

Message from the Chair:



I am delighted to welcome, on your behalf, Dr. Waldo Jimenez Fiedler to our Department. Dr. Jimenez Fiedler will be a great addition to our education

and research programs in Gynecological Oncology.

This issue highlights Dr. Jean Chamberlain and her achievements with Save the Mothers and Uganda Christian University. With support from McMaster University and her clinical colleagues in Hamilton, Jean continues to make an impact on international health. McMaster University and Uganda Christian University recently signed an affiliation agreement further cementing our collaboration.

Now that McMaster's two distributed campuses are well established, it is great to see our relationships with colleagues in Niagara and Waterloo. I was fortunate to be able to attend the opening ceremonies for the Niagara campus and was impressed to see the energy, commitment and enthusiasm of the whole Niagara community for the opportunity that this new development represents to them.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the Annual Department Education Retreat. You will really get a great deal out of it!

Pat Mohide

Dr. Jean Chamberlain-Froese in the News!

First lady of Uganda, Janet Museveni praises UCU!

A job well done. And a job that's far from done. That's one way to see UCU's leadership in helping to fight the age-old scourge of death in childbirth, a scourge that kills more than half a million mothers and four million children every year worldwide, virtually all in the developing world.

The university's role, through its five-year-old Save the Mothers (STM) Programme, was highlighted March 6 with a visit by Uganda's First Lady, MP Janet Museveni, who heaped praises on UCU and STM for its efforts. "I commend this university for its tremendous work with safe motherhood; for its training and for its sensitizing the public," said Museveni during her third visit to UCU in three years, this time for STM's Healthy Mothers, Healthy

Nation initiative. "Thank you for demonstrating that every life is special in God's eyes. You're not just living in an Ivory Tower as so many universities do. You are literally the salt of the Earth and change agents."

In her address, Museveni touched on birth control twice as one way to help ensure Uganda's mothers are at less risk. "Childbirth is not to be done haphazardly, but in a planned manner," she said. "Every family should plan concisely how many children to have." Appearing well-versed in other aspects of safe motherhood, she also spoke of the three deadly delays in care that keep mothers from safe deliveries; delays at home, during transport, or at the clinic.

by Thomas Froese, *Standard Staff*



Uganda's First Lady Janet Museveni is led around Uganda Christian University by the Director of Save The Mothers, Dr. Jean Chamberlain Froese, VC Prof. Stephen Noll and other university officials on March 6, 2010.

(Photo by Paddy Buyondo)

Prime Minister of Canada, Stephen Harper makes safe motherhood a priority!

First lady lauds Save the Mothers!

While it's estimated that 6,000 Ugandan women die every year due to unsafe deliveries, Museveni noted that public awareness has never been higher. "This week alone we've had three functions that deal with maternal health. God is awakening us as a community and he is awakening us a nation," she said.

UCU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Stephen Noll noted that recent tragedies such as the earthquakes in Haiti and Chile and, more recently, the mudslides in Mt. Elgon, show that much in life is out of human hands and that's a reminder of its sacredness within God's providence. "But much is in our hands, also," he said, noting that UCU will continue to support STM as it strives to help needy mothers in Uganda and broader East Africa. He pointed out that even in the

developing world, as late as the late 19th century, mothers – including his own grandmother – commonly died in childbirth.

Dr. Jean Chamberlain Froese, STM's founding executive director, thanked the many organizations that STM is partnering with. "The rest of the world is waking up to the plight of mothers in the developing world," she also said. "My own Prime Minister in Canada, Stephen Harper, has just announced that safe motherhood will be the focus of the upcoming meetings of global leaders at the G8 and G20 summits, which are being held within two hours of my home in Canada. "I'm proud that Canada is starting to play a role in the health of mothers, but I'm even more proud of the STM champions that are seated here," said Chamberlain Froese.

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OB/GYN
D.E.C. NEWS

Our department was well represented at the 2010 APGO Faculty Development Seminar January 16-20 in Scottsdale, Arizona. The theme was "Learning in Motion: Moving Forward in Women's Health Education". The agenda featured a plenary session by **Dr. Kelly Dore** entitled "Moving Beyond Medical Knowledge:



Dr. Amie Cullimore

Application of the Multiple Mini Interview to Undergraduate and Postgraduate Medical Education". **Drs. Dore and Cullimore** provided a workshop on Applying the Multiple Mini Interview to your School. **Drs. Cullimore and Donnelly**, along with a colleague from UC Davis gave a workshop on, "Residents as Teachers: What are we doing to help them teach our students?" The meeting is a great opportunity to connect with fellow Obstetrics & Gynecology educators and get new and inspiring ideas for education at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Stay tuned for details on January 2011's seminar which will be held in Amelia Island, Florida.

Dr. Dore also spoke to the McMaster FHS DEC Committee at their retreat on Friday February 26th, 2010. Her talk on assessment was one in a series on Educational Research talks for the DEC Committee. Many of the DEC's are interested in cultivating and advancing educational research within their departments and were grateful for the information and tools Dr. Dore provided.



Dr. Kelly Dore at the FHS, DEC Committee Retreat, Friday February 26th, 2010.

The Annual Educational Retreat is fast approaching, mark your calendar and plan to attend **Wednesday June 9th, 2010!** The itinerary will feature key note speaker Dr. Maya Hammoud, an Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan Medical School and Chair of the APGO Undergraduate Medical Education Committee (UMEC). Other highlights will include a talk and workshop by Dr. Kevin Eva, a member of McMaster Faculty of Health Sciences Program for Educational Research and Development (PERD) as well as an Associate Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics. Dr. Parveen Wasi, Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program will also provide a workshop. The day will be educational, enjoyable and a great opportunity to connect with colleagues!

Thank you to all our department members and colleagues who continue to provide excellent educational experiences, mentorship and leadership.

Amie Cullimore

OB/GYN
Undergrad NEWS

The first students of the Niagara Campus started their clerkship in January, 2010. With this, both new campuses of McMaster's medical school are up and running. This year Mac enrolled 146 new medical students, 20 at Niagara and 28 at the Waterloo Campus, a total of 194 medical students. One of the recent graduates of our residency program, Dr. Jen Schnarr, has started her new practice in Kitchener and will begin accepting students into her practice in the spring. The Undergraduate Committee continues to deal with the opportunities and challenges of the increased class enrolment at the distributed campuses. As always we appreciate all the work and effort of the widespread faculty to ensure a great clerkship experience for our students. Thank you all!

D. Fedorkow



Kitchener-Waterloo campus



Niagara Campus

OB/GYN PostgraduateNEWS



Dr. Val Mueller

We are continuing to work on improving the Postgraduate curriculum and we would like to keep everyone aware of changes that are occurring. Most recently we have been focusing on our processes of evaluation. We are recognizing that in order to ensure that our residents are fulfilling

their Goals & Objectives we will need to institute a more formal evaluation process.

We have recognized for some time now the need for "On Call Evaluation". Performance during this activity is not captured in our rotation evaluations. As of March 1st, it is now a requirement for each on call experience for every resident. It is to be completed either on line or on paper at the completion of a call shift by the staff on call (OB) and discussed with the resident at that time. As this is a significant change in practice we are allowing a grace period until the end of March for staff and residents to become accustomed to the process before it becomes a mandatory requirement.

Another area that we have been focusing on is the PGY1 and PGY2 years. We want to more clearly define the objectives for these rotations. In order to define what we need to be teaching we have begun assessing the junior residents to see where they are at in their learning. One of the tools that we will be using for evaluation is our OSCEs. This is a bit of a change from how we have used the OSCEs in the past. Previously

they have been used more for education with feedback and teaching occurring at the time. We will be moving to using a more structured OSCE format, and although the residents will receive feedback on their performance, they will receive this at a later date. As we will be using the tool for evaluation purposes we do not want their performance on one station to impact their performance on the next station which can occur when feedback is provided at the time. We will also be using the scores from the CREOG examination and the newly introduced APOG multiple choice examination as additional evaluation tools.

Finally we are making a few minor changes to the rotation evaluation forms. At the end of the form there will be two new comment boxes. One will be asking for a description of the strengths demonstrated by the resident during the rotation and the other will be asking for "future goals". This comment box is an area to identify areas in which the resident should continue to focus and improve upon. I strongly encourage all faculty to list at least one "future goal" as we all have things upon which we could improve.

On another note, we have had many events over the past several months that have required faculty participation outside of clinical day-to-day teaching including participation with OSCEs, CMAS, CaRMS interviews and teaching at academic half day. Thank you to everyone who has been generous with their time.

Val Mueller

OB/GYN ResearchNEWS

This month we will focus on one of our research leaders. We will highlight others in subsequent issues.

Dr. Warren Foster

Dr. Warren Foster's team is three quarters of the way to reaching the participant goal (N=200) for the Maternal-Infant Research on Environmental Chemicals (MIREC): A National Profile of in



Utero and Lactational Exposure to Environmental Contaminants. This study is led by Dr. William Fraser, University of Montreal and Dr. Tye Arbuckle, Health Canada and is funded by CIHR. It is designed to determine the relationship between maternal

exposure to environmental contaminants and adverse outcomes such as: spontaneous abortion, pre-eclampsia, gestational diabetes, premature labour and low birth weight.

MIREC-ID is funded by Health Canada and is

an extension of the MIREC study designed to follow-up on the environmental contaminant levels of a cohort of 100 babies.

A contract has recently been signed with Health Canada to measure Bisphenol A in urine and serum of pregnant mothers. Bisphenol A is an estrogenic plasticizer found in water bottles, lining of food storage cans and dental sealants that has been shown to be present in the majority of participants in the US NHANES 2003-04 study.

Ferring Pharmaceuticals Canada has signed a contract with Dr. Foster's laboratory to quantify exposure to phthalates in individuals treated with anti-inflammatory agents. Phthalates are anti-androgenic compounds present as components of some slow release capsules (i.e.: ascot)

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OB/GYN Research News

WELCOME:

Anne Doedee has joined Dr. Foster's laboratory. Anne is Masters Student in Toxicology and Human Pathobiology from the Radboud University in Nijmegen, The Netherlands. She currently holds a B.Sc. in Biomedical Sciences and is working towards completing her M.Sc. She will focus on the effects of environmental toxicant exposure on the expression of BDNF and Trk B expression in the growing mammalian follicle. Welcome Anne!

Anne Mulligan Tuttle, MSc returned in the fall from her maternity leave and is continuing her research on the effects of cigarette smoking on ovarian regulation. Welcome back Anne!

Heather Cameron, PhD has had a most enjoyable year at home with her 2 boys and will be returning to the laboratory when her maternity leave comes to a close on March 22, 2010. Welcome back Heather!

APPOINTMENTS:

Dr. Warren Foster was recently elected Secretary Treasurer, Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology Specialty Section for the Society of Toxicology. Congratulations Dr. Foster!

Dr. Foster wears many hats; he is also an Expert Panel Member for the Council of Canadian Academies and also for the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) – National Toxicology Program (NTP). Dr. Foster is now in his 4th year serving as a member of the CIHR Clinical Investigation 'A' Peer Review Panel and is also a member of the of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) – College of Reviewers. This year Dr. Foster served on the Integrative and Clinical Endocrinology Reproduction study section.

The Renaissance Project

The Medical Staff Association hosted their 5th Annual Medical Staff Art Show (The Renaissance Project) on Thursday February 4th, 2010 at The Sheraton Hotel. Dr. Hughes' artwork "North of Sherbrooke" was featured on the advertising poster. Dr. Hughes also displayed many pieces of artwork at the Art Show, as did Drs John Lamont and Bill Cowan.

Communications:

Please submit your contributions for the next Newsletter to:
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Phone: 905-521-2100
ext. 76245
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Ideas may include: News from your area, announcements, upcoming events, clinical stories, achievements, research, recommended books/articles/websites, encouraging words, employee spotlight.

Thank you!

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Editors:

Dr. P. Mohide, *Chair*
Ms. B. Pindar-Donick, *Manager*
Ms. J. Walkes, *Administrative Assistant*

Welcome



Welcome to **Dr. Waldo Jimenez Fiedler** who joined the Gynecologic Oncologist at the Juravinski Cancer Centre in March 22, 2010. Dr. Jimenez Fiedler hails from Chile where he obtained his medical degree. He received a diploma in

Endoscopic Surgery from Spain and France and completed his Gynecologic Oncology training at the University of Toronto. His Master's degree in Clinical Epidemiology culminated in work on HPV related gynecologic cancers in women with anal cancer.

We welcome Waldo, his wife and his 4 children. Apparently the selling point for coming to Hamilton was the quality of one of our soccer coaches. Who would have guessed! **L. Elit**

Continuing Medical Education



The fourth annual Dr. Greg O'Connell lectureship was held February 2nd and 3rd, 2010. An enlightening series of sessions was provided by **Dr. David Huntsman** from the University of British Columbia. He provided a variety of

audiences' keen new insights on the biology of tumor development and new potentials for treatment.

Dr. Kelly Dore in Mukono, Uganda!

Dr. Kelly Dore visited with **Dr. Jean Chamberlain** in Uganda on March 3rd, 2010. Dr. Dore will be working with Dr. Chamberlain & others to evolve the current post-graduate diploma program in Development and Evaluation into a Masters-level program, her trip included a visit to the Ministry of Health to look at access to health resources as well as a visit to the local health clinics. While there Dr. Dore also gave a full day workshop on student and program evaluation for the Save the Mother's program, the post-graduate diploma program, and others from the Uganda Christian University.



in Developmental Studies), Dr. Kelly Dore and Dr. Jean Chamberlain, Director of Save the Mothers program.

L-R: Dr. Elizabeth Kukunda, Head of the Department on Developmental Studies, Joy Asimwe, Lecturer

ONE Fertility Grand Opening

FEBRUARY 18, 2010

The official **Grand Opening of ONE Fertility** took place on February 18, 2010 in Burlington, ON. ONE Fertility is a state-of-the-art fertility clinic with the latest in technology. ONE Fertility is affiliated with McMaster University through teaching and collaborative research.

Dr. Megan Karnis is the clinic's Medical Director and also the Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility Director of the McMaster University REI Fellowship program. Dr. Karnis welcomed everyone to the opening. The event was well attended by many including Burlington Mayor Cam Jackson and Chair of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Dr. Patrick Mohide.

Dr. Mohide was an invited speaker at this event and congratulated Drs. Karnis, Amin, Faghhih and Hughes and Michael Neal on this very momentous occasion and commended their success and accomplishment. The clinic will provide a much needed service to the more than 15 percent of the population affected by fertility challenges.

In addition to specializing in fertility care, the clinic also specializes in reproductive endocrinology, reproductive surgery and research. It is a major teaching centre for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of the Michael G. De Groote School of Medicine, McMaster University.

For more information, please contact Caroline Fenn or Khaleel Khan at 905-634-4440, Toll-free at 1-877-663-0223 (1-877-ONE-0223), or view their website at www.onefertility.com



L-R: Dr. P. Mohide, Professor and Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Staff at O.N.E Fertility, Dr. M. Faghhih, Dr. S. Amin, Dr. M. Karnis (Medical Director), Dr. E. Hughes, Michael Neal (Scientific Director), Dr. C. Beliveau and Dr. R. Freebury (Counsellor).



L-R: Burlington Mayor Cam Jackson, Director Dr. M. Karnis and Department Chair, Dr. P. Mohide