This is a time of change. Change forced by the fact that the current way of serving our patients is not sustainable. We need to change how we do business, if we want to fulfill our mandate in the years to come and also serve the coming generations of patients. You all know that WRHA must balance its budget for this fiscal year. In addition, a profound consolidation of acute care in the city has been announced by the Minister of Health and WRHA on April 7 (for updates see http://healingourhealthsystem.ca/).

There is also change at the university side: a new model of budgeting/financing has been introduced, this fiscal year is still parallel with the old model, but to take over entirely in the next fiscal year.

When faced with changes in the environment that are so profound as the ones mentioned above, one has to step back and ask what is the core business one absolutely has to fulfill, what is nice to have but not essential, and what can be done by somebody else. Or as Steve Jobs once put it, “deciding what not to do is as important as deciding what to do”. More is not necessarily better; in fact, less is usually more, and doing everything definitely not an option.

It is absolutely clear that the overall funding envelope for our Department and WRHA program will likely contract, at best remain stable in the mid-term future, i.e. funding will shrink at least on an inflation corrected basis.

The core areas of an academic Department of Internal Medicine include providing tertiary patient care, train the next generation of (academic) physicians, and advance the field through research and innovation. To be able to accomplish this in the current environment, we will not only need to find efficiencies, but will have to learn to live without all the nice-to-haves that are not absolutely essential.

Doing so, we need to pursue what is best for the greater good, and refrain from fighting tooth and nail for our pet projects, as difficult as it may be. If we do this, all together as a team, we will not only weather the storm, but stay successful as a Department!
Dr. Allan Garland, PI and Dr. Clare Ramsey, co-investigator for “Improving Advanced Care Planning in the Frail Elderly in Long-term Care” - April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2020 from the Canadian Frailty Network, one of the National Centres of Excellence. The grant for Dr. Garland and Dr. Ramsey’s part of the grant is $808,555.00.

This grant is a portion of a larger grant titled: Better tArgetting, Better outcomes for frail ELderly patients (BABEL).

Diagnostic Services Manitoba Operating Grant 2017. Title: Scleraxis as a biomarker for cardiac fibrosis in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

PI: Davinder S. Jassal (Section of Cardiology, Department of Internal Medicine).

Co-applicants: Dr. Iain Kirkpatrick (Department of Radiology) and Dr. Michael Czubryt (Department of Physiology and Pathophysiology)

Congratulations are extended to Dr. Shuangbo Liu (PGY-6 Adult Cardiology resident) Recipient of the 2017 Sanofi Canada/Heart & Stroke Foundation Award in Cardiology for excellence in research and scholarly activity in the discipline of Adult Cardiology at the University of Manitoba.
Department of Internal Medicine Postgraduate Education Program

Resident Research Day - April 25, 2017

Resident Research Day provided our residents, both core and subspecialty, with a unique opportunity to present and showcase their research or scholarly case reports to a supportive audience of residents, faculty, and hospital staff.

Research Day started off with our Keynote Speaker and guest judge, Dr. Christopher Ryerson, Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia, presentation entitled: “Educating Patients and Healthcare Providers on Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis: Navigating A Sea of Information.”

Over the Noon hour, Dr. Justin Cloutier presented the best published paper derived from the 2015 Resident Research Day titled “Upper Versus Lower Endoscopy in the Diagnosis of Graft-Versus-Host Disease.

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to the faculty supervisors who have provided ongoing guidance, encouragement and support to our residents with their research projects and to this year’s judges:

Dr. Hani El-Gabalawy and Dr. Marshall Pitz - podium presentation judges

Dr. Francisco Cordova, Dr. Catherine Moltzan, and Dr. Claudio Rigatto - poster presentation judges

Dr. Donald Houston, Dr. David Robinson and Dr. David Rush - ‘Best Published Paper’ judges

May 2nd Grand Rounds Presentations:

The top award recipients will be presenting at the 8 - 9 am Internal Medicine Grand Rounds on May 2nd in Theatre B.

If at all possible, try to attend to show your support and encouragement for the next generation of emerging clinician-scientists!

Please see the following page for the list of this year’s Resident Research Award Recipients.
Podium Presentations

Clinical Investigation by Core Resident

1st prize: Jessica Klassen, MD “Early Prediction of Post-Cardiac Surgery Acute Kidney Injury Using Markers of Iron Sequestration”

Supervisor: Julie Ho, MD

2nd prize: James Stone, MD “The Use of Capsule Endoscopy for Diagnosis of Iron Deficiency Anemia - A Retrospective Analysis”

Supervisor: Charles Bernstein, MD

3rd prize: Evan Elias, MD “Elevated Serum IgA Level in Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease is Associated with Advanced Disease but not with more Rapid Progression”

Supervisor: Gerald Minuk, MD

Emy Ozamoto Resident Research Award for Quality Improvement

Award Recipient: Rachel Fainstein, MD “Discharge Summary Quality Improvement Project”

Supervisor: Nick Hajidiacos, MD

Poster Presentations

Clinical Investigation by Core Resident

1st prize: Brittany Perija, MD “Acquired Hemophilia: A Population Based Study of Incidence, Hemorrhage and Treatment Outcomes in Manitoba”

Supervisor: Ryan Zarychanski, MD

2nd prize: Anas Merdad, MD “Medical Trainees Perspectives on End-Of-Life Care Discussions”

Supervisor: Malek Kass, MD

3rd prize: Chris Parr, MD “Do Risk of Paradoical Embolism Scores Correspond to Treatment Strategies in Patients with Patent Foramen Ovale and Stroke?”

Supervisor: Malek Kass, MD

Clinical Investigation by Sub-Specialty Resident

1st prize: Jamie Shaw, MD “FRAX® Predicts Fracture Risk in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease”

Supervisor: Navdeep Tangri, MD

Case Report by Core Resident

1st prize: Jeff Wheeler, MD “Acquired Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis Leading to Severe Multi-Organ Failure”

Supervisor: Catherine Moltzan, MD

2nd prize: Greg Schmidt, MD “Oral-Facial Dyskensias Associated with NMDA Receptor Encephalopathy”

Supervisor: Marcus Blouw, MD

Best published paper derived from the 2015 Resident Research Day:

“Upper Versus Lower Endoscopy in the Diagnosis of Graft-Versus-Host Disease” Dr. Justin Cloutier, Donna A. Wall, MD, Kristjan Paulson, MD, and Charles N. Bernstein, MD Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology Volume 00, Number 00, 2016
Dale Gustafson, Managing Director, would like to inform you of upcoming administrative support changes:

Mona Remillard, who has been with the department for five years, has decided to retire. Her last day with the department will be May 11th. We would like to thank Mona for her tremendous support and wish her well.

Effective May 1st

Maureen Eyolfson, Senior Research Account will focus solely on all research funds (University of Manitoba, Health Sciences Centre, St. Boniface Hospital, and others, as necessary)

Maureen can be reached at:
Telephone: 204-789-3506  e-mail: meyolfson@exchange.hsc.mb.ca  Office: JBRC 804 H

Tamara Cipriano will be joining our Finance team as Finance Manager and responsible for leading the financial processes of the department - focusing on operations.

Tamara can be reached at:
Telephone: 204-787-7876  e-mail: TCipriano@exchange.hsc.mb.ca  Office: GC 427

Effective May 29th

Thorunn Petursdottir will be joining the finance team working a 0.5 EFT. Her responsibilities will include UMG timekeeping, GFT and resident travel, and recruitment. Thorunn will continue to maintain a 0.5 EFT to support the Section of Proteomics and several nephrologist with their research funds.

Effective May 12th, the following responsibilities will be taken on by:

Nil Appointments:  Beverley Zubriski
Committees:  Karen Kiel
General Administrative Support:  Ingrid Reuter

Education Program Administrator Changes:

Effective May 1st

Suzanne Doyle will be taking over Program Administrator responsibilities for General Internal Medicine and Marie Field will be taking over Program Administrator responsibilities for Neurology.

Karen Ellison will be taking on additional duties and provide 0.5 EFT administrative support for the Program Administrators, and continue to provide 0.5EFT to the Process Redesign Team.
IN MEMORIAM

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Dr. Robert Thomas Ross on April 15th, 2017.

Dr. Ross graduated with his MD degree from the University of Manitoba and completed his postgraduate studies at the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases in London, England.

Professor Emeritus of Medicine at the University of Manitoba, Dr. R. T. Ross had a distinguished career as a physician, educator and mentor at the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Medicine from 1953 - 1999.

Robert Thomas Ross
CM, MD, FRCP, D. Sc (hon)

A member of the Section of Neurology, Dr. Ross served as Section Head from 1977 - 1984. During his tenure as Neurology Section Head he developed the neurology graduate training program and introduced numerous innovations.

A major supporter of education, he established the Dr. R.T. Ross Medical Library Trust Fund, and the Ross Learning Resource Centre at the Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library, ensuring that funds were available to support the teaching and research needs for the Faculty of Medicine’s students, researchers and educators. In 2012, Dr. Ross established the R.T. Ross Post Graduate Medical Education Scholarship available to the University of Manitoba’s Neurology residents.

Founder of the Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences, the primary vehicle for the dissemination of neurological research in Canada, Dr. Ross served as editor in chief, business manager and distributor from 1974 - 1981 and was appointed Editor Emeritus in 1981 in recognition of his contributions. Dr. Ross’s neurology textbook How to Examine the Nervous System, used throughout North American medical schools, is now in its fourth edition.

Dr. Ross received numerous awards including the E.L. Drewry Research Prize in Physiology, the Canadian Centennial Medal, Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Medal, an honorary Life Membership in the Canadian Neurological Society, and appointed to the Order of Canada.

Robert T. Ross was a renowned neurologist, dedicated and caring physician, talented educator, gifted author, a major philanthropist, and an outstanding colleague.

We extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.
An Update on IBD /June 9, 2017/Theatre C

Morning session moderator: Laura Targownik

0825-0830 Welcome - Charles Bernstein
0830-0900 What to tell IBD patients about their diet - Joshua Korzenik
0900-0930 Treating the microbiome in IBD - Paul Moayyedi
0930-1000 The role of stress in IBD - John Walker
1000-1030 Panel discussion - Laura Targownik
1030-1050 Break
1050-1120 Management of pouchitis - Iris Dotan
1120-1150 The use of therapeutic drug monitoring - Mark Silverberg
1150-1230 Panel discussion - Laura Targownik
1230-1330 Lunch

Afternoon session moderator: Ernest Seidman

1330-1400 Vedolizumab in IBD – where does it fit - Brian Bressler
1400-1430 Stelara in CD – where does it fit - Alain Bitton
1430-1500 Opiates, NSAIDS and Marijuana in IBD - Hillary Steinhart
1500-1515 Break
1515-1545 What does quality care in IBD mean - Geoffrey Nguyen
1545-1700 Panel discussion - Ernest Seidman

To Register: Contact Dorothy Miller at Dorothy.miller@umanitoba.ca
In parallel with the obesity/diabetes epidemic, the incidence and prevalence of NAFLD continues to rise in Canada and elsewhere. While NAFLD leads to an increasing health care burden, our understanding and the therapeutic options remain limited. It is therefore imperative that the level of knowledge and understanding of this liver disease be increased. This will require a multi-pronged approach to adequately address it from prevention, diagnosis, management, treatment and research perspectives.

The objectives for the meeting include:
- to review current knowledge on NAFLD from various perspectives
- to determine knowledge gaps to be filled by future research
- to foster informal exchange between leaders in the field and engage young investigators
- to foster research collaboration on NAFLD within Canada, North America and beyond

*** 10.5 Category 1 Credit Hours ***

Target Audience:
- Clinicians (of any background) interested in NAFLD
- Young investigators with an academic interest in NAFLD
- Scientists interested in NAFLD

Scientific Co-Chairs:
Eberhard L. Renner, Past President CASL
Professor and Head, Department of Internal Medicine
University of Manitoba

Brent A. Neuschwander-Tetri
Professor, St. Louis University School of Medicine
Director, Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology

ONLINE REGISTRATION for the 2017 CASL/CLF International NAFLD Meeting is available through the CASL homepage at http://www.hepatology.ca/ or at https://www.cpd-umanitoba.com/events/2017-international-meeting-on-non-alcoholic-fatty-liver-disease-nafld/

In order to profit from reduced early bird rates, register prior to July 1, 2017

Presented By:

The Canadian Association for the Study of the Liver (CASL) is a non-profit organization that seeks to eliminate liver disease through research, education and advocacy. CASL members represent a multidisciplinary group of scientists and healthcare professionals who provide national leadership in all aspects of liver research, education and patient care.

Co-Sponsored By: