

October 2022

Department of Ophthalmology

Newsletter

Message from the Chair

Dr. John van der Zweep

The Department of Ophthalmology is excited to be back to our regular fall activities. I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable summer.

We were happy to celebrate the graduation of our PGY-5 resident Jeremy Levi and wish him well on his fellowship in Vancouver. We will definitely miss his sense of humour and positive attitude. But as quick as Jeremy completes his training, we invited Katia Milovanova and Parsa Mehraban Far to Winnipeg and wish them both well on the off-service first year rotations.

The department also wishes to extend our thanks and congratulations to retiring Dean of Medicine Brian Postl. We thank him for his continued service and now welcome Dr. Peter Nickerson to the position.

Congratulations to the Misericordia Health Centre, in coordination with the foundation, for a successful premier fundraising event, InVision 2022. Held at the convention center to a sold-out crowd, the event exceeded all our expectations on what an upbeat and enjoyable fundraiser should be. It was great to raise awareness and donations for all of the great things MHC is involved in. Special thanks to Heidi Klaschka for her positivity and coordination in preparing for the event.

This fall will welcome Dr. William Turk to the department as our newest ophthalmologist. Dr Turk completed his fellowships in Oculoplastic Surgery and Oncology. Since many of us know him well from his residency days at MHC, we are excited to see him come home! Welcome Will!!

We are expecting to see renovations at MHC commence this fall, as we look to provide clinical space for two new ophthalmology services. Pediatric Ophthalmology and Neuro-ophthalmology clinics will be arriving at MHC in 2023. This is a promising sign of growth and increasing ophthalmic services at our Eye Centre of Excellence!

I hope you all have the opportunity to experience some of the joys of autumn. Be well. My thoughts and prayers go out to any of you currently under stress or distress, be it for personal reasons or global ones with those affected by riots or war. We all value health and family first, and I hope that you all have supports you need should be under a time of uncertainty or loss. We are a department with a long history of caring and collegiality, and I am proud of our ability to support each other in such times. Our efforts make a difference.

Message from the Program Director

Dr. Andre Jastrzebski

I'd like to welcome everyone back from what I hope was a restful and rejuvenating summer break. I think for most of us, it was much needed. Personally, I took my family on our first extended road trip in our vintage VW camper van. Nothing says rest and relaxation like 10 nights of camping with a four and two-year old! In a bid to keep the positivity going, our wellness committee leads Drs. Nigam and Kogan have graciously organized a pizza, beer, and wine night October 17th for our residents and faculty. As we continue to come out of two years of COVID induced social hibernation, I hope as many people as possible can attend to reconnect with colleagues and our residents (both new and not so new). I am hopeful that we can continue to offer these types of events regularly and without interruption.

The new academic year is officially in swing with grand rounds, academic half days, and other teaching sessions all up and running again. Some key dates on the academic calendar are already solidified, with our CaRMS interview dates scheduled for February 23, 2023 and our annual research day on May 12, 2023. We are also back to a regular slate of visiting professors this year, which is great. As we remain fresh off a successful accreditation visit, I don't expect much change to our regular clinical and academic teaching this year, but some major changes are looming ever close on the horizon.

When our next cohort of successful CaRMS applicants start their residency on July 1, 2023, they will officially be starting on the new competency-based model of residency education as will all our future residents. In order to ensure faculty are as prepared as possible for the transition you can expect that several information sessions facilitated by the University of Manitoba and the Royal College will be coming our way in the next year and a half. Our RPC has already been evolving to prepare for these changes and our next major milestone as a department will be to appoint a CBME lead in time for our 2023 residents to come on service. If any faculty have been secretly interested in this position, please reach out!

I look forward to working with everyone over the next year. Let's hope it's the most "normal" one we've had in a while.

Message from the UGME Lead

Dr. Frank Stockl

The Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Manitoba plays a pivotal role in undergraduate medical school education. Our department has developed a robust curriculum with the undergraduate department of medical education. This past year Dr F Stockl has taken over from Dr Lorne Bellan as the UGME lead for Ophthalmology. The medical school education program consists of the following core teaching sessions:

- Acute and chronic vision loss I, II, III – 3 self-study sessions, 1 hour each
- Ocular Trauma – self-study session, 1 hour
- Red eye I – self-study session, 1 hour
- Amblyopia and Strabismus, self-study session, 1 hour
- Acute and chronic vision loss IV – small group session, 1 hour
- Red eye II – small group session, 1 hour
- Neuro-ophthalmology – lecture, 2 hours
- Ophthalmology review – lecture, 1 hour
- Final exam

Faculty participation is encouraged to help ensure that our teaching program is optimized and robust.

They are still volunteers required for the Clinical Skills sessions being held on the following dates. Please email Sandy Rossman sandy.rossman@umanitoba.ca if you can help with one or more of the dates.

One (1) volunteer for Thursday, November 3 from 1:45 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.

One (1) volunteer for Monday, November 7 from 2:45 p.m. to 4:50 p.m.

Two (2) volunteers for Tuesday, November 8 from 1:45 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.

Upcoming Dates

October 17

Faculty & Resident Wellness Get Together

RSVP dana.mcmillan@umanitoba.ca by October 10



Ophthalmology
Faculty Get Together

November 2

Departmental Journal Club Meeting via Zoom

November 19 – Details pending

MHC Annual Festive Celebration

Niakwa Country Club

November 24-25

Visiting Professor

Dr. Davesh Varma

November 28-30

Visiting Professor

Dr. Thomas Wright

December 2

Mock Exams – A.M.

Resident Retreat – P.M.

February 23 (Please note this is a Thursday)

CaRMS Interviews

March - date to be determined

Mock Exams – A.M.

May 11

Visiting Professor – TBA

May 12

Resident Research Day

Grand Rounds - Wednesdays, 7:30 AM via Zoom

Retina Fellow Rounds – Last Friday of the month , 7:30 AM via Zoom

Staffing Information:

Program Administrators, Dana McMillan & Sandy Rossman

Dana & Sandy are located at the Misericordia Heath Centre on Monday, Tuesday & Friday weekly.

We are available by email and phone while working remotely.

Staff Contacts:

Sandy Rossman, Program Administrator
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