

WINTER 2019

MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

# MAAMATTERS

## EYE-OPENING PLACEMENTS



## Supporting our students



SUPPORT FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS at U of T is one, some feel the most important one, of the missions of the MAA. With the generous support of our donors, we fund many awards, bursaries, and interest-free loans. Much of this support is directed to those in particular financial need.

We also have a program of grants that helps students broaden their education through experience in Canada's North or in countries in other parts of the world. In this issue of *MAA Matters*, you will find four accounts of travel – to Yellowknife, Kenya, South Africa, and Zimbabwe – and how that travel enriched the education of four recent graduates. This program can only continue with your continued support of the MAA. I thank our current donors (and encourage you to continue!) and urge everyone to consider becoming a donor if you are not one now.

In this issue, you will see a notice that *MAA Matters* is going digital. Postage costs are becoming prohibitive and diverting money from student support and other programs. We plan to send future issues electronically. Please be sure that we have your correct email address. Of course, if you would like a paper copy, we will happily send you one, but we will only mail them to those who request it. Send an email to [medical.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:medical.alumni@utoronto.ca) or write to us at Medical Alumni Association, MSB 3249, 1 King's College Circle, Toronto M5S 1A8.

DR. DAVID MCKNIGHT (7T5)

## A global experience



AMONG THE NEW 2T3 STUDENTS we welcomed into the University of Toronto's Faculty of Medicine fold this year is a student who, as a 12-year-old living in Sri Lanka, witnessed the destruction of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami firsthand. Hifza Buhari was inspired to go into medicine after seeing a physician jumping in to help the injured.

Another student, Lina Elfaki, was serving as a hospital trainee in her native Sudan during her undergraduate degree, when her team was unable to resuscitate a 15-year-old boy who had been electrocuted because their defibrillator was rusted and broken.

Experiences of adversity and inequality like these – whether local or international; lived through personal circumstances or volunteer opportunities such as MD student placements (see examples of these on page 4) – can transform our perspective and increase our sense of empathy and compassion as health care providers.

I'd like to thank the Medical Alumni Association for partnering with the Faculty of Medicine by providing support for students who take on unique opportunities, doing placements outside of Toronto, in countries or regions facing significant health care challenges.

I am inspired by these initiatives and these students, and I feel confident that the diversity of experience and backgrounds we have strived to include in our MD program will enrich the learning experience for all students.

DR. TREVOR YOUNG



*MAA Matters* is published by the Medical Alumni Association in co-operation with the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine.

### Volunteer Board of Directors 2019-2020

Dr. David McKnight (7T5), *President*  
 Dr. David Lowe (8T8), *Vice President*  
 Dr. Alexandra Berezowskyj (8T2),  
*Past-President & Loans Officer*  
 Dr. Lyndon Mascarenhas (8T4), *Treasurer*  
 Dr. Stuart McCluskey (9T4), *Secretary*  
 Dr. Victor Kurdyak (6T0), *Loans Officer*  
 Dr. Catherine Birt (8T9), *Executive Member-at-Large*  
 Dr. Barnett Giblon (5T7)  
 Dr. Ronn Goldberg (8T1)

Dr. Baruch Jakubovic (1T3)  
 Dr. David McNeely (7T1)  
 Dr. Jason Pennington (0T0)  
 Dr. Peeter Poldre (7T8)  
 Dr. Tammy Sieminowski (9T3)  
 Dr. Ahmed Taher (1T4)  
 Dr. Peter Wyshynski (6T1)

### Ex Officio

Dr. Trevor Young, *Honorary President*  
 Dr. Stephanie Zhou (1T8), *PARO Representative*  
 Ms. Nishila Mehta (2T2), *President, Medical Society*

**Editor:** Susan Pedwell

**Contributors:** Dr. Alexandra Berezowskyj, Patricia Coty, Sarah Groom, Dr. Peter Kopplin, Dr. David McKnight, Carolyn Morris, Dr. Peter Wyshynski, Dr. Trevor Young

**Design and Art Director:** Kenton Palamar

**Cover Photo:** Justina Marianayagam

**ON THE COVER:** During her selective in Yellowknife, Daphne Cheung (1T9) takes a break by lying on frozen Great Slave Lake.

For more information, please contact:  
 Patricia Coty, Room 3249,  
 Medical Sciences Building,  
 1 King's College Circle,  
 Toronto ON M5S 1A8  
 416-978-0990  
[medical.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:medical.alumni@utoronto.ca)  
[maautoronto.ca](http://maautoronto.ca)

The MAA respects your privacy. We do not rent, trade or sell our mailing list. If you do not wish to receive *MAA Matters*, please contact us.

# MEDICAL SOCIETY GROUP BREAKS NEW FRONTIERS



Students eager to learn about artificial intelligence

**TORONTO** is the artificial intelligence (AI) capital of North America. Investors are pouring millions into Toronto AI research projects, several of which may revolutionize medicine. Is it any surprise, then, that U of T is the first university in Canada to boast an AI med student group?

The Artificial Intelligence in Medicine Student Society (AiMSS) inspires students to consider the scientific, economic, legal, and ethical impacts of AI on medicine, says Felipe Morgado who in 2017 co-founded the society with fellow MD/PhD student Vinyas Harish.

AI is already part of our everyday lives. It's what filters out spam from your emails and identifies atypical activity on your credit card. This disruptive technology can analyze reams of medical data and outperform experienced physicians in certain diagnostic tasks, such as identifying a skin lesion or finding a nodule on a chest X-ray. And AI has certainly attracted the attention of our medical students.

Last fall, AiMSS piloted a lecture for second-year students. After three hours of back-to-back classes, the med students marched into a lecture hall to hear Dr. Sunit Das, the group's faculty mentor, speak on how AI may influence the nature of what it means to be a physician.

Since then, the Medical Society group has grown to alert med students of AI research and job opportunities, and is preparing an information packet for students at other universities who are considering starting an AI in medicine group.

AiMSS is also advocating for introducing AI in the preclerkship curriculum across Canada. "Physicians will be expected to utilize the new technology in a competent, ethical manner," says Harish. "They need to understand the strengths and limitations of AI tools on health care delivery." AiMSS approached the Ontario Medical

Student Association (OMSA) with a proposal to add AI to the curriculum, and the association endorsed the idea.

Despite the promise of AI, it stands outside of clinical practice. "There are so many unanswered questions," says Morgado. "For example, while the FDA has proposed regulations for considering software as a medical device, AI software is constantly being updated. How do you approve something that's always changing?"

Then there's the issue of data privacy, and the potential for bias in the data on which AI algorithms are based. And if using AI in a clinical setting leads to a mistake that compromises patient outcomes, who is responsible?

Believing all of these questions can be addressed, AiMSS members think it's just a matter of time before doctors will be using AI. "Given market forces, AI is only going to become more and more common," predicts Harish.

One thing for sure, AI will never replace physicians, says Morgado. "People want to receive compassionate care. We need to keep the human element of medicine at its core."

Read AiMSS' position paper "Preparing Medical Students for the Impact of Artificial Intelligence" at <https://omsa.ca/en>. Follow AiMSS on Twitter at @aimss\_uoft.

*The MAA supports U of T's Medical Society through an annual grant.*

# AN UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITY

Looking health care disparity in the face – well, it changes you

The Medical Alumni Association sponsors med students who want to do a placement in a country or region in Canada facing limited health care resources. MAA funding allows students to step out of their comfort zones and onto planes to gain experiences that are not available in Toronto.

As the students immerse themselves in unfamiliar environments and new challenges, their outlook broadens, their perspectives grow. Their eyes open to hospitals with fewer resources than those lining University Avenue.

These placements are called “selectives” and offer students the opportunity to work in a different environment with appropriate supervision. Here, four graduates from the Class of IT9 reflect on their eight-week selectives.

## DAPHNE CHEUNG

**Placement:** Yellowknife

**Critical learning:** How to better create a culturally safe health care environment



A sunset view of downtown Yellowknife

For my selective, I had the opportunity to practise on the internal medicine ward at Stanton Territorial Hospital in Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories. With a population of 19,000, Yellowknife is the smallest community I have ever worked in.

Outside Yellowknife, there are about 25,000 people living in isolated communities of 80 to 3,000 people. Diligent nurses provide primary care in most of these remote communities. Patients associated with a primary care physician will likely be assessed by a new locum every time they seek care.

New to me was the feeling of helplessness when a patient with active medical issues from a remote community arrived in Stanton's emergency department, only to find that the services he or she needed were not available at the hospital. Patients requiring a specialist assessment or tertiary care had to apply for government funding for a flight to Edmonton.

I had to be mindful of the importance of a culturally safe space for the diverse patient population, which includes Indigenous, settler, and immigrant populations. I appreciated the tools I was



While standing on Frame Lake, N.W.T., Daphne Cheung snapped this photo of the sun setting behind Stanton Territorial Hospital



Daphne Cheung's first steps on Dettah Ice Road, a 6-kilometre road across Great Slave Lake, N.W.T., were shaky. "The only thing more terrifying than walking on water for the first time was watching the occasional truck drive by," she says.

Photo: Justina Marianayagam

introduced to at U of T, such as working with an interpreter.

In Yellowknife, I frequently encountered Indigenous patients affected by the legacy of forced relocation, residential schooling, and intergenerational trauma. I recognize that the effects of colonialism and poverty are issues that I will not be able to reverse on my own. However, as a physician, I can be a health care advocate by engaging with popular media, policymaking, or research.

My urban, cosmopolitan upbringing draws me to cities, even though all of the groceries

I can think of are available in Yellowknife (the specialty grocery store actually offers two brands of Japanese curry). But while on the selective, I learned that in addition to having a primary care practice, I can do locums across Canada. I know that one day I will make every effort to return to the North as a locum physician.

*Dr. Cheung is now a family medicine resident at the University of Calgary.*

## MARTHA SMITH

**Placement:** Eldoret, Kenya

**Critical learning:** How to best advocate for patients



Riley Mother & Baby Hospital is part of Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital where there are up to 14,000 deliveries a year

Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital is a large facility that has a busy labour ward – with up to 14,000 deliveries a year! U of T's Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology has a long-standing partnership with the hospital through the Academic Model for Providing Access to Healthcare (AMPATH), a consortium that allows several North American institutions to collaborate and partner with their Kenyan colleagues at Moi University.

As it is a tertiary hospital, there are many advanced patient presentations. For example, we followed several patients on the gynaecologic oncology ward who had Stage 3 or 4 cervical cancer. It was troubling to see some of the poor outcomes. Given Ontario's comprehensive cervical cancer screening program, it's relatively rare to see advanced cervical cancer. In Kenya, though, rates are quite high.

Initially, my perceptions of patient advocacy were skewed by my experiences in Toronto, where ordering an extra investigation or obtaining additional services often only requires clicking a button or picking up the phone. In Kenya, I found it much more challenging to advocate for aspects of patient care because of resource and staff limitations.



U of T med students Martha Smith (left) and Niyati Malkani (second from right) share a laugh with two midwives at a Kenyan hospital

As a medical student and a North American, I was also cautious of the fine line between being a successful patient advocate and someone who doesn't understand the clinical or social context. I had to find an appropriate voice for advocacy. What I came to realize is that advocating for a patient is almost always effective if I communicate my concern for the patient.

In many circumstances, my ability to advocate helped determine what investigations or treatments the patient had. For example, on the antenatal ward I followed a woman who presented at 32 weeks gestational age with pre-term premature rupture of membranes and for six days had been draining amniotic fluid. On the morning after admission, she had significant abdominal tenderness and was very concerned about her baby. I felt it would put her mind (and mine) at ease if she promptly had a non-stress test (NST) to assess fetal well-being.

When I reviewed her case with the intern, he felt the test unnecessary because she perceived normal fetal movements. Knowing that the staff are already overburdened, I indicated that I would take her downstairs for the NST myself. After more discussion, he agreed and I took her for the test.



Niyati Malkani (left) and Martha Smith, both I T9, during their selective in Eldoret, Kenya

Her initial NST demonstrated a slight fetal tachycardia. Several hours later, after a fluid bolus, I took her for a second NST; it showed that the fetal tachycardia had resolved. Not only did taking these few extra steps reassure the patient (and me), it provided an opportunity for us to build rapport.

Through this rotation, I developed a more nuanced view of patient advocacy, as well as a profound gratitude for the opportunity to continue advocating for women's health throughout my career.

*Dr. Smith is now an obstetrics and gynaecology resident at U of T.*

**21** The number of students the MAA sponsored in 2019 for selectives in low-resource areas

# KYLE DANIELL

**Placement:** Mpumalanga, South Africa

**Critical learning:** How a country's history and political underpinnings shape its health care



Kyle Daniell (far left) feels fortunate to have shared this selective with three friends from the Class of 1T9. From left: Mackenzie Chown, Adriano Mollica, and Daniel Hughes



While visiting Johannesburg, the students stayed in this housing compound. "South Africa experiences significant inequity," says Daniell. "As a result, there is crime, and that has led to the creation of fortress-like gates to protect houses."

My selective was at Tintswalo Hospital, which serves a rural community of about 400,000 people. The hospital is underfunded and struggles for adequate human resources. Its ability to operate is mainly due to the Tshemba Foundation, a charity that brings health care practitioners from overseas to work in the hospital for months at a time.

Historically, Tintswalo was a mission hospital that cared for the homeland population during Apartheid. The government created homelands to relocate black people out of the cities and into remote areas. To support their families, the men in the homelands had to work in gold mines and live in camps. The camps were breeding grounds for TB and HIV. Back in the homelands, the workers unknowingly spread these diseases to their families.

While at the hospital, I was able to explore a variety of specialties including psychiatry, and general and orthopedic surgery. However, the bread and butter of my experience was TB and HIV, and their clinical complications.

There are many takeaways from this experience, but the biggest is my newfound appreciation for how the history of a country shapes its health care system and attitudes. In South Africa's rural areas, Apartheid's systematic, legalized racial discrimination created a population with widespread socio-economic inequities and endemic mistrust of the health care system and white physicians.

For example, one black family presented with a child who had a hand abscess requiring emergency surgery. The family was extremely hesitant to allow their child to be admitted, and this mistrust was putting the child's health in jeopardy.

"Are we forced to stay?" asked the father, adding that his mother had advised him not to go to the hospital. Thankfully, we were able to reassure the child's parents. Empowering them and reinforcing their rights and freedoms was an integral part of the family's healing process.



My selective in South Africa inspired me to learn more about Canada's history. The similarities between Canada's Indigenous population and the blacks of rural South Africa are striking. I started to realize that I didn't need to travel across the ocean to find health inequity and populations in desperate need of help.

During my South Africa placement, I reached a big milestone – I was matched to U of T's residency program in psychiatry. As part of the curriculum, I needed to choose an elective for a marginalized population and applied for one in Indigenous health.

One day while leaving for the hospital, Kyle Daniell had to walk past a giraffe that was in front of his driveway. "We lived near Kruger National Park and so the area was teeming with wildlife," says Daniell.

*Dr. Daniell is now a psychiatry resident at Mount Sinai Hospital.*

**Over the past five years, the MAA has sponsored students for selectives in 27 countries:**

- Angola
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Bangladesh
- Brazil
- Cameroon
- Canada
- China
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Guyana
- India
- Kenya
- Malaysia
- Malawi
- Morocco
- Nepal
- Nicaragua
- Philippines
- Romania
- Rwanda
- South Africa
- Sri Lanka
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Vietnam
- Zimbabwe

## EMILY BARTSCH

**Placement:** Mount Darwin, Zimbabwe

**Critical learning:** How to better offer personalized care and balance independent decision-making with the need to ask for help



At Karanda Mission Hospital, Emily practised in the outpatient department; surgical theatre; and the female, male, and pediatric wards. With the hospital's outreach team, she helped provide care to patients in nearby communities

The journey to Karanda Mission Hospital in Zimbabwe took 45 hours, with three flights and one three-hour drive, much of which was on an unpaved road riddled with potholes. Arriving at the hospital compound, we were warned about intermittent power and water, and precarious cellphone reception. That first night, I wondered if leaving the comforts of my family, friends, and home for two months was the right decision. My answer now is absolutely yes.

I had never worked anywhere as rural or under-resourced. As I acclimatized to certain hospital “quirks” – for instance, normal saline being made in-hospital – I was constantly surprised and saddened by the extent to which poverty affects patients and the hospital. Patients would present with end-stage disease because they had no access to transportation or couldn't pay for treatment.

We often talk of personalized medicine, and this experience was a great chance to put it into practice. Given the limitations of both the hospital and the patients, developing realistic management plans was a challenging growth opportunity.

As an enthusiastic proponent of evidence-based medicine, I found myself frustrated and disappointed that prescriptions were typically written based on availability, not evidence. For instance, there are several trials demonstrating the cardiovascular benefits of SGLT2 inhibitors for patients with diabetes mellitus. However, the only medications available for patients with diabetes were insulin and metformin, if they could pay.



At sunset, Emily and her colleagues would take a 15-minute hike up a hill to catch this view of Zimbabwe's beautiful Mount Darwin region

Working in a small hospital, I had ample opportunity to perform relevant procedures such as paracentesis, thoracentesis, lumbar puncture, and point-of-care ultrasound. More importantly, though, is the compassion I developed.

At the hospital, it would be wrong to fault a patient for being late – often the patient had travelled long distances on foot, or at great cost to the patient and his or her family. I want to extend that same understanding to patients in Toronto. Thinking less about myself being inconvenienced and more about the personal experiences of my patients is the most important shift in attitude I hope to maintain throughout my career.

When I was unsure about a procedure, I consulted with my preceptor for help. As well, the allied health professionals – especially the nurses and nurses' aides – answered many questions about the hospital's management practices, such as pain medication dosing and post-operative wound care. Connecting with these professionals contributed to a more positive work environment and facilitated effective patient care. I vowed to make a dedicated effort to get to know the members of the interdisciplinary health care teams I'll be working with during residency.



It is difficult to articulate all that I learned at Karanda Mission Hospital and the impact the experience has had on me. As time passes, I will be able to reflect further. Today, what I can say with confidence is that it was a fantastic, life-changing experience for which I am incredibly grateful.

*Dr. Bartsch is now an internal medicine resident at U of T.*

After completing her clinical placement in Zimbabwe, Emily Bartsch travelled to Botswana where she visited Chobe National Park



Marina Abdel Massih  
Tareer Alzaid  
Sabrina Agnifof  
Leo Akyemmen  
Jordan Albaum  
Hanna Anjad  
Amanda Baibergen  
Ajayham Bana  
Carmen Baker  
Arjun Balachandrar  
Erin Balem  
James Bao  
Rachael Barnett  
Henry Barron  
Emily Baruch

Zane Brickman  
Lauren Briggs  
Chloe Calinescu  
Ruring Cai  
Shen Cao  
Jennifer Cape  
Jack Caradonna  
Edwin Chow  
Victoria Chiu  
Christopher Chung  
Zacharie Cloutier  
Aron Conell  
Alexandre Cousin  
Jesse Crumner

Laura Duncan  
Claudia Dziugielnski  
Michael Dingus  
Mitchell Elliott  
Robyn Egidionese  
Elyse Epp  
Mina Fakhim  
Stacey Berenden  
Claire Berenden  
L. Trevor Young  
Patricia Houston  
David Lester  
Marcus Lee  
Antonio Pignatelli

Hanna Goldberg  
Muskan Gurnani  
Matthew Hall  
Angela Han  
David Hanna  
Geoffrey Harris  
Kirsta Haseylytyn  
Jessica Ho  
Ali Hossain  
Margaret Hoss  
Jenny Huang  
Abeer Hussain  
Christopher Huz  
Daniel Hughes  
Emily Hughes

Shangjun Jiang  
Muhammad Irfan  
Oman Kabay  
Sally Kang  
Sarah Kang  
Khatija-Iman Kara  
Esaha Katsam  
Jenessa Kerr  
Arash Kharandish  
Haniya Khan  
Caitlyn Kharan  
Jin Kyu Kim  
Jinbaek Kim  
Nicole Kim  
Alyssa Komer

Albert Lee  
Jingyue Antonio  
Matthew Lee  
Melissa Lee  
Charisi Lee  
Nancy Li  
Zhi Li  
Li Liang  
Elizabeth Liao  
Jessica Liu  
Sophia Liu  
Menachem Lowenthal  
Robert Low  
Catherine Lu  
Malcolm Macfarlane

Graham Macfarlane  
Nina Matza  
Alison McFadden  
Taylor McKay  
Connor McLean  
Joshua Mehta  
Rochelle Mehta  
Rameeshay Mubasher  
Drew Mubasher  
Celina Nabhan  
Raymond Nair  
Nadine Nagel  
Kyle Oasterman  
Joshua Oragie

Matthew Ptaszynski  
Charissa Ptaszynski  
Shirley Poon  
Mario Popovic  
Urveshi Prasad  
Roseanna Prasad  
Natalie Pulcinna  
Matthew Puzos  
An Qi Shao  
Joshua Shapore  
Arjun Sharma  
Gaurav Sharma  
Bruce Sheng  
Dongho Shin  
Ari Shure

Dina Sash  
Saba Samet  
Alexander Sage  
Kiyoko Sasaki  
Stephanie Scaife  
Mark Shafarick  
Sarah Shanyra  
Shubham Shrivastava  
An Qi Shao  
Joshua Shapore  
Arjun Sharma  
Gaurav Sharma  
Bruce Sheng  
Dongho Shin  
Ari Shure

Erene Stropopoulos  
Alison Sumner  
Xiaohu Sun  
Mike Sung  
Stephen Sze  
Ali Taha  
Jennifer Takasaki  
Raja Taha  
Jesse Tao  
Tegan Telesnicki  
Alexander Torgel  
Tiffany Tao  
Spencer Van Mijl  
Jerdyn Verma  
Behl Vij  
Chun Yu

Benjamin Welkewicz  
Jonathan Whitall  
Kathleen Whinger  
Ellen Wong  
Florence Wu  
Wen Yu Wu  
Tian Yan  
Yun Lin Xue  
Avin Yang  
Catherine Yang  
Ariel Yeheskiel  
Joo Hyong Yoon  
Chi Yun Yu

# 2019 Graduating Class



Stacey Berenden  
Claire Berenden  
L. Trevor Young  
Patricia Houston  
David Lester  
Marcus Lee  
Antonio Pignatelli  
Abeer Hussain  
Christopher Huz  
Daniel Hughes  
Emily Hughes  
Jenny Huang  
Abeer Hussain  
Christopher Huz  
Daniel Hughes  
Emily Hughes  
Jenny Huang  
Abeer Hussain  
Christopher Huz  
Daniel Hughes  
Emily Hughes

## Faculty of Medicine University of Toronto

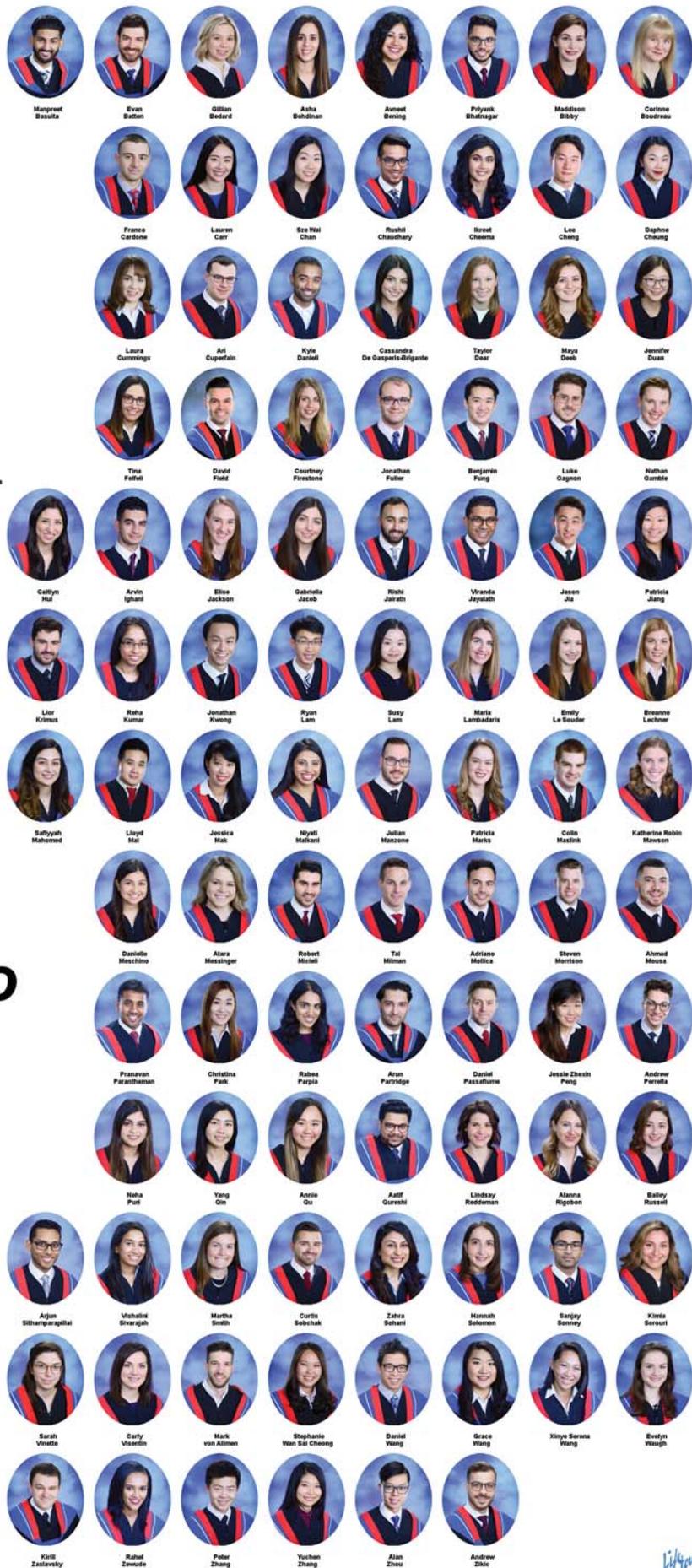
### CLASS PRESIDENTS



Mein Pang Franklin  
Class President  
Michael Grill  
Class President



No Photo Available: Mackenzie Chown, Yelisa Farnon, Daniel Quirk Li, Nicole Saha, Taraneh Tofighi, Tianyue Wang, Mei Wen



# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS *of* 2019

## AWARDS *of* EXCELLENCE

### Student Awards

**Erin Balcom**

Weber/Nimon Prize in Neurology

**Evan Batten**

MAA Proficiency Scholarship

**Rushil Chaudhary**

Harris Family Medical Alumni Award in Oncology

**Tina Felfeli**

Dr. Irvin (Kelly) Gollish 5T7 Memorial Award

**Jonathan Fuller**

Dr. Delbert S. Hoare 2T8 Award

**Michael Gritti**

Robert P. Orange Memorial Award

**Geoffrey Hartin**

Dr. Isaac (Jack) Markens 4T8 Medical Alumni Award

**Ali Helmi**

5T7 Memorial Dr. Janice Huffman Medical Alumni Award in Radiology

**Elise Jackson**

MAA Proficiency Scholarship

**Albert Lee**

Dr. S. Nimu Ganguli and Family Medical Alumni Award  
in Diagnostic Medical Imaging

**Roseanna Presutti**

Barbara M. Hardy Memorial Medical Alumni Award in General Surgery

**Mark Shafarenko**

Samuel J. Streight Award in Internal Medicine

**Gaurav Sharma**

Lum Family Medical Alumni Undergraduate Medical Student Award

**Ari Shore**

Dr. Carl Witus (3T6) Memorial Prize in Paediatrics

### Faculty and Staff Awards

**Dr. Mike Wiley**

Dr. Mary Hollington Pre-Clinical Teaching Award

**Dr. Lori Albert**

Dr. Mary Hollington Clinical Teaching Award

**Dr. Dante Morra**

Dean A.L. Chute "Silver Shovel" Award

**Dr. Barbara Ballyk**

Class of 8T9 Medical Alumni Award

**Margaret Chung**

David Eberle Memorial Alumni Award

*Lifepulse*

# PRE-CONVOCATION CEREMONY



Dr. Joe Marshall (6T9) addresses the graduating Class of 1T9

The MAA partnered with the Faculty of Medicine in the Pre-Convocation Ceremony for the 1T9 MD graduates and the luncheon that followed the ceremony on June 3. The luncheon was held in the Convocation Plaza tent on the lawn on the Front Campus facing Simcoe Hall.

At the ceremony, MAA Board members were on the platform and presented the MAA awards. Thanks to the generosity of medical alumni who made donations and bequests to the MAA, we provide a number of awards for excellence to students and faculty or staff every year. The graduating class selects the faculty and staff award recipients.

The honoured guests were members of the Class of 6T9, who were celebrating 50 years since graduation. Dr. Joe Marshall gave the address from the 50-year class to the graduating class. Many members of the 6T9 class remarked that it was moving to witness the new class take the graduation oath. In all, it was a successful venture that the MAA hopes to repeat in the coming years.



**The Class of 6T9 were the honoured guests at the Pre-Convocation Ceremony.**

**Front Row** (left to right): Drs. Sarah Vanderburgh, Paul Spring, Roberta Jong, Harold Drutz. **2nd row**: Drs. Michael Littner, Peggy Kirkpatrick, Alvin Pettie, Mel Goldberg, Mary O'Keefe, Bill Fitzgerald, Gerald Koffman, Sheldon Berger, Brenda Kane, Joe Marshall. **3rd row**: Drs. Judith Ash, Lawrence Solish, Jane Hosdil, John Kempston, Paul Muller, Terry Bates, Bob Williams, Derek Nicholson, Bruce Truscott, Ron Crago. **Back row**: Drs. Jerry Friedman, Kevin Foster, Richard Isaac, Mervyn Fouse, Marvin Waxman, Ronald Zuker.



(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)



(E)



(F)

- (A) Michael Gritti (left) and Melin Peng, the IT9 class presidents, present the Dean A.L. Chute "Silver Shovel" Award to Dr. Dante Morra (0T0)
- (B) The IT9 class presidents present the Class of 8T9 Medical Alumni Award to Dr. Barbara Ballyk
- (C) MAA President Dr. David McKnight (7T5) presents MAA Proficiency Scholarships to Elise Jackson and Evan Batten
- (D) Ali Helmi receives the 5T7 Memorial Dr. Janice Huffman Medical Alumni Award in Radiology
- (E) Erin Balcom receives the MAA Weber/Nimon Prize in Neurology
- (F) The IT9 class presidents present the Dr. Mary Hollington Clinical Teaching Award to Dr. Lori Albert (8T8)

# CLASS NOTES

News from your classmates

## CLASS OF JAN 4T3

**Dr. Louis MYERS** at age 99 continues to enjoy retirement, which didn't begin until age 78. Lou plays bridge, watches tennis, and recently welcomed his first great-grandchild.

## CLASS OF 5T0

**Dr. William WHITTAKER**, who was widowed in 2015, is living in a retirement home. In February, he finished writing a book about his life.

## CLASS OF 5T1



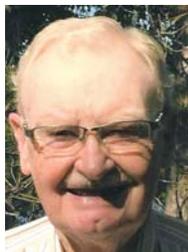
**Dr. Gord CAMERON**, following the death of his life partner, Pat, feels fortunate to have their four supportive children. "After three weeks of camping and canoeing at Killarney, I feel I'm the luckiest old geezer around!" he writes.

## CLASS OF 5T4



**Dr. Jack MATVENKO** was a general practitioner in Burns Lake, B.C., for 10 years, and then an ophthalmologist in Victoria before retiring in 2016. Jack's wife of 64 years, Ann Joan (Lacey), a nurse

he met while interning at St. Michael's Hospital, passed on April 12, 2019. Contact: [jmatvenko@shaw.ca](mailto:jmatvenko@shaw.ca)



**Dr. Reg PERKIN** has been invited to participate in two 50th anniversary celebrations – for the founding of U of T's Department of Family and Community

Medicine, and for the College of Family Physicians of Canada's first certification examination. Reg was very much involved in both events. "Family medicine has come a long way in the past half century," he writes. "We should all feel proud of what has been achieved." Contact: [regperkin@rogers.com](mailto:regperkin@rogers.com)



**Dr. Clifford SMYTHE** retired as Chief of Urology at North York General Hospital in 1992 and from the Workers' Compensation Board in 1995. Recently,

he published "The Mobile Metabolic Factory: Neuropsychology, Consciousness and Mindful Management of the Self." It's available on Amazon.ca or by contacting Clifford: [cliffordsmythe@gmail.com](mailto:cliffordsmythe@gmail.com).

## CLASS OF 5T5

**Dr. James Bucklin BASSINGTHWAIGHTE** is working full-time on cardiac research, blood flow, the metabolism of fatty acids and glucose, and the trade-off between these two sources of ATP. He writes, "It takes me back to where I started in U of T physiology, in the lab of Charlie Best and Reg Haist." Contact: [jbb2@uw.edu](mailto:jbb2@uw.edu)



**Dr. May COHEN** is the subject of a documentary – *The Gender Lady: The Fabulous Dr. May Cohen* – that recently premiered at the Toronto Jewish Film

Festival. It celebrates May's international advocacy for women's reproductive rights and health, as well as the advancement of women physicians. At the festival, the film tied for first place in the audience appreciation poll.

## CLASS OF 5T7

**Dr. Robert FIELDEN** retired in August to accommodate his wife's health.

## CLASS OF 5T9

**Dr. Harry HALL** has written *Doctor Harry* in which he relates interesting, humorous events from his 57 years of rural practice and his travels to more than 70 countries. Friesen Press published the book; it's available from Friesen and on Amazon.

## CLASS OF 6T0

**Dr. Theodore AVRUSKIN** is looking forward to living on the West Coast where he'll be closer to family. Contact: [marilynnavruskin@gmail.com](mailto:marilynnavruskin@gmail.com)



**Dr. Don BUTT** moved to Gabriola Island, B.C., in 1996 after retiring from clinical practice and mentoring family medicine residents. However, Don

continues to consult part-time in insurance disability. His days are full with sailing, volunteering, choral singing, flute playing,

# Class Notes

News from your classmates

cooking, gardening, and organizing the class' 60th anniversary celebration. "After so-called 'retirement,' there are not enough hours in the day to do everything on the agenda," he says. An avid photographer, you can view his photos at <http://dbutt.smugmug.com>. Contact: [donbutt@shaw.ca](mailto:donbutt@shaw.ca)

**Dr. Howard DONSKY** is enjoying his dermatology practice and the great Arizona weather.



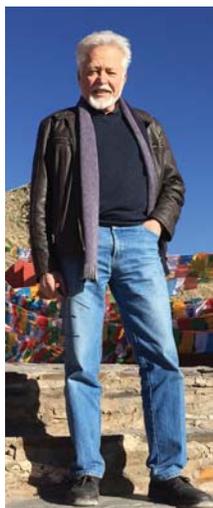
**Dr. Jerome HARVEY** (above, centre) retired from family practice 15 years ago. He founded the volunteer-run Medical Equipment Modernization Opportunity, which has shipped 85 ocean containers of used but still useful medical equipment and supplies, and humanitarian aid, to six countries. Jerome has led 28 medical/surgical/technical teams to these countries to ensure the donations are properly utilized. To learn more, visit [memoministry.org](http://memoministry.org). Contact: [tjharvey@shaw.ca](mailto:tjharvey@shaw.ca)

**Dr. Edward John ISTVAN** retired from obstetrics and gynecology in 2002, then assisted in surgery until 2016. He now lives in a residence home in Parry Sound, Ont. Contact: [chredi79@gmail.com](mailto:chredi79@gmail.com)

## CLASS OF 6T3

**Dr. Jerome EPSTEIN**, now retired, is busy painting, hiking, and golfing. Jerome spends the summers in Park City, Utah, and winters in Scottsdale, Ariz.

**Dr. Gisele MICROYS** is busy completing her book, *A Journey through Medicine: Memoirs of a Female Immigrant*. Contact: [drgigi@sympatico.ca](mailto:drgigi@sympatico.ca)



**Dr. Kaspars TUTERS** retired from his psychiatry/psychoanalysis practice when he turned 80, two years ago. He reports, "There is so much more to life than a well-defined 'professional self' – noon-hour concerts, afternoon lectures, prolonged holidays, lingering lunches."

## CLASS OF 6T4

**Dr. Dean CHAMBERLAIN** retired as a pulmonary pathologist at University Health Network after developing Guillain-Barré Syndrome in 2015. Contact: [dean.chamberlain@utoronto.ca](mailto:dean.chamberlain@utoronto.ca)

**Dr. Linda COMLEY, née GEIGER**, and her husband, Art, have moved to a retirement community. Contact: [lmcomley@netscape.net](mailto:lmcomley@netscape.net)

**Dr. Agnes KLEIN** is practising full-time. She lost her husband of 55 years in February. "I am doing some interesting volunteer work and have plans to travel," she writes. "My first trip will be a safari in Tanzania. Who knows where else my fancy will take me?"

**Dr. Stan LITCH** stars in a YouTube video in which he plays the ukulele and sings to his chickens. Check out [youtube.com/apQaXsFsQG8](https://youtube.com/apQaXsFsQG8). "Life is good," he writes. Contact: [blackberrybog@xplornet.com](mailto:blackberrybog@xplornet.com)

## CLASS OF 6T5

**Dr. Michael EASTERBROOK**, an ophthalmologist, practises at Toronto



By working as the foreman of a whaling station's rotten meat corner, Mike Easterbrook helped pay his way through pre-meds and med school.

Western and St. Michael's hospitals, and has an office on Bay Street. During pre-meds and early med school, Mike worked as a whale meat processor in Coal Harbour, B.C. Check out Mike's video about his whaling station experiences on YouTube; it's called "You Think You Had a Bad Summer

Job." Recently, he was re-elected President of the Western Canada Whaling Alumni Association. Mike has three daughters, two stepdaughters, and three grandchildren.

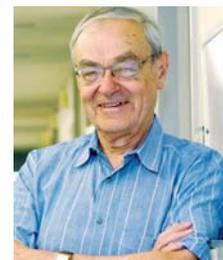
**Dr. Judith Belick PAKES** has a part-time psychiatry practice and is car pooling her more than dozen grandchildren.

## CLASS OF 6T6



**Dr. Keith BOUGHTON** (left) with his daughter-in-law, son, and wife, Kathy, at his daughter-in-law's graduation as a nurse. Contact: [kekaboughton@yahoo.ca](mailto:kekaboughton@yahoo.ca)

**Dr. Vladimir HACHINSKI** led an international group of investigators in synthesizing the evidence for the prevention of stroke and dementia.



Contact: [vladimir.hachinski@lhsc.on.ca](mailto:vladimir.hachinski@lhsc.on.ca)

## CLASS OF 6T8

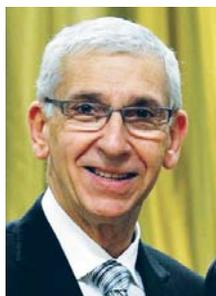
**Dr. Martin UNGER** is Chair and CEO of Empire Pharmaceutical Inc. “I’m thoroughly enjoying my second career!” he writes. Contact: DrMGU@AOL.com

## CLASS OF 6T9



**Dr. Alvin PETTLE** (right) congratulates Dr. Sheldon Berger (both 6T9) at a bar mitzvah. Alvin and Sheldon have been friends for more than 60 years.

## CLASS OF 7T0



**Dr. Kenneth SNIDERMAN** retired from clinical interventional radiology last year but continues to read vascular ultrasounds at Toronto General

Hospital. He downsized from a large house to a townhouse and has been busy making it “our home.” Ken has recovered well from a June 2018 total cystectomy (muscle invasive cancer). “So far no evidence of recurrence or metastases (yipee!),” he writes. Contact: kenneth.sniderman@gmail.com



**Dr. Frank SOMMERS** received the 2019 Ontario Medical Association (OMA) Presidential Award. In June, Frank chaired the OMA’s second CME on

the psychiatric dimensions of disasters. Contact: f.sommers@utoronto.ca

## CLASS OF 7T1

**Dr. Sharylee BARNES** and her son moved to Anacortes, Wash., in 2014, and she retired in 2017. Sharylee writes, “I love being near the ocean and mountains and a bit closer to siblings.” Contact: mdsbarnes@gmail.com

**Dr. Richard HIBBARD** practised psychiatry in Edmonton for 30 years and now works two half-days a week in an urgent care clinic and DBT program. Both of his daughters are psychiatrists. Contact: rhibbard@planet.eon.net

**Dr. Barbara KEE**, after 45 years in family practice, now works two days a week doing Well Woman Care. Barbara and her husband, Paul, are celebrating 49 years of marriage by taking a cruise with friends. Contact: drbkee@icloud.com

**Dr. Allan MICKELSON** had a general practice in Collingwood, Ont., for 34 years. Then in 2007, Allan and Suzanne moved to Victoria, where Allan retired in 2017. “If you are passing by, give us a call,” he writes. Contact: asmick@telus.net

**Dr. Lawrence PIVNICK** writes, “I’m travelling all over the world and writing books.”

**Dr. Michael RYNNE** and his wife, Barbara, send greetings from coastal Carolina. “If you’re by this way, call or drop by,” he says. Contact: mvrynne@aol.com

**Dr. Lorne TARSHIS** has retired after a 35-year “love affair” with cosmetic surgery. Now he’s volunteering with the homeless, cycling, skiing, travelling, and spending time at his farm in Caledon, Ont. Contact: lorne@cosmeticscanada.com



**Dr. Nancy Houser WOOD** and her husband have made annual three-month visits to the Congo since they retired in 2012. “The north-east provinces have been battling Ebola since August 1, 2018,” she writes. “Possibly now, after more than 3,000 cases and more than 2,000 deaths, the epidemic is waning for good.” Contact: pandnwood@yahoo.com

## CLASS OF 7T3

**Dr. Ellen COBURN** is retiring. She hopes to spend the winters at her home in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, and summers on Bowen Island, B.C. Contact: fourpoppy@shaw.ca

**Dr. Kwame DONKOR** retired in 2018 and lives in Niagara Falls, Ont., but spends six months a year in Ghana where he works in a private hospital two days a week.

## CLASS OF 7T4

**Dr. Brian DINGLE** retired in 2017 as Chief of Oncology at the London Regional Cancer Program and as an associate professor at Western University. Now living in Waterloo, Ont., he occasionally visits the karate school he helped start. “I was forced to retire from martial arts at age 65, after almost 50 years involved in the sport,” he writes. Contact: drbhdingle@gmail.com

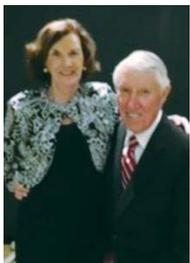
**Dr. Barry GOLDLIST** reports that Mount Sinai Hospital is creating a new chair: the Barry J. Goldlist Chair in Aging and Health. Contact: barry.goldlist@sinaihealthsystem.ca

**Dr. David SHRIVES** lives in Bowmanville, Ont., and is practising internal medicine part-time. Contact: dr.shrives@bellnet.ca

# Class Notes

News from your classmates

## CLASS OF 775



**Dr. Stephen BOYD** spent 15 years in primary care practice in Oakville, Ont., and Tyler, Tex. Then he was in clinical, pharmaceutical, and nutritional research

with Ortho Pharmaceuticals in Canada and two companies in Texas until retiring five years ago.

**Dr. Peter KATZ** has retired and is enjoying reading and exercising.



**Dr. Marshall KORENBLUM** returned from a one-year sabbatical in fall 2018 to resume his duties as Medical Director of the SickKids Centre for Community Mental

Health (formerly the Hincks-Dellcrest Centre). For five months, Marshall was a visiting scholar at the University of Sydney and University of Melbourne in Australia, where he studied different models of adolescent mental health care. Then he spent three months in Geneva, consulting on a World Health Organization project promoting mental health in adolescents in countries with developing economies. In April, Marshall became the Dr. Philip Katz Memorial Visiting Professor at the University of Manitoba.

Contact: mkorenblum@sickkidscmh.ca

**Dr. J. Ivan KRAJBICH** is a busy pediatric orthopedic surgeon in an academic setting in Portland, Ore. His main clinical interests are complex spinal deformities and lower limb deficiencies. Between academic travels, he skis, cycles, and kayaks. Ivan is married and has seven children, four of whom are stepchildren. “They’re all doing great,” he reports. “Look me up if you’re visiting the U.S. Northwest.”

Contact: ikrajbich@shrinenet.org

**Dr. Tariq SAEED** is practising full-time in Mississauga, Ont., and enjoying travelling.

## CLASS OF 776

**Dr. Patrick BUTLER** writes, “After a year of post-retirement sloth, I started to help the homeless in Terrace, B.C.”  
Contact: stellerjay@telus.net

**Dr. Kathleen LUSCOTT** retired in August after practising in Toronto, Waterloo, Creemore, Wellesley, and Uxbridge, Ont.  
Contact: kluscott@gmail.com

## CLASS OF 778



**Dr. Joseph CHU** received the Ontario Medical Association Life Membership Award and became a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology this year. Joseph practises consultative neurology in Etobicoke, Ont., and is a U of T assistant professor. Contact: jychu@rogers.com



**Dr. Klaus JAKELSKI** has had his second novel, *Relief*, published by Blue Denim Press. It’s the story of a surgeon and nurse during the 1990s Bosnian Conflict.

Contact: jakelski@cyberbeach.net



Dr. Naylor (left) receiving an honorary degree  
Photo: Lisa Sakulensky

**Dr. David NAYLOR** received an honorary degree at the U of T Faculty of Medicine convocation ceremony on June 3. The former Dean of Medicine and U of T President was awarded a Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.



**Dr. Peeter POLDRE** is President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario and volunteers as an event photographer.

Contact: peeter.poldre@rogers.com

**Dr. Anne SHEPHERD**, a psychiatrist and actor, played Bridget Bishop, the first woman to hang as a witch in Salem, Mass., in the “Witches of Salem” TV series. She is also a member of the Toronto Physicians Choir.



Contact: marcyshepherd@symptico.ca

## CLASS OF 870



When Dr. Kurtz retired, North York General Hospital honoured her years of membership on the medical staff

**Dr. Sonia KURTZ** has retired after 37 “terrific years” of family practice in North York, Ont. She’s enjoying being able to travel, read, and meet friends for coffee.

### CLASS OF 8T2

**Dr. Megan SYKES** is the Michael J. Friedlander Professor of Medicine and Professor of Microbiology & Immunology and Surgical Sciences at Columbia University in New York City. She is the Founding Director of the Columbia Center for Translational Immunology, the Director of Research for the Transplant Initiative at Columbia University Medical Center (CUMC), and the Director of Bone Marrow Transplantation Research, Division of Hematology/Oncology at CUMC. Contact: [megan.sykes@columbia.edu](mailto:megan.sykes@columbia.edu)

### CLASS OF 8T4



**LCDR Mark DOERING** is a Commissioned Officer in the United States Navy Reserve, Medical Corps. For the past 30 years, he has maintained his civilian practice in gynecology and pelvic surgery in Winchester, Va.

### CLASS OF 8T5

**Dr. John RIZOS** is in his 31st year of emergency medicine practice at Credit Valley Hospital in Mississauga, Ont., and in his 21st year as the Physician Consultant for the NHL Players' Association. Contact: [rizosj@rogers.com](mailto:rizosj@rogers.com)

### CLASS OF 8T6

**Dr. Susan BENZAQUEN** is the Chief and Medical Director of the Woman and Child Program at Mackenzie Health Hospital in Richmond Hill, Ont., and the owner of Revitagyn, which specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of female intimate health issues. Contact: [sbenzaquen21@hotmail.com](mailto:sbenzaquen21@hotmail.com)

### CLASS OF 8T7

**Dr. Nick CUBEROVIC** has stepped down as Medical Director of the Emergency Department at Halton Healthcare Services in Milton, Ont., and moved to Smithville, Ont., near his classmate Dr. Todd Overholt. Nick is still a coroner in Hamilton and Brantford, Ont., and enjoys providing emergency services with the Ontario Race Physicians, especially at NASCAR. Contact: [n.cuber@me.com](mailto:n.cuber@me.com)

### CLASS OF 8T8



**Dr. Edsel ING** completed the Masters in International Affairs and Diplomacy with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to learn more about the political influences on global health and the art of multilateral dialogue. Edsel continues in his surgical practice at Michael Garron Hospital.

**Dr. Rebecca MALAMED, née ROTENBERG**, recently moved from Los Angeles to Seattle. Contact: [ram@cltc.com](mailto:ram@cltc.com)

### CLASS OF 8T9

**Dr. James KIM** is practising in Brampton, Ont., in chronic pain management, focusing on interventional modalities. Contact: [jkim0309@rogers.com](mailto:jkim0309@rogers.com)

### CLASS OF 9T0

**Dr. Shari CAPLAN's** husband, Dr. David Freedman (a cardiologist and co-founder of VitalityMD), recently lost his battle with cholangiocarcinoma. Shari credits David with encouraging her to follow her dream of creating Vitality MD, a wellness clinic that addresses lifestyle, nutrition, stress management, and nutrient and hormone deficiencies. Contact: [scaplan@rogers.com](mailto:scaplan@rogers.com)

**Dr. Manuel CARCAO** directs the Hemophilia Comprehensive Care Clinic at SickKids and has a large practice dedicated to the medical management of vascular malformations. "Drugs that target the mutated proteins are proving to be beneficial for most children with vascular malformations," Manuel writes. "Ideally, these targeted treatments should be started as early in life as possible." Contact: [manuel.carcao@sickkids.ca](mailto:manuel.carcao@sickkids.ca)

### CLASS OF 9T1

**Dr. Brenda HARDIE** is the Co-Owner and Medical Director of Vancouver Family Practice. Brenda just celebrated 33 years of "wedded bliss" to her husband, Brad. With their two "man-boys," they love North Vancouver life – mountain biking, snowboarding, and hiking. Contact: [brendahardie@me.com](mailto:brendahardie@me.com)



**Dr. Osborne NORONHA**, above, retired in January after 25 years of family practice. He has joined World Medical Mission through Samaritan's Purse and is planning to do medical missionary work next year.

# Class Notes

News from your classmates



9T1 classmates met by chance at the Rogers Cup in Toronto: **Drs. Mike Dickinson** and **Roxanne MacKnight** from Miramichi, N.B., and **Drs. Richard Kvas** and **Lynne Schwertfeger** from Timmins, Ont.

## CLASS OF OT0



**Dr. Adrienne CHAN** received the 2019 Dean's Alumni Humanitarian Award. She helped establish public health programs in southern Africa, care for Ebola patients in Sierra Leone, and build

a national HIV program in Malawi that provides antiretroviral therapy to thousands of HIV patients. An infectious disease specialist, Adrienne is a U of T associate professor and staff physician at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.

## CLASS OF OT2



**Dr. Daniel PENELLO** recently became the first surgeon in the United States to successfully implant a custom 3D-printed finger bone prosthesis.

## CLASS OF OT5

**Dr. Crystal CHETTLE** is in her eighth year of anesthesia practice and is a District 2 delegate at the Ontario Medical Association. Crystal and her husband celebrated their 16th wedding anniversary, and their sons are now six and 10. Crystal recently ran the Chicago Marathon! Contact: [crystal.chettle@gmail.com](mailto:crystal.chettle@gmail.com)

## CLASS OF OT6



**Dr. Andrew TOREN** is on a one-year sabbatical in Grenoble, France, with his wife, Elise. Andrew is an academic

glaucoma specialist and clinical associate professor at the University of Laval in Quebec City. Contact: [andrewtoren@gmail.com](mailto:andrewtoren@gmail.com)

## CLASS OF 1T7



**Dr. Adam McDOWALL** is a family physician in Chatham-Kent, Ont.

## KEEP IN TOUCH

Please email your news and photos to Patricia Coty at [medical.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:medical.alumni@utoronto.ca) or mail to MAA, Room 3249, Medical Sciences Building, 1 King's College Circle Toronto, ON M5S 1A8. We will return photos on request.



# KEEP CALM WE ARE GOING DIGITAL

## YOUR NEXT ISSUE OF MAA MATTERS WILL BE IN YOUR INBOX.

Don't miss out on the exclusive content created specifically for U of T MD Alumni.

To receive your digital issues, send your preferred email to [medical.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:medical.alumni@utoronto.ca)

We hope you will go paperless – but if you prefer to receive a paper copy, email your address to [medical.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:medical.alumni@utoronto.ca) or write the MAA at:

1 King's College Circle,  
MSB 3249  
Toronto, ON M5S 1A8



# 2020 CLASS REUNIONS

Is this your reunion year?

Email the MAA at [medical.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:medical.alumni@utoronto.ca) for details on the following reunions

**The Class of 6T0**, in celebration of its 60th anniversary, will hold a reunion over the May 30 to June 1 weekend. Details TBA. Contact Don Butt at [donbutt@shaw.ca](mailto:donbutt@shaw.ca).

**The Class of 7T0** is planning its 50th reunion at the end of May and beginning of June. To keep up to date, join on the website, [www.uoftmeds1970.ca](http://www.uoftmeds1970.ca). Or, contact Alex Hukowich at [alex@hukowich.ca](mailto:alex@hukowich.ca). Please speak to the classmates you have contact with so as many as possible can attend.

**The Class of 7T5** is celebrating its 45th anniversary with a class reunion in May 2020 in Toronto. Please contact Michael Lawrie.

**The Class of 8T0** will celebrate its 40th anniversary with a class reunion on Saturday, May 30, in Toronto. Contact Nancy Down at [ndown@rogers.com](mailto:ndown@rogers.com).

**The Class of 9T6** is already planning for its blockbuster 25-year reunion, which will be held on May 29, 2021. Please contact Judy Hagshi at [judyhagshi@gmail.com](mailto:judyhagshi@gmail.com).

For help organizing your class reunion, online payments, and mailing lists, contact the MAA at [medical.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:medical.alumni@utoronto.ca) or 416-978-0990.

To ensure you remain on the mailing list for reunion updates and invitations, update your contact information with the MAA at [www.maautoronto.ca/maa-contact-update-form](http://www.maautoronto.ca/maa-contact-update-form) or 416-987-0990.

## What is the MAA?



The Medical Alumni Association is a charitable organization of U ofT MD graduates, working in partnership with the Faculty of Medicine. MAA programs are funded by donations and endowments from our members. We provide financial assistance to medical students, connect alumni through reunions and publications, and provide faculty and student awards to recognize excellence.

# IN MEMORIAM

Lives well lived



Medical Alumni Association

## CLASS OF 4T6

### Dr. Bette Mildred STEPHENSON PENGELLY

Dr. Bette STEPHENSON, at age 95, on Aug. 19, 2019, in Richmond Hill, Ont.

Bette practised family medicine in Toronto and was on staff at Women's College Hospital until 1988. She was a founding member of the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

In 1964, Bette became the first woman to be elected to the Board of the Ontario Medical Association, and then in 1970, she became OMA's first woman President. In 1972, she was the first woman elected Chair of the Board of the Canadian Medical Association, and then in 1974, she became CMA's first woman President.

After she ran for public office in 1975, Premier William Davis appointed Bette Ontario's first female Minister of Labour. Later, she became Ontario's first female Minister of Education, first female Minister of Colleges and Universities, and first female Minister of Finance.

Bette was awarded the Order of Ontario, the Order of Canada, and a Governor General's Award. As well, she was inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame and received a multitude of other accolades.

Dr. Suan-Seh Foo (9T0) painted this portrait of Dr. Stephenson in 2005. The watch she's wearing was a gift from the Sultan of Oman; Bette helped establish Oman's medical school. She is also wearing her Order of Canada medal.



## CLASS OF JAN 4T3

**Dr. Mildred CHERNOVSKY GREEN**, on April 27, 2019, in Montreal.

**Dr. Sidney KAPLAN**, at age 101, on Dec. 13, 2018. Sid practised family medicine in Vancouver for 40 years. He was committed to the Jewish communities in Vancouver and Israel. Sid had a number of loves including tennis, bow ties, and his dog, Casey.

## CLASS OF 4T5

**Dr. Leala Jean Sharpe ERB**, at age 94, on April 20, 2019, in Warton, Ont. Jean practised at the United Missionary Memorial Hospital in Tungan Magajiya, Nigeria, from 1948 to 1964; at Toronto Public Health from 1964 to 1986; at the United Nations World Health Organization in Kaduna, Nigeria, from 1986 to 1989; and in Warton as a GP psychotherapist until her retirement at age 75.

## CLASS OF 4T6

**Dr. Donald Armstrong GIBSON**, at age 95, on July 20, 2019, in Victoria. After studying surgery in England, Donald practised in Kampala, Uganda, before returning to Toronto in 1959 to be an orthopedic surgeon at the Hospital for Sick Children. In 1969, he went back to Uganda with CIDA and began a long association with the Leprosy Mission to help de-stigmatize the disease. From 1977 until retiring in 1989, Donald was the Medical Director of the Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre.

**Dr. Ronald W. LAMONT-HAVERS**, at age 99, on Aug. 6, 2019, in Sudbury, Ont. After a distinguished career at the National Institutes of Health, Ron joined Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) where he held several executive positions including Senior Adviser for the MGH/Harvard Cutaneous Biology Research Center.

**Dr. Edgar Thompson PEER**, at age 97, on May 24, 2019, in St. Catharines, Ont. After interning at Hamilton General Hospital, Edgar worked with tuberculosis patients at what is now Hotel Dieu Shaver Hospital in St. Catharines. Several years later, he went into private practice. A Renaissance man, Edgar enjoyed gardening, history, architecture, and travel. He had a penchant for playing pranks and causing mischief.

## CLASS OF 4T7

**Dr. Roy COGAN**, on April 26, 2018, in Richmond Hill, Ont.

## CLASS OF 4T8

**Dr. Edgar Grant CROSS**, on May 28, 2019, in Toronto. The American Board of Medical Specialties certified Ted in internal medicine, endocrinology, and nuclear medicine. In 1955, he joined the Toronto East General Hospital staff and for 10 years was Chief of Medicine. Ted also founded the hospital's Nuclear Medicine Department, serving as its Director until retirement. He had a second office at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre that he used for endocrinology consultations. Ted was an examiner with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

**Dr. Harry HORWICH**, on Oct. 3, 2016. After serving as a Captain in the Air Force, Harry moved to Miami where, as an ophthalmologist, he pioneered lens implant surgery for cataract patients. He founded the Dade County Ophthalmological Society, served on the first board of the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute as well as on the boards of many Miami hospitals. After retiring, he moved to Palm Beach, Fla., where he was Chair of the Citizens Association of Palm Beach and involved in other civic associations.

**Dr. Mary Elizabeth THORNHILL**, at age 95, on March 15, 2019, in Norwood, Ont. Charles Best recommended that Mary be admitted to U of T Medicine. After studying obstetrics in London, England, she practised for several years in Unity, Sask. Then in the early 1950s, she returned to Toronto and opened a family practice, retiring in her 70s. She devoted a lot of time to each patient appointment, but few complained that she always ran late. Mary was also generous with her finances. Revenue Canada questioned her tax returns, convinced that she was hiding income. A careful audit, though, revealed that Mary was not charging her patients for many of her services.

**Dr. William Donald WARREN**, at age 94, on Aug. 20, 2019, in Lindsay, Ont.

## CLASS OF 4T7

### Dr. John M. FINLAY

by Dr. Flavio Habal (7T7)



It is with great sadness that U of T's Division of Gastroenterology received news of the passing of Dr. John Finlay on May 14, 2019, at age 97.

Since Jack (as we knew him) retired in 1984, some of my colleagues did not know him, but I knew him very well. As a medical student, Jack was my teacher. When I did my internal medicine and GI residency at Toronto General Hospital, Jack was on staff. And in 1983, when I joined the TGH staff, Jack became a colleague.

Jack will be remembered as a gentleman. He always wore his lab coat over a tie and well-ironed shirt. When I was his resident, he taught me to always listen to patients. He taught me the art of speaking to patients: be gentle, compassionate, and understanding. Jack made eye contact with his patients and was never in a hurry. At the end of the patient interview, he would accompany the patient to the door and then, with a genuine smile, would shake the patient's hand and wish the patient a good day.

Also, Jack taught me to balance work, education, and family life. I have always cherished this lesson and pass it on to my residents.

In 1975, the university's Division of Gastroenterology recognized his outstanding contribution to the development of gastroenterology in Toronto with a Lifetime Achievement Award. In 1994, the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology honoured him with its Distinguished Service Award.

## CLASS OF 4T9

**Dr. Tom ROBSON**, at age 97, on Feb. 26, 2019, in London, Ont. From 1941 to 1945, Tom served with distinction as a Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve. He did a residency in obstetrics and gynecology, and then practised for more than 30 years in his hometown of Windsor, Ont. When he retired, he was Chief of Staff at Windsor's Metropolitan Hospital.

# In Memoriam

Lives well lived

## CLASS OF 5T1

**Dr. Michael Meyer ABBOTT**, on Sept. 21, 2019, in Toronto.

**Dr. Grant Sutton BIRD**, at age 92, on April 12, 2019, in Oakville, Ont. Grant was a radiologist at Toronto's former Wellesley Hospital.

**Dr. Sidney SHARZER**, at age 91, on Jan. 9, 2019, in Palm Desert, Calif.

**Dr. Joseph George SILVERBERG**, at age 92, on May 26, 2019. A dermatologist, Joe practised for 45 years in Los Angeles.

**Dr. Leonard WARREN**, at age 94, on April 1, 2019. After earning a PhD in biochemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Len published a frequently cited paper describing a method for assaying sialic acid. From 1964 on, he researched glycoproteins in the membranes of normal and malignant cells at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

**Dr. Gerald Irwin WEISBROD**, at age 92, on Feb. 27, 2019, in Toronto. Gerald was a family physician for 65 years and longtime member of The Doctors Hospital.

## CLASS OF 5T2

**Dr. Geoffrey Van Cortlandt SECORD**, at age 94, on Feb. 24, 2017, in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. Geoff served in the Second World War.

**Dr. John Burns WYNNE**, at age 93, on July 14, 2019, in Richmond Hill, Ont. For 40 years, John was a family physician. In the early days of medicare, he served on the Ontario Medical Association board.

## CLASS OF 5T3

**Dr. Charles LAMON**, at age 92, on July 1, 2018, in Huntsville, Ont. Chuck was a radiologist at Brantford General Hospital for 30 years. When he retired, he said he could count on the fingers of one hand the days he didn't look forward to going to work.

**Dr. Thomas John SHEPPARD**, at age 89, on April 7, 2019, in Peterborough, Ont. Jack, an obstetrician-gynecologist, delivered close to 10,000 babies.

**Dr. Irving STERN**, at age 90, on Dec. 1, 2018, in Napa, Fla. In 1955, Irv finished pathology and medical residencies in Cleveland. Then in 1957, he was appointed Chief Medical Resident at Mount Zion Hospital in San Francisco. The following year, he started a private practice in San Mateo County, Calif. After practising for over 50 years, Irv reluctantly retired at age 80. But soon, he returned to patient care by volunteering at Samaritan House San Mateo Medical Clinic.

## CLASS OF 5T4

**Dr. M. Mendel BOCKNEK**, at age 89, on July 18, 2019, in Springfield, Va. Mendel was the Chief Emeritus of Ophthalmology at Inova Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, Va. In 1962, he co-founded the Northern Virginia Academy of Ophthalmology. Mendel maintained a private practice until retiring in 1996.

**Dr. Donald BOYER**, at age 88, on Jan. 20, 2019, in Windsor, Ont. For 30 years, Don practised anesthesia at Metropolitan Hospital in Windsor and Hotel-Dieu Hospital in Kingston, Ont. He retired in 1995, and enjoyed curling, gardening, and travelling in his motor home.

**Dr. James Stanley HALL**, at age 89, on Aug. 21, 2019, in Wingham, Ont. He had a family practice in Port Colborne, Ont., for 45 years.

## CLASS OF 5T5

**Dr. Diane Winslow JOHNSON**, on March 26, 2019, in Toronto. One of only three women to graduate from the Class of 5T5, Di practised at the U of T Women's Health Care Clinic and then trained as a psychotherapist at the Toronto Institute of Human Relations. She maintained a private

practice until her mid-70s. Di and her husband, Dr. James Goodwin (5T5), have three children.

**Dr. Morley Hart MALYON**, at age 88, on Sept. 7, 2019. An internal medicine specialist, he practised at Toronto East General Hospital.

**Dr. Ian Gerald Lou VAN PRAAGH**, at age 87, on April 18, 2019, in Long Island, N.Y. Ian studied obstetrics and gynecology at Western Reserve University in Cleveland. After moving to New York City in the early 1960s, he was an attending physician at Women's Hospital, and then at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital and Lenox Hill Hospital. Ian was the Medical Director for Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic. He enjoyed spending time with his family, including his brother Dr. Richard Van Praagh (5T4) of Newton, Mass.

## CLASS OF 5T6

**Dr. Freda Elisabeth MARTIN, née McQUEEN**, at age 87, on Aug. 4, 2019. Freda had a long, distinguished career in child psychiatry and tirelessly advocated for children's mental health.

**Dr. Len RALLEY**, at age 88, on Nov. 20, 2018, in Toronto. Len had a private psychiatry practice in the Toronto area.

## CLASS OF 5T7

**Dr. William Robert LORIMER**, at age 86, on Jan. 3, 2017. Bill practised as an anesthesiologist.

**Dr. Joseph STIPEC**, at age 88, on Dec. 18, 2018. After graduating, Joe moved to Surrey, B.C., where he built a thriving practice, became a founding member of Surrey Memorial Hospital, and was the team doctor for the Simon Fraser University football team. A member of Greenpeace, he protested against the nuclear testing in Amchitka, Alaska, in 1971.



## CLASS OF 6T9

### Dr. Jay KEYSTONE

by Dr. Peter Kopplin (6T3)

Dr. Jay Keystone, at age 76, on Sept. 3, 2019, in Toronto.

To have two bright young medical students nipping at your intellectual heels is both a boon and a burden. This is how I first met Jay Keystone and his twin brother, Ed, in 1968 at St. Michael's Hospital. They were fourth-year students (no clinical clerks then), and I was a resident preparing for the fellowship exams in several months. I had to rev up my engines to keep pace with these two, for which I remain grateful because in the long run it took little imagination to realize they were helping me. I don't think Jay ever lost that persistent pursuit of knowledge.

His subsequent training in internal medicine and tropical medicine resulted in a unique medical career in Toronto. His wider interest in global health was given full expression in the Medical Alumni Association, where he was influential in gaining support for international health selectives for students. Jay was president of the MAA from 1999 to 2005 and during that time helped negotiate one of the largest endowments to the organization that allowed it to finance this venture.

He was also quick to realize that the steady growth of student numbers in the Faculty meant difficulties maintaining collegiality and class spirit. Jay guided the Board in a revamping of our magazine, and the new *MAA Matters* was born.

A gifted public speaker, Jay was willing to share his trade secrets, and there are many graduates who still follow his principles. One principle was to inject a bit of humour at the right time. His Board meetings always had an injection of humour.

For Jay, who had many distinguished accomplishments, I am pleased to acknowledge and celebrate his contributions to the MAA.

## CLASS OF 5T8

**Dr. Phyllis Evelyn HANLEY (ROSS)**, in June 2019 in Temiskaming, Ont. From 1975 to 2006, Phyllis was a physician in New Liskeard, Ont. She is survived by her sisters including Dr. Christina Hanley (6T3).

**Dr. Donald RANNEY**, at age 87, on Sept. 9, 2019, in Guelph, Ont. An orthopedic surgeon, Don was Chief of Surgery at the Schiefelin Leprosy Research Sanatorium in Karigiri, India. In 1978, he founded and became head of the University of Waterloo's School of Anatomy.

## CLASS OF 5T9

**Dr. Mary Ann LOACH, née HOOEY**, at age 84, on April 4, 2019. For almost 58 years, Mary Ann was married to Dr. Lynn Loach (5T9), who predeceased her in 2018. Mary Ann was a hematologist at Wellesley Hospital; later, she was appointed the Medical Director and Chief of Medical Staff at St. John's Rehabilitation Hospital. In choosing to be a physician, Mary Ann followed in the footsteps of her father, Dr. Lawrence Hooey (2T6).

**Dr. Donald Stuart ROBERTSON**, at age 84, on April 1, 2019, in Guelph, Ont. Don started his practice in Deep River, Ont., then continued his career in Milton and Burlington, Ont. A general practitioner, he was the victim's voice in his duties as coroner. As an amateur archeologist, he helped document the history of the Ottawa Valley.

## CLASS OF 6T0

**Dr. Carl COHEN**, at age 81, on May 15, 2017.

**Dr. Jonathan Frome FEINBERG**, at age 84, on July 29, 2019, in San Mateo, Calif. After completing a residency at Maricopa County Hospital in Phoenix, Jonathan moved to San Mateo where he practised family medicine for over 40 years. He earned a master of public health at University of California (UC), Berkeley and helped found the family practice residency program at UC, San Francisco. After retiring, Jonathan volunteered with Samaritan House Medical Clinic.

**Dr. Douglas John GARE**, at age 84, on May 3, 2019, in Toronto. For more than 40 years, Doug was a mainstay at Toronto General Hospital. Throughout his career as an obstetrician/gynecologist, he taught hundreds of medical students, earning several Toronto General teaching awards. As well, the American Association of Professors of Obstetrics and Gynecology honoured him with its prestigious Excellence in Teaching Award. Doug published extensively on his research on fetal assessment, as well as gestational thyroid disease and diabetes.

# In Memoriam

Lives well lived

---

## CLASS OF 6T1

**Dr. Bernard Robert OLIVER**, at age 82, on Sept. 11, 2019, in Toronto. His medical career spanned more than 50 years. He often mentioned how lucky he was to do all the things he wanted to do in his life.

## CLASS OF 6T4

**Dr. Stanley Perry BARRON**, on April 19, 2019.

## CLASS OF 6T5

**Dr. William James COHOON**, at age 80, on Dec. 19, 2018, in Port Perry, Ont.

## CLASS OF 6T6

**Dr. Doris J. GRANT**, at age 76, on Feb. 1, 2019, in Brockville, Ont. Doris was a diagnostic radiologist.

**Dr. Hillary Joan SLATER-BERRY**, at age 89, on Aug. 30, 2019, in Toronto. Hillary practised at St. Joseph's Hospital, the Workers Compensation Board, and what is now the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

## CLASS OF 6T7

**Dr. Allan N. LEWIS**, at age 91, on April 12, 2019, in Oakland, Calif. Allan left a successful business career to pursue medicine, completing his medical education at age 40. Following an internal medicine residency in San Francisco, he engaged in clinical practice and policy development in Malaysia, Indonesia, Egypt, and Niger. Allan chronicled many of his experiences in his 2004 book, *A Prescription for Adventure*.

## CLASS OF 6T8

**Dr. Susumu YOSHIDA**, at age 76, on June 16, 2019. Sam practised at Windsor Regional Cancer Centre until 2008.

**Dr. Irving ZELCER**, on April 18, 2019. Irving practised family medicine for 50 years.

## CLASS OF 7T2

**Dr. William Kevin THOMPSON**, at age 71, on April 10, 2019. He practised as an anesthesiologist.

## CLASS OF 7T6

**Dr. Paula ROTH**, at age 67, on Oct. 10, 2017, in Hamilton. After earning a master's degree in microbiology in London, England, Paula worked at a medical clinic in Trinidad and Tobago. Later, Paula studied obstetrics and gynecology at McMaster University in Hamilton. During her medical career, she delivered hundreds if not thousands of babies. Paula was President of the Women's Group at Ryerson United Church in Hamilton.

## CLASS OF 8T2

**Dr. Duncan Alexander SCOTT**, on June 12, 2019. Duncan was a psychiatrist in Kingston, Ont.

## CLASS OF 8T4

**Dr. Robert Donald HEVENOR**, on May 25, 2019, in Tillsonburg, Ont. Initially, Bob practised at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto. Then in 1996, he joined his father's practice in Tillsonburg. Bob was an accomplished pianist and serious art collector.

**MAA Matters** accepts death notices and obituaries, which may be edited.

Email to [medical.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:medical.alumni@utoronto.ca)

or mail to:

**MAA**

**Room 3249, Medical Sciences Building,  
1 King's College Circle  
Toronto, ON M5S 1A8.**



## GIVING U OF T MEDICAL STUDENTS INSPIRING LEARNING EXPERIENCES

The MAA funds International Health Selectives because they give students an opportunity to hone their skills and broaden their medical education in a very different health care environment. We believe this experience will make them better physicians. In fact, most participants report their experience was inspiring – even life-changing.

With your support, 4th-year medical students learn about medicine in locations such as Nunavut, Kenya, Zimbabwe, or South Africa. The MAA has a proud tradition of supporting U of T medical students with these global selectives, as well as through research scholarships, no-interest loans, bursaries, and awards.

You can support these selectives and our other initiatives by joining our Monthly Giving Program. It's a cost-effective, flexible way to support programs that help train the best physicians. You can change or cancel your monthly contribution any time. To join, send in the coupon below, visit [www.maautoronto.ca](http://www.maautoronto.ca) or call Patricia Coty at 416-978-0990.

Many thanks to the MAA for supporting my experience in South Africa. – Kyle Daniell

## JOIN OUR MONTHLY GIVING PROGRAM

Here is my monthly contribution to support inspiring learning experiences for U of T medical students.

\$12  \$18  \$24  \$36  \$50  \$100  \$\_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

I'm unable to join the Monthly Giving Program but I would like to make a gift of:

\$25  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1000  \$\_\_\_\_\_

I've enclosed my cheque made payable to:

**The Medical Alumni Association of the University of Toronto**

I prefer to use my:  Mastercard  Visa

Your generous support will be recognized in *MAA Matters*.  Check here if you do not wish to be listed.

Mail your donation to: **Medical Alumni Association**, Medical Sciences Building 3249, I King's College Cir., Toronto ON M5S 1A8  
416-978-0990 | [maautoronto.ca](http://maautoronto.ca) | [medical.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:medical.alumni@utoronto.ca) | Registration No. 119142602RR0001

From my bank account. I've enclosed a VOID cheque and signed below.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

From my:  MasterCard  Visa

\_\_\_\_\_  
MASTERCARD/VISA NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
EXPIRY DATE (MMYY)

\_\_\_\_\_  
CODE

NAME ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

You can change or cancel your monthly contribution any time by contacting the MAA office.

**Give online at [www.maautoronto.ca](http://www.maautoronto.ca)**

