

Massey Grand Rounds March 19, 2014

Today's a day to celebrate our Massey Grand Rounds - Version 8,
Awash amidst the flood of tears that marks the end of the Fraser years.
We focused on disparity and searched for greater clarity
The fix is more complex than just more moolah from Jim Flaherty.
(And that great rhyme is a day late and a dollar short)

Junior Fellows, as in other years, got us started with a bang
Thanks to Lisette Duchess of Yorke and of course to Sabrina Tang.
The ebullient Aubie Angel and our Master bid us welcome
As smooth and dry as skin that's powdered liberally with talcum.

Greetings came from Kendra Komsa,
The awesome rep from NOSM;
Bios via Mosa and Zazlavsky -
With which nothing really rhymes (except Xhosa, Formosa, samosa, and Madame Blavatsky)

The plenaries were chaired by one sagacious, never showy -
I speak, of course, with great respect, of leonine Freddy Lowy.
A former Dean of Medicine, Concordia's past Rector,
And when it comes to ethics, an assiduous inspector.

Samir Sinha spoke of needs of those who – unlike me - are older
And disparities that at their age they should not have to shoulder.
Bruce Newbold talked of immigrants, the backbone of our nation,
Source of cultural prosperity not to mention innovation.

My ancestors fled Lithuania and Russia, risking all;
Some settled in Cape Breton, others stayed in Montreal.
They would view this rhyme as narrishkeit – that's nonsense to you all,
They would also call it chutzpahdik, which means unbridled gall.

I spoke next of mental illness and the barriers to care
Inequities that psychiatric patients should not bear.

We chatted then we ate and drank, some people left the room
Bladders empty/bellies full then meant the session could resume.
JFs P. Steadman and A. Harris shared this second session's chair
Avec Veronique Morin – journaliste extraordinaire.

I often wonder how one could be quite as smart as Dr. Baumann
As she talked of health and its impact on jobs;
Then Bruce Newbold spoke again, a second time,
Not just once, like the rest of us poor slobs.

We closed with Raisa Deber, in whom I am a Belieber,

A scholar U of T can proudly claim;

She challenged us to think in different ways if we

Are serious in changing regulations of the game.

I'm out of words, I'm done with rhyme, this verbiage now must end

Even though I still believe that doggerel is a man's best friend.

Some Auden-like blank verse would be, of course, more apt and classy

But not for what they pay me to be at Grand Rounds at Massey.

David S. Goldbloom, MD, FRCPC