

2023 Spotlight on FCIHR



December 2023







No. XIV



2023 Friesen Prize Award Dinner in honour of Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta – Rideau Club – November 6, 2023 – Ottawa

Left to Right: Miss Na Zeng (U Ottawa Trainee); Miss Aiman Baig (U Ottawa Trainee); Mr. Charles Thickstun (U Ottawa Trainee); Dr. Peter Liu (Ottawa Heart); Mr. Marc LePage (Former Genome Canada); Dr. Bettina Hamelin (Ontario Genomics); Dr. Manisha Kulkarni (U Ottawa); Ms. Katie Lafferty (Canadian Partnership for Stroke Recovery); Dr. Tammy Clifford (CIHR); Dr. Naveed Aziz (CGen); Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta (2023 Friesen Prizewinner); Senator Salma Ataullahjan; Dr. Carolyn Bennett (Former Minister); Dr. Alex MacKenzie (CHEO); Dr. Kumanan Wilson (OHRI); Dr. Pranesh Chakraborty (CHEO); Mr. Eddy Nason (Genome Canada); Dr. Sylvain Charbonneau (U Ottawa); Dr. Bernard Thébaud (OHRI); Miss Cristina S. Castellvi (FCIHR); Dr. Ken Johnson (U Ottawa); Mrs. Betty Anne Daviss (Midwife, Researcher); Dr. Vivian Welch (Campbell Collaboration); Dr. Janet Hatcher Roberts (Bruyère Research Institute); Dr. Supriya Sharma (Health Canada); Dr. Yvonne Ying (CHEO); Mr. Khalil Shariff (Aga Khan Foundation Canada); Ms. Barbara Grantham (CARE Canada). Photo Credit: Pakistan High Commissioner Mr. Zaheer A. Janjua.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

2023 has been another exciting year for Friends of CIHR. The early part of the year saw our 2022 Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research laureate, Dr. Lorne Tyrrell, complete his crosscountry tour with lectures and discussions with colleagues and trainees at U Manitoba, UBC and U Calgary. And in the Autum, Dr. Zulfigar Bhutta, our 2023 Friesen Prize laureate completed a whirlwind series of lectures, roundtables, meetings with trainees and celebratory events at U Ottawa, McGill University (as part of their annual Global Health Night) and U Toronto/Hospital for Sick Children. I had the deepest personal honour to get to better know both Lorne and Zulfi during our many Uber and taxi rides and walks from one venue to the other. Not only are they both extraordinary scientists and global leaders in Health Research, but wonderfully humble, compassionate individuals modeled in the true sense of the 'Renaissance Man'. Dr. Megan Azad was our 2023 Janet Rossant Lecturer heading up a stellar panel with Drs. Susy Hoda and Giada De Palma hosted at Massey College, and the ongoing leadership of Robyn Loves and Georgia Hadjis (co-Chairs, Massey Grand Rounds) has led to development of an outstanding educational series of MGR faculty leaders for the Junior Fellows. And our course, a major highlight of the year was the celebratory dinner in honour of Dr. Angel and Esther-Rose Angel and inauguration of the Dr. Aubie and Esther-Rose Angel Leadership Prize at Massev College. On a more personal note, as I near the end of my term as President of FCIHR. I would like to express a particular thanks to the FCIHR Executive (Drs. Beverley Holmes, Alex Mackenzie and Reinhart Reithmeier) for their unwavering support and friendship throughout my tenure and in particular over the last few months as we work towards a transition period.



2023 Friesen Prize Award Presentation to
Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta – Faculty Club – Nov. 8, 2023
Photo Credit: Trainees Nicole Weber, Nina Trask & Nickaya Parris.

I would be remiss not to make special note of Cristina Castellvi has been a loyal, extraordinarily talented partner for me in her role as Administrative Assistant for FCIHR. Her remarkable historical knowledge of every nuance, her attention to detail, her management of finances and her wonderfully engaging personality are recognized by all who work and interact with her. I would also like to thank Dr. Angel and the FCIHR Board for their ongoing sage advice, candor and passion in our many meetings and offline discussions. As we enter a new phase for FCIHR and its jewel in the crown – the Friesen Prize - I am thrilled to welcome Dr. Peter Lewis as the President-Elect for FCIHR, taking on the Interim President role effective January 1, 2024. I look forward to working closely with Peter during this transition. I thank all of you for continuing to trumpet the worldclass excellence of Canadian science and health research. Indeed, we have much to celebrate! I wish you and your families a happy and restful holiday season and all the best for a happy, healthy, productive and peaceful New Year.

Dr. David Malkin President, Friends of CIHR

2023 Ottawa Friesen Prize Program Events

Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta, 2023 Friesen Prizewinner, was introduced at the 2023 Ottawa Leaders' Brunch & Roundtable entitled: "Child Health Inequities in Canada & Around the World". Dr. Jason Berman chaired the event. Dr. Duncan Stewart (CEO & Scientific Director, OHRI) delivered remarks. The following speakers gave brief presentations: Dr. Manisha Kulkarni [Assistant Dean, Global Health Program, International & Global Health Office (IGHO), U Ottawa]; Dr. Mark Walker (Vice-Dean, Internationalization and Global Health, U Ottawa;

Internationalization and Global Health, U Ottawa; Head, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Newborn Care, Ottawa Hospital); Dr. Yvonne Ying (Paediatric Plastic Surgeon, CHEO; Plastic Surgeon, Ottawa Hospital). The 2023 U Ottawa Friesen Lecture delivered by Dr. Zulfigar Bhutta was entitled: "The future of maternal & child health globally: challenges and opportunities". Dr. Sylvain Charbonneau (VP Research & Innovation, U Ottawa) offered welcoming remarks. This year marked a return to the Pavillon Roger Guindon (RGN) venue. The 2023 Friesen Prize Award Dinner was held at the Rideau Club on Monday, November 6, 2023 in honour of Dr. Zulfigar Bhutta. Master of Ceremonies Dr. Alex MacKenzie (Secretary, FCIHR; Senior Scientist, CHEO) was joined by Dr. Sylvain Charbonneau (VPRI, U Ottawa); Dr. Tammy Clifford (Acting President, CIHR); Mr. Zaheer A. Janjua (Pakistan High Commissioner); Senator Salma Ataullahjan; Mr. Marc LePage (Past President, Genome Canada); Mr. Khalil Shariff (CEO, Aga Khan Foundation Canada); Senator Colin Deacon; Dr. Supriya Sharma (Health Canada) & former Minister Dr. Carolyn Bennett. Guests included sponsors, university leaders and presidents of major health research organizations.



2023 Sick Kids-U of T Friesen Lecture - November 8, 2023 Left: Dr. David Malkin (President, FCIHR) Right: Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta (2023 Friesen Prizewinner) Photo Credit: Dr. Reinhart Reithmeier (Treasurer, FCIHR)



2023 Friesen Prize Award Presentation to Dr. Zulfigar Bhutta – Faculty Club, U of T – Nov. 8, 2023

L to R: Dr. Aubie Angel (Emeritus President & Senior Advisor, FCIHR); Principal Nathalie Des Rosiers (Massey College); Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta (2023 Friesen Prizewinner); Dr. David Malkin (President, FCIHR).
Photo Credit: Trainees Nicole Weber, Nina Trask & Nickaya Parris

2023 Massey-Sick Kids-U of T Friesen Prize visit

On November 8, U of T VPRI & Temerty Faculty of Medicine hosted a Roundtable at Massey College on: "Child Health Inequities in Canada and Around the World". This Roundtable was chaired by Dr. Reinhart Reithmeier (Treasurer, FCIHR). Dr. Bhutta delivered the 2023 Sick Kids Friesen Lecture at the Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning at the Hospital for Sick Children: "The future of maternal & child health globally: challenges and opportunities". Thank you to Dr. Stephen Scherer (Chief of Research, Sick Kids) for hosting a luncheon gathering for trainees to receive some mentorship advice from Dr. Bhutta.



2023 McGill Friesen Prize visit - November 9, 2023

On November 9, Dr. Bhutta was featured in the 2023 McGill Global Health Night and delivered the 2023 McGill Friesen Lecture entitled: "Climate Change and Maternal & Child Health Globally: what can and should be done?". He was joined by Hon. Dr. Keith Martin, P.C., Founding Executive Director of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health.







2023 MGR Symposium & 2023 Janet Rossant Lecturer Dr. Meghan Azad – October 23, 2023 – Massey College
L to R: Georgia Hadjis (2023-2024 MGR Co-Chair, Junior Fellow); Dr. Susy Hoda (Medical Director, Infection Prevention and Control & Medical Device Reprocessing Department, UHN); Dr. Meghan Azad (2023 Janet Rossant Lecturer); Dr. Giada De Palma (Assistant Professor, Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University). Photo Credit: Robyn Loves.



2023 MGR Symposium – Oct. 23 L to R: Dr. Aubie Angel (Founding Chair, MGR Program); Dr. Meghan Azad (2023 Janet Rossant Lecturer) & 2023-2024 MGR Co-Chairs Georgia Hadjis & Robyn Loves (Junior Fellows).

Thank you to hosts Dr. Charles Larson (Director, McGill Global Health Programs); Dr. Tim Evans (Director, McGill School of Population & Global Health) & McGill Organizers Kevin O'Neill & Jesse Radz. The Videorecording – 2023 McGill Global Health Night can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/live/ZVt6tlCMrS8?si=9YDR7u1SNOBWSP3w

Early 2024 Institutional visits by Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta

U Waterloo Friesen visit - Tuesday, January 16, 2024 Hosts: President Vivek Goel, Dr. Bernard Duncker & Dr. Charmaine Dean. The title of the 2024 U Waterloo Friesen Lecture by Dr. "Addressing maternal and child health and Bhutta is: sustainable development: the do's and don't of doing so equitably." McMaster University - Hosts: Dr. Jonathan Bramson, Dr. Sonia Anand and Dr. Andrea Baumann. The title of the 2024 McMaster Friesen Lecture by Dr. Bhutta is: "Addressing maternal and child health and sustainable development: the do's and don't of doing so equitably." UBC -Hosts: Dr. Herbert Rosengarten (Professor Emeritus, English, UBC; Program Chair, The Vancouver Institute) & Dr. Bev Holmes (VP, FCIHR; President & CEO, Michael Smith Health Research BC). U Calgary - Host: Dean Todd Anderson (Cumming School of Medicine). U Manitoba - Host: Dean Peter Nickerson (Max Rady College of Medicine).



Dr. Meghan Azad 2023 Janet Rossant Lecturer

Dr. Azad is Professor of Pediatrics and Child Health, University of Manitoba; Director of Science & Knowledge Mobilization, THRiVE Discovery Lab; Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Developmental Origins of Chronic Disease "Modeling Milk & Microbes: new approaches to understanding how breastfeeding supports the infant microbiome and lifelong health".

2023-2024 Massey Grand Rounds (MGR) Program

Junior Fellows **Georgia Hadjis** & **Robyn Loves** are the 2023-2024 MGR Co-Chairs at Massey College, U of Toronto. The group is chaired by **Dr. David Malkin**. Senior Mentors include **Drs Reinhart Reithmeier**, **Janet Rossant** and **Alan Bernstein**.

Oct. 23 – 2023 Janet Rossant Lectureship* and 2023 MGR Symposium at Massey College

"Trust your Gut: The Microbiome in Health & Disease" featuring Dr. Meghan Azad, 2023 Janet Rossant Lecturer.

Complementary speakers included: **Dr. Susy Hoda** (Medical Director, Infection Prevention and Control & Medical Device Reprocessing Department, UHN) **& Dr. Giada De Palma** (Assistant Professor, Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University). The Videorecording can be viewed at: https://youtu.be/SIXW6nr9TKU?si=irN8rNjeE3IRTITP



April 4, 2023 - Special Celebration for Dr. Aubie & Mrs. Esther-Rose Angel at Massey College

Photo Credit: Milan Ilnyckyj

"The Dr. Aubie and Esther-Rose Angel Leadership Prize at Massey College"

The Dr. Aubie and Esther-Rose Angel Leadership Prize of a minimum of \$2,000 and a memento will be awarded annually to a Junior Fellow or Junior Fellows of Massey College enrolled in medicine or related sciences (eg. nursing, bioethics, biomedical engineering, etc.), who have supported the Massey community through their leadership abilities and accomplishments.

Congratulations, Dr. Peter N. Lewis!

New Interim President, Friends of CIHR Effective January 1, 2024

Dr. Peter N. Lewis, PhD, FCAHS, Professor Emeritus Biochemistry, University Toronto. He served as Associate Vice President, Research and Innovation (AVPRI) as well as Interim Vice President, Research and Innovation (July 2014 - Jan 2015). His AVPRI roles included Innovations and Partnerships (IPO) (2010-2012) and Global Research Partnerships (GRP) (2012-date). He was instrumental in transforming U of T tech transfer to Canada's leading innovation office and a leader in North America. Dr. Lewis believes that is a very important time for heath science advocacy in Canada. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Lewis to Friends of CIHR.



Dr. Peter N. Lewis Senior Fellow Massey College



COLLEGE

In Memoriam

We honour the memory of:

Dr. Henry Dinsdale (Past Vice President, FCIHR)
Dr. Pawan Singal (FCIHR Member)

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FCIHR Spotlight – An Annual Report of Activities

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Editor: Dr. David Malkin, President, FCIHR Design and Production: Miss Cristina S. Castellvi,

Administrative Assistant, FCIHR

Contact: FCIHR, 4 Devonshire PI, Toronto, ON M5S 2E1 Tel. #: (416) 506-1597; FriendsofCIHR@gmail.com