25th Annual Heart Institute Research Day

Presentation Program

May 7, 2012
Foustanellas Auditorium
University of Ottawa Heart Institute
# Research Day Program at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 8:30</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 – 8:45</td>
<td><strong>Opening Remarks</strong> (Dr. Robert Roberts)</td>
<td>CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Research at the Heart Institute—A Retrospective</strong> (Dr. Terrence Ruddy &amp; Yves Marcel, PhD)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 – 9:05</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Address</strong> (Dr. Peter Backx, DVM, PhD, Chair of the Heart &amp; Stroke Foundation of Canada’s Scientific Review Committee)</td>
<td>CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:05 – 9:15</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 – 10:45</td>
<td><strong>Oral Presentations:</strong></td>
<td>CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Basic Science Oral Presentations: First Session (p. 3)</td>
<td>WF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Clinical Science Oral Presentations: First Session (p. 4)</td>
<td>CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 – 12:00</td>
<td><strong>Poster Presentations:</strong></td>
<td>TR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Basic Science Posters: First Session (p. 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Allied &amp; Population Health Posters (p. 6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 – 12:20</td>
<td><strong>Introduction of the UOHI Investigators of the Year</strong> (Dr. Robert Roberts)</td>
<td>CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:20 – 12:40</td>
<td><strong>Basic Science Investigator of the Year Presentation</strong> (Yves Marcel, PhD)</td>
<td>CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:40 – 1:00</td>
<td><strong>Clinical Science Investigator of the Year Presentation</strong> (Dr. Derek So)</td>
<td>CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 – 1:20</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:20 – 2:50</td>
<td><strong>Oral Presentations:</strong></td>
<td>CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Basic Science Oral Presentations: Second Session (p. 7)</td>
<td>WF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Clinical Science Oral Presentations: Second Session (p. 7)</td>
<td>EF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Allied &amp; Population Health Oral Presentations (p. 8)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:50 – 3:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 – 4:45</td>
<td><strong>Poster Presentations:</strong></td>
<td>TR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Basic Science Posters: Second Session (p. 8)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Clinical Science Posters (p. 10)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45 – 5:00</td>
<td><strong>Wine &amp; Cheese Reception</strong></td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 – 5:30</td>
<td><strong>Awards for Best Oral &amp; Poster Presentations</strong> (Dr. Thierry Mesana)</td>
<td>CF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**L** – Lobby Outside of Foustanellas  
**WF** – West Foustanellas Auditorium  
**TR** – Track Room  
**CF** – Centre Foustanellas Auditorium  
**EF** – East Foustanellas Auditorium
Continental Breakfast *(Lobby Outside of Foustanellas)*
8:00 – 8:30 A.M.

Opening Ceremony *(Centre Foustanellas)*
8:30 – 9:05 A.M.

- **Opening Remarks** *(Dr. Robert Roberts)*
- **Research at the Heart Institute—A Retrospective** *(Dr. Terrence Ruddy & Yves Marcel, PhD)*
- **Keynote Address by Dr. Peter Backx**
  "My views of science: Where we were, where we are & where we are going"

Peter Backx received his B.Sc., M.Sc. and DVM from the University of Guelph in biophysics, chemistry and veterinary medicine. He subsequently completed his Ph.D. from the University of Calgary and postdoctoral training at Johns Hopkins. Peter joined the Department of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University as an Assistant Professor in 1991. In October 1993, Dr. Backx moved to the Department of Medicine at the University Health Network (Toronto General Hospital), University of Toronto as a Staff Scientist and Assistant Professor. Peter is currently a Senior Scientist at the University Health Network and Professor of Physiology and Medicine at the University of Toronto, where he is also the Director of the Transgenic Mouse Phenotyping Laboratory at the Heart and Stroke Richard Lewar Centre of Excellence. Peter has been a Career Investigator from the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Ontario since 1999. He is also a Fellow of the American Heart Association and Royal Society of Canada. His research focuses on the role of ion transport, ion channels and myocardial signaling in the initiation and progression of heart disease with a particular interest in cardiac arrhythmias such as atrial fibrillation. He has published over 157 scientific articles and many of his trainees have appointments at leading research institutions and universities worldwide.

Morning Oral Presentations: Simultaneous Sessions
9:15 – 10:45 A.M.

**Session 1: Basic Science Oral Presentations** *(Centre Foustanellas)*
**Judges:** Dr. Darryl Davis, Dr. Peter Liu, Dr. Frans Leenen, Dr. Peter Backx

9:15 **O-1** A gain of function variant of the mitochondrial protease SPG7 is associated with increased risk of coronary artery disease.
Naif A.M. Almontashiri (Supervisor: Alexandre Stewart, PhD)

9:30 **O-2** Enhanced Matrix for Cardiomyogenesis and Regeneration of Infarcted Hearts
Nick Blackburn (Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD)
9:45  O-3 Coronary Endothelial Function Evaluated in Mice with $[^{11}\text{C}]$acetate PET Blood Flow Imaging
Etienne Croteau (Supervisor: Robert deKemp, PhD)

10:00  O-4 Changes in cardiac sympathetic innervation and ubiquitin-proteasome system in rats after myocardial infarction.
Anastasia Drobysheva (Supervisor: Dr. Frans Leenen)

10:15  O-5 Regulation of Low Density Lipoprotein (LDL) Receptor Degradation: The Effect of PCSK9-LDL Association
Mia Golder (Supervisor: Thomas Lagace, PhD)

10:30  O-6 $[^{11}\text{C}]$Methyl-EXP3174 as a Potential Radioligand For Imaging AT$_1$Receptor With PET
Basma Ismail (Supervisor: Jean DaSilva, PhD)

**Session 2: Clinical Science Oral Presentations** (West Foustanellas)
**Judges:** Dr. Marc Ruel, Dr. Kwan Chan, Dr. Calum Redpath, Dr. Chris Hudson

9:15  0-13 Acutely Symptomatic High-risk for Stroke Patients have Greater Internal Carotid Artery Inflammation: Insights from FDG-PET Imaging - A FDG PET sub-study of the Canadian Atherosclerosis Imaging Network (CAIN)
Dr. Myra Cocker (Supervisor: Dr. Rob Beanlands)

9:30  0-14 Quantitative Scar Imaging using Multislice Computed Tomography
Dr. Girish Dwivedi (Supervisor: Dr. Benjamin Chow)

9:45  O-15 Double Valve Replacement: Biological versus Mechanical Prostheses
Dr. Elsayed Elmistekawy (Supervisor: Dr. Marc Ruel)

10:00  O-16 Bivalirudin for Primary Percutaneous Coronary Interventions: Outcome Assessment in the Ottawa STEMI Registry
Dr. Benjamin Hibbert (Supervisor: Dr. Michel Le May)

10:15  O-17 Functional Significance of Recurrent Mitral Regurgitation after Mitral Valve Repair for Ischemic Mitral Regurgitation
Dr. Andranik Petrosyan (Supervisor: Dr. Marc Ruel)

10:30  O-18 Point-of-Care Genetic Testing for Personalization of Anti-Platelet Therapy: A First Description in Clinical Medicine
Dr. Jason D. Roberts (Supervisor: Dr. Derek So)
Morning Poster Presentations (Track Room)
10:45 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Basic Science Poster Presentations

Judges:  Dan Sparks, PhD, Thomas Lagace, PhD, Erik Suuronen, PhD, Ross Milne, PhD, Katey Rayner, PhD, Dr. Peter Backx, Ilona Skerjanc, PhD, Balwant Tuana, PhD, Alexandre Stewart, PhD

P-3 Serum interferon alpha-21 is a biomarker that predicts coronary artery disease in individuals homozygous for the 9p21.3 risk locus.
Naif A.M. Almontashiri (Supervisor: Alexandre Stewart, PhD)

P-4 In vitro Cell-Material Interactions of Physically Cross-Linked Chitosan Derived Hydrogels for Tissue Engineered Scaffold Applications
Anna Badner (Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD)

P-5 Mitochondrial Plasticity Alters Calcium Handling in Differentiated C2C12 Myotubes
Bou Khalil, Maroun (Supervisor: Dr. Calum Redpath)

P-6 Gli2 enhances cardiomyogenesis in mouse embryonic stem cells by recruiting Brg1 to the cardiac progenitor gene, Mef2c
Joel Fair (Ilona Skerjanc, PhD)

P-7 Effect of Phorbol-12-Myristate-13-Acetate Treatment on Migration of Human Circulating Angiogenic Cells
Khrystyna Herasym (Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD)

P-8 A novel cardioprotective role of ZFP260 transcription factor against Doxorubicin-induced cardiotoxicity
Hiba Komati (Supervisor: Mona Nemer, PhD)

P-9 Regenerative Effects of a Collagen Matrix Are Amplified in Necrotic and Dystrophic Microenvironments
Drew Kuraitis (Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD)

P-10 Phosphatidylcholine Metabolism and ACAT Affect the Trafficking of LDL-derived Free Cholesterol in Cholesterol-loaded CHO Cells
Chandra Landry (Supervisor: Thomas Lagace, PhD)

P-11 Collagen:chitosan hydrogels for stimulation of angiogenesis in a type I diabetic mouse model: Potential use as a pre-vascularized ectopic site for islet transplantation
Joanne McBane (Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD)
Allied & Population Health Poster Presentations

Judges: Robert Reid, PhD, Dr. Michèle de Margerie, Kathryn Williams, Lisa McDonnell

P-43 Extending Tobacco Treatment Excellence (ExTENDS): A Quantitative Evaluation of a National Dissemination of Systems
Laura Jones (Supervisor: Kerri-Anne Mullen)

P-44 Learning Effect in 6-Minute Walk Testing Among Low Intensity Cardiac Rehabilitation Participants: A Pilot Study
Marja-Leena Keast

P-45 Pilot study of a screening and intervention program for diabetes among hospital patients: the Ottawa Model for Undiagnosed Diabetes
Jana Kocourek (Supervisor: Robert Reid, PhD)

P-46 Extending Tobacco Treatment Excellence (ExTends): A Qualitative Evaluation of Factors Relating to Program Sustainability
Jana Kocourek (Supervisor: Kerri-Anne Mullen)

P-47 What resources exist for health care providers to address smoking cessation among pregnant women, and what factors need to be considered for future intervention strategies in the Baffin Region of Nunavut?
Chantal Nelson (Supervisor: Robert Reid, PhD)

P-48 A qualitative exploration of physical activity patterns among family members of people with coronary heart disease
Dana Riley (Supervisor: Dr. Robert Reid, PhD)

P-49 Effects of a 12-week behavioural risk reduction program on physical activity levels in family members of patients with coronary heart disease: Secondary outcomes from a randomized controlled trial
Dana Riley (Supervisor: Robert Reid, PhD)

P-50 Neighbourhood walkability and physical activity among family members of people with heart disease who participated in a randomized controlled trial of a behavioural risk reduction intervention
Dana Riley (Supervisor: Robert Reid, PhD)

Lunch (Lobby Outside of Foustanellas)
12:00 P.M.

Investigators of the Year Presentations (Centre Foustanellas)
12:15 – 1:00 P.M.
Afternoon Oral Presentations: Simultaneous Sessions
1:20 – 2:50 P.M.

Session 1: Basic Science Oral Presentations (Centre Foustanellas)
Judges: Dr. Darryl Davis, Dr. Peter Liu, Dr. Frans Leenen, Dr. Peter Backx

1:20 O-7 A direct comparison of cardiac and blood stem cells reveals unique paracrine signatures with an equivalent capacity for myocardial repair
Nicholas Latham (Supervisor: Dr. Darryl Davis)

1:35 O-8 Deregulation of E2F6 in Myocardium Induces miR-206 Leading to a Loss of Connexin-43 and Dilated Cardiomyopathy
Jennifer Major (Supervisor: Balwant S. Tuana, PhD)

1:50 O-9 Collagen matrices enhance circulating angiogenic cell function through the integrin receptors
Brian McNeill (Supervisors: Dr. Marc Ruel and Erik Suuronen, PhD)

2:05 O-10 Hematopoietic Over-Expression of Heat Shock Protein 27 is Atheroprotective and Extracellular Heat Shock Protein 27 Signals Through NF-kB to Favorably Modulate Macrophage Inflammation
Tara Seibert (Supervisor: Dr. Edward O’Brien)

2:20 O-11 The intracellular redox state is a core determinant of mitochondrial fusion
Timothy Shutt (Supervisor: Ross Milne, PhD)

Session 2: Clinical Science Oral Presentations (West Foustanellas)
Judges: Dr. Marc Ruel, Dr. Kwan Chan, Dr. Calum Redpath, Dr. Chris Hudson

1:20 O-19 Performance of CT coronary angiography in the elderly: does a life time of exposure to cardiac risk factors preclude diagnostic scans?
Dr. Gary R Small (Supervisor: Dr. Benjamin Chow)

1:35 O-20 Postoperative Tracheostomy as an Independent Predictor of Sternal Wound Infection: a Retrospective Study
Dr. Louise Sun (Supervisor: Dr. Bernard McDonald)

1:50 O-21 Clinical Impact of Neurocognitive Deficits Following Cardiac Surgery
Dr. Hadi Toeg (Supervisor: Dr. Munir Boodhwani)

2:05 O-22 The impact of hemodynamic parameters and target-vessel characteristics on hyperplasia of saphenous vein grafts at 1 year: analysis from the CASCADE randomized trial
Dr. Dai Une (Supervisor: Dr. Marc Ruel)

2:20 O-23 Steroids and the Treatment of Cardiac Sarcoidosis: A Systemic Review
Mouhannad Sadek (Supervisor: Dr. David Birnie)
Session 3: Allied & Population Health Oral Presentations (East Foustanellas)  
Judges: Dr. Heather Tulloch, Sophia Papadakis, PhD, Dr. George Fodor

1:20   O-25 Triaging Patients for Exercise Stress Testing in Cardiac Rehabilitation  
       Jennifer Harris (Supervisor: Dr. Andrew Pipe)

       Eftyhia Helis (Supervisor: Dr. George Fodor)

1:50   O-27 A case-managed home program for primary and secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease: Clinical results of the FrancoForme Program.  
       Marc Laflamme (Supervisor: Dr. Michèle de Margerie)

2:05   O-28 Randomized trial of an interactive, voice response-mediated follow-up system for smoking cessation in smokers with coronary heart disease  
       Kerri-Anne Mullen (Supervisor: Robert Reid, PhD) 

2:20   O-29 A Social Ecological Approach to Understanding Physical Activity: A mixed methods exploration of the individual, family and neighbourhood characteristics that influence physical activity among Family Heart Health: Randomized, Controlled Trial participants  
       Dana Riley (Supervisor: Robert Reid, PhD)

2:35   O-30 Impact of Acute Versus Stable Coronary Heart Disease on Smoking Cessation Success  
       Ashley Armstrong (Supervisor: Robert Reid, PhD)

Afternoon Poster Presentations (Track Room)  
3:00 – 4:45 P.M.

Basic Science Poster Presentations
Judges: Dan Sparks, PhD, Thomas Lagace, PhD, Erik Suuronen, PhD,  
        Ross Milne, PhD, Katey Rayner, PhD, Dr. Peter Backx,  
        Ilona Skerjanc, PhD, Balwant Tuana, PhD, Alexandre Stewart, PhD

P-12    Collagen-laminin hydrogels for delivery of insulin-producing tissue for the treatment of type 1 diabetes  
        Kimberly McEwan (Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD)

P-13    Network-based Genomic Mapping highlights the influence of Central-Nervous System Pathways on Obesity  
        Majid Nikpay (Supervisor: Dr. Ruth McPherson)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P-14</td>
<td>Synthesis and Characterization of Chitosan-Derived Hydrogels for Cardiovascular Tissue Engineering</td>
<td>Donna Padavan (Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-15</td>
<td>Cathepsin G and atherosclerotic lesion complexity</td>
<td>Naimeh Rafatian (Supervisors: Dr. Frans Leenen and late Stewart Whitman, PhD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-16</td>
<td>Initial Evaluation of a Spline Model for Sampling of the Right Ventricle Myocardium from Cardiac PET Images</td>
<td>Simisani Takobana (Supervisors: Ran Klein, PhD, Heart Institute; Andy Alder, PhD, Carleton University; Robert DeKemp, PhD, Heart Institute)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-17</td>
<td>MicroPET imaging of Cardiac FTHA uptake in mice: Effect of Isoflurane Anaesthesia</td>
<td>Presented by Stephanie Thorn for Aleks Brezar (Supervisor: Jean DaSilva, PhD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-18</td>
<td>Single cell encapsulation of cardiac stem cells to enhance acute engraftment</td>
<td>Everad Tilokee (Supervisors: Dr. Darryl Davis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-19</td>
<td>Evaluation of a New, Clinically Relevant Biopolymer Matrix for Vasculogenesis and Myogenesis in the Setting of Acute Myocardial Infarction</td>
<td>Hadi Toeg (Supervisor: Dr. Marc Ruel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-20</td>
<td>Over-expression of glyoxalase-1 in the bone marrow reverses defective neovascularization in streptozotocin-induced diabetic mice</td>
<td>Branka Vulesevic (Supervisors: Erik Suuronen, PhD and Ross Milne, PhD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-21</td>
<td>Deletion of Klf13 in mice leads to endocardial cushion defects</td>
<td>Abir Yamak (Supervisor: Mona Nemer, PhD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-22</td>
<td>Identification of GATA4 regulatory mechanisms associated with heart development and disease</td>
<td>Jamie Whitcomb (Supervisor: Mona Nemer, PhD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-23</td>
<td>Stimulation of macrophage apoptosis in cIAP2 x ApoE double-knockout atherogenic mice with tumour necrosis factor alpha</td>
<td>Presented by Lyne Sleiman for Alex Norgaard (Supervisors: Dr. Robert Beanlands and Tom Moon, PhD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-51</td>
<td>Functional Relationship of the COL4A1/COL4A2 Locus on Chromosome 13q34 to Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)</td>
<td>Adam Turner (Supervisor: Dr. Ruth McPherson)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Clinical Science Poster Presentations

Judges: Dr. Munir Boodhwani, Dr. Pablo Nery, Dr. Benjamin Chow, Dr. Derek So, Dr. Jason Roberts, Dr. Benjamin Hibbert, Dr. Alexander Dick, Dr. Mustapha Kazmi

P-24 Left atrial volume index during ventricular diastasis assessed by cardiac computed tomography is an incremental predictor adverse events
Dr. Mohammed Alam (Supervisor: Dr. Benjamin Chow)

P-25 Aortic Root Geometry in Bicuspid Aortic Insufficiency versus Stenosis: Implications for Valve Preservation and Repair
Dr. Talal Al-Atassi (Supervisor: Dr. Munir Boodhwani)

P-26 Integrin and CMR Imaging of the Extent of SCAR in Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy
Dr. Myra Cocker (Supervisor: Dr. Terrence Ruddy)

P-27 Exercise Stress FDG Imaging as a More Sensitive Indicator of the Extent of Myocardial Ischemia
Dr. Taylor F. Dowsley (Supervisor: Dr. Terrence Ruddy)

P-28 Prognostic Value of Coronary Calcification Detected by Cardiac Computed Tomography in Patients with Renal Dysfunction
Dr. Girish Dwivedi (Supervisor: Dr. Benjamin Chow)

P-29 Predictive Value of Cardiac Computed Tomography and the Impact of Renal Function on All Cause Mortality
Dr. Girish Dwivedi (Supervisor: Dr. Benjamin Chow)

P-30 Short-term repeatability of resting myocardial blood flow measurements using rubidium-82 PET imaging.
Dr. Matthew Efseaff (Supervisor: Robert deKemp, PhD)

P-31 Aortic Plaque Inflammation and Aortic Dilatation
Dr. Jeewanjit S. Gill (Supervisor: Dr. Terrence Ruddy)

P-32 Clinical Outcomes in ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction Patients Treated with the Pharmacoinvasive Strategy in the Ottawa STEMI Program
Dr. Nita Guron (Supervisor: Dr. Michel Le May)

P-34 Kryptonite, a novel bone cement for primary sternal closure: mechanistic study using computerized tomography
Dr. S. Mastrobuoni (Supervisor: Dr. Marc Ruel)

P-35 The prognostic value of change in RV function as measured on Radionuclide Ventriculography in patients with Heart Failure
Dr. Brian Mc Ardle (Supervisor: Dr. Lisa Mielniczuk)
P-36 Speckle Tracking: Effect of Age and Gender on Global and Regional Myocardial Strain
Dr. Chris Mykytyshyn (Supervisor: Dr. Terrence Ruddy, Dr. Kathy Ascah)

P-37 Measuring Coronary Artery Calcification using PET Computed Tomography Attenuation Correction Images
Dr. Ilias Mylonas (Supervisor: Dr. Benjamin Chow)

P-38 Natural history and management of aortocoronary saphenous vein graft aneurysms: a systematic review of published cases
Dr. F. Daniel Ramirez (Supervisor: Dr. Edward O'Brien)

P-39 Low-dose 3D PET Rubidium ARMI (Alternative Radiopharmaceutical for Myocardial Imaging): multicentre trial standards and quality assurance
Dr. Jennifer Renaud (Supervisor: Robert deKemp, PhD)

P-40 Downstream utilization of cardiac investigations in coronary artery by pass patients: a comparison of anatomical versus functional index imaging with CT coronary angiography or cardiac SPECT.
Dr. Gary R Small (Supervisor: Dr. Benjamin Chow)

P-41 Incremental value of left ventricular function assessment on gated rest /stress dipyridamole technetium 99m SPECT imaging in the assessment of myocardial viability
Dr. Gary R Small (Supervisor: Dr. Robert Beanlands)

P-42 Comparison of a New Reconstruction Algorithm “Evolution software” to the Clinically used Filtered Backed Projection (FBP) for Myocardial Perfusion SPECT
Dr. Mohammed Qutub (Supervisor: Dr. Benjamin Chow)

Awards Presentations (Centre Foustanellas)
5:00 P.M.
Presenter: Dr. Thierry Mesana, Chief, Division of Cardiac Surgery

Doris & Howard Polk Award for the Best Clinical Presentations
Best Basic Science Awards Presentation
Best Allied and Population Health Awards Presentation

The Howard & Doris Polk Award was established by their family in 1995 in honour of their 50th wedding anniversary and in appreciation and gratitude to the Heart Institute for helping to extend Howard and Doris's lives.
Special thanks are extended to the judges and abstract reviewers who participated in the 25th Annual UOHI Research Day.

**Basic Science**
**Oral Presentation Judges:**
Dr. Darryl Davis, Dr. Peter Liu, Dr. Frans Leenen, Dr. Peter Backx

**Poster Presentation Judges:**
Dan Sparks, PhD, Thomas Lagace, PhD, Erik Suuronen, PhD, Ross Milne, PhD, Katey Rayner, PhD, Dr. Peter Backx, Ilona Skerjanc, PhD, Balwant Tuana, PhD, Alexandre Stewart, PhD

**Abstract Reviewers:**
Dr. Ruth McPherson, Mia Golder, Alexandre Stewart, PhD, Etienne Croteau, Joanne McBane

**Clinical Science**
**Oral Presentation Judges:**
Dr. Marc Ruel, Dr. Kwan Chan, Dr. Calum Redpath, Dr. Chris Hudson

**Poster Presentation Judges:**
Dr. Munir Boodhwani, Dr. Pablo Nery, Dr. Benjamin Chow, Dr. Derek So, Dr. Jason Roberts, Dr. Benjamin Hibbert, Dr. Alexander Dick, Dr. Mustapha Kazmi

**Abstract Reviewers:**
Dr. Chris Hudson, Dr. Jason Roberts, Dr. Girish Dwivedi, Dr. Ian Burwash

**Allied and Population Health**

**Oral Presentation Judges: Judges:**
Dr. Heather Tulloch, Sophia Papadakis, PhD, Dr. George Fodor

**Poster Presentation Judges: Judges:**
Robert Reid, PhD, Dr. Michèle de Margerie, Kathryn Williams, Lisa McDonnell

**Abstract Reviewers:**
Dr. Andrew Pipe, Robert Reid, PhD, Dr. George Fodor, Kerri-Anne Mullen
Special thanks are also extended to the Research Day Organizing Committee:

**Trainees:** Ali Ahmadi, Mia Golder, Dr. Myra Cocker, Lyne Sleiman, James Thackeray, Dr. Gary Small, Dr. Jason Roberts, Kerri-Anne Mullen  
**Communications Support:** Greg Leonard, Émilie Lacharité, Vincent Lamontagne  
**Advisors:** Dr. Robert Beanlands, Patrick Burgon, PhD  
**Support:** Michelle Braun, Alison James

---

**A special thank you to our generous sponsors**

AstraZeneca  
**MERCK** Be well  
**nordion**  
**SERVIER**

**The University of Ottawa Heart Institute Foundation**  
**The Polk Family**