

Cancerlink



The Princess Margaret
Hospital Foundation

University Health Network

SPRING 2007

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DR. PAMELA CATTON

awarded the Butterfield / Drew Chair in Breast Cancer Survivorship

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Pamela Catton, Medical Director of the Breast Cancer Survivorship Program at Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH), has been appointed the inaugural Butterfield/Drew Chair in Breast Cancer Survivorship at PMH.



DR. PAMELA CATTON

This Chair was made possible thanks to generous gifts from David and Paula Butterfield and Sherry Taylor Drew.

As Chair holder, Dr. Catton will focus on investigating the prevention of post-treatment complications of breast cancer patients. As well, she will be responsible for developing a research program in lymphedema.

Lymphedema results from an accumulation of fluids triggered by the removal or radiation of lymph nodes or vessels following cancer surgery or treatment. Lymphedema interferes with wound healing and provides an environment for bacteria, increasing the potential for infection. ▶

BREAKTHROUGH STUDY

indicates breast density linked to breast cancer



DR. NORMAN BOYD

As published in the January issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, PMH's Dr. Norman Boyd and his colleagues have discovered that among women over 40, denser breast tissue may mean greater cancer risk.

Dr. Boyd and his team of researchers compared different breast densities with the risk of breast cancer in more than 1,000 women with breast cancer and 1,000 who did not have the disease. The women were screened in the National Breast Screening Study, The Ontario Breast Screening Program and the Screening Mammography Program of British Columbia. ▶

DR. PAMELA CATTON CONT'D

Dr. Catton is a professor and the Vice-Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Toronto. She is also Director of Education in the Oncology Program at University Health Network (UHN). Dr. Catton has received numerous awards for excellence in all aspects of health professional education. She is a recent recipient of a Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) award for her initiative, "The Electronic Living Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Cancer Survivorship Research."

Since 2004, Dr. Catton has led the Breast Cancer Survivorship Program at PMH. In this position, she has assembled a highly talented team of professionals and volunteers and created Canada's first breast cancer survivorship program. The program is a part of PMH's ongoing commitment to excellent patient-centered care.

The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation is proud to congratulate Dr. Catton on this prestigious appointment. Her work has truly broken ground in breast cancer education, treatment and survivorship.

Planned Giving ADVISORS' BREAKFAST

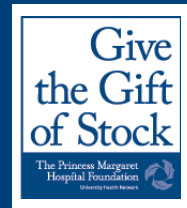
The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation hosted its semi-annual Professional Advisors' Breakfast on January 31, 2007. An audience of over 50 financial advisors, lawyers and other professionals were given a glimpse into the future outlook of cancer research by Dr. Benjamin Neel, Director, OCI / PMH. Patricia Croft, Vice President and Chief Economist with Phillips, Hager & North Investment Management Ltd., gave the keynote presentation, outlining an economic forecast for 2007.

Please email debbie.grant@pmhf.ca if you would like to become a member of the Professional Advisors' Network to receive invitations to these events as well as an e-version of the semi-annual Planned Giving newsletter. If you would like more information on Planned Giving, please call Jill Nelson, Director, Planned Giving at 416.946.6562.

BY DEBBIE GRANT

Gift of Stock Program

- giving made easier



Changes announced in the 2006 Federal Budget make it more attractive to donate gifts of stocks, bonds, t-bills, mutual funds, and other publicly-traded securities to charities such as The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation (PMHF). The Federal Government has eliminated capital gains on all gifts of publicly-traded securities to charities meaning it's a tax-smart way to support PMH.

PMHF will issue a tax receipt based on the closing trading price on the day the donation of securities is received. Note: The donation must be a transfer of the security itself, not the cash proceeds from selling the security.

BY KATHIE BAGGETT

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO TRANSFER SECURITIES OR TO LET PMHF KNOW THAT A TRANSFER WILL OCCUR, PLEASE CONTACT:
1-800-937-7643 OR E-MAIL GIFTOFSTOCK@PMHF.CA.

PMHF's Paul Alofs

appointed to International Cancer Foundation

Paul Alofs, President and CEO of The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation, has been appointed to the International Union Against Cancer (UICC) International Cancer Foundation Governing Board. Paul joins Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz, Medical Director, Cancer Program, PMH/UHN.

The UICC International Cancer Foundation was created in 1971 to support the vision, mission and work of the UICC, the only international non-governmental organization that is dedicated solely to the global control of cancer. The Foundation congratulates Paul on this important appointment.



PAUL ALOFS



Behind the Scenes

An evening of discovery

Over 200 people attended our 7th annual Behind the Scenes donor appreciation event on April 19, 2007. This year's theme, **Cancer: A personal journey, a personalized response**, was demonstrated through a number of exhibits and panel presentations from our researchers and clinicians.

Behind the Scenes provides donors with the opportunity to learn about the latest advances in cancer treatment, research and education while interacting with the talented PMH staff who make breakthroughs happen in our hospital every day.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT NEXT YEAR'S EVENT
PLEASE CONTACT THE FOUNDATION AT 416-946-2949.

BREAKTHROUGH STUDY CONT'D

Based on the mammograms, women with extensive density were five times more likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer during the study period, pointing to the possibility that dense breasts might harbour faster growing tumours. Similar results were found when researchers considered other breast cancer risk factors.

In addition to increasing the risk of breast cancer, dense breast tissue also makes cancer more difficult to see on a mammogram. Breast tissue is made up of fat, supporting tissue and the epithelium that forms ducts and lobules. These tissues affect the passage of X-rays differently. Since both epithelium



DR. BOYD (TOP LEFT) AND HIS TEAM OF RESEARCHERS

tissue and tumours appear light on a mammogram, it can be difficult to distinguish them from each other. The teams' research suggests other imaging techniques, including Ultrasound, MRI and digital mammography, might help spot tumours earlier.

"This study establishes that breast density is an extremely important risk factor for developing breast cancer," says Dr. Boyd. Breast tissue density decreases with age and, on average, women lose about one per cent of their breast density each year. Depending on a woman's age, between 16-30 per cent of breast cancer can be attributed to extensive density. Other risk factors, including family history, account for a much smaller proportion of the disease."

Dr. Norman Boyd is a principal investigator at The Campbell Family Institute for Breast Cancer Research at PMH. He also holds the Lee K. and Margaret Lau Chair in Breast Cancer Research, OCI/PMH.

For more information on these and other stories visit us at www.pmfh.ca

The Globe and Mail's recent special serial report on cancer heralds breakthroughs at PMH / OCI

NOTEWORTHY

NEWS

During November and December last year, the Globe and Mail published a series of stories under the title **Cancer: Hope and Fear**. Within this special report, research breakthroughs developed at Ontario Cancer Institute (OCI) and treatment therapies administered at Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) were featured.

Carolyn Abraham, Medical Reporter for the Globe and Mail, wrote two pieces that will be of particular interest to PMH supporters:

New discoveries that pinpoint bad seeds leading to a major redirection of research and **Bit by bit, Canadians uncovered the seed of deadly cancers** highlighting recent developments in cancer stem cell research at PMH.

The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation invites you to visit www.globeandmail.com/cancer to read more about what our top scientists, doctors and clinicians are doing to conquer cancer and prolong the lives of patients everywhere.



GEAR UP FOR THE RIDE TO CONQUER CANCER - JUNE 2008

Do you enjoy a challenge?

Want to support Canada's leading cancer research hospital?

*Then sign up for **The Ride to Conquer Cancer**, a fun and challenging 200 km bike journey over one weekend, June 20-22, 2008. This new initiative from The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation will raise funds for breakthrough cancer research. For more information about The Ride to Conquer Cancer, please visit www.conquercancer.ca or call (416) 815-RIDE (7433).*

Cancer stem cell research receives publicity

Dr. John Dick and his colleagues received wide spread coverage in news media across Canada for their study linking cancer stem cells to colon cancer.

They have shown that a small and rare subset of cancer stem cells (CSCs) are capable of sustaining tumours in the colon by rejuvenating themselves and differentiating into other tumour-forming cells.

According to Dr. Dick, "Colon cancer stem cells are the driving force initiating and sustaining these tumours. [Therefore] you have to find and kill each of these colon cancer stem cells to truly cure the disease." By investigating CSCs, more specific targeted therapies that do not kill normal stem cells may be developed, leading to better quality of life for cancer patients.

The researchers' work may help design new therapeutic tools for colorectal cancer, the second leading cause of death from cancer in Canada.



DR. JOHN DICK

Supplementary to this exciting research breakthrough, Dr. Dick is also a recent recipient of a Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) award for his initiative, "Cancer Stem Cell Centre." The centre will focus expertise, infrastructure and technologies on developing breakthrough CSC therapies.

We congratulate Dr. Dick and his colleagues on their recent accomplishments.



On April 13th, Barbara Turnbull of the Toronto Star wrote about the revolutionary approach to modern radiation therapy at PMH in a Health Section cover spread, **A royal recovery**. The articles highlight the tremendous impact the Radiation Medicine Program is having on patients here and around the world. Please visit www.thestar.com/Health/article/202540 for complete coverage.

OUTSTANDING CAREGIVERS

Honoured at PMH



DR. MICHAEL CRUMP, PAULA KIRSH AND VALERIE ALI

On November 16, 2006, Valerie Ali, Registered Nurse, and Dr. Michael Crump were presented with Gerald Kirsh Humanitarian Awards. The family of the late Gerald Kirsh established the award as a tribute to the exceptional care they witnessed while he was undergoing treatment at Princess Margaret Hospital. Each year, awards are given to honour two employees, nominated by patients and their families, who provide outstanding commitment and patient care.

The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation is pleased to congratulate the 21 staff members who were nominated for this prestigious award in 2006.

This year's deadline for nominations is September 14, 2007. Any employee who contributes directly to a patient's care is eligible. To nominate a PMH staff member, please email KirshAwards@pmhf.ca or visit the UHN website at www.uhn.ca/pmhf/services. For more information about the Kirsh Awards, please contact Crystal Soraine at 416-946-2012 or email crystal.soraine@pmhf.ca.

2007 Weekend to End Breast Cancer poised for success

Last year's momentum and support for the Weekend to End Breast Cancer (WEBC) didn't slow over the winter and now registration spaces are full for this year's event: **September 7 to 9, 2007**. One of the most successful fundraisers in Canadian history, WEBC has raised more than \$60 million to date. Over one amazing weekend, thousands of men and women unite to walk 60 km in Toronto in a bold display of honour, courage and commitment. Money raised by WEBC helps fund new equipment, research instruments, facilities and staff at Princess Margaret Hospital. Thank you to all our generous supporters and dedicated volunteers.



Registration for the 2008 WEBC will open following this year's walk. For more information, please visit www.pmhf.ca/Pages/WEBC. To ensure your spot, please register early.

OCI DOCTORS among 29 new appointees to the Order of Ontario

The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation is proud to congratulate Drs. Brenda Gallie, Ernest McCulloch and James Till, all of the Ontario Cancer Institute (OCI), on their recent appointments to the Order of Ontario. This prestigious award is given to Ontarians who have made outstanding contributions in a variety of fields, including philanthropy, business, medicine and law.



DRS. TILL AND McCULLOCH



DR. BRENDA GALLIE

For more information on these and other stories visit us at www.pmhf.ca

SPOTLIGHT TRIBUTE

On February 15th, a sold-out room of 450 guests provided the backdrop for the "Spotlight Tribute," a spectacular evening honouring the work of three doctors at the forefront of image-guided therapy (GTx) at PMH.

Drs. Jonathan Irish, Chief of Surgical Oncology at PMH, David Jaffray, Head of Radiation Physics at PMH, and Walter Kucharczyk, Director of Magnetic Resonance Imaging at University Health Network have revolutionized cancer treatment, allowing surgeons to target tumours with extraordinary accuracy using 'real-time' three-dimensional imaging.



DRS. DAVID JAFFRAY,
WALTER KUCHARCZYK AND JONATHAN IRISH

Proceeds from the event will accelerate innovations into clinical use and advance pioneering research currently underway.

The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation is grateful for all the support this inaugural event received and would like to extend a special "thank you" to our three volunteer co-chairs: Shirley Domelle, Holly Miklas and Martha Shaw.

Research Breakthroughs at PMH

MOLECULE MAY BE A POTENTIAL MARKER FOR THYROID TUMOUR GROWTH

PMH scientists, Drs. Sylvia Asa and Shereen Ezzat, have discovered that a cell adhesion molecule called CEACAM1 could be a potential marker for identifying thyroid tumours that are more likely to spread throughout the body.

Cell Adhesion Molecules (CAMs) are proteins located on the surface of cells and bind with other cells much like the fibres of Velcro.

The researchers increased and decreased the amount of CEACAM1 in thyroid cancer cells to determine if the changed levels promoted the potential of cancer cells to multiply. They discovered that the molecule was found mainly in small tumours that spread at an early stage.

From their study, the doctors found that the excessive presence of CEACAM1 in a tumour may be an indication that a more aggressive treatment of the disease is needed.

DOCTORS FIND NEW WAYS TO REDUCE THE PAIN OF SECONDARY BONE DISEASE

Administering a more potent form of bisphosphonates to breast cancer patients with bone disease reduces pain and improves their quality of life, state Drs. Mark Clemons and David Cole.

Bisphosphonates are a family of drugs used to prevent and treat osteoporosis. They bind permanently to the surfaces of the bones and slow down the bone-eroding cells, allowing bone-building cells to work more effectively.

In nearly 75 per cent of women with advanced breast cancer, cancer spreads to their bones. In Canada, patients will usually be treated for this with bisphosphonates but there are few innovative treatment strategies for women who develop complications from their bone disease. This study paves the way for a larger more randomized trial to determine the patient benefit of switching current therapy.

MEET ONE OF OUR RESEARCHERS

Dr. Gang Zheng

“Clinical research translation has huge potential and I want to be there to see it at work.”

Dr. Gang Zheng holds the Joey and Toby Tanenbaum / Brazilian Ball Chair in Prostate Cancer Research at OCI/PMH. A Senior Scientist at OCI, Division of Biophysics and Bioimaging since 2006, Dr. Zheng is also one of the pillars driving PMH/OCI's research expansion program at the Medical and Related Sciences (MaRS) Discovery District – two square kilometers in the heart of downtown that have been designated as the city's centre of research and innovation.

A third-generation chemist, Dr. Zheng began his studies at Zhejiang University in China before heading to the United States to complete his post-graduate work, culminating with a post-doctoral Fellowship at the Photodynamic Therapy Centre, Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, New York. The patients he saw at Roswell Park inspired him to continue his career in cancer research.

He began his professional career at the University of Pennsylvania in 2001. Since then, he has published over 45 peer-reviewed articles, won many prestigious national and

international awards and is one of the most sought after lecturers in the world.

“We are introducing a class of smart photodynamic therapy agents. These molecules are harmless to normal tissues but become potent cancer therapeutics once their activity is triggered by the prostate cancer-specific messenger RNA.”

Through his research, Dr. Zheng realized molecular imaging could harness the development of a non-invasive drug delivery method to combat cancer. To that end, a current research initiative in his laboratory involves photodynamic therapy and image-guided surgery for prostate cancer cells. The DD3 gene is the most specific prostate cancer gene but it has no function. Dr. Zheng and his team are researching ways to “turn on” or activate the gene in order to deliver targeted prostate cancer treatments.

“We are approaching the nanotechnology field from a completely different angle by looking at nature to explain the best way to deliver therapeutics.”

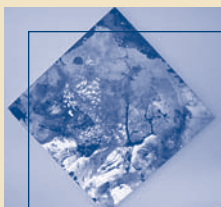


DR. GANG ZHENG

Another exciting research initiative in his lab is the Cancer Nanotechnology Platform using lipoproteins — an important group of proteins that carry fat throughout the bloodstream. They are classified according to density and depending on the level of density, they can cause cholesterol levels to rise. Because of their mobility in the body, Dr. Zheng's investigation involves modifying and manipulating lipoproteins so they can be used as vehicles for more targeted drug delivery in both prostate and lung cancer patients.

Dr. Zheng expects to bring the nanotechnology platform to the clinical trial stage in the next few years. According to Dr. Zheng, “the nanoplatform holds great promise and affords new opportunities for directed cancer therapies and diagnostics.”

JOEY AND TOBY TANENBAUM GIVE THE GIFT OF ART



UNTITLED #36 (2006)

The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation is grateful to enthusiastic art collectors and philanthropists, Joey and Toby Tanenbaum, who have donated 18 paintings by renowned Toronto artist, Peter Hill, to PMH. The Foundation invites you to view these paintings, now on display in the radiation area at the hospital.

A landscape has always been a tool for reflexion [sic]. My actions as a painter are the acts of reflexion and these paintings are a place to enter into your reflexion.

PETER HILL, ARTIST

For more information on these and other stories visit us at www.pmfh.ca

Calendar OF Events



MAY 24/07 **The second annual Boss Benefit** – benefiting the Gynecological Cancer Program at PMH

MAY 31/07 **Viva Las Vegas** – benefiting the Gerry & Nancy Pencer Brain Tumor Centre at PMH

For more information on these and other events visit us at www.pmfh.ca

NEW VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS JOIN PMHF

Neville Kirchmann, Chairman of The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation Board, is pleased to announce the following recent appointments to the PMHF Board of Directors:



DAVID DENISON



MARIANNE HARRIS



CHRIS JORDAN



WENDY C. POSLUNS

Cancerlink

A PUBLICATION OF THE PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Our Vision: To Conquer Cancer.

Our Purpose: To raise and steward funds to deliver breakthrough research, exemplary teaching, and compassionate care at Princess Margaret Hospital, Canada's cancer research hospital.

HOW TO REACH US

The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation is dedicated to supporting excellence in health care by raising funds for breakthrough research, compassionate care and exemplary teaching at Princess Margaret Hospital. You may request to be removed from our fundraising list at any time by contacting us at 416.946.2114 or at listremovalpmhf@pmhf.ca

For more information on story content, please contact Editor, Siobhán Smith at 416.946.4501 ext. 6311 or at siobhan.smith@pmhf.ca

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