

UTCSP eNews
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UTCSP Pain Week 2003: An Interfaculty Pain Education Initiative

The first interfaculty pain curriculum initiative was implemented March 18-22, 2002. As part of its commitment to model interdisciplinary collaboration and with the support of all the Faculties, the UTCSP Interfaculty Undergraduate Pain

Curriculum Committee developed an intensive, 20-hour pain curriculum, titled *Pain: A*

Multidimensional Issue, which was designed to increase students' knowledge of the neurophysiological, clinical, social and ethical issues surrounding pain assessment and management. All Faculties agreed to participate, and 540 students were required to complete the curriculum.

Students Participating in Pain Week 2002	
3 rd year Dentistry:	70
2 nd year Medicine:	190
2 nd year Nursing:	30
3 rd year Pharmacy:	140
2 nd year Physical Therapy:	65
2 nd year Occupational Therapy	60
Total:	555

The second interfaculty Pain Week, titled *Pain: Putting the Person at the Centre – Understanding the Issues from Molecules to Society*

will be implemented March 17-20, 2003. Overall the 2002 curriculum was well received with the most successful components being the clinical examples and patient panel, small group discussions including the use of standardized patients, and the panel on social and ethical considerations. Based on the feedback and principles of iterative design, the program has been revised to include the following: a greater clinical/patient-focus for all days, increased integration of e-learning methods, some choice to accommodate the variety of student interests, greater discussion of evidence as a basis for management including pharmacology, and more modeling of interdisciplinary roles within a pain management context. Evaluations of the e-learning component were also very positive and will be integrated with the face-to face sessions for all students.

Students Participating in Pain Week 2003	
3 rd year Dentistry:	94
2 nd year Medicine:	194
2 nd year Nursing:	53
3 rd year Pharmacy:	137
2 nd year Physical Therapy:	50
2 nd year Occupational Therapy*	38
Total:	566

By developing a collaborative program, the UTCSP has reinforced the interdisciplinary nature of pain management and ensure the quality and consistency of pain education at the undergraduate level, which should lead to the best clinical pain management by graduates of these programs. Offering the same pain curriculum to undergraduate students in six health profession programs helps to ensure they have a common understanding of the impact of pain on the patient, methods to assess pain, mechanisms that guide management choices, and specific strategies to prevent or minimize pain. Educating undergraduates from different professional programs together will also help ensure that they appreciate both the similar and unique approaches different professions use to assess and manage pain, and will be able to draw on all these resources.

We wish to thank the members of the Curriculum Committee for their continued hard work and dedication to this initiative, and a special thanks to Judi Hunter and Peter Pennefather for their outstanding work as Co-chairs of the Committee.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Jeffrey Posluns Lecture 2003

Sponsored by the Posluns Family, Wasser Pain Management Centre,
and University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain

“Inadequate Pain Treatment: A Silent Epidemic”

presented by **Manon Choiniere, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology,
Faculty of Medicine, University of Montreal; Clinician Scientist, Montreal Heart Institute

Date: Wednesday, May 21, 2003

Time: 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

Location: 15th Floor Classroom, Mount Sinai Hospital, 600 University Avenue

Pain Plasticity Symposium

Supported by the Neuroscience Network and the Pain Research from Molecules to Community
Collaborative National Training Program

Date: Thursday, May 22, 2003

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: **University of Toronto**
Medical Sciences Building
1 King’s College Circle, Room 2172
Toronto, Ontario

- 1:00 **OPENING REMARKS/Introduction**, Dr. Michael Salter, Director, University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain, Toronto, ON.
- 1:10 Dr. RuRong Ji, Department of Anesthesia & Critical Med. Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard, Mass.
"MAP Kinase, Spinal Cord Plasticity, and Pain"
- 2:00 Dr. Yves De Koninck, Ctr Res ULRG, Universite Laval, Quebec City, PQ.
"Novel Substrates of Plasticity in Spinal Lamina I; Switching Firing Mode or Postsynaptic Inhibition."
- 2:50 Dr. Graham Pitcher, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON.
“The DREAM Gene and Pain Modulation”
- 3:10 Break/Refreshments
- 3:30 Dr. Fernando Cervero, Anesthesia Research Unit, McGill University, Montreal.

"A Mechanistic View of Secondary Hyperalgesia: Role of Presynaptic Inhibition"

4:10 Dr. Makoto Tsuda, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON.

"Role of Ionotropic ATP Receptors P2XRs in Pain Signaling"

4:30 Dr. Cathy Cahill, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Queen's University, Kingston, ON.

"Functional Implications of Delta Opioid Receptor Targeting"

For further information and to register (free) please contact:

Jonathan Dostrovsky

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E-mail: j.dostrovsky@utoronto.ca

UPCOMING MEETINGS/SYMPOSIUMS/LECTURES/CONFERENCES:

Wasser Pain Management Centre – Education Rounds

March 19, 2003 – Dr. David Evans – Case Discussions

*Wasser Education Rounds are held at **12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.** in Room 1163, Wasser Pain Management Centre, Mount Sinai Hospital, 600 University Avenue.*

Wasser Pain Management Centre - Headache Rounds

March 25, 2003 – Dr. J. Gladstone – Title TBA

(Lunch will be served)

*Wasser Headache Rounds are held at **12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.** in Room 1163, Wasser Pain Management Centre, Mount Sinai Hospital, 600 University Avenue.*

MUPPUT Rounds – (Multi-Professional Pain Group at the University of Toronto)

April 24, 2002 – Dr. Miriam Grushka – **Room 3227**, Medical Sciences Building

*MUPPUT is part of the education section of the University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain. Bi-monthly meetings are held from **5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** For further information, please contact Dr. Lucy Gagliese at lucia.gagliese@uhn.on.ca*

Palliative Care Grand Rounds

Presented by The Temmy Latner Centre for Palliative Care and the Hospice Palliative Care Network Project (HPCNet), and the University Health Network

“Latest Advances in Palliative Care Nursing”

April 29, 2003

Presented by **Professor Linda Kristjanson**, Chair in Palliative Care, Edith Cowan University, Churchlands Campus, Faculty of Communications, Health and Science, Department of Nursing Public Health, Churchlands, West Austria

Palliative Care Grand Rounds are held at the University Health Network, Toronto General Site, Eaton North, 1st Floor, Room 429. For further information, please contact Kate Castonguay at 416-586-4800 x 6777 or by e-mail at kate.castonguay@tlcpc.org

“Pain: The Silent Epidemic” – 2003 Conference of the Canadian Pain Society

Sheraton Hotel, Toronto

May 22-24, 2003

For further information and on-line registration, visit the Conference website at:

<http://www.canadianpainsociety.ca/toronto2003/>

Smi’s 4th Annual Conference – Pain Therapeutics

June 11-12, 2003

The Hatton

London, United Kingdom

For further information and on-line registration, visit the Conference website at:

<http://www.smi-online.co.uk/events/overview.asp?is=4&id=814>

GRANTS/AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS – CALLS FOR APPLICATIONS/NOMINATIONS

UTCSP Clinician Scientist Fellowship (2003):

The University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain is currently seeking applicants for the UTCSP Clinician-Scientist Fellowship. The Fellowship is intended for those trainees who wish to pursue a career as a clinician-scientist with both basic research in pain and in the application to clinical pain management problems. The award is for the support of an individual doing full time research. Applicants should exhibit high academic achievement, research ability or potential, excellent communication skills, and interpersonal and leadership abilities.

Value and duration:

- The value of the award will normally be \$25,000 for a period of one year. Holders of the fellowship may apply annually (competitive application) for further support up to a maximum of 4 years.
- The fellowship will normally start in July 1 or September 1

Eligibility:

- Applicants must have a professional degree (e.g. MD, DDS, B. Pharm, B.Sc.(Nursing)) at the time of taking up the award.
- Applicants must be registered or plan to register in a graduate program* that requires a defended thesis in Division IV, Life Sciences, School of Graduate Studies University of Toronto, and carry out research under the supervision of a faculty member of the UTCSP.
- This award is not automatically renewed; students must apply annually to be considered for further funding.

Conditions of the Fellowship:

- You must be enrolled as a full-time student in a graduate program* in Division IV, Life Sciences, School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto for the full duration of the award.
- You must spend at least 85% of your time on research.
- You cannot be enrolled in a qualifying or “make-up” year or be on a paid educational leave or sabbatical.
- You may accept research assistantships, part-time teaching positions, or other employment, which do not exceed a maximum of 10 hours per week on average.
- You are required to apply for salary support funding from an external agency. A copy of the front page of the application(s) must be forwarded to the UTCSP office prior to payment of the Fellowship being initiated. If external funding is obtained you must accept this funding and the Clinician-Scientist award will fund the differential to a total dependent on your qualifications and postgraduate experience and set by the UTCSP Research Committee.

Application Procedures

Deadline for application is **April 1, 2003**. **The following documents must be submitted in triplicate:**

- **Curriculum vitae including publication list, awards, name of supervisor.**
- **Copies of current and previous academic program transcripts.**
- **A one-page summary outline of the proposed research and how this fellowship will help further the applicant's goals.**
- **Two letters of reference. Letters of reference should be either mailed directly to the UTCSP or included in the application package (letters should be in sealed and signed envelopes).**
- **A letter should be provided by the proposed supervisor stating that he/she agrees to accept the student into their lab.**

Submission of applications:

Submit your application to Ms. Nancy Mitchell, University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain, Faculty of Dentistry, Room 374, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1G6, Tel: (416) 979-4762, Fax: (416) 979-4936, nancy.mitchell@utoronto.ca

Selection:

Applicants will be ranked and selected by the UTCSP Research Committee

* In exceptional cases an individualized training program can be set up in lieu of official registration as a student in the School of Graduate Studies. A supervisory committee would oversee the fellow’s training program.

Purdue Pharma OGSST Award – 2003/2004 Competition:

The University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain is currently seeking applications from eligible students for the 2002/2003 Purdue Pharma OGSST Award. The applications are due no later than **April 1, 2003.** This award is open to Graduate students in the Faculty of Medicine who are studying in the area of pain and working with a member of the University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain. Second preference will be given to graduate students at the University of Toronto who are studying in the area of pain and working with a member of the University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain.

For additional information/applications link, please visit the UTCSP website at: http://www.toronto.edu/pain/grants_OGSST.html or contact **Sheila Wolfe, Office of the Associate Dean, Graduate & Inter-Faculty Affairs, Faculty of Medicine, Room 2113, MSB, sheila.wolfe@utoronto.ca, tel: 416-946-7317**

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For further information or comments about UTCSP eNews, please contact:

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