



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

July 2016 Monthly update Newsletter

1. Division has successful Mini-Retreat on June 24
2. Dr. Sivakumar Gulasingam officiates at the Canadian Nationals in Edmonton
3. Good-bye party for Guillaume Berube
4. Lillian Vivas's children starting exercise programs early
5. Larry Robinson completes Rotman Advanced Health Leadership Program - successfully
6. New Facebook champions

1. Division has successful Retreat on June 24

Our division came together at the McLean House, Sunnybrook Estates, to hear reports on our progress on the strategic plan. We heard of quite a bit of progress in many areas.

Lisa Becker discussed significant progress in our residency program with several new initiatives to enhance residents' mentorship and to improve our ability to provide constructive feedback to residents. Denyse Richardson discussed progress in Competency Based Medical Education which will introduce substantial changes to how we educate our residents. Cathy Craven discussed proposed research metrics for our research activities as well as a position description for a research support officer. Andrea Furlan described the very significant benefits of having fellows in our program and talked about ways this can work well for our faculty. Alex Lo presented a proposal to work on medication reconciliation as a division-wide quality program; this was well-received with much support from those present. Julia Warden described the work of the Medical Student Task Force; it was impressive to see the amount of involvement our faculty have with medical student education. Hossein Amani presented the idea of a U of T, PM&R Day which was well-supported by the faculty.

Finally, we had a very good interactive session on how to best provide feedback to residents led by Debbie Kwan and Linda Probyn at the request of Lisa Becker.

During lunch, Perry Tepperman also presented his significant work in the Awards and Recognition Committee and gave out awards (BTW Perry Tepperman did an excellent job of the award ceremony). These include:

- Innovator of the Year Award - Dr. Larry Robinson
- Academic Achievement Award - Dr. Alexander Lo
- Distinguished Academic Service Awards:
 - Dr. Doreen Campbell
 - Dr. Charles Godfrey
 - Dr. Tal Gyenes
 - Dr. Colleen McGillivray
 - Dr. Alborz Oshidari
 - Dr. Denyse Richardson
 - Dr. Michael Sarin



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

This year, we had three recipients, two junior and one senior resident receiving the U of T PM&R Resident Awards. They were presented by Dr. Lisa Becker as follows:

- Resident Research Synthesis Award Dr. McKyla McIntyre
- Resident Research Methodology Award Dr. Jordan Silverman
- Senior Resident Research Award Dr. Shane Journeay

Many thanks to all of those who participated. See our Facebook page for photos.

2. Dr. Sivakumar Gulasingam officiates at the Canadian Nationals in Edmonton

We are pleased to hear that Dr. Sivakumar Gulasingam (Clinical Fellow) was selected to officiate at the Canadian Athletics Nationals in Edmonton, Alberta during the first week of July 2016. He was one of the two National Classifiers involved in the selection of para-athletes for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. Guli is pictured below with Lorette Dupuis (Ottawa).



3. Good-bye party for Guillaume Berube

Amanda Mayo and others threw a good-bye party for Guillaume Berube who spent a year with us from Montreal doing a Fellowship in amputee and musculoskeletal rehabilitation. Amanda was his supervisor and he developed a great collaboration with the rehabilitation team at St. John's and Bayview campuses. We wish Guillaume well as he goes to Montreal for a full-time faculty position in amputee and musculoskeletal rehabilitation.



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto



4. Lillian Vivas's children starting exercise program early

We were pleased to see that Lillian Vivas, who has been off on maternity leave, is getting her children started on an early exercise program. Like a true physiatrist, she is teaching her children the value of exercise and helping them aspire to an active exercise routine. Physiatrists in our residency class of year 2037 - maybe?



5. Larry Robinson completes Rotman Advanced Health Leadership Program - successfully

Nancy Riley was pleased to hear that Larry Robinson received a passing grade on the Rotman Advanced Health Leadership Program. This was a three week program which included education about the Canadian healthcare system, improving communication and coaching skills, and enhancing strategic planning and leadership capabilities. He also got to meet a number of other people from the healthcare sector ranging from the Director of Toronto Paramedic Services to people in the Ministry of Health and LHINs. Of 45 people, there was actually a second physiatrist at the course, Douglas Dittmer from Waterloo.

6. New Facebook champions

In the very competitive world of Facebook likes, it appears that our three Chiefs, Ida Cavaliere, Rebecca Titman and Shannon MacDonald have now taken the lead in the Facebook "like" competition. Their recent photo from our retreat now has over 110 likes which is the new leadership



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

position. We suspect however that this leadership position will not go unchallenged by others in our division.

Finally, Happy Summer to all. We wish all of you a good season and hope that you will get to take some time off and spend it with family and friends.

Please let us know if you have items or news to add to the Newsletter. Please also don't forget to check out our Facebook page.

Larry Robinson MD
Chief, Rehabilitation Services
John and Sally Eaton Chair in Rehabilitation Science