

Head's Message

As we approach the end of the academic year, it is a good time to take stock of the accomplishments and successes of the last 12 months, and to look ahead to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Our routines are still affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, but through public health measures, vaccination, and collective personal and professional effort, we are gradually returning to the "new normal". It seems likely that a hybrid model of in-person and virtual presence will be the norm for the foreseeable future. Although Zoom fatigue is now a familiar term to all of us, the virtual format for rounds and meetings has allowed for broad attendance and participation that would otherwise not be possible.

Over the past year, the Department of Surgery has made significant progress in several aspects of our strategic plan. This included appointing an Associate Head, Research – Dr. Robert Olson – and holding a research retreat to identify opportunities for collaboration, mentorship, study design and statistical analysis, and funding. In addition, we had a very enthusiastic response to our seed grant competition, and were able to fund seven proposals.

Another milestone development arising from our strategic plan was the first round of Clinical Faculty Research Support Awards. This is a new departmental initiative to support academic activity among our Clinical Faculty. The purpose of this award program is to provide a stipend to support time away from clinical practice to focus on research. This initial round represents an investment of \$720,000 over three years. We

plan to run another round next year, and to have a stable and sustainable funding model to support Clinical Faculty in their academic pursuits.

A recent highlight was the very successful Bethune Round Table conference, hosted by our Branch for Global Surgical Care. There were over 400 attendees, from more than 50 countries. It took a phenomenal amount of work to put the meeting together, and special thanks go to Emily Joos, Brian Westerberg, and Cecilia Gruber, and all who worked with them behind the scenes to make it happen.

I would like to congratulate all of our graduating residents, fellows, and graduate students, and welcome the new cohort of trainees in the Department of Surgery. The part of my work that I enjoy the most is the opportunity to learn from and to be inspired by my surgical and scientific colleagues, our residents, fellows and students, and our staff. To all of you, I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks.

Dr. Gary Redekop
C.N. Woodward Chair
Head, Department of Surgery
UBC



Leadership Transitions

The Department is pleased to announce the following leadership change that have taken place since our last newsletter.

Postgraduate Education Program
Director, Neurosurgery Surgery
Dr. Ash Singhal

Undergraduate Medical Education
Director, Department of Surgery
Dr. Arman Abdalkhani

Undergraduate Medical Education
Director, Division of Neurosurgery
Dr. Serge Makarenko

Postgraduate Education Program
Director, Thoracic Surgery
Dr. James Bond

The Department would also like to thank the following individuals their service:

Postgraduate Education Program
Director, Neurosurgery Surgery
Dr. Peter Gooderham

Undergraduate Medical Education
Director, Department of Surgery
Dr. Geoff Blair

Undergraduate Medical Education
Director, Division of Neurosurgery
Dr. Thomas Zwimpfer

Undergraduate Medical Education
Director, Division of Otolaryngology
Dr. Amanda Hu

Congratulations to our Award Winners



Department of Surgery

Each year, the Department of Surgery recognizes residents, faculty and staff members for excellence in teaching, research, and administration. Congratulations to our 2022 recipients:

Dr. Vivian Ma

Dr. A.W.D. Bill Knox Memorial Award

Dr. Michael Yong

Dr. I.B. Holubitsky Memorial Award

Dr. Ted Wu

Best Resident Teacher Award

Dr. Ameer Farooq

Dr. Garth Warnock Postgraduate Trainee Award

Dr. Arif Janjua

Dr. A.D. Forward Postgraduate Faculty Teaching Award

Dr. Doug Courtemanche

Dr. A.D. McKenzie Clinical Teaching Award

Dr. Anu Ghuman

Dr. H.R. Robertson Award - Faculty Award

Dr. Celine Hounjet

Dr. Graham Clay Presidential Prize

Dr. Matthew Boroditsky

Nis Schmidt History of Surgery Prize

Ms. Luiza Shamkulova

Ms. Sachiyo Kaneko

Nicky Dorken for Staff Excellence Award



Beyond the Department



Dr. Andrea MacNeill

Women of Distinction –
Environmental Sustainability
YWCA



Dr. Glenn Regehr

President's Award for Exemplary
National Leadership in Academic
Medicine
AFMC



Dr. Trina Stephens

Charles Peter W. Warren History of
Medicine Award
RCPSC



Dr. Nadine Caron

Envisioning Equality Award
UBC

Distinguished Achievement
Award – Advancement of EDI
Faculty of Medicine



Congratulations to our Graduates

Royal College Programs

General Surgery

Dr. Quinn Gentles

Dr. Vivian Ma

Dr. Nicole Mak

Dr. Martha Talbot

Dr. Ted Wu

Dr. Mitch Webb

Neurosurgery

Dr. Oliver Ayling

Otolaryngology

Dr. Michael Yong

Dr. Joel Howlett

Dr. Kevin Zhao

Pediatric Surgery

Dr. Martina Mudri

Plastic Surgery

Dr. Janine Roller

Dr. Diana Forbes

Dr. Nawaf Al Muqaimi

Dr. Jacques Zhang

Dr. Sofie Schlagintweit

Colorectal Surgery

Dr. Ameer Farooq

Vascular Surgery

Dr. Bill Huang

Radiation Oncology

Dr. Ryan Urban



Master of Global Surgical Care

Dr. Kimberley Allan

Dr. Maria Brinza

Dr. Kristi Lange

Dr. Andrew Zakhari



Master of Science in Surgery

Dr. Baharak Tolouei

Dr. Sahar Farahmand



PGME Spotlight: Plastic Surgery

Greetings on behalf of the UBC Division of Plastic Surgery Residency Program. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our wonderful faculty and mentors across the province for their contribution to teaching and our residency program. The pandemic has continued to create many unique challenges, but also continues to highlight the great talent and teamwork of our residents. Perhaps, there is a light emerging at the end of this tunnel as restrictions are being lifted and the world is opening up again. As one global event is over taken by another, we continue to be reminded how lucky we are here in Canada and the many things we have to be grateful for.

Our resident team has been fortunate to have a greater than usual number of senior residents. Recently, Dr. Sofie Schlagintweit successfully completed her exams and was able to secure a competitive fellowship in Kelowna. We look forward to following her career as she transitions into practice, as she has a bright future ahead and will make a great colleague here in BC. We also have 4 additional residents graduating this year. Dr. Nawaf Al Muqaimi has been our first Omani resident to train at UBC. He was hand selected as the “best-of-the-best” by his center in Oman to complete a plastic surgery residency and return to help develop their plastic surgery program. Nawaf has been an excellent addition to our program and will spend a year in Calgary completing a Fellowship in Hand

Surgery before returning home. Dr. Janine Roller joined us from the UBC Medical School Northern Program and has also been a delight to train. She will be doing a locum after graduation, before starting her fellowship in Microsurgery in Winnipeg. Dr. Diana Forbes will be graduating from our Clinical Investigator Program stream. She has excelled in her final year and we congratulate her on all of her current and future success. Rounding out the graduates this year is Dr. Jacques Zhang. Jacques has also been a wonderful member of our team and developed into an excellent surgeon. He accepted a prestigious hand fellowship at Harvard University and we look forward to seeing him wear the Crimson Red.

The Division has been fortunate this year to welcome two Matts to the program. Matthew Boroditsky is a UBC Medical School Graduate, and one of our new PGY1 residents. Matt B. has an interest in global surgery and is completing his Masters of Global Surgical Care during his training. Matthew Carr, is our second PGY1 who is joining us from the University of Toronto. Matt C. is a native of Vancouver and completed a very productive MD-PhD program in Toronto. We are lucky to have these 2 Matt's join our us, and they have already become outstanding new members of our team.

This past year has continued to see a great effort put forth by our faculty, residents, and our administration to

maintain the excellence of our academic training curriculum in a hybrid in-person and virtual world. Residents continue to expand their learning experience throughout the province and great thanks are given to all of our faculty training partners and friends in BC.

As we come to the end of another academic year, I would like to personally thank the members within our division, and those working outside of Vancouver, that dedicate their time, and expertise to teach our residents and help make UBC one of the best programs in the country. We are emerging from the pandemic and look to continuing the hard work and commitment to the division, patients and each other that makes this such a wonderful place to work together, learning and providing patient care.

Two of my favorite quotes for our team are below:

“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do” - Pele

“When it rains look for rainbows, when it is dark, look for stars.” – Oscar Wilde

Alex Seal, MD, FRCSC
Program Director, Plastic Surgery



Research Updates

Department of Surgery Research Retreat Summary

As part of our renewed commitment to support research in the Department of Surgery, we held a Virtual Research Retreat on May 13, 2022. One of the goals of the day was to facilitate surgical research collaborations across disciplines, sites, and organizations external to the department. To that end, there was a Research Showcase featuring the work of Dr. Morad Hameed, Dr. Andrea MacNeill and Dr. Brian Kwon as well as presentations from the Surgery Seed Grant recipients. Additionally, various UBC groups were

invited to share how they can engage with faculty members and residents to support their research including: FLEX, SPARC, Disaggregated Data, CHEOS, UBC Statistics, and the Faculty of Medicine's Digital Solutions Research Group. Ideas were generated and feedback sought on a Mentorship Program for the Department of Surgery and a working group will be convening to move this forward.



Department of Surgery Clinical Faculty Research Support Awards

Arneja, Jugpal, Plastic Surgery
Baird, Robert, Pediatric Surgery
Joos, Emilie, General Surgery
MacNeill, Andrea, General Surgery
McKevitt, Elaine, General Surgery
Prisman, Eitan, Otolaryngology

An exciting new initiative rolled out this year to support academic activity among our Clinical Faculty. The purpose of this award program is to provide Clinical Faculty with a stipend to support time away from their clinical practice to focus on research. This initial round represents an investment of \$720,000 over three years. We plan to run another round next year. Congratulations to the recipients.

Department of Surgery Seed Grant Recipients

The Department of Surgery also launched a Seed Grant Program. The purpose of this program is to support the establishment of new research and is open to both new investigators (at any stage in their clinical career) and established researchers building towards larger external grants or developing innovative pilot programs.

Chan, Jessica	The Linguistic Indicators of Framing Tool: Developing a tool to LIFT negative framing out of published health research involving First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples	Radiation Oncology
Clark, Haley	Patient- and organ-specific radiotherapy plans using quantitative magnetic resonance imaging	Radiation Oncology
Dawe, Philip	Open Pelvic Binder: a novel device for pelvic fractures	General Surgery
Haji, Faizal	Improving assessment and training in craniosynostosis: the role of interactive 3D models and multimodal e-learning	Neurosurgery
Genoway, Krista	Barriers to completing pre-operative hair removal for penile inversion vaginoplasty	Plastic Surgery
Ghuman, Amandeep	The relationship between the microbiome and the development of low anterior resection syndrome (the LARS-Microbiome study)	General Surgery
Jiang, Henry	"MOtilin in the Treatment and Investigation of Looseness of INtestines	General Surgery



Newly appointed Clinical Faculty members

<p>Dr. Gordon Buduhan Clinical Associate Professor <i>Thoracic Surgery</i> Kelowna General Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Nicholas Janusz Clinical Instructor <i>Otolaryngology</i> Royal Inland Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Antonio Menezes Clinical Instructor <i>General Surgery</i> Sechelt Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Saoussen Salhi Clinical Assistant Professor <i>Plastic Surgery</i> BC Children's Hospital</p>
<p>Dr. Elisa Chan Clinical Assistant Professor <i>Radiation Oncology</i> BC Cancer - Vancouver</p>	<p>Dr. Evan Jost Clinical Instructor <i>General Surgery</i> University Hospital of Northern BC</p>	<p>Dr. Corey Ming-Lum Clinical Instructor <i>Member at Large</i> <i>Royal Columbian Hospital</i></p>	<p>Dr. James Saunders Clinical Instructor <i>Plastic Surgery</i> Lion's Gate Hospital</p>
<p>Dr. Michael Chatenay Clinical Associate Professor <i>General Surgery</i> Chilliwack General Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Kanwal Kumar Clinical Assistant Professor <i>Cardiac Surgery</i> Royal Jubilee Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Sonja Murchison Clinical Instructor <i>Radiation Oncology</i> BC Cancer – Victoria</p>	<p>Dr. Nazgol Seyednejad Clinical Instructor <i>Thoracic Surgery</i> Surrey Memorial Hospital</p>
<p>Dr. Kristin DeGirolamo Clinical Instructor <i>General Surgery</i> Abbotsford Regional Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Husain Khambati Clinical Instructor <i>Vascular Surgery</i> Abbotsford Regional Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Harman Parhar Clinical Assistant Professor <i>Otolaryngology</i> Victoria General Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Gavin Tansley Clinical Instructor <i>General Surgery</i> University Hospital of Northern BC</p>
<p>Dr. Kathleen Garber Clinical Instructor <i>General Surgery</i> Powell River General Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Edward Liu Clinical Instructor <i>Plastic Surgery</i> Nanaimo Regional Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Matthew Robinson Clinical Instructor <i>Vascular Surgery</i> Royal Jubilee Hospital</p>	<p>Dr. Jordon Wong Clinical Instructor <i>Radiation Oncology</i> Royal Jubilee Hospital</p>

Retirements

Dr. Thomas Pickles
Professor
Division of Radiation Oncology
and Developmental Radiotherapeutics

Dr. York Hsiang
Professor
Division of Vascular Surgery

Dr. Aziz Ghahary
Professor
Division of Plastic Surgery

Dr. Charles Scudamore
Associate Professor
Division of General Surgery

Dr. Mark Meloche
Associate Professor
Division of General Surgery

Dr. William Simpson
Clinical Professor
Division of General Surgery

Dr. Gary Goplen
Clinical Instructor
Division of Neurosurgery

Dr. Marthinus Christo Wiggins
Clinical Associate Professor
Division of General Surgery

Dr. Jim Dooner
Clinical Assistant Professor
Division of Vascular Surgery

Have a Story to Share?

We are interested in celebrating your academic accomplishments and sharing them with the Department and at www.surgery.ubc.ca. Please contact Bethany.saunders@ubc.ca with your news.

Missed a Grand Rounds?

We have had some incredible presentations this year. Watch past Grand Rounds [here](#).

