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Chair's Column

"United in a Tradition of Leadership, Discovery & Excellence"

These words represent the Vision for our Division that resulted from our recent Strategic Planning exercise when our surgeons met on a cold Saturday in February to discuss the next 5-10 years of U of T Vascular Surgery.

Although we work at different hospitals, our surgeons are **United** in celebrating our past accomplishments and **Tradition**, while moving

forward with our shared goals of providing **Leadership** in our communities, hospitals, professional societies and training tomorrow's leaders. We will expand our **Discovery** and innovation initiatives in clinical and basic science research to meet our goal of becoming a global leader in academic vascular surgery. Of course, the foundation of all of this is our commitment to our patients as we strive to provide clinical **Excellence** for every

patient, in every situation.

We now have our marching orders for the next 5-10 years, and I look forward to reporting our progress to you in meeting these lofty, but achievable, goals.

"Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence" Vince Lombardi



Dr. Thomas Forbes

Congratulations & Farewell

Congratulations to Drs. Aaron Lo and Sydney Wong who recently completed their Vascular Surgery training at U of T and have passed the Royal College Examinations. Aaron and Sydney are outstanding young surgeons and we are extremely proud of them. We'll miss working with them on a daily basis but look forward to following their careers as they have both taken staff positions in Oakville. We hope to see them regularly at City-Wide

Rounds and our Annual Research Day.

It's with mixed emotions that we bid **Farewell** to two of our faculty members.

Dr. Jonathan Cardella is a U of T Vascular Surgery graduate and was a staff surgeon at Humber River Hospital for several years. He was instrumental in our education programs and is the founder and director of the Canadian Endovascular Skills Summit. He has been recruited to Yale

University in New Haven, CT.

Dr. Tony Moloney joined us from Ireland for a clinical fellowship and stayed in Toronto as a staff surgeon at St. Michael's Hospital, with a specific expertise in advanced endovascular repair of thoracoabdominal aortic aneurysms. Tony and his family are returning to Ireland this summer.

We wish Jonathan and Tony all the best.

Welcome to New Faculty – Dr. Kerry Graybiel



Dr. Kerry Graybiel

It is our pleasure to welcome Dr. Kerry Graybiel to U of T Vascular Surgery. He will be joining Dr. Beder at the Humber River Hospital.

Dr. Graybiel was born in Regina, Saskatchewan. He obtained a Bachelor of

Health Sciences from McMaster University, after which he pursued medical education at Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine. He went on to complete residency training in general surgery and a fellowship in vascular surgery at

McMaster University. His clinical interests include both arterial and venous disease, with training in endovascular and open surgical interventions, in addition to endovenous laser ablation and hemodialysis arterio-venous access.

Research Day

The U of T Vascular Surgery Research Day was held in early June at the University Club of Toronto the day after a dinner celebration high above the city at the CN Tower. After welcoming remarks by Dr. Forbes and Dr. James Rutka, RS McLaughlin Professor & Chair of the U of T Department of Surgery, the audience was treated to an impressive display of academic productivity from our residents, fellows and students.

Patrick McVeigh, U of T MD/PhD student, won the award for Best

Presentation by a Junior Trainee for his presentation, “Angioscopic imaging as an adjuvant to fluoroscopy during endovascular surgery”.

Ahmed Kayssi, PGY6, won the award for Best Presentation by a Senior Trainee for his presentation, “Predictors of hospital readmissions after lower extremity amputations in Canada”.

Mohamad Hussain, enrolled in the Surgeon Scientist Training Program, won the Alumni Award for Best Overall Presentation for his paper,

“Sex differences in the long term outcomes of peripheral arterial disease”.

We were thrilled to welcome Dr. Ron Dalman from Stanford as the 4th K. Wayne Johnston Lecturer. He gave two outstanding talks entitled, “Pathogenesis and progression of abdominal aortic aneurysm disease” and “Optimizing quality and value in vascular care”. Ron was also able to visit the research centers at Toronto General Hospital, Sunnybrook and St. Michael’s during his visit.

Recent visitors to U of T:
Tom Hatsukami
Univ of Washington
Ron Dalman
Stanford University



Dr. Ron Dalman (L), from Stanford University, the 4th Annual K. Wayne Johnston Lecturer, with Dr. Johnston (R)



Patrick McVeigh (C), winner of Best Paper by a Junior Trainee, with Drs. Forbes (L) & Oreopoulos (R)



Ahmed Kayssi (C), winner of Best Paper by a Senior Trainee, with Drs. Forbes (L) & Oreopoulos (R)



Mohamad Hussain (C), winner of Alumni Award for Best Paper, with Drs. Forbes (L) & Oreopoulos

Alumni Profile – Where are they now? – Dr. Paul Petrasek

Dr. Petrasek completed his vascular surgery training at the University of Toronto in 1997 and then travelled to Sydney, Australia for an Endovascular Fellowship at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. He has also completed a Master's Degree in Health Care Management from Harvard University in 2010. He is currently the Head, Section of Vascular Surgery, Alberta Health Services (Calgary Zone) and the University of Calgary. We caught up with him recently.



Where were you born?

PP: Montreal, Quebec (St. Mary's Hospital, for those who know Montreal)

Who had the most influence on you during your vascular surgery training at U of T?

PP: Al Lossing, who taught me the joy of technical vascular surgery. He taught me to try and do a better job with each operation, than I did on the last. He challenged me to become ambidextrous (I succeeded and still switch between left and right hand with a needle driver hand in every procedure).
Tom Lindsay, who is the kindest and hardest working human that I've ever met. He was totally devoted to his patients and worked to achieve the best possible outcome for them.
Paul Walker, who taught me that surgeons are underrepresented in health care management, despite having an intrinsic skill set that is well suited to this role: the ability to quickly absorb information and make decisions, the foresight to realize the long-term implications of their decisions and the stamina and hard shell necessary to be a leader.

What do you remember most fondly about your vascular surgery training at U of T?

PP: Definitely my most fun was the several trips with Al Lossing in a police car or ambulance that he commandeered to bring us to hospitals in GTA suburbs, when he was called about an intraoperative vascular misadventure. There was no better thrill than riding in the back of a police car on the DVP during rush hour, with lights and sirens going! I think we once got from Wellesley Hospital to Newmarket in less than 15 minutes!

What challenges do you foresee in the practice of vascular surgery and in training of residents and fellows?

PP: With the new direct entry training scheme, it will be a challenge to match trainee numbers to available jobs. Neither our Universities, nor government, nor the licensing bodies realize that we have a responsibility to give trainees a realistic expectation of employment after years of hard work in surgical training. Also, the emergence of percutaneous techniques to treat vascular diseases threatens trainees' expertise in open arterial surgery; this threat is made greater by the loss of general surgery residency. Despite my endovascular Fellowship and predominantly endovascular practice, I am most thrilled (and challenged) with the technical aspects of open arterial surgery!

What advice would you give to a medical student who is considering a career in vascular surgery?

PP: If you really enjoy technical surgery and enjoy hands-on management of high-acuity complex patients, then vascular surgery is the best specialty for you! You will never be bored!

What are your hobbies outside of medicine?

PP: In recent years I have taken up running (as an anti-ageing strategy). I've completed 6 half-marathons in the past 2 years – my perennial favorite is the San Diego marathon; it's held in the springtime in one of America's most beautiful cities. I also enjoy back-country camping in the Canadian Rockies and desert south-west of the United States.

What is your favorite sports team?

PP: Boston Red Sox; nobody can work or go to school there and not love them and Fenway Park in the summertime!



2015 SVS Vascular Annual Meeting – A Resident's Perspective, by Dr. Trisha Roy

The SVS VAM 2015 took place in Chicago this year from June 17-20, 2015. There was an exceptional showing of vascular trainees from across Canada including residents, fellows and medical students from UBC, Calgary, McGill, Western, Ottawa and of course UofT.



Patrick McVeigh (R), U of T MD/PhD Student, wins Poster Competition at SVS Vascular Annual Meeting in Chicago

The SVS VAM app improved by leaps and bounds this year and helped us all stay connected. It featured an interactive program agenda, active Facebook-type feed with “likes” and “comments” and the ability to rate talks to provide instant feedback.

Highlights of this meeting included postgraduate courses (at no extra charge this year!), Dr. Lawrence's presidential address discussing inappropriate vascular care, excellent debates on treatment of type 2 endoleaks and management of asymptomatic carotid stenosis, and the top 10 paper session.

Our residents Dr. Ahmed Kayssi and Dr. Mohamad Hussain presented their work at the rapid-pace poster session and taught all of us trainees in the

audience how to communicate research in a clear, informative, impactful way in less than 3 minutes! We are all also very proud of UofT MD/PhD student Dr. Patrick McVeigh who took home first prize in the poster competition for his innovative work using high-resolution angiography to aid vascular procedures. Patrick's research supervisors are Drs. Mark Wheatcroft and Tony Moloney from St. Michael's Hospital. Many of the sessions were recorded and will be available to those who missed the meeting.

The SVS VAM has always been one of the best meetings for targeted resident programming and it improves each year. This year the SVS trainee luncheon featured “A day in the life” series of recent graduates in academic and community practices from both 0+5 and 5+2 programs. Dr. Starnes never disappoints and this year he presented a dynamic talk on how to get a job. He suggested all trainees should pick up a copy of “The Successful Physician Negotiator – How to get what you deserve” before

discussing job contracts. Mentorship is a consistent theme in SVS resident programming but this year Dr. Anton Sidway turned the conversation around. He presented a thoughtful discussion on how we all can make ourselves better mentees to inspire our staff surgeons to truly invest in us as we progress through our training.

Want to get involved in SVS VAM 2016? There are many ways where vascular trainees can make a difference! Become a mentor for medical students. Be a faculty member to teach open and endovascular surgical skills. Share your experiences with medical students with a talk or by participating on a panel during breakfast sessions. Be a judge at the surgical skills competition. Help medical students prepare for their residency interviews by being a mock interviewer. The SVS Resident and Student Outreach Committee is always looking for vascular trainees to get involved and inspire the next generation of vascular surgeons to ensure a bright future for our specialty.

Congratulations to U of T MD/PhD student Patrick McVeigh and our vascular surgery residents Ahmed Kayssi and Mohamad Hussain for their presentations at the recent Society for Vascular Surgery Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL

U of T Vascular Surgery in the News



U of T Vascular on Canada AM

U of T vascular surgeons Drs. Giuseppe Papia and Andrew Dueck were featured on the Canada AM television show earlier this year. They described the efforts of their Sunnybrook team to improve the limb salvage rates in diabetic patients with lower extremity angioplasty.

You can see the entire video clip at:

<http://canadaam.ctvnews.ca/video?playlistId=1.2380024>



“At an early morning interview, Dr. Trisha Roy is bubbling with enthusiasm about her work and the day ahead” ... and so starts an article entitled **Of Life and Limb** in a recent issue of the *Sunnybrook Research Institute Magazine*. Dr. Roy is a U of T Vascular Surgery resident enrolled in the Surgeon Scientist Training Program who is investigating the role of high resolution magnetic resonance imaging in identifying types of plaques in peripheral arterial disease. Her supervisors are Drs. Graeme Wright and Sunnybrook vascular surgeon Andrew Dueck.

Full text of the article can be found at: <http://sunnybrook.ca/research/content/?page=sri-magazine-2015-of-life-and-limb>

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Sept 17-20 th	Canadian Surgical Forum, Quebec City, PQ
Sept 23-25 th	European Society for Vascular Surgery, Porto, Portugal
Sept 25-26 th	Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery Annual Meeting, Victoria, BC
Sept 24-26 th	Eastern Vascular Society, Baltimore, MD
Oct 4-8 th	American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress, Chicago, IL
Oct 8 th	U of T Vascular Surgery City-Wide Rounds, University Club of Toronto
Oct 22-24 th	International Conference on Residency Education, Vancouver, BC
Oct 24-27 th	Canadian Cardiovascular Conference, Toronto, ON
Nov 17-21 st	VEITH Symposium, New York, NY
Dec 10 th	U of T Vascular Surgery City-Wide Rounds, University Club of Toronto

The CSVS Program can be found at:

http://canadianvascular.ca/upload-files/CSVS_Preliminary_Program_July_14.pdf

U of T Vascular Surgery has 22 posters/presentations!

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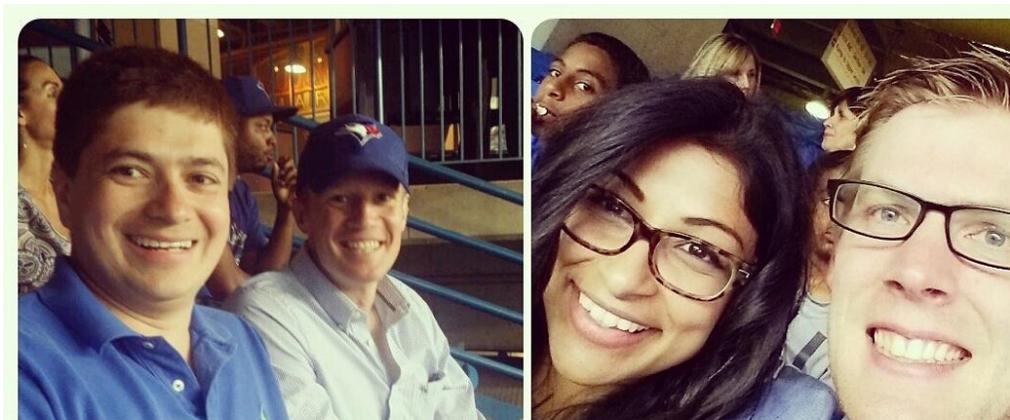
We welcome your support

K. Wayne Johnston Lecture in Vascular Surgery – This is held annually at our Research Day and gives our faculty and residents the opportunity to learn from a world leader in our specialty.

Division of Vascular Surgery Chair's Fund – This fund allows for continued support of our residency and fellowship programs, research support and continuing medical education and professional development.

Donations can be made online at donate.utoronto.ca/surgery or by cheque to:
The Office of Advancement
c/o Darina Landa
6 Queen's Park Crescent West
Toronto, ON M5S 3H2

U of T Vascular Surgery takes in Jays game at Rogers Centre



Contribute to our Newsletter

Story ideas, articles, photos or comments are welcome for upcoming issues, please send them to thomas.forbes@uhn.ca

Moving, or do you know someone else who would like to receive this newsletter? Please let us know.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS APRIL – JUNE 2015

Anas Hussain M, Verma S, Gupta N, **Al-Omran M**. Carotid artery revascularization: what's the best strategy? *Circulation* 2015;131(25):2226-31.

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Elliott CG, **Forbes TL**, Leask A, Hamilton DW. Inflammatory microenvironment and tumor necrosis factor alpha as modulators of periostin and CCN2 expression in human non-healing skin wounds and dermal fibroblasts. *Matrix Biol* 2015;43:71-84.

Faure EM, Becquemin JP, Cochenec F; ENGAGE collaborators (**Tse L, Forbes TL**). Predictive factors for limb occlusions after endovascular aneurysm repair. *J Vasc Surg* 2015;61(5):1138-45.

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