Main Features:

- Orthopedics: Domestic Violence
- Pediatric Ophthalmology
- Homecoming 2012
- Leadership Training
- Appointments/Awards
- Research Days
- Admin Corner
- Distributed Education
- Alumni: Dr. C.B. Mueller
- Access to Best Care
- Education Merit
- MSA Grants
- Residents Corner

Upcoming Events

- May 30-31st: CIHR sponsored Canada-Guyana Research Conference (McMaster)
- May 31st: McMaster International Surgery Dinner (University Club)
- June 3-4th: Bethune Round Table meeting (Montreal)
- June 8—Chair’s ROUNDS (MUMC 4E20—ricere@hhsc.ca)
- July 1—Chair’s Welcome BBQ 1-5 pm
  - http://fhs.mcmaster.ca/surgery/events_calendar.html

Domestic violence related fractures: Orthopedists may be the first to see the signs

Musculoskeletal injuries accounted for 28% of all clinical manifestations of abuse among women identified over a 2-year period by the Minneapolis Domestic Abuse Program, according to an initial study published in the Journal of Trauma by Dr. Mohit Bhandari.

The Canadian Orthopaedic Association, in its position statement, recognized that intimate partner violence is a significant social determinant of morbidity and mortality and that orthopedic surgeons are well positioned to identify patients living with this type of violence and can initiate an intervention.

The COA’s support is encouraging for Dr. Bhandari’s research team, who, in a subsequent study of 282 patients attending 2 orthopedic surgical clinics in Ontario, found that the overall prevalence of intimate partner violence, within the last 12 months was 32%. One in 12 injured women disclosed a history of physical abuse in the past year. Seven women indicated the cause for their current visit was directly related to physical abuse. Of 24 women with physical injuries, only four had been asked about intimate partner violence by a physician, none of whom were their treating orthopedic surgeons.

In a recent interview reported in Orthopedics Today, Dr. Bhandari pointed out that these studies underline the need for surgeons in fracture clinics to consider intimate partner violence when interacting with injured women. Simply understanding that a surgeon is open to receive information about domestic violence may be the critical first step towards a victim’s decision to disclose.

For more information about the Prevalence of Abuse and Intimate Partner Violence Surgical Evaluation (PRAISE) study and/or Violence Against Women research contact Dr. Bhandari (bhandam@mcmaster.ca)

Pediatric Ophthalmology Campaign

Each year there are 8,000 visits to the McMaster Children’s Hospital eye clinic. For the thousands of children referred here, the benefits of a new Ophthalmology Unit specifically designed for treating children will be transformational. The existing clinic was originally designed for adults decades ago. Aging equipment and inadequate infrastructure will be redeveloped into a leading edge facility with a family and child centred environment that will be a resource to the region and the province.

McMaster’s pediatric ophthalmology service is the:
- Only neonatal ophthalmology screening program in the region
- Only service with pediatric retinal services in our region
- Largest pediatric ophthalmology surgery service in our region

Of the pediatric ophthalmology campaign, Dr. Kourosh Sabri, Pediatric Ophthalmologist, observed: “We want to give every child the chance at better vision, they deserve our best, this redevelopment will help us give that to our patients.”

Homecoming 2012

Mark your calendars for the Department of Surgery Homecoming on October 13 & 14, 2012. Planning is already underway to make this a memorable occasion for all. 2012 is also the 40th anniversary of our first medical graduates at McMaster University so there is a lot to celebrate.

Watch for more details of our Homecoming weekend 2012 in this newsletter. Write to us if you have suggestions to help us make it even better.

Plan to reunite with old friends, make new ones and find out all that’s happening in the Department of Surgery.

Contact: Gillian Wood (woodj@mcmaster.ca)
Leadership Training for Residents

Surgeons are routinely expected to assume leadership roles not only in their clinical practice but also within the healthcare setting and in the larger context of provincial, national, and international organizations. Training in the behavioural competencies to be a skilled leader is therefore not only critical but should begin at the PGY1 level so that residents can learn to develop and integrate these skills into their training.

Some skills may be innate but many need to be developed over time through an effective combination of mentorship with facilitated self-learning.

An analysis of leadership challenges faced by surgical trainees has led to the development of learning modules by Drs. Susan Reid, Dave Musson and Dave Williams. These modules are provided in quarterly presentations at academic half day sessions. In addition, a surgeon mentor is selected for each resident to role model leadership qualities.

Subjects covered in academic half day include:

- The changing role and expectation of the patient
- How to be an independent leader and also on a team
- Communication to influence, persuade and inspire
- Skills in accessing and using nimble, high-tech communications
- How to influence system change
- Developing self-care strategies that enable peak personal performance

Based on resident evaluations of the sessions, these learning modules are proving to be very popular with the residents who not only appreciate the breadth of training they receive but also enjoy the way it is presented.

Effective leadership training is thus being achieved by a combination of dedicated study, first-hand experience and mentoring from successful clinical leaders. By combining all aspects of leadership training into a unique format that integrates readily within the postgraduate training schedule, the program enables our surgical trainees to become valued and capable leaders.

Welcome BBQ—July 1 2011

All faculty, residents and partners are invited to the annual meet and greet BBQ on Friday, July 1st 2011, hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Orovan from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. (rain or shine) to welcome our new surgical trainees to the Department. Food and beverages provided. Please RSVP to Michelle McCool (mccoolm@mcmaster.ca) ASAP.

Appointments and Awards

Awards/Grants:
- Drs. Kelly Oore and Michelle Ghert: National Board of Medical Examiner’s Stemmler Fund for CASPer research in the admissions process for postgrad. $145,000 over two years.
- Dr. Karoush Sabri (Ophth): First National Retinopathy of Prematurity Survey: Formulating Evidence-Based Screening Recommendations CHIR-Partnerships for Health Services Improvement
- Dr. Varun Chaudhary (Ophth): Evaluation of Wet Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) Genetic Profile Interactions with Ranibizumab Treatment Outcomes. CNIB-Barbara Tuck McPhee Research Grant
- Dr. Sheila Singh (Neurosurgery): The Role of Bmi1 in Neural Stem Cell Regulation and Brain Tumour Development AANS-Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation-Young Clinical Investigator
- Dr. Luis Braga — Recipient of the Best Reviewer in 2010 from The Journal of Urology
- Dr. James Bain — 2010 PAIRO Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award for McMaster

Appointments (July 2011)
- Promotion to Professor
  - Dr. Mohit Bhandari (Ortho)
  - Dr. Paul Whelan (Urology)
- Promotion to Associate
  - Dr. Michelle Ghert (Ortho)
  - Dr. Brad Petrisor (Ortho)
  - Dr. Niv Sni (Gen. Surg)
- Three-Year Reappointments:
  - Dr. Nalin Amin (Gen.Surg)
  - Dr. Jason Archibald (ENT)
  - Dr. Luis Braga (Ped.Urol)
  - Dr. Amadeo Rodriguez (Neuro-Ophth)
  - Dr. Richard Whitlock (Cardiac)
- New faculty:
  - Dr. Enitan Sogbesan (Ophth)

We bid a sad farewell to Dr. Dave Williams who is leaving us to join the administration team at Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket as President and Chief Executive Officer, effective June 30 2011.

Research Days 2011

Ophthalmology-Stringer Day
June 4th
Niagara-on-the-Lake

Cardiac and Vascular Surgery
Friday June 24th
David Braley CVS Research Institute

Plastic Surgery
Friday September 16th
Royal Botanical Gardens

Otolaryngology
Wednesday October 5th
Location TBA

General Surgery
Friday October 14th
SJH Frank Miller Auditorium

Neurosciences
Friday November 4th
Royal Botanical Gardens

Department Research Day
Friday November 17th
TBA

Obituary

Staff and faculty were saddened to learn of the death of one of their most hardworking and cheerful volunteers in the MUMC 4E area, George Krausz, on Thursday, April 14, 2011. His enthusiasm and humour were legendary.

A donation in George’s memory was made by the Department.

Admin Corner

Appreciation Lunch
On February 11th 2011, eighty five administrative staff were welcomed to the annual appreciation lunch by Dr. Bill Orovan at the Old Mill Restaurant in Ancaster.

In a fast-growing department subjected to many changes over the past year, it was a welcome opportunity for staff to reconnect and network with their colleagues as well as welcome new staff.

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

The AODA is Ontario’s new legislation governing accessibility and the ways organizations, including universities, serve persons with disabilities.

The University has developed its own Accessibility Policy which outlines the University’s commitment to building an inclusive and accessible community and includes various guidelines as addressed by the new legislation.

The online training is available at www.mcmaster.ca/accessibility. Use your MAC ID to login and complete your training if you haven’t already done so.
Alumni Corner—Dr. C. Barber Mueller
by Dr. R. Hansebout

Dr. C. Barber Mueller can be considered The Father of Academic Surgery at McMaster University. Although not a McMaster Alumnus, he has nevertheless made an indelible contribution to the formation of our Faculty of Health Sciences and to surgery internationally. He is definitely a part of the history of surgery and teaching at McMaster University.

Born in Illinois, “Barb” studied at Blackburn College, then the University of Illinois. He earned his MD on a Jackson Johnson Medical Scholarship at Washington University. After internship in 1943 he became a medical officer assigned to the 4th US Marine Division in the Pacific Fleet during war. He participated in D-Day landing assaults, including Saipan and Iwo Jima. Wounded twice, he was awarded the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service and rose to the rank of Lieutenant in the Navy.

Barb went on to train in general surgery at the Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri and completed fellowships in Biochemistry at Harvard Medical School and in General Surgery at Washington University. After 5 years of clinical practice at Washington University he became Professor & Chair of Surgery at the State University of New York and then was invited to be the Founding Chair of Surgery at McMaster University in 1967. Despite building a busy clinical General Surgical practice, Barb excelled at research, authoring 121 papers, 2 books and other writings. In addition he was co-editor of the Canadian Journal of Surgery and on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Surgical Research.

As a member of the founding medical faculty at McMaster University he helped design a new Medical Curriculum that introduced Problem Based Learning to Medicine, now emulated by many medical schools across the world. Since there were no exams in this scenario, he developed a progress test to evaluate learning efficacy. He established and chaired Ethics Committees at the McMaster Health Sciences Centre and across McMaster University as well as serving on the McMaster Senate and various Presidential Committees. Amongst his many contributions he is internationally recognized as a superb educator. Barb became a Markle Scholar, has been a member of numerous societies and was awarded the Distinguished Service Award, from both the Association of Academic Surgeons and the American College of Surgeons. He was given honorary doctorates at Black- burn College, the State University of New York and McMaster University. He was elected to be a Member of the McMaster Community of Distinction. Barb and his late wife Jean raised a daughter and three sons who are all doing well. At 94, Barb remains mentally sharp while enjoying life. He considers himself “an Educator by Profession and a Surgeon by Trade”. To the rest of us his career and contributions have been truly outstanding and inspirational.

For alumni news, please write to Dr. Hansebout (hansebou@mcmaster.ca).

Distributed Education

Of the 203 positions in the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine, 28 are currently designated for the Waterloo Regional Campus established in 2007 and 28 are currently designated for the Niagara Regional Campus established in 2008. These regional campuses which initially focused an undergrad medical education have now matured into postgraduate programs.

Surgical residents have been using the regional campuses for elective and community rotations over the past few years but work has also been underway during that time to develop surgical postgraduate programs at each campus. The project, spearheaded by Dr. Frank Baillie, the Department’s liaison with the distributed education sites, is initially concentrating on General Surgery with the eventual aim of expanding to include other specialties. A recent study (Blanchi, Stobbe, Eva, 2008) comparing academic performance of medical students in McMaster distributed learning sites has found that students training in community and rural settings are achieving equivalent (or in some cases superior) performance outcomes to those in tertiary care centres.

This finding supports existing US and Australian data which indicates that the quality of the educational experience in community settings justifies the development of more intense and prolonged community and rural training opportunities. An added benefit of regional education is the opportunity it affords students to experience, not just clinical practice but also life experiences and the influence of role models in communities where specialists are needed.

For more information, contact Rena Rice (ricere@hhsc.ca).

Access to Best Care

After several years of ongoing consultation and increasingly detailed planning with physicians, staff, health care partners and the community, the major changes associated with the Access to Best Care (ABC) plan are now in place with a view to providing:

- Better organized services for adults
- More care for kids
- Improved access to care
- Updated ambulatory care facilities

Service of Gratitude

Every April the Education Program in Anatomy holds a Service of Gratitude for the families of donors from the past year. The service is generally held at the Divinity College Chapel, where students and faculty thank the families by letting them know how much the donation helped in their learning or teaching process. Afterwards there is a reception held in the MDCL Atrium where the families get a chance to speak to faculty and students and ask any questions they may have.

Representing the Department of Surgery at this year’s Service were Ms. Clare Mitchell and Ms. Kathy Wilson, in recognition of the important role of such donations.
The Department of Surgery congratulates the successful applicants to the McMaster Surgical Associates Grants Competition 2011. This year’s competition had a record number of applicants, with 19 proposals being funded for a total of over $440,000.

**MSA Education**
- **Dr. Brian Cameron** (PaedGenSurg): International Surgery Courses
- **Dr. Stephen Kelly** (GenSurg): Laparoscopy Simulator Grant Proposal
- **Dr. Brad Petrisor** (Orthopaedics): Educational Workshop for Orthopaedic Residents on Communication Theory and Practical Techniques
- **Dr. Achilles Thoma** (PlasticSurg): Evidence-Based Surgery Workshop for North American Plastic Surgeons
- **Dr. Ivan Wang** (Orthopaedics): Summary of Project CLASSroom

**MSA Basic Science**
- **Dr. Michelle Ghert** (Orthopaedics): Development of Real-Time Imaging for an In Vivo Model of Giant Cell Tumor of Bone
- **Dr. Michelle Ghert** (Orthopaedics): ETVS and TWIST1 as Regulators of MMP2 in Human Chondrosarcoma
- **Dr. Jehonathan Pinthus** (Urology): The McMaster University Kidney Cancer Xenograft (McKCX) Project for Prospective Individualization of Targeted Therapy in Metastatic Kidney Cancer Patients

**MSA Clinical Science**
- **Dr. Brian Cameron** (PaedGenSurg): Understanding and Defining the Global Burden of Surgical Disease in Children Across The Globe through International Partnership
- **Dr. Andre Lamy** (Cardiac Surgery): Patency Assessment of Grafts performed in CARDONY: PATENCY-CORINARY
- **Dr. Edward Matsumoto** (Urology): Standardized Communication and External Frame of Reference Facilitates Safe and Efficient Laparoscopic Teaching: A Randomized Controlled Study
- **Dr. Brad Petrisor** (Orthopaedics): The Reliability and Validity of the Orthopaedic In-Training Objective Structured Clinical Examination
- **Dr. Karen Bailey** (PaedGenSurg): Understanding Decision Making, Attitudes and Knowledge Acquisition among Clinicians Treating Obesity in Canada
- **Dr. Mohit Bhandari** (Orthopaedics): Indian Orthopaedic Multicentre Study in Fracture Care (NDRMUS)
- **Dr. Christian Finley** (ThoracicSurg): Development of a Gastrointestinal Stent
- **Dr. Christian Finley** (ThoracicSurg): The Patient Education and Support in Fast Track Thoracic Surgery Initiative in Local Health Integration Network (LHIN4)
- **Dr. Marko Simunovic** (GenSurg): Pilot Test of the Ontario Decision Aid in Rectal Cancer
- **Dr. Richard Whitlock** (CardiacSurg): Transcutaneous oximetry, transcutaneous carbon dioxide and supplemental oxygen therapy in lower limb amputation – An observational study

**CSU** is also working to connect STAR-CV to the common CV system used by many granting agencies. Faculty will individually receive a report on July 6th to show them what has already been entered into their STAR-CV and will have until July 31st to enter other activities eligible for Research and Education merit points. Final reports will be generated on August 1st 2011.

**Residents Corner**


This annual event, co-hosted by the University of Western Ontario, was well attended by McMaster and UWO faculty, residents and staff. Dr. Paul Whelan joined the UWO Chair in an opening address and welcome, followed by a number of presentations. Dr. Anil Kapoor serves as one of the moderators. The McMaster Urology program was well represented by the following residents who presented their research:

- **K. Barrett**: Extraperitoneal versus Transperitoneal Laparoscopic Radical prostatectomy: A Single Surgeon Comparison.
- **R. Elias**: Standardized Communication and Frame of Reference Facilitates Safe and Efficient Laparoscopic Teaching: A Randomized Controlled Study.
- **A. Abdulla**: Designing a Hi-fidelity Laparoscopic Partial Nephrectomy Bench Model. Determining the Tear Strength and Resistance of a Synthetic Silicone Composition.
- **C. B. Allard**: The Obesogenic Profile of a Cohort of Renal Stone Formers.

Dr. Jehonathan Pinthus gave a State of the Art address: “The Management of Invasive Bladder Cancer in OCTOGENARIANS”. It was announced that McMaster and UWO will alternate hosting the Urology Resident Day and next year it will be held in a Hamilton location.

*More info: contact Catherine Gill Pottruff (gill@cimcmaster.ca)*

**McMaster Surgical Associates Grants**

**Members Only**
Notice of A.G.M.  
June 23 2011 at 5 pm  
Miller Amphitheatre (SJH)

**Did we miss your news?**

**How to contact us**

Ms. Gillian Wood  
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905 521 2100 x 73654

Dr. Robert Hansebout  
ahansebou@mcmaster.ca

**We encourage faculty**

July 31 2011 is the due date for the Research and Education Merit Forms for the 2010-2011 academic year. For simplicity, the department has developed a report which can be run from a faculty member’s STAR-CV. Currently education data is being recorded on STAR-CVs by the Program Coordinators. However, research activity can only be entered by faculty members and/or delegated staff. To obtain a STAR-CV login, contact Barb Halliday in CSU at bhallid@mcmaster.ca. Research coordinator/assistant and/or admin assistant may also have access if desired. Training sessions will be held at all sites.

Faculty are asked to enter their research activities for the 2010-2011 academic year only. They may also wish to enter their entire McMaster CV into the system in the near future, as the system can generate the McMaster CV as a report. CSU is also working to connect STAR-CV to the common CV system used by many granting agencies. Faculty will individually receive a report on July 6th to show them what has already been entered into their STAR-CV and will have until July 31st to enter other activities eligible for Research and Education merit points. Final reports will be generated on August 1st 2011.

*Contact: Catherine Gill Pottruff*