

EXCELLENCE IN OPHTHALMIC CARE, EDUCATION & RESEARCH

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News from the Chair

By Dr. Lorne Bellan

This will probably be my last Chairman’s report to you in our newsletter. This seems like the perfect opportunity to reflect on how far we have come. From my perspective, there were a few pivotal moments that led to the development of our residency program. The first was when Dean Sandham came to meet with us, when we were officially a department but only teaching medical students, and asked that we give up our departmental status and become a division of general surgery. I was so impressed by the strong rejection of this idea by department members who instead demanded that it was time for us to start training residents. Dean Sandham was impressed too and this led to him instructing me to start working on the creation of a residency program. The next key step was when we collectively responded to skepticism about whether we

“This seems like the perfect opportunity to reflect on how far we have come.”

were truly committed to creating a department by voting overwhelmingly in a secret ballot to agree to tithe ourselves to provide funding to support departmental costs. This made the University administration understand that we were serious. After I had worked out the finances with the Dean’s office, I met with Dean Postl and he said we could have a department if we tripled our financial contributions (which I hadn’t figured out at the time but subsequently creatively resolved). I immediately agreed, shook his hand and we had a department.

Since then, we have gone from strength to strength with continual growth. We were so fortunate to have Andre and then Raageen as our first two residents. They



were so strong in helping us formulate the

program as they were going through it and it has been wonderful to welcome them both back as staff. All of the subsequent residents have also contributed to the quality of the program and to the atmosphere so that we get to enjoy the opportunity to teach and to give back as thanks for the teaching that we all received.

A tremendous amount of credit has to go to Dr. Clark for serving as our program director since the inception of the residency. He has worked tirelessly to make the program a success and has worked hard to help each resident succeed. His skills are nationally recognized as he has been elected by his peers to be the chair of the national ophthalmology program director’s committee. Credit should also go to all department members and residents who



RESEARCH DAY

Mark your calendars for May 08, 2020.

Upcoming Events:

- CaRMs Meet & Greet (February 2, 2020)
- CaRMS Interviews (February 3, 2020)
- Mock Oral Exam (March 13, 2020)
- Research Day (May 08, 2020)
- Visiting Professor Dr. Myrna Lichter (May 07-08, 2020)
- Visiting Professor Dr. Devish Varma (May 21-22, 2020)
- MHC Foundation Golf Classic (June 24, 2020)
- Residency Accreditation 2021
- CBD Launch 2022

Chair News continued...

have served on the Residency Program Committee; we have spent countless evenings in Ian's living room discussing and hammering out every detail of the program.

Probably the most important thing I have done for the program was to hire Pam. She has kept all of us organized and made sure everything flows as it should from the resident schedules to teaching the medical students to organizing elective students, making sure evaluations are done, and the list goes on and on.

On top of that she has been a tremendous support for the residents serving as a sympathetic ear to listen to their concerns and problem solve.

Our next accomplishment was to start running Fellowship programs.

Drs. Gould and Stockl have worked hard to create these programs and it has been stimulating to have fellowship trainees around. These fellows have brought an international flavour to the program. As well, the creation of the fellowships necessitated expanding the office and the hiring of Terri, who has been a great addition, assisting Pam in whatever capacity necessary, with a smile always on her face.

Now we are about to start another transition. I think it is a great sign of the strength of our program that Post Graduate Medical Education (PGME) agreed to our request to expand and take a second resident (this means that some other program got one fewer). The CaRMS committee just met and the applicant pool looks amazing so I am very excited to see who we will match.

"Pretty much anyone who has had some involvement with the program has been committed to making it a success."

Finally, I would like to thank all of you who are reading this newsletter. This program has become a success because everyone from the students to the ophthalmologists, support staff and pretty much anyone who has had some involvement with the program has been committed to making it a success. We have worked as a team and accomplished something that is pretty great.

All the best in 2020!

Where are they now...

By Pamela Lowe

Being nine years into our residency program, you may just be curious about where our alumni residents are now. We are proud to say they are all doing splendidly!

Drs. Jastrzebski and Kanjee both set off for their fellowships elsewhere, but to our great pleasure have returned to Winnipeg to serve the community where their ophthalmology dreams first came true!



Dr. Jastrzebski went abroad and brought back a much needed area of expertise in Uveitis to Winnipeg, while Dr. Kanjee went east to enhance his Glaucoma skills.

We had a hard time letting Dr. Penner go and happily he stayed for an extra year while he worked on a Glaucoma Fellowship. Sadly for us, we can't keep them all and he found an amazing

We are proud to say they are all doing splendidly!

opportunity in a state-of-the-art facility out west in Comox, British Columbia. We wish him and his family all the best!



Resident Corner

By Pamela Lowe

A five-year residency program can be pretty intense. It's always nice to see some simple pleasures added to the mix.

Here are just a few captured moments from this year's Research Day, Grad Ceremony, the annual Resident Retreat, Misericordia Health Centre Foundation Gala and the annual Seasonal Festive Party.



Current Crew



Drs. Onasanya, Levi, Flynn, Kindrachuk, Tang

A warm welcome to Dr. Oluwadara Onasanya who joined us in July 2019. He is the newest addition to our other ophthalmology residency family. As for our other residents, Dr. Danica Kindrachuk (PGY5) is in her final year and preparing for the Royal College Exam; Dr. Alanna Flynn (PGY4) has taken on the role of Chief Resident and is fine tuning her surgery skills; Dr. Jeremy Levi (PGY3) is in the process of mastering surgical skills and exploring subspecialty interests;

Dr. Tina Tang (PGY2) is managing the resident clinic in the Buhler Eye Care Centre plus receiving exposure to all ophthalmology subspecialties; and Dr. Oluwadara Onasanya (PGY1) is currently doing off-service basic clinical training rotations. We are thrilled with their outstanding efforts as they move forward in their quest to be self-sufficient ophthalmologists.

Resident & Fellows 2019 Graduation

By Pamela Lowe

June 2019 brought us to the end of another successful academic year. Not only did we have our PGY5 resident graduate, but we also reached a new milestone with two fellows graduating. William Turk was our honoured graduate from the residency program, and along with him, were our fellows Victor Penner (Glaucoma) and Wisam Barhoum (Retina).



Drs. Barhoum, Turk, Penner

William has embarked on an oculoplastics fellowship overseas and is planning a short return to Winnipeg before he hopes to head Down Under to get a second oculoplastics fellowship underway.

This is an amazing opportunity for him and his family.

Competency by Design (CBD)



ROYAL COLLEGE
OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF CANADA

The times are changing...

By Dr. Lorne Bellan

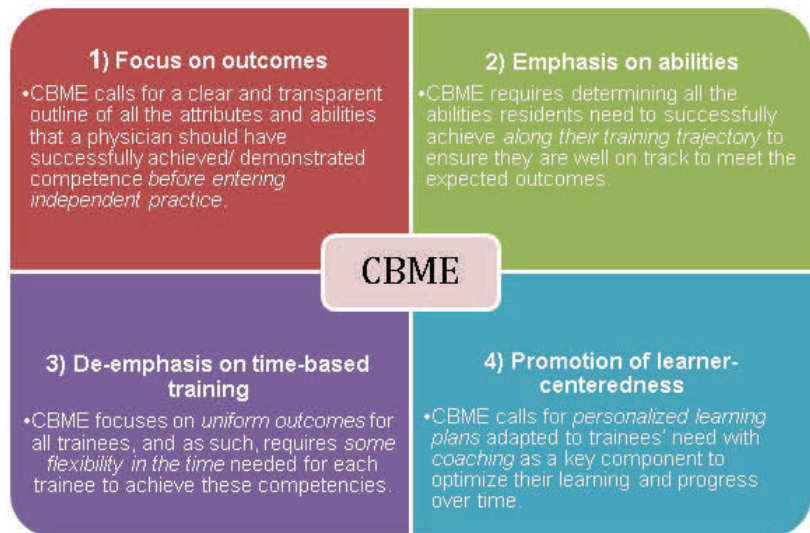
Work to convert Ophthalmology programs in Canada to a Competency by Design (CBD) framework has now begun. CBD is the RCPSC's hybrid Competency-based medical education (CBME) design wherein residents must demonstrate an acceptable level of competency and complete their service contract before moving on to the next stage of their training. The first meeting recently took place in November in Ottawa. Attendees were comprised of members of the Royal College nucleus committee for Ophthalmology, program directors, a few department heads, a resident representative and a few invited guests with expertise in medical education. Manitoba was well represented with Drs. Bellan, Clark and Manusow. The first thing we learned was that implementation will be a little later than originally expected. Translation in French and verification of all the documentation takes a surprisingly long time so that even though the preparation work will likely be completed in late 2020, it will not meet the September 1 deadline for launching the following year and will have to wait till 2022 to start. The thrust of the first planning meeting was to create Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) for the four stages of the new structure: Transition to Discipline, Foundation of Discipline, Core of Discipline and Transition to Practice. The EPAs were created by small working groups and then critiqued by the

total committee. These have still not been finalized and will be worked on over the next few months prior to final review at the next meeting in April 2020.

The process was stimulating but challenging. It was surprisingly difficult to agree what belongs in Transition to Discipline versus Foundation of Discipline. While some

year off service prior to starting the program for which matched.

One of the conclusions of the meeting is that, even though the formal start will now be July 1, 2022, we should actually start to incorporate some of the changes now so that the change isn't such a shock. The change that is strongly recommended is to establish competency committees that will take



specialties have used the switch to CBD to repatriate some teaching that has traditionally been done off service, there were strong feelings that it is critically important for Ophthalmology residents to undertake a variety of off service rotations prior to starting their core rotation. The one fundamental change that was agreed upon was that Transition to Specialty should begin with an Ophthalmology rotation so that residents start in their home program and develop a sense of connection and belonging, rather than the current model where they go for approximately two-thirds of their first

over the responsibility of reviewing residents' progress through the curriculum, based on feedback available. To provide the committee with adequate information upon which to make a decision, we are going to have to increase our written evaluations of our encounters with our residents.



POST OP

By Karen Chojno

POST-OP PATIENT FOLLOW-UP APPOINTMENTS: We are now supporting the Ophthalmologists that would like to see their post-p patients in the Residency Clinic. Once the Ophthalmologist has finished their slate for the day they can provide follow-up care to their patients in the Residency Clinic. We are able to accommodate two Ophthalmologists per day that would like to see their patients for follow-up in the Residency Clinic. The Ophthalmologists' offices book this through the Slating department.

Annaliza Romero is a new clerk hire that works at the Blue Desk to provide clerical support to the Ophthalmologists that are seeing their post-op follow-up patients in the Residency Clinic. She also provides clerical support to CRT. Annaliza's support at the Blue Desk allows CRT to remain in the Buhler Eye Care Centre until 5:30 p.m. During the day when Annaliza is not in the Buhler Eye Care Centre she provides support to other areas of the Ophthalmology Program.

CRT

CRT: Which consists of one physician (HMO) and one nurse (CRN) who work in the Buhler Eye Care Centre from 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. The CRT is a 24/7 team that provides care to the Eye Emergency patients that present to the Health Centre without an appointment and provide medical support to all of MHC.



Peggy (CRT Nurse), Annaliza

Staffing changes at the Buhler Eye Care Centre

By Rose Djukic

New and exciting staffing additions and changes to our team.

We have had several new staff join us over the last while. Welcome to RNs **Darlene Jackson** and **Tara Enns-Fraser** on joining our team. Congratulations to **Nelaiza Aguilar** who has recently received her certification and has

accepted the casual ophthalmic photographer position. We also want to welcome both **Emily Bienert** and **Rena Alday-Panda** who have both joined as techs for the Eye Bank.

Discovery Days

The Department of Ophthalmology participated in this year's Canadian Medical Hall of Fame/TD Discovery Day in Health Sciences. More than 379 students and teachers attend from more than 87 high schools across Manitoba with 20 high school students from Manitoba participating in



the workshop "I SPY with your little EYE" which included interesting case finding, reviewing pictures, educational requirements, equipment demos, as well as a tour of the department.

A big shout out of thanks goes to Patty Darvill and Drs. Kindrachuk and Flynn for making the workshop a success.



PUB QUIZ

December 16th, Dr. Clark spearheaded a Pub Quiz evening for Ophthalmologists, Orthoptists, and Ophthalmology Residents. It was a resounding success and great fun was had by all. Thank you Dr. Clark for all your hard work pulling this together!



ENTRADA is a web-based tool that manages University of Manitoba's Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME) and PGME Curriculum Systems. It includes trainee scheduling, assessments, event assessments and reporting functions.

U of M - AAO e-books online (refresher)

U of M Health Sciences Library

The AAO's **Basic and clinical science course** and **Focal points** are now available online from the University of Manitoba Libraries!

In order to access these resources, you'll need to sign in using your University of Manitoba UMNNet ID and password, or your Library ID and password. If you have not yet claimed your UMNNet ID, follow the directions at this link:

<http://umanitoba.ca/ist/accounts/claimid.html>.

Note that you will have to install additional software in order to read or download these resources. This may require administrator rights. If using a University of Manitoba computer, contact IST at 204-474-8600 or ServiceDesk@umanitoba.ca. If using a WRHA computer, contact Digital Health at 204-940-8500 or serviceDesk@sharedhealth.mb.ca.

These e-resources can be accessed directly from the links below or from the U of M Library Catalogue *One Stop Search* or from the *Ophthalmology Toolkit: Books/Journals/Articles* tab.

Links:

[Basic and clinical science course](#)

[Focal points](#)

To contact the Library, call 204-788-8109 or email mhclibrary@umanitoba.ca

2019 Research Day



Ophthalmology's sixth Annual Research Day was held in May. Once again we had fantastic presentations delivered by our residents and fellows, and several University of Manitoba undergraduate medical students. Great job all!



Congratulations to Dr. Tina Tang who received the Award - Best Research Project and Dr. Victor Penner who received Best Fellow Research Project. Awards were presented by Drs. Lorne Bellan and Leonard Levin

New Faculty - Dr. Michael Richards

Dr. Richards completed his medical degree and ophthalmology residency at the University of Toronto. After graduating with the Kensington Eye Institute Award for best surgical resident, he completed a PhD in Neuroscience (Institute of Medical Science, University of Toronto) concurrently with a clinical fellowship in Pediatric Neuro-ophthalmology (The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto). He obtained further fellowship training in Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus in Australia (Perth Children's Hospital and Lions Eye Institute, WA) and the UK (Moorfields Eye Hospital, London). Dr. Richards has published academic articles on topics including amblyopia, nystagmus, ocular trauma, and strabismus surgery, and his research work has garnered awards both regionally and internationally.

CONTACT DETAILS

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New Staff - Rahul Chopra

We are pleased to announce that Rahul Chopra has joined both the Departments of Emergency Medicine and Ophthalmology in the position of Business Manager.

Rahul possesses more than 10 year of directly progressive experience. Most recently, he has worked as a financial analyst at CancerCare Manitoba. Previously, Rahul also held roles as a Business Improvement and Finance Officer at St. Boniface Hospital and as a Research Compliance Accountant/Auditor at the University of Manitoba.

Rahul has led financial management processes which have led to enhancements and efficiencies in various processes. He has also extensive experience providing business expertise to multiple departments within CancerCare to develop, implement, and maintain sound accounting processes, financial reporting systems, procedures and internal controls.

We are very pleased to have someone with this skillset and experience in our departments. Please join us in welcoming Rahul to his new role!



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OF MANITOBA

The next issue of this newsletter will be released in March/April of 2020. If you wish to submit an article for the next issue, please send it to the attention of Pamela Lowe at pamela.lowe@umanitoba.ca.

Awards & Achievements

- ◆ Excellence in surgical teaching:
 - 2017 – 2018 Dr. Andrew Mis
 - 2018 – 2019 Dr. Brian Gillespie
- ◆ Excellence in teaching award:
 - 2017 – 2018 Dr. Joshua Manusow
 - 2018 – 2019 Dr. Lorne Bellan
- ◆ Annual Ophthalmology Research Day Award:
 - 2017 – 2018 Dr. Danica Kindrachuk
 - 2018 – 2019 Dr. Tina Tang

Publications

Our Ophthalmology [Library Toolkit Homepage](#) is now featuring our faculty publications from the last two years. The Department is proud of the research everyone is part of and wishes to share it through this resource to allow the articles to be easily accessible and for all to see!

Please take a look and let Pam know if we have overlooked anyone's publications. If so, provide the title of your article and we will get it added to the list ASAP. It must be published and online accessible.

<http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/ophthalmology>

2018 & 2019 Publications:

- ◆ Dr. Bellan Dr. Lee-Wing
- ◆ Dr. Rocha Dr. Clark
- ◆ Dr. J. Manusow Dr. Jastrzebski

Awards & Achievements

Let Pam know if you have received awards or other notable achievements this past year. We would love to honour you and share your accomplishments with your colleagues.



Help make a difference...

The U of M Department of Ophthalmology supports the following organizations:

- 1) MHC Foundation
- 2) United Way