



## Strategic Planning Retreat: Save May 1st, 2008!

The GI Retreat is planned for May 1st, 2008, starting at 14:00 at the Vaughan Estate. Dr. Allard is completing her meetings with the GI Faculty. In addition, a survey will be sent soon to seek further input. With the survey, you will receive the current strategic plan for the Department of Medicine and for the Division of Gastroenterology. **Please send, in November, your updated CV to [johane.allard@uhn.on.ca](mailto:johane.allard@uhn.on.ca).** Dr. Allard will also prepare an overview of the current state of Research and Education in the Division. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

## Welcome to our new recruits:

**Dr. Elaine Yong** joined Sunnybrook Health Sciences Center (SHSC) in July as Clinician-Teacher and Assistant Professor. Dr. Yong trained in GI at the University of Toronto, completed a fellowship in therapeutic endoscopy at St-Michael's Hospital, did one year as clinical associate in GI at SHSC and then another fellowship at Johns Hopkins Hospital, to learn endoscopic ultrasound (EUS). Dr. Yong is completing her Master Teacher program and is providing GI teaching and services in advanced endoscopic procedures and EUS at SHSC.

**Dr. Geoff Nguyen** joined Mt-Sinai Hospital in August as Clinician-Scientist and Assistant-Professor. Dr. Nguyen trained in GI at Johns Hopkins University where he completed a PhD in Clinical Epidemiology. He recently received an AGA Research Scholar Award and a NIDDK/NIH grant to explore Racial disparities in inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). One of his plans is to study IBD in the area of health services and health outcomes using ICES.

**Dr. Eberhard Renner** joined the Toronto General Hospital in September as Clinician-Investigator and Professor. Dr. Renner trained in Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Clinical Pharmacology in Switzerland.

He was the head of Hepatology at the University Hospital in Zurich. In 2004, he moved to the University of Manitoba as director of the liver transplant program. He received European and provincial funding in the area of viral hepatitis. He is now the new Director of GI Transplantation at UHN and will be responsible for their clinical, educational and surgical activities.

**Dr. Ken Croitoru** joined Mt-Sinai Hospital in November as Clinician-Scientist and Professor. Dr. Croitoru trained in GI at McGill University. After a fellowship in IBD and Immunology at McMaster, he was hired there on staff as clinician scientist. He just received a large grant from CCFC, the GEM Project (Genetic, Environmental and Microbial factors causing IBD) which will recruit 5000 healthy subjects at high risk for developing Crohn's Disease and follow them for 6 years. Dr. Croitoru also has CCFC and CIHR grants for studies on the induction and regulation of colitis, including the role of IL-10. His laboratory will be at the Medical Sciences Building and he will join the newly formed GI Research Group.

## U of T Gut Club: November 21, 2007

Do not miss **Dr. Karen Madsen**, Ph.D, Associate professor Division of Gastroenterology, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

**Title: Probiotics in GI Diseases**

For more information please visit [www.utorontogi.ca](http://www.utorontogi.ca)

## GI Research Day: Save June 18, 2008 on your calendar!

Details will be sent and posted at [www.utorontogi.ca](http://www.utorontogi.ca) early 2008.