



## Division's Structure

### GI EXECUTIVE

**DIVISION DIRECTOR:** Johane Allard  
**Committee members**

**Division Heads:**

UHN/MSH: Hillary Steinhart

SMH: Gary May

SBHSC: Lawrence Cohen

WC: Susan Stafford

**Research:** Jill Tinmouth

**IT:** Peter Rossos

**Education:** Cino Maria

**Hepatology/Transplant:** Les Lilly

### EDUCATION

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR:** Maria Cino

**Director of Fellowship:** Paul Kortan

**Committee Members**

**Education Site Directors:**

MSH: Alvin Newman

SMH: Cliff Ottaway

SBHSC: Fred Saibil

MaryAnne Cooper

WCH: Jeff Stal, **Director Undergraduate GI**

**Education**

TGH: Flavio Habal

TWH: Maria Cino

**Hepatology education & GIM education**

**coordinator:** David Wong

**GI In-training Exam Coordinator**

**And CE + KTE \*:** Louis Liu

**Research Representative:** Herbert Gaisano

\*CE + KTE Task force: Continuing  
Education and Knowledge Translation  
Education Task Force

### Sub committee

#### **Endoscopy - Education**

**CHAIR:** Mary Anne Cooper

**Committee Members:**

Heather Carnahan (Wilson Centre)

Samir Grover

Gabe Kandel

Simon Ling (SCH)

Louis Liu

Gary May

Allan Okrainec (Surgery)

Catharine Walsh (Wilson Centre Fellow,  
SCH)

Elaine Yong

## DDD's Column

We just completed a very successful academic year! Thank you to all the GI Faculty, trainees, fellows, members of GI Committees, sponsors, and especially to Dr. Maria Cino, Program Director, and Dr. Jill Tinmouth, Research Director, for their significant contribution. Without all of you, this success would not be possible! This Newsletter highlights some of our achievements. Please take a few minutes to read it. You will realize how productive we are in Research and Education! If we forgot you or you have important news, please let us know. It will be in the next Newsletter. We will also develop a section on on-going clinical trials for those of you wishing to recruit more patients. Have a great summer!

## Education Column

**An extended welcome** to the new GI trainees: PGY-4: Dr. Alallam Alallam; Dr. Nitasha Anand; Dr. Dan Kottachichi; Dr. Nikila Ravindran; Dr. Harry Wu; PGY-5: Dr. Issa Al-Qarshoubi; Dr. Marilyn Li; Dr. Sanjay Murthy; Dr. Sean Pritchett

## Research Column

### **THE GI RESEARCH DAY JUNE 18 WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!!**

This was the first combined GI Adult-Pediatric Research Day with 43 abstracts. The attendance was 96.



Dr. Stephan Targan (Guest Speaker)  
Director, Division of Gastroenterology,  
Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center and  
Immunobiology Research Institute  
Professor, UCLA School of Medicine



Dr. Johane Allard, Director, Division of  
Gastroenterology; and Dr. Wendy  
Levinson, Chair, Department of Medicine



Dr. Hillary Steinhart, GI Division Head,  
UHN-MSH

## RESEARCH

**CHAIR** (Clinical) Jill Tinmouth  
**CO-CHAIR** (Basic) Herbert Gaisano  
**Committee Members:**  
TWH: Jenny Heathcote  
SMH: Young-In Kim  
TGH: Les Lilly  
SMH: Mark Silverberg  
TGH: Florence Wong  
TGH: Morris Sherman  
SMH: Geoffrey Nguyen  
SBHSC: Dr Elaine Young

### Sub Committee:

#### **GI Basic/Experimental Research Group**

**CHAIR:** Herbert Gaisano  
**Committee Members:**  
Ken Croitoru  
Young-In Kim  
Mark Silverberg  
Johane Allard  
Jill Tinmouth  
Jan Irvine  
Geoffrey Nguyen  
Hillary Steinhart

### Sub Committee:

#### **GI Awards and Grants**

**CHAIR:** Cliff Ottaway  
**Committee Members:**  
Jenny Heathcote  
Hillary Steinhart  
MaryAnne Cooper  
Ken Croitoru  
Jan Irvine

## COMMUNICATION/NEWSLETTER

**EDITOR:** Johane Allard  
**Assistant:** Monique Le  
**GI Executive Committee**



Dr. Cino Maria, Education Program Director



Dr. Jill Tinmouth, Co-Chair, Research Committee

**Congratulation to Dr. Rupert Abdalian (PGY 5)**, who received the Dr. K. N. Jeejeebhoy Award for Excellence in Gastroenterology for demonstrating excellence in clinical medicine, research and teaching in Gastroenterology in the Department of Medicine

**Congratulation to Dr. Charlie Wang (PGY 5)**, the recipient of the *Procter & Gamble Post Residency Fellowship* award. Dr Wang is enrolled in the Clinician-Scientist Program doing a Master in Clinical Epidemiology.



*From left to right:*

Dr. Ken Croitoru, Dr. Charlie Wang, Sandra Iczkovitz (PG representative)

**Congratulation to Dr. Peter Rossos et al.**, who won the *GI Intramural Award in Quality of Care and Patient Safety* for their project: A Standardized Synoptic Reporting Tool and Database for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.



*From left to right:*

Dr. Johane Allard, Director, Division of Gastroenterology; Dr. Wendy Levinson, Chair, Department of Medicine; winner of the award – Dr. Peter Rossos

**Congratulation to Dr. David Wong**, the winner of the Louis J. Cole University of Toronto Gastroenterology Faculty Teaching Award 2007-2008; **Dr. Marilyn Li (PGY 4)**, the winner of Louis J. Cole University of Toronto Gastroenterology Trainee Teaching Award 2007-2008; **Dr. Peter Rossos** who was awarded the Teacher of The Year 2008 from UHN/MSH Department of Medicine



*From left to right:*

Dr. Marilyn Li, winner of Louis J. Cole University of Toronto Gastroenterology Trainee Teaching Award 2007-2008; Dr. Jill Tinmouth, Chair Research Committee; Dr. Hillary Steinhart, Division Head, UHN-MSH

## GUT CLUB September – December

The Gut Club will be at the Vaughan Estates – Academy room of Medicine  
2075 Bayview Avenue

September 17, 2008

Dr. Philip Sherman (CAG professorship)



Dr. Hillary Steinhart and Dr. David Wong – winner of Louis J. Cole University of Toronto Gastroenterology Faculty Teaching Award 2007-2008

October 22, 2008

Speaker to be announced

November 19, 2008

Dr. Michael Camilleri



Dr. Nicola Jones gave Dr. Aleixo Muise a farewell gift after his training at the Hospital for Sick Children.

December 17, 2008

Drs. J. Heathcote and D. Wong

**Congratulations** to the Recipients of the Research Presentation Awards: **Dr. Paul James** (Best Poster – Clinical); **Dr. Melanie Gareau** (Best Poster – Basic); **Dr. Gideon Hirschfield** (Best Basic Oral by a fellow); **Dr. Aleixo Muise** (Best Basic Oral by a resident); **Dr. Cynthia Seow** (Best Clinical Oral by a fellow); **Dr. Sharif Missiha** (Best Clinical Oral by a resident)

## GRANTS/AWARDS received by the faculty in 2007-2008

### AWARDS

**Dr. Issa Al Qarshoubi** received the *Sopman award* for combining clinical skills with a humanitarian way of treating patients

**Dr. Lawrence Cohen** received the *Ambulatory Teaching Award* from the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

**Dr. Elena Dubcenco**, St. Michael's Hospital, received *Cook Medical Don Wilson Award*. This award provides advanced fellows or junior faculty with the opportunity to train outside of their home country with a premier GI endoscopist or group to advance their training. She also received the *Video Editing Scholarship*. Both awards are from the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

**Dr. Samir Grover** received *Clinical Teaching Award* from St. Michael's hospital

**Dr. Jenny Heathcote** received the *Katherine McCarther visiting Professorship Lectureship* at South Western, Dallas, May 2008 and the *Award for Excellence in Mentorship* from the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto. This award is specifically designed to recognize a faculty member who has served as an outstanding mentor, helping new faculty to develop their professional careers.

**Dr. Norman Marcon** received the *Squires Club Teaching Award (St. Michael's Hospital)* and the *World Organization of Digestive Endoscopy award* for outstanding contributions to international education in endoscopy. He also got accepted to the *Fellowship in AGA*.

**Dr. Linda Rabeneck** was awarded the *distinction of Master of the American College of Gastroenterology*, 72nd Annual Scientific Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, October 15, 2007 and *Honoree*, Colon Cancer Canada Gala of Hope, Toronto, Ontario, October 25, 2007. She was also the recipient of the *Sunnybrook Research Institute (SRI) Merit Award*, June 2008

**Dr. Peter Rossos** received the *Dean's List and Bregman Scholar 2008*, Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto, Executive MBA, and the *Teacher of the Year 2007/2008* from UHN/MSH Department of Medicine. He was also Chair of Medicine/Academic Hospitals Quality and Safety Partners Program September 2007

**Dr. Morris Sherman** received an award from *BC Centers for Disease Control, Hepatitis Services Division*, for outstanding contributions to viral hepatitis in Canada

**Dr. Wael Soliman** received *The Canadian association of study of liver disease (CASL) student award as best clinical research*.

**Dr. Jeff Stall** received the *Pre-Clerkship Education Award* from the Department of Medicine at Women's College Hospital. This award was in recognition of excellence in teaching, educational leadership and education administration at the pre-clerkship level

**Dr. Charlie Wang** received *Levy/Thomson Award* for outstanding poster presentation at GRIT and *CAG Resident Research Training Award*

### NEW GRANTS

**Dr. Johane Allard**

1. Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease vs. Healthy Controls: Differences in Fatty Acid Composition and Gene Expression. \$100,000, 1 yr, Grant # 86922

2. Alba Therapeutics. A Phase IIB, Randomized, Double Blind, Placebo Controlled Study for the treatment of Active Celiac Disease with AT-1001.

**Dr. Ken Croitoru**

1. Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada . Genetic, Environmental and Microbial Etiology of IBD-MJ Howarth GEM Project. \$855,850
2. Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada - Innovations in IBD. Oral Anti-CD3 Antibody Induction of Regulatory Cells as Therapy of Mouse Model of Colitis, \$50,000
3. Canadian Association of Gastroenterology / Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada Summer Student Scholarship. The role of oral tolerance induced regulatory T cells in modulation of T cell induced enteropathy model, \$6,000.

**Dr. Jordan Feld**

1. 2008 Sheila Sherlock Clinical and Translational Research Award in Liver Diseases. Role of Interferon-inducible HCV-Specific microRNAs in Human HCV Infection. \$75,000/yr for 2 years

**Dr. Scott Fung**

1. Industry Grant: Gilead Sciences 2007-2009, HBV Antiviral Resistant Surveillance Study

**Dr. Herbert Gaisano**

1. Rescuing insulin exocytotic defects in type 2 diabetes. Canadian Institute of Health Research. MOP 86544, \$114,294/yr x 5 yrs. 2008-2013
2. Elucidating the susceptibility mechanism of alcoholic pancreatitis: the SNARE mechanisms of pathologic basolateral exocytosis, The U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity, Grant no. W81XWH-07-1-0307, \$US 903,325/4yrs (operating \$626,000) 2007-2011
3. SNARE regulation of cardiac sulfonyleurea receptors, a novel drug target for cardiac ischemia. Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario T-6064. \$99,717/yr x 4 years. 2007-2011
4. FRET analysis of SNARE-K+ channel interactions to reveal their optimal actions on insulin secretion. CIHR: China-Canada Joint Health Research Initiative, grant number FRN 82424. Co-PI: H. Gaisano and Tao Xu (Peking U.), \$30,000/yr + RMB150,000/yr, x 3 years. 2007-2010

**Dr. Gary Levy**

1. Physician's Services Incorporated. Fgl2/Fibroleukin and hepatitis C virus Infection. \$113,000.00/yr. Start: 2008 End: 2010
2. Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. fgl2/FGL2 and xenograft transplantation . \$265,800 Start: 2008 End: 2011
3. CIHR. Training Program in Regenerative Medicine. \$310,500 Start: 2008 End: 2009

**Dr. Harshna Patel** (Dr. Heathcote's resident) awarded a resident research grant by PSI in Sept 2007 for her project on Genotype 3 HCV

**Dr. Linda Rabeneck**

1. American College of Gastroenterology, "New or Missed Colorectal Cancer after Colonoscopy", (PI: L. Rabeneck), 7/1/07-6/30/08, \$147,400 (US).
2. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), "CIHR Team in Population-based Colorectal Cancer Screening", (PI: L. Rabeneck), 10/1/07-9/30/12, \$2,443,467.
3. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), "The Young Adult Survivors of Cancer Study", (PI: N. Baxter, Co-Investigator: L. Rabeneck), 2/1/08-1/31/11, \$413,088.
4. National Cancer Institute of Canada (NCIC), "Improving Gastric Cancer Survival: Development and Measurement of Quality Indicators using the RAND/UCLA Appropriateness Method and Population-based Data Analysis", (PI: N. Coburn, Co-Investigator: L. Rabeneck), 7/1/08-6/30/11, \$552,466

**Dr. Eberhard Renner**

1. MOT Academic Enrichment Fun. Role of SRC-like adapter protein 2 (SLAP-2) in corticosteroid-induced down-regulation of the type I interferon receptor, 2 years, \$50,000/yr.

**Dr. Peter Rossos**

1. Morra, D. (UHN:TGH); Sivjee, K. (SHSC); Quan, S. (UHN); Tsai, O. (SHSC); Wong, B. (SHSC); Wu, R. (UHN:TGH); Abrams, H. (UHN:TGH); Rossos, P. (UHN:TGH). Addressing complex medical care through collaboration: Development of an interdisciplinary communication tool.

**Dr. Mark Silverberg**

1. Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada (CCFC) - \$450,000 (July 2008 - June 2011) Genetic, Serological and Microbial Factors Related to Patterns of Ileal Inflammation. PI: Mark Silverberg
2. Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada (CCFC) - \$450,000 (July 2008 - June 2011). The Role of ATG16L1 in Crohn's disease. PI: Dr. Nicola Jones CI: Mark Silverberg and others
3. National Institutes of Health/NIDDK (U01)- \$US 1,025,000 (September 2007 - August 2012). Identification of Susceptibility Genes and Genotype-Phenotype Studies in IBD. PI: Mark Silverberg
4. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) \$323,105/yr (July 2007 - June 2010) - Team Grant in Arthritis and Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Comparing rheumatoid arthritis and inflammatory bowel disease by serology, gene studies and ethnicity: using commonalities and differences to develop etiologic hypotheses. PI: Dr. Charles Bernstein CI: Dr. Mark Silverberg and others
5. Procter and Gamble Grant. Characteristics of Inflammatory Bowel Disease in South Asians born in North America and India. \$12,000