



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION
Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

June 2022

Monthly update Newsletter

1. PM&R Division demonstrates great advances during its Retreat
2. Congratulations to our graduates
3. Integrated care in the news
4. Welcome to new faculty members
5. John Patcai published a piece in Oxford Open Immunology
6. Interesting article on communications inside hospitals
7. Newsletter goes on vacation

1. PM&R Division demonstrates great advances during its Retreat

It was absolutely lovely to get-together in-person for our June 17th PM&R Division Retreat. We had over 60 people attend which is considerably larger than prior retreats and demonstrates the great interest there has been in seeing each other.

After a brief introduction from Larry Robinson:

- Cathy Craven, Shannon MacDonald and David Langelier provided an excellent summary of work from our research committee including the plan for resident research and the upcoming research external review.
- We had an appropriate focus on wellness with a presentation from McKyla McIntyre as well as an excellent lecture from Julie Maggi from the department of psychiatry; wellness of our trainees, staff and faculty is something we will continue to focus on.
- Lisa Becker provided an excellent update on continued successes with our residency program.
- We heard from Ali Rendely and Andrea Furlan about continued progress in the use of social media to expand the visibility of our division and our activities.
- Amanda Mayo provided an impressive update in quality and innovation activities in the division which are now getting considerable attention from others; we likely have the strongest QI program in PM&R in Canada and possibly North America.
- Peter Broadhurst summarized our outstanding medical student program activities which are an important pathway to having excellent resident applicants in the CaRMS system.
- Mark Bayley provided an update on the important work he is doing around patient advocacy and specialized rehabilitation which will have long-term implications for our field and our patients in this province.
- Andrea Furlan presented work that she has been doing with the fellowship committee; securing a fellowship at the University of Toronto has very significant implications for peoples' future career success when they go home after completing training with us and we are all encouraged to consider fellows going forward.
- Chris Fortin provided some excellent progress and examples in advancing integrated care with our division.
- We were very pleased to hear Tania Bruno's announcement of completing an important milestone in raising funds for the Marcus Gibbons sarcoma endowment which we are all most supportive of.
- One of the highlights of the retreat was the awards and recognition ceremony. The awards and recognition committee was led by Heather MacNeill and Audrey Yap and includes Meiqi Guo, Amanda Mayo and John Patcai. Excellent awards were given out (see below). In addition, we were pleased to see the resident awards and recognition during the ceremony led by our chief resident, Melissa Weidman.
- Finally, we had an interactive faculty development session discussing different communication styles with Builders, Planners, Relaters, and Adventurers. We learned the strengths and communication style of each group and this reinforced the importance of having a diverse team with members with varied and diverse communication styles.
- Special thanks are given the Nancy Riley for doing all of the logistical planning for the retreat and ensuring that we had a good setting, arranging awards, and excellent meals.



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto





DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

University of Toronto 2021-2022 Division of PM&R Awards included:

- Academic Achievement Award – Denyse Richardson
- Community Contribution Award – Angela Mailis
- Researcher/QI of the Year Award – Shane Journey
- Innovator of the Year Award – Mark Bayley
- Mentor of the Year Award – Alex Lo
- Leadership Award – Adam Kassam
- OMA Resident Achievement Award (PARO) – Ainsley Kempenaar



10 Year Awards:

- Sukhinder (Sukhi) Bhangu
- Tania Bruno
- Nadira Rambihar
- Emily Tam



20 Year Awards:

- Chris Boulias
- Albert Cheng
- Cheryl Masanic

Resident Nominated Awards:

- Teacher of the Year Award – Jordan Farag, Meiqi Guo
- Mentor of the Year Award – Jason Liang
- Resident Advocate Award – McKyla McIntyre
- The Psychiatrist/Physician I Aspire To Be Award – Ali Rendely
- The Sunshine Award – Arta Odza
- Greatest Contribution To The PM&R Program Award – Denyse Richardson





DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

Awards committee for 2022-2023 will include:

- Meiqi Guo – Co-lead
- Audrey Yap – Co-lead
- John Patcai – Member
- Tri Nguyen – Member
- Bev Moylan - Member

2. Congratulations to our graduates

We are both pleased and sad to see our resident and fellow graduates complete their program and leave us although we are hoping to stay connected for years to come.

The residents who are completing our program this year include:

- Alysia Adams
- Ainsley Kempenaar
- Emma Mauti
- Carolyn Sawicki

The fellows who are completing our program include:

- Abeer Alomari
- Ahmad Alwashmi
- Carolina Carvalho
- Stephanie Jean
- Emily Tan
- Fernando Rivera Theurel
- Ihab Weheba



Another transition to announce is that Denyse Richardson is departing from the University of Toronto and moving to lead the PM&R program at Queen's University in Kingston, ON. We very much appreciate all Denyse's contributions during her many years of service at the University of Toronto across a variety of areas. We wish her the best of luck in her new position and hope to stay in touch going forward.



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

3. Integrated care in the news

Rebecca Titman has been highlighted for her work with the Sinai Health obstetrics program.

This demonstrated the important role that PM&R played in a pregnant woman who became severely ill with COVID 19. Please see the full article at the link below.

<https://www.sinaihealthannualreport.ca/survivorship-and-success>

4. Welcome to new faculty members

We were pleased to add three new faculty members to our current faculty list and welcome them starting July 1, 2022:

- Jason Liang is starting as full-time, Clinician Teacher and can be reached at: Jason.liang@uhn.ca
- Carolina Carvalho as full-time, Assistant Professor, Clinician Educator and can be reached at: Carolina.carvalho@uhn.ca
- Lilian Vivas has been appointed as Adjunct Lecturer and can be reached at: lilian.vivas@thp.ca

5. John Patcai published a piece in Oxford Open Immunology

John Patcai published a piece in Oxford Open Immunology entitled, "Is 'Long Covid' similar to 'Long SARS'?"

This recognizes John's important publications early on in the SARS epidemic and this opinion piece will be of interest to those seeing patients with possible Long Covid. The article can be seen at the below link:

<https://academic.oup.com/oim/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/oxfimm/iqac002/6604756>

6. Interesting article on communications inside hospitals

There was an interesting article from our colleagues Don Redelmeier, Ed Etchells and Umerin Najeeb discussing how to have honest communication in the midst of social asymmetries within hospitals. These authors provide some interesting pitfalls as well as ways to overcome these pitfalls. We should recognize that despite our best efforts, there are often power differentials within our academic health sciences centres that can inhibit honest and straightforward communication. See attached PDF article.

7. Newsletter goes on vacation

The newsletter will be taking a summer vacation which is much needed for its own wellness. It had looked at booking flights but soon realized that the price would be unreasonable and a lot to pay for a single document to occupy a seat on an airplane.

Thus, after considerable reflection, it decided it could travel elsewhere using a stamp. Thus, it has folded itself over, put itself in a stamped envelope and is off to vacation in the cooler climates of Antarctica. It sincerely hopes that someone will put it in a stamped return envelope after its vacation so it can make it back for the fall newsletter series.



We hope everyone has a great summer with some rest and relaxation and downtime.

As always, let us know if you have stories of interest that you would like to have distributed.

Don't forget to connect with our Twitter site @UofT_Physiatry.



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION
Department of Medicine
University of Toronto



Larry Robinson

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