

December 2015



2015 Friesen Prize Program Luminaries and Institutional Visitors

L to R: **Dr. Aubie Angel**, President, Friends of CIHR; **Dr. Henry G. Friesen**, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, University of Manitoba; **Sir Paul Nurse**, 2015 Friesen Prizewinner; **Dr. Lap-Chee Tsui**, 2014 Friesen Prizewinner; **Dr. Reinhart Reithmeier**, Treasurer, FCIHR; **Prof. Mona Nemer**, VP Research, University of Ottawa.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

15 years have passed since our inception (18 yrs, if you include our predecessor life as “*Alumni and Friends of MRC*”) and the landscape of biomedical research has evolved considerably. While there is still significant distress within certain segments of our community, others have flourished especially genomics and stem cell science. Over the past year, FCIHR organized Institutional visits with Friesen Prizewinners at a number of university centres, including UBC, U Calgary, U Alberta (Edmonton), U of T, U Ottawa and McGill. These visits purposely include gatherings of senior graduate students, MD/PhD trainees and early post-doctoral fellows, which provide valuable insights on current systemic issues and local concerns. Young trainees expressed uncertainties about future employment, which was particularly disconcerting this past year. We all hope that support for Research and Health Human Resources will soon enter an era of “sunny days” based on sound Policy.

Friends of CIHR celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Friesen Prize and honoured Sir Paul Nurse, Past President of the Royal Society and Director & Chief Executive of the Francis Crick Institute. We gathered in Ottawa on December 6th – 8th, 2015 for his Friesen Lecture entitled, “*The Fundamental Significance of Discovery Science in the Creative Process*”. This year’s expanded program included a collaboration with two venerable Canadian institutions – The Royal Canadian Institute for Science (RCIS) and The Banting Research Foundation (BRF) – in organizing two high-level Roundtables on Discovery Science and Graduate Education as drivers for a knowledge-based economy. On December 8th, 2015, Sir Paul travelled to McGill University and was hosted



2015 Friesen Prize Award Presentation to Sir Paul Nurse

*“Pioneering geneticist and cell biologist,
visionary leader of health research organizations and
passionate advocate for Science in Society.”*

L to R: **Sir Paul Nurse**; **Dr. Aubie Angel**;
Dr. Alex MacKenzie, Secretary, FCIHR;
Dr. Rosie Goldstein, VP Research & Int’l Relations, McGill
December 7, 2015 – Rideau Club, Ottawa



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 2016 FRIESEN PRIZE

DEADLINE: February 12, 2016

Nominations for the 2016 Friesen International Prize are welcome. Forms and terms are available at www.fcihr.ca/prize



Presentation of 2015 FCIHR Founders' Award

In recognition of Dr. Michel Chrétien's distinguished scientific career and his contribution to the creation of Friends of CIHR.
 L to R: **Dr. Bruce McManus**, VP, FCIHR; **Prof. Mona Nemer**, VP Research, U Ottawa; **Dr. Michel Chrétien**, 2015 FCIHR Founders' Award; **Dr. Aubie Angel**, President, FCIHR.
 Photograph taken at Rideau Club, Ottawa – December 7, 2015

by Principal Suzanne Fortier and talked on, *"Trial and Error: The Politics of Science"*. Special thanks to Dr. Rosie Goldstein (VP Research & International Relations, McGill) for organizing Sir Paul's Institutional visit.

Friends of CIHR continued its collaborations with the Canadian Society for Clinical Investigation (CSCI) and sponsored a luncheon address by Dr. Michel Chrétien at their annual meeting in Toronto on November 24th, 2015. Dr. Chrétien spoke on, *"From the Pro hormone theory to PCSK9 hypocholesterolemic mutation in French Canadian Families"*. He received his Citation at the Friesen Prize Award Dinner on December 7th, 2015 in Ottawa.

INVITATIONAL ROUNDTABLE PROGRAM – 2015

In collaboration with the Royal Canadian Institute for Science (Ms. Helle Tosine, President) and the Banting Research Foundation (Dr. John Floras, President), distinguished scientists, academic leaders and educators were invited to address two major topics. Our thanks to President Allan Rock and VP Research Mona Nemer for their superb hospitality and institutional support for the Friesen Prize Program, and the Roundtables which were held in the Senate Room at the University of Ottawa. The discussion was lively with prescient insights from the two stars – Sir Paul Nurse and Dr. Henry Friesen.



Welcoming Remarks at 2015 Roundtable Program

L to R: **Sir Paul Nurse**, 2015 Friesen Prizewinner; **Dr. Reza Moridi**, Minister of Research & Innovation, Gov't of Ontario; **Mr. Allan Rock**, President, U Ottawa
 Photograph taken at Senate Rm, U Ottawa – December 7, 2015

Brief presentations reflected personal views and their institutional perspectives.

Roundtable 1 - Title: *"The Role of Discovery Research in the Health of Canadians"*

Welcoming Remarks: Dr. Aubie Angel, President Allan Rock, Minister Reza Moridi

Co-Chairs: Dr. Alan Bernstein and Dr. Lorne Tyrrell

Presenters:

Dr. Dan Drucker, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute, Mount Sinai Hospital; Dr. Roderick R. McInnes, Director, Lady Davis Research Institute; Dr. Rob Van Exan, Director of Immunization Policy, Sanofi Pasteur; Dr. Mario Pinto, President, NSERC
 Dr. Duncan Stewart, President & CEO, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute; Dr. Trevor Young, Dean of Medicine, University of Toronto



Introduction of Co-Chairs – Roundtable 1 on *"The Role of Discovery Research in the Health of Canadians"*

L to R: **Mr. Allan Rock**, President, U Ottawa; **Dr. Alan Bernstein**, President, CIFAR; **Dr. Lorne Tyrrell**, Director, Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology, U Alberta.

Photograph taken at Senate Rm, U Ottawa – December 7, 2015



2015 FRIESEN PRIZE PUBLIC LECTURE – U OTTAWA – DEC. 7:

L to R: **Dr. Mario Pinto** (President, NSERC); **Dr. Alex MacKenzie** (Senior Scientist, CHEO Research Institute); **Mr. Paul Kennedy** (Host, CBC Radio One “Ideas”); **Dr. Michel Chrétien** (2015 Friends of CIHR Founders’ Award); **Dr. John Floras** (immediate Past President, The Banting Research Foundation); **Dr. Reinhart Reithmeier** (Special Advisor to Dean of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto); **Dr. Mona Nemer** (VP Research, University of Ottawa); **Sir Paul Nurse** (2015 Friesen Prizewinner; Chief Executive & Director of The Francis Crick Institute, UK); **Dr. Aubie Angel** (President, Friends of CIHR); **Dr. Rosie Goldstein** (Vice-Principal Research & International Relations, McGill); **Dr. Lorne Tyrrell** (Director, Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology, University of Alberta); **Dr. Catharine Whiteside** (President, The Banting Research Foundation); **Dr. Henry G. Friesen** (Distinguished Professor Emeritus, University of Manitoba); **Dr. Bruce McManus** (CEO, PROOF Centre of Excellence, UBC); **Dr. Maryse Lassonde** (President, Royal Society of Canada).

Roundtable 2 - Title: *“Does Canada have too many PhDs?”*

Co-Chairs: Prof. Mona Nemer and Dr. Maryse Lassonde gave opening remarks and introduced:
 Dr. Michael Bloom, Vice-President, Industry and Business Strategy, Conference Board of Canada
 Dr. Brenda Brouwer, President, Canadian Association for Graduate Studies & Dean, SGS, Queen’s U
 Mr. Paul Davidson, President, Universities Canada
 Dr. David Eidelman, Dean of Medicine, McGill



Co-Chairs of Roundtable 2 on “Does Canada have too many PhDs?”

L to R: **Dr. Maryse Lassonde**, President, Royal Society of Canada; **Prof. Mona Nemer**, VP Research, U Ottawa
 Photograph taken at Senate Rm, U Ottawa – December 8, 2015

Dr. Danika Goosney, Dir. General, Science, CIHR
 Dr. Mehrdad Hariri, CEO and President, Canadian Science Policy Centre; Mr. Rob Henderson, President and CEO, BioTalent; Dr. Ted Hewitt, President, SSHRC; Dr. Reinhart Reithmeier, Special Advisor to Dean of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto; Dr. Janet Rossant, Chief of Research Emeritus, Sick Kids Hospital

FRIESEN PRIZE LECTURES of 2015

Dr. Lap-Chee Tsui:

“A Journey from Genomic Science to Health Solutions” – St. Paul’s Hospital, UBC and AIHS Health Policy Speaker Series, Edmonton;
 “Windows of Opportunity: Working in the Frontiers of Biomedical Research” – University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine; “Cystic Fibrosis from the Perspective of a Molecular Geneticist” – University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry



Ms Cristina S. Castellvi, Admin Assistant of FCIHR, and friend.



IN MEMORIAM

We note the passing in 2015 of dear colleagues who contributed so much to Canadian research, academic leadership and support of FCIHR and its goals. **Dr. Claude Roy** (joined 1996), **Dr. John "Jack" Laidlaw** (joined 1996) and **Dr. Cy Frank** (FCIHR Board member) and **Dr. John R. Evans** (2007 Friesen Prizewinner). Their collegial spirit and camaraderie prevail.



Montage of Dr. Lap-Chee Tsui's visits – March 2015

Top Left: **Ms. Dianne Doyle**, President and CEO, Providence Health Care; **Dr. Lap-Chee Tsui**; **Dr. Pearce Wilcox**, Professor, UBC Dept of Medicine & Medical Director, Adult CF Clinic, St Paul's Hospital; Top Right: **U Calgary-Dr. Angel** and **Dr. Tsui**; Bottom Left: **Dr. Harvey Rabin** presents gift from Cystic Fibrosis Canada. Bottom Right: A visit to Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology. **Dr. Angel**, **Dr. Tsui** and **Dr. Lorne Tyrrell**, U Alberta.

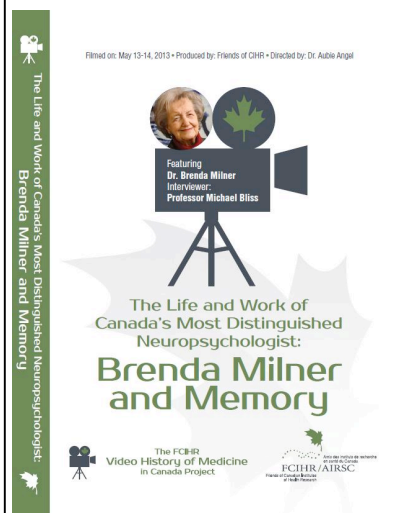
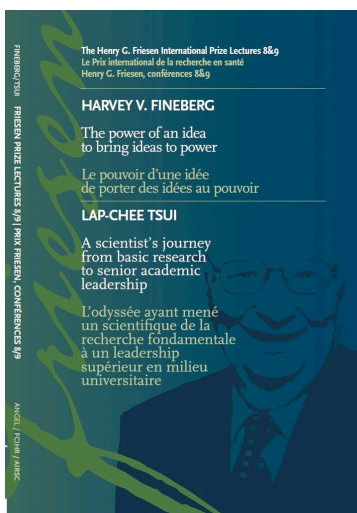
Sir Paul Nurse – Friesen Lectures:

"The Fundamental Significance of Discovery Science in the Creative Process" – University of Ottawa

"Trial and Error: The Politics of Science" – McGill

PUBLICATIONS IN 2015

Friends of CIHR published the 4th book of the Friesen Prize Lectures featuring manuscripts by Dr. Harvey V. Fineberg (2013) and Dr. Lap-Chee Tsui (2014). These books are distributed widely to members of FCIHR, university and research institute Heads, to graduate students and Faculty members at institutions we visit. The FCIHR Video History of Medicine Project produced a set of 3 DVDs featuring an in-depth interview of Prof. Brenda Milner's life by noted Historian Michael Bliss. These were distributed at the McGill/MNI Neuropsychology Day on 04/20/15.



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FCIHR Spotlight – An Annual Report of Activities

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