

Plastic Surgery **NEWS**

NEWSLETTER OF THE DIVISION OF PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY



Celebrating 90 years of achievements

Hospital Updates

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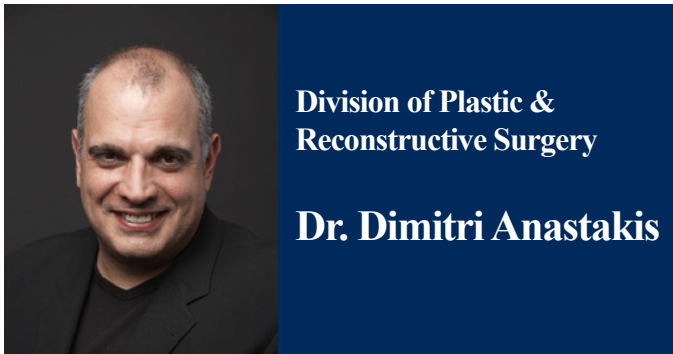
Honouring Dr. Ralph Manktelow

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Division of Plastic &
Reconstructive Surgery

Dr. Dimitri Anastakis

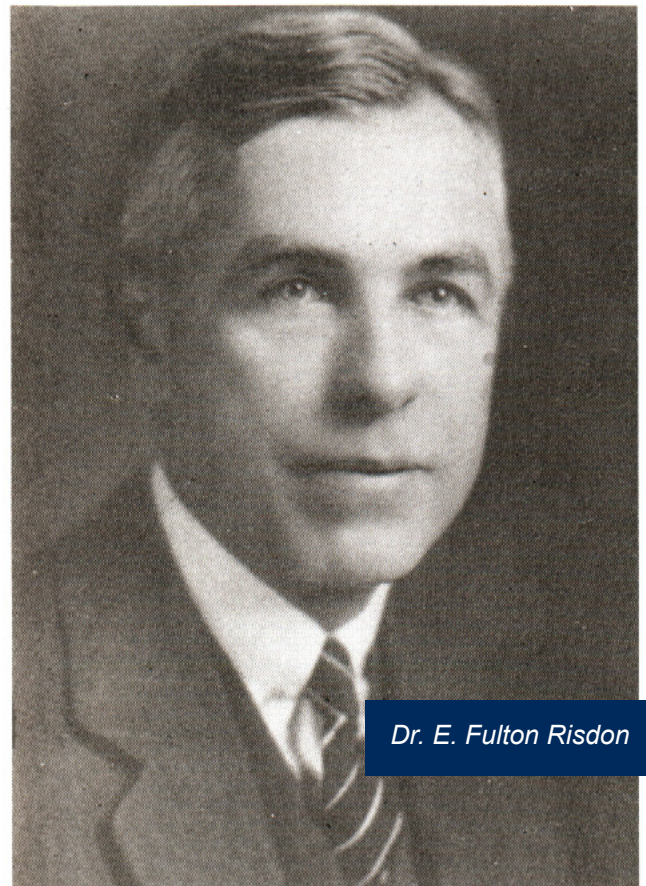
It is hard to believe that my five-year term is nearly finished and that the five-year external review was completed in March 2011. The scope and magnitude of the changes we have made were described by one external reviewer as “transformative”. I am very proud of what we have collectively achieved and I hope that you agree, as I do, that the last five years have indeed been a time of transformative change for the Division. Not only are we larger in size but we also operate very differently today than in the past and have achieved many of the goals we set for the Division five years ago.

As we continue to build for the future, we also are acknowledging and celebrating our past. As you may know, we are planning a celebration in June of the rich 90-year history of plastic surgery in Toronto. This 90 year celebration coincides with a new annual event: the resident Gala Graduation Dinner.

Dr. E. Fulton Risdon

In 1921, Dr. E. Fulton Risdon opened his plastic surgery practice at Toronto Western Hospital. This is an important year for 90 years ago many thought plastic surgery would not survive—but it has and in Toronto it is bigger and stronger today than ever.

Dr. Risdon remains one of my favourite Canadian plastic surgeons for several reasons. His innovative contributions to plastic surgery were born out of his training as both a dentist and medical doctor. He served as a military surgeon during World War II where he made significant contributions to the care of injured military personnel. He was strong in character, with a conviction and passion for his work that helped him overcome the scepticism about the relevance and viability of plastic surgery as a specialty.



Dr. E. Fulton Risdon

Dr. Risdon had to manage a challenging relationship with the chairman at the time, Dr. Gallie, who felt plastic surgery was a transient by-product of the war—that it would not last

as a discipline. Dr. Risdon was very much alone, without a mentor or champion. Yet, he flourished and made significant contributions to our discipline. He survived in what many would describe as a less than welcoming work environment.

What's changed in 90 years?

Plastic surgery at the University of Toronto has shown continued growth and development over the past 90 years. Thanks to past plastic surgery leadership and faculty our division has been positioned favourably. We currently have 47 faculty across five fully- and three partially-affiliated teaching hospitals. We have three dedicated research faculty affiliated with our division. Our residents continue to be very active in the Surgeon Scientist Program and bring great pride to our division through their research and awards. Our faculty continue to make significant contributions to the discipline through their scholarship.

Over the past five years, in keeping with a tradition that values scholarship, we have recruited six skilled surgeon-investigators. With a growing number of surgeon-investigators and affiliated scientists, I anticipate we will see a significant spike in traditional measures of scholarship including: grant capture, peer-reviewed publications and invited lectures over the next five years.

We are the leading division in the Faculty of Medicine with regards to advancement, having secured over \$1.5 million in the past three years. This represents the first major growth in our expendable and endowed funds since they were established back in the 1980s.

Yet, despite these “transformational changes”, our specialty still struggles with the challenges that come with a lack of awareness and misperception of what it is that we do. Our faculty identified this issue as a major strategic priority for the Division four years ago during our strategic planning session. It is fascinating how we still face the same issue as Dr. Risdon did 90 years ago. One must ask: Why is this an ongoing problem for plastic surgery? I am not sure what the answer is to the question, but would argue that we need to continue explaining what we do and the value we bring to our peers, colleagues, patients and the public.

As a specialty, we need to be proactive and we need to be seen as leaders. The growing move to program-based healthcare delivery, education and research will not see a “plastic surgery program per se”. In the future, the healthcare system, its hospitals—and to some extent universities—will be structured around diseases and not traditional disciplines. We will find ourselves part of oncology, transplantation, neuroscience and musculoskeletal programs. Our challenge will be to train the next generation to work and lead in a changing healthcare environment.

Innovate, research, research and research

Plastic surgery has a strong history of innovation. Plastic surgeons brought the world flaps, microsurgery, replantation, face and hand transplantation, bone grafts, tissue expanders—the list goes on and on. Our division has a strong history of innovators and leaders in the field. The key to our ongoing success rests with future innovation. Our

challenge is to produce a generation of plastic surgeons that value scholarship, are inquisitive and innovative, and skilled as researchers so they may find solutions to current and future reconstructive challenges.

Building a stronger sense of community: alumni, trainees and faculty

It is so important that we continue to try to build an even stronger sense of community. This sense of community needs to start in the Division if we are to carry it out to our graduates and alumni. We need to put greater emphasis on building relationships and on collaboration within and outside the Division.

Finally, I think we need to further develop an environment that values mentorship and better champions our own faculty and students. We need to mentor and champion faculty, support their professional growth and position them to succeed. We need to train and mentor all

our residents and fellows so that we prepare them to further advance the discipline, be the next generation of leaders and represent this division and university. Our division is unique in terms of the resources, finances and overall capacity to play a larger role in shaping the future of plastic and reconstructive surgery.

We have further built on a 90-year tradition of excellence and have seen transformative change over the past five years. Though we are bigger and stronger, there is still much work to be done. As a division, we will need to further focus and grow our research agenda. We need to further focus on creating the next generation of plastic surgery leaders so that they can best position plastic surgery in a rapidly changing healthcare environment. I think that if Dr. Risdon were here today, he would be very pleased and proud of what we have accomplished and with how we have set the stage for the next generation.

Future Opportunities

- Train the next generation to work and lead in a changing healthcare environment
- Produce a generation of plastic surgeons that value scholarship, are inquisitive and innovative, and skilled as researchers
- Further focus and grow our research agenda
- Build an even stronger sense of community
- Develop an environment that values mentorship and better champions our faculty and students



**Division of Plastic &
Reconstructive Surgery**

Kathy Pavlovic

The website has seen significant evolution since its inception in March 2008. Over the past year, several user-friendly enhancements have been made to the website which have increased utilization.

For example:

- The alumni section of the website had been updated which captures all of our graduate residents. We continue to create an environment where alumni can network and stay connected with the Division
- A Branding Toolkit had been built into the website which is in keeping with the U of T brand. All divisional templates, branding guidelines and policies can now be accessed through this section of the website
- Google calendar integration was performed, allowing all users to receive real-time updates to divisional events by synchronizing directly with personal Google, MS Outlook, Apple iCal, Mozilla Sunbird, iPhone or Blackberry devices
- Resident and Fellow Aesthetic Surgery micro site was built and integrated into website
- Professorship in Plastic Surgery Education micro site was built
- Patient Education micro site was built
- Website redesign after divisional rebranding was performed, which also included several function upgrades: feature items listing,

custom flash feature box, email/print page as well as search engine optimization (SEO) upgrades

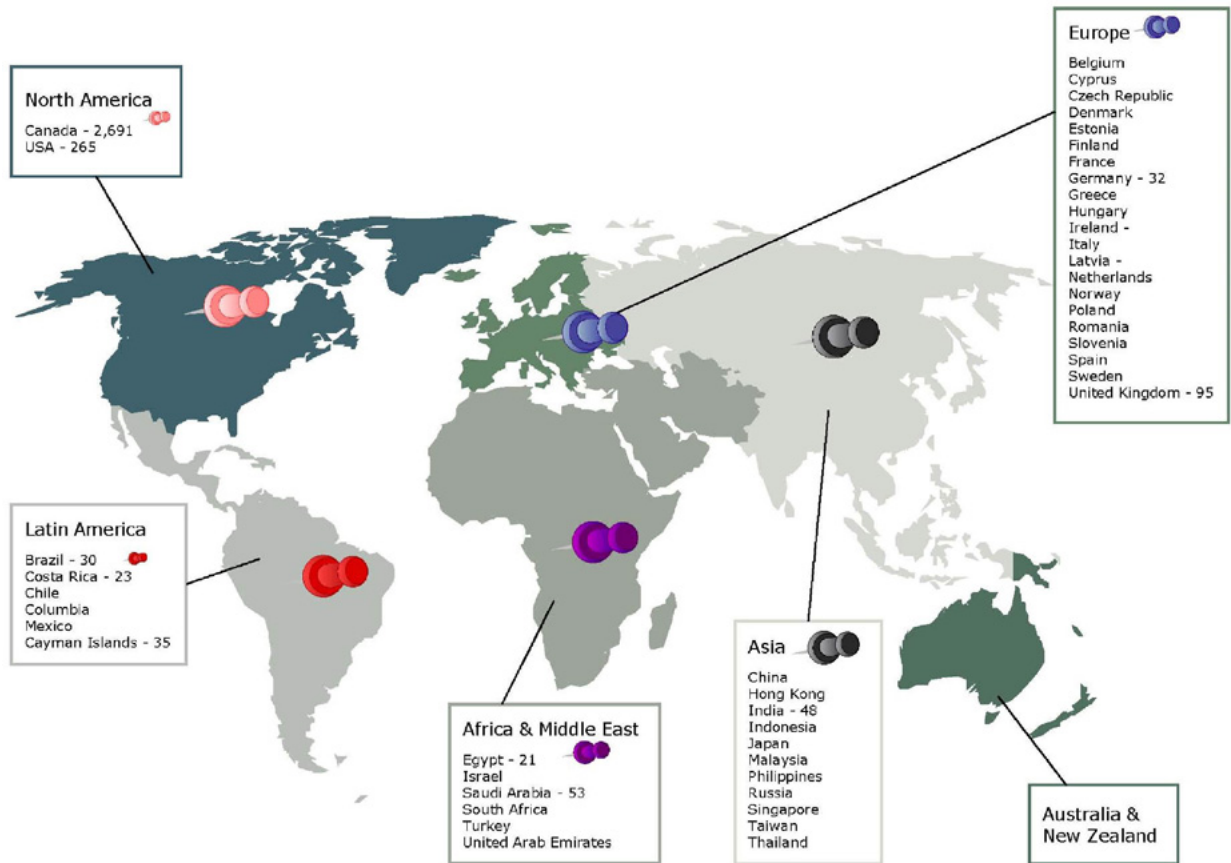
- Several updates were made to the Resident/Fellow/Student site, including new information on resident wellness, career planning, burn care, Resident Program, Surgeon-Scientist Program, and awards and scholarships
- A Research section was integrated to further connect faculty and students
- The homepage also contains a section on Firsts in Canadian Plastic Surgery, including original WWI and WWII memorabilia from both Drs. E. Fulton Risdon and Ross Tilley. The divisional Strategic Plan is listed as well as “In the News”, which houses all archived PS newsletters

Growing interest in our website

As our division continues to grow, so does our website utilization. With the use of Google Analytics—the program which monitors our website traffic, utilization and time spent on any given page of the site—we have captured the continued growth of this website. From its initial launch in March 2008, there were a total of 58 visits to the website. There were 1,275 pages viewed and 29.81 pages were viewed per visit. All traffic sources were direct; that is, the user entered our URL directly. All the visits came from Canada and we suspect from our own students and faculty. Three years later, during the period of January 29 - February 28, 2011, we had a total of 3,675 visits in that one month alone, which translates into a 634% increase in monthly traffic. There were 12,896 pageviews and 3.51 pages viewed/visit. Visitors spent on average 2.29 minutes on our website and 64.76% of all visits were new visits. Traffic

sources included 72.82% from search engines, 13.63% from referring sites and 13.55% direct traffic. Interestingly, there were 2,735 unique visits and all visitors—totaling 3,675—came from 87 countries in this one month alone, our greatest number of international visits to date.

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Future directions

2011-2012 Web Priorities

Future development of the website will include producing and integrating educational materials such as simulation videos onto the website for educational and training purposes.

As we move forward with these and other projects, the Division's website will remain not only current

with the most effective means of communicating with our students, alumni, referring physicians, patients and their families, but will also serve as an educational tool for our growing training program. We are confident that with time, our site will be the largest and most informative academic plastic and reconstructive surgery website on the internet.

For comments, suggestions or information about our website, please email Kathy Pavlovic at plastics.admin@utoronto.ca.



**Division of Plastic &
Reconstructive Surgery**

Dr. Mitch Brown

The residency training program has had a very successful 2010/2011. With our five new PGY1 trainees, our total resident complement has grown to 26. There are three residents completing their training this June: Mary Helen Mahoney, Karen Wong and Amer Al Kudmani. The three of them were busy preparing for their Royal College exams, and I am very pleased to announce that all three have successfully passed!

The CARMS selection period has passed. The selection committee worked extremely hard in reviewing over 50 applications for our four Canadian training positions, and over 70 applications for our one International Medical Graduate position. Following a dinner party at the home of Dr. Anastakis, the invited applicants went through a series of interviews the next day at the Faculty Club. We were very fortunate to have an excellent group of applicants to select from. We will learn who our five new trainees will be sometime in late March. I would like to thank the entire selection committee for their commitment to one of our most important responsibilities each year. Thanks also to residents Ron Somogyi and Siba Haykal for their presentation to the visiting applicants.

As resident numbers increase so do the requirements for teaching. The new Plastic

Surgery School under the supervision of Kyle Wanzel has been positively accepted by the residents. This defined, focussed academic time has made it easier for residents to plan their weeks and has made for an environment very conducive to learning. Thanks to all of the faculty, especially Kyle who have given of their time to participate and to provide didactic lectures on their areas of specific expertise. I would also like to thank the following faculty for their outstanding efforts in coordinating the remainder of the education curriculum:

Paul Binhammer - Surgical Skills Curriculum

Paul Binhammer and Kyle Wanzel - PGY2 Bootcamp

Melinda Musgrave - Journal Club

Peter Bray - Morbidity and Mortality Rounds

Dimitri Anastakis - Professors Rounds

Craig Fielding - Biomedical Ethics

Joel Fish - Visiting Professor

The American Society of Plastic Surgery held its annual meeting in Toronto last October. This was done concurrently with the annual CSAPS meeting. The entire event was a huge success. Residents got to experience first hand a large American conference and participate at multiple levels including welcome hosts, session moderators, volunteers and presenters. We are all looking forward to experiencing something similar this May in Vancouver at the combined CSPS and IPRAS meeting.

In January, the Division underwent its Internal Review in preparation for the Royal College review in 2013. As each new cycle goes by, it seems that the documentation required for the review becomes more detailed and expansive. Several months of work by a

number of faculty were necessary to put all of the materials together. The primary driving force behind all of this is Kathy Pavlovic and I would like to thank her for her tireless work. The initial feedback on the review was very positive. We still await the final report from the Postgraduate Medical Education office which we expect in the next few weeks.

By the time of publication, the snow should have melted, the days will be longer and the outdoor furniture will be back where it belongs.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable summer. Remember that it never rains on the golf course!



The Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Toronto is a “hidden gem”.

This was offered up by our recent Visiting Professor, Dr. Joseph Losee from the University of Pittsburgh, who was this year's Hoyle Campbell Visiting Professor. The importance of this comment needs to be considered in light of who said it, and how we as a division project the wealth of research that is present in our division. Dr. Losee is a “hidden gem” in his own right based on the feedback we received from our residents. He is well known and has travelled to visit many other programs. Reviewing Dr. Losee's CV demonstrates numerous research interests and this comment was made in light of reviewing the research presentations at our annual Research Day. The quality and quantity of high level work was notable. The “hidden” comment referred to the fact that Dr. Losee recognized that the research commitment in our division is not as well advertised in North America as maybe it should be. There is always room for improvement.

What was most notable this year at our Annual Research Day was that an evaluative process from the supervisors of the projects, as well as feedback from the visiting professor and two judges, was compiled and 75% of the resident presenters received recognition awards for

their high caliber of research.

The Mentor Canada, Johnson and Johnson Medical Companies Prize for Best Clinical Paper Award 2011 was awarded to Dr. Karen Cross for “Multiphoton Imaging of Acute Thermally Injured Tissue: A Preliminary Assessment of an Emerging Technology”, and Dr. Kunaal Jindal for “Results of Primary Orbital Fracture Repair: An Analysis of Morphological Outcomes”.

The Best Basic Science Paper was awarded to Dr. Siba Haykal for her work, “Evaluating the Extracellular Matrix Components Following Decellularization of Tracheal Allografts Used for Airway Transplantation”.

The Best Clinical Paper was awarded to Dr. Kristen Davidge for her work, “Qualitative Assessment of Patient Experiences Following Sacrectomy and Reconstruction”.

Dr. Jennica Platt has been accepted into the Surgeon Scientist Program commencing July 2011 to pursue a Masters level thesis study. As the growth in our clinical program increases, we hope to have more than one resident choose to enter the research stream in the same year. One of the repeated comments from research residents over the years is that the experience can be “isolating” at times, and having two colleagues from the same program with similar goals is a great set up for potential camaraderie and support.

Dr. Jennica Platt will work in Clinical Epidemiology & Health Care Research, which is a field in the Graduate Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, in the school of graduate studies at the University of Toronto. Dr. Jennica Platt will be working with

Dr. Nancy Baxter as her supervisor. Jennica entered the residency with a firm idea that she wanted to pursue this avenue and is planning to investigate "Patterns of Care for Breast Reconstruction in Ontario".

Dr. Siba Haykal has been working with Dr. Stefan Hofer and Dr. Tom Waddell with investigations into allograft transplantation as it relates to tracheal reconstruction. Dr. Haykal has recently defended her work to date during a transfer examination to the PhD program. A mentor of mine once explained that completing a Master's degree is a real achievement and it sometimes will alter the path you choose for the future. Completing a PhD is a life-changing event for most due to the depth and breadth of the studies. Dr. Haykal had chosen this avenue after much thought. Dr. Haykal has also recently been awarded a three-year Vanier Scholarship recognizing her dedication and work to date.

In regards to the next few years, a goal I am happy to share is identifying research residents that are interested in peripheral nerve research (Dr. Greg Borschel at the Hospital for Sick Children) or trauma basic science research (Dr. Marc Jeschke, Burn Director at Sunnybrook Hospital). This is in order to attempt to align the research interests of our faculty that have been hired as surgeon-scientists with potential future students.

Research remains a top priority for our division and the students who apply to our program all express an interest in the Surgical Scientist Program. This continues to be a source of both privilege and pride.

At the Gallie Dinner held on May 6th, 2011, Dr. Taiba Alrasheed received the D.R. Wilson Award. This award is given to surgical residents who are rated highly by undergraduate students as being outstanding teachers. Congratulations!



The Department of Surgery has set up the "Fellowship Forum", a new medium for clinical fellows to exchange information. The forum will provide fellows with access to their peers for question and answers regarding such day-to-day activities as:

- Finding and trading apartments/furniture
- Transportation
- Banking
- Facilitating fellows from home countries in different fellowships meeting each other
- Developing social groups, contacts, etc.

The forum will be a great resource for fellows. This information is currently available and posted on the Divisional website. Click [HERE](#) to visit.



Dr. E. Fulton Risdon
Canada's First Plastic Surgeon
Toronto Western Hospital
1921-1966



Risdon Wedding, England, 1919
Some of the attendees were patients
with facial dressings.

Celebrate 90 years of achievements with a gift.



Plastic surgery has had a long and proud history at the University of Toronto. In 1921, Dr. E. Fulton Risdon, considered by many to be the father of Canadian plastic surgery, started practice as Toronto's first plastic surgeon. He continued to work at Toronto Western Hospital for 45 years. His contributions to the discipline of plastic surgery are still evident today in the areas of mandibular and craniofacial surgery.

Today, the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Toronto continues that proud tradition. Over the past four years, the Division has recruited some of the brightest and best surgeons, and expanded the training program three-fold. Your donation will support resident training today and in the future. You may choose to make a monthly gift of \$90 or a one-time gift of \$900 or \$9000 (or any amount you wish). Help us continue the tradition started 90 years ago.

DIVISION OF
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
RESTORING LIVES RESTORING DIGNITY



**St. Joseph's Health
Centre (SJHC)**

Dr. Leila Kasrai

In December 2011, Dr. Ralph Manktelow formally retired from his associate position at St. Joseph's Hospital. Over the past three years he had been providing Dr. Wanzel and I a very unique "fellowship" opportunity in facial reanimation. He will now be dedicating his time to getting more trophies in rowing and cross-country skiing, attending to the grandchildren and adventures in farming. I feel extremely privileged to have been his student for the past 15 years. Dr. Wanzel and I will continue our practice in facial reanimation.

Project in East Africa

The Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, with a grant obtained from IAMGOLD Corporation, is starting a project in East Africa to evaluate the need for reconstructive surgery in the region. The project is in direct partnership with the African Medical Research and Foundation (AMREF), based in Nairobi, Kenya. Currently Dr. Leila Kasrai is leading the project in collaboration with Dr. Shahla Yekta, a global health researcher and co-founder of Mind the Health Gap. AMREF's outreach manager Dr. Johnson Musomi and project officer Judy Mwangi are both directly involved in the project.

Last month we travelled to Nairobi to meet

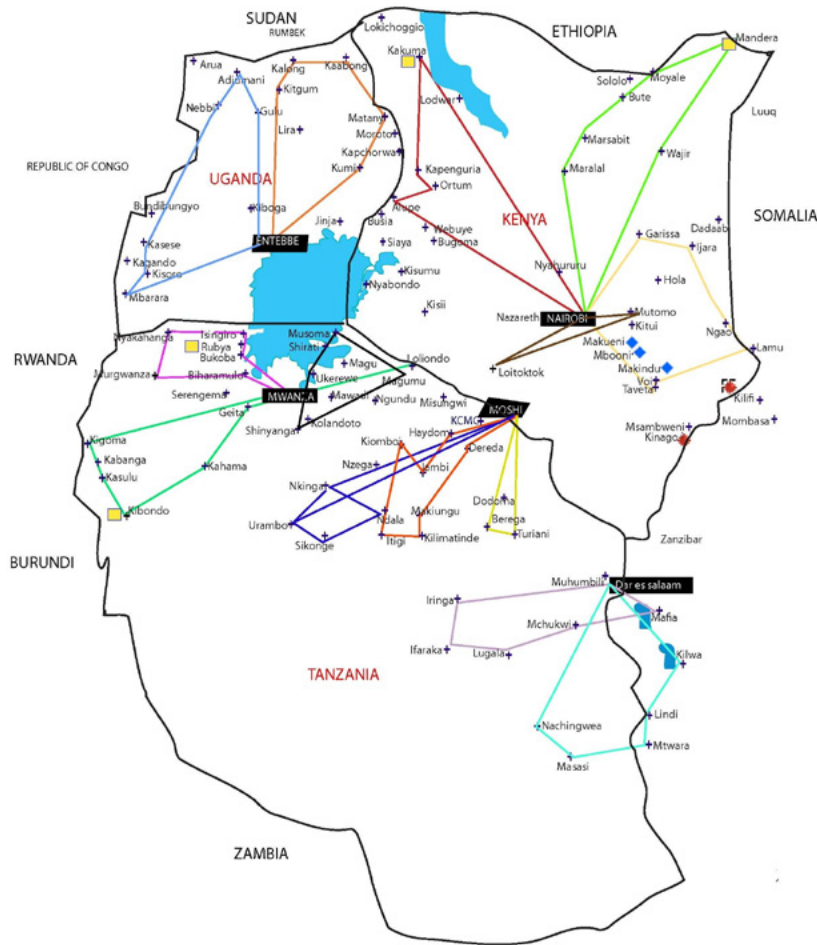
the team there and discussed how the project would advance. The Flying Doctors Services of AMREF performs reconstructive surgery in rural communities in several East African countries ([see map](#)). Two permanent surgeons on the team fly year-round and surgeries primarily focus on cleft lip and palate and fistulas. We will be going over AMREF's extensive database of surgeries performed and funding allocated to determine the major gaps in surgery.

We are also looking forward to 2nd-year University of Chicago medical student, David Grant, who has won an international health fellowship and will be joining our team for a summer internship to develop a burn prevention programme in rural communities in East Africa.



Dr. Shahla Yekta

Dr. Yekta completed her PhD in organic chemistry in 2005 at the University of Toronto. During this time, she was part of a malaria



research team synthesizing potential targets based on known anti-malarial drugs and on known target-enzyme pocket environments. She then obtained the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt fellowship to do post-doctoral research at the Freie Universität in Berlin, Germany. Shahla was an invited expert panel member at the Embassy of Canada in Germany, offering concrete suggestions to the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada on how to improve German-Canadian scientific collaborations. She was also a nominated delegate at the World Health Organization Transparency for Change meeting in 2007.

During the final year of her PhD, as she was determining her career path, she started to become more and more interested in the pharmaceutical policies that affect access to medicines for poor people. In 2008, she moved to Vancouver, Canada and received a Master of Public Health at the University of British Columbia. She has also worked at the Charité Medical University in Berlin, Germany in the International Health Sciences Division working on the policy side of issues related to access to medicines. Shahla has several publications in well-respected journals, including JACS and Chemical Reviews (with over 250 citations since 2003) and has presented at several national and international conferences, including a series of invited lectures on access to medicines at several universities across Germany.



Dr. Shahla Yekta

Alongside her research in global health policy, she is also working with the Institute for Immunology and Informatics in Providence, RI, bringing classroom science to students in Mali, Africa via live webcasting, including the

occasional translation to French (the official language in Mali). Having been a globetrotter since birth, she speaks four languages and tries to use them in her career when necessary. Shahla has volunteered with the British Columbia Persons With AIDS Society as well as the Universities Allied for Essential Medicines in various capacities.

Shahla is interested in building research capacity and enhancing collaboration within the developing world for diseases that burden local communities.



St. Michael's Hospital has opened the Li Ka-Shing Knowledge Institute, a state-of-the-art research and education facility. It will rival the world's best academic health science centres and plastic surgery will be affiliated with it.

The Division continues to provide breast reconstruction as ongoing.

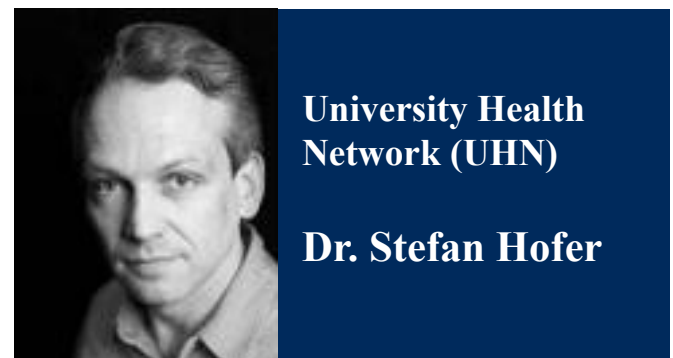
Research activities include the development of a web-based tool for patient education in wounds and surgical site infection. Our wound program is involved with the development of emergency guidelines for the management of diabetic foot infections. This initiative has significantly decreased our admission rates and facilitated community management of

this frequently seen clinical problem. New technologies continue to be evaluated in this challenging area of plastic surgery.

Trauma at St. Michael's Hospital continues to be a focus and an active search is in progress for recruiting new faculty to increase our expertise in this area.

Our wound care team received 2nd place in the young investigators award at the Society for Advanced Wound Care for our work on lower extremity complications. The work was titled, "A Needs Assessment of Intervention to reduce the Risk of Wound Complications following Saphenous Vein Harvesting", with the team consisting of Jiayi Hu, Laura Teague, Rosane Nisenbaum, Lisa Bunn and myself.

Dr. Musgrave whose application, titled "Exploring Factors that Influence Breast Reconstruction Use: Phase I: How do Physician Attributes Influence Reconstruction Decision Making", was recently awarded \$188,100 in funding over two years from the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF) – Ontario Region. Drs. Anna Gagliardi and Nancy Baxter are co-applicants, and Dr. Rosanne Nisenbaum is a collaborator.



Drs. T. Waddell, SOP. Hofer and S. Haykal, University Health Network, TGRl recently received a \$155,000

grant award from the Physicians Services Incorporated Foundation (PSIF) for a project entitled “Determining the Immunogenicity of Decellularized Tracheal Allografts” for two years starting May 2011.

Dr. Toni Zhong was recently awarded a grant (Co-PI Nancy Baxter) for her work titled “Utilization and Timing of Breast Reconstruction in the Treatment of Breast Cancer in Ontario: A Population Based Study” for \$257,474 over three years by the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. Dr. Stefan Hofer and Dr. Melinda Musgrave are co-applicants on this grant. This funding will form the basis of Dr. Jennica Platt’s Master’s thesis.

Project Summary

Cancer, trauma and narrowing following surgical resection of the airway is a major problem in head and neck and thoracic surgery. These patients often require permanent artificial airways to allow them to breathe and speak. Recently, the concept of transplanting an airway from a donor has been proposed as a potential solution for this problem. The donor airway’s original cells are initially removed in order to avoid giving the recipient immunosuppressive medication and then repopulated with the recipient’s own cells. Our study focuses on determining if these structures are safe for transplantation without the need for immunosuppressive medication. This significantly advances the current area of research as this will allow us to see if we can avoid the use of these medications, which are highly toxic to the patient.

In January 2011, VGH/UBC/Providence Health opened enrolment as a West Coast site for

a multi-centered RCT coordinated at UHN and Women’s College Hospital in Toronto to examine the use of Acellular Dermal Matrix in One-Stage Breast Reconstruction.

UHN is collaborating with VGH/UBC and the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in a multi-site abdominal wall morbidity study entitled, “Quality of life and patient-reported outcomes of reconstruction in breast cancer survivors”.

MD Anderson Cancer Center will be collaborating on a UHN-initiated pain management study entitled, “The use of transversus abdominis plane (TAP) block in autologous breast reconstruction donor site: A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial”.

Awards

In January 2011, Dr. Toni Zhong was awarded with one of two Outstanding Paper Presentations by the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery (ASRM), at the 2011 Annual Meeting in Cancun, Mexico for the project entitled “Perioperative Fluid Considerations to Minimize Early Postoperative Complications in Free Flap Breast Reconstruction”.

Clinical and Research Fellows

Dr. Tuija Yla-Kotola from Finland completed her microsurgery fellowship from July 2009 to June 2010 and Dr. Eldon Mah from Australia is currently in the position from July 2010 to June 2011.

Dr. Andreas Naparus is a new research fellow who started in Dr. Cho Pang's lab at HSC in May 2010 on a two-year project related to hypoxic postconditioning of human skeletal muscle against reoxygenation injury.

Jamil Ahmad, MD, FRCSC successfully completed a Breast Reconstruction Fellowship in the Division and has begun to practice in the Plastic Surgery Clinic in Mississauga. He is also on staff at the Toronto Western Hospital. Dr. Ahmad is on the organizing committee of the University of Toronto's 41st Annual Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Symposium from April 15th – 16th, 2011.

Jamil and his lovely wife Agnete Lee Toesti are also very proud to announce the birth of Thomas Rod Ahmad on August 7, 2010.



Thomas Rod Ahmad



Toronto East General Hospital

Dr. Laura Tate

We are excited to introduce Dr. Linda Dvali as our new Division Head as of April 2011. Linda plans to bring her teaching expertise and leadership skills to grow our recent PGY-3 rotation experience. We would like to continue to build a strong relationship with the University of Toronto and, as a tertiary hand surgeon, we see Linda as a bridge to that goal.



Dr. Linda Dvali

Dr. Brett Beber is the University of Toronto's Divisional Wellness Director.

Dr. Atul Kesarwani had been appointed Part-Time Lecturer at the University. Atul trained in General Surgery in Ottawa and obtained his Plastic Surgery training at the University of Toronto. He has been on Active Staff at TEGH since 1988, Division Head from 1994-2005. He

has designed and created an accredited free standing cosmetic clinic, “Cosmedical Clinic”, and still maintains full call responsibilities and a hospital presence three days a week. He is an active speaker and contributor of publications, interviews and references in the non-medical popular press and media.



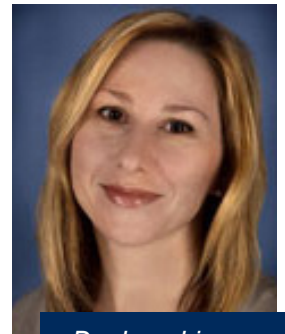
Dr. Atul Kesarwani

oncologic reconstruction with a major focus in breast reconstruction. We are very fortunate to have her with us.

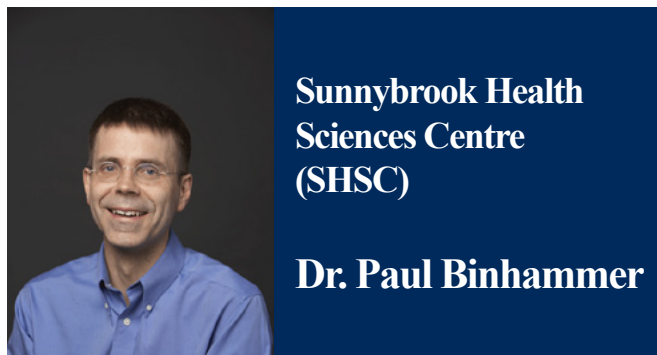
Our good fortune has been doubled at Sunnybrook. In January 2011, we were joined by Dr. Joan Lipa. Joan had previously been at UHN and in 2008 was recruited to University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Dr. Lipa has returned to Toronto and is partnering with Dr. Laura Snell to develop the Breast Reconstruction and Oncologic Reconstructive Service and Research Group at Sunnybrook. They are able to offer immediate reconstruction at Sunnybrook through a coordinated effort with Surgical Oncologists at the Odette Cancer Program.



Dr. Laura Snell



Dr. Joan Lipa



**Sunnybrook Health
Sciences Centre
(SHSC)**

Dr. Paul Binhammer

Although it is winter there is lots of activity at Sunnybrook. Since the last update we have been joined by two surgeons. Dr. Laura Snell started at Sunnybrook in September 2010. She has spent the past two years at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center as a fellow. She gained tremendous experience in breast reconstruction as well as that of the head and neck, trunk and extremity. At the same time, she also obtained her Master’s degree in Clinical Research Methods from Columbia University. Laura’s practice is

Sunnybrook is working hard to continue its growth and is looking forward to a fourth Burn Surgeon. We anticipate that beginning July 2011 there will be four Burn Surgeons sharing the busy clinical workload and productive research of the Ross Tilley Burn Centre.

We have had great fellows this year. Dr. Glyka Martou has devoted her time to both Craniofacial and Breast and Oncology Reconstruction. Dr. Amir Mrad has been working on his MBA as well as functioning as a Craniofacial Fellow. Dr. Uri Farkash is the Hand Fellow from Israel and is currently studying for his specialty exams. We thank them for their hard work.



In July 2010, the Ross Tilley Burn Centre has implemented a non-refusal policy, meaning that patients are not refused or routed out of province or to the USA. Since inception of the non-refusal policy (the past nine months), the admissions have significantly increased. More recently, the RTBC has been working towards accreditation from the American Burn Association (ABA). This is a huge milestone. If successful with accreditation, the RTBC would be the second centre in the world outside of the US to be accredited. Accreditation involves preparing for a site visit, which is two days in length, and members of the ABA join the RTBC team through their day and also tour Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre (HSC).

Since July 2010, the RTBC has had a prolific publication and grant funding record. We have been involved in over 20 peer-reviewed publications, one book, and several book chapters and editorials. From a funding perspective, we were successful in receiving funding from the National Institutes of Health, Canada Foundation for Innovation, and the Physicians Services Inc. Foundation for a total of \$1,945,000 including matching funds. In addition, we have initiated one of our randomized-controlled trials approved by the Research Ethics Board.

We would like to welcome several new members

to our centre. In November 2010, Dr. Ana Arno started her 12-month Fellowship. She joins the RTBC from Spain and will be undertaking some research while completing her clinical work assignments. In addition, Dr. Manuel Dibildox will be joining us as an Attending Burn Surgeon. Coming from the US, Dr. Dibildox is set to start on July 1st, 2011. Dr. Dibildox will be the fourth attending burn surgeon, joining our existing team comprised of: Drs. Marc Jeschke (Director, RTBC), Robert Cartotto and Sharhiar Shahrokhi.

Drs. Toni Zhong and Nancy Baxter's grant for a project titled, "Utilization and Timing of Breast Reconstruction in the Treatment of Breast Cancer in Ontario: A Population Based Study", was awarded \$257,474 in funding over three years by the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF). Drs. Stefan Hofer and Melinda Musgrave were co-applicants. The project will form the basis of Jennica Platt's Master's thesis. The proposal was highly rated by the CBCF-Ontario Region research project review panel and Dr. Zhong's application was thoroughly assessed in writing by multiple reviewers according to published CBCF research grant criteria.

Note from the Chair: Dr. Marc Jeschke was recently awarded a \$1-million Canadian Innovation Fund (CFI) grant from the Ministry of Research and Innovation. The Division would like to congratulate Dr. Jeschke for this achievement.



**Hospital for Sick
Children**

Dr. Chris Forrest

The past academic year has been a busy and productive one for the Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery at SickKids. In addition to helping host the ASPS in Toronto last fall, the First Biannual Pediatric Upper Extremity Symposium was held on October 13, 2010. Professor Steven Hovius, MD, Chief of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, the Netherlands was the inaugural invited lecturer. This event was the first of its kind and was a true multi-disciplinary meeting with 80 registrants from the fields of Plastic Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Interventional Radiology from the academic centres in Ontario with an interest in the pediatric upper extremity.

Following this event, the Third Advanced Craniomaxillofacial Conference was held in October 29 and 30, 2010 and was jointly chaired by Drs. Oleh Antonyshyn and Chris Forrest. This unique two-day event attracted over 100 registrants and featured live craniomaxillofacial surgery from Sunnybrook Health Science Centre and The Hospital for Sick Children performed by Plastic Surgery, Oral-Maxillofacial Surgery, Ophthalmology

and Head and Neck-Otolaryngologists. For the first time, live surgery was streamed over the internet and attracted the attention of over 400 additional registrants from all across the globe.

The Division was honoured to host Mr. Bryan Sommerlad MB, BS, FRCS, FRCPCH, FRCSLT(Hon), FRCSEd (Hon) as the 2010 Vale Visiting Professor (see photo). Mr. Sommerlad is from Great Ormond Street Hospital in London and is world renowned for his cleft work (in addition to having a record number of letters after his name) and spent a week with the Division members in November 2010. He was the invited guest speaker at the 2010 Lindsay Thomson Pediatric Plastic Surgery Symposium and spoke on “Clefts: A universal challenge”. Dr. Abdullah Kattan, former HSC Fellow and the recipient of the 2010 Lindsay Research Award, presented his work entitled, “Does Active Range of Motion in Children with Obstetrical Brachial Plexus Palsy Diminish over Time?” at the same meeting.



We were also very proud to be the organizers for the Surgical Services Grand Rounds for Ethics week at the Hospital for Sick Children in November 2010 and were delighted that Dr. Maria Siemionow was able to accept our invitation to be the visiting guest lecturer. Dr. Siemionow is from the Cleveland Clinic and she was able to visit and share her extensive experience with composite tissue allotransplantation and present the first case of near-total facial transplant that she performed at the Cleveland Clinic in 2008. Thanks to Drs. Greg Borschel and Ron Zuker for doing all the organizing and arrangements for a highly successful and stimulating visit.

Departures

The Division was extremely saddened to note the tragic and unexpected passing of Michelle Cordoba, RN who was one of the Plastic Surgery OR nurses and well loved by all the team members. The Division sends condolences to her son Blue and her family.

Kim Tiemens, MSW left the Craniofacial Program earlier this year to relocate to London, Ontario with her husband. The Craniofacial team would like to wish her well and miss her energy and personality.

Staff News

Dr. Ron Zuker will be the host Chair of the IPRAS meeting in Vancouver from May 22 to 27, 2011 and will give the world an opportunity to revisit the site of the 2010 Winter Olympics and have a taste of Canadian hospitality once more.

Awards

Congratulations to Dr. Tatiana Cypel who successfully defended her MSc thesis entitled, "In vitro assessment of osteoblast behaviour in infants with craniosynostosis". She followed it up with having a baby girl a few days later. Congratulations to Tatiana and her husband Marcelo and welcome to Rafaela.

Fellow News

The fellowship positions in Pediatric Plastic Surgery and Pediatric Craniofacial Surgery are highly competitive. These fellows represent some of the best and brightest young talents in our field. During the selection process this past year, over 75 candidates from all around the world were assessed for only five fellowship positions.

The Division would like to thank the fellows from 2009-2010 who did a terrific job in providing superb care for our patients and great stimulation for the staff. Dr. David Cho (Loma Linda, California) has set up his practice in Hawaii as well as a guesthouse for the staff who are hoping to visit him in the winter. Dr. Stuart Bade returned to Australia and has joined the Children's Hospital in Brisbane. Dr. Jonathan Wheeler (Auckland, NZ) had an addition to his family when he got back to New Zealand and welcomed a baby girl into the world. Dr. Tom Samson started his craniofacial practice in Hershey, Pennsylvania where he did his residency. Abdullah Kattan did a six-month hand fellowship at the Toronto Western Hospital and has plans to return to Saudi Arabia.

We are lucky to have a great group of fellows

for the current year from all points of the globe. Dr. Brooke French completed her residency at Springfield, Illinois under the supervision of Dr. Mike Neumeister, (UofT, Medicine 1988) and is doing a Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Fellowship. Dr. Jonathan Burge (Auckland, NZ) is her co-fellow and continues the tradition of Kiwi-excellence. Dr. Isaac Harvey (Adelaide, Australia), Dr. Adel Fattah (London, UK) and Dr. Mike Bezuhly (Halifax, NS) are three musketeers of the pediatric plastic fellowship world. No weak links in this chain.

We are also fortunate to have an equally strong group of new fellows that will be starting in July 2011. Dr. Adel Fattah (London, UK) will be staying on as one of the two Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Fellows with Dr. David

Khetchoyan (University of Washington, Seattle, WA). There are three new Pediatric Plastic Surgery Fellows who will be starting: Dr. Alison Snyder (Washington University, St. Louis), Dr. Ayad Urid (Tel Aviv), and Dr. Tom Sitzman (Duke, NC). Dr. Urid is a recipient of a scholarship from the Schwartz-Reismann Exchange program. Tom Sitzman comes to us from Duke having completed a residency under the supervision of one of our former fellows, Dr. Jeff Marcus.

Eva Plachetta has just started a one-year research fellowship in peripheral nerve with Drs. Greg Borschel and Tess Gordon. Eva is a third year resident in Plastic Surgery from Vienna, Austria.

SickKids

Division of Plastic Surgery: Fellows: 2010-2011



Pediatric Plastic Surgery



*Dr. Adel Fattah
London, UK* *Dr. Mike Bezuhly
Halifax, NS* *Dr. Isaac Harvey
Adelaide, Australia*

Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial



*Dr. Brooke French
Springfield, Illinois* *Dr. Jonathan Burge
Auckland, New Zealand*

Finally, we are pleased to have our former star resident, Dr. Karen Wong, return to the Division. Karen will be doing a two-year MSc degree in Epidemiology under the supervision of Dr. Anne Klassen (McMaster) and Dr. Christopher Forrest and will be focusing upon patient-reported outcomes in cleft surgery.

Note from the Chair: Dr. Christopher Forrest and staff at Sick Children's Hospital were recently recognized by the *Toronto Star* for the incredible work they did on a six-year-old patient. Read the article [HERE](#).

Follow-up on the questions about how many of our former fellows are practicing Pediatric Plastic Surgery. Marion Wallace sent out a questionnaire to 43 former fellows: 27 responded.

Status:

24 FTE
2 Part time
1 Mat leave

Practice:

17 Academic
7 Combination
1 Community
1 Private Clinic

Time dedicated to Pediatric Plastic Surgery:

90% - 100% - 5
50% - 75% - 12
<50% - 6

Time dedicated to Aesthetic Surgery:

50% - 3
40% - 2
25% - 1
<25% - 4



Department of Surgery

Darina Landa

This has been an exceptional year for the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Over \$740,000 has been raised this fiscal year, in large part thanks to the leadership and support of the faculty.

Some highlights include:

- \$500,000 from IAMGOLD Corporation, a leading gold mining company, for the creation of the IAMGOLD Fund for Research and Education in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, to build educational capacity both at home and abroad. At home, research fellowships will support the creation of new knowledge that will improve the quality of care and foster a new generation of skilled clinicians and scientists. In East Africa, in collaboration with AMREF (African Medical Research Foundation), we will undertake a needs assessment study of current plastic and reconstructive surgery educational capacity. This project will provide a clear snapshot of education needs and also build local capacity to deliver exceptional healthcare, hope and promise of a better quality of life.
- The Professorship in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery campaign—the first of its kind in Canada—is stronger than ever and has received renewed funding from Medicis Aesthetics Canada, as well

as personal pledges from the Division’s current executive, the current and past Program Directors.

- Dr. Stephen Mulholland and wife Ann Kaplan celebrated their 50th birthdays and renewed their vows in style, with a joint 1950s themed party. In lieu of gifts, the couple directed donations to the Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery. The event raised over \$7,000!
- Allergan’s continued funding of the University of Toronto Breast Cancer Reconstruction Fellowships (\$100,000/annum) preserves our position as one of the largest and leading breast reconstruction centres in the world.
- Thanks to the leadership of Dr. Oleh Antonyshyn, Stryker Canada has pledged \$50,000 to support research into Facial Augmentation for Asymmetry Correction.

You may have heard the quote: “People don’t give to institutions. They invest in ideas and people in whom they believe”. The ideas and people within the Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery are unmatched, and opportunities thus endless. The Division truly is a leader within the Department of Surgery and I very much look forward to being part of your continued successes.

Dr. Manktelow honoured by CSPS and IFSSH

Dr. Ralph Manktelow was the recipient of the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons (CSPS) Lifetime Achievement Award at the Society's Annual Business meeting, which was held in Halifax on June 18, 2010. There have been only three other Canadians honoured in the 25-year history of this award and Dr. Manktelow is the only living recipient. Dr. Manktelow developed his unique surgical skills while training in the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Toronto.

He was also honoured by the International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (IFSSH) at their international Congress in Seoul in November 2010. He was named a Pioneer of Hand Surgery, joining an illustrious list of such Pioneers named since 1986 by the Society. This is the highest international recognition available to a hand surgeon.

Pioneers are recognized leaders in hand surgery who have contributed significantly to the development of Hand Surgery nationally and/or internationally.

Well known and recognized, Dr. Manktelow is renowned for one of the first texts on reconstructive microsurgery, which has served for many as the template to begin using the free gracilis muscle to power hand tendons. The Toronto replantation team was started by him and he very rapidly became recognized as an authority in replantation and microvascular surgery. He began a microsurgery course at the University of Toronto, which became an annual event.

Dr. Manktelow was just one of many individuals recognized from the University of Toronto's Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.



Dr. Ralph Manktelow

Dr. Kristen Davidge was awarded the Epidemiology and Biostatistics Award, which recognizes the best presentation by a Resident in the area of Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

Glyka Martou, Amir Mrad and Vanessa Wong, newly certified plastic surgeons in 2010, were also formally welcomed into the plastic surgery community.

IPRAS 2011

IPRAS 2011—a major event in the world of plastic surgery—will take place in Vancouver from May 22-27.

The scientific theme for IPRAS 2011 Vancouver is “Worldview Vancouver – Looking to the Future”. The program reflects the latest advances from around the world in plastic surgery in general, as well as in each of the subspecialty areas.

For more information on the event, click [HERE](#).



Siba Haykal has been enrolled in the PhD program at the Institute of Medical Science, University of Toronto, working on her research entitled: "Determining the Structural Integrity and Immunogenicity of Decellularized Tracheal Allografts". She has been working very hard on her research. Siba works equally hard at yoga/running/resistance training while trying to maintain a healthy balanced lifestyle. She is currently single although she enjoys an active social life.



Ryan Neinstein was Awarded Best Paper at the 2011 American Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery for his abstract on "The Role of Peri-operative Fluid Infusion Rate on Postoperative Complications Following Microsurgical Breast Reconstruction." Co-supervised by Drs. Toni Zhong and Stefan Hofer, his work was accepted for publication in Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery.

Ryan has completed four half marathons in the past. His new obsession will be completing a full marathon.



Blake Murphy is currently continuing his research in carpal tunnel syndrome and will present this research in Vancouver at IPRAS 2011. Throughout the winter, he enjoyed skiing at Mont Tremblant, Kicking Horse and Fernie. He recently spent a week visiting Las Vegas and hiking in Zion National Park, Utah.



Karen Wong received a PSI Resident Research Grant for the project "CLEFT-Q: Development of a Patient-Reported Outcome Measure for Cleft Lip and Palate".

Karen is finishing up her last year of residency and is looking forward to starting a research fellowship at the Hospital for Sick Children in July 2011.

Congratulations to Karen for passing the Royal College Exams!



Olivia Ho is looking forward to beginning her senior year in July.



Shaikhan Al-Hashmi is almost finished his junior year, which he says has been a rich experience so far. He can't wait to start the plastic surgery senior year by July.



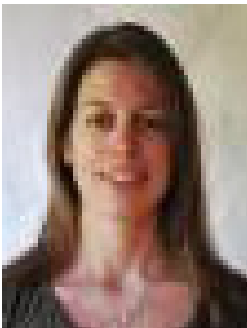
Jennica Platt is just finishing up the second year of her residency and is finally getting settled into Toronto. Her year was marked by the LMCC-II and POS exams, as well as sunny vacations to San Francisco and Cayman Islands. She is looking forward to starting the Surgeon-Scientist Program in July.



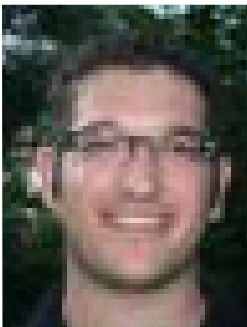
Mary-Helen Mahoney will be leaving us this year as this is her final year of residency training and final exams are quickly approaching. She received a recognition award for her high caliber of research during the February 18th Research Day. Congratulations are in order for both Mary-Helen and her husband Steve as they are expecting their first child in July and for passing her Royal College Exams!



Homan Cheng is finishing her first year of the Global Health Certificate Program. She is the first resident from the Division to complete this two-year course-based program that provides residents an opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to meet global health challenges. She continues to enjoy her culinary pursuits and recently completed a Mediterranean cooking class.



Heather Baltzer's PGY2 year got off to a busy start with wedding planning, marrying her husband Steve on September 4, 2010. Early in the post-wedding period, Steve moved to Boston for work. Since then Heather has made time to enjoy lots of opportunities to get to know a fun, new city.



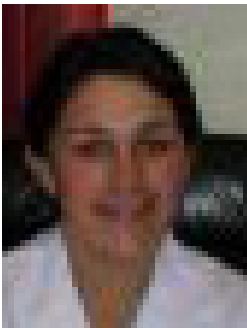
Ron Somogyi, as a 3rd year resident, divides his time between a busy training program and an even busier family life that includes a ridiculously cute 2 1/2-year-old boy and a new baby girl, Abigail Golda Somogyi, who was born on April 17 at 7lbs 6oz. In his spare time, he plays golf (...never) and is working on a few ongoing research projects (...sometimes).

*Ron Somogyi with wife Ora,
son Jadon and Abigail*





Kunaal Jindal will be completing his PGY3 year and is looking forward to beginning his PGY4 year in July.



Karen Cross will be PGY5 as of July!



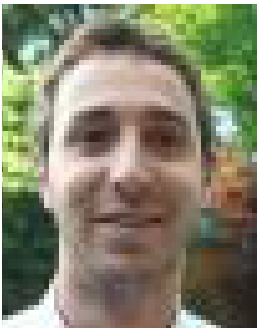
Matthew McRae is looking forward to entering his senior year in July.



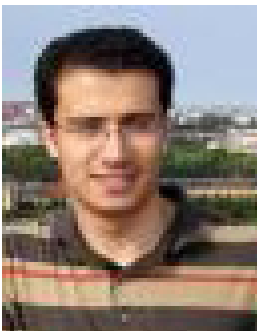
Richard Backstein is also looking forward to entering his last year of residency training.



Matthew Plant is currently completing a rotation at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.



Roberto Tutino is completing his rotation at the Hospital for Sick Children.



Saad Al-Qahtani is completing his rotation at the Toronto East General Hospital.



Jing Zhang is completing her rotation at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.



Andrew Fagan is currently completing a rotation at the Mt. Sinai ICU.



Mike Hendry is currently completing a rotation at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.



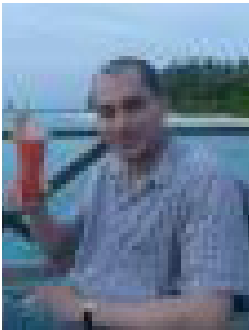
Giancarlo McEvenue is completing his rotation in Medicine at St. Michael's Hospital.



Amer Alkudmani is completing his last year of residency training. Congratulations to Amer on his success in the Royal College Exams!



Kristen Davidge, along with Drs. J. Semple and M. Brown, was awarded a \$13,500 grant from Women's College Hospital for her work, "Quality of Recovery in Women Undergoing Autogenous Breast Reconstruction in an Ambulatory Setting".



Paul Carter presented a paper technique on "Lower Eyelid Blepharoplasty" at the Caribbean Plastic Surgery Conference, Oct 25-29, 2010, and won the trainee prize for best presentation.



Taiba Alrasheed is keeping busy but enjoying every minute of it. At the Gallie Dinner's surgeon-artist exhibition, she got a chance to display some of her paintings. Taiba used to paint a lot, but lately started doing it as a way to help her get through the night. Taiba was also the recipient of the D.R. Wilson Award for teaching, an award given to a surgical resident who is rated by undergraduate students as being an outstanding teacher.

Taiba was also awarded \$2,500 of funding towards the Operation Rainbow mission to India from March 2-13, 2011, from The Educational Foundation of the CSPA 2011. **See following page for pictures.**

Taiba standing beside her art at the Gallie Dinner



Operation Rainbow Canada (ORC)

India
March 2-13, 2011





Ryan Austin is excited to be joining the Department of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Toronto. He was born and raised in Toronto, which may explain his unwavering support for the Maple Leafs. He completed his undergraduate degree

in Life Sciences at Queen's University and attended medical school at UofT. He is an avid golfer and rounds out his free time playing hockey and squash. He will be traveling to Cape Town to complete elective rotations in Plastic Surgery and Trauma Surgery, and hopes to come back with some interesting stories. He looks forward to starting in July and working with all of the faculty and residents at UofT over the next few years.



Kathryn Issac is an undergraduate in genetics and MD graduate of the University of Toronto. For hobbies, she loves to play indoor and beach volleyball in the summer and ski in the winter. She also enjoys running, cycling and plays a variety of outdoor sports.

She is fluent in French. Kathryn is interested in tissue engineering and medical education research.



Joseph Catapano grew up in Toronto. He completed his undergraduate studies at McMaster University and medical school at the University of Ottawa. Joseph plays soccer regularly—his other interests include skiing, ancient history and travelling. This summer

prior to residency, he'll be spending some time exploring Europe. Joseph cannot speak highly enough about the faculty and residents that he has worked with in Toronto. He feels very privileged to be a part of this program, and is looking forward to starting residency and contributing to the research being done within the Department of Plastic Surgery.



Katie Armstrong is a graduate of the University of Toronto. Her family is from the neighbouring city of Mississauga. Academically, she is interested in developing and implementing educational and consultation-based telemedicine applications.

During her free time, she runs and attends bootcamp with her mom and sisters, mainly to balance out her love of LCBO cooking classes and watching HGTV. She loves to travel—but then, who doesn't?



**Division of Plastic &
Reconstructive Surgery**

Sandy Davies

Welcome to the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Newsletter – Alumni section. If you have some special news, birth announcement, marriage, etc, that you would like to have included in the Alumni News, please let me know at sandy.davies@sickkids.ca.

Sandy Davies

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations to Dr. Shar Shahrokhi and Martine Quesnel on the birth of their baby girl, **Zoé Anisa Shahrokhi**, born on Jan 1, 2011 at 6:23am, weighing 6lbs



Congratulations also to Dr. Amer Al-Kudmani and Nahlah Abounassif on the birth of their son **Rayan**, born November 11, 2010, weighing 7 lbs, 6 oz





Our Keeping in Touch messages today come from Dr. William Andrade and Dr. Doug Grace.

Dr. William Andrade

Hi everyone,

It was my pleasure to send in an update on my personal life and surgical practice. It's hard to believe that five years has passed since I joined Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket. I have a broad practice touching on all areas of plastic surgery, and I am fortunate to work with three other colleagues in a very supportive and rapidly expanding community hospital. Our hospital developed a family medicine teaching unit two years ago so I've also enjoyed getting involved with teaching residents and medical students.

We live in Aurora which is a nice halfway point between the city and the ski slopes! My wife Lisa, and my three kids, Robert, James and Sara, are all doing well.

*Best wishes to everyone,
Will*



Dr. Doug Grace



Hello to everyone in the Division of Plastic Surgery,

It is always great to see fellow alumni and staff at local and international meetings. I am practicing in downtown Burlington, Ontario, and the practice is going great with my major focus being cosmetic surgery and breast reconstruction. Over the last year I have also been spending a lot of time training and performing deep laser resurfacing - we have been getting great results in the perioral and periocular area. I got married in 2006 in Grand Bend to my wife Erin and I have two amazing kids: Benjamin (4 years old) and Ava (2.5 years old). We recently moved to an older farmhouse in Oakville and I am now finally allowed to get a tractor! The family has taken up skiing and we have joined Craigeleath ski club and would be happy to hit the slopes with anyone interested since we're up there nearly every weekend. Hope everyone is doing well and have a great year!

*Cheers,
Doug*