New McMaster Link to Nepal Provides Elective Opportunities

Patan Academy of Health Sciences (PAHS; http://www.pahs.edu.np/) is a new medical school in Nepal, focused on training doctors to work in the underserved rural areas of the country. Its main campus and teaching hospital are located in Kathmandu. Rural electives for McMaster students and residents are available in the four main rural sites, which are affiliated training sites for PAHS. The minimum duration is four weeks. The scope of practice for family doctors in these rural Nepal hospitals includes inpatient care, outpatient care and surgical procedures, including C-sections, hysterectomies, appendectomies, cholecystectomies and minor orthopaedic procedures including K-wires; all under regional anesthesia. This is a developing opportunity; the first Nepali students started in these sites in July 2014.

Faculty and residents have the opportunity for placements in Patan Hospital, a large general hospital in Kathmandu, which is co-located with the medical school (http://www.patanhospital.org.np/). This hospital has a mission to provide care for the poor.

Beyond clinical care and sharing of knowledge with Nepali physician colleagues, opportunities exist for clinical and didactic teaching, tutoring in the PBL preclinical curriculum and, in some departments, curriculum development. Because of the hospital’s reputation for high quality care and teaching, students and residents from many developed countries seek these electives; a limited number of placements are available for McMaster learners. Public Health, Nursing, and Midwifery schools are currently under development, as well as several specialty residency programs. Faculty and residents have an opportunity to contribute to educational development.

For more information, please contact: Dr. Karl Stobbe, Regional Assistant Dean, Niagara Regional Campus, Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine (stobbek@mcmaster.ca)

Upcoming Events:

- **March 26-28, 2015:** CUGH Global Health Conference Boston, Massachusetts (http://www.cugh.org/)
- **March 28-29, 2015:** Global Health and Innovation Conference Yale University (http://uniteforsight.org/conference/)
- **August 23-27, 2015:** World Congress of Surgery Bangkok, Thailand (https://www.wcs2015.org/home)
- **September 25-26, 2015:** Global Partners in Anesthesia and Surgery (CPAS) Conference Uganda (http://www.globalsurgery.org/)

This is a follow-up to the 2012 Side By Side Conference held here in Hamilton with the St. Joseph’s International Outreach Program.

If anyone from the Department is interested in attending, please contact Dr. Brian Cameron.

Many members of the Department of Surgery are involved in international work, and the ISD would love to share your stories here!

Please contact Kathy Wilson (kawilso@mcmaster.ca) to submit an item for our next newsletter.

The 2015 ISD International Surgery Resident Scholarship has been awarded to Dr. Matthew MacLeod (PGY4, Orthopaedic Surgery). Dr. MacLeod will join Dr. Brad Petrisor and the MacOrtho team in Kampala, Uganda in April, where they will help teach Bioskills and Acute Musculoskeletal Limb Support courses. The group will also be doing clinical work with Ugandan orthopaedic colleagues. The MacOrtho group is affiliated with the Uganda Sustainable Trauma Orthopaedic Program (USTOP), a formal partnership between the UBC and Makerere University to “reduce the human suffering, disability and poverty caused by traumatic injuries in Uganda” (for more information, please see http://ustop.orthopaedics.med.ubc.ca/).
The lead Commentary in the February 2015 issue of the Canadian Journal of Surgery (http://canjsurg.ca/vol58-issue1/) is about the longstanding surgical partnership between Guyana, CAGS, and the McMaster Department of Surgery. Over the past several years, McMaster has hosted clinical fellows Dr. Ravi Motilall, Dr. Carlos Martin, and Dr. Cheetanand Mahadeo (who is still here in the Division of Thoracic Surgery). Numerous McMaster faculty and alumni have visited Guyana, resulting in many successful collaborative research projects and educational activities. Just recently, one of the first graduates of the Guyana program, Dr. Navindra Rambaran (who visited here as part of our 2010 CIHR funded research workshop) has been appointed a hospital Consultant and Department of Surgery Coordinator. Many thanks to all who have been and continue to be involved in Guyana.

The 2015 Bethune Round Table on International Surgery will be held this year in Calgary on June 5-7.

The theme is “Meeting Local Needs: Socially Accountable Surgical Care”. This is a great opportunity to learn more about global surgery and network with the leading Canadian surgeons involved in the field, as well as visitors from around the world.

The announced 2015 keynote speakers are:
Dr. Rajesh Gongal: Patan Academy of Health Sciences, Nepal
Dr. Adefolarin Malomo: University of Ibadan, Nigeria
Dr. Paul Thistle: Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe
Dr. Scott Dulchavsky: Wayne State University School of Medicine, USA
Dr. Angela Enright: University of British Columbia, Canada

The Ob/Gyn Department raised almost $1000 for Save the Mothers on their Mother’s Day Walkathon last year.
Lets help them do even better this May!
www.savethemothers.org

McMaster Children’s Hospital joined the GlobalSurg Project

McMaster Children’s Hospital joined the GlobalSurg Project in September 2014 and is now an active study site. GlobalSurg is an international, prospective audit of clinical outcomes following emergency abdominal surgery. Initiated by the University of Edinburgh, GlobalSurg now includes hundreds of adult and pediatric hospitals across all six continents. Over 5,000 patients have been enrolled to date!

The purpose of the GlobalSurg Project is to determine internationally relevant, modifiable surgical practices associated with the best outcomes. All patients undergoing emergency abdominal surgery (other than Caesarean section) will be enrolled and a variety of quality measures will be assessed at baseline. Outcomes include 24-hour peri-operative mortality and 30-day morbidity and mortality. The GlobalSurg Project demonstrates the type of research that can be done when investigators are willing to share data and collaborate. Early results should be available later in 2015.

For more information, please contact Dr. Michael Livingston (General Surgery Resident) at: livingm@mcmaster.ca or visit http://globalsurg.org/.

The 2014 McMaster International Compendium is out, with 22 international research and education initiatives listed from Department of Surgery members! The full report can be found on the McMaster website (see pages 43-48):