



# UBC Department of Surgery

# 2022 Year End

## Head's Message

With the end of 2022 rapidly approaching, the UBC Department of Surgery can look back with pride at our accomplishments over the past year, and look ahead to the future. The release of the [2022-2025 Department of Surgery Strategic Plan](#) marked the beginning of a new phase of our Department's strategic development, guided by feedback from a wide cross-section of faculty. Throughout the year, we have focused on equity, diversity, and inclusion; social responsibility; faculty engagement and support; and partnerships that foster provincial, national, and global impact. As a result of vaccination and public health measures, the impact of Covid-19 was less disruptive to our academic and clinical activities, and there was a return to many in-person and on-site events. The pandemic highlighted the potential (and limitations) of virtual meetings, and it seems clear that as we move ahead, there will be a place for flexibility between in-person, hybrid, and completely virtual gatherings. Surgical education is a cornerstone of the academic life of the Department of Surgery. At the Academic Year-End Celebration, hosted in person for the first time since 2019, we recognized the cohort of graduates from our graduate degree programs, residency programs, and clinical fellowships. In total, there were 2 Master of Science in Surgery graduates, 4 Masters in Global Surgical Care graduates, 19 graduating residents, and 27 graduating clinical fellows. Thanks go

out to all of the faculty and staff who put so much time, energy, and talent in our education programs. The amount and variety of clinical, translational, and basic science research in the Department of Surgery continue to grow. The past year saw the introduction of our seed grant program, as well as the clinical faculty research support Awards. The Chung Research Day which took place in a hybrid format once again provided a forum for many of our trainees and faculty to present their work. The scope and quality of the research activity are truly amazing. Presentations covered topics predominantly relating to global health, environmental sustainability, and equity in health care. Innovation in Surgery was a major theme in 2022. This was highlighted by the presentation of our visiting Chung Professor, Dr. Chad Ball, Professor of Surgery and Oncology, at the University of Calgary, who spoke on "Surgical Innovation: Failure, Success, and Everything in Between".



The Division of General Surgery put on a wonderful Surgical Innovation Week as well as showcased their progress in the development of Integrated Practice Units at the Surgical Systems Redesign Symposium. The Branch for Global Surgery hosted its annual Bethune Round Table virtually and was attended by 416 participants from more than 50 countries. This year we have introduced clinical faculty orientation as part of our commitment to accelerate the integration of new clinical faculty into the academic community. Other activities guided by this strategic objective include the Research Retreat and the launch of the Department's Faculty Mentorship Program. Each Division in our large province-wide Department hosted at least one in-person event such as graduation celebrations and retreats, and we will continue to work to advance collaboration and we look forward to even more fruitful connections in 2023. As the year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our department members for their tireless contribution to the large enterprise that is the UBC Department of Surgery. Your talent, creativity and dedication to excellence continue to amaze and inspire me on a daily basis.

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



## Undergraduate Surgical Education

Another year has passed and I feel very thankful to have been able to transition to the Director of the Undergraduate Surgical Education Program over the past 6 months. With it have come new updates to share. I wanted to take the opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to Dr. Geoffrey Blair, who faithfully ran the program for years. Also, a very heartfelt thank you to Dr. Mark Meloche for his many years as Undergraduate Director of General Surgery. Dr. Morad Hameed has very capably taken over for Dr. Meloche and we are excited to work together. Firstly, the class of 2024 continued to successfully utilize the VGH Simulation Centre for their introduction to SPC Block and Trauma Day. We celebrate the many residents that take part in clinical teaching on these days; the near-peer education that I am witnessed to is invaluable and we will continue to expand these teaching opportunities to the residents. We have also instituted a "Humanism in Medicine" hour with Dr. Blair and Dr. Ingledew that brings the patient-physician relationship to the forefront of medical education and offers invaluable insight from personal stories that come from two of the very esteemed faculty at UBC. This is followed by a "Planetary Health" lecture, provided by Dr. Doug Courtemanche, that brings

awareness to our responsibilities as physicians to be stewards and protect the environment and resources that we share.

Alternative learning options are being implemented and a FLEX project to help create surgical teaching videos has continued to be expanded. Now surgical videos in Vascular Surgery, Otolaryngology, and Thoracic surgery have been compiled, and we are hoping to find keen students to develop more videos this coming year. Dr. Blair continues to be very involved with Medical Student Surgical Interest Group and we are consistently trying to improve the ability of our pre-clinical students to be exposed to the concepts of surgical thinking and decision-making. We also continue to make strides on the "Follow that Specimen" concept, whereby students on surgery rotations are able to see the histological findings of biopsies that they observed or assisted with.

The class of 2023 has wrapped up their last pre-CARMS electives and I wanted to express how impressed I am with them as they navigate their residency applications and interviews during this time. We wish all of our students the success they deserve.

Lastly, I wanted to speak to the surgical educators who have continued to provide the best possible learning environment for our students. Our students are always thankful for any time that you take to show them pearls of wisdom; whether it be how to place a horizontal mattress suture, a standard approach to examining an abdomen or, how to clearly

communicate with team members, all these moments are valuable learning opportunities. I know that you share the desire to provide our students with a safe and dignified learning environment. This has to be the standard we achieve every day: students who are fearful do not learn. Our mandate is to impart to students a framework on how to be a well-rounded medical student, to "think like a surgeon" when appropriate, and to provide them with valuable learning opportunities while simultaneously being "kind, calm, and safe". If anyone would like more information on our initiatives or would like to be involved in surgical education in any way please don't hesitate to contact me at [dr.a@ubc.ca](mailto:dr.a@ubc.ca)

**Dr. Arman Abdalkhani**  
Director, Undergraduate Surgical Education UBC Department of Surgery



# Research Updates



In my first year in the Associate Head of Research role within the Department, many activities have been introduced to empower the Department to conduct high-impact research.

The Department of Surgery Research Committee has met four times since its inception in 2021. The meetings will continue to take place regularly in 2023 to guide our vision for research, as well as drive increased support for emerging investigators.

Additionally, several Research Interest Groups have been formed, each addressing a high-priority area identified in the [Department's Strategic Plan for 2022-2025](#): *Clinical Trials* and *Clinically Oriented Innovations Research Interest Groups* for increased clinical trial participation; *Surgical Education Research Interest Group* aiming to advance education and leadership, especially in the distributed sites. The annual Research Mentorship Award was introduced to recognize a faculty member's outstanding ability to foster the intellectual, professional, and personal development of faculty colleagues. A virtual Research Retreat was held on May 13, 2022, to facilitate surgical research collaborations across disciplines, sites, and organizations external to the department.

The Department of Surgery Seed Grant Program launched in early 2022 and was a great success with [seven studies funded](#). The 2022/23

cycle application period of the Seed Grant Program concluded on November 30, 2022, and we look forward to the results in early 2023. To increase application and success in large grants including Michael Smith Health Research BC and CIHR, all Department researchers have been invited to send their grant proposals to me for an internal review.

This year I was honoured to chair the academic portion of the 2022 Chung Research Day which took place on November 7. This amazing celebration of Department research achievements featured some of the ongoing research projects, including:

**Dr. Andrea MacNeill**, General Surgery: *Defining Low-Carbon, High-Quality Kidney Care: Life Cycle Assessments of Kidney Transplant, Hemodialysis, and Peritoneal Dialysis*

**Dr. Ashleigh Nazareth**, Pediatric Surgery: *External Validation of the PRESTO Pediatric Model for Predicting In-Hospital Mortality from Traumatic Injury*

**Dr. Annie Lalonde**, General Surgery: *Evaluating the Impact of Increased After-Hours Access to Healthy and Low Carbon Food on the Wellness of General Surgery Residents: A Pilot Study*

**Dr. Soroush Rokui**, Cardiac Surgery: *Long-Term Outcomes of Isolated Mechanical versus Bioprosthetic Mitral Valve Replacement in Propensity Matched Patients*

**Melissa Lee**, Otolaryngology: *Assessing Hearing Disability and Health-Related Quality of Life in Profound Unilateral Sensorineural Hearing Loss (USNHL): A Systematic Review and Meta-*

## Analysis

**Veeral Desai**, Otolaryngology: *Mental Practice in Athletes, What Can Surgeons learn? : A Scoping Review*

The annual Department of Surgery faculty awards were presented:



**Dr. Hannah Piper**, Pediatric Surgery: **Hjalmar Johnson Early-Career Investigator Award**



**Dr. Rob Olson**, Radiation Oncology: **Richard Finley Senior Investigator Award.**

Additionally, this year saw the introduction of a new award, **Jeffrey Ennis Award in Medicine for Breast Cancer Treatment**, recognizing surgical residents' research achievements in Breast Cancer.



**Dr. Daegan Sit**, Radiation Oncology



**Dr. Kadhim Taqi**, General Surgery

I look forward to continuing to celebrate our research excellence while growing a more inclusive, effective, and transformational research culture within our Department in 2023.

**Dr. Rob Olson**  
Associate Head, Research  
Division Head, Radiation Oncology



# GRANTS

## UBC Research Grants April 1, 2022 to November 15, 2022

RESEARCHER	AMOUNT	SPONSOR	RESEARCHER	AMOUNT	SPONSOR
Arneja, Jugpal	27,734.54	National Institutes of Health	Luciani, Dan	1,167.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Brown, Carl	30,000.00	Canadian Association of General Surgeons	Luciani, Dan	20,000.00	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Canada
Chan, Jessica P.K	861.45	UBC Department of Surgery	Luciani, Dan	167,535.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Chan, Jessica P.K	40,168.00	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)	Lynn, Francis	111,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Clark, Haley	12,500.00	UBC Department of Surgery	Lynn, Francis	5,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Dawe, Philip	12,500.00	UBC Department of Surgery	Lynn, Francis	3,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Duzenli, Cheryl	12,375.00	Michael Smith Health Research BC	Lynn, Francis	138,465.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Garnis, Cathie	122,425.00	British Columbia Cancer Foundation	Lynn, Francis	60,000.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Garnis, Cathie	60,000.00	Cancer Research Society	Lynn, Francis	400,000.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Genoway, Krista	12,500.00	UBC Department of Surgery	Lynn, Francis	43,344.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Ghuman, Amandeep	12,500.00	UBC Department of Surgery	MacNeill, Andrea	151,128.00	Environment and Climate Change Canada
Henkelman, Erika	5,198.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute	MacNeill, Andrea	10,000.00	UBC Faculty of Medicine
Hsiang, York N.H.	2,475.00	Theravitae Inc.	MacNeill, Andrea	15,000.00	MITACS Inc.
Hynes, Sally L.	1,500.00	McMaster University	McGuire, Anna	151,081.50	Nucleix Inc.
Isaac, Kathryn V.	125,000.00	British Columbia Knowledge Development Fund (BCKDF)	McGuire, Anna	75,000.00	Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI)
Isaac, Kathryn V.	125,000.00	Canada Foundation for Innovation	Mui, Alice L.F.	45,000.00	MITACS Inc.
Isaac, Kathryn V.	50,766.00	UBC Department of Surgery	Olson, Robert	100,000.00	University of Northern British Columbia
Isaac, Kathryn V.	50,000.00	Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI)	Olson, Robert	66,749.99	Michael Smith Health Research BC
Isaac, Kathryn V.	150,000.00	Canadian Cancer Society	Olson, Robert	65,563.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Janjua, Arif	1,171.68	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)	Olson, Robert	9,980.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Javer, Amin	1,190.00	Sanofi-Aventis Canada Inc.	Peacock, Michael	185,513.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Joharifard, Shahrzad	10,000.00	UBC Faculty of Medicine	Prisman, Eitan	90,000.00	Michael Smith Health Research BC
Levings, Megan	30,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute	Rajapakshe, Rasika	98,017.50	Kheiron Medical Technologies, Inc
Levings, Megan	10,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute	Rajapakshe, Rasika	162,720.00	British Columbia Cancer Foundation
Levings, Megan	15,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute	Tamber, Mandeep	24,349.38	National Institutes of Health
Levings, Megan	100,000.00	British Columbia Children's Hospital Foundation	Thamboo, Andrew	2,120.00	OptiNose US, Inc.
Levings, Megan	134,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute	Thamboo, Andrew	30,000.00	Michael Smith Health Research BC
Levings, Megan	5,198.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute	Verchere, C. Bruce	40,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Levings, Megan	10,067.69	US Department of Defense	Verchere, C. Bruce	10,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Levings, Megan	49,500.00	Michael Smith Health Research BC	Verchere, C. Bruce	67,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Levings, Megan	150,000.00	The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust	Verchere, C. Bruce	12,500.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Levings, Megan	60,000.00	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Canada	Verchere, C. Bruce	40,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Levings, Megan	74,745.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)	Verchere, C. Bruce	5,198.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Levings, Megan	300,000.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)	Verchere, C. Bruce	200,000.00	UBC VP Research & Innovation
Levings, Megan	200,000.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)	Verchere, C. Bruce	179,916.00	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Levings, Megan	228,040.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)	Verchere, C. Bruce	174,611.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Levings, Megan	200,000.00	Canada Research Chairs	Verchere, C. Bruce	10,000.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Levings, Megan	78,000.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)	Verchere, C. Bruce	78,000.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
Levings, Megan	35,000.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)	Ye, Jian	3,512.51	CryoLife Inc.
Levings, Megan	35,000.00	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)	Ye, Jian	85,391.75	Edwards Lifesciences LLC
Luciani, Dan	111,000.00	BC Children's Hospital Research Institute			



# Congratulations to the Award Winners

## UBC Department of Surgery George W. Leroux Memorial Scholarship

**Sara Appleby**  
General Surgery



**Sophie Carr**  
General Surgery



**Dorsa Mousa-Doust**  
General Surgery



**Brendan McNeely**  
Otolaryngology



**Mariana Guitierrez Salazar**  
Plastic Surgery



**Farhad Udwardia**  
Vascular Surgery



## Faculty Award Recipients

Each year, the **Faculty of Medicine** recognizes faculty and staff members for excellence in teaching, research, administration, innovation and public service. Congratulations to our 2022 recipients from the Department of Surgery:

### **Heather Emmerton-Coughlin**

Faculty of Medicine Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching

### **Eitan Prisman**

Faculty of Medicine Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Research

### **Megan Levings**

Faculty of Medicine Distinguished Researcher Award

The **Order of British Columbia** recognizes persons who have served with the greatest distinction and excelled in any field of endeavour benefiting the people of British Columbia and beyond. The Order represents the highest form of recognition the Province can extend to its citizens.

### **Nadine Caron**

2022 Order of B.C.



# Promotions

Our Faculty members teach and inspire learners, serve as role models for the next generation of healthcare professionals, provide administrative leadership, promote professional development and advance research.

Congratulations to our Clinical Faculty members noted below who have been promoted in recognition of their outstanding academic contributions.

Read the [Clinical Faculty Appointments Policy](#) to learn more about criteria demonstrated to achieve each rank.



<b>Dr. Stephanie Chartier-Plante</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>General Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Christopher Diamond</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>Otolaryngology</i>	<b>Dr. Gareth Eeson</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>General Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. David Evans</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>General Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Michelle Goecke</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>General Surgery</i>
<b>Dr. Trevor Hamilton</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>General Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Trevor Hartl</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>Otolaryngology</i>	<b>Dr. Paris-Ann Ingledeew</b> Clinical Professor <i>Radiation Oncology</i>	<b>Dr. Emilie Joos</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>General Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Mohammadali Khorasani</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>General Surgery</i>
<b>Dr. Sepehr Khorasani</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>General Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. David Konkin</b> Clinical Professor <i>General Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Jane Lea</b> Clinical Professor <i>Otolaryngology</i>	<b>Dr. Kevin Lee</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>Vascular Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Shawn Mackenzie</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>General Surgery</i>
<b>Dr. Cailan Macpherson</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>General Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Jonathan Misskey</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>Vascular Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Benjamin Mou</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>Radiation Oncology</i>	<b>Dr. Scott Paquette</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>Neurosurgery</i>	<b>Dr. Joel Price</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>Cardiac Surgery</i>
<b>Dr. Nicole Robbins</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>General Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Hossein Shayan</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>Cardiac Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Hanif Ukani</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>Plastic Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Calvin Wan</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>Cardiac Surgery</i>	<b>Dr. Kevin Wiseman</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>General Surgery</i>



# Welcome to our newly appointed Clinical Faculty members

As one of the world's leading medical schools, UBC's Faculty of Medicine has a bold vision: to transform health for everyone. It's a bold vision but one that our faculty members spread across our province are helping to realize.

We wish a warm welcome the new UBC Department of Surgery clinical faculty members listed below.

<p><b>Dr. Mohammed Al Aklabi</b> Clinical Associate Professor <i>Cardiac Surgery</i> Lion's Gate Hospital</p>	<p><b>Dr. James Choi</b> Clinical Instructor <i>Thoracic Surgery</i> Vancouver General Hospital</p>	<p><b>Dr. Terry Farquhar</b> Clinical Instructor <i>Member at Large</i> Royal Jubilee Hospital</p>	<p><b>Dr. Mostafa Fatehi Hassanabad</b> Clinical Instructor <i>Neurosurgery</i> Vancouver General Hospital</p>
<p><b>Dr. Bill Huang</b> Clinical Instructor <i>Vascular Surgery</i> Royal Jubilee Hospital</p>	<p><b>Dr. Katie Jasper</b> Clinical Instructor <i>Radiation Oncology</i> BC Cancer - Kelowna</p>	<p><b>Dr. Pawel Makarewicz</b> Clinical Instructor <i>General Surgery</i> Powell River General Hospital</p>	<p><b>Dr. Jieun Newman-Bremang</b> Clinical Instructor <i>General Surgery</i> Mount Saint Joseph Hospital</p>
<p><b>Dr. Justin Oh</b> Clinical Instructor <i>Radiation Oncology</i> BC Cancer - Vancouver</p>	<p><b>Dr. Evgeny Sadikov</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>Radiation Oncology</i> BC Cancer – Abbotsford</p>	<p><b>Dr. Keerit Tauh</b> Clinical Instructor <i>Cardiac Surgery</i> Kelowna General Hospital</p>	<p><b>Dr. Michael Tso</b> Clinical Assistant Professor <i>Neurosurgery</i> Kelowna General Hospital</p>
<p><b>Dr. Dianne Valenzuela</b> Clinical Instructor <i>Otolaryngology</i> UBC Hospital</p>	<p><b>Thank you for your willingness to contribute to medical education!</b></p>		<p><b>Dr. Brenden van der Westhuizen</b> Clinical Instructor <i>General Surgery</i> Kelowna General Hospital</p>

## 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](http://www.surgery.ubc.ca). Please contact [Bethany.saunders@ubc.ca](mailto:Bethany.saunders@ubc.ca) with your news.

## Missed a Grand Rounds?

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

