I would like to thank all members of our department for their patience and encouragement over the last several months. Our Department has been under a period of transition as I have taken on the duties of Chair, and we have put a new executive team in place. I am delighted to have Dr. Mo Bhandari appointed as the Associate Chair of Research, Dr. Stephen Kelly as the Associate Chair of Education, and Ms. Cathy Turner as the Director of Administration.

Please join me as I extend heartfelt appreciation, as well as congratulations to our previous Chair, Dr. William Orovan as he moves on to become the Associate Dean Clinical Affairs for the Faculty of Health Sciences. Dr. Orovan served as Chair of the Department of Surgery since 1999. Under his direction there was phenomenal growth in the department as measured by all criteria. The number of full time surgical faculty increased from 27 to 90, the residency training programs to 11, and the research productivity multiplied many times over. With his support of each faculty surgeon and belief in our abilities, he instilled a culture in our Department that fosters innovation, creativity, and collaboration, rewarding not just working hard, but working smart.

His legacy is a solid foundation that supports all of us to reach and strive for our highest goals, while keeping us grounded in serving our patients.

Continued on Page 10
Associate Chair, Education
Dr. Stephen Kelly

I’d like to take this opportunity to announce the appointment of Dr. Stephen Kelly to the position of Associate Chair, Education (Department of Surgery).

Dr. Kelly commenced his duties as ACE December 1, 2012 and will continue to be based out of the Juravinski Hospital.

Dr. Kelly brings to the position of Associate Chair a wealth of experience at both the MD undergraduate and postgraduate level. Since joining the faculty of McMaster in 2003, he has served as a tutor within the DeGroote School of Medicine, as Surgical Clerkship Director at McMaster and, from 2004-2009, he was McMaster’s CTU Director for the General Surgery Residency Program at the MUMC-HHS site.

Dr. Susan Reid

Associate Chair, Research Dr. Mohit Bhandari

Congratulations Dr. Mohit Bhandari for the appointment to Associate Chair, Research (Department of Surgery), effective January 1, 2013.

Dr. Bhandari served as Academic Head, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery as well as maintaining an associate membership in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics.

A prolific and internationally-renowned researcher, author and speaker, Dr. Bhandari holds a Canada Research Chair in Musculoskeletal Trauma, is Co-Chair of the Clarity Research Group and Directors of the Centre for Evidence-Based Orthopaedics. A member of McMaster’s Alumni Gallery, Dr. Bhandari’s collaborative efforts in the area of transforming orthopaedic care in trauma were recognized in 2011 by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research/Canadian Medical Association as one of the country’s Top Achievements in Health Research.

Among numerous other prestigious awards, Dr. Bhandari has received the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Medal in Research, the Edouard J. Sampson Award, and the Canadian Orthopaedic Association Award of Merit. In 2011, Dr. Bhandari was named to a short-list of highly accomplished Indo-Canadians by India Abroad, an honour that garnered him the recognition of Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

Dr. Susan Reid
Administration Corner

Farewell to Ms. Clare Mitchell

We would like to take this opportunity to offer a farewell and congratulations to Ms. Clare Mitchell as she assumes her new role as Director of Business and Administration, Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto. Over the course of 13 years as the Director of Administrations for the Department of Surgery, Ms. Clare Mitchell has overseen the department through many phases of organization and growth. We wish her well on her new journey and would like to thank her for her hard work and dedication to all faculty and staff.

Welcoming Ms. Marcy Willis, Manager of Finance

Please join me in welcoming Ms. Marcy Willis as the new Manager of Finance for the Department of Surgery. Marcy is a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) and has an Honours Bachelor of Commerce from McMaster University. Marcy has experience working in the Department of Paediatrics as well as McMaster's Office of Budgeting Services. Welcome to the Department of Surgery!

Welcoming Ms Cathy Turner, Director of Administration

Ms. Cathy Turner has been appointed as Director of Administration, Department of Surgery. Ms. Turner possesses a wealth of experience in the field of academic healthcare and healthcare operations. Since July 2011, she has held the position of Manager of Medical Affairs (Department of Risk, Legal and Medical Affairs), St. Joseph’s Healthcare.

Prior to that, Ms. Turner spent several years as a member of the management team of the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program. She has served as Co-Chair of the Medical Education Committee, St. Joseph’s Healthcare as well as sitting as a member of its Postgraduate Education Committee, Professional Advisory, Legislation Subcommittee, Common Credentials and Credentials Executive Committee, as well as the Emergency Preparedness Committee, among others.

Ms. Turner’s wealth of experience in the areas of financial, physical resource, project and human resource management have provided her with the high level of expertise and knowledge required to carry out her new and very important role within the Department of Surgery.
Anne Lancaster visits Mohawk College

Anne Lancaster, Administrative Operations Manager for the Department of Surgery, was invited to be a guest speaker at Mohawk College earlier this month.

Ms Lancaster spoke to approximately 45 students currently enrolled in the “Office Administration – Medical” programme. Every spring the Department of Surgery partners with Mohawk in a two week, full time on the job training experience. Wendy Fisher, Co-Coordinator for the programme, says that it gives the students “an opportunity to bridge the transition between the classroom and the ‘real’ world” by allowing them to see, first hand, how medical offices operate. For the 2013 session, the Department of Surgery is taking 20 students.

It isn’t “just what’s on the resume that counts, it’s the genuine interest in doing this particular job”, Ms Lancaster stressed. “You have to care about the patients”, she told the enthralled crowd. And, she added, people “have to want to do this. It’s a great place to start, as a Junior Medical Secretary, because you don’t have the ultimate responsibility” as students learn the job.

According to Ms Fisher, “the students in this programme fall into one of three categories: straight out of high school, people looking for a second career, and mature students who have worked since high school and realize that they need more education to find a meaningful career”.

Ms Lancaster finished her talk by telling the students that the Department of Surgery offers an exciting and challenging place to begin a career as a Medical Secretary, “the job of a surgeon is exceptional and you have to have great respect for what they do”.

Resident Corner

Awards & Achievements

Joshua Teichman, Ophthalmology resident, received an award for a completed project in the annual competition for the Physicians’ Services Inc. Foundation/Canadian Society for Clinical Investigators for his research entitled, “Characterization of a cellular phone light source for indirect Ophthalmoscopy”.

Sophocles Voineskos, a Plastic Surgery resident in the Surgeon Scientist Program, was awarded a FSORC Scholarship for "Surgical Randomized Controlled Trials: Challenges and Opportunities for Evidence Based Plastic Surgery". His supervisor is Dr. Achilleas Thoma.

Joshua Teichman was selected as one of the ten winners of a 2013 Foundation Resident Excellence Award by the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery Foundation (ASCRS). Teichman will be attending the ASCRS Annual Symposium in San Francisco, California.

RMA Scholarships

Aristithes Doumouras, General Surgery PGY 1 received the RMA award for his study entitled “Effect of obesity rates, neighbourhood socioeconomic status and patient location on referral rates to bariatric surgery in a regionalized system. Supervisor: Dr. Dennis Hong.

Joshua Teichman, Ophthalmology PGY 5 received the RMA award for his study entitled, “Comparison of the effectiveness of povidone-iodine in reducing conjunctival bacterial load prior to cataract surgery in patients treated with a lidocaine gel dilating formulation vs eye drops: A randomized controlled trial.

There were a total of 31 applications and 7 applicants were successful. Congratulations to the two residents from the Department of Surgery.
Mark your calendars for the Department of Surgery Reunion Gala on October 25 & 26, 2013.

Planning is underway to celebrate over 40 years of McMaster’s Department of Surgery and to make this a memorable occasion for all past and present surgeons associated with the department.

To help us make this a memorable event, your suggestions or ideas are welcome. If you have not received communication regarding the Reunion Gala or would like to assist with the outreach, please contact us.

Have any photos of the Department of Surgery (Past or Present)? Please forward to:

Contact: Julia Smerilli (smerilj@mcmaster.ca)
### Faculty Appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Samir Faidi</strong></td>
<td>Assumes the role of Medical Director of the Trauma Program for Hamilton Health Sciences on July 1, 2012.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Michael Marcaccio</strong></td>
<td>Professor, appointed to the position of Program Director, Division of General Surgery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Mehran Anvari</strong></td>
<td>Appointed Adjunct Scientist for the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES).</td>
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#### Appointed to the Level of Assistant Professor:
- Dr. John Harlock
- Dr. Jim Cooper

#### Appointed to the Level of Associate Professor:
- Dr. Luis Braga
- Dr. Richard Whitlock
- Dr. Ronen Avram
- Dr. Samir Faidi
- Dr. Thorsteinn Gunnarsson
- Dr. Gloria Isaza
- Dr. Paula Klurfan
- Dr. Kourosh Sabri

#### Appointed to the Level of Clinical Associate Professor (Part-Time):
- Dr. Brian Drew
- Dr. Robert Josefchak
- Dr. Naresh Murty

### Awards & Achievements

**Dr. Michelle Ghert** has been selected for the prestigious ABC (American-British-Canadian) Travelling Fellowship. The tour this year will take place in the United Kingdom and South Africa in April and May 2013. Dr. Ghert is the first female Canadian ABC Fellow to be selected for the tour, which began in 1948. The last ABC Fellow selected from McMaster was Dr. Robert Lofthouse in 1957.

**Dr. Mehran Anvari** accepted the Innovator of Distinction Certificate.

**Dr. Mohit Bhandari** the First Multi-organizational Award of Outstanding Merit in recognition of Unparalleled and Transformational Contributions to the Entire Specialty of Plastic Surgery. This award was granted by was granted by the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery and American Academy of Facial and Plastic Surgery.

In addition, **Dr. Bhandari** received the Canadian Orthopaedic Association’s Award of Merit recognizing many years of outstanding service in raising the standards of orthopaedic care.

**Dr. John Wells** accepted MSA President’s Award for Distinguished Service on June 8th at the Medical Staff Association’s Annual Dinner and Awards event.

**Dr. Brian Drew** received the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation Mentor-Trainee Award for research entitled, “The Canadian Multicentre CSF Pressure Monitoring and Biomarker Study (CAMPER)”.

**Dr. Ranil Sonnadara’s** team was recently selected to receive the 2013 Association for Surgical Education/ASE Award for Excellence. An Award is given annually to the group that has demonstrated exemplary performance in surgical education with the intent to recognize novel ideas and/or methods for improving teaching and learning. The Award will be presented at a banquet to be held on April 24, 2013 in Orlando, Florida.

**Dr. Jeonathon Pinthus** was selected to represent the Northeastern Section at the 2012 AUA Research Forum in Atlanta. Dr. Pinthus was one of the nine finalists chosen by the AUA Research Council. He presented his research, “Adiponectin as a Tumor Suppressor and Metabolic Modifier: Role in Kidney Cancer and Link to Obesity as a Risk Factor”.

**Dr. Peter Lovrics** is the recipient of a 2012-13 HAHSO Innovation Group award for, “The evaluation of a LHIN 4 practice guideline and needs assessment for a patient information strategy for completion axillary dissection in breast cancer surgery”.

**Dr. Ranil Sonnadara and Dr. Amodeo Rodriguez** received approval for their request for supervisory committee privileges in the Medical Sciences Graduate Program.

**Dr. Kourosh Sabri** yielded three podium presentations, one at the Canadian Retina Society and Canadian Orthoptic Society meeting and the other at the Canadian Pediatric Ophthalmology Society
Dr. Niv Sne was selected by the McMaster Medicine Graduation Committee for the General Surgery Preceptor Award 2013.

Dr. Christian Finley is the recipient of a 2012-13 HAHSO Innovation Group “Evaluation of a patient-focused, nurse navigated oesophageal cancer disease management pathway program”.

Dr. Karen Bailey 2 posters and 2 podium abstracts accepted to the Trauma Association of Canada (TAC).

Dr. Samir Faidi and Dr. Susan Reid’s poster was accepted to the Trauma Association of Canada (TAC).

Dr. Luis Braga has had 2 abstracts accepted for podium presentations at the Society for Pediatric Urology.

Dr. Luis Braga and Dr. Jorge DeMaria 12 abstracts were accepted for the Canadian Urology Association annual meeting

**PUBLICATIONS**

Dr. Sheila Singh published in the Canadian Cancer Society publication, “Fighting For Life”.


Dr. Brian Cameron and Dr. F Fitzgerald, coauthors of a publication titled, “Do the rates and outcomes of neonatal ligation differ in Canadian neonatal units without pediatric cardiac surgery programs? A Canadian Neonatal Network Study” will be published in the May 2013 edition of the Journal of Pediatric Surgery.


Dr. Luis Braga’s publications titled, “Evaluating the long-term impact of the trauma team training course in Guyana: an explanatory mixed-methods approach” and “Exploring the hidden curriculum: a qualitative analysis of clerks’ reflections on professionalism in surgical clerkship” were both published in the American Journal of Surgery.

Dr. Kourosh Sabri’s “National variations in retinopathy of prematurity screening criteria in Canada: existent guidelines and actual practice patterns” was published in the Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology. As well as “Choice of Conjunctival Incisions for Horizontal Rectus Muscle Strabismus Surgery in Children and Adults—An international Survey of AAPOS Members”, was published in the Journal of American Association of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus.

Dr. Deepak Dath, Dr. David Szaly, and Dr. Ed Matsimoto’s “Exploring How Surgeon Teachers Motivate Residents in the Operating Room”, was published in the American Journal of Surgery.

Dr Jorge DeMaria and Dr. Luis Braga’s publication,” Are Physicians Performing Neonatal Circumcisions Well Trained?” has been published in the Canadian Urological Association Journal.

Dr. C Barber Mueller celebrated his new book: Excalibur: The Sword of Science that Reshaped the World on November 1, 2012 with a book signing at The Great Hall University Club.


**GRANTS & FUNDING**

Dr. Anne Frances Klassen along with Dr. Achilles Thoma, Dr. Pusic, Dr. Taylor and Dr. S. Cano – were approved for a one-year Operating Grant - Priority Announcement: Bariatric Care from CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes, for the study entitled, “Developing a Patient-Reported Outcome Measure for Bariatric and Body Contouring Surgery Patients: the BODY-Q”.

Dr. Mohit Bhandari received CIHR funding for HEALTH study.

Dr. Luis Braga’s clinical trial entitled, “ALPHA: Antibiotic prophylaxis versus Placebo in infants diagnosed with Hydronephrosis Antenatally: a prospective, randomized controlled trial” was selected by Physician Services Incorporated clinical research grant competition.

Dr. Mohit Bhandari and Dr. Michael David McKee’s, “Management of Proximal Humerus Fractures: A Scoping Review” was approved by CIHR for a one year Knowledge Synthesis Grant

Continued on Page 8
Grants & Funding Continued

Dr Mohit Bhandari, Dr PJ Devereaux, and Dr. Gordan Guyatt successful funding of their CIHR Grant, “Hip Fracture Evaluation with Alternatives of Hip Arthroplasty versus Hemi-Arthroplasty (HEALTH)”. Co-investigators include: Dr.venkata Gurava Annapareddy, Dr. Lauren Beaupre, Dr. Chad Coles, Dr. Thomas Einhorn, Dr. Frede Frihagen, Dr. Gordon Higgins, Dr. James Howard, Dr. Hans Kreder, Dr. Georges LaFlamme, Dr. Ross Leighton, Dr. Susan Liew, Dr. Norma MacIntyre, Dr. Aditya Mootha, Dr. Richard Page, Dr. Rudolph Poolman, Dr. Alankar Ramteke, Dr. Amar Rangan, Dr. Emil Schemitsch, and Dr. Lehana Thabane.

Dr. Mohit Bhandari and Dr. Femi Ayeni received the 2012 Canadian Orthopaedic Research Legacy (CORL) Grant for their research proposal entitled, “Femoracetabular Impingement Randomized controlled Trial (FIRST)”.

Dr. Kourosh Sabri was successful in obtaining a PSI grant for a multi-centered study between University of Waterloo, University of Toronto and McMaster, to look at using tele-health for interpreting eye examinations and diagnosing eye disease in children.

Dr. Richard Whitlock received CIHR funding for LAAOS-III study.

Surgeon Scientist Program

Congratulations to the 2012 SSP Cohort:

Kevin Chan (PGY3 Orthopaedic Surgery), HRM Program at McMaster. Research project(s) will be centred on disorders of the upper extremity (Research Supervisor: Drs. Joy MacDermid, George Athwal (UWO), Olufemi Ayeni).

Natasha Cohen (PGY 3 Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery), HRM Program at McMaster. Research project: The role of NSAIDS in the post-operative period for pediatric tonsillectomy (Research Supervisor: Dr. Lehana Thabane).

Christopher Coroneos (PGY3 Plastic Surgery), HRM at McMaster. Research project: Clinical practice guidelines for obstetric brachial plexus injury (Research Supervisor: Dr. Melissa Brouwers).

For More Information visit:
www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/ssp/index.html

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Andre Lamy

One of Dr. Lamy’s current study is the largest of its kind. He commenced this study to compare off-pump and on-pump CABG (Coronary-Artery Bypass Grafting) along with co-investigators, Dr. Salim Yusuf and Dr. David Taggart, entitled, “CORONARY (CABG OFF OR ON-PUMP REVASCULARIZATION STUDY)”. In March 2012, Dr. Lamy was invited to present at the American College of Cardiology, “Off-Pump or On-Pump Coronary-Artery Bypass Grafting at 30 Days”, which also yielded a publication in the New England Journal of Medicine (2012).

This study also presented him with the opportunity to present at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress (October 2012) and Cardiology Update 2012 (September 2012).

Most recently, Dr. Lamy was invited to present, “CORONARY: The Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting Surgery Off or On pump Revascularization Study-Results at One Year” at the American College of Cardiology March 11, 2013. These results were published (today!) in the New England Journal of Medicine March 28, 2013.

Dr Lamy’s research success cannot be measured on this study alone. This is one of many research accomplishments he has achieved thus far. We wish Dr. Lamy continued success in this study, along with other research endeavors.
Remembering Dr. William Shragge

We were saddened to hear that Dr. Bernard William (Bill) Shragge passed away on April 20, 2012 at the age of 64.

Bill was born in Winnipeg. He earned an MD degree from the University of Manitoba in 1971 followed by residency in Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery and Critical Care at U of Manitoba teaching hospitals from 1971 through 1976. After becoming an FRCSC in 1976 in Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, he embarked on a fellowship in Cardiac Surgery and Research at the University of Alabama from 1976 through 1978. He came to McMaster University as Assistant Professor in Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery in 1978.

Despite a busy cardiac surgery practice his career became multifaceted. In the Faculty of Health Sciences he became Chair of the MD Program in 1985 and again in 1988 and also Unit 2 Chair in 1983. He was a member or Chair of 19 Faculty Committees and also contributed to a number of committees at Regional Medical Associates. He represented McMaster University nationally and internationally on various committees of the American College of Chest Physicians and also of the Association of Canadian Medical Colleges.

At the hospital level he was active staff in Surgery at the Hamilton Civic Hospitals. He became courtesy staff in surgery at MUMC and Joseph Brant Hospitals and affiliate staff at St. Joseph’s Hospital. At the Hamilton Civic Hospitals he was a member of at least 20 committees as well as Chair of the Executive Committee and Chair of the OR Committee. At various times he held positions as Chief of Surgery, Medical Director of Surgical Services and Vice-Chair of the Medical Advisory Committee. When the Hamilton Health Sciences came into being in 1996 he became its founding Chief of Staff.

Within the academic Department of Surgery he was a member of all committees and at various times, Director of the Division of Cardiac Surgery and Department Education Coordinator. He was Program Director of the Cardiac Surgery resident training program.

Throughout his research career from 1979 through 1991 he was awarded several grants. He was very active in teaching undergraduate medical students and later residents. From the teaching and research perspective his productivity was evidenced by the production of 110 abstracts, papers and presentations. Despite the burden of his surgical, administrative and teaching responsibilities he somehow found time to be Vice-Chair of the Cardiac Care Network for the Ministry of Health of Ontario. He also became Vice Chair of the Ontario Health Technology Advisory Committee in 2008 and Chair of the committee in 2009.

For the Royal College Bill chaired medical committees in Critical Medicine, was a member of the Cardiothoracic Surgery Specialty Committee and Chair of the Examination Board for Cardiovascular Surgery.

In 2001 his administrative duties precluded his surgical career. He became founding Chief of Staff for the Niagara Healthcare System for 7 years. He was also Chief of Staff and Vice President Academic at St. Peters Hospital from 2001 to 2004.

Meanwhile he helped establish a McMaster University Satellite Medical School in Niagara. In 2009 he became CEO of Associated Medical Services which leads in the development of programs to further the humanities and also patient-centred care in undergraduate health professional education.

Bill contributed to a plethora of activities at the local, municipal, provincial and international levels contributing to his distinguished career. His energy and intellect enabled him to touch numerous aspects affecting the lives of many individuals. He will be greatly missed by family and colleagues.

Dr. Robert Hansebout
Continued From Page 1

As we move forward, our department is well suited to face the challenges that will allow us to continue to grow and improve as we aim to provide safe, state of the art surgical therapies for our patients. Maintaining excellence in clinical care in the midst of fiscal constraints will be a focus of the Division Heads as they work with our partner hospitals to secure key recruitments in several areas.

Our Department Mission and Vision are being reworked to come into alignment with the principles of the McMaster University Forward with Integrity document, and the Faculty of Health Sciences Mission. The executive team is working with each Division to develop strategic priorities for all divisions including opportunities for fundraising and development. We are most pleased to welcome our surgical Alumni to the Reunion Gala in October and look forward to seeing all faculty members, past and present and all previous surgical trainee graduates in attendance to celebrate over 40 years of our Departments achievements.

In a few short months I have been inspired time and time again by the dedication, intelligence, perseverance and innovative thinking of our faculty members. I am honoured to have been chosen for this position, and am truly excited to continue working with the staff, students and faculty of our department as we seek to further excellence within our clinical, educational and research mandates.

Dr. Susan Reid

International Surgery Desk (ISD): Update

ISD Scholarship Applications

The ISD is currently calling for applications for the International Surgery Scholarship. This is funded by the ISD and is awarded to a McMaster surgical resident or fellow who is embarking on an international surgery clinical or research elective in a low resource region. The scholarship amount is $2000.

Application Deadline: April 30th 2013.
For more details visit: http://fhs.mcmaster.ca/surgery/isd/

Bethune Round Table 2014

The International Surgery Desk partnered with the Canadian Network for International Surgery (CNIS) is proud to be hosting the 14th annual Bethune Round Table, June 5th — 8th 2014. This international round table welcomes physicians working in anesthesia, obstetrics and surgery in low resource settings.

The focus of this event will be on: “Improving Global Outcomes Through Safer Surgery”.

For more information visit: http://fhs.mcmaster.ca/surgery/isd/