



## DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine  
University of Toronto

April 2017

### 2017 Monthly update Newsletter

1. Congratulations to Dr. Mark Bayley who is promoted to Professor effective July 1, 2017
2. Congratulations to Dr. Paul Oh who is promoted to Associate Professor effective July 1, 2017
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1. Congratulations to Mark Bayley who is promoted to Professor effective July 1, 2017

We were very pleased to hear from the Department of Medicine and the Decanal Committee that Dr. Mark Bayley will be promoted to Professor in the division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at U of T. It was clear from his CV, body of work, and external references that Dr. Bayley has established a very strong research record in rehabilitation. Dr. Bayley's research has been focused on optimizing recovery after brain injury through the use of neuroplasticity and on the early assessment of those with brain injury due to stroke or trauma. His work has changed the way we treat patients with stroke and mild brain injuries and has brought new methods of early assessment to these patients that help to predict the prognosis of each patient. An example is the recently developed app called, "Via Therapy" which helps occupational therapists and physiotherapists to provide evidence-based treatment for their patients.

<http://www.viatherapy.org/>. Congratulations to Dr. Bayley for this outstanding achievement. Dr. Bayley can be reached at: [Mark.Bayley@uhn.ca](mailto:Mark.Bayley@uhn.ca)



2. Congratulations to Dr. Paul Oh who is promoted to Associate Professor

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Paul Oh for promotion to Associate Professor effective July 1, 2017. Dr. Paul Oh will be promoted with his primary appointment in clinical pharmacology though he is very active in the division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. As most of you probably know, Dr. Oh runs the outpatient cardiac rehabilitation program based at the Rumsey Centre. He does much more than simply cardiac rehab, though, and is involved in using exercise as a treatment for multiple other medical disorders and risks. This is likely the largest cardiac rehabilitation centre in Canada and has some excellent outcomes both in terms of patient care, research and education. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Oh who can be reached at: [paul.oh@uhn.ca](mailto:paul.oh@uhn.ca)





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3. Dr. Larry Robinson to receive AANEM Lifetime Achievement Award

We were pleased to hear that Dr. Larry Robinson will be receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine this fall at their annual meeting in Phoenix. This is the highest award from the organization which has about 4500 members. The nomination letter indicated, ““Dr. Robinson is an accomplished researcher in electrodiagnostic medicine, probably most well-known for developing and validating the combined sensory index (also known as the Robinson Index) – an index developed to improve sensitivity and specificity of sensory testing in carpal tunnel syndrome. Perhaps most memorably for AANEM members, Dr. Robinson is fondly remembered as Spike of “Spike and Wave” from a yearly “EMG Talk” at the AANEM Annual meeting. Alongside Dr. William Litchy for 20 years, he entertained and provoked the audience to teach some of the difficult to learn aspects of the electrodiagnostic field, bringing neuromuscular and electrodiagnostic medicine into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with both memorable wit and wisdom.”

<http://sunnybrook.ca/research/media/item.asp?c=2&i=1559&page=524&f=esteemed-recognition>

4. Dr. Dilkas continues to play an important role in wheelchair sports

We were happy to see Dr. Steve Dilkas’ continued leadership in para sports during his recent trip to South Korea. He recently went to Gangneung, South Korea, as team physician for Team Canada at the World Wheelchair Curling Championship. Although Canada placed fifth in the March event, just missing the playoffs, the team garnered a respectable 5-4 record, including wins against top teams Russia and Scotland, which ultimately earned silver and bronze medals respectively. We are most appreciative for Dr. Dilkas’ work in this area and for representing the University of Toronto and Canada so ably at these international events.



West Park psychiatrist Dr. Steven Dilkas (second from left in top row) was part of Team Canada at the World Wheelchair Curling Championship in South Korea, a test event for next year’s Paralympic Games. Dr. Dilkas is also team physician for the Canadian men’s and women’s wheelchair basketball teams.

5. You may be hearing an ECHO when you discuss chronic pain in Ontario

Congratulations to Drs. Andrea Furlan and John Flannery who have been involved with Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) since 2014 when the Ontario MOHLTC first funded ECHO as a 2 year demonstration project. This was initially launched to support community primary care providers with management of chronic pain and opioids through weekly videoconference case based learning sessions, based upon a model used in the US (<http://echo.unm.edu/>)

ECHO Chronic pain has since delivered 128 two hour sessions and has provided 6000 hours of CMEs to 286 primary care providers across 85 community sites in Ontario. In 2016, the MOHLTC granted stable funding to continue ECHO



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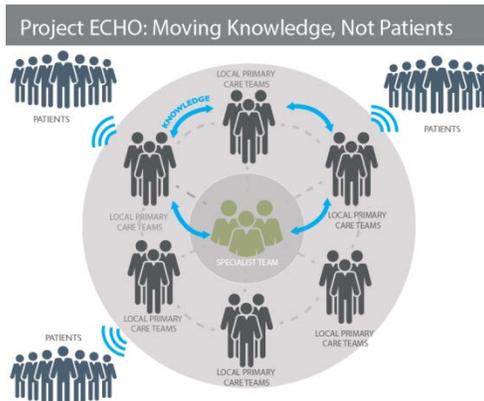
chronic pain and to expand ECHOs at UHN to include liver diseases and rheumatology. Early in 2017, UHN signed an agreement with the University of New Mexico to become **the first ECHO superhub in Canada** in collaboration with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). The superhub trains and supports other ECHOs ensuring fidelity to the ECHO model. The superhub activities will start soon, with more ECHOs being trained in Ontario, and possibly in Canada. Dr. Furlan and Dr. Flannery will help Project ECHO to reach its goals of “touching 1 billion lives by 2025.”

If you are interested in learning more about ECHO Ontario visit [www.EchoOntario.ca](http://www.EchoOntario.ca)

Dr. Andrea Furlan



Dr. John Flannery



6. OSCE Lead Hangs up his Hat!

Dr. Alex Lo has been the Division OSCE lead for the last five years and has stepped away from this role. We would like to express our appreciation for the hard work that Dr. Lo, along with members of the exam committee, Dr. Emily Tam and Dr. Sukhi Bhangu, have put into organizing Mock Royal College Exams over the past five years. This position is now unfilled and provides an opportunity for any staff who would like to become more involved academically. Please email [Lisa.Becker@uhn.ca](mailto:Lisa.Becker@uhn.ca) if you are interested in taking on this role.

7. Americans seeking PM&R positions in Canada

So far, since the elections in the states, we've received five inquiries from American physiatrists seeking to move to Canada. If any of you know of open positions, please let Larry Robinson know. We've also directed folks to the CAPMR web site as well.

8. Dr. Larry Robinson punished for allegedly insulting the Queen while in England

Dr. Larry Robinson, being American, didn't know that it would be a crime to insult the Queen when in the U.K. He quickly found out however when he was put into the stockade and locals threw dead rats, freshly found from the sewer, at him. He promises in the future to never again compare Queen Elizabeth with President Trump.



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9. Medical Story Slam to occur on May 2, 2017

The Department of Medicine is hosting the inaugural **Medical Story Slam** on **May 2, 2017** at the **Macleod Auditorium, Medical Sciences Building** (1 King's College Circle). The event will run from **6:30-9:00pm**, with refreshments before the event.

Story Slams are events that celebrate storytelling, where *participants verbally share brief stories* (5-minute maximum) with an audience who vote on their favourite story. We have invited **8 story tellers** from the physician community in Toronto and solicited **6 volunteers**, including the likes of: **Shelly Dev, Lisa Richardson, and Rob Sargent** and several residents.

Allan Detsky and Christine Laine (Editor in Chief, Annals of Internal Medicine) organized a Medical Story Slam for American College of Physicians, which was filmed at the NPR studio in Philadelphia in the fall of 2015 in front of a live and live streamed audience. All the stories told that night were published in video format in the Annals and you can view them here: <http://annals.org/aim/pages/storyslam>. We intend to do the same following our event.



Don't miss out on the Department of Medicine's first Story Slam event!

MAY 2, 2017

6:30pm @ Macleod Auditorium

**FOOD WILL BE SERVED!**

**[Click HERE to RSVP NOW!](#)**



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### What's a Story Slam?

Story Slams are events that celebrate storytelling. Participants verbally share brief stories (5-minute maximum) with an audience who vote on their favourite story. The American College of Physicians (ACP) have organized Story Slams in the past, and examples can be found [here](#).

### **WANT TO PARTICIPATE?**

Have a story related to medicine that you can share in less than 5 minutes? We are currently looking for participants. Please email [uoft.storyslam@gmail.com](mailto:uoft.storyslam@gmail.com)

Please let me know if you have items or news to add to the Newsletter.

Please also don't forget to check out our Facebook page.

Our Website can be viewed at: <http://www.deptmedicine.utoronto.ca/physical-medicine-rehabilitation>

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'Larry Robinson'.

Larry Robinson MD  
Chief, Rehabilitation Services  
John and Sally Eaton Chair in Rehabilitation Science