



IDCCM Newsletter

Summer 2024

Department News, Academic Events
Awards, Grants, & Recognition
Publications & many more...



Interdepartmental
Division of Critical
Care Medicine



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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear colleagues,

I hope you are all still enjoying the summer.

This Summer Newsletter 2024 is close to the end of my 11th year in IDCCM. I feel so privileged and I am really proud to be part of this incredibly rich, creative, welcoming and dynamic group. We train the best critical care doctors and participate to a wide spreading of our science and knowledge through our international fellows. Because so many of our trainees are prolonging their training after the end of the 2-year training mandated by the Royal College (as a minimal requirement), we are working at securing a third-year advanced critical care fellowship. Our research is leading the world in many aspects of critical care. Everyone participating directly or indirectly to IDCCM is really contributing to a very important mission for the short-term and long-term future of critical care, for our patients, here and elsewhere. Thank you all for this.

An external review of the Division will be performed in October and both Carolyn Calfee and Sean Bagshaw have accepted to perform this important task. I am really glad that they accepted to spend the time and energy needed to do it. The Division has grown considerably and I sometimes feel we need a better recognition from our Institutions to be recognized as an extremely strong academic Division. A strategic vision from the University of Toronto is needed.

It is also the end of the full-time contribution of Fahima, who has been preparing these Newsletters for many years and has definitely added her personal touch and positive commitment to this document as well as to many more things in our Division. I am really grateful for her contribution over the years and I know many of you are too. She will continue to help us intermittently for some time and I want to really thank her for being such a great member of IDCCM!

It was good to see so many of you at our Pub night and at the Art Slutsky Day (and seeing Art too!). You will find nice memories of these events.

Enjoy reading it!

Laurent Brochard, MD

Division Director, Interdepartmental Division of Critical Care Medicine

IDCCM Awards/Announcements.



Dr. Warren Lee was awarded the 2024 Physician Scientist Lectureship at the Canadian Lipid and Vascular Summit to be held in September 2024.

Dr. Irene Telias received 2024-Siminovitch-Salter Award. This award was established in 1995 to honour the contributions of Dr. Lou Siminovitch and Dr. Robert Salter, eminent researchers, founders, and mentors to the Institute of Medical Science. It is presented annually at [IMS Scientific Day](#) to a recently graduated PhD student who has made outstanding scholarly contributions during their program.



Dr. Laveena Munshi was recently notified as the recipient of the Anzics 2024 Global Rising Star Award. The Intensive Care Global Rising Star Programme aims to identify promising and innovative young clinician/scientists.

Dr. Shelley Dev received the 2024 W. T. Aikins Award for Excellence in Individual Teaching Performance – Foundations Temerty Faculty of Medicine
The W. T. Aikins Awards are named after Dr. W.T. Aikins, the first Dean of the University of Toronto, Temerty Faculty of Medicine after it was reorganized in 1887. These awards are the Faculty's most prestigious awards for sustained commitment to and excellence in undergraduate teaching.





Dr. Laurent Brochard received the IMS Faculty Recognition Award for Exceptional mentorship.

In 2022 the IMS established the Faculty Recognition Awards to recognize faculty members who have made significant contributions to the IMS, within a 5-year term. These awards recognize contributions in the categories of Mentorship, Citizenship and Teaching. The categories have been divided into two levels: exceptional and strong, according to the faculty members' IMS activity.



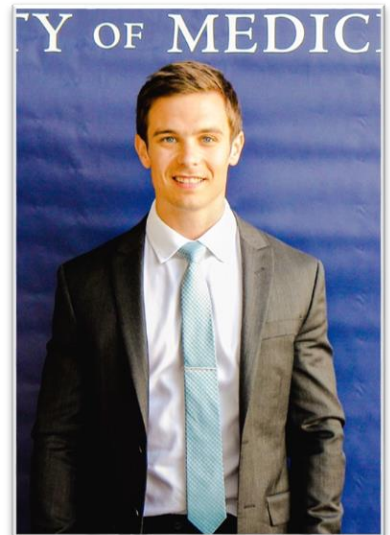
Dr. Karen Burns was the CCCTG Deborah Cook Mentorship Award Recipient for 2023!

The Canadian Critical Care Trials Group (CCCTG) Deborah J. Cook Mentorship Awards are given out to emphasize the importance of mentors in developing Canada's next generation of critical care researchers. The Deborah J. Cook Mentorship Awards honour persons who have made exceptional contributions to the promotion of critical care research among Canadian fellows, graduate and postgraduate students, young investigators, research coordinators and allied health care providers. All award recipients share their passion for research and their scientific know-how with today's youth who will be tomorrow's innovators!

New Faculty

Dr. Francois Mathieu will join St. Mikes as an Assistant Professor, officially starting in September 2024. His academic appointment will be as clinician-investigator in the Department of Surgery, Division of Neurosurgery with a cross-appointment in the Interdepartmental Division of Critical Care.

François completed his neurosurgery training (2021) at the University of Toronto, followed by a clinical fellowship in critical care medicine (2023). He spent one year completing a master's in clinical neurosciences under the supervision of Professor David Menon at the University of Cambridge (2018-19), focusing on developing computer vision methods to analyze the vast amount of neuroimaging data gathered as part of the CENTER-TBI study. He returned to Addenbrooke's Hospital in 2023 to acquire additional expertise in multimodal neuromonitoring in patients with an acute brain injury, before joining the St-Michael's Hospital critical care team. His research interests include the use of advanced neuroimaging and neuromonitoring to individualize prognostication and therapies in traumatic brain injury.



Congratulations to everyone!

IDCCM: SAVE THE DATE

Kavanagh Physiology Rounds

September 17
October 29
November 12
December 10

Visiting Professor Round

September 24
Nov 12 (Combine KPR and VP round)

We are extremely grateful to all the faculty who donated their time and expertise to Abstract Judging and Poster Moderation! Sincere Thanks!!

Dr. Haibo Zhang

Dr. John Granton

Dr. Geeta Mehta

Dr. Nava Maham

Dr. Dominique Piquette

Dr. Gordon Rubinfeld

Dr. Kali Barrett

Dr. Warren Lee

Dr. Neill Adhikari

Dr. Mike Sklar

Dr. Andrew Helmers

Dr. Jenna Spring

Dr. Jeff Singh

Dr. Laura Dragoi

Dr. Jane Batt

Dr. Haifa Mtaweh

Dr. Ewan Goligher

Dr. Cam Landry

Dr. Ian Randall

Dr. Brian Cuthbertson

Dr. Mika Hamilton

Dr. Chris Yarnell

Dr. Irene Telias

Dr. Mayson Sousa

Dr. Briseida Mema

Dr. Sabri Soussi

Dr. Elaine Gilfoyle

Dr. Dino Alexopoulos.

Oral Presentation Judges: Dr. Laurent Brochard, Dr. Margaret Herridge, Dr. Elaine Gilfoyle, Dr. Carolyn Calfee.

Heartfelt thanks to all those who worked so hard to make this year's Art Slutsky Day so memorable! I would like to extend a very special note of sincere appreciation to Fahima Nasreen for her incredible help, energy and commitment to our group!! Fahima will be leaving us to pursue another opportunity and we are so grateful to her for 7 wonderful years with us!

We look forward to seeing you all at the Mill St. Brew Pub night and the AS Day in June 2025!!!



Group Photo from Art Slutsky Day 2024

Margaret Herridge
Director of Research
Interdepartmental Division of Critical Care Medicine



Adult CCM Education News

It was fantastic to see everyone at Art Slutsky Day and the year-end social event!

Congratulations to our graduating residents and fellows, and a huge thank you to our outgoing Chief Resident and Chief Fellow, **Jacob Michie** and **Varsha Venkataraman**, for their hard work and excellent leadership over the past year. We wish all our graduates the best in their future careers and hope you will stay in touch with us in Toronto!

Graduating Royal College Residents: Ryan Adessky, Abdullah Alalaiyan, Robert Jackson, Jesse May, Jacob Michie, Joshua Mehta, Rochelle Melvin, and Shahmir Sohail.

Graduating Fellows:

- **Unity Health:** Abdul Aziz Hamid Abdullah Al Balushi, Ashish Shrestha, Finot Debebe Yayehyirad, Khaloud Khamis Ahmed Al Sha'aibi, Wisarut Bunchit, Luis Felipe Jurado-Camacho, Nuno Filipe Mourao Carvalho, Salem Shaya S Alwadani, Shreyas Laxman Bhor, Abobakr Al-Amoodi.
- **UHN/SHS:** Federico Carini, Lucia Perez, Albaraa Mohammed, Lisa Bergauer, Mary Claire Orden, Carla Barbon, Laura Dragoi.
- **Sunnybrook:** Sarah Coke, Natalia Angeloni, Jutamas Saoraya, Varinder Randhawa, Hirotada Kobayashi, Santiago Ruiz Espinosa, Sumawadee Boonyasurak, Liran Shechtman, Rosalie Brochu.

We would also like to recognize our annual award winners announced at Art Slutsky Day. Congratulations!

Site Teaching Awards:

- Community: Vatsal Trivedi (THP) and Martin Betts (SHN)
- MSH: Bruno Ferreyro
- SHSC: Shelly Dev
- Sick Kids: Alejandro Floh
- SMH: Nava Maham
- TGH: Ghislaine Doufle
- TWH: Alyssa Louis

John Granton Award: Alberto Goffi

Margaret Herridge Award: Karen Burns

Simon Abrahamson Award: Ryan Adessky

John Laffey Award: Antenor Rodrigues

Brian Kavanagh Award: Taneille Johnson

Afrothite Kotsakis Award: Terry Kong Kam Wa





Some Photos from the awards presentation, Art Slutsky Research Day 2024

This also marks the start of a new academic year and a chance to welcome many new trainees joining us from across the country and around the world. We hope you have an excellent training experience here and look forward to working with you!

Upcoming Program Events and Initiatives

The next CaRMS application period is right around the corner. If you can help with the file review in late August or the interview day on September 11th, please email Simon Chung at adultccmcoordinator@unityhealth.to.

The database of projects across the IDCCM was a big success last year. If you have a project for the 2024-25 academic year that trainees could get involved in, please [fill out our survey](#). This can be research, education, or QI.

Have a wonderful summer, everyone!

Jenna Spring, MD
Program Director, Adult Critical Care Medicine

SickKids Pediatric Critical Care Medicine

STAFF NEWS

A huge congratulations to our Program Director **Dr. Briseida Mema** who has recently been promoted to full professor at the University of Toronto Temerty Faculty of Medicine in the Department of Paediatrics. This is well deserved recognition of her international impact on education in Pediatric Critical Care Medicine.

In January 2024, **Dr. Christina Maratta** left the SickKids PICU to embark on new faculty position in the PICU at Montreal Children's Hospital.

Dr. Nicole McKinnon (PICU) was the recipient of an IMPaCT (Increasing capacity for Maternal and Pediatric Clinical Trials) Early Career Investigator salary award from the Canadian Institute of Health Research Clinical Trials Fund (\$70K x1year).

Dr. Melany Gaetani (PICU) was awarded a prestigious 3-year CIHR Doctoral Award to support her PhD studies. SickKids CCCU faculty Dr. Luciana Rodriguez-Guerineau welcomed a new baby boy in January 2024. Congratulations to Luciana and her growing family!

PCCM ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Sam Shemie (Montreal Children's Hospital) was presented with the prestigious Transplant Quebec lifetime achievement award, recognizing the contribution of a medical professional in the field of organ donation and transplantation for at least 10 years.

Dr. Jackie Ong was announced as the upcoming WFPICCS President.



PICU FOLLOW UP CLINIC

In February, the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) Follow-up Clinic debuted at SickKids, enabling the extension of care to PICU outpatients and families who need it most after they are cleared to return home.

PCCM RESEARCH UPDATES

Breathing New Life: Upgrading the SensorMedics 3100A High

Frequency Oscillatory Ventilator. BME students: Tesnime Hidjir, Olivia Iannotta, Molly Long, Matthew Volpatti, Kelly Wang;

PICU Faculty: Dr. Melany Gaetani and Dr. Haifa Mtaweh. Project Supervisors: Professor Caitlin Maikawa and Nhien Tran-Nguyen

Dr. Melany Gaetani & Dr. Haifa Mtaweh share: "Despite the ongoing usefulness and necessity of the SensorMedics high-frequency oscillatory ventilator – 3100A in pediatric critical care, it has been decommissioned by the company without a suitable alternative. Furthermore, there is no available manufacturer or repair/maintenance system currently in place to prolong the life of this technology in the ICU. Collaborating



Dr. Haifa Mtaweh



with biomedical engineering students at University of Toronto for their capstone project we were able to create a comprehensive design aimed to enhance the sensors, electrical control and display system, and knobs, while tackling the challenges related to expiratory limb condensation and active expiration utilizing commonly available products in the market. Next steps require testing of the replacement parts and new changes in a simulated fashion to ensure safety, prior to bedside use.”

Dr. Melany Gaetani

Pediatric Neurocritical Care Research Group (PNCRG)

The PNCRG is a collective of healthcare professionals invested in the growth and development of the field of Pediatric Neurocritical Care. Our Neurocritical Care trainee, Dr. Ellery Cunan is the head of the Trainee and Junior Faculty Group. He would be glad to be a contact for anyone who has any questions or wants to get involved. His email beyond June is ellery.cunan@medportal.ca.

For more information, visit the PNCRG website here: <https://www.pncrg.org>

PCCM SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY SHOWCASE

On May 28, 2024 we had our 5th annual scholarly showcase where our trainees presented their scholarly work that they’ve accomplished so far. We had five faculty and interprofessional staff members judge their work and presentations, and three awards were given:

The Excellence Award - Dr. Oliver Venettacci for “A review of paediatric bathtub drownings in Ontario”. This is awarded to the best overall completed project”

The Innovative Award – Dr. Taneille Johnson for “Characterization of Canadian PICU Infrastructure Design and Renovations: A National Cross-sectional Study”. This is awarded to an interesting project that hasn’t been done before.

The Most Promising Award – Dr. Michael Kim for “Virtual reality simulation for congenital heart surgery families to recognize cardiac compromise”. This is awarded to a project that has strong feasibility for completion.

Congratulations to all our winners!



WFPICCS

Some of our Critical Care faculty, fellows, and alumni met in Cancun, Mexico for the 12th Congress of the World Federation of Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care Societies from June 1-5, 2024.

We had our PICU faculty Dr. Barney Scholefield presenting on “When is it valid to start neuroprognostication after pediatric Traumatic Brain Injury”, as well as running two workshops: *PICU Liberation Workshop* and *Meet the Expert Masterclass – PICU Management of TBI and Cardiac Arrest*.

Our current PCCM Resident, Dr. Taneille Johnson also had a presentation on “*Characterization of Canadian PICU Infrastructure Design and Renovations: A National Cross-Sectional Study*”.

Many of our other faculty, fellows, and interprofessional staff members had posters they presented – congratulations to everyone!



To end the event, there was a SickKids alumni dinner where everyone got to get together and have some fun!

MEDICAL HUMANITIES

The Medical Humanities curriculum encourages participants to strengthen their appreciation for the humanistic aspects of medicine, led by Dr. Briseida Mema. We’ve had two more Medical Humanities nights in 2024. We had one on “Creativity” encouraging anyone with a hidden or known talent to share it with everyone, or just come if you want to discover their colleague’s talents. The last one of the year had the theme of “Transitions”. As some fellows leave to continue their training or start their staff careers, and new fellows are being welcomed into our family. They were invited to share your thoughts about this period of transition.

END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

As our end of year approaches, we’d like to congratulate our graduating trainees! It is always a time of mixed emotions – sad to say goodbye but so excited for the next chapter in their journeys! We had our certificate ceremony on Monday and our end of year Fellow’s Farewell dinner on Tuesday. A few more events to say goodbye, and then we start welcoming our new trainees!



The Interdepartmental Centre for Critical Care at University Health Network and Sinai Health System

The University Health Network (UHN) and Sinai Health System (SHS) include five critical care units. One is located at Mount Sinai Hospital. One is at Toronto Western Hospital (TWH), the medical surgical neuro-intensive care unit (MSNICU). Three are located at Toronto General Hospital (TGH): the medical surgical intensive care unit (MSICU); the cardiovascular intensive care unit (CVICU); and the coronary intensive care unit (CICU).

In the last portion of his 14-year term as Head of Critical Care for UHN and SHS, Dr. Niall Ferguson worked with Institutional leadership to develop the Interdepartmental Centre for Critical Care (ICCC). The ICCC was established in 2023, bringing all critical care units together with a structure and goal to achieve excellence in delivering high quality and safe critical care, leading innovative research, and training the next generations of critical care health professionals. There is strong multidisciplinary representation at the levels of individual units, ICCC and executive leadership. Of note, the ICCC is not a division and members of the ICCC retain their divisional/departmental affiliation aligned with their specialty.

Each critical care unit has a Medical Director. Currently, these roles are held by Dr. Christie Lee at SHS ICU; Dr. Andrew Steel at TWH MSNICU; Dr. Niall Ferguson (interim) at TGH MSICU; Dr. Jane Heggie at TGH CVICU; and Dr. Adriana Luk at TGH CICU. The critical care units Medical Directors work with the Head of the ICCC, the relevant Program Medical Directors and Department/Division Heads on patient care, strategy, operations, finance, research, education, teaching and professionalism.

The Head of the ICCC collaborates closely with the Surgeon in Chief, Physicians in Chief, Anesthesiologist in Chief, Clinical, Executive Leadership and Professional Practice Leadership to advance the priorities of critical care.

The faculty physicians in the ICCC are an exceptional group of committed clinical and academic experts. We look forward to the increased opportunities for collaboration, growth and excellence that the ICCC offers.

Matteo Parotto, MD
Head, ICCC UHN SHS

Grants received : CIHR – Spring 2024 competition

Congratulations to:

- Protective Mechanical Ventilation during Acute Lung Injury Targeting Lungs, Circulation, Diaphragm and Brain - Preclinical experiments. Can\$ 1055700
Brochard, Laurent J; Post, Martin
- Positive End-Expiratory Pressure during Extracorporeal Life Support for Acute Hypoxemic Respiratory Failure: the PEEP in ECLS Randomized Clinical Trial. Can\$ 455793
Del Sorbo, Lorenzo; Brochard, Laurent J; Goligher, Ewan C; Greendyk, Richard A; Sklar, Michael C

Introducing the 2024-2026 H. Barrie Fairley Scholars

It's my pleasure to provide an update on the H. Barrie Fairley Professorship for 2024-2026. This Professorship exists out of the generosity of Dr. Barrie Fairley. Barrie joined the Toronto General Hospital Anesthesia Department from London, England in 1955. He was subsequently professor and vice-chair at the University of California in San Francisco, and then chair of the department at Stanford University. He was the first director of the Toronto General Hospital Respiratory (Care) Unit in 1958. He initiated clinical blood gas measurement, the hospital's code blue team, the region's first critical care transports, and hyperbaric medicine. In 2019, Dr. Fairley endowed the H. Barrie Fairley Professorship - the first within University of Toronto Interdepartmental Division of Critical Care Medicine - in collaboration with the University Health Network and the Toronto General and Toronto Western Hospital Foundation.



As the inaugural Professorship holder, we have been able to establish a biannual competition for unrestricted operating grants to three early career researchers in the University of Toronto Interdepartmental Division of Critical Care Medicine, designated as H. Barrie Fairley Scholars. The first Fairley Scholars for 2022 and 2023 were Drs. Laveena Munshi, Victoria McCredie and Lorenzo Del Sorbo.

It is a pleasure to announce the next four Fairley Scholars: **Drs. Irene Telias, Bruno Ferreyro, Federico Angriman and Michael Sklar!**

Dr. Irene Telias

Dr Telias is an Assistant Professor in the Interdepartmental Division of Critical Care Medicine in the University of Toronto and a Clinician Scientist-Staff Intensivist at Toronto Western Hospital MSNICU. She trained as an Internist and Intensivist in the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina and continued her clinical training and academic career in Critical Care Medicine at the University Health Network and St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto.



She undertook her doctoral studies at the Institute of Medical Sciences at the University of Toronto under the supervision of Dr. Laurent Brochard. Her research program is focused on understanding the determinants, physiological, and clinical consequences of abnormal patient-ventilator interactions and sleep physiology during acute respiratory failure and developing innovative monitoring tools, ventilation, and sedation strategies to achieve lung, diaphragm, and brain protection. Her doctoral studies were supported by a CIHR-Fellowship Award and she has been the recipient of 8 competitive operational grants.

Irene's research program will focus upon the susceptibility for entrainment and role of ventilator settings on the occurrence of reverse triggering and its physiological consequences. By studying patients on mechanical ventilation with either primary central nervous system conditions, bilateral lung transplants, or acute hypoxemic respiratory failure otherwise, she will identify the ventilator settings and patient's characteristics that determine susceptibility to entrainment and occurrence and characteristics of reverse triggering; and, the physiological and biological short terms consequences of reverse triggering. She anticipates that the results will help to design ventilation and sedation strategies that will be tested in randomized clinical trials.

Dr. Bruno Ferreyro

Dr. Bruno Ferreyro is an Assistant Professor in the Interdepartmental Division of Critical Care Medicine and an Intensivist at Sinai Health System. He is originally from Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he completed medical school and Internal Medicine training. He trained in Critical Care Medicine in Toronto where he also obtained a PhD in Clinical Epidemiology. His clinical and research interests include acute respiratory failure, noninvasive respiratory support and critical illness in immunocompromised patients.



Dr. Ferreyro's focus will be on Critical Illness in Patients Receiving Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-Cell Therapy which has emerged over the last decade as a promising and innovative approach for patients with cancer. However, patients face a high risk of developing critical illness due to sepsis, cytokine release syndrome (CRS) and immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome (ICANS). Through a series of population- and hospital-based cohort studies, Bruno's Objectives will be to describe the incidence, predictors, and timing of critical illness in patients receiving CAR T-cell therapy; to describe in-hospital mortality, one-year mortality and patient reported symptoms in CAR T-cell recipients who develop critical illness; and, to characterize the clinical and biological patterns of the most frequent complications following CAR T-cell therapy: CRS, ICANS and sepsis. This project will provide insights into the incidence, mechanisms, predictors, and outcomes of critical illness following CAR T-cell therapy. The characterization of biologic features of CAR T-cell complications will not only help in the differential diagnosis, but also help identify potential biological targets for treatment.

Dr. Federico Angriman

Federico is a clinician scientist and an attending physician in adult critical care medicine at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Toronto. He received his medical degree in 2008 from the University of Buenos Aires and subsequently specialized in internal medicine. He holds a Master's degree in Quantitative Methods from Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, and a PhD in Clinical Epidemiology from Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto.



His current research interests are focused on long term outcomes in critical care survivors, acute respiratory failure, and pharmacoepidemiology. Using population health databases in Canada and the United States, Dr. Angriman's Fairley Scholar project will focus on traumatic brain injury. He will determine whether the use of different antiepileptic agents reduces the risk of short-term adverse outcomes in adult patients with traumatic brain injury; and, whether the use of different antiepileptic agents within 30 days of hospital discharge reduces the risk of long-term outcomes in adults with traumatic brain injury. This research program may inform the rational design of randomized controlled trials by estimating treatment effects for comparisons that do not currently have head-to-head information.

Dr. Michael Sklar

Dr. Sklar is an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care at the University of Toronto. His clinical and graduate training was completed at the University of Toronto. His clinical and research interests are in the care of patients with acute respiratory failure, to understand how to optimize the delivery of support before mechanical ventilation, during mechanical ventilation and acute respiratory failure, and then how to efficiently liberate patients from ventilator support.



For his Fairley Scholar's project, his team will aim to define the burden of airway collapse in patients receiving extracorporeal life support for respiratory failure and use this as a possible strategy for setting pressures on the ventilator to more efficiently support lung recovery. He will describe the prevalence of complete airway closure in patients with acute hypoxemic respiratory failure on VV-ECMO on the first day of cannulation for VV-ECMO support and its association with outcome. This will lead to guidance on the optimal ventilator management of patients supported by VV-ECMO.

Dr. Rob Fowler

Professor, Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

A Year in the Shoes of a Chief Resident

We often reflect on whether a glass is half empty or half full. Not this time. The 2024/25 academic year was full to the brim and even overflowing.

Serving as the chief resident in the adult critical care residency program has been a privilege, thanks to a truly wonderful leadership team now headed by Jenna Spring. In her new role as program director, Jenna has led with utmost ease, professionalism, and empathy. And, put simply, Simon Chung is the best program coordinator one could hope for. Together, we have steadily addressed issues in the program to enhance the learner experience with exciting initiatives. The career mentorship program is benefitting from the expertise of ICU physicians across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) as we strengthen community ties. New elective experiences are being added with enhanced exposure to critical care ultrasound, thanks to Alberto Goffi and his team. Beautiful new sweaters will arrive (keep your fingers crossed for this one...), and all of this is showcased on a new critical care medicine website that is in the works. As you can imagine, learning critical care medicine in two years is a monumental task. Balancing various priorities in the chief resident role has been a challenge, hence the 'full to the brim and overflowing' feeling. This experience has given me an appreciation for the amazing work done by physicians, trainees, and staff in our division. I sometimes wonder whether people have access to a time machine that I am not aware of. I am very grateful for the opportunities afforded to me in this role and hope to continue working with the program in the future.



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Dr. Jacob Michie

Fellow, IDCCM
University of Toronto

Looking ahead

My name is Matthew Zoghby and I'm an emergency physician from South Africa. I am married with 3 beautiful girls, the youngest being 6 weeks old! I have been in Canada for just over a year as a Sunnybrook international fellow. The initial adjustment can be quite daunting but when working with colleagues from around the world and supportive staff, the transition is definitely easier.

Fellows form a massive work force in Toronto. The position of chief fellow serves as an opportunity to strengthen relations between the University of Toronto and international fellows as well as connect fellows across other disciplines.

I look forward to a year of further growth and being the voice for international fellows at the Interdepartmental Division of Critical Care Medicine.



Dr. Matthew Zoghby
Fellow, IDCCM
University of Toronto

Reflecting on One Year in Toronto



I am incredibly honoured to have been selected as the Chief Resident for the University of Toronto Critical Care program. For those that don't know me, my name is Andrew Kochan. I'm at the end of the first year of my critical care fellowship at the University of Toronto. Prior to starting my critical care fellowship, I trained in internal medicine and cardiology at the University of British Columbia. During this past year it has been an absolute pleasure to be a member of the IDCCM. Several things have stood out as highlights for me. The teaching provided by the faculty and my co-fellows has been exceptional. The quality of the research department members are doing is inspiring, particularly highlighted by the presentations at CCCF this past December. And above all the number of interesting cases and world class level of patient care that I have encountered across all the IDCCM sites has been a privilege to participate in. I am struck by the global nature of our program – getting to work with staff physicians and co-fellows from across the globe has been a fantastic experience. I look forward to what the second and final year of my fellowship has in store for me and am excited to play a larger role in the department moving forward.

Dr. Andrew Kochan
Fellow, IDCCM
University of Toronto

See you at Sneaky Dee's

Searching for growth, I moved to Toronto in September 2020, after almost two years as Intensive Care staff physician working locums in a University Hospital and in a small post-operative care clinic in Madrid. Almost 4 years later, this adventure has come to an end, and I can say that I have certainly done what I came for.

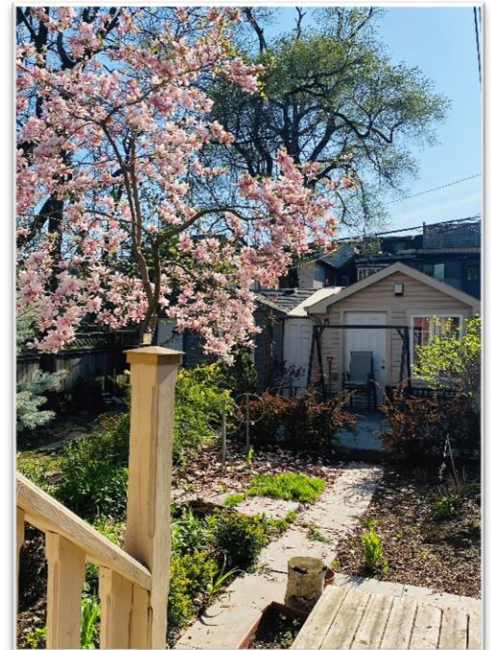
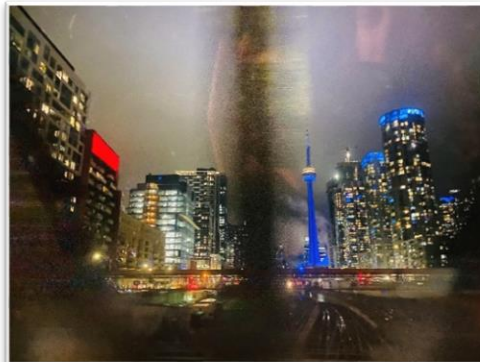
I read somewhere: *"when the student is ready, the teacher appears"*.

And now, I know that Sunnybrook made me ready, I would have never been ready without them, and then, I found my teachers.

I found them at TGH, they know who they are, the ones who gave me the opportunity to do this "something else" I came searching for.

Now a new adventure is awaiting somewhere I don't know yet.

"Success might start from contradiction,
the contradiction of losing everything to win yourself.
Because sometimes, you don't win, but you do.
Sometimes you lose and you are right.
Sometimes you get nothing, but you find it all"



Picture taken by Lucía Pérez (IDCCM international fellow)

Lucía Pérez
International fellow, IDCCM
University of Toronto

High-Impact IDCCM PUBLICATIONS (Jan-June 2024)

[Stress Ulcer Prophylaxis during Invasive Mechanical Ventilation.](#)

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"Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known."



Editor Dr. Laurent Brochard



Designed and prepared by Fahima Nasreen

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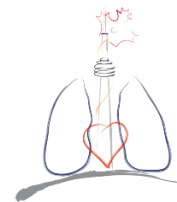
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Thank you everyone. Stay safe and take care!