



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of
Medicine University
of Toronto

May 2016 Monthly Update

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1. Gaetan Tardif to receive two prestigious awards

We are very pleased to hear that Gaetan Tardif is receiving the Canadian Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Award of Merit. This recipient is recognized for making contribution to the field of PM&R through research, education, advocacy, medical care, humanitarianism mentorship or advancement of the field. Dr. Tardif will be receiving this award at the first Annual Breakfast of Champions on May 29th at the CAPM&R meeting. I hope as many of you will come as possible to be present during the award ceremony.

We were also pleased to hear that Dr. Tardif is receiving the Excellence in Medical Leadership Award from the Canadian Society of Physician Leaders. This award is given annually to a physician who has made outstanding contributions to development and mentorship of medical leaders in the field of health services leadership and management. Dr. Tardif will receive this award on May 13th at the Canadian Physician Leadership Conference in Toronto. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Tardif on these two very meaningful awards. He can be reached at gaetan.tardif@unh.ca.

2. CAPM&R meeting to highlight many U of T participants

The CAPM&R meeting as most of you know will be held in London Ontario from May 26 to May 29, 2016. U of T has a very significant presence at this meeting and I hope that you will be there to support your colleagues. Many of us have poster presentations and platform presentations as well as course presentations. Just a few of the highlights include:

- Larry Robinson is taking on Tom Miller on “Fight Night” regarding research in carpal tunnel syndrome. Also, Harp Sangha is “fighting” with John Flannery on whether ultrasound-guided injections are an effective use of resources.
- There will be a “Myth Busters” show. This will include Larry Robinson trying to either endorse or dismiss a couple of popular myths.
- Cathy Craven will be leading the scientific program which she has done a superb job of organizing.
- Dinesh Kumbhare will be co-leading the pain SIG on central and cognitive impacts of chronic pain.
- David Berbrayer will be leading the education SIG on feedback and mentorship. David will also be leading the pediatric SIG on pain and cerebral palsy.
- Denyse Richardson will be co-leading a course on competency based medical education.
- Harp Sangha will be collaborating on a course on the first five years in practice.
- John Flannery will be speaking in a hands-on session on opioid screening.
- There will be a “Myth Busters” show. This will include Larry Robinson trying to either endorse or dismiss a couple of popular myths.

Congratulations to all who are participating in this outstanding meeting.

3. Alex Lo receives Helen P. Batty award for Excellence in Achievement in Faculty Development.

We were pleased to hear that Alex Lo is one of the co-recipients of the 2016 Helen P. Batty Award for Excellence in Achievement in Faculty Development. This is to recognize innovation in program development and design. He is receiving this award in collaboration with the Department of Medicine Co-Learning Curriculum in Quality Improvement Committee. In the letter of award, Dr. Daniel Panisko reports *“The innovation displayed by and represented through the Co-Learning Curriculum was considered to be particularly remarkable. Its continuous and ongoing achievement is evident through numerous measures of success and it will have significant impact as an exemplary model program throughout the faculty development community.”* Congratulations Alex! Alex can be reached at alexander.lo@uhn.ca.

4. McKyla McIntyre receives 2016 Saul and Esther Baker Award in geriatrics.

We were very happy to hear that one of our junior residents, McKyla McIntyre, received a Saul and Esther Baker Award in geriatrics. McKyla won the award for the most outstanding non-internal medicine resident trainee that the geriatric staff have worked with over the past year. In her letter of award, it stated, *“McKyla, your incredible commitment to the care of the elderly was and continues to be apparent before, during and after the time you spent with us in 2015-16. We know that you will make an outstanding physiatrist and one who will continue to champion the needs of the elderly in the work you do for years to come.”* I was lucky to attend the award ceremony in the Toronto General Hospital boardroom accompanied by the UHN physician leadership as well as Dr. Gillian Hawker, Chair of Medicine. Congratulations McKyla! McKyla can be reached at mckylamcintyre@gmail.com.



5. Musculoskeletal night, another success

We had another very good year of musculoskeletal training for our medical students under the leadership of Dr. Julia Warden. Many thanks go out to all of those who participated in this annual event. Julia got outstanding feedback from the students. Two of them wrote back and said, *“The nights are so well-organized and provided an excellent overview of the joint exams as we prepare for our OSCEs. We have heard nothing but positive feedback from our peers and I know everyone really appreciated the effort and time put in by all volunteers.”* This activity is very important for our exposure to medical students and I want to personally thank all of those who organized and participated in the event.

6. Prepare to retreat on June 24, 2016

As you may have already heard, we are having a retreat on June 24th at the McLean House, Sunnybrook Estates. We will have two goals during this session. First, we will have an update on our strategic plan implementation. In the second half, we will have a session on providing constructive feedback to our residents. This session comes directly from our strategic planning process in which it was identified that mentorship of the troubled resident is a high priority for our division. I would very much appreciate everyone's attendance to this retreat. The agenda for the upcoming retreat is attached.

7. John Flannery “skunked” by vicious raccoons

John Flannery recently had an unfortunate interaction with a Leaside raccoon; “Iron Flan versus Rocky the Leaside raccoon.” When John was taking out the garbage bins recently, Rocky the raccoon was quietly sleeping inside one of them. When John dropped a smaller garbage can on top of him, Rocky got quite angry and began striking out at John. John reportedly, “went down like a sack of potatoes”. John's lovely bride, “Maid Marian”,

who had been watching through the kitchen window just suspected her “little John was goofing around as usual and offered no sympathy.” Rocky managed to escape leaving John with both a painful knee and a humiliated ego. The raccoons are now plotting a rematch in the not too distant future.

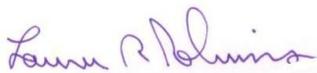


8. Larry Robinson gets his pockets picked while a crowd watches on in glee

Larry Robinson recently attended the Sunnybrook Department of Medicine Partnership Staff Recognition Dinner along with Nancy Riley and many other physicians and staff. After the dinner, a special guest, a magician, showed off his skills. He brought Larry up for a coin trick in which the coins disappear – Nancy Riley was happy that the magician didn’t make Larry disappear as well. Unbeknownst to Larry, by the time the trick was completed, the magician had stolen Larry’s watch (with a buckle strap), cell phone and keys. The crowd thought this was great.



As always, please send me updates and items of interest that we can add to our monthly updates. Please also don’t forget to check out our Facebook page where we have more frequent updates.



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

** enclosed – retreat agenda