



# OPERATIVE REPORT

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His Excellency the Right Honourable  
Romeo LeBlanc, Governor General of  
Canada

## Directors and Officers

Peter H. McLean, MD  
FRCS C FACS, Chairman

Ronald R. Lett, MD MSc.  
FRCS C, President

Joan VanDuzer,  
Executive Secretary

Stephen Foster, MD  
FRCS C  
Phillip Cooper, MB FRCS  
DRCOG LMCC

Clark Jamieson, MD,  
FRCS C, Treasurer  
Fikre Germa, MD CCFP,  
African Project Consultant

## Supporting Organizations

Faculty of Health and  
Human Sciences,  
U.N.B.C., Prince George,  
B.C.

Department of Surgery,  
Royal Victoria Hospital,  
Montreal, P.Q.

Department of Surgery,  
Prince George Regional  
Hospital, Prince George,  
B.C.

Department of Surgery,  
University of Alberta,  
Edmonton, AB (pending)

**CHARITABLE REGISTRATION**  
# 1066224-19

## Office

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Dr. Ron Lett:  
e-mail [lett@unbc.edu](mailto:lett@unbc.edu)

## Friends of CNIS Hold Vancouver Fundraiser

The Friends of the CNIS held a fundraiser in support of activities in Ethiopia. The event took place on a warm April, Saturday evening at the Queen of Sheba restaurant in Vancouver. Over 90 individuals enjoyed the Ethiopian cultural program and listened to a presentation on the work of the CNIS. The buffet dinner included numerous Ethiopian wats (soups including everyone's favorite "doro wat" and of course plenty of "enjera". The presentation on the CNIS was introduced by Dr. Fikre Germa and given by Dr. R. Lett. In spite of the festive atmosphere the audience was attentive and asked good questions. Following the "serious" portion, the audience was entertained by the Dance Group, Ethio-jam who presented five different ethnic dances. The audience demanded an encore of the Garage dancing which is by far the most active of Ethiopian dances. Items donated by Vancouver businesses were raffled off and door prizes were also won. The total raised during the fundraiser was close to more than 3000 dollars. The executive of the CNIS would like to thank the organizing committee of the Friends of the CNIS for this successful event.



Friends of the CNIS Organizing Committee (L-R):  
Hanna Mulatu, Dr. Fikre Germa, Dawit Shawel, Bayush Hagus, Brooke Meles

## CNIS EXECUTIVE RESTRUCTURED

Peter McLean Appointed Chairman of the Board

The CNIS is half way through its second financial year as of April 1. The executive has expanded from the three founding directors (Lett, McLean, VanDuzer) who also held all the executive positions, to 5 directors (Cooper, Foster) and an executive of six. (Treasurer - Mrs. Joan Jamieson). As the CNIS has grown both in terms of membership, budget and development activities, the work load has increased and become more complicated. We have a lawyer, Carol Brown, an auditor Cindy Shelest and a communications consultant, Diana Crosbie. Dr. Fikre Germa has been appointed as our African

Project Consultant. All of these individuals are working as volunteers.

To maintain the business-like functioning of this charitable organization Dr. Lett has resigned as a director of the CNIS but remains as President and CEO. Dr. Peter McLean has been appointed as Chairman of the Board of Directors. Dr. McLean is a general surgeon and intensivist at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal. He has clinical experience as a surgeon in Pakistan and developed a surgical education project in Ethiopia. This means that governance of the CNIS will be under a Board of Directors as before but that the President will report to that Board rather than being a member of the board.

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## ***The Library at the Jimma Institute of Health Sciences***

***Jimma, Ethiopia***  
***by Joan Jamieson***

***February, 1997***

What an eye opener for a North American library user!

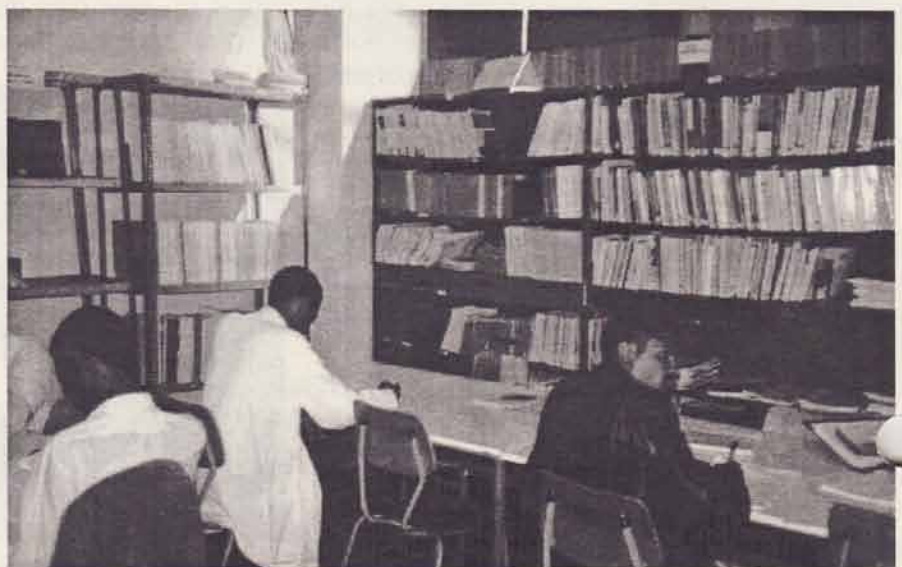
The library space has grown since Ariane McLean began helping to organize the medical library in 1991, but it still resembles an almost empty warehouse. It is surprisingly alive and busy — it is used by the 200 students in Medicine as well as those in Nursing, Pharmacy, Environmental Health and Medical Lab Technology. But its resources are scarce.

Their greatest need is current information — they need periodicals. Dr. Fikre Germa, Prince George, has offered to send both Patient Care and

Medicine North America but they need many more.

Opportunities — #1 Commit to saving used journals and pay for the postage for a year. This is estimated to cost \$60 per year.  
#2 Simply donate to this project, labelling

To get further information, contact  
Joan Jamieson at: (250) 564-7759 (fax)  
or [sajc@netbistro.com](mailto:sajc@netbistro.com) (e-mail).



Inside Jimma Library



Dr. Minis doing Jimma's first Cystoscopy

## **First Cystostomy Workshop for CNIS**

**Synopsis — Dr. Clark Jamieson's Report, Project at Jimma Institute, Feb.1 to 17**

*Session on Feb. 10 with general surgeons instructing them in the use of filiforms and followers, supra pubic trochar catheters, and use of a cystoscope, as well as care and maintenance of the cystoscope. They had never seen either filiforms or followers or a cystoscope and had only a vague idea of how to do a trochar supra pubic cystostomy - the usual method was open cystostomies. They were impressed with the filiform management of urethral strictures as opposed to the bougienage method that they had been using.*

*Feb. 11 and 13, and March 13th lectured the students on management of urethral strictures using bougies and also on scrotal masses and management of urinary calculi.*

*Feb. 12 - lectured at Grand Rounds to about 100 on current management of urethral strictures and management of carcinoma of the prostate and benign prostatic hyperplasia.*

*Feb. 12, 14 - practical teaching with Dr. Minas in the operating room to instruct him in the use of the cystoscope. He and Dr. Sampson will be*

*the main uses of this device.*

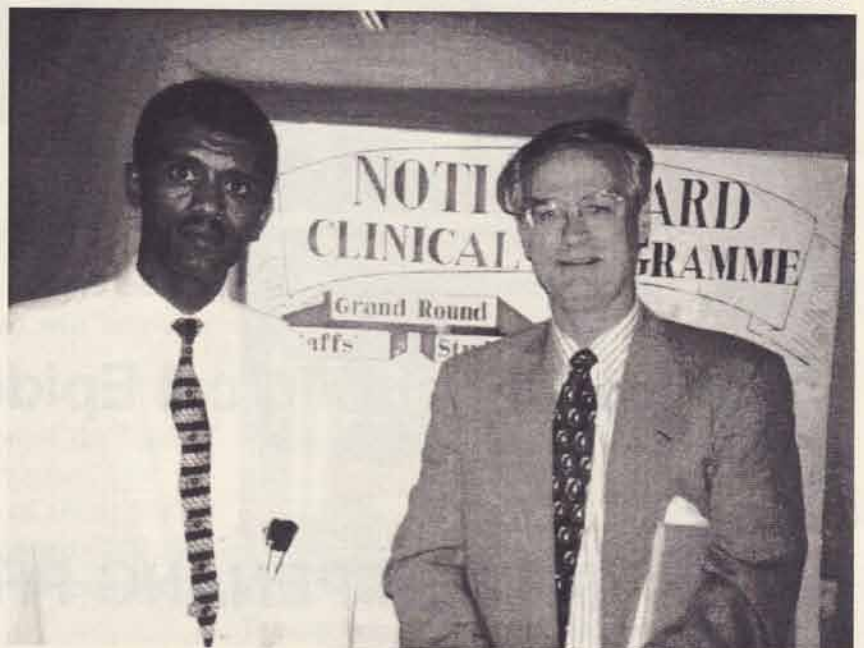
*Concerns - There is a difficulty in reaching patients in the peripheries and many are dying from sepsis before they can reach care. The general practitioners responsible for these areas are difficult to reach. There is a severe lack of appropriate equipment for this kind of treatment. I feel that the bougies and trochar cystostomy and cystoscopy will be well used in Jimma.*

*On-going plans - fax numbers were exchanged. Hope to take more transurethral instruments in a year, including urethral stone baskets.*

*Recommendation - to integrate this teaching into the Essential Skills Curriculum.*

**NOTE - Funding for travel and equipment for this project were provided by Dr. Jamieson and with approval of the project design by CNIS, a tax receipt for his expenses of \$4800 was issued. His wife Joan, treasurer for CNIS, contributed her time to the library, an approved project and a receipt for her expenses of \$3100 was also issued. The Jamiesons are making a great contribution to CNIS and to surgical education!**

Dr. Minis Woldetsadik and Dr. Clark Jamieson



## Malaysian Meeting of INCLENS



Ueanda Trauma Registry Presentation in Penang Malaysia

**International Clinical Epidemiology Network**

**INCLEN PENANG PRESENTATION**

## FROM INFORMATION TO ACTION: THE UGANDA TRAUMA REGISTRY

The Uganda Trauma Registry is no longer an idea but has been established. This is the first registry in sub-Saharan Africa. The Registry office is located in the Clinical trauma Epidemiology Unit at Makerere University and is managed by Dr. O. C. Kobusingye. Since November data has been collected at Mulago Hospital, Kampala and Kawolo Hospital in Mukono District. In addition to Dr. Kobusingye who now works on the Registry half time, the registry employs 5 data collectors and a secretary on a part-time basis.



Chistine Kusasira enters data into the Uganda Trauma Registry

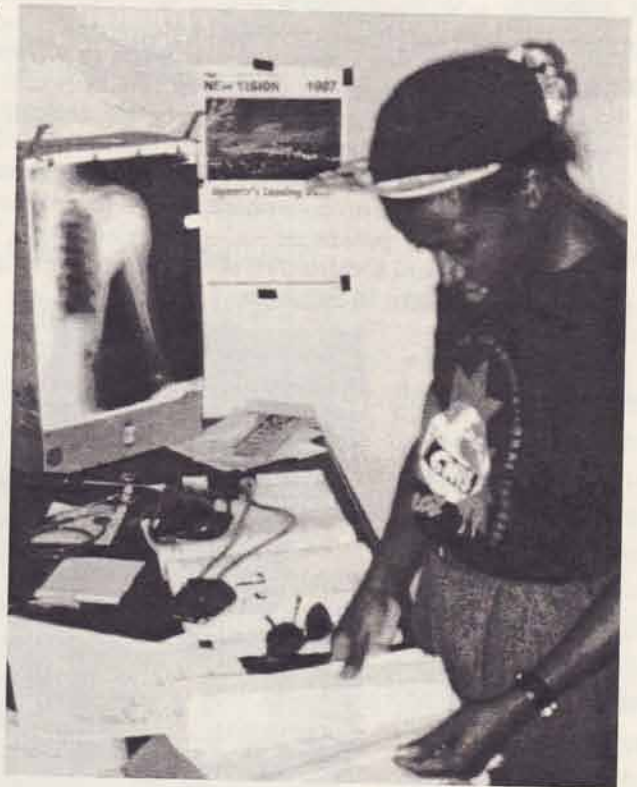
The purpose of the registry is consistent with the theme of the International Network for Clinical Epidemiology global meeting held in Penang Malaysia from February 17 to 24. The theme was **From Information to Action**. The expectation of the registry is that the information generated will be the basis for **injury prevention**. The initial results of the registry were presented at the INCLIN global meeting by Drs. OC Kobusingye and RR Lett. (Funding for OCK was provided by INCLIN) The importance of injury is just being recognized and these

presentations were not only valuable because of the scientific interest but as a matter of advocacy for this important problem. It was also an opportunity to make contacts with epidemiologists interested in trauma from India, Phillipines, Egypt, and Kenya.

The Uganda Trauma Registry is expanding in April to become an integrated information system by complementing the hospital based data which has a rural and urban source with information from the immediately adjacent communities. The hospital data has shown that the most important injuries based on numbers and severity are **traffic injuries (50%), Falls (15%) and Burns (10%)**. The community data will give us information on individuals who do not make it to hospital and the prevalence of disability.

Two surgical residents ( Ugandan) and one Master of Public Health Graduate Student (Ugandan) will be doing dissertations using the trauma registry for data and three medical students ( one Ugandan and two Canadian) will be doing trauma projects during their vacations.

The CNIS has committed itself to the support of the Uganda Trauma Registry and Injury Prevention Program for 2.5 years. This means an annual commitment of about 50,000 dollars. To accomplish this matching funds from CIDA will be required but the CNIS will have to raise in the order of 20,000 dollars annually.



Trauma Registry Inspection Kalwolo Hospital

## Association of Surgeons of East Africa Regional Conference

The Regional Conference of ASEA was held from March 6 - 8 1997 at Jinja Uganda. Participants came from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Canada and the USA. Surgical Videos were shown on day one, three scientific sessions occurred on the second day and tours to the source of the Nile and a sugar factory were organized for the last morning.



Professor Ignating Kakande speaks at closing ceremonies of ESS Instructors Workshop in Uganda

The Conference gave a high profile to the CNIS and its activities. At the opening ceremonies Professor I. Kakande highlighted the essential surgical skills workshop which was just completed that week in Kampala. Dr. O. C. Kobusingye was the master of ceremonies for the opening and presented two papers one entitled **An update on Trauma Registries in Uganda**, the other **The Development and Evaluation of the Kampala Trauma Score**. Dr. R. Lett who co-authored the papers presented by OCK also presented a paper entitled **The Development and Evaluation of an Essential Surgical Skills Curriculum in Ethiopia**.

The CNIS presentations were well received and interest in the trauma registry was expressed by surgeons from Tanzania and Kenya and interest in the Essential Surgical Skills Curriculum was expressed by surgeons from Kenya and Mozambique.



A Ugandan Medical Student learns how to place a Steinman pin.

## Essential Surgical Skills Curriculum: Makerere Medical School

(previously published in Association of Surgeons of East Africa Newsletter)

by Olive Kobusingye

During the first week of March 1997, an Essential Surgical Skills Instructors' workshop took place at Makerere Medical School. The objective was to introduce to, and familiarize the faculty of the Department of Surgery with the Essential Surgical Skills (ESS) curriculum. 36 faculty members and eight final year medical students participated. An evaluation done at the completion of the workshop showed that more than 80% of faculty, and all of the students, found the curriculum "very good" for the effective and efficient teaching of surgical skills to medical students. All eight students expressed a desire to have the ESS incorporated in the current surgical curriculum.

**Course Development:** The ESS curriculum was developed by Dr. Ronald Lett, M.D., FRCS. It was born of the realization that most traditional (and current) medical school teaching produces doctors that are very knowledgeable theoretically, but very lacking in the essential surgical skills most needed by the general practitioner. The curriculum was developed and tested at the Jimma Institute of Health Sciences in Ethiopia, with a view to improving the life saving skills of the final year Ethiopian Medical students.

**Course content and methods:** Thirty eight skills are taught in three course units, covering fundamental surgical skills, life support and anesthesia, and emergency surgery. Emergency gastrointestinal, obstetric, genitourinary, orthopaedic, and traumatology procedures are taught using case based learning and simulation. Three books published by the WHO for health care provision at the district hospital are used as references. A variety of simulators are used, ranging from manikins (CPR,ETT), to animal tissue like sheep intestine (bowel laceration, duodenal patch), sheep thorax (chest tube insertion, lacerations), cow foreleg (Steinmann pin) and knot tying

boards. At the end of the program, the learner should be capable of performing 38 essential surgical skills. The first edition of the students' manuals and teaching aids (mostly illustrated charts) has been developed to allow easy transfer of the course to other

settings where the teachers and students of medicine and surgery may wish to adopt it.

## **Joan VanDuzer Organizes Fundraisers**

In January Joan Van Duzer, a CNIS director, organized a luncheon in Toronto and a dinner in Hamilton to raise public awareness about the CNIS and to help generate funds. Ronald Lett spoke at the luncheon which was held at the Royal York Hotel and at the dinner which took place at the Hamilton Club. One of the immediate results was that Diana Crosbie of Crosbie Communications in Toronto offered the services of her company on a volunteer basis.

### **other events**

While in central Canada, Dr. Lett had a meeting in Ottawa with Hugette Labelle President of CIDA. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the affiliation of the CNIS with the partnership branch of CIDA. This will allow for matching funds which will expedite the work. Also in Hamilton a meeting was held at the Center for International Health at McMaster University. The CNIS will be acting as a consultant for AMREF ( African Medical Research and Education Fund) and McMaster in an injury control study which is a concern of mutual interest.

### ***from the Maritimes - The Sweet Sound of Music, Concert for CNIS***

The Antigonish St. Francis Xavier Concert Choir supported CNIS with part of the proceeds from concerts during the Easter season at Antigonish and Pictou. The other recipient was the local food bank. Under the direction of Dr. Phillip Cooper, a director of CNIS, this choir performed J.S. Bach's the St. John Passion to rave reviews.

Dr. Cooper, a general surgeon in Antigonish, says that in his experience, musical groups are often willing to put on benefit concerts. In the past, this university and community choir has donated proceeds to projects as varied as wells in India, grain silos in Nicaragua and books for Sierra Leone.

Dr. Cooper became intrigued by the music and culture of Africa when he was London, England as a student. He finds that eclectic musical events are an excellent way of generating not only money but also public awareness, musical enjoyment and fun! Are you involved with a musical group which might give a benefit concert to promote surgical services through the CNIS? Money raised for such a cause makes its own sweet music.

In June, Dr. Cooper will accompany Dr. Ron Lett, President of CNIS, to Ethiopia to teach the Essential Surgical Skills program.

(Contact Dr. Lett for information regarding fund-raising at the CNIS office.)

## **95 Per Cent Solution**

The CNIS like all charitable organization needs to address the issue of administrative costs. The decision by the board of directors is that 95% of funds donated to the CNIS will be used directly for project financing and 5% will be set aside for administrative and fundraising expenses. The only other funds used for administration will be membership fees. Therefore if you are considering a donation or encouraging others to donate you can rest assured that 95% is being used directly for the intended purpose.

## **Coin Collection System Initiated**

The CNIS has started a coin collection system to try and develop a new source of funding. The system was Pilot tested by Glen Lett in Camrose Alberta. Cans designed for that purpose have been purchased and labels designed. The labels have the CNIS slogan of promoting the delivery of essential surgical care to the underprivileged in English, French, Amharic and Swahili. Dr. Fikre Germa will distribute the cans locally in Prince George and to other volunteers in British Columbia. We will need provincial and local distributors throughout the country so contact the CNIS office if you can help.

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## Membership Application - CNIS

You will receive a quarterly newsletter and access to information and support as outlined in the CNIS pamphlet.

Student - \$25  
Regular - \$50  
Organization - \$500  
Benefactor - \$1000 or more

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Specialty \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques should be payable to CNIS, and sent to  
CNIS, #310 1669 Victoria St.,  
Prince George, BC, V2L 2L5