During these summer months it is opportune to reflect on the collective accomplishments of our department over the last six months. The first part of 2010 was highlighted by a number of important achievements, including our outstanding Research Day. We were fortunate enough to hear an excellent Henderson Lecture given by Dr. Jane Norman from the University of Edinburgh. The presentations by our trainees were nothing less than stellar and congratulations to all of the recipients of the J.W. Knox Ritchie Research Awards. The year 2010 was also marked by the promotion of five members of our department to full professor - Ted Brown, Isabella Caniggia, Guylaine Lefebvre, Barry Rosen and Gareth Seaward. Drs. OluLeke Badmos, Elise Lackie and Modupe Tunde-Byass were also promoted to assistant professor. We extend our hearty congratulations to all of these individuals.

Members of our department, including Drs. Ted Brown, Bob Casper, Steve Lye and John Kingdom, were all successful in obtaining grants during the last CIHR Operating Grant competition, in what is a very competitive environment. Our department had a very palpable presence at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada. Many members of our department received awards for their presentations, which are highlighted on page 7. Of particular note, Dr. Guylaine Lefebvre was recognized for her longstanding contribution to the Society by receiving the Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Nick Pairaudeau also received the Ontario Regional Achievement Award. Congratulations Guylaine and Nick.

Many of you will be aware of the changes in our administrative staff at 92 College and I'm absolutely delighted to welcome Maria Wowk as the Undergraduate Coordinator and Cherryl Bird as Administrative Assistant to the Department and Assistant to the Chair. We have a wonderful cadre of administrative staff at 92 College and I would encourage each of you to drop by when you have a moment to say hello.

This year also marked the end of an era when Jane Grac ey, Education Coordinator at Mount Sinai Hospital, retired after thirty-nine and a half years of service to the University Health Network and Mount Sinai Hospital. We will miss Jane; however, we wish her well in her retirement activities. We also welcome Sylvia Muir from the Hospital for Sick Children to take over this role at Mount Sinai Hospital. Sylvia has adapted well to her new environment and so please join me in welcoming her to our department.

Finally, we have had a number of other appointments to our department and I welcome all of our new staff to the department across our different sites. These individuals are highlighted on page 6. Of particular note is Dr. Astrid Christoffersen-Deb, who has joined the department to serve as our on-site faculty representative at Moi University Medical School in Kenya. Dr. Christoffersen-Deb completed her medical training at McGill University followed by a residency in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Harvard. Although Astrid will be spending the majority of her time in Kenya, she is an active member of our department and will be in Toronto for approximately four weeks out of each year.

I am sure that you will enjoy reading this newsletter describing the collective accomplishments of our department members over the last seven months and I hope that you all have been able to enjoy some relaxing time over the summer months. I look forward to seeing you at our Faculty Professional Development Day and Awards Luncheon on October 13, 2010.

Yours sincerely,
Alan Bocking
RESEARCH DAY 2010

The Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 27th Annual Research Day took place Friday, May 7, 2010. There were 15 oral and 61 poster presentations by trainees from the department, covering a range of excellent research, both basic and clinical. We also heard an excellent Henderson Lecture, delivered by Dr. Jane Norman, University of Edinburgh, UK, on the topic of “Being born too soon - do obstetricians have anything to offer?”

I would like to thank everyone who participated and extend special thanks to all those faculty members who acted as chairs and judges.

The 2010 JW Knox Ritchie Research Awards for best abstract/presentation by trainee category were awarded during the celebratory wine and cheese reception at the end of the day. In addition, the Frederick R. Papsin Award for Postgraduate Resident in final year of training, based on teaching ability, mentorship activities and leadership, as chosen by peers, was awarded to Rebecca Cash.

Please join me in congratulating the winners in each of these categories, as well as Dr. Cash for this recognition by her peers. I would also like to commend all the participants, both oral and poster presenters, for their valuable contribution to the continued success of Research Day.

Dr. Alan Bocking

2010 JW Knox Ritchie Research Award Recipients


Graduate Student: Jocelyn Ray (Supervisor: I. Caniggia) for Poster Presentation, C5, A Story of Life and Death: The Dual Role of Mtd/Bok in Trophoblast Cell Fate. Jocelyn Ray, Julia Garcia, Yuany Wu, Tullia Todros, Andrea Jurisicova, Isabella Caniggia.

Post-Graduate Fellow: Alicia Tone (Supervisor: T.J. Brown) for Oral Presentation, 05, DAB2 Enhances Glucocorticoid Receptor-Mediated Anti-Inflammatory Signalling in ES2 Ovarian Cancer Cells. Alicia Tone, Carl Virtanen, Patricia Shaw, Theodore J. Brown.

Resident: Mara Sobel (Supervisor: J. Kingdom) for Poster Presentation, C2, Angiogenic response of the human placenta to heparin: Implications for the prevention of pre-eclampsia? Mara Sobel, Sascha Drewlo, John Kingdom.

Medical Student: Marie Wegener (Supervisor: Sarah Ferguson) for Oral Presentation, O6, Validation of the Modified Sexual Adjustment and Body Image Scale in Women with a Diagnosis of Gynaecologic Cancer (SABIS-G) Marie Wegener, Sara Urowitz, Catherine Classen, David Wiljer, Christine Massey, Sarah E. Ferguson.

Photo 1: Luncheon in Northrop Frye Hall
Photo 2: Rebecca Cash accepting her award along with Dr. Knox Ritchie, Dr. Alan Bocking, and Dr. Paul Bernstein
Photo 3: Group shot of faculty
Global Health Initiative with AMPATH
(formerly ASANTE)

We hosted two visiting Moi University medical students, David Rutha and Korir Tirop on April 5 to May 14, 2010. During this time, they completed their six-week elective (5th Year).

It was a positive experience for all concerned. The success of this visit is a reflection of the level of commitment and dedication of our staff members, and we congratulate and commend everyone involved.

Some of David Rutha’s reflections about his experience

RESEARCH DAY: The 27th Annual Research Day was simply mind blowing for me. I don’t know whether that is the level of research in all Canadian universities but the quality of research being done at U of T is very impressive. I feel challenged to at least do some research back here at home and also encourage my friends to participate in the same. I congratulate all the people who put in their contribution to make that day successful.

SUMMARY: All in all I had a great experience which cannot be adequately covered by this few pages of my reflection. Now I’m back home in Kenya, working hard and already trying in my own small way to bring the Toronto experience to my brothers and sisters by introducing myself, seeking consent and explaining every step of an examination/procedure to them and I’m loving it.

APPRECIATION: All the people who made this elective experience an unforgettable one are many and I can name only a few. First I thank to God for everything. Secondly Mrs. S.E. Mamlin for all her persevering efforts in ensuring we finally got to Toronto amidst all the problems we encountered. My appreciation also goes to Dr. Rachel Spitzer for taking care of us in Toronto. The University of Toronto for the accommodation and funds for the elective, Dr. Alan Bocking, the head of the obstetrics and gynecology department at the University of Toronto, Ms. Jane Gracey and Dr. Janet Bodley who planned my daily activities at the two hospitals. Dr. Michele Farrugia, Dr. Hani Akoury, Dr. J. Blake, Dr. R. Pittini and Dr. Ari Baratz, Dr. Shapiro, Dr. Martoglio, Dr. Ryan Greg, Dr. M. Morton for all they taught me. I would also like to thank Dr. Filomena Meffe, Aaron Yamoshuk, Maria Wowk, Franca Conciatore, Lesley Hawkins, Heather Millar, Alice Han and all the wonderful Kenyans in Toronto who made my visit a memorable one.
Congratulations to Dr. Lee Adamson and Dr. Isabella Caniggia for receiving the Department of Physiology Teaching Awards.

Dr. David Chitayat has been selected as the 2010 recipient of the Founders Award for Excellence in Medical Genetics. This award is conferred upon individuals who have made a significant contribution to the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists and the Genetics community.

Dr. Donna Steele and Dr. Stephanie Backman have each won the SMH Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department teaching award at the yearly SMH and Fitzgerald Academy Education Appreciation Event: Dr. Steele for continued excellence in postgraduate teaching; and Dr. Robertson for excellence in undergraduate teaching. Congratulations. It is so well deserved.

Dr. Dan Farine received the Beth Chabad Israeli Community Centre Humanitarian Award at its 7th Annual Spirit of Community Dinner in June. Each year, the Centre honours people who have helped create a strong and healthy community. Dr. Farine received the Centre’s humanitarian award for his achievements in obstetrics and for sharing his knowledge and skills with students.

Dr. Wendy Wolfman received the “Practitioner of the Year Award” for 2009-2010 from the North American Menopause Association at the San Diego Meeting of NAMS last September 2009.

Society of Gynecologic Investigations (SGI) Meeting 2010

Dr. Maria Augusta Bortolini was awarded one of the top 5 best New Investigator Oral Presentations awards for her research study titled, Expression of Enzymes Regulating ECM Biogenesis in Vaginal Tissue of Women with and without Pelvic Organ Prolapse.

Dr. Yoav Yinon also received a Pfizer President’s Presenter Award. The Pfizer (formerly Wyeth) President’s Presenter Award was established in 1996 to recognize the 25 most meritorious abstracts (either poster or oral presentation) submitted by individuals still in training. Fellows and those in both pre and post-doctoral training are eligible to receive the award. Congratulations Yoav!

2010 SOGC AWARDS

Dr. Lisa Allen – 2nd Place, Gynecology Oral – USE OF THE LEVONORGESTREL-RELEASING INTRAUTERINE SYSTEM FOR MENSTRUAL SUPPRESSION IN THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DELAYED ADOLESCENT

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Dr. Guylaine Lefebvre – Distinguished Service Award
The award recognizes a member’s outstanding contribution and commitment to women’s health, the promotion of the specialty and service to the SOGC.

Dr. Lefebvre has devoted a significant amount of time to the SOGC since becoming chair of the Membership Committee in 1993. She helped to develop the last two 5-year strategic plans, chaired the Clinical Practice Gynaecology Committee from 1993-2003, and has led many of the gynaecological clinical practices over the last decade. She was a member of the SOGC council from 1997-2009 and was part of the Executive Committee for the last 7 of those years. She has recently continued her efforts towards improving women’s health by leading an inspiring fundraising initiative for the Mothers and Newborns of Haiti Donation Campaign.

Dr. Nicholas Painaudeau – Ontario Regional Achievement Award. The SOGC Regional Achievement Award recognizes the excellence of members who volunteer at the local, regional or provincial levels for women’s health.
RESEARCH CORNER

Grants

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate all faculty who received grants during this year. It cannot be overstated how this research contributes to furthering the health and wellness of all obstetric and gynaecological patients around the world.

Alarab, May. Expression of smooth muscle contractile machinery proteins in the vaginal tissue of women with and without pelvic organ prolapse, Physicians’ Services Incorporated Foundation, $16,400.

Alarab, May. Expression of modulators of collagen and elastin remodeling in vaginal tissue of premenopausal women with severe pelvic organ prolapse, Physicians Services Incorporated Foundation, $26,800.

Brown, Theodore J; Rosen, Barry P (Principal Investigators); Colgan, Terence J; Greenblatt, Ellen M; Murphy, K Joan; Tone, Alicia A; Virtanen, Carl (Co-Investigators). Sustained ovulation-associated inflammatory signaling in fallopian tube epithelium as a predisposing factor of serous carcinoma. CIHR, Operating Grant, $435,884, 2010-2013.

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Jones, Jennifer M; Howell, Doris M (Principal Investigators); Buchman, Stephen (Sandy) H; Catton, Pamela; Earle, Craig C; Ferguson, Sarah; Fitzgerald, Barbara J; Gagliardi, Anna R; Gospodarowicz, Mary; Hamson, Margaret B; Jadad, Alejandro(Alex) R; Jusko Friedman, Audrey; Sharpe, Michael B; Urowitz, Sara; Warde, Padraig R; Wiljer, David E (Co-Investigators). Transition to Surviviorship: Translating knowledge into action for testicular and endometrial cancer populations. CIHR, Operating Grant, $256,582, 2010-2013.

Narod SA (Principal Investigator), Bristow RG, Nam RK, Trachtenberg J (Co-Investigators). Clinical Course of BRCA2-associated prostate cancer. CIHR Operating Grant, $425,989, 3 years.
FACULTY APPOINTMENTS/PROMOTIONS

Appointment of Dr. Adrian Brown Chief, Obstetrics and Gynecology at NYGH

It is our pleasure to announce that Dr. Adrian Brown has been appointed Chief of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at North York General Hospital effective March 1, 2010. Adrian is well known in the department and has been recognized as an outstanding educator and leader in our discipline. We look forward to working with him in this new role. We would also like to take the opportunity to thank Dr. Titus Owolabi for his outstanding leadership as the previous Chief of the Department at North York General Hospital and we wish him well in his future endeavours.

Dr. Oluleke Badmos appointed Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology at TEGH

Dr. Oluleke Badmos has been appointed Chief of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Toronto East General Hospital effective July 1, 2010. Please join us in congratulating Leke and we look forward to working with him and members of the department in advancing our combined clinical and academic mission. We would also like to thank Dr. Brenda Woods for her contributions over many years as Chief of the Department at the Toronto East General and more recently Dr. Murray Kroach who served as the Interim Chief.

Promotions (Effective July 1st, 2010)

We are delighted to announce that the following members of the department have been promoted.

Promotions to Full Professor:

Dr. Theodore Brown
Dr. Isabella Caniggia
Dr. Guylaine Lefebvre
Dr. Barry Rosen
Dr. Gareth Seaward

Promotions from Lecturer to Assistant Professor:

Dr. Oluleke Badmos
Dr. Elyse Lackie
Dr. Modupe Tunde-Byass

Appointments

Lecturer:
Dr. Clarissa Bambao
Dr. Astrid Christoffersen-Deb
Dr. Eve Fried
Dr. Danny Kreichman
Dr. Matthew Morton
Dr. Alexandra Nevin Lam
Dr. Amanda Selk
Dr. Sierra Washington

Assistant Professor:
Dr. Colleen McDermott
Resident Awards & Achievements


Dr. Lami Oyewumi was inducted into the U of T Sports Hall of Fame on in May 2010 for her outstanding athletic achievements! Wow! How great is that!

Dr. Shannon Moore (PGY2 in 2009-10) and Dr. Ally Murji (PGY4 in 2009-10) were the two participants of the 2010 Resident Professional Development Program.

Drs. Crystal Chan and Jamie Kroft (pictured on right) gave a presentation at the Congress of the CNGOF (Collège National des Gynécologues et Obstétriciens Français) in Paris on December 10th. Crystal completed a 3-month elective during this time.

Resident Winners of 2010 SOGC Awards

Abstracts / Presentations

Dr. Clarissa Bambao - 1st Place, Gynecology Poster - PROGNOSIS AND RATE OF REGRESSION OF P16 ONCO PROTEIN NEGATIVE LOW GRADE SQUAMOUS INTRAEPITHELIAL LESIONS OF THE UTERINE CERVIX: A PILOT STUDY

Dr. Jamie Kroft - 1st Place, Gynecology Junior Member Poster - ARE CANADIAN RESIDENTS BEING ADEQUATELY TRAINED TO PERFORM LAPAROSCOPIC HYSTERECTOMIES?

Dr. Marilyn Sutandar - 2nd Place, Gynecology Junior Member Poster - SURVEY OF MENSTRUAL CYCLES: THE PREVALENCE OF MENORRHAGIA AND ITS IMPACT IN THE WORKFORCE

Dr. Yolanda Kirkham - 1st Place, Elective Grant Winner for Paediatric / Adolescent Gynaecology elective in Vancouver, BC
Resident News

**Dr. Kelly Chu** had a baby boy in June 2010.

**Dr. Melanie Campbell** and her husband Steve welcomed new baby boy, Charlie Edward Mooney on Sunday April 4, 2010. Charlie weighed in at 8 lb 11 oz. (Pictured below).

**Dr. Eli Shore** was married August 8, 2010. Best wishes to the happy newlyweds!

Happy Attendees at the 2010 SOGC Awards
INTER-HOSPITAL NEWS & EVENTS

Farewell Jane Gracey

Jane Gracey has retired after nearly 40 years of exemplary service at the University Health Network and Mount Sinai Hospital. With her wealth of experience and knowledge, Jane was the one to call on to get the job done well and in a timely manner, no matter what the complexity of the work. She always went above and beyond what was asked of her and coupled this with a pleasant and engaging personality. It is very strange indeed not to be able to turn to Jane whenever something needs to be done, or a problem needs to be solved. We will miss Jane very much and wish her all the best. Thank you for all your hard work and help over the years, Jane, and take good care of yourself!

DEPARTMENTAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Educational Partnership Program

We gratefully acknowledge our educational partners in the support of our 2009-2010 programs.

PLATINUM SPONSORS:
- Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals

GOLD SPONSORS:
- GlaxoSmithKline

SILVER SPONSORS:
- Abbott Laboratories Ltd.
- Boehringer Ingelheim
- Ferring Pharmaceuticals
- Merck Frosst

In addition, we would like to also acknowledge the sponsorship from Serono Canada for their support of the GREI Fellowship Program. On December 2nd, 2009, in conjunction with our Research Rounds at CFRH, EMD Serono presented a cheque in support of the Education Fund for our fellows. This is the 10th year that Serono has supported our fellows with their training. (See photo on right).

News from SMH

Please join us in welcoming back Dr. Colleen McDermott to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of Toronto. Colleen is joining us on staff in August.

We are thrilled to have Colleen McDermott back with us in Toronto. She completed her residency here in 2007 and is now back following a three-year US Board certified subspecialty fellowship in Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS)/Urogynecology which she completed at Indiana University. She also now has a Master’s degree in research. She is skilled in all aspects of her field including minimally invasive surgical approaches.

(Left to Right) Sherene Hastings (EMD Serono), Christina Porter (EMD Serono), Barbara Cruickshank M.D. (Fellowship Director, GREI), Ted Brown (Division Head, GREI)
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Research Day 2011** .......... **Friday, May 6, 2011**  
Hart House, 7 Hart House Circle, University of Toronto

**Inter-Hospital Rounds Schedule**  
2010 - 2010

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 17, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Wendy Levinson, Sunnybrook HSC</td>
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<td>October 15, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Marcus Bernardini, St. Michael's Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 12, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Farida Jeejeebhoy, Mount Sinai Hospital</td>
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<td>December 3, 2010</td>
<td>APOG/Cannell Lecture, APOG</td>
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<td>January 7, 2011</td>
<td>Dr. Carl Narod, Sunnybrook HSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 4, 2011</td>
<td>Lecturer: TBA, Mount Sinai Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 4, 2011</td>
<td>Dr. Ray Garry, Mount Sinai Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 1, 2011</td>
<td>Catherine Williamson, Sunnybrook HSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 6, 2011</td>
<td>No Rounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 3, 2011</td>
<td>Lecturer: TBA, Mount Sinai Hospital</td>
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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Mark your calendar!**  
Faculty Development Workshop & Awards Presentation  
**Wednesday, October 13, 2010**  
11:45 AM – 5:00 PM  
Vaughan Estates (Courtyard Ballroom)  
2075 Bayview Ave, Toronto, ON

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:45 - 12:45</td>
<td>Buffet Luncheon</td>
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<td>12:45 - 1:10</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Awards Presentation</td>
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| 1:10 - 2:00        | Lecture: Expand and Multiply: How are we going to integrate Education across teaching sites?  
Speaker: Dr. Sarita Verma |
| 2:15 - 3:10        | Workshops A & B                                                       |
| 3:15 - 4:10        | Workshops C & D                                                       |
| 4:15 - 5:00        | Keynote Speaker: Dr. Kaveh Shojania, Director, U of T Centre for Patient Safety |