



# CSPS NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CANADIAN SOCIETY OF PLASTIC SURGEONS

Vol. 31, No. 1

Summer/Fall 2020

## Message from the President



*Bing Siang Gan, MD, FRCSC*

THE WORLD is a different place today. The last time I wrote this column, it was the late Fall of 2019. I just reread that issue of CSPS News and sense the anticipation of our planned 2020 Annual Meeting in Quebec City. Of course, that never happened. Now almost 6 months after the

world as we knew it pretty much totally shut down, we are still uncertain where this is all heading. What we do know is that Canada as a whole and, specifically, its Medical Profession has done well in comparison with many other places in the world. When the first Public Health Directives were issued in March, Stay-at-Home orders were obeyed by virtually everyone. Essential services remained operational and Canadian physicians and surgeons, including plastic surgeons heeded the call from Federal and Provincial Health authorities. We slowed down our elective practices to make capacity for an anticipated wave of critically-ill COVID patients. Together, we succeeded, and we fortunately never experienced chaotic hospital scenes like in Italy or New York. The body politic and the discourse on the streets did not reach the tense

inflammatory and polarized levels that some countries experienced.

The CSPS similarly went on the same rollercoaster as the rest of Canada. Early on, we issued a call for our members to comply with Local Health Directives, while we also encouraged our members to simultaneously remain available for our patients in cases of medical urgency. In late March, when it became clear that this pandemic and its consequences would not end soon, the Board decided for the first time in 74 years to cancel our Annual Meeting. While in retrospect, it seemed like an easy decision to make, it took considerable deliberation before we came to that conclusion. I personally want to thank Dr. Carolyn Levis, Dr. Earl Campbell and Dr. Rob Harrop for their wisdom,

*Please see **President's Message** page 4*

## Dr. Richard Warren to Receive CSPS 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award



DR. RICHARD WARREN of Vancouver, B.C. is the recipient of the 2020 Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons Lifetime Achievement Award. He has contributed to plastic surgery in a vast number of roles, including as past-president of both the Canadian Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (CSAPS) and the Northwest Society of Plastic Surgeons. He also served on the executive of the American

Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS) and the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons (CSPS), where he acted as Chair of the CSPS Public Relations Committee from 2007-2010. He has contributed educationally as a Chief Examiner in plastic surgery at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and ultimately as Chair of the Specialty Committee. In that most recent role, he was awarded the inaugural CSPS President's Medal for his commitment to protecting the integrity of the plastic surgery specialty.

Born and raised in British

Columbia, he completed his basic medical training at the University of British Columbia (UBC). He interned in the San Francisco Bay area, and then returned to British Columbia to complete specialty training in plastic surgery. Following his residency, he pursued fellowship training in Los Angeles, California and Norfolk, Virginia before returning to Vancouver to join the Department of Surgery at UBC.

Dr. Warren served as the Head of the UBC Division of Plastic

*Please see **Dr. R. Warren**, page 3*

# CSPS Business in Time of Covid-19

## Board of Directors

Under normal circumstances, and according to the CSPS by-laws, the annual transition of the CSPS Board follows a process whereby the Nominating Committee presents a proposed slate of candidates for positions for the incoming Board. This slate is in turn circulated to all voting members for approval at the Annual Business Meeting taking place during the CSPS Annual Scientific Meeting. In light of the pandemic-related cancellation of both of these meetings, the Nominating Committee was asked to present an alternative transition plan to the current Board. Guided by the CSPS by-laws, input from several CSPS past presidents and regulations of Corporations Canada, the Chair of the Nominating Committee proposed to the CSPS Board that existing Board members remain in their current positions until the next Annual Business Meeting at which time a new slate of nominees can be presented to a quorum of voting members for ratification.

President, Dr. **Bing Siang Gan** (London); Vice-President Dr. **Carolyn Levis** (Hamilton); Vice-President Elect: Dr. **Steven Morris** (Halifax); Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. **Earl Campbell** (Calgary); Historian, Dr. **Melinda Musgrave** (Toronto); Membership Committee Chair, Dr. **Danny Peters** (Ottawa); Director, Dr. **Margaret Wheelock** (Halifax); Director, Dr. **Kirsty Boyd** (Ottawa); and Public Relations Committee Chair, Dr. **Rob Harrop** (Calgary).

Board observers are: Local Arrangements Chair, Dr. **Chris Doherty** (Vancouver); Royal College Specialty Committee Chair, Dr. **Doug Ross** (London); Educational Foundation Delegates, Dr. **Rob Harrop** (Calgary) and Dr. **Michael Bezuhly** (Halifax); Young Plastic Surgeons Committee Chair, Dr. **Kristen Davidge** (Toronto).

**2020-2021 Nominating Committee:** Drs. **Glyka Martou** (Kingston) and **Tanya DeLzyer** (London) were selected to serve along with Past Presidents Drs. **Rob Harrop** (Calgary), Chair; **Gorman Louie** (Edmonton); and **Peter Lennox** (Vancouver).

**New Society Members** accepted by electronic vote are: *Active Membership:* Drs. **Nasim Abedi**, North Vancouver, BC; **Jana Dengler**, Toronto, ON; **Geneviève Ferland-Caron**, Montréal, QC; **Krista Genoway**, Vancouver, BC; **Valerie Hurdle**,

Kamloops, BC; **Andrei Odobescu**, Montréal, QC; **Maryam Saheb-Al-Zamani**, Oakville, ON; **Joshua Wong**, Edmonton, AB; **Chadwick Wu**, Scarborough, ON.

*Junior Members: University of Calgary:* **Anne-Sophie Lafrenière**.

## 2020 Scientific Prize Winners

THE CSPS 2020 SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM was a victim of the Covid-19 pandemic, however, an initiative of the CSPS Program Committee allowed presentations selected by the Abstract Evaluation Committee to be presented online. Judges awarded the following prizes.

### Clinical Study Awards

The First Prize FM Woolhouse Award for the Best Clinical Study was presented to Dr. **Michael Stein** of the University of Ottawa training program under Dr. **Kirsty Boyd**. Dr. Stein's study was entitled *A randomized control trial comparing surgical and patient-reported outcomes between Alloderm and Dermacell in immediate alloplastic breast reconstruction*; with co-authors A Arnaout, G Pond, M Clemond, D Fergusson, J Zhang.

Second Prize went to Dr. **Matthew Curran**, University of Alberta under Dr. **Brandon Ball**. Dr. Curran's presentation: *Outcomes of AIN end to side transfer for severe ulnar nerve injury: A Western Canadian multicentre cohort study* with co-authors A Platt, **MJ Morhart**, **JL Olson**, **KM Chan**, Western Canada Peripheral Nerve Research Initiative Organization

### Basic Science Prizes

The Educational Foundation Award for the best Basic Science presentation by a resident First Prize was won by Dr. **Jenna-Lynn Senger** of the University of Alberta program under Dr. **Brandon Ball** for her presentation entitled *Conditioning electrical stimulation improves functional recovery in a tibial to fibular nerve transfer*.

Her co-authors are **K Rabey**, **M Morhart**, **A Chan**, **KM Chan**, **C Webber**.

Second Prize was given to Dr. **Kevin Zuo** of the University of Toronto program lead by Dr. **Kyle Wanzel** for his study entitled *Local FK506 (tacrolimus) drug delivery enhances nerve regeneration through unprocessed fresh nerve allografts*. Dr. Zuo's

co-authors are **G Shafa**, **K Chan**, **J Zhang**, **T Gordon**, **GH Borschel**

### Innovation Award

First Prize recognition was given for the best presentation by a Resident in the area of Innovation. The prize was awarded to Dr. **Tomas Saun** of the University of Toronto program under Dr. **Kyle Wanzel**. Dr. Saun's presentation was entitled *Deep learning for automated assessment of upper extremity radiographs*

The Second Prize Innovation Award was won by Dr. **Dino Zammit**, McGill University under Dr. **Stéphanie Thibaudeau** for *Introduction of a novel type of surgical simulation: 3D-printed step-specific simulation (S2Sim) for rhinoplasty* with **T Safran**, **G Noel**, **M Gilardino**.

### Best Posters

The Educational Foundation Award for the Best Poster Presentation First Prize was given to Dr. **Sarah Zhu** of the McMaster University training program under Dr. **Matthew McRae**. Her award winning poster was entitled *Dennervation as a treatment for osteoarthritis in the small joints of the hand: A systematic review* with **M Sarraj**, **B. Chin**, **E Wang**, **M McRae**.

Second prize was awarded to Dr. **Spencer Chambers** of Western University, under program director Dr. **Arjang Yazdani**. His poster: *Adherence of clinical referrals to ABA criteria in a tertiary care burn centre: A retrospect review*. His co-authors: **K Garland**, **T Delyzer**

### Medical Student Poster Awards

The First Prize award for a best poster by a medical student was presented to Ms. **Ambika Agrawal** of the University of Alberta and is entitled *A possible immune mechanism for hypertrophic scarring after burn injury*. Ms. Agrawal's co-authors are **J Ding**, **B Agrawal**, **E Tredget**, **P Kwan**.

Second Prize was given to Ms. **Regina Leung** studying at Queen's University for *Exploring the potential of using augmented reality holograms for skills training in Plastic Surgery*. Her co-author: **C Forrest**.

## Educational Foundation Grants Awarded in 2020

FOR THE YEAR 2020, the Educational Foundation of the CSPS was able to award two grants in the amount of \$10,000 each to fund scientific research by CSPS members and residents.

CSPS member Dr. **Jana Dengler** of the U of Toronto Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre received the award for her research on the subject of *Utilization of reconstructive surgery to improve upper limb function in cervical spinal cord injury in Canada*.

A second grant was awarded to Dr. **Kevin Zuo** a University of Toronto Resident sponsored by CSPS member Dr. **Ron Zuker** for research entitled *Evaluation of long-term surgical outcomes and quality of life after facial reanimation in pediatric facial paralysis*.

### Dr. R. Warren, from page 1

Surgery for over 11 years, overseeing the expansion of the division through a time when most others were contracting. He was instrumental in laying the foundations for the first dedicated independent immediate breast reconstruction program in Canada, at UBC Hospital, working with Dr. Patricia Clugston. He also initiated the recruitment of a basic wound healing scientist and started the fundraising drive that ultimately resulted in a \$3,000,000 endowment for the BC Professional Firefighter's Burn and Wound Healing Lab, which has become the most successful and prolific centre in terms of funding and publications in the entire UBC Department of Surgery.

Throughout all of these commitments, Dr. Warren has been a consummate educator. He has published multiple articles and edited the entire volume on aesthetic surgery in Neligan's edition of Plastic Surgery – the premier reference textbook in the specialty of Plastic Surgery. Most importantly, he is happy to share his knowledge and experience directly. He often has observers from all over the world in the operating room with him. He lectures nationally and internationally, and has made significant contributions in the field of aesthetic surgery. As noted by Drs Peter Lennox and Nicholas Carr in their letter of nomination, "Dr. Rick Warren has had an outstanding career by any measure. He is truly a 'gentleman surgeon' who has left an indelible mark on plastic surgery at every level in Canada."

Dr. Warren will be awarded the 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award exceptionally during the 2021 CSPS Annual Meeting in Whistler, B.C. alongside next year's 2021 Award recipient.

### Description of the Award

Nominations for the 2021 Award will be accepted until January 20, 2021. In addition, nominees previously proposed will be carried over for consideration.

### Purpose

This award honors an established plastic surgeon who is a member of the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons and has made an outstanding contribution to the profession and to the CSPS.

The award will be made on the basis of teaching, research, innovation and service to the community or other endeavors.

Nominees for this annual award will be reviewed by the CSPS Nominating Committee.

### Eligibility

Members in good standing of the CSPS for at least 20 years are eligible.

### The Award

The Award consists of the waiver of registration fees for the Annual Meeting in the year in which the award is bestowed and a plaque given at the annual President's Banquet.

### Nomination Procedure

The complete nomination consists of a letter from a member of the CSPS formally proposing the nominee and outlining the nominee's specific contributions to plastic surgery and to the Society accompanied by the nominee's curriculum vitae.

Send nominations to CSPS Secretariat, PO Box 60192 Saint-Denis, Montreal, QC H2J 4E1, Fax: 514-843-7005 csp\_sccp@bellnet.ca, **before January 20, 2021.**

## Drs. Borsuk and McCabe to Receive 2020 President's Medal

THE 2020 CSPS PRESIDENT'S MEDAL will be jointly presented to two unique surgeons for their efforts towards organizing and achieving Canada's first two composite tissue transplantations: Face (Dr. Borsuk) and Hand (Dr. McCabe). Drs Daniel Evan Borsuk and Steven McCabe will be presented their medals at the June 18<sup>th</sup> President's banquet being held during the 2021 CSPS Annual Meeting in Whistler, BC. The 2021 President's Medal recipient will be recognized at the same occasion.

The President's Medal recognizes a CSPS member who, at any stage of his or her career, has made an extraordinary

contribution to the betterment of the plastic surgery specialty. The recipient is selected by the current CSPS President and two immediate past presidents.

Dr. **Daniel Evan Borsuk** is a pioneer in facial reconstruction and the Head of Plastic Surgery at the University Centre Hospital (CHU) Sainte-Justine in Montreal,



Quebec. In 2018, the first Canadian face transplant was performed under his leadership and in 2019, he was awarded the distinction of Officer from the Order of Québec. He is an

associate professor of surgery in both pediatric and adult cranio-maxillo-facial surgery and plastic surgery at the University of Montreal teaching hospitals of Sainte Justine and Maisonneuve Rosemont. Born in Montreal, Quebec, he graduated in Medicine and also, with an MBA, from McGill University. He went on to complete a residency at l'Université de Montréal, in plastic and reconstructive surgery. He also completed a fellowship in adult and pediatric oral and maxillofacial surgery, microsurgery and aesthetic surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in the Shock Trauma Centre of Baltimore, Maryland.

Dr. **Steven McCabe** was a member of the surgical team that conducted the first hand transplant in the United States in



Louisville, Kentucky, over 20 years ago. Today, he is Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Toronto and Director of the Hand Program at Toronto Western Hospital. In January 2016, in a Canadian first, a multidisciplinary surgical team, led by Dr. McCabe,

successfully completed the country's first transplant of the upper limb. Dr. McCabe is a 1980 graduate of The University of Toronto Medical School. He went on to train in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in London, Ontario. He completed Hand Fellowships at Sunnybrook Health Science Center and the Workers' Compensation Board of Ontario and at the Kleinert Institute in Louisville, Kentucky. While in Toronto, he studied in the Clinical Epidemiology program at McMaster University finishing with a Master of Science degree. Dr. McCabe has been the President of the American Society for Peripheral Nerve and the American Association for Hand Surgery. He finished a certificate program in health professions education and subsequently travelled to Italy as a Fulbright scholar where he taught research methodology at the University of Siena.

insights and support during that chaotic period. Together with Ms. Karyn Wagner and Ms. Irene Aguzzi, the Executive of the Board conducted on an almost weekly basis teleconferences by Zoom (who had ever heard of this medium before this year?) to discuss and investigate the consequences of Annual Meeting cancellation. Financial, federal and provincial regulatory issues, contractual obligations were all reviewed, as well as options to disseminate all the new information that an Annual meeting usually brings. After consideration of all these issues, the entire Board weighed in and unanimously approved the decision to cancel our Quebec meeting. After further consideration of contractual obligations, availability of venues and possible scenarios to replace our Quebec Meeting, the Board decided that we would continue with our planning for the 2021 meeting in Whistler, but that we would plan a return to Quebec City for 2022 and go to Halifax in 2023.

Since April, the Board, the Program Committee, the Membership Committee, the Educational Foundation Board and other individuals have worked hard to make the best of this most unusual situation. We previously sent you announcements about the accepted podium and poster presentations and we were able to feature these presentations via our website for viewing on your own computer. Judging committees selected prize winners for best presentations and best poster awards. New members were voted on by electronic means, the Educational Foundation outcome or research grant applications were adjudicated and the CSPS Board voted to provide funds for a second Award. In addition, the Board is working hard on organizing a "live" virtual symposium planned for November 5, 2020. There will be recognized experts on a variety of topics, as well as an update panel on the textured breast implant controversy, an ongoing problem for our patients that has taken a bit of a backseat in the Covid pandemic, but one that surely will continue to remain important over coming years. You will have received a save-the date notice from us and more about this "live" virtual symposium can be found elsewhere in this issue.

The Board has also worked on the regulatory issues that govern our Society. The CSPS is registered as a not-for-profit organization and as such Federal and Provincial guidelines dictate our obligations. Almost all of these guidelines have been met. Our finances have been audited and we have submitted our financial statements to the CRA. Our approved

financial statements have been disseminated to the membership by electronic means. We have obtained permission to postpone our Annual Meeting from Corporations Canada, but we are still dealing with some minor regulatory issues.

The Board has had a long meeting regarding the governance of our Society and after carefully considering all possibilities, the Board has decided that the Board for 2019-2020 would remain in place for the year 2020-2021. Communication regarding this process and its considerations were sent out previously to the membership. I would be happy to answer any questions regarding any of these issues.

The cancellation of the Quebec meeting also has had considerable financial consequences for the Society. Nonetheless, our Society remains in good financial health, expertly steered by Dr. Earl Campbell, the Secretary-Treasurer. We have no concerns for the immediate future and a strong reserve in the event of further headwinds.

I would like to end by expressing the hope that you and your families remain in good health and that we all may weather these unusual times well. I look forward to our Fall "live" virtual symposium and after that an exuberant Meeting in Whistler, where we will welcome the "class of 2020" new members together with the "class of 2021" new members. We will also honour the prize winners of the scientific awards that were presented on-line. In Whistler, we will also present the Lifetime Achievement Award Winner, Dr. Rick Warren and the President's Medal Winners of this year, Dr. Steve McCabe and Dr. Daniel Borsuk, in addition to new Awardees for 2021.

I thank you for the privilege to serve as your President.

## Membership application deadline

THE DEADLINE for submission of membership applications and letters of nomination to the Membership Committee is April 16, 2021.

New members are accepted into the Society upon a vote of the members present at the Annual Business Meeting. This meeting will take place on Friday, June 18, 2021 in Whistler, BC.

New members will receive their certificate at the President's Banquet that evening.

Application forms are available on the CSPS website ([www.plasticsurgery.ca](http://www.plasticsurgery.ca)) and from the Society Secretariat CSPS/SCCP, PO Box 60192 Saint-Denis, Montreal, QC H2J 4E1, telephone: 514 - 843-5415; Fax: 514 - 843-7005; [csp\\_sccp@bellnet.ca](mailto:csp_sccp@bellnet.ca).

## Transfer to Senior member status

CSPS MEMBERS WHO have reached their sixtieth birthday are eligible to request transfer to Senior Member status.

Society By-Laws define Senior Members as: "...Active Members who, on attaining their 60th birthday, may apply in writing to transfer to this category. They shall retain a vote, but may not hold office. They will not pay annual dues, but will pay convention subscription on attendance. Sick or disabled members may also apply for transfer to this category."

Senior Associate Members "...shall be non-voting members and may not hold office. They will not pay annual dues, but will pay convention subscription upon attendance."

To request transfer please address a short note to CSPS/SCCP, PO Box 60192 Saint-Denis, Montreal, QC H2J 4E1, Fax: 514-843-7005; [csp\\_sccp@bellnet.ca](mailto:csp_sccp@bellnet.ca).

## Visiting professor funding available

Visiting professor funding is available through the Educational Foundation of the CSPS.

The maximum amount per individual is Cdn\$2,000 to cover travel expenses, hotel accommodations and honorarium. Funds will be allocated with priority given to a professor visiting more than one center.

Application for funding may be made by contacting the Educational Foundation of the CSPS, PO Box 60192 Saint-Denis, Montreal, QC H2J 4E1 (Phone: 514-843-5415; Fax: 514 - 843-7005; e-mail: [csp\\_sccp@bellnet.ca](mailto:csp_sccp@bellnet.ca)).

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## In memoriam

### Loss of our Colleague – Dr. Jonathan Lee



IT IS WITH HEAVY HEARTS that we, the members of the Section Plastic Surgery in Calgary, announce that our friend, colleague and fellow CSPS member Dr. **Jonathan Lee** passed away on June 29, 2020 from complications related to a major stroke.

Jon was a very accomplished man. His undergraduate education, at the University of Calgary, consisted of studies in both science and piano music performance. He attended medical school at University of Alberta, graduating in 2003. He did his residency in plastic surgery at the University of Alberta, finishing in 2008. This was followed by a hand and microvascular surgery fellowship at New York University and then a fellowship in aesthetic plastic surgery in Toronto. In 2009 Jon was recruited to the Section of Plastic Surgery in Calgary, based at the Peter Lougheed Centre. He served as the secretary-treasurer for the Alberta Society of Plastic Surgeons from 2014-2016. He served as Site Lead for Plastic Surgery at the PLC from 2016 – 2018. He was highly regarded for his technical excellence in surgery.

Jon had a kind and gentle demeanor that made it difficult for anyone not to like him. He moved with quiet confidence towards reaching his goals. Together with his wife, soul-mate, and business partner Wanda Lee, he worked to realize his dream of establishing a comprehensive wellness institute, the Calgary Institute of Plastic Surgery.

He leaves behind his wife Wanda and their children, Bennett and Bianca, and stepchildren Owen, Madeline, Emerson, and Nickolaus. He also is survived by his parents, Patrick and Linda, sister Christy and brother-in-law Derek.

We will miss Jon greatly.

## In memoriam



IT IS WITH great regret and immense sorrow that we share with you the sudden passing of our dear colleague and friend, Dr. **Jean-Yves St-Laurent** in November 2019.

Dr. St-Laurent was a treasured teacher, mentor, colleague and friend. We will remember him as an outstanding surgeon, passionate, innovative, ingenious and conscientious. A hard worker, his good humour and infectious enthusiasm left no one indifferent. He was an innate teacher, who knew how to ignite the passion for numerous students who have now become plastic surgeons.

He has marked generations of plastic surgeons and his passing will most certainly leave a great void in our community.

For those wishing to commemorate Dr. St-Laurent, a donation to the All Solidarity Fund of the Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital (<https://www.fondationhmr.ca/en/>) or the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada (<https://www.llscanada.org/>) is welcome.

## SAVE THE NEW DATE:

November 5, 2020

### ANNOUNCING THE 1st CSPS VIRTUAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

In light of the decision by the CSPS Board of Directors not to hold an in-person scientific meeting in 2020, the Program Committee and Board have worked to develop the Society's 1st Virtual Scientific Symposium.

You are invited to save the date: **Thursday, November 5, 2020** and to schedule time between 6-10 pm EST to participate in this unique event, being offered **FREE to all CSPS members, Plastic Surgery Residents and Fellows.**

Presentations on a variety of topics will include question and answer interaction.

This symposium has been granted 3.5 hours of CME accreditation by Dalhousie University CME.

The registration link will be circulated as soon as it becomes available. In the meantime, we invite you to reserve the Fall date and time slot to participate in an invigorating virtual experience.

**CSPS 2021  
74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

From June 15 to 19, 2021 the CSPS will meet at the Fairmont Château Whistler in Whistler, BC.