



OPERATIVE REPORT



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CNIS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the CNIS was held on August 11th at CNIS headquarters in Vancouver BC. The board and committee members excitedly discussed the future of the CNIS at the AGM. New members elected to the board are Khwezi Mbolekwa, a hospital administrator and Linda Akagi, a pharmacist, both long time volunteers for the CNIS. Members that were re-elected included Haregua Getu, Tarek Razek and Paul Moroz. Andrew Howard, Lionel Wilson, Doug Wallis, and Gwen Hollaar will finish the second year in their two year terms. Phil Hassen, who has now served for nine years as a CNIS board member, has stepped down from the board and has become the CNIS Vice-President (Volunteer). Ronald Lett, CNIS president and Elizabeth Schaefer, CNIS Manager gave respective annual reports for the year. Andrew Howard, Program Chair, Paul Moroz, Public Engagement Chair and Doug Wallis Chairman of the Board and Finance Committee have been re-appointed. Alec Logan CMA, has joined as a new member of the CNIS Finance Committee. It was discussed that Project funding for CNIS ended in June 2006 and the CNIS was sustained with the innovation project in Ethiopia, Harbinger funding for ICCU, the universities of McGill and Ottawa for work in Tanzania and CAGS funded CNIS to work in Guyana. CIDA program funding came in on December 21st 2006, and the CNIS was able to hire 3 new part time employees, including a public engagement assistant, a language center coordinator and a web project coordinator. The meeting was adjourned with a welcome to new staff and board members. CNIS looks forward to a prosperous year!

Khwezi Mbolekwa



Linda Akagi



Philip Hassen



Strategic Planning Session Highlights

The CNIS held the Annual Strategic Planning session on August 10th & 11th 2007. Future goals and the means to accomplish them were discussed by the CNIS board and staff. Lorne Braun, reports consultant, is responsible for finalizing a detailed document outlining the session. It was noted that the CNIS faces challenges in engaging Canadians and attracting resources, but has innovative programming that is grounded in both strong theory & best practices. The purpose of strategic planning was to help focus and guide the organization. Innovative strategies were discussed to expand the work of the CNIS. In Africa such ideas as the shift from African management to African leadership and African institution building; In Canada, optimizing collaborative partnerships within surgical and obstetrical departments in universities. The CNIS's human resources (staff, board members, committees, volunteers, African partners) and the need to increase all areas due to the larger mandate under program based mode were evaluated. In particular the need to diversify and separate the administrative and programming roles. Financial support was discussed, particularly the need to diversify funding beyond CIDA support (especially with the increase to program funding). The CNIS plans to encourage other high income countries to develop Networks for International Surgery to support the African Institutions CNIS has developed.



Top Left: Lionel Wilson, Paul Moroz, Phil Hassen, Tarek Razek

Bottom left: Elizabeth Schaefer, Doug Wallace, Gwen Hollaar, Lorne Braun

CNIS DONORS: Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Wild Rose Foundation, Harbinger Foundation, Donner Canadian Foundation, ENAHPA, University of Ottawa, McGill University, Organizational Members & Individual Members. Your Contributions are much appreciated!

ESS Instructors and Providers Workshops

Ethiopia

The department of Surgery in Jimma held two ESS providers workshops in July. These workshops, which trained more than 50 final year medical students were led by Dr. Samson the ESS patron and Dr. Chuchu the

Dr. Samson teaching ESS



ESS director. It has been more than a year since the last ESS workshop in Jimma, so it was gratifying for all that the program is alive and functioning well again. A new MOU between CNIS and Jimma University was signed, included in the agreement is the building of a surgical skills lab which will be supported by the Ethiopian North American Health Professionals Association. In Gondor the surgical skills lab is currently under construction, and the laying of the foundation is pictured at top right.



Above: Medical Students in Jimma

Uganda

The ESS program has been continuing in Mbarara twice a year. The most recent course occurred in November 2006 where more than 425 final year medical students have taken the course in Mbarara since the year 2000. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) has been signed by Deo Bitariho, Head of Surgery and Jerome Kabakyenga, Dean of medicine, MUST. This MOU will facilitate expanded surgical skills training and the establishment of a surgical skills laboratory. Dr. Patrick Kyamanywa has informed the CNIS that the plans for the skills lab are well advanced and we expect to be making an announcement concerning the completion of the surgical lab before the end of 2007.



Dr Patrick Kyamanywa

Tanzania



Interns in Moshi Tanzania

The CNIS and the Department of Surgery (DoS) at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) conducted two Essential Surgical Skills (ESS) workshops and signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). A three day ESS instructor's workshop lead by Dr. Ronald Lett was conducted in June and 15 ESS instructors were certified. The following week, under the leadership of Dr. Kondo and Dr. E Swai of DoS KCMC,



Dr. Moroz teaches ESS at KCMC

25 interns completed the ESS provider's course. Instructors for that course included newly certified Tanzanian instructor's and Dr Paul Moroz, CNIS board member and orthopedic surgeon who was 1 of 16 Canadian surgeons to qualify as an ESS Instructor at the Bethune Round Table held in Toronto in May. On June 22nd Dr. M Swai, the director of hospital services KCMC and Dr. Kondo the head of the DoS KCMC signed an MOU with CNIS. The future projected in this MOU is expanded surgical skills training including the hernia course, training of medical assistants and establishment of a dedicated surgical skills teaching laboratory. This work in Moshi, Tanzania is supported by CIDA and the Donner Canadian Foundation.

CNIS Enters Updated Relations with Canadian and African partners



Dr Ronald Lett signs MOU with KCMC, Moshi.

Eight Memorandums of Understanding (MOU's) have been signed by Dr. Lett, CNIS President on behalf of the CNIS since we have begun with the CIDA program. These MOU's were prepared by reports consultant Lorne Braun. African partners who have signed MOU's include: The Injury Control Centre-Uganda, Kampala and the department of surgery Mbarara, Uganda. Departments of surgery in Gondor, Addis Ababa and Jimma in Ethiopia and Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre in Moshi, Tanzania. Canadian partners include The Office of International Surgery, Toronto and Women and Children's Hospital, Vancouver. This is all part of the new program and the higher level of activities that the CNIS is involved with.

Injury Control Centres: Tanzania

25 Primary school teachers have taken a three day 1st aid course. The Teachers came from 13 different schools in the Kinondi District. At the end of the course, each School involved was provided with the 1st aid book used and a complete 1st Aid kit. ICCT facilitators also conducted a three day Trauma Team Training course to 25 medical personnel at the Morogoro Regional Hospital in late June 2007. The main emphasis of this course was evaluation and management of trauma patients in the initial resuscitative stage, focusing on a team approach. It is expected that this will ensure smooth running of the emergency department in the hospital, improve trauma patient care, and reduce patient mismanagement and the number of deaths in casualties. At the end of the course certificates of attendance were awarded to all those who participated. ICCT objectives are to determine the magnitude of Trauma in Tanzania, to improve initial management of injured patients, and to introduce and create injury preventive measures. This has been accomplished in Muhimbili National Hospital, Muhimbili Orthopedic Institute, Dar es Salaam City Hospitals, Tumbi Hospital and Morogoro Regional Hospital. The objective is to provide this to the rest of Tanzania. Pictured at right Lawrence Museru Board Chair, Respicious Boniface Co-director, Victoria Muntali Co-director of ICCT.



Uganda

In early 2007, the Injury Control Center Uganda signed a contract which outlines the joint activities with CNIS. ICCU director Milton Mutto and his staff are busy implementing the requirements of the first quarter which include expanded injury surveillance, the building of scientific capacity in particular the PhD studies for the ICCU director, and an action based research agenda. June 30th was the deadline for submissions to the 2008 Global Meeting on Injury Control and the ICCU submitted abstracts on child pedestrian injury, traffic injury, youth violence, occupational injury and animal bites. ICCU authors include Milton Mutto, Catherine Nansamba, and Mable Nakitto CNIS authors include Ronald Lett & Andrew Howard.

ETHIOPIA CELEBRATES THE NEW MILLENIUM!



Ethiopia had been living in the year 1999, according to its own calendar (Ethiopic), meaning that Ethiopians celebrated a millennium party on September 11th according to our calendar. The Ethiopian calendar is unique in the world and is divided into 12 months of 30 days and a 13th month of 5 days. It was developed by the indigenous Coptic church based on ancient Egyptian astronomic calculations. The Julian calendar was adopted under Julius Caesar, it is the root of all Christian date calculators. In 1582, Europe shifted to the Gregorian calendar, putting most of the world in 2007. Magnificent celebrations for citizens and the many expected foreign visitors are planned throughout the new year. Happy New Year Ethiopia!!

Information Project

Blue Trunk



The CNIS would like to welcome John Casinader the new website project coordinator, to the date and being updated with the help of Mary Gillis, the technical editor and a team of over 8 volunteers. Members of the Wiki Team have come from a diverse range of backgrounds including medicine, education and software. This unique blend of expertise has proven to be an asset to the Primary Surgery Wiki. You can access the Primary Surgery Wiki at ps.cnis.ca. The CNIS is also planning to launch a revamp of it's current website in the fall, a database on injuries in Africa is being developed, as well as a social networking tool for medical students interested in pursuing volunteer opportunities in Africa. Currently you can join CNIS's Facebook group. Simply create a profile as a Facebook member, conduct a search for "CNIS Global OR" using the search bar on the left hand side of your profile and request to join!

Through the support of the CNIS and organizational member Noel Belcourt, the Ugunja community Resource Centre (UCRC) in rural western Kenya seeks to boost its supply of health information resources and seeks to become a district centre of health information services. In collaboration with its health centre, strong ICT program, community library, and telecentre, UCRC is well placed to be able to acquire the World Health Organization's Mobile Blue Trunk Library. This resource will enable further dissemination of health information to health workers across the district and assist these health care workers to improve their quality of healthcare delivery. By offering up to date and relevant health information to health workers in this impoverished and rural part of the world we hope to raise the standard and quality of healthcare delivery to all customers of healthcare throughout the region.



Vancouver team! John recently started working at the CNIS to help develop and CNIS's current online initiatives. One of the main projects is the transformation of a medical textbook titled Primary Surgery into an Online Wiki. A Wiki is a collaborative online writing environment, where a community exchanges information, and anyone may contribute without having web development skills. Primary Surgery was an original two part textbook first published by Maurice King together with numerous experts in 1990. It is now out of



WHATS UP DOC?

- Dr. Robert Taylor, the CNIS's surgical associate, is in Cote D'Ivoire with the Red Cross helping to establish health facilities there.
- CNIS participated in the "BC Children's Hospital and The Centre for International Child Health" Evening to focus on the health of mothers." Dr. Jan Christilaw demonstrated caesarian section on a mannequin showing the CNIS surgical technique.
- CNIS participated in The 2nd Annual African Peace Forum, as an NGO. CNIS was happy to support African peace and awareness by taking part in this event!
- Veronica Fynn is the Learning Centre Coordinator and Joseph Gakena a volunteer Swahili teacher. We are now holding Swahili language classes at the CNIS office every Thursday. Call us to sign up!
- The African Summer Market & CNIS birthday party took place on August 18th. Thank you to all our wonderful vendors, to volunteer Jonathan Fan, and our musical guests, Yoro Noukussi, Ezeadi Onukwulu and Michelle Richard for helping us say **Happy 12th Birthday CNIS!**
- Thanks to Mi-Young, a Korean ESL/ Biomedical student who volunteered extensively at CNIS!



Include CNIS in your legacy, ask us how: 604-739-4708 or email office@cnis.ca



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Individual Memberships: \$50.00

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Organizational Membership: \$500.00

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