At the beginning of the 1970s, Richard Cruess, then Chief Surgeon at the Shriners Hospital and Chair of Orthopedic Surgery at McGill, had a vision to create two world-class skeletal research laboratories at the Shriners - one dealing with bone disorders and the other with joint disease. His vision became a reality.

Early in the 1970s, the commitment was made and the funds were assigned to build first the Genetics Unit, headed by Francis Glorieux.

Then in 1977, the Joint Diseases Laboratory (JDL) opened, headed by Robin Poole. He came from the Department of Pathology, University of Cambridge, England and the Strangeways Research Laboratory, a world leader in arthritis and skeletal research since 1912.

It was in the fall of 1977 that the JDL was opened by Dame Honor Fell, Director of the Strangeways from 1927 to 1970, a world authority on skeletal development and cartilage research and who predicted, from her research, the existence of interleukin-1 - a molecule that causes the destruction of articular cartilage and bone.

Anneliese Recklies (AR), John Mort (JM, from the University of Western Ontario) and Peter Roughley (PR, also from the Strangeways) were recruited and went on to establish their own interactive basic research programs in the JDL together with Robin Poole (RP). These 4 programs stretched to 5 when Elaine Golds (EG) joined us from McGill's Department of Biochemistry.

(Please see Shriners on page 4)
Dear Editor,
I deeply apologize for not calling or writing to you before. I hope that you will find a place in your heart to forgive me and accept my excuses. This was a very busy year for me at all levels. I barely see my wife and children for a few hours every several days. I do 1 in 2 in-house calls continuously and I typically spend the post-call day in the hospital anyway. Nevertheless, I’m having a great time here at Stanford doing the congenital heart surgery fellowship with Dr. Hanley and Dr. Reddy. I was able to develop and enjoy great technical skills in neonatal cardiac surgery that I never thought achievable with less than 10 years of post-training experience.

I will be back to Saudi Arabia in July 2006. I’m looking forward to the move and starting my career in this specialty that I love and have great passion for. I’m not clearly sure where I will be in 5 or 10 years from now, but I’m certain and determined to do my best.

During my stay here at Stanford over the last 2 years, I did my best to give the best impression about McGill Cardiac Surgery training and the quality of the graduates of that program, and I will continue to do so for the rest of my career.

Your sincere student,
Abdulaziz AlKhaldi, MD, FRCS
Clinical Fellow in Cardiac Surgery,
Stanford University,
Palo Alto, California, USA

(Dr. Al-Khaldi completed his Cardiac Surgery Residency at McGill in 2004)

Dear Editor,
I read with great pleasure every issue of the Square Knot. It is always pleasant to learn about what is happening at McGill and also what is happening to fellow residents and teachers, many of whom I remember with great admiration and nostalgia. Since August 2001, I joined the Division of Trauma and the Department of Critical Care Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. This move has turned out to be the most gratifying and rewarding decision in my career since I left Montreal in 1989.

I am proud to share with you that I am now a PI of an R01 grant from the NHLBI on Inflammatory and Metabolic Systems in Irreversible Shock. This is a project where clinicians, physiologists, and mathematicians all work together in developing mathematical models to better define the determinants of circulatory collapse associated to hemorrhage. I am also the Secretary for Latin America of the Pan–American Trauma Society (PTS), and I am very happy to inform you that in March of 2006 the Trauma Association of Canada (TAC) and the PTS held for the first time a combined Trauma meeting in Banff Alberta. The meeting was a great success. Surgeons from Latin America had the opportunity of sharing their extensive experience in trauma surgery with physicians from Canada and USA. There were many activities where members of the TAC and the PTS worked hand in hand, such as a workshop on percutaneous tracheostomy, disaster response course, debates and case presentations. It is our hope that both trauma societies will soon come together again to repeat this experience hopefully in México (Puerto Vallarta) in November of 2007.

Finally, I am extremely proud to share with the McGill – Square Knot community recent news that the University of Pittsburgh has been awarded an International Trauma Training Grant from the NIH Fogarty Institute. I was instrumental in structuring this grant in collaboration with the Universidad del Valle in Cali Colombia (my home country). What this means is that for the next 5 years the University of Pittsburgh will be offering a Masters or PhD in Clinical Research in Trauma to 2 individuals from Colombia. They will come to Pittsburgh to attend graduate school and at the same time to participate in trauma research programs with the Pittsburgh faculty in Trauma and/or CCM. Upon completion of their training, the grant/program will provide further support for them to return to Colombia and engage on active research projects tailored to the local health care needs. In addition, Pitt faculty will be traveling to Colombia once a year to carry out Trauma Research seminars/symposiums with experts in injury control, prevention as well as in clinical aspects of trauma care. This is a wonderful opportunity that will allow me to continue my commitment to education not only in Colombia but also in Latin America. I am always thankful of the opportunity given to me in training at a world-class program such as McGill, and I am pleased that this grant may serve as retribution to the efforts of those who participated in my medical education both in Colombia and in Canada.

Juan Carlos Puyana M.D.,
FACS, FRCS, FACC
Associate Professor of Surgery
and Critical Care
University of Pittsburgh
Director Applied Research Innovative
Medical & Information
Technology Center, UPMC

(Dr. Puyana was a General Surgery
Resident at the Vic under MacLean–Meakins 1984-1989.)

“Surgery is the ready motion of steady hands”.
— Galen (fl. 2nd Century)
Definitions Medicæ, XXIV
One of the joys of editing The Square Knot, with the able assistance of Mrs. Emma Lisi, is to receive many spontaneous contributions of interesting articles from our alumni and members of the McGill Department of Surgery. Among them in this issue of The Square Knot is a book review article on Dr. Harvey Cushing by Dr. Lloyd MacLean, past Chairman of this Department who was himself one of the leading surgeons of the twentieth century. Dr. Cushing was a teacher of Dr. Wilder Penfield, founder of McGill’s famous Montreal Neurological Institute.

Another source of satisfaction and pride is the list of achievements we receive from our students, residents, faculty and alumni. Because this list is so long, we can only describe here kudos and honors conferred during the past several months. Many life long achievements, although highly deserving, could not be included here due to the limited space available.

Above all, however, we celebrate the end of an academic year and the beginning of a new one. We send off the graduating residents with pride, and wish them successful careers and happy lives, and we are pleased to see new faculty members and residents join this big family with high expectations. Welcome aboard!

“No, you weren’t downloaded. You were born.”

DR. WASSIM KASSOUF joins the McGill Division of Urology on August 1, 2006 and is based at the MGH. Dr. Kassouf is McGill trained (M.D. 1998) having completed his residency in 2003. For the past three years, he was a research and clinical fellow in Urologic Oncology at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. During that time, he devoted a full two years to basic science research. He has been studying the area of signal transduction in invasive and superficial transitional cell carcinoma of the bladder. Dr. Kassouf will join the McGill Urologic Oncology Research Group at the MUHC Research Institute. He will initiate a program in bladder cancer research, which will be complementary to the existing programs in prostate and kidney cancer.

DR. KOSAR KHWAJA joins the Trauma Team at the Montreal General Hospital on July 1, 2006. Dr. Khwaja did his M.D. at McGill (’99) and completed his residency in General Surgery in 2005. During his residency, he did one year in the Surgeon-Scientist Program obtaining his M.Sc. in Experimental Surgery in 2004. Dr. Khwaja entered the McGill Critical Care Medicine Fellowship Program in January 2004 as a general surgery resident and completed a fellowship in Critical Care Medicine in June 2006. Kosar will be taking on a position in Trauma and Critical Care, and will be involved in clinical research in the ICU.

DR. WENDY PARKER joins the McGill Division of Plastic Surgery on July 1, 2006, based at the Jewish General Hospital. She will also be appointed as an Associate Member at the Montreal Children’s Hospital. Dr. Parker obtained her M.D. at the University of British Columbia in 1997 and completed her residency in Plastic Surgery at McGill in 2005. She has completed one year of fellowship in Hand Surgery at the Mayo Clinic. During her residency, she completed three years of research in the Surgeon-Scientist Program, obtaining her Ph.D. in Experimental Surgery in 2003.

Welcome Aboard

By Madeline Beaulne
The research focus was on articular cartilage, its structure (PR, RP), involvement in growth (RP), and its destruction in arthritic joints (JM, AR, PR, EG, RP). This involved the groups’ work on the mechanisms whereby synovial inflammation destroyed cartilage (EG, AR) and how autoimmunity to cartilage caused this inflammation (RP). This research was complemented by an examination of the role of cartilage in skeletal development (RP) and how all these mechanisms were regulated (all investigators). As you can see, the research was very comprehensive and extended over an area much larger than that covered by most laboratories. This was essential so we could get a big picture of how everything was interrelated.

To make this research possible, we created a team of technicians/research assistants with considerable expertise, many of who are still with us today or who retired only very recently. These included Agnes Reiner, Isabelle Pidoux, Mirela Ionescu, Patti Mason, Bob and Chantal White. This was our ‘engine room’. We worked as teams and published and trained new investigators together.

Trainees have always been an essential part of our research efforts. They get the particularly challenging projects and grow in strength as a consequence. Summer students, undergraduates, masters and Ph.D students, together with post-doctoral fellows have accounted for over 75 trainees since 1977. Most were introduced to arthritis and skeletal research in the JDL. The majority have gone on to continue this work around the world, in many cases taking leadership roles as heads of departments and research groups. Many of these trainees have come from a clinical background and gone on to establish a combined clinical/basic research career particularly in orthopedics, rheumatology, veterinary medicine and pediatrics. Others went into industry and regulatory agencies. Many stayed in academia.

With all this activity, there were weekly research meetings (2 or 3 a week at one time) of the whole group and sub-groups. At one stage, the lab had well over 30 members. The group size was usually at least in the mid 20s.

Visiting scientists and trainees were an integral part of the lab as were visiting speakers.

How did we manage to support all this activity? Well it resulted from the success of the research which led to peer reviewed core funding to each of the principal investigators from Shriners Hospitals, with National Institutes of Health (NIH) reviewers based in the USA. This was supplemented by much funding from NIH (to RP) and to all our investigators from The Arthritis Society, Medical Research Council/Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Research Foundations and Industry.

The research contributions of the laboratory have been many. Peter Roughley, who later moved to the Genetics Lab at the Shriners, has led a group that focuses on the structure, function and (with John Mort) the degradation and turnover of cartilage matrix proteoglycans and related molecules (with Anneliese Recklies). These structures give cartilage its unique capacity to dissipate load, without which cartilage collapses. This research has led to the identification of how to block this aspect of cartilage resorption in arthritis and new ways of stimulating the repair of cartilage.

John Mort and his colleagues have mainly focused on proteolysis, how non-collagenous molecules are destroyed in cartilage and how their activities can be inhibited. To do this, he and his team have collaborated with the National Research Council of Canada to elucidate the structure of key proteases so they can see how they function and how their activities are regulated and may be inhibited, thereby coming up with the information needed to produce drugs to target these molecules, the excessive activities of which produce joint destruction in arthritis. John has also pioneered the development of antibodies, which detect and analyse the cleavage of non-collagenous matrix molecules, a very powerful technology used worldwide today.

The team of Anneliese Recklies discovered and is now analyzing the properties of a matrix molecule produced by cartilage and synovium, particularly in arthritis, called GP39. It can regulate cartilage destruction by cytokines and has the properties to drive cartilage repair.

Elaine Golds and her group laid the foundations of our understanding of pro-inflammatory cytokines that drive the inflammatory process in joints before moving, joining her husband in B.C.

Since he moved to Montreal and started the JDL, Robin Poole has had a number of research interests. In Cambridge, he was intrigued as to the relevance and importance of autoimmunity and whether the direction of immunity against the body’s own joint cartilage could explain the chronicity of inflammatory erosive joint diseases in children and adults such as juvenile and adult rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis. He and his colleagues have been able to show how immunity to proteoglycans can be detected in these diseases and that when this immunity is created experimentally in mice they develop these diseases.

His work on the growth plate and articular cartilage has revealed that in osteoarthritis the cells in cartilage become...
hypertrophic, as in the growth plate, and start to resorb the matrix of cartilage, particularly the collagen fibrils that give cartilage its strength. With knowledge of how resorption is regulated in growth, he and Elena Tchetina and Masa Kobayashi have been able to stop this resorption and prevent the destruction of collagen in the laboratory. He went on to show that these collagen breakdown products can themselves cause further damage by activating cartilage chondrocytes to produce proteases and cytokines such as IL-1 that can cause this damage.

All this information from the work of the whole group is being used in the creation of new drugs and technologies to treat arthritis. Some of the products, such as the biomarker assays, are already commercially available for research and drug development.

To perform these studies, Robin Poole took a leaf out of John Mort’s book and developed antibodies and importantly immunoassays with which to quantitate the cleavage of cartilage collagen both ex vivo, in vitro and in vivo. This led to the identification of a key collagenase in collagen resorption in both the growth plate and as a target for therapy in arthritis.

These and other assays developed by his team to measure collagen synthesis and proteoglycan turnover were used to analyze blood and urine in patients for specific markers of cartilage degradation and repair. With them we can now detect and measure growth, onset of osteoarthritis, very early responses to treatment in RA and AS and are able to now start to predict rates of disease progression in these diseases. The assays, called biochemical biomarkers, are now produced commercially in Montreal and are being used worldwide in both pre-clinical and clinical studies in research and drug development. The revenues from this activity are returned to Shriners Hospitals for investment in future research programs.

The results of all these studies have been presented by trainees and investigators at many conferences over the years. There will have been almost 600 peer reviewed papers and almost 150 reviews published as a result of these studies. Several key patents have been awarded to members of the “team” in recent years to support the translation by industry of this large body of knowledge.

In recognition of their work, the group has received many honours, including the trainees. All investigators take their turns on various national and international research review committees including CIHR and NIH. Peter Roughley has been President of the Canadian Orthopedic Research Society and received their Founders Medal. He also received first a Chercheur Boursier from Quebec and then a Medical Research Council Scientist award to fund his career development in recognition of the excellence of his research.

Robin Poole has received a number of awards that include the Carol Nachman International Prize for Rheumatology Research, The Kappa Delta Award of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons and the Orthopedic Research Society, an honorary Doctor of Science degree from his Alma Mater, Reading University in England (where he started research as a microbiologist), and the Holley Research Award of the American College of Rheumatology. Last year, they made him a Master for his contributions to Rheumatology (the first to go to a non-MD). Like Peter Roughley he has also been President of the Canadian Orthopedic Research Society, and also of the World Congress of Inflammation Research Associations. He continues his advisory work as a member of many scientific and editorial advisory boards in industry and academia.

Members of JDL have and continue to contribute to teaching and administrative programs at McGill and in the Department of Surgery with Peter Roughley and John Mort being very involved in teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels, respectively.

The research of the JDL, together with its training and collaborative programs, have contributed to the creation of an extensive research and training network in arthritis and musculoskeletal research in Canada. As a direct spin-off, the annual Canadian Connective Tissue Research Conference was started by Robin Poole in 1994, designed to provide a forum for trainees and researchers to meet annually to present and share results and plan future initiatives.

In 1998, Tony Cruz in Toronto and Robin Poole led the creation of the Canadian Arthritis Network (CAN), a National Center of Excellence funded by the Federal Government. As a result, extensive national training programs in arthritis and musculoskeletal research have been created with The Arthritis Society of Canada. CAN has driven the creation of a national clinical trials program in arthritis, the Canadian Rheumatology Research Consortium, promoted many multidisciplinary collaborations between basic scientists and clinicians, and actively helps translate new discoveries into the marketplace (to help patients with arthritis) in partnership with Canadian and international companies. Robin Poole went on to become Scientific Director of CAN. The investigators in the JDL and many of their CAN collaborators form a key part of the research core dealing with joint destruction. They also benefit from the new research funding that was created. Recently, the Network was renewed for a second 7-year cycle.
The Joint Diseases Laboratory, a product of Richard Cruess’ vision, has therefore impacted and advanced research in many ways both nationally and internationally. JDL became an international leader in arthritis research and its contributions in trainees and knowledge will have a lasting impact. None of this would have been possible without the expertise, commitment and partnership of a very special team, the JDL “family”, working together with their clinical and basic scientific colleagues at McGill and elsewhere to make all this happen. Without the long term commitment to research demonstrated by Shriners Hospitals and the support of McGill University, and especially the Department of Surgery, these exciting and productive times would not have been.

Today the scientists continue their outstanding work at the Shriners Hospital and the legacy is there for all to see. But the JDL is no more. Robin Poole retired from Shriners Hospitals and McGill at the end of 2005 to have a little more control of his life and, most importantly, more time with his family. But he continues to enjoy his many research and administrative interests, maintaining his links with McGill as Professor Emeritus. 

Robin Poole, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus, McGill University

Professor Emeritus
Dr. Henry Shibata

Dr. Henry Shibata

Henry Ryusuke Shibata, FACS, FRCS(C), MD
(Hiroshima University); MSC (McGill University)

A native of Vancouver, Henry Shibata moved to Japan after World War II and earned his medical degree at the Hiroshima University School of Medicine, graduating in 1955. He spent a year as research assistant at the Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission before returning to North America to further his surgical training. In 1961, he came to Montreal and completed his training at the Royal Victoria Hospital before joining the academic staff of McGill.

At McGill, he pioneered the development of immunotherapy for melanoma, co-founding the Melanoma Clinic in 1972. In 1974, he began work in randomized clinical trials to improve the treatment of breast and bowel cancer and melanoma, through the NSABP. A champion of surgical oncology at McGill for more than forty years, he founded the first training program in General Surgical Oncology in Canada at the University in 1978 and the Royal College approved program in 1994.

Dr. Shibata was the founding President of the Canadian Society of Surgical Oncology, President of the Canadian Oncology Societies, and President of the American Association of Cancer Education. In 1962, he co-founded the Montreal Academy Club that has helped many young Japanese researchers adapt to working in Montreal.

Dr. Shibata has also established an ongoing link between McGill University Faculty of Medicine and the Hiroshima University School of Medicine, which allows for the exchange of medical students and researchers. In 2002, Dr. Shibata was honoured by the Government of Japan with a medal, the “Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Rosette.”

New President of Palais des congrès Ambassadors’ Club

At the 2006 Recognition Award Gala on May 4, 2006, Dr. Jacques Corcos was appointed President of the Ambassadors’ Club of the Palais des congrès de Montréal. Chief of the Department of Urology at the Jewish General Hospital and Ambassador by appointment since 2002, Dr. Corcos is recognized the world over for his expertise in the field of incontinence. He chaired the 35th Annual Meeting of the International Continence Society held at the Palais from August 28 to September 2, 2005. The event was a great success bringing together some 3,000 participants.

Dr. Corcos is no stranger to the convention industry and has for several years helped to promote Montreal as a first-class destination. Dr. Corcos succeeds Dr. Dominique Tessier who has been Club President since 2001.
Michael Bliss, the distinguished historian, biographer and political commentator, has followed his widely acclaimed “William Osler — A Life in Medicine” with “Harvey Cushing — A Life in Surgery”. The lives of these close friends and their contributions complement but also contrast with one another.

Osler, the saintly physician, champion of bedside teaching, mentor and still the best known figure in the history of medicine contrasts in many ways with Cushing who was hard driving, egotistical, highly original, more human, perhaps more talented, and all agree the founder of the specialty of neurosurgery. Both books emphasize the emergence of North American medicine.

Harvey Cushing, the youngest of ten siblings, was born in Cleveland in 1869. His father, grandfather, great grandfather and elder brother were all physicians. At Yale he studied the classics and mathematics, learned to smoke, which he continued for 40 years until he developed Buergers Disease, did not drink, and made the baseball team as shortstop — good glove, poor arm.

With a degree from Yale, he was overqualified for entrance to Harvard Medical School. Most of the 140 entrants came directly from high school. At medical school, he was more interested in hospital activities than his courses. He administered ether anesthesia to patients being operated on at the Massachusetts General Hospital during his first year and received high grades in anatomy and pathology. He graduated cum laude in 1895, and started as a straight intern in surgery at the MGH. He rarely left the hospital during the year. Constantly on call, he greatly enjoyed the activity at one of America’s busiest hospitals. It was the custom at the time to follow internship with a year in Europe and then his father expected him to join him in practice in Cleveland. Instead he applied to Halsted at Johns Hopkins, was accepted as a junior resident and the following year astoundingly became chief resident and Halsted’s assistant. Since Halsted rarely operated, his clinical responsibility was enormous.

Cushing rapidly became a master surgeon who successfully operated on patients with intestinal perforation due to typhoid - with the encouragement of Osler. Interest in neurosurgery began in 1899 with the successful treatment of tic douloureux in a sea captain who lived pain-free, dying in his seventies twelve years later. He joined the staff at Johns Hopkins insisting that his practice be restricted to neurosurgery. He immediately started to operate on patients with brain tumors to relieve intra-cranial pressure. By 1908, he removed a tumor from the cerebral cortex of a completely conscious patient. By 1931, he performed his 2000th brain tumor operation and that patient outlived the surgeon.

Cushing’s third clinical and research interest was the pituitary. He first established that experimental animals could not live without a pituitary and that it somehow controlled growth. He removed part of the anterior lobe in a patient with acromegaly with amelioration of symptoms. He later clarified the syndrome associated with basophilic adenomas, which we now call Cushing’s syndrome. None of these hormones were discovered during his lifetime and he widely decried the practice of injections of “extracts” to treat any number of diseases.

Cushing moved to Boston in 1912 as Surgeon-in-chief of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and Moseley Professor of Surgery. He was 43 years old. It was the year that Kate Crowell of Cleveland and Harvey Cushing were married. She raised their five children and provided a warm reception for all visitors. Harvey Cushing, if not at the hospital or in his laboratory, was in his study writing. The tensions and frictions of their marriage dissolved into patriotic enthusiasm during World War I. Cushing organized a Harvard unit that treated combat casualties in France before the United States entered the war and staffed a base hospital and casualty clearing station near the front after 1917. He subsequently published the story of the Base Hospital No5 and care of head injuries in wartime.

The return to the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital after the war meant doing six brain operations a week, teaching Harvard students, administering the department at the hospital, writing scholarly papers, presidential addresses, handling stacks of correspondence, and completing the two volume biography of Osler. His total literary output was estimated at five to ten thousand words a day, year after year. As Michael Bliss says - “an astonishing productivity even for a professional writer”.

Over his lifetime, Cushing introduced the ether chart - the recording of blood pressure in patients under anesthesia. He emphasized meticulous technique. His operative
performance was described as artistic and he knew it. He was an almost impossibly exacting and demanding taskmaster, but almost all associates were fanatically loyal. He introduced the use of electrocautery to neurosurgery. He won the Pulitzer Prize in biography for his Life of Osler. He was a champion of teaching healers and remained skeptical of those who promoted prevention as the goal of medical teaching. As he put it, “the responsibility of medical schools is to produce real doctors rather than clinically ignorant research scientists”.

Whereas Halsted and Osler went to Europe annually to learn of new developments, in the 1920’s Europe came to Boston to see Cushing at work.

Cushing retired in 1933 and moved to Yale. He was exhausted, troubled by peripheral vascular disease. He noted that several consultants reached for a cigarette before examining his foot. They all advised amputation of the leg. None advised omission of tobacco. He gave up smoking and never required amputation. He never operated at Yale, but published several elegant essays and addresses and a monumental 800-page work on meningiomas.

Harvey Cushing died of a myocardial infarction on October 7, 1939. He left his enormous book collection and papers to Yale, which are housed in the Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Library. His collection of pathological specimens, drawings, photographs and notes are also suitably preserved. 

If you ever attended a meeting or class in the Fraser Gurd Conference Room on C9, it was because Gloria Morgan, the Department of Surgery Coordinator of Undergraduate Medical Education, Lecturer and Writer reserved the room. Since I started here in the fall of 2004 I have only had a few very brief exchanges with Gloria and those were for the purpose of reserving this or that room for our Division of Surgical Research activities, but I thought that since Gloria had some input to our floor and the Department of Surgery, people may be interested in learning a bit about her. Besides reserving the Fraser Gurd Library or conference room for us and others who wished to use it, other responsibilities Gloria took care of were to ensure the smooth running of the Introduction to Professional Skills (IPS) and Introduction to Clinical Sciences (ICM) rotations for 2nd year medical students and the Practice of Medicine clerkship component at all the MUHC hospital sites.

Gloria Stewart-Morgan was born in Trinidad & Tobago, came to Canada in 1967 and joined McGill University in 1968 where she held a variety of administrative positions. In 1991 she became the Department of Surgery’s Coordinator of the Surgical Undergraduate Education Program.

From 1992-94, Gloria developed and taught a course for the Faculty of Education’s Distance Education program called Graphic Design for Instruction Materials. In 1992 Gloria became an Instructor in the Department of Surgery for the deKuyper Computerized Instruction Unit and since 2000, on a part-time basis, gave lectures on computer courses in the General Studies Department Centre for Continuing Education.

After retiring her position in the Department of Surgery, Gloria, who is an aspiring writer, will devote her attention to pursuing this new career path. She has already written and published a book on the life of her father Casper A. Stewart titled No Ordinary Man: Memoirs of My Father (1997) and has two new books underway. She also produced a calendar with pictures of beautiful Union Island, which is located in the Southern Grenadines of the Caribbean Ocean. Gloria will return there this summer to continue her research into the entrepreneurs of the area. We wish Gloria the best of luck and thank her for her years of professional support and expertise. 

Barbara Reney
Project Manager, Surgical Research

“On life as an Academic Surgeon:
It’s exciting. In what other job can you have the humanitarian satisfaction of treating patients, the artistic satisfaction of surgery, the scientific satisfaction of research, and professional satisfaction of training a lot of people?”

— McGill News, Fall 1990, p.13
For the third consecutive year, Dr. Peter Chan of the Division of Urology was named Keynote Speaker of the Society for the Study of Male Reproduction (SSMR) at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the American Urological Association at Atlanta Georgia. Dr. Chan presented a lecture on Epididymitis and Other Inflammatory Conditions of the Male Excurrent Ductal System. Dr. Chan is also the only Canadian Urologist sitting on the Board of Directors of the SSMR. Dr. Chan was awarded the First Prize in Scientific Research by the Environmental Health Research Network of the Fonds de la Recherche en Santé du Québec (FRSQ) for a research project entitled Development of biological tools for the study of environmental contaminants effect on human fertility. This study was funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and was co-authored with Drs. E. Dubé and D. Cyr of the Armand Frappier Institute, and Dr. Louis Hermo of the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology at McGill University.

Dr. Philip Gordon was cited in Marquis Who's Who in the World 2006 edition.

Dr. Sarkis Meterissian has been selected as Director of the Cedars Breast Centre at the Royal Victoria Hospital. At a recent Association for Surgical Education meeting in Tucson, Arizona, he presented an oral presentation entitled Is the Script Concordance Test a Valid Instrument for Assessment of Intra-operative Decision Making Skills. This won the award for the Most Outstanding Paper at the meeting. At the same meeting, he presented another paper looking at Clinical Exposure of Canadian versus American Medical Students during their Surgical Clerkship. At the Canadian Association for Medical Education, Dr. Meterissian also presented a paper entitled Assessment for Clinical Reasoning in Surgical Residency.

Dr. Balfour M. Mount has been named Emeritus Professor in the McGill Department of Oncology. Excerpt from the McGill Reporter of May 18, 2006, vol. 38 #17:

[Balfour Mount came to McGill to study surgery and urology after earning his medical degree from Queen’s University in 1963. In 1974 his career changed dramatically when he spent a sabbatical period at St. Christopher’s Hospice in London. Over the next 30 years, Mount became the leading figure in palliative care medicine in Canada and vastly influential in his field worldwide. He established the Division of Palliative Care at McGill and in 1994 was appointed the first Eric M. Flanders Professor of Palliative Care. Mount was named an officer of the Order of Canada in 2003 and of the Ordre national du Québec in 1988].

Dr. Kenneth Shaw has been named to the Faculty Honour List for Educational Excellence in recognition of his teaching in the Faculty of Medicine. Dr. Shaw is Co-Director with Dr. Patrick Ergina of the Core Training Program in Surgery.

Dr. Dominique Shum-Tim has been elected an Active Member of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery. This is the prestigious senior society in Cardiothoracic Surgery. To be eligible one “shall have achieved distinction in the thoracic field or shall have made a meritorious contribution to knowledge pertaining to thoracic disease or its surgical treatment”. Moreover, Dr. Shum-Tim has obtained continued funding from the FRSQ as a Chercheur-boursier clinicien, Junior 2 for his project Cellules stromales pour la régénération du myocarde et protection cérébrale durant chirurgie cardiaque.

Dr. René St-Arnaud, basic scientist at the Shriners Hospital, was promoted to Full Professor on June 1, 2005.

Dr. Michael Tanzer has been promoted to Full Professor, GFT-H.

Dr. Bruce Williams was awarded the Honorary Award from the American Association of Plastic Surgeons, the highest award that a Plastic Surgeon in either Canada or the United States can receive. He received this prestigious award at the annual meeting on May 7, 2006 in Hilton Head, South Carolina. This award was presented to Dr. Williams in recognition of his personal achievements and lifetime contributions to the field of Plastic Surgery.
Welcome to the New Chief Residents

CARDIAC SURGERY

**Program Director: DR. KEVIN LACHAPELLE**

Dr. Marlene Grenon comes to us from Quebec City and completed her M.D.C.M. degree at McGill University in 2000. Since leaving Quebec in 1995, she has had what can only be described as a “flight into space”. She has a diploma in Space Sciences from the International Space University in Cleveland, Ohio. She worked with Dr. Douglas Watt at the Aerospace Medical Research Unit at McGill University. She did a Master’s of Science Degree at Harvard Medical School on the Cardiovascular Responses to Simulated Microgravity for which she was supported by an NIH grant. She has a number of publications and presentations related to space medicine, and was the runner up of the Young Investigator Award in the Aerospace Medical Association. She is a hardworking, dedicated and vibrant individual who will no doubt do very well in her chief resident year. For relaxation, Marlene loves to perform triathlons, play piano and violin. We wish Marlene the best of luck in her chief resident year as she plans a fellowship in Endovascular Aortic Surgery.

Dr. Carolyn Teng comes to us via the University of Toronto where she received her medical degree in 2001. She has a Bachelor’s of Science with Honours in Anatomy from McGill University and a Master’s of Science in Behavioral Neurosciences also from McGill University. She has had a number of academic awards and scholarships both at McGill University and the University of Toronto. While she was in her undergraduate years at McGill, she was CIAU Academic All-Canadian and played on the McGill University Varsity Soccer Team where she was voted MVP three times, and where her team won 5 consecutive provincial championships. In addition to soccer, she loves hockey and football, and has had a number of awards for her outstanding contributions to extracurricular activities and commitment to community service. Carolyn started her Cardiac Surgery Residency training in 2001 and has been nothing short of excellent and we wish her all the best in her chief resident year where we are sure she will succeed in an outstanding fashion. She has already secured a position in a very prestigious fellowship in Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery with Dr. Randolph Chitwood.

**Dr. Sebastien Trop** hails from Montreal and completed an M.D. and Ph.D. Program in 2002. His Ph.D. thesis was on the Role of the Pre-T Cell Receptor and of the CD45 Phosphatase in T-Cell Development. He graduated from the MD and Ph.D. program on the Dean’s Honour List both for the M.D.C.M. degree as well as the Ph.D. He has a number of awards and distinctions including a Doctoral Research Award from the Medical Research Council of Canada from 1998 to 2001, as well as the James Moses & Stella Frosst Alexander Scholarship from McGill University in 1996 and in 2000. Sebastien already has a number of refereed papers and abstracts and continues to perform research on T-cell mechanisms with his wife **Dr. Annie Bourdeau**. Sebastien is also the father of two young boys Philippe and Jean-Michel, and as such his chief residency should prove to be busy on all fronts. We welcome Sebastien to his final year of training and wish him the best of luck.

GENERAL SURGERY

**Program Director: DR. SARKIS METERRISIAN**

Zainab Al-Balushi is a graduate of Sultan Qaboos University. She started her residency in 2002. She completed six months of research with Dr. J-M. Laberge. Zainab is the proud mother of 4-year-old Miriam. She has been accepted in a Pediatric Surgery Fellowship at St. Justine’s Hospital starting July 1, 2007.

Simon Bergman is a graduate of McGill. Simon started his residency in July 2001. He completed 1-1/2 years of research and obtained a Masters in Experimental Surgery with Dr. G. Fried. He plans on undertaking a Fellowship in Minimally Invasive Surgery in July 2007.

Suad Gholoum graduated from the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland in May 1999. She then completed 3 years of training in Kuwait before starting her residency at McGill in July 2002. She completed 6 months of research with Dr. G. Fried. She has been accepted for a 2 year Pediatric Surgery Fellowship at the Montreal Children’s Hospital starting July 1, 2007.

Lisa Mark is a graduate of the Ohio State University College of Medicine and Public Health. A native of Cleveland. She spent four years as a resident in General Surgery at Indiana University before transferring to McGill as an R 4 in 2005. Lisa is interested in a career in Minimally Invasive Surgery.
Caroline Rochon is a graduate of McGill University. She started her residency in July 2000. She spent 2-1/2 years in the lab with Dr. P. Metrakos, obtaining a Masters Degree and publishing a number of abstracts and papers. Caroline is interested in Hepatobiliary Surgery and Transplantation.

Ali Taqi is a graduate of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland. He started his residency at McGill in July 2002. Ali won the ED Monaghan Principles of Surgery Award for Core Surgery. He spent 6 months of research with Dr. G. Fried presenting at national and international meetings. He is interested in a Fellowship in Hepatobiliary Surgery.

Melina Vassiliou is a graduate of McGill University. She began her residency in July 2001. She is the first graduate of our program who obtained a MEd during her residency. Her research was presented at the ASE and she received a competitive Royal College Grant. Melina will be applying for a Fellowship position in Minimally Invasive Surgery.

**ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY**
*Program Director: DR. MICHAEL TANZER*
Dr. Wazzan Al-Juhani

Dr. Loren Geller
Dr. Dan Latt’s
Dr. David Lemos
Dr. Erik Nilsen
Dr. Corey Richards
Dr. Sanjeev Sharma

**PEDIATRIC GENERAL SURGERY**
*Program Director: DR. JEAN-MARTIN LABERGE*
Dr. Jon Ryckman completed his undergraduate studies at Saint Vincent College, Pennsylvania where he received his Bachelor of Science in Biology. He obtained his medical degree from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. He completed his General Surgery training at Christiana Care Health System in Newark. Jon and his wife have a two-year old son and are expecting their second child in June 2006. We welcome Jon and his family to Montreal, and look forward to having him join our Program.

**PLASTIC SURGERY**
*Program Director: DR. BRUCE WILLIAMS*
Dr. Ahdi Al-Bader, who is from Kuwait City, Kuwait, received his medical degree at the University of Leeds. His postgraduate training in General and Plastic Surgery was completed in Kuwait. Dr. Al-Bader plans to continue his training by participating in a Fellowship in Aesthetic Surgery. Dr. Al-Bader is married with children. He enjoys football, swimming, and theatre.

**UROLOGY**
*Program Director: DR. SERGE CARRIER*

Dr. Mirko Gilardino, originally from Vancouver, completed his medical training at McGill University in 2001. Following completion of his second year of training in Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery at McGill, he was awarded the 2004 Lyndon Peer Craniofacial Research Fellowship by the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, a project which involved the design of a novel technique for cleft palate repair. He received a Master of Science in Experimental Surgery in 2005 for this work. Dr. Gilardino will pursue a Fellowship in Craniofacial Surgery following completion of his training in 2007, as his interests are pediatric cleft lip and palate, congenital craniofacial anomalies and adult facial trauma. His other interests include skiing, windsurfing and teaching in both plastic surgery and trauma as an instructor for the Advanced Trauma Life Support Program.

Dr. Khalid Haji received his medical degree at the Royal College in Ireland and completed his Internship and General Surgery Residency at Hamad General Hospital. Dr. Haji plans to do a year of fellowship training following completion of his Plastic Surgery Residency training. He will then return to Doha, Qatar to work at Hamad General Hospital. Dr. Haji is married with four children. He enjoys volleyball and swimming.

Dr. Abdulaziz Baazem was employed and sponsored by Umm Al-Qura University (Makkah, Saudi Arabia). He and his wife are expecting a second child to join 4 year old Maria this summer. Abdulaziz is planning to do a fellowship in andrology.

Dr. Sero Andonian is a genuine McGill graduate. After obtaining his Bachelor of Science in Anatomy and Cell Biology in 1997, he studied the rat vas deferens and obtained his Master’s Degree from the same department. After Medical School, he stayed at McGill for his Urology Residency Training. He has published extensively and won the Best Urology Resident Presentation at the 2006 Urology Research Day. He is planning to pursue an academic career after a two-year
fellowship in Endourology/Laparoscopy. “If I have seen further than others, it is because I was standing on the shoulders of giants” Sir Isaac Newton.

Dr. Samer Hanna was imported directly from Syria in 1990 at 10 years-old. Despite his love for politics, he decided finally to study in medicine. After 2 years of hell at college de Bois-de-Boulogne, he went to Sherbrooke University to do his medical study. After he made his choice to palpate prostate for the rest of his life, he did his three first years of Urology at Sherbrooke University and came to McGill University to complete his program. He plans to go to Bordeaux (France) to do one year of fellowship in laparoscopy. Hopefully he will come back to Montreal, but nobody knows… Thank’s for all those who gave him the opportunity to do what he’s doing now!

**VASCULAR SURGERY**

Program Director: DR. OREN STEINMETZ

Dr. Paul Heneghan will be starting his Vascular Surgery Fellowship here at McGill this July. Paul completed General Surgery at Memorial University back in 1998 and since 2000 has been working as a general surgeon in Grand Falls, Newfoundland. Paul is currently the Secretary of the Newfoundland Surgical Society. He has decided to retrain in Vascular Surgery in order to take up a position on staff at Memorial in St. John’s, Nfld. He comes to Montreal with his wife Jo-Ann and his young family. We are lucky to have such an experienced surgeon as our vascular fellow and we welcome him.

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**Montreal General Hospital Surgical Staff, 1966-67**

From left to right: Dr. F. N. Gurd, Surgeon in Chief; Dr. John Henry, Miss M. McCann, Dr. Rae Brown, Miss MacLeod, Dr. A.G. Thompson, Chief “L” Surgery; Dr. Arnold MacLean, Dr. J.D. Palmer, Chief “M” Surgery.
17th Annual Fraser Gurd Day
May 4, 2006

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD (Post Graduate Education)
Dr. Paola Fata

EDMOND D. MONAGHAN PRINCIPLES OF SURGERY AWARD
Dr. Asim Al-Daheri

Kathryn Rolph Award
Dr. Carol-Ann Vasilevsky

OUTSTANDING RESIDENT / FELLOW TEACHER AWARDS
Cardiac: Dr. Kapil Sharma
General Surgery: Dr. Moishe Liberman
Orthopaedic Surgery: Dr. Stephen Walsh
Plastic Surgery: Dr. Bruce Lattyak
Urology: Dr. Mohammed Al-Otaibi

RESEARCH AWARDS
Oral Presentations for Excellence in Research
1st Prize: Dr. Rony Atoui
2nd Prize: Dr. Saima Hassan
3rd Prize: Dr. Andrew Feifer

Poster Presentations for Excellence in Research
1st Prize: Ms. Joice Cury
2nd Prize: Dr. Hani Sinno
Highlights

RESEARCH WINNERS

CARDIAC GRAD

VASCULAR GRADS

GENERAL SURGERY GRADS
Fraser Gurd Day (cont’d)
Fraser Gurd Day (cont’d)

UROLOGY GRADS

SPINE GRAD

TRANSPLANT GRAD

[Group photos of graduates and faculty members]
Fraser Gurd Day (cont'd)
Fraser Gurd Day (cont’d)

ORAL PRESENTATIONS (MORNING SESSION - GOLD ROOM)

9:00 AM Turk AlBacker, Cardiac Surgery (Kevin Lachapelle)  
Anti-inflammatory and Metabolic Effects of Perioperative Hyperinsulinaemic Normoglycaemic Clamp Technique in Patients Undergoing Elective CABG

9:15 AM Elliot Mitmaker, Endocrine Surgery (Mark Trifiro)  
Microsatellite Instability in Thyroid Neoplasms

9:30 AM Rony Atoui, Cardiac Surgery (Dominique Shum-Tim)  
Bone Marrow Stromal Cells (MSCs) for Myocardial Regenerative Therapy: Their Unique Immune Tolerance and the Potential as “Universal Donor Cells”

9:45 AM Saima Hassan, General Surgery (Mark Basik)  
SDR-1-3’A Polymorphism and SDF-1 Plasma Levels: Predictive Markers For Breast Cancer Metastasis?

10:00 AM Coffee Break

10:15 AM Anthony McCluney, General Surgery (Liane Feldman)  
Validation of the ProMiS Hybrid Simulator using Standard Laparoscopic Tasks

10:30 AM Allan Okrainec, General Surgery (Liane Feldman)  
SCOPE-RS: A Novel Rating Scale to Measure Laparoscope Navigation Skill

10:45 AM Justin Chen, General Surgery (Nicolas Christou)  
The effect of Leptin on Neutrophil Activation

11:00 AM Hahn Soe-Lin, Plastic Surgery (Anie Philip)  
Development of a Novel Peptide Antagonist of TGF-ß1 as an Anti-Scarring Agent

11:15 AM Stephen Hanley, General Surgery (Lawrence Rosenberg)  
TGFß Controls the Plasticity of Human Islets

11:30 AM Cassandre Bénay, General Surgery (Peter Metrakos)  
Proprotein Convertases 5 and 9 in Colorectal Cancer and in Liver Colorectal Metastases

11:45 AM Mirko Gilardino, Plastic Surgery (Lucie Lessard)  
A Quantitative Analysis of Post-Surgical Edema Reduction with Steroids in a Novel Validated Animal Model

12:00 NOON LUNCH/SCIENTIFIC POSTER PRESENTATIONS

ORAL PRESENTATIONS (AFTERNOON SESSION - GOLD ROOM)

2:00 PM Esmaeel Taqi, Pediatric Surgery (Jean-Martin Laberge)  
Evaluation of Surgical Approaches to Pyloromyotomy: a Single-Center Experience

2:15 PM Andrew Feifer, General Surgery (Jean-Paul Capolicchio)  
Retropertioneoscopic Live Donor Nephrectomy: Initial Experience with a Modified Hand-Assist Approach

2:30 PM Nader Fahmy, Urology (Armen Aprikian)  
Pre-operative Delays Prior to Cystectomy for Bladder Cancer: Population-based Study in Quebec

2:45 PM Marylise Boutros, General Surgery (Jeffrey Barkun)  
Clostridium Difficile Colitis: Increasing Incidence, Risk Factors and Outcome of Colectomy in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients

3:00 PM Coffee Break

3:15 PM Marcin Czerwinski, Plastic Surgery (Bruce Williams)  
Influence of Treatment Delay on Mandibular Infection Rate: A Multivariate Analysis

3:30 PM Lisa Mark, General Surgery (Liane Feldman)  
Comparison of Patient-Centered Outcomes after Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication Performed for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease or Paraesophageal Hernia

3:45 PM Gerry Polyhrnonopolous, General Surgery (Liane Feldman)  
Laparoscopic Surgery for Achalasia: Short-term and Intermediate Patient-Centered Outcomes

4:00 PM Wendy Su, Pediatric Surgery (Jean-Martin Laberge)  
Predic-Tors of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease in Neonates with Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia
Fraser Gurd Day *(cont'd)*

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<th>POSTER PRESENTATIONS (NOON-1:45PM - MEZZANINE)</th>
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<td><strong>Nader Fahmy, Urology (Armen Aprikian)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Albane Bizet, Plastic Surgery (Anie Philip)</strong></td>
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<td>CD109 is a Modulator of TGF-β Signaling Receptor Turnover</td>
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<td><strong>Adamo Petosa, Orthopedics (John Mort)</strong></td>
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<td>Isolation of Human SCFVS Using Yeast Libraries for Visualization of Cartilage Neoepitopes</td>
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<td><strong>Hani Sinno, Plastic Surgery (Bruce Williams)</strong></td>
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<td>Management of the Parotid Gland Hemangioma in Infants</td>
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<td><strong>Hani Sinno, Plastic Surgery (Bruce Williams)</strong></td>
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<td>Effects of Breast Reduction on Breast Feeding Quality and Performance</td>
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<td><strong>Hani Sinno, Plastic Surgery (Bruce Williams)</strong></td>
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<td>Desmoid Tumors of the Pediatric Mandible: Case Report and Review</td>
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<td><strong>Roland Nassim, General Surgery (Julio Faria)</strong></td>
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<td>Expression of Nuclear Factor of Activated T-Cells 5 (NFAT5) in Human Colorectal Cancer</td>
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<td><strong>Michaela Durigova, Orthopedics (John Mort)</strong></td>
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<td>Oncostatin M Modifies the Mechanism of Proteoglycan Aggregate Degradation Induced by IL-1 and TNFα</td>
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<td><strong>Joice Cury, Urology (Simone Chevalier)</strong></td>
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<td>STAT3 as a Downstream Effector of the Fer Kinase in Prostate Cancer Cells</td>
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<td><strong>Andréa Hébert-Losier, Plastic Surgery (Anie Philip)</strong></td>
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<td>Functional Characterization of a Novel Endogenous Steroid: A Ligand of the Placental Androgen Receptor-like Protein, an Effector of ERR Action and an Inhibitor of Breast Cancer Cell Growth</td>
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<td><strong>Mark Lipsett, General Surgery (Lawrence Rosenberg)</strong></td>
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<td>Homeostatic Regulation of Induced Beta-Cell Mass Expansion</td>
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<td><strong>Mauro Castellarin, General Surgery (Lawrence Rosenberg)</strong></td>
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<td>Discover of a Novel REG3γ Gene and the Reclassification of the REG2 Gene in Mesocricetus Auratus</td>
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<td><strong>Josh Vorstenbosch, Plastic Surgery (Anie Philip)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Creation of a Transgenic Mouse to Express a Novel TGF-β Receptor, R150, in the Skin</td>
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"On Surgical Research: Many respects surgery is like music which has its great artists and its great composers. The great musical artists are like the great practical surgeons. They perform frequently before large audiences with a high degree of skill, and they make large incomes. But what they render is the work of the composers, the thoughtful men who have made it possible for them to perform and who too often have received but little financial reward...".

— Evarts A. Graham (1883-1957)
Southern Medical Journal, 18:864, 1925

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"The surgical investigator must be a bridge tender, channeling knowledge from biologic science to the patient's bedside and back again. He traces his origin from both ends of the bridge. He is thus a bastard, and is called this by everybody. Those at one end of the bridge say that he is not a very good scientist, and those at the other end say he does not spend enough time in the operating room."

— Francis D. Moore (1913- )
Surgery 44:1, 1958
The McGill Division of General Surgery celebrated its 4th Annual L.D. MacLean Visiting Professor from February 14 – 16, 2006. Our invited guest was Dr. Jeffrey Ponsky, The Oliver H. Payne Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, and University Hospitals of Cleveland.

The event got underway with a special dinner of the Executive members and their spouses. We had a great show of support from the Executive members to welcome Dr. Ponsky. It was a very relaxed atmosphere at Bice Restaurant where the conversation and food flowed.

The scientific program held on Wednesday, February 15th, was well attended by staff, residents and Alumni staff which included Dr. L. Hampson, Dr. J. Hinchey, Dr. A. Hreno and Dr. H. Shibata. Research presentations by Dr. E. Mitmaker, Dr. S. Hassan and Dr. S. Demyttenaere were exceptional. The prize for the best research presentation by Baxter was awarded to Dr. Saima Hassan.

The highlight was the interesting cases and case scenarios by Dr. Z. Al-Balushi, Dr. L. Mark, Dr. P. Chaudhury and Dr. A. Okrainec. It was amazing to see that some staff were mystified at some of the case presentations.

The day’s events concluded with a phenomenal presentation by Dr. J. Ponsky on “New Frontiers in Endoscopic Surgery.”

The banquet was held at the Omni Mont Royal Hotel where the staff and residents enjoyed a memorable evening. Dr. Meterissian was a delightful host entertaining guests with old time photos of the staff surgeons coupled with amusing anecdotes. Dr. Meterissian thanked Ms. Rita Piccioni for her extraordinary efforts and skill in organizing this fabulous major event for the Division of General Surgery for the past 5 years.

Dr. Marylise Boutros presented the Best Resident Teacher Award to Dr. S. Bergman and Best Staff Teacher Award to Dr. Paola Fata. Honorable mention for their continued teaching went to Dr. Barry Stein and Dr. Jeffrey Barkun. Anthony McCluney, Wael Hanna and Zainab Al-Balushi won the door prizes.

The evening concluded with closing remarks from Dr. L.D. MacLean, Dr. J. Barkun and Dr. J. Ponsky.

The following morning Dr. Ponsky presented at Grand Rounds on “Endoscopic Pancreaticobiliary Therapy: A Surgical Perspective.” This concluded an excellent and invigorating 4th Annual L.D. MacLean General Surgery Day. A special thanks is warranted to the generosity of all our supporters.

Editor’s Note
We thank Rita Piccioni for the courtesy of using the photos shown here.
L.D. MacLean Day (cont’d)
The burgeoning growth of medical specialties, such as Medical Oncology and Radiation Oncology, made many surgeons in North America realize the need to organize themselves into a Society to be fully represented on the Oncology team. The care of the patient with cancer has become increasingly complex, and is now being performed by a multidisciplinary team of specialists of different disciplines.

Towards this end in 1975 in the USA, the James Ewing Society composed mainly of surgeons who training at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York changed its name to The Society of Surgical Oncology to better reflect the true nature of this society. In 1976, due to the efforts of Dr. Carl Riese, a surgical oncologist from Winnipeg, Manitoba, The Canadian Oncology Society was founded to be an all-encompassing society of oncology specialists. This society was the first to include all oncologists, but because of the increasing numbers of specialists trained in each of the different oncologic specialties, it now exists as an umbrella organization, co-ordinating the educational efforts of oncologists of different disciplines.

Realizing the need for general surgeons to understand the fundamental concept of oncology and to have special training in oncologic operations, Dr. Shibata started the first Fellowship Program in Surgical Oncology in Canada at McGill University in June 1978. This was a one-year program for fully trained general surgeons, and included rotations in Medical Oncology and Radiation Oncology as well. In addition, it was required for the trainee to participate in clinical research as well as educational efforts for the residents in General Surgery. The first trainee in this program was Dr. Antoine Loutfi, followed by Dr. Sandra Legault, Dr. Normand Miller, Dr. Michael Chin-a-Loy, Dr. Yves Leduc, Dr. Najeeb Khuri, Dr. Abdulmajeed Abdulkaareen, Dr. Gail Higgins, and Dr. M. Nishiki.

In 1988, Dr. Shibata realized the need for surgical oncologists in Canada to form a society especially for surgical oncologists, who had trained in centers in the United States and elsewhere. He initiated the formation of the Canadian Society of Surgical Oncology (CSSO), and served as the Founding President for 3 years. This society became one of the oncologic specialties represented within the Canadian Oncology Societies formed in 1976 by Dr. Riese. Following this, in order to train surgical oncologists in Canada rather than abroad, he applied to the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada to initiate the first accredited training program in General Surgical Oncology at McGill University, and this was approved in 1994. Similar to the training programs that had been set up in the United States, this consisted of a 2-year training program, but unlike the one in the States, which was not approved by the American Board of Surgery, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada granted this training program accreditation without certification. Dr. Shibata served as the Chair of the General Surgical Oncology Training Committee of the Royal College from 1994 to 1997. The fellows trained under this program were Dr. Ibrahim Al-Sheneber, Dr. Ginette Martin, Dr. Francine Tremblay, Dr. Dawn Anderson, Dr. Ayman Linjawi, Dr. Guy Leblanc, Dr. Rami Younan, Dr. Brent Zabolotny, and Dr. Mohammed Al-Qahtani.

The trainees in this Surgical Oncology Fellowship Program were required to be well versed in the specialties of Medical Oncology and Radiation Oncology, and were required to be involved in clinical research and student and resident education.

Since becoming the Principal Investigator of the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP) of the Royal Victoria Hospital in 1974, Dr. Shibata instilled in all trainees the need to consider prospective randomized clinical trials as a means to obtain evidence for changing treatments of the patient with cancer.

Since the initiation of the General Surgical Oncology Training Program at McGill University, the University of Toronto and the University of Calgary have followed with their own training programs. In the United States, there are 14 centers approved by The Society of Surgical Oncology for fellowship training in surgical oncology.

The General Surgical Oncology Training Program of McGill University is now under the directorship of Dr. Roger Tabah. It was recently site-visited by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and given full approval as a training program for future surgical oncologists.

Henry Shibata, MD, FRCSC, Professor Emeritus, McGill University
Visiting Professors

2006 Visiting Vascular Professor

March 23, 2006

Dr. Bruce L. Gewertz, Dallas B. Phemister Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery, and Chief of the Section of Vascular Surgery, Division of Biological Sciences at the University of Chicago, was this year’s Vascular Visiting Professor. Dr. Gewitz gave Surgical Grand Rounds at the MGH. He talk was entitled Emotional Intelligence: What It Can Mean For Your Personal and Professional Development. This was followed by rounds with the vascular fellows, residents and staff at the RVH.

Dr. Bruce L. Gewertz

2006 Stikeman Visiting Professor

May 11, 2006

Dr. Douglas J. Mathisen, Hermes C. Grillo Professor of Thoracic Surgery at Harvard Medical School and Director of the Cardiothoracic Residency Program, was the 39th Stikeman Visiting Professor to the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at McGill University.

During Surgical Grand Rounds in the Osler Amphitheatre of the MGH, Dr. Mathisen spoke on Tracheobronchoplasty for Lung Cancer. This was followed by laboratory and clinical research presentations by the residents and staff in the Division. After a luncheon, the afternoon session consisted of presentations by staff and alumni. The alumni from out of town who attended this year’s event were Dr. Bindu Bittira, Dr. David Latter, Dr. Derek MacDonald, Dr. Dao Nguyen, Dr. John Tsang and Dr. Garrett Walsh.

The annual banquet was held at the University Club in honor of the Visiting Professor and the graduating resident — Dr. Kapil Sharma.

We were delighted to welcome Dr. Mathisen, a consummate clinical surgeon, teacher, investigator, and a widely recognized authority in General Thoracic Surgery, as the 2006 Stikeman Visiting Professor to our Division as well as the alumni and friends who attended this special event.

Dr. Douglas J. Mathisen
20th Anniversary Conference of the Joint Diseases Laboratory
Shriners Hospital, Montreal, September 25–26, 1997
Obituary

DR. RICHARD CULVER LONG
Dr. Richard Culver Long, age 90, on June 1, 2006 of Wynnewood, P.A. Born in Hamilton, Ontario. Educated at Lower Canada College, Montreal and McGill University, B.Sc., M.D. Post-graduate training at the University of Pennsylvania and St. Thomas’ Hospital, London, England. Retired surgeon. Former senior surgeon, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal. Associate Professor of Surgery and Associate Dean of Medicine, McGill University. FRCS(C) and Diplomate American Board of Surgery. Survived by his wife Isabel Long, two sons — Dr. Richard W. Long and Jeffrey H. Long, and four grandchildren. He is predeceased by his daughter Barbara.

DR. WILLIAM LINDSAY OGILVY
Dr. William Lindsay Ogilvy, peacefully at home on May 2, 2006. Predeceased by his beloved wife Mitzi, loving father to David (Maria), Leslie (Peter), Mary (Don), Jane (Brian), and dear grandfather of seven grandchildren. Growing up in Kirriemuir, Scotland, Lindsay’s greatest dream was to play football for the Glasgow Rangers. Almost fulfilled, injuries sidelined him and his medical career began at St. Andrew’s University. He was a distinguished surgeon at the Montreal General Hospital until his retirement in 1996. During his medical career, he served as Chief of Surgery at Queen Mary Veteran’s Hospital and thoroughly enjoyed his position as Associate Dean of Admission at McGill Medical School.

DR. JOHN DICKINSON PALMER
Dr. John Dickinson Palmer, much loved husband of Diana, father of Susan, Heather, John, Diana, Ann, and grandfather to eight grandchildren, died aged 89 on April 17, 2006 after a notable career in medicine and active retirement on Salt Spring Island, including a period on the Board of Greenwoods elderly care facility (where fittingly he passed away). John, a specialist in cancer care, was a distinguished surgeon at the Montreal General Hospital from the 1950s until his retirement. He also taught at McGill University and was at one time team physician for the Montreal Canadiens. Outside medicine, he was a lifelong learner, always immersed in a new book; a surprisingly talented painter and accordion player; a keen outdoorsman; and of course a sportsman, into tennis, golf, and in his early days, hockey. John was born in Fredericton, New Brunswick, son of John Dickinson Palmer, a noted shoe manufacturer [Hart], and Florence [Bappy] Jardine, of the Jardine shipping family. After Fredericton High School, he completed an arts degree at the University of New Brunswick before studying medicine at McGill University, where he also found time to play hockey for the McGill Redmen. His medical career path was interrupted by the 2nd World War, in which he served as a medical officer in the Canadian Navy before being seconded to the British Navy. It was on shore leave at Esquimalt, Victoria that he met Diana Hett, a BC rancher’s daughter, and so began a romance that was to last over 60 years. John and Diana moved to Salt Spring Island permanently in 1986. Typically, in retirement John was a well-known figure in the island’s tennis, golf, and bridge communities.

[Published in the Montreal Gazette on 4/20/2006]

~ MEMORY ~
When to the sessions of sweet silent thought
I summon up remembrance of things past,
I sigh the lack of many a thing I sought,
And with old woes new wail my dear time’s waste.

Then can I drown an eye, unus’d to flow,
For precious friends hid in death’s dateless night,
And weep anew love’s long since cancell’d woe,
And moan th’ expense of many a vanish’d sight.

Then can I grieve at grievance foregone,
And heavily from woe to woe tell o’er
The sad account of fore-bemoaned moan,
Which I new pay as if not paid before.

Then can I grieve at grievance foregone,
And heavily from woe to woe tell o’er
The sad account of fore-bemoaned moan,
Which I new pay as if not paid before.

— William Shakespeare (1564-1616)
Sonnets, 30.
Tie one on for McGill!

The McGill Department of Surgery invites you to tie one on for the old school!
The McGill blue silk tie and scarf with CREST, SQUARE KNOT and FLEAM are available for purchase from the Alumni Office as follows:

McGill Dept. of Surgery Alumni, Montreal General Hospital
1650 Cedar Avenue, Room L9.420, Montreal (Quebec) H3G 1A4
Telephone: (514) 934-1934, ext. 42028 Fax: (514) 934-8418

Please send me the McGill Department of Surgery Tie or Scarf.

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