Leadership:
Co-Directors:
Dr. Michael Fehlings, Professor of Neurosurgery
Dr. Albert Yee, Professor of Orthopedic Surgery

Vision:
Innovation and excellence in the delivery of spine care with a unique collaborative program of clinical expertise, research, teaching, and education.

Integration:
Department of Surgery: (Orthopaedic & Neurosurgery)
Research Efforts: (Clinical & Fundamental).

Inception:
2008

Membership:
Faculty (clinical and Research)
Program Council
Education Committee
Research Committee

External Review:
2007

Potential Dominant International Force
Spine Clinical care,
Website Newsletter,
Social Media (twitter)

Visual ID:
Spine Program

Inception:
2008

Integration:
Department of Surgery: (Orthopaedic & Neurosurgery)
Research Efforts: (Clinical & Fundamental).

Vision:
Innovation and excellence in the delivery of spine care with a unique collaborative program of clinical expertise, research, teaching, and education.

Leadership:
Co-Directors:
Dr. Michael Fehlings, Professor of Neurosurgery
Dr. Albert Yee, Professor of Orthopedic Surgery

External Review:
2007

Potential Dominant International Force
Spine Clinical care,
Website Newsletter,
Social Media (twitter)

Visual ID:
Spine Program

Inception:
2008

Integration:
Department of Surgery: (Orthopaedic & Neurosurgery)
Research Efforts: (Clinical & Fundamental).

Vision:
Innovation and excellence in the delivery of spine care with a unique collaborative program of clinical expertise, research, teaching, and education.

Leadership:
Co-Directors:
Dr. Michael Fehlings, Professor of Neurosurgery
Dr. Albert Yee, Professor of Orthopedic Surgery

External Review:
2007

Potential Dominant International Force
Spine Clinical care,
Website Newsletter,
Social Media (twitter)

Visual ID:
Spine Program
Multidisciplinary Faculty

Henry Ahn MD PhD
Margarete Akens Dr med vet PhD
Carlo Ammendolia DC PhD CCRF
Leodante da Costa MD MSc
James Drake BSE MB BCh MSc FRCSC
Mark Erwin PhD DC
Mahmood Fazl MD FRCSC
Michael Fehlings MD PhD FRCSC FACS FCAHS FRSC (Co-Director)
Peter Ferguson MD MSc FRCSC
Joel Finkelstein MD MSc FRCSC
Michael Ford MD FRCSC
Howard Ginsberg MD PhD FRCSC
Stephen Lewis MD MSc FRCSC
Barry Malcolm MD FRCSC MBA
Eric Massicotte MD MSc FRCSC
Cindi Morshead BSc PhD
Meaghan O’Reilly PhD
Farhad Pirouzmand MD MSc FRCSC
Raja Rampersaud MD FRCSC
Arjun Sahgal BSc MD FRCSC
Molly Shoichet PhD FRSC
Alexander Velumian PhD
Cari Whyne PhD
Jefferson Wilson MD PhD FRCSC
Albert Yee MD MSc FRCSC (Co-Director)
Karl Zabjek BSc MSc PhD
Reinhard Zeller MD FRCSC

Members are drawn from:

Neurosurgery and neuroscience, Orthopaedic Surgery, Physical Therapy, Health Policy Management and Evaluation, Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology, Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, Medical Sciences, Psychiatry, Radiation Oncology, Medical Imaging, Medicine, Molecular Genetics, and Pediatrics.
Collaboration & Outreach

Citywide Affiliated Hospitals & Research Institutes
- UHN (KRI, PM Cancer Center, Techna, TGHRI, TRI);
- SHSC (SRI);
- SMH (Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, - Keenan Research Center for Biomedical Science)
- MSH (LT RI)

Local & Global Spine Societies
CSS, AOSpine, CSRS, SRS

Public Health Sector
MOHLTC, TAHSN, LHIN

Local & Global Clinical Trials
RISCIS, EPOSO, LSS, ISPIRE,

Research Foundations
ONF, Christopher & Dana Reeves Foundation, Rick Hansen Foundation, Wings for Life Foundation
Main Affiliated Spine Hospitals

- Toronto Western Hospital
- Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre
- St. Michael’s Hospital
- Hospital for Sick Children
Strategic Highlights

Strategic Planning 2017
- Leadership in education and scholarship
- Optimizing clinical practice and resources in a changing environment
- Advancing spine research and innovation

Strategic Planning 2014
- Integrating spine care
- Integrating translational research
- Fostering outreach
- Strengthening education offerings

External Review 2013
Drs. Allan Levi, Gunner Anderson
- Clinical Care: Increased GOV resources towards spine surgeons / elective surgery, Improved triage for acute trauma cases & call schedule
- Research: training & mentorship, data sharing & central REB
- Education: rotation & 2 years fellowship W/ Spine focused area

Strategic Planning 2010
- Improving research, foster collaboration and information exchange, harmonize streamline process, funding & commercialization opportunities.
- Advancing Spine UT spine program to becoming a Centre

External Review 2007
Drs. Ed Benzel, Gunner Anderson & Hartley Stern
- Create clinical database for all op and non-op
- Spine fellowship program
- Spine division/Program w/ empowered Co-Leaders
- Dialogue W/ MOHLTC & LHIN for improved spine care access
Accomplishments

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES
- Hospital-Based Visiting Professorship
- SpineFEST & Tator-Hall Lectureship
- Fellow Journal Club
- Surgical Skills courses (Fellows, Residents)
- RC exam Prep course residents
- UofT-GTA Spine Rounds
- UofT & China Symposium:
- Tator-Turnbull SCI Symposium

EDUCATION & TRAINING
- Fellowship clinical and research (1 yr & 2 yr with subspecialy)
- Post Graduates
- National Competency-Based fellowship training education

ADVOCACY & GLOBAL IMPACT
- Guideline on SCI, DCM
- Time is Spine
- UofT SpineLINK to enhance access for Acute SI at provincial level

MEMBERS
- Program Council
- Research Committee
- Education Committee
- Fellowship Working Group
- Academic Event Planning Committees

DATA SHARING
- Data sharing agreement w/ 3 main spine hospitals & international centers.
- Riluzole in Spinal cord Injury Study (RISCIS)

RESEARCH
- Surgeon Scientist Training Program (residents)
- Research fellowship

U of T Spine Program
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Keynote Speaker</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Talk Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SpineFEST</td>
<td>June 19, 2009</td>
<td>Dr. J. Wang</td>
<td>Jeffrey C. Wang, MD Chief, Orthopaedic Spine Service Professor of Orthopaedics and Neurosurgery UCLA Comprehensive Spine Center</td>
<td>“Kinetic MRI Evaluation of the Cervical and Lumbar Spine”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpineFEST</td>
<td>June 25, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Edward C. Benzel</td>
<td>Chairman of the Department of Neurosurgery at Cleveland Clinic. He also holds a faculty appointment, Professor of Surgery, at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University (CCLCM of CWRU).</td>
<td>“Development of a Provincial Spine Care Pathway for Saskatchewan”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpineFEST</td>
<td>June 24th, 2011</td>
<td>Dr. Jens Chapman</td>
<td>Department of Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine, Hansjoerg Wyss Endowed Chair of Spine Surgery, University of Washington</td>
<td>Surviving Cranio-Cervica Injuries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpineFEST</td>
<td>June 15th, 2012</td>
<td>Dr Jean Dubousset</td>
<td>French National Academy of Medicine, Deformity orthopaedic surgeon- retired professor from University of Paris.</td>
<td>“Importance of the 3D in Spinal pathology, Balance and Treatments”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpineFEST</td>
<td>June 24th, 2013</td>
<td>Dr Alexander Vaccaro</td>
<td>Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Professor of Neurosurgery at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital</td>
<td>&quot;Medical Errors, Root Cause Analysis&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpineFEST</td>
<td>June 23rd, 2014</td>
<td>Dr. Kenneth Cheung</td>
<td>Jessie Ho Professor in Spine Surgery and the Head of the Department of Orthopedics and Traumatology, The University of Hong Kong, and the President of The Hong Kong College of Orthopaedic Surgeons.</td>
<td>“Degeneration and the ageing spine: challenging traditional beliefs”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpineFEST</td>
<td>Monday 8th, 2015</td>
<td>Dr. Wilco Puel</td>
<td>neurosurgeon and clinical epidemiologist at the Leiden University Hospital (LUMC) and Medical Centre-The Hague (M The Netherlands</td>
<td>“Societal impact &amp; added value of spine surgery”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpineFEST</td>
<td>June 13th, 2016</td>
<td>Dr Daniel Riew</td>
<td>Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Co-Chief of Spine Division, and Director of Cervical Spine Surgery at Columbia Medical Center</td>
<td>“The Post-operative Patient with Persistent or Recurrent Symptoms”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpineFEST</td>
<td>June 12th, 2017</td>
<td>Dr Zoher Ghogawala</td>
<td>Chair of Neurosurgery at Lahey Hospital and Medical Center and a Professor of Neurosurgery at Tufts University School of Medicine.</td>
<td>The Search for Truth in Spinal Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Visiting Professor</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>Talk Title</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting professorship</td>
<td>October 16th, 2009</td>
<td>Dr. Satoshi Tani</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan Jikei University</td>
<td>“Japanese Ways in Spinal Surgery”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting professorship</td>
<td>October 22nd, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Charles E. Johnston</td>
<td>Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children</td>
<td>“Cervical Spine Abnormalities in Children”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting professorship</td>
<td>September 9th, 2011</td>
<td>Dr Thomas R Oxlund</td>
<td>Prof of Orthopaedics &amp; Mechanical Engineering, University of British Colombia</td>
<td>“The Biomechanical Aspects of Spinal Cord Injury”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting professorship</td>
<td>May 11th, 2012</td>
<td>Mauro Alini from Switzerland</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Cells for IVD regeneration: Which ones, when and how&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting professorship</td>
<td>November 16th, 2012</td>
<td>Dr Charles Fisher-Vancouver</td>
<td>Associate Professor and Direcror of the Fellowship and Clinical Research Program in the Division of Spine, Dept of Orthopaedics, University of British Colombia</td>
<td>&quot;The Changing face of Spine Oncology: Contemporary Management and an Innovative Research Model&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Professorship</td>
<td>April 25th, 2013</td>
<td>Dr. Alexander Rabchevsky</td>
<td>University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Centre</td>
<td>&quot;Novel Targets for Spinal Cord Injury Therapeutics: Bioenergetic and Autonomic Dysfunctions&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting professorship</td>
<td>October 18th, 2013</td>
<td>Dr Alwin Crawford</td>
<td>University of Cincinnati Medical Center</td>
<td>&quot;The Spine in Skeletal Dysplasia&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting professorship</td>
<td>April 28th, 2014</td>
<td>Dr David Choi</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;TB or not to be - spondylodiscitis and beyond&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting professorship</td>
<td>November 21st, 2014</td>
<td>Dr Robert Dunn</td>
<td>Capetown, South Africa</td>
<td>&quot;MIS-TLIF for the treatment of spondylosissthesis: Basic techniques and relevant research&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Professorship</td>
<td>October 5th 2015</td>
<td>Professor Yu Liang</td>
<td>Deputy chief, Director Spine Division Dept. of Orthopedics RuiJin Hospital, School of Medicine JiaoTong University Shanghai</td>
<td>“A Predictive Model of Progression for Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis based on 3D Spine Parameters at the Initial Visit”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Professorship</td>
<td>November 19th, 2015</td>
<td>Prof Stefan Parent (Ste Justine-Montreal)</td>
<td>Professor. Dpt of Aurgy, University of Montreal</td>
<td>&quot;The History of Spine Deformity from Ancient India to Today&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Professorship</td>
<td>April 4th, 2016</td>
<td>Dr John Kostuik</td>
<td>member of our Board of Directors since January 2004, and a co-founder of the K2M (Baltimore)</td>
<td>&quot;The History of Spine Deformity from Ancient India to Today&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
University of Toronto  Spine Program

Contacts

**Michael Fehlings**  MD PhD FRCSC FACS FCAHS  
Professor of Neurosurgery  
Co-Director, U of T Spine Program  
Michael.Fehlings@uhn.ca

**Albert Yee**  MD MSc FRCSC  
Professor of Orthopedic Surgery  
Co-Director, U of T Spine Program  
Albert.Yee@sunnybrook.ca

**Nadia Jaber**  BA MIST  
Program Coordinator, U of T Spine Program  
uoft.spine@utoronto.ca