2018 WINTER NEWSLETTER
The coming holidays provide a wonderful opportunity to thank all of you who make our department world-class. With more than 600 faculty members and trainees, the Department of Anesthesia is a talented team, working hard on behalf of our patients. As Chair, it has been a tremendous honour and pleasure to work with all of you.

What a year it has been! Your collective effort has produced noteworthy milestones and many new projects are under way. Listed below are but a few of these achievements and initiatives.

- Our outstanding clinicians contributed to the University of Toronto being recognized as the leading clinical university in Canada, ranked fifth in the world, according to U.S. News & World Report.

- Our department’s core theme of #RelentlessInnovation was supported by the launch of the 2018 Merit Awards Program. This program has provided $1 million annually of peer-reviewed research funds to our talented investigators.

- Our education programs — undergraduate, postgraduate, and fellowship — continue to push the boundaries through the development of innovative e-learning and assessment tools. As well, our educators and residents (PGY1 and PGY2) are leaders in the adoption of the “competency by design” curriculum.

- In October 2018, our leaders and emerging leaders launched the initial process for our 5-year strategic plan. This new plan will help create the future of physician-led anesthesia care and pain medicine.

Our department and its success are fueled by the passion and commitment of you, our faculty and trainees. I especially want to recognize our administrative staff and Executive Committee who have provided outstanding leadership, and our residents who have taken on exciting initiatives that have fostered closer ties within our community.

We look forward to working with all of you and wish you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Beverley Orser, Department Chair
The Merit Awards Program aims to support the development of talented investigators and to foster the sustained growth of research capacity in our department. The program is designed to fund faculty members at any stage in their career and promote discoveries that will improve the lives of our patients.

Congratulations to the individuals who received a competitive peer-reviewed Merit Award from the Department of Anesthesia, University of Toronto (2018-2020).

Excellence in Research Awards
Kavanagh, Brian
Wijeyasurya, Duminda
Wunsch, Hannah

Quality Assurance Merit Awards
Siddiqui, Naveed

Education Merit Awards
Friedman, Zeevd

Early Investigator Merit Awards
Parotto, Matteo

Research Merit Awards
Baker, Andrew
Balki, Mrinalini
Calvalho, Jose
Chan, Vincent
Clarke, Hance

Cuthbertson, Brian
Djaiani, George
Hare, Gregory
Jerath, Angela
Karkouti, Keyvan
Kirkham, Kyle
Lahda, Karim
Laussen, Peter
Maynes, Jason
Mazer, David
Peng, Philip
Wong, Jean

Consultation with Statistician

Announcement of 2018 Merit Awards

Questionnaire sent out to Faculty
Established the Merit Awards Program Committee
Launched Merit Awards program
Reviewed eligibility of each application
Deadline for the review of applications
Announced results to all applicants

Design of the application process
Deadline for all applications
Sent application packages to the reviewers

Announcement of 2018 Merit Awards
The retreat held on October 27, 2018 was an excellent start of the department’s Strategy Plan for the next 5 years. Let’s work together to create shared excellence in anesthesia, critical care and pain medicine. This plan will lead to consistent, shared leading practices in research, teaching and clinical work across all of our sites.

Our department is a world leader in many areas of research and is internationally recognized for its innovative educational programs; however, we can always look to improve and increase our impact by developing a strong, cohesive shared identity across all hospital sites. We need to envision our department as single centre of excellence that supports the wellness of its faculty and learners and focuses on patient-oriented outcomes, research and teaching innovations.

The goal is to create a concrete, actionable plan we can all work on together over the next few years.

Please come to the strategy hives held at the Hilton Hotel in Toronto (145 Richmond St W), the dates are:

TUESDAY
DECEMBER 11
2018
How do we create consistent, shared leading practices in research, teaching and clinical work across the hospital sites, and brand ourselves as a single voice in anesthesia, critical care and pain medicine?

MONDAY
JANUARY 14
2019
How do we create a strong, resilient, innovative community of learners and teachers? How do we create the leading researchers, teachers and practitioners of the future?
In September 2018, the University of Toronto launched new Education Portals for the medical education programs.

The Department of Anesthesia is the first clinical department to make the transition from paper to a complete web-based curriculum for its Undergraduate Medical Education Program. This transition will reduce the carbon footprint and is one step towards being more environmentally friendly.

The launch of new learning portals: Quercus and Elentra, brings new designs and easy-to-navigate interfaces to access e-modules and program information.
NEW DEPARTMENT POSITIONS

NEW SENIOR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Dr. Andrew Baker
Vice Chair, Clinical Affairs

Dr. Gerald O’Leary
Senior Advisor, Anesthesia and Allied Health Professionals

Dr. Josh Gleicher
Director, Quality and Patient Safety (QuiPS)

Dr. Vaibhav Kamble
Program Director, Family Practice Anesthesia

Dr. Frances Chung
Chair, Departmental Promotions Committee

Dr. Carol Loffelmann
Chair, Departmental Appointments Committee

Dr. Robert Byrick
Chair, Departmental Awards Committee

Dr. Neil Goldenberg
Lead, Clinical Investigator Program

Dr. Duminda Wijeysundera
Chair, Translational Anesthesiology Research at St. Michael’s Hospital/University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE CHAIR: NEW RECRUITS

Linda Diep
Education Program Assistant

Haleh Rahimi
Executive Assistant and Academic Coordinator

Dwayne Rodrigues
Residency Program Officer
On Monday, November 12, 2018 the Department of Anesthesia, Department of Surgery and Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery, at the University of Toronto reconvene the joint Faculty Development Day. The event was held at the Hart House located at the University of Toronto and close to 200 faculty attended.

The keynote speaker this year was Dr. Gerald B. Hickson, MD, Senior Vice-President for Quality, Safety and Risk Prevention. He is the Joseph C. Ross Chair of Medical Education and Administration of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, who focused on Patient Safety, Quality Improvement and Risk Prevention. There were ten interactive workshops that engaged faculty in the discussion with regards to common challenges in anesthesia and surgery education as well as clinical care and practice management issues.

In the afternoon, the department of Anesthesia acknowledged excellence in medical education by presenting the education awards.
Dr. John Desmond Award
Dr. Zoe Unger (no photo)

The John Desmond Award recognizes excellence in undergraduate education and acknowledges outstanding clinical instruction of undergraduate students.

Dr. Gerald Edelist Award
Drs. James Kulchyk
and Katherine Marseu

The Gerald Edelist Award recognizes excellence in the clinical instruction of residents in anesthesia, demonstrating commitment to clinical teaching, lectures, seminars and outstanding teaching efforts.

David Fear Award
Dr. Anuj Bhatia

The David Fear Award recognizes the commitment to continuing medical education and an outstanding contribution to professional development in the department.

New Faculty Teaching Excellence Award
Dr. Tania Di Renna

New Faculty Teaching Award recognizes faculty members who have recently joined the department and have quickly proved themselves as inspirational clinical and professional role models to their trainees.

Interprofessional Teaching Award
Dr. Hance Clarke (no photo)

The Interprofessional Award recognizes those who have made significant contributions to teaching both within and outside the anesthesia community.
Congratulations to all the residents who received awards for their commitment to excellence in leadership!

Leadership in Clinical Excellence Recipients: Tyler Brown

Leadership in Clinical Excellence Recipients: Soniya Sharma, Rohan Kothari (not pictured)

Outstanding Leadership Award Recipients: Akash Goel, Alia Busuttil, Cheng Zhou, Jesse May, Jillian Taras, Naheed Jivraj, Evelina Pankiv, Huda Khayyat, Justin Um, Michael O’Brien, Christopher Charles

On November 12th, 2018, the Department of Anesthesia held the 2nd annual Resident Academic Retreat. The educational focus for this year’s retreat was Leadership, headlined with a plenary talk from Dr. Joshua Tepper, President and CEO of North York General Hospital (NYGH).

Residents attended workshops on improving their leadership skills and providing effective feedback. Residents were also exposed to panels that focused on self-empowerment and on building resilience.
On September 8th, 2018, we held the 2nd annual BBQ & Sports Day. This year’s selected charity was the Canadian Anesthesiologists’ Society International Education Foundation (CASIEF), an organization that supports the development of anesthesia training programs in low resource countries. A total of 195 staff, fellows, residents, and administrative staff from the Department of Anesthesia and their respective families attended the event, raising a total of $5,500.

The weather was fantastic! It was a true pleasure to see everyone in matching hospital team t-shirts, cheer their teams, compete in fun games, laugh, and enjoy the comradery. Congratulations to the UHN-TGH team for winning the sports tournament and fundraising competition, they took home the champions trophy named ‘The Laryngoscope’.

On behalf of all the resident organizers, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support and enthusiasm.

Rohan Kothari (PGY4)
The Fellowship Program at the University of Toronto hosted their annual Holiday Dinner on Monday November 26, 2018, at the rustic and elegant Archeo restaurant located at The Distillery District. The evening began with opening remarks from the Fellowship Director, Dr. Doreen Yee, who thanked Faculty and Fellows for their support and dedication.

The fellows, faculty and the department staff were all in attendance, everyone had a wonderful time mingling and celebrating the start of the holiday season. Thank you to our fellows for all their hard work and a special thank you to Doreen and Linda for organizing a wonderful evening.
AWARDS

SUBMITTED TO THE CHAIRS OFFICE BETWEEN JUNE – DECEMBER (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Alam, Fahad
Abstract Title: Impact of Acute Care Physician’s Age on Crisis Management Performance and Learning after Simulation-based Education: A novel prospective cohort
Submitted to the 7th Annual Sunnybrook Education Conference: Revolutionizing Healthcare’s Future
Award: Best Podium Presentation award

Goel, Akash
Award: Emerging Leader Award – Recognizes recent graduates from Victoria College, University of Toronto, who have excelled professionally or have notable accomplishments in their professional work or volunteer service.

Orser, Beverley
Elected as one of two Canadian members of the U.S. National Academy of Medicine. This honour recognizes individuals who have made major contributions to the advancement of medical sciences, health care and public health. The NAM is considered one of the highest honours in the fields of health and medicine and is bestowed on individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service. Dr. Orser was also elected to the Royal Society of Canada and was the recipient for the 2018 ASA Award for Excellence in Research.

Syed, Raza
Title: Inflammation and general anesthesia interact synergistically to impair memory
Award: IMS Summer Undergraduate Research Program & Honorable Mention Award for placing as runner-up, Best Poster Presentation at the SURP Research Day
Mentor/Supervisor: Shahin Khodaei (PhD candidate), Beverley Orser

Tran, John (PhD Candidate)
Title: “A cadaver study on the innervation of the posterior knee joint capsule”
Award: Best Platform Presentation Award at the American Association in Clinical Anatomist Annual Meeting – Atlanta, USA
Supervisor: Philip Peng

Yee, Doreen
Award: 2018 Distinguished Service Award by Ontario’s Anesthesiologist. Dr. Yee was recognized for outstanding contributions to patient case and to the promotion of our specialty over the course of her career.
Balki, Mrinalini  
Co-Investigator: John Charles Kingdom  
Title: In-vitro of oxytocin-induced myometrial contractility by propranolol: Potential applications in induction of labor and prevention of postpartum hemorrhage  
Award: CIHR Grant  
Amount: $30,600

Hanlon, John  
Title: Understanding the impact of legal cannabis on access to health: A large prospective cohort study of Canadians obtaining medical cannabis authorization  
Award: CIHR Grant  
In Collaboration with researches from the University of Alberta  
Amount: $294,526

Singh, Mandeep  
Title: The variability and impact of segmental neck and leg fluid volume shifts on upper airway collapse and obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) severity in surgical patients with OSA - A two-center, prospective cohort study  
Funding: Ontario - Grant-in-Aid, Canadian Lung Association and Ontario Thoracic Society  
Amount: $49,984
Abdallah, Faraj


Bai, Johnny-Wei; Bhatia, Anuj; Chan, Vincent WS
A Perioperative Approach to The Opioid Crisis. CMAJ October 01, 2018 190 (39) E1151-E1152; DOI: https://doi.org/10.1503/cmaj.180801

Flamer, David

Gomez-Builes, Carolina

Lorello, Gianni R.


Siddiqui, Naveed and You-Ten, Eric
SAVE THE DATE 2018

University of Toronto closure
December 24, 2018 – January 4, 2019

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January 14, 2019
Strategy Hive # 2
Hilton Hotel Toronto

February 5, 2019
Creative Professional Workshop
Department of Anesthesia
123 Edward St. 12F
Large Boardroom

February 20, 2019
Grant Writing Workshop
Department of Anesthesia
123 Edward St. 12F
Large Boardroom

May 2, 2019
Research-in-Progress
Department of Anesthesia
123 Edward St. 12F
Large Boardroom

May 3, 2019
40th Annual Shields Research Day
Westin Harbour Castle

Happy Holidays
GET IN TOUCH!

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