CNIS/CIDA PARTNERSHIP CONTINUES

We now have a strong two year plan of development and funding. CIDA will contribute 2/3 of our budget. The CNIS will fund its position from foundations, hospitals, and private and corporate fundraising. Fundraisers of all sorts are being planned for the end of summer and into the fall, so call if you have any ideas or would like to help out.

The partnership between CIDA and CNIS allow for the support and expansion of existing programs in both current and future partner countries. The 1998/99 contract agreement is for a CIDA contribution of $255,952. The CNIS cost share of this agreement is $127,976, for a total CIDA budget of $383,928.

The Essential Surgical Skills Project will expand from its strong base in Uganda and Ethiopia to include a total of five countries, with the recent and upcoming additions of Malawi, Mozambique, and Kenya.

KDIPA in Uganda

The objective of the Injury Prevention Program is the reduction of the need for surgery by reducing injury. The Kawempe Division Injury Prevention Association (KDIPA) is a community based organization which was formed because of the injury surveillance activities of the Injury Control Center- Uganda (ICC-U) which was established in 1997. The KDIPA is supported by the work of Dr. Olive Kobusingye, a trauma epidemiologist. Kawempe has a population of 200,000, and is located in Kampala. Each year, two persons out of every one thousand will die of injury. This means that there is a 10% life-time risk of injury. These are epidemic proportions.

The Injury Prevention Program, centered out of the Injury Control Center-Uganda (ICC-U) will continue to be supported nationally, regionally and internationally. ICC-U is taking the leadership role in transferring its expertise through collaboration with INCLEN to Ethiopia, Kenya and Egypt and to Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa through collaboration with WHO.

The Continuing Education Project includes the library projects. This funding will allow the on-going support of existing libraries in Uganda and Ethiopia, and is expected to expand into Mozambique, Malawi, and Kenya, as they adopt the ESS Project.

The CIDA agreement provides a long term view on all of these projects with the southern partners. The funding allows us to plan to eventually transfer the programs to the established countries as we expand into new areas.

COME CHECK US OUT ON OUR NEW WEBSITE: http://www.web.net/~cnis

Dr. Olive Kobusingye and colleagues at KDIPA
A Very Special Night

Dr. Fikre Germa and Yaine Teklemariam organized the event

The Vancouver Friends of CNIS held a fun evening of music and dinner in April 1998. The event was organized by Dr. Fikre Germa and Yaine Teklemariam. The evening included guest speakers from the Ugandan and Ethiopian community, a fashion show of Ethiopian dress, and a variety of musicians, including Ugandan journalist Dan Kashagama on the drums. The event took place at the Queen Sheba Restaurant in Vancouver and was attended by 65 people. As part of the evening, Mr. Glen Lett was honoured with the “Volunteer of the Year” award for his work for the CNIS.

ESS Workshops in Canada?!!

Yes, CNIS is using the Essential Surgical Skills training program to raise funds here in Canada so that the very same program can continue to be taught in Africa. UBC will be having ESS workshops this summer and early autumn hosted in both Prince George and Vancouver. UBC was keen to provide training of this nature in the Rural and Rural Initiative Program within the Department of Family Medicine because it helps to provide doctors with special skills that would be useful in the country. The Prince George location was the first school to run the ESS workshops in Canada. This was extremely successful last year under the tutelage of Dr. Clark Jamieson, so they will offer it again through the Department of Family Practice and Residency. This is just one example of how CNIS is using its own resources to fund the ESS project expansion in Africa.

Expansion of ESS Training Programs

An exciting meeting was held in Masaka, Uganda regarding the expansion of the Essential Surgical Skills Training programs. Mozambique was represented by Dr. Ricardo Barrades, Chief of Surgery in Mozambique

Prof Ricardo Barrades, Dr. Chavuma attended from Zambia; Prof Ignatius Kakande represented Uganda, and Prof Millimba came from Kenya. Malawi was also represented by Mr. Jimmy James. The plan is to transfer the ESS course to Ethiopia, then to Uganda. We then plan to phase into the other African countries. Mozambique, Malawi, and Kenya have been labelled as future partners with Mozambique hosting an instructors’ workshop in October 1998. Members of the CNIS team have been training Canadian facilitators, but we hope to soon be using African surgeons as facilitators in other African countries in a South-South collaboration.

Prof Ignatius Kakande, emeritus Chief of Surgery, Uganda
Dilla Workshop in Feb

Essential Surgical Skills Workshop, Dilla Ethiopia
February 16-20, 1998
- From the report by Phillip Cooper, MB, FRCS, DRCOG
Forty-four local physicians participated in the workshop.
The faculty consisted of two locals- Dr. Abera, Dilla General Surgeon, Medical Director Dilla College of Health Sciences, and Dr. Yewondossen, Obstetrician Yirgalem Hospital, three from Addis Ababa- Dr. Ayelew, General Surgeon, Program Officer SSE, Dr Tegene, General Surgery/Urology and Dr. Wondimo and three Canadians - Dr. Clark Jamieson, Urologist, Prince George, BC, Dr. Don Reimer, Winnipeg Anaesthetist, and the CNIS vice-chair, Dr. Phillip Cooper, General Surgeon, Antigonish, NS.
The Dilla College of Education and Health Sciences proved to be an excellent location. Participants came from a wide area of southwestern Ethiopia. The faculty covered all the important sub-specialties and the course ran smoothly.

Surgical Society of Ethiopia 2nd Annual Conference

The Surgical Society of Ethiopia held its 2nd Annual Conference in Addis Ababa in December. 97 members and guests attended.
Twelve papers were presented at the Conference covered: gastrointestinal tract malignancies, vesical stones, appendicitis, emergency obstetric with acute haemorrhagic pancreatitis, ameloblastoma, pattern of surgical admissions, cancer of the lower gastrointestinal tract, urinary diversion by ileal-conduit and gastric outlet obstruction. The CNIS supported this event in the amount of CAD$1,000. These CNIS monies contributed to cover expenses of surgeons from outside of Addis who present papers.

What would we do without them?

CNIS has begun to use many of the keen and innovative volunteers that have come to us from the Volunteer Vancouver and the Employment Paper. These volunteers have a wide range of skills and diverse backgrounds which are useful to CNIS's growth, increased efficiency and creative thinking.
Stephanie Mundle has used her writing skills to help us with this newsletter. Laurence David, a biology major, is spending a lot of time at the UBC library researching injury prevention and awareness. Jimmy Lin and Ryan Lett are using their computer skills to create CNIS's new website. Jimmy Lin and Howard Lau are also apart of our fundraising team.
Not all of our activities are so academic, however. We have, for example, had penny rolling afternoons. One of the CNIS's members donated a large suitcase full of pennies. Julie Macfarlane from the Developmental Disabilities Association organized volunteers, Cala, Nancy, and Anne to help roll these pennies.
We plan to have many more activity-oriented fundraisers such as car washes and bottle-drives for you to participate in.
Robert, a recent volunteer, has kindly donated much time and skill in building a large storage closet to help us maintain a professional appearance.
CNIS is growing and becoming more widely known to the public. We are extremely happy to see the interest and excitement of our volunteers for what we are doing to improve surgical care in Africa. Many thanks to all who have given so generously of their time!!

ICC-U Passes with Flying Colours

Ute Gerbrandt, the CIDA representative in Nairobi, went to Uganda to evaluate the ICC-U and the ESS activities occurring there. It was in part due to her positive support of our projects that the CNIS received the CIDA agreement.
Urology Equipment Gift to Ethiopia

The Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal made a gift of a substantial quantity of urology equipment to the Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa. Dr. Clark Jamieson delivered the equipment to Ethiopia in time for the Dilla ESS workshop in February. The gift, which included retrograde catheters, stents and stone baskets, was greatly appreciated by both the SSE and the hospital. Dr. Jamieson’s addition of a urology component of the Essential Surgical Skills workshop contributed significantly to the improvement and comprehensiveness of the course.

WHO/CNIS Collaboration

CNIS, through the Injury Control Center- Uganda (ICC-U), has entered a collaboration with the WHO Division of Violence and Injury Prevention to help institute two programs in Africa. Dr. Olive Kobusingye and Dr. Ronald Lett co-direct the ICC-U in a real “North-South” agreement.

In collaboration with the WHO, the two programs are the Violence and Health Program, and the Injury Prevention Initiative which would have an emphasis on Traffic Injury in Africa. These joint activities were initiated at the first WHO Working Group meeting in Entebbe in December, 1997. The unique work in Uganda is and will be of benefit to numerous other African countries.

Library Projects

We are seeking:
a) people who would be willing to sponsor the postage costs to Ethiopia of one journal for one year. It would be $48.00. Charitable donation receipts are available for cash donations.
b) anyone who could donate a copy of either Principles of Internal Medicine by Harrison or Textbook of Physiology by Guyton. We need 50 of them for the medical students in Jimma, Ethiopia

Please respond to the Vancouver office.

Important Date: AGM Nov 16

The CNIS Annual General Meeting will be held in Hull at the Canadian Conference on International Health. We welcome anyone who would like to participate either by attending, or with suggestions and/or ideas. Watch for details in the next newsletter.

PROMOTING THE DELIVERY OF ESSENTIAL SURGICAL CARE TO THE UNDER-PRIVILEGED

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