, or comments for the spring issue. Please send them to: **Dinah.Frank@lhsc.on.ca**, **or call ext. 32361** 

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