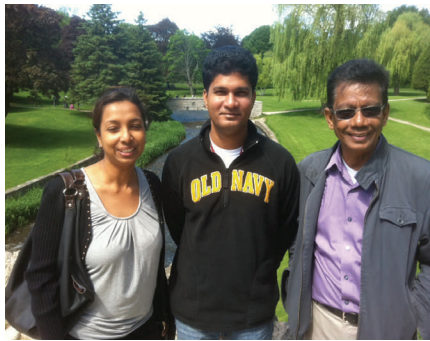


Canada-Guyana Surgical Research Workshop a Success

Four physicians from Guyana joined Canadian surgical colleagues for a CIHR sponsored 1½ day workshop May 30, 31 st at McMaster University to learn more about research methods in surgical education and simulation. The purpose of the workshop organized by the ISD was to develop two collaborative research proposals, building on the previous Canada-Guyana work evaluating the CNIS Trauma Team Training (TTT) program.

McMaster surgical faculty **Dr. Mohit Bhandari, Dr. Deepak Dath, and Dr. Mehran Anvari** were keynote speakers. Other McMaster participants included **surgical residents Dr. Sara Kalechstein and Dr. Patricia Larouche, Dr. Karen Bailey and Dr. Dave Musson. Dr. Vic Neufeld** spoke for the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research. CNIS International Director **Dr. Ron Lett** participated, along with members of the Canadian Association of General



[R to L]: Guyanese surgeons Dr. Madan Rambaran, Dr. Navindra Rambaran and emergency medicine resident Dr. Ahiliya Permul at McMaster. Anesthesiologist Dr. Alex Harvey from Guyana also took part and met with the McMaster Department of Anesthesia to discuss joint training ventures.

Surgeons (CAGS) representing **5 Canadian medical schools**. The two research themes identified are: the use of high-fidelity simulation in trauma training, and the impact of TTT on resuscitation practice in the emergency department. A TTT Update and follow-up visit by McMaster faculty to Guyana is planned for November of this year. **A 7 minute video documenting the workshop can be seen at: <http://youtu.be/m6xIUZVV0KY>**

Guyana straddles the Caribbean and South America cultures north of the Amazon. Basic surgical care is still difficult to access in many areas for its population of 750,000. The CAGS-Guyana partnership has trained 11 Guyanese surgeons. Research papers have been presented at surgical meetings in Canada and the Caribbean. The 3rd Annual Guyana Medical Scientific Conference will be held in November.

Department of Surgery

September 2011

Sept. 16th, 5pm : Canadian Surgery Forum— International Surgery Symposium (London)

Sept. 20th, 4:30pm: Challenges and Ethics in Medical Humanitarian Aid— Marilyn McHarg, MSF Director (McMaster MDCL 3020)

Oct 23rd: CNIS Structured Hernia Repair Instructor Course (Toronto)

Nov. 9-11th: Alliance for Surgery and Anesthesia Presence Today (ASAP San Diego) <http://asaptoday.org/blog/>

Nov. 13-14th: Global Health Conference (Montreal) <http://2011globalhealth.org/>

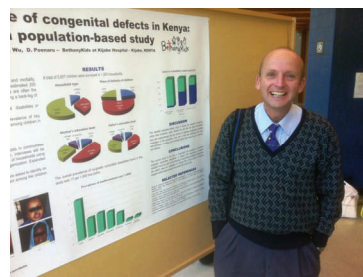
April 12-14 2012: Canadian Conference on Medical Education (CCME), Banff

May 25-27, 2012: Bethune Round Table, Toronto

First ISD visiting professor

Dr. Dan Poenaru from Kijabe Kenya has joined the McMaster International Surgery Desk as an Assistant Clinical Professor (Adjunct) in the Department of Surgery. He will be co-principal investigator for a new research project entitled *“Understanding and defining the Global Burden of Surgical Disease in Children Across the Globe through International Partnership”*, funded by McMaster Surgical Associates.

Dr. Poenaru will also be involved in the educational activities of the Division of Pediatric Surgery, and will be at McMaster full-time between January and June of 2012. Welcome Dan!



Ethiopia

The spring CNIS newsletter reported that McMaster alumnus **Dr. Ola Dunin-Bell** was one of two female surgeons who taught ESS to final year medical students at Hawassa University with Dr. Aberra and his team. Twenty-four



students benefited from this instruction. Dr. Aberra noted it is good to have women surgeons work with them in Ethiopia to encourage the female students who have few female role models in surgery.

CCME Conference 2012

The theme for the 2012 Canadian Conference on Medical Education (CCME) to be held in Banff, Alberta is *“Global Health in Medical Education: Beyond Boundaries”*. The call for abstracts is extended to

students, residents, researchers and medical educators. Abstracts should be submitted to www.proreg.ca/events/ccme/2012/abstract/. Deadline for submissions: **October 7th 2011**

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Ugandan surgeon visits McMaster

Dr. Sam Kagwa, Head of Surgery at Mulago Hospital in Kampala Uganda (the country's main teaching hospital) visited McMaster from April 6-8th.

Dr. Peter Lovrics coordinated a visit to St. Joseph's Hospital including the Centre for Minimal Access Surgery, and discussed how McMaster might assist in development of a minimal access surgical program at Mulago Hospital. The St. Joseph's International Outreach Program has a 15 year history of collaboration in Uganda, with surgical partnership a new priority.



Dr. Kagwa met with **Dr. Susan Reid, Dr. Mark Walton, and Dr. Andrea Baumann** at the Global Health Office to discuss collaborations in surgical training.

McMaster at the Bethune Round Table

There were **3 podium presentations and 2 posters** presented by the McMaster ISD group at the June 3-5th Bethune Round Table on International Surgery meeting in Montreal.

Eleven McMaster surgical postgraduate trainees, undergraduates and faculty joined the 100+ registrants from a dozen countries at what has become the premier international surgery meeting in the country.

Papers from McMaster included:

- "Strategies for developing breast screening guidelines in Nigeria" (**Dr. Jola Omole**, PGY4 gensurg)
- "Perceived effectiveness of using high fidelity mannequin in trauma simulation in Guyana" (**Dr. Rob Gowing**, PGY7 vascular)
- "Randomized simulated comparison of two intraosseous access devices" (**Dr. Sara Kalechstein**, PGY4 gensurg and **Julia Pemberton MSc**).
- "Outputs of essential surgical services by non-physician surgical providers in Angola" (**Greg Knapp, Neil Howatt**, MD2012)
- "On-site production of a surgical skills training video in Guyana" (**Blair Cameron**, MSc)

Visiting Professor: Dr. Dave Sigalet



On June 8th **Dr. Dave Sigalet**, Pediatric Surgery Professor at the Alberta Children's Hospital, presented the annual Chair Rounds on international surgery. As vice-president of the World Federation of Associations of Pediatric Surgeons, he spoke about the needs for surgical care in pediatric patients worldwide, and the changes projected in the next 25 years, as well as the principles of developing twinning relationships between north and south institutions.

Dr. Sigalet's visit was co-sponsored with the Division of Pediatric Surgery and funded through the Royal College and CAPS.

Dr. Brian Cameron presented the CAGS-Guyana surgical training partnership, and **Dr. Vic Neufeld** spoke about for global surgical research opportunities.

Gregory Knapp and Neil Howatt (MD 2012) with their poster at the BRT. Their research took place during a surgical elective in Angola with Dr. Steve Foster (MD1972)



McMaster Brock Global Health Research Forum

On May 5th and 6th 2011, McMaster University hosted the first McMaster Brock Global Health Research Forum, co-sponsored by the ISD. The Forum was geared towards faculty and graduate students who are interested in starting or furthering their involvement in global health research.

The Universities partnered with the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research to organize the two-day Forum which included symposiums, workshops, panel discussions and a guest lecture by **Dr. James Lavery** (Research Scientist at the Centre for Global Health, UofT).

Both university Presidents **Dr. Patrick Deane** (McMaster) , and **Dr. Jack Lightstone** (Brock) spoke on their ideas for supporting global health research in light of the new Open Ontario strategy.

The symposiums focused on topics such as interdisciplinarity, and research for health in Latin America, as well as workshops dedicated to skills needed in global health research, which included mentorship and leadership, creating equitable research partnerships, knowledge translation, and accessing global health research databases.

For more information about McMaster Global Health research contact **Ms. Julia Pemberton**.

Nepal

Off to Nepal by Dr. Jessica Westerholm

(New grad – General Surgery) <http://drjessicainnepal.blogspot.com>

On November 3, I will be leaving for Nepal, where I will spend the next 2 years working at a hospital called Tansen Mission Hospital (<http://www.tansenhospital.org.np>). My responsibilities will include outpatient clinics, emergency surgical care, elective cases, call, as well as training the Nepali interns and residents that rotate through our service. In some ways, it will be similar to what a surgeon would do here, except that "General Surgery" will take on a whole new meaning over there!

I have been spending the last few months taking a crash course in orthopedics, as well as learning a bit of plastics, OB/GYN, urology, and ENT. Thankfully there are a couple of other experienced surgeons at the hospital who can help me out with difficult cases. For more information, or if you wish to receive e-mail updates, contact me at westerji@gmail.com.

