

MEDICINE MATTERS

DoM | DEPARTMENT
of MEDICINE
Improving Lives

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HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA

NO. 9, SPRING & SUMMER 2012 NEWSLETTER

CARDIOLOGY • CLINICAL DERMATOLOGY & CUTANEOUS SCIENCE • ENDOCRINOLOGY • GASTROENTEROLOGY • GENERAL MEDICINE
GERIATRIC MEDICINE • HEMATOLOGY • INFECTIOUS DISEASES • MEDICAL ONCOLOGY • NEPHROLOGY • NEUROLOGY
PALLIATIVE MEDICINE • PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION • RESPIROLOGY • RHEUMATOLOGY

DEPARTMENT HEAD'S REPORT



This edition of Medicine Matters highlights a sentinel part of our mission - our residency-training program. Welcome to the 19 incoming PGY1 residents. Thanks to Dr. Darrell White who will be stepping down from the program director position after leading us through a recent very successful Royal College review.

Congratulations to Dr. Mahesh Raju, our dear colleague from Saint John, who was awarded the departmental Dr. Brian Chandler Lifetime Achievement award in Medical Education at our 2012 spring party.

The first phase of our strategic planning process is nearing completion and it provide a helpful roadmap to guide future Departmental directions.

Please set aside January 11 and 12, 2013 to attend the FEAR undergraduate educational conference which is co-lead by the Department.

On a more somber note we acknowledge the passing of two legends in our Department, Dr Jim Haldane who was a general internist in Halifax for over 25 years and Dr. Robert Tonks who assumed the role of acting division head of geriatrics during a difficult transitional period. Both made lasting contributions.

David Anderson, MD, FRCPC

*Head, Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University
District Chief, Department of Medicine, Capital District Health Authority
Professor of Medicine, Community Health & Epidemiology, Pathology*

All of the Department of Medicine Residency Training Programs surveyed in February 2012 received **full accreditation** by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. The next accreditation survey will be held in 2018.

Brian Buchanan and **Michael Tan** will be the DoM Chief Medicine Residents for the 2012-13 academic year, and **Brent McGrath** will be the Associate Chief Medicine Resident, Saint John Site.



ALZHEIMER RESEARCH CHAIR

Dalhousie University President, Dr. Tom Traves, Dean Tom Marrie, Mr. Frank Sobey, Mr. Don Sobey and Mr. David Sobey announced on June 21, 2012 that The Sobey Foundation donated \$2-million to the Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation (DMRF) to establish the DMRF Irene MacDonald Sobey Endowed Chair in Curative Approaches to Alzheimer's Disease at Dalhousie University.

The chair will be held by Department of Medicine Neurologist, **Dr. Donald Weaver**, an internationally acclaimed researcher. In addition to being a neurologist, Dr. Weaver is also a chemist. He has been awarded numerous national and international prizes for outstanding contributions in clinical and laboratory research in recent years. His world-class research lab employs about 20 highly trained staff, mostly chemists. Dr. Weaver is also very much appreciated by his colleagues, students & patients for his superb clinical skills and jovial sense of humor.



Photo by Nick Pearce

General Internist **Dr. Elizabeth Mann** assumed the role of President of The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia on May 25, 2012. This prestigious office is held for a two year term and the CPSNS will undoubtedly benefit from Dr. Mann's considerable expertise and experience as a clinician, mentor and administrator. The CPSNS serves as the licensing and regulatory body for the medical profession within the province of Nova Scotia.

Dr. Lynn Johnston was elected to the Doctors Nova Scotia 2012-2013 Board of Directors.

Congratulations to **Dr. Raj Parkash**, who received a Gold Headed Cane Award from the Nova Scotia College of Physicians and Surgeons at a gala dinner on February 16th. The award acknowledges outstanding professionalism in medical practice.

Congratulations to **Dr. Louis Fernandez**, who was awarded the Senior Membership Award by Doctors Nova Scotia at their annual meeting on June 2nd.

CASE REPORTS FROM THE MTU

The Dalhousie Medical Journal has a new feature called *Case reports from the MTU*. Proposed by **Dr. Nathan Lamond**, PGY3 IM Resident. An interesting case from the Medical Teaching Unit will be highlighted in upcoming editions of the DMJ. This will include a comprehensive review of the patient's presentation, imaging, diagnosis, and treatment.



CASE REPORTS FROM THE MTU DoM DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE
Improving Lives
Case 1. A 69 Year-Old Female Presenting With Fatigue and Acute Kidney Injury

Nathan W.D. Lamond MD, Colin Van Zoost MD; Dennis Bowie MD
 Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University

RESEARCH DAY ~ MAY 17, 2012

The Department's Research Day, held on May 17th, was a very successful event with a record number of abstracts submitted and over 100 attendees which included both faculty and residents. The podium presentations from faculty and residents were of the highest caliber as was the guest lecture by Dr. Proton Rahman "Genetics in Rheumatology Practice – The Last Mile Problem".

Dr. Rahman is a clinician scientist at Memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland and is active in spondylitis genetics research, especially as it pertains to the genetics of psoriatic arthritis. He has published widely in this area and has made original contributions in the mode of inheritance of psoriatic arthritis as well as identification of novel genes for disease susceptibility and expression in psoriatic arthritis.

The following awards were presented:

AWARD	RECIPIENT
Best Resident/Student Oral Presentation	Dr. Sanjog Kalra
Best Core Resident/Student Poster Presentation	Hany Abdelhady (PhD student)
Best Sub-Specialty Resident Poster Presentation	Dr. Natalie Parks
Resident's Choice – Best Faculty Oral or Poster Presentation	Dr. Donald Weaver

DoM Golf Day was held on June 4th at the Chester Golf Club. Thanks to retired DoM CFO and golf enthusiast, **Graham MacIntyre**, for organizing the event which was a lot of fun for all who attended!



THANK YOU



DoM Manager **Mike Twigg** will be leaving August 31st to pursue full-time studies in Physiotherapy at Dalhousie. Mike has a masters degree in management and has worked for DoM since 2006. He is very highly regarded throughout Capital Health for his skill and professionalism and he will be greatly missed. Best wishes for your future career Mike!

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Graeme Rocker was invited to do a closing plenary at the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) & HPNA Annual Assembly in Denver, CO, March 2012. Quite an honour! Dr. Rocker's presentation *Refractory Dyspnea in Advanced COPD: New Insights and Novel Interventions* received stellar reviews, above average scores and had a positive impact on attendees.

The Division of General Internal Medicine congratulates **Melissa Chaffey** on being named Team Lead for the Division. Melissa held this position on a temporary basis over the past year, and has done an outstanding job!

Gastroenterology also welcomes **Linda Simpkin** as Team Lead. Linda also assumed this role temporarily initially, but the Division is thrilled to now have her in this position permanently.



Congratulations to **Susan Rahey**, Neurophysiology Program Coordinator, who received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal on April 28th, 2012.

The ALS Society of Nova Scotia nominated Susan Rahey for her compassion and dedication to people living with ALS.



FEAR MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE 2013

The DoM and FOM Medical Education Office are co-hosting the annual FEAR Memorial Conference for faculty and residents Jan 11-12, 2013. Co-chairs, **David Anderson** and Joan Sargeant, are organizing the event entitled: "Moving on Up! A Clear Pathway or Giant Leaps? The conference will explore the medical student, clinical clerk and resident continuum and whether one educational experience adequately prepares individuals for the next step.

DoM FACULTY PROMOTIONS

The Department of Medicine congratulates the following physicians who have received academic promotions effective July 1, 2012.

TO FULL PROFESSOR

Dr. Paul Hernandez, Respiriology

Dr. Ali Imran, Endocrinology

Dr. Tammy Keough-Ryan, Nephrology

Dr. Chris Koilpillai, Cardiology

Dr. Laurie Mallery, Geriatric Medicine

Dr. Shelly McNeil, Infectious Diseases

Dr. John Sapp, Cardiology

Dr. Lori Wood, Medical Oncology

TO ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Dr. Trudy Taylor, Rheumatology

Dr. Stephanie Snow, Medical Oncology

Dr. Penelope Poyah, Nephrology

1ST HALIFAX-HAVANA COURSE

Dr. Mark Sadler was awarded a grant from the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE). ILAE's program "Partnering Epilepsy Centers in the Americas (PECA)" is designed to promote better epilepsy care in less developed countries in the Americas (Central, South, and the Caribbean).

Dr. Mark Sadler (Neurology), David Clarke (Neurosurgery) and Susan Rahey (Neurophysiology Program Coordinator) recently travelled

to Hermanos Ameijeiras Hospital, Havana, Cuba, April 9-13, 2012, for the first Halifax-Havana Course on Temporal Lobe Epilepsy Surgery, an extremely successful venture.



l-r: Mark Sadler, Justo Gonzalez, Susan Rahey, Renn Holness, David Clarke

WITH MUCH APPRECIATION!

Dr. Martin Gardner completed his term as Associate Dean, Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME) on June 30th. A sincere thank you to Dr. Gardner for his excellent and steadfast leadership over the five year term. Pediatric Cardiologist, Dr. Andrew Warren is the new Associate Dean, PGME effective July 1, 2012.



AWARDS & MEDICAL JEOPARDY

DoM Grand Rounds Awards for the 2011/12 academic year were presented on June 19th, to the following individuals:

AWARD	RECIPIENT
Award of Merit	Dr. David Macdonald, Hematology
Guest Speaker Dickson Lecture	Dr. Gil Kaplan, Gastroenterology
Award of Merit	Dr. Ratika Parkash, Cardiology
Overall Excellence	Dr. Richard Langley, Clinical Dermatology & Cutaneous Science

DoM Medical Jeopardy, brilliantly orchestrated by Dr. Gordon Gubitza was held on June 26th in the Royal Bank Theatre. Alex Trebek has nothing on Gord Gubitza for timing, wit, and sheer entertainment value. It's an event not to be missed!



l-r: Drs. Stephen Couban, Nancy Morrison, Stephen Workman, Euseok Kim, Gordon Gubitza and Kevork Peltekian



l-r: Drs. Colin van Zoost, Nathan Lamond, Magnus McLeod and Charles Maxner

SPRING PARTY



The Department of Medicine Spring Party was held on Thursday, June 21st, 2012 at the Prince George Hotel, Halifax.

AWARD	RECIPIENT
25 Year Meritorious Service Awards	Dr. Christopher Gallant Dr. John Hanly Dr. B. Lynn Johnston Dr. David Haldane Dr. K. Sue Robinson Dr. Laura Finlayson Dr. John Dornan
Excellence in Medical Education Awards	Dr. Stephen Workman Dr. Rosario Rebello Dr. Hussein Beydoun Dr. Christine Dipchand
2012 Achievement Award	Dr. Nancy J. Morrison
Brian M. Chandler Lifetime Achievement Award in Medical Education	Dr. Mahesh Raju, Saint John Campus (pictured above with Dr. David Anderson)
Excellence in Resident Research	Dr. Colin van Zoost
Special Recognition in Resident Research	Dr. Nathan Lamond Dr. Colin van Zoost
Special Resident Recognition (Interesting Case Rounds)	Dr. Colin van Zoost
Special Resident Recognition (Journal Club)	Dr. Tim Olynych
Excellence in Undergrad Teaching (Resident)	Dr. Nathan Lamond
Excellence in Summer Grand Rounds	Dr. Colin van Zoost
Outstanding Resident Award PGY1	Dr. Jordan Webber
Outstanding Resident Award PGY2	Dr. Brian Buchanan
Outstanding Resident Award PGY3	Dr. Colin van Zoost
Chief Residents	Dr. Jaclyn Flemming Dr. John Igoe



Internal Medicine Resident Group
2011-2012

PHYSICIAN RESOURCE OFFICE



Meredith Chiasson joined the Division of Respiriology on July 1, 2012. Dr. Chiasson completed her medical degree at Dalhousie and Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Western Ontario. She is the first graduate of the Respiriology Postgraduate Training program.



Brian Clarke joined the Division of Cardiology on January 1, 2012. Dr. Clarke completed his medical degree, internal medicine residency and adult cardiology residency at Dalhousie University. Dr. Clarke was Chief Cardiology Resident in 2008-2009. Most recently, he completed a Clinical Fellowship in Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplantation at Stanford University. Research interests include heart failure.



W. Brent Culligan joined the Division of General Internal Medicine on March 1, 2012. Dr. Culligan is a dedicated, caring, and hard working Internist with training in infectious diseases and critical care. He is a military medical officer at the rank of Major with previous work experience as a family physician, military pilot and design engineer.



Helen Curran, joined the Division of Cardiology on August 1, 2012. Dr. Curran received her medical degree from the University of Ottawa. She completed her internal medicine residency and adult cardiology fellowship at Dalhousie with additional training in interventional cardiology at the University of Calgary. Recreational interests include long distance running, trail running, hiking, duathlon and cycling.



Anne Marie Krueger-Naug joined the Divisions of General Internal Medicine (85%) and Palliative Medicine (15%) on August 1, 2012. She completed her PhD (Anatomy and Neurobiology), medical degree, internal medicine residency, General Internal Medicine fellowship and Year of Added Competency (Palliative Medicine) at Dalhousie University.



Barna Tugwell joined the Division of Endocrinology, on February 1, 2012. Dr. Tugwell received her medical degree from Harvard. She began her Internal Medicine training in Boston and was a fourth year GIM resident. Following that, she pursued a fellowship in Endocrinology & Metabolism at Dalhousie. Previous positions include Staff Physician and Assistant Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine at Dal and an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer in Atlanta, GA and Portland, OR.



Churn-Ern Yip joined the Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism on August 1, 2012. Dr. Yip completed his medical degree at St. George's University School of Medicine in Grenada, West Indies, June 2006, Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Alberta, June 2010 and his Endocrinology subspecialty training at Dalhousie, June 2012.

RACE & RESCUE



Photo by: Trevor Johnston

Shortly after completing the Ottawa half-marathon on May 27th, graduating Cardiology resident, Dr. Doug Hayami's training was put into action unexpectedly, when a fellow runner suffered a cardiac arrest immediately following the race.

An article was featured in the Ottawa Citizen about the event, and apparently the patient fared well. Incredible timing!

RETIREMENTS

General Internist, **Dr. Benedict (Ben) Cooney**, retired on June 30, 2012. In recent years, Dr. Cooney practiced privately and at the Dartmouth General Hospital.

Respirologist **Dr. Dennis Bowie** retired from full time practice on June 30th following 28 years of dedicated service to the Respiriology division and his many patients and students. Dr. Bowie was Head of the Respiriology Division from 1991 to 2001. Aside from his well recognized clinical acumen, Dennis is appreciated for his gentlemanly kindness to everyone he encounters. He will continue to work in the Division on a part time basis.



After 30+ years of dedicated service, **Linda Rouleau** and **Colleen Sloan**, retired! Linda was Team Lead for Gastroenterology and most recently Critical Care, and Colleen worked in Cardiology. Best wishes!

SAD NEWS

The Department was saddened to hear of the passing of **Dr. James Haldane** (May 26, 1919 - July 21, 2012). Dr. Haldane was a well respected General Internist in the Department of Medicine from 1965-1990. Our condolences go out to his family, especially, his wife, Dr. Vanora Haldane; and his son, Dr. David Haldane, a member of the Division of Infectious Diseases.



The Department was saddened to hear of the passing of **Dr. Robert Stanley "Bob" Tonks** (August 13, 1928 - April 17, 2012), a retired member of the Division of Geriatric Medicine. Dr. Tonks assumed the role of Acting Division Head, Geriatric Medicine from Oct 1991 to Feb 1994.

