Since our last newsletter, the politics of Canada experienced a seismic shift, which will undoubtedly have an impact on our Department through healthcare system changes, funding of research enterprises and direction of educational mandates. The national discussion of healthcare (avoided somewhat during the election campaign!) must take place in light of the big questions which are facing us all: How can we afford to maintain universal medical care? How can we adopt new technology and pharmaceuticals in an already overburdened publicly financed system? Who will make the difficult and challenging decisions of what we can, and cannot, afford as a society (government? patients? practitioners?)? How important is evidence-based medicine and health technology assessment committees in making these decisions? As we move towards the 2012 Healthcare Accord discussions, we will have our opportunity, as members of a major medical school, to engage with our local politicians and policy-makers to encourage them to understand what we do in the world of academic surgical-science, and how they can help us reach our goals. I will be spending much time meeting our leaders and I encourage each and every member of the Department to consider the importance of these discussions with respect to our success as a Department and as individuals.

Philanthropy remains a core reason for the great successes of our Departmental surgeons and scientists. We thank every donor, no matter the amount, as every dollar counts. In this issue, we feature the generosity of the “Mr. Lube” family who sponsor our annual prostate cancer fundraising tournament. We are especially indebted to Jan Ticknor, wife of the late Ted Ticknor, for continuing to support this cause in his memory. The Prostate Centre also benefitted again this spring, from the success of the Harry Rosen Run, which raised a large amount for our research team. And last, but not least, a determined young anesthesiology resident, Dr Riley Senft, is literally running across Canada to raise money to support our Prostate endeavours. He is planning on reaching the West coast in late October and I hope all of you will join me in welcoming him home. Please visit the website, www.stepintoaction.ca, to make a pledge of support of this terrific young man.

I am pleased to acknowledge a number of faculty accomplishments which took place since our last newsletter. Dr Peter Black and Dr Hong Ma have been awarded a large NSERC/CIHR grant to further their studies on the microfluidic enrichment of circulating tumour cells. Dr Black was a featured speaker at the AUA Foundation Research Forum and was selected by the Journal of Urology for an annual ‘Best Reviewer’ award. Congratulations to Dr Babak Shadgan who has won a highly competitive 2 year Michael Smith scholarship, under the mentorship of Lynn Stothers, to further their study of NIRS in neurogenic bladder and spinal cord injured patients. And to Dr Piotr Kozlowski, who along with his co-PI’s received significant peer review CIHR funding to study the diagnostic and prognostic value of multiparametric MRI of the prostate over the next 5 years.

And last, but certainly not least, kudos to Dr Martin Gleave and all of our wonderful VPC scientists for succeeding in obtaining a renewal of their Terry Fox award entitled, “New Frontiers Program on Prostate Cancer Progression”.

**Individual Highlights:**
- Dr Andrew McNeily - Promoted to Full Professor

**Special Interest:**
- Postgraduate Program
  - Director’s Report
- Benefactor Profile
  - Mr. Lube Canada

**Service Recognition:**
- Dr John Ankenman
  - 50 years of service
- Evadne Reckord
  - 35 years of service
Our Department did very well at this year’s AUA meeting! Once again Dr Stothers and her team walked away with first and second prizes in neurourology and the AUA blue ribbon research prize, and Dr Chuck Metcalfe’s AUA Podium presentation was chosen as one of the best of the meeting, to be featured at the upcoming “2011 Best of AUA/JUA Meeting” to be held in Tokyo, Japan. Dr Gleave’s postdoctoral fellow, Hiroaki Matsumoto, received one of three Prostate Cancer Foundation Awards presented at the Society of Urologic Oncology meeting in conjunction with the AUA. And another postdoctoral fellow at the Vancouver Prostate Centre, Masaki Shiota, received an “Incitement Award” from the Japanese Cancer Association, which is given to less than 10 researchers annually.

This past spring we celebrated the graduation of our three chief residents, Steve Faddegon, Kiara Hennessey and Lee Jonat. Steve and Kiara have gone off to further fellowship training and Lee has opened his practice in Kamloops. We congratulate all three on completing the program and being successful on the Royal College examination. We also say farewell to our two urooncology fellows, Niall Corcoran and Rowen Casey, who have returned to Australia and to the UK, respectively, to begin their careers. We wish them all the best of luck.

We had a well-attended year end dinner at which our guest speaker, Dr David Bloom, Chairman of Urology at the University of Michigan gave an inspirational talk to the younger generation and at which we witnessed our new Postgraduate Director, William Gourlay roast the grads in a highly entertaining manner. At the annual Lorne Sullivan Research day, the basic research paper winner was Lisa Skinner and best clinical research paper winner was Niall Corcoran. The 2011 Balfour scholarship recipient was Lance Crook from the Island Medical Program.

At the graduation event we honoured Dr Andrew MacNeily as Undergraduate Teacher of the Year, Dr Peter Black as the Postgraduate Teacher of the Year, Dr YZ Wang for a Faculty of Medicine Distinguished Achievement Award, Dr John Ankenman for his 50 years of service to UBC and Dr Jamie Wright on his retirement from urology. We also recognized Mrs. Evadne Reckord who has retired from her position as urology OR nurse extraordinaire, a person that every urologist in the Department will acknowledge as being a key influence in their surgical training and the efficient running of the operating room for 35 years!.

And so let’s celebrate a highly successful 2010/2011 academic year, welcome our new residents and fellows and look ahead to even more significant achievements in the coming session.

Congratulations!
When it comes to finding a cure for prostate cancer, donor generosity is making a difference. In fact, much of the success achieved to date by doctors and researchers at the Vancouver Prostate Centre has been enabled through the support and vision of corporate donors such as Mr. Lube Canada.

Mr. Lube has built a long-term relationship and partnership with both the Vancouver Prostate Centre and the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation through the Mr. Lube Tournament for Life – an annual charity golf event in BC dedicated to improving the lives of men and families facing prostate cancer. This year’s tournament, held on June 2, raised $200,000 towards prostate cancer and research in BC.

Mr. Lube assumed title sponsorship after the death of the Company’s president Ted Ticknor. In August 2004, Ticknor was diagnosed with an aggressive form of prostate cancer. Under the care of experts at the Vancouver Prostate Centre, Ticknor first received hormone treatment for his advanced disease. The cancer responded, but then returned. The next step was chemotherapy, which gave him a few more good months. When the cancer came back again in September 2005, Ticknor signed up for a clinical trial that combined chemotherapy with a drug called OGX-011 which was developed at the Centre. Again, Ticknor’s cancer responded, but again, it recurred. In May 2006 Ticknor died, but not before pledging the support of Mr. Lube Canada to the Vancouver Prostate Centre to help other men like him. Mr. Ticknor championed and supported the work of Dr. Martin Gleave and the many researchers at the Vancouver Prostate Centre.

The company made the fight against prostate cancer one of its main pillars of support in 2007 and is committed to raising the profile and importance of finding a cure through events like the Tournament for Life.

“This annual Tournament supports such an incredibly important cause and we are committed to raising the profile and importance of finding a cure for prostate cancer,” says Stuart Suls, President & COO, Mr. Lube Canada. “We are proud to be extending our partnership for another five years to 2016 as title sponsor of this important event.”

Strong support from corporate donors has enabled the Vancouver Prostate Centre to thrive. This support has been responsible for much of the Centre’s past successes and is even more critical to their success in the future. Donations have been invested in a variety of ways: funding new equipment, hiring new research staff and leveraging funding from traditional medical research funding sources.

### UPCOMING 2011 EVENTS:

- **August 21-28, 2011**: WSAUA, Westin Bayshore, Vancouver & Whistler, BC
- **September 21, 2011**: Visiting Professor - Dr Gerald Brock, Taylor-Fidler Auditorium
- **September 30-October 1, 2011**: BC Urological Society, Diamond Centre, VGH
- **December 2-3, 2011**: NWUS Conference, Portland Hilton, Portland, Oregon
- **January 11, 2012**: Visiting Professor - Dr Tony Finelli, Taylor-Fidler Auditorium
- **January 25, 2012**: Multi-departmental Rounds - Dr D. Ostrow and Dr O’Connor, “Quality and Safety”, Paetzold Auditorium
Graduating Residents

After five years of hard work, dutiful service and disciplined study, Kiara Hennessey, Steve Faddegon and Lee Jonat flew off to Ottawa in early June for the Royal College examinations. The Department of urologic sciences was not surprised to hear that they were easily successful – but when news of the exam results became widely known, a full scale riot erupted in downtown Vancouver. No doubt the public was concerned about losing these three talented residents from the Vancouver teaching hospitals.

Congratulations to the graduates and a sincere ‘thank you’ to everyone who played a role in their training.

Kiara Hennessey has moved on to Hamilton, Ontario (McMaster) to do fellowship training in laparoscopy and MIS. She plans to visit Vancouver frequently.

Lee Jonat has a busy summer. He will be married in July (Jen), moving to his new house and starting his general urology practice in Kamloops.

Steve Faddegon has moved to Dallas Texas for further fellowship training in Laparoscopy, MIS and robotics. His wife, Jen, is expecting their first child in October. They plan to return to BC with their young American citizen in one year.

Good Luck!

Postgraduate Teacher of the Year: Peter Black

Undergraduate Teacher of the Year: Andrew MacNeily
Incoming Residents

The Department is proud (again) to have matched the top three candidates in the country from the CaRMS match this spring.

**Henry Tran (UBC)**

Henry Tran is a UBC graduate with a degree in engineering before medical school. He is already known to most of the department due to his prodigious work on numerous research projects during his medical school career. Henry’s application to our program was very memorable as he had twice as many reference letters as any other applicant.

**Ryan Flannigan (University of Calgary)**

Ryan Flannigan is a University of Calgary graduate and is proud to call himself a “farm boy from Saskatchewan”. Hmmm … the last farm boy from Saskatchewan turned urologist left quite a legacy around here. Are we ready for another one? Ryan is an elite athlete, holding more than a dozen national titles in archery and has represented Canada in the Pan American games.

**Samir Bidnur (University of Toronto)**

Samir Bidnur is a graduate of the University of Toronto. In addition to a track record of academic excellence and completing a number of research projects as a medical student, Samir is also an accomplished magician. We all look forward to seeing his material but he’ll have to retire that trick where he saws somebody in half. They get a little freaked out in the OR when that happens.

Welcome to the department!

William Gourlay
Director, Postgraduate Program

---

2010 Balfour Scholarship Winner
Hilary Nelson

Dr. Stothers received her academic gown from the Faculty of Medicine

L. Goldenberg, L. Stothers, Dean Gavin Stuart
Dr. Babak Shadgan, a postdoctoral fellow at the Department of Urologic Sciences, awarded the “D.J. Lovell Scholarship” the largest and most prestigious academic award from the International Society of Optics & Photonics (SPIE) in a competition between 362 top graduate trainees from the best universities around the world. He received his award and diploma in an award ceremony during the 2011 SPIE Congress of Biomedical Optics in San Francisco.

Babak is an MD/PhD specialized in sports medicine originally from Iran. He received his MD degree in 1994 and an AO-International Osteosynthesis Fellowship in 1998. In 2001, he was granted a post-graduate Master degree in Sports Medicine from the University of London and a year later (2002) he obtained a post-graduate diploma in Football Medicine from the England Football Association. In September 2006, he moved to Canada and joined the UBC Faculty of Medicine to start his PhD study in the experimental medicine program. His PhD thesis was focused on noninvasive monitoring of skeletal muscle oxygenation, hemodynamics and function by near infrared spectroscopy (NIRS), a project that was supported by a 2-year BC Lung Association Fellowship and a 3-year Senior Graduate Scholarship awarded by Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR). To extend his knowledge in clinical optics, he also completed a visiting fellowship on NIRS-Diffused Optical Tomography at the Martinos Center for Biomedical Imaging of Harvard University in 2009.

In 2007, Babak joined the Bladder Care Center of UBC Hospital as a research assistant to work on NIRS monitoring of the lower urinary tract function under supervision of Drs Lynn Stothers and Andrew Macnab. As a muscle expert and who has been focusing on noninvasive optical monitoring of muscle function, his collaboration on studying bladder dysfunctions in adult and children helped the group to find evidence of detrusor fatigue as a possible mechanism behind bladder dysfunctions. Their work resulted in several national and international presentations and publications in peer-reviewed journals.

After completing his PhD study, Babak started a postdoctoral fellowship at the Department of Urologic Sciences to study bladder dysfunction in people with spinal cord abnormalities. This project is supported by a Rick Hansen Foundation research grant, a research grant awarded by the Canadian Institute of Photonics Innovations and a 3-year MSFHR postdoctoral fellowship.

As a sports physician Dr Shadgan is associated with several international sports federations and agencies and has been actively involved in all summer and winter Olympic Games during the last ten years. At the 2012 London Olympic games he will act as the medical director of the wrestling competitions.

The main focus of the International Society of Optics & Photonics is the techniques and innovations in Optics and Photonics, and perhaps one of the important messages of this award is that the core of Babak’s research projects (using optical diagnostic methods in medicine) is a well-respected and important research line.
Legends in Urology: Dr Jamie Wright

Dr Jamie Wright received his MD from the University of Alberta in 1966. He completed his Urology residency at the University of British Columbia in 1972. He was a CDN Cancer Travelling Fellow in 1973 at MD Anderson Cancer Centre (Houston), Memorial Hospital (New York), Roswell Park (New York), and Royal Marsden Cancer Hospital (London).

Dr Jamie Wright has been on active staff at Vancouver General Hospital since 1972. His clinical excellence crosses many subspecialty areas of urology, urogynecology, stone disease and laser surgery. Over the years, he has become the “go to” urologist for the most complex surgical cases. He has been an indispensable mentor of the younger surgeons and is always counted on to resolve intraoperative difficulties or complications of colleagues in every other specialty area. There are few surgical colleagues whose patients have not benefited from Dr Wright’s skilled hands and rational decision-making capacity and who did not feel well-supported and protected just by having him come into their operating room.

Dr Wright received the Division of Urology Outstanding Teacher Award in 1997-98 and the Department of Urologic Sciences Outstanding Teacher Award in 2006-07.
### Awards and Recognition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student / Faculty</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Academic Rank</th>
<th>Sponsor/Donor</th>
<th>Name of Award/Prize</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>Peter Black</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>CIHR and NSERC, CFI-Leaders Opportunity Funds, The Journal of Urology (AUA)</td>
<td>Collaborative Health Research Projects, CFI-Leaders Opportunity Funds, Best Reviewer for 2010, Postgraduate Teacher of the Year, Proof-of-Concept (POC) Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Martin Gleave</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Genome BC</td>
<td>Local Hero Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Larry Goldenberg</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Prostate Cancer Canada</td>
<td>Local Hero Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Andrew MacNeily</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Department of Urologic Sciences</td>
<td>Undergraduate Teacher of the Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jennie Mickelson</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>UBC</td>
<td>Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund (TLEF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lynn Stothers</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>AUA</td>
<td>1st Prize Research Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>YZ Wang</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Faculty of Medicine</td>
<td>Distinguished Achievement Award-Excellence in Basic Science Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student (Resident/Fellow/PhD)</td>
<td>Niall Corcoran</td>
<td>Clinical Fellow</td>
<td>Department of Urologic Sciences</td>
<td>Best Clinical Research Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hiroaki Matsumoto</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Fellow</td>
<td>Prostate Cancer Foundation</td>
<td>Prostate Cancer Foundation Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chuck Metcalfe</td>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>American Urological Association (AUA)</td>
<td>Best of the 2011 AUA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Babak Shadgan</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Fellow</td>
<td>International Society of Optics and Photonics (SPIE)</td>
<td>2010 SPIE D.J. Lovell Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Masaki Shiota</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Fellow</td>
<td>Japanese Cancer Association</td>
<td>Incitement Award of the Japanese Cancer Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lisa Skinner</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Fellow</td>
<td>Department of Urologic Sciences</td>
<td>Best Basic Science Research Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD Undergrad Student</td>
<td>Lance Crook</td>
<td>2nd year MD Undergrad student</td>
<td>Department of Urologic Sciences</td>
<td>2011 Balfour Scholarship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### New Babies

**Congratulations!**

The Kouppettes: Imogen (March 2011) joins parents Anthony & Amelia and big brother Leo

The Metcalfe Dynasty continues.. Olin James Metcalfe (March 2011) joins parents Chuck and Sonja

Please send your comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter to:

Helen Wong, Administrative Manager, Department of Urologic Sciences
Gordon & Leslie Diamond Health Care Centre, Level 6, 2775 Laurel Street, Vancouver, BC  V5Z 1M9

**Design/Layout**
France Sia-Chan

**Editor**
Dr. Howard Fenster, Clinical Professor, Department of Urologic Sciences, UBC

[www.urology.ubc.ca](http://www.urology.ubc.ca)