



# OPERATIVE REPORT



Volume 14 Issue 6

Winter 2006

## ESS starts Kilimanjaro: Tanzania

The Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre is located in the foothills of the snow capped, Mount Kilimanjaro in Moshi Tanzania. KCMC is the second largest medical school in Tanzania and is also involved in postgraduate medical education of physicians in various medical specialties. The Essential Surgical Skills course has been initiated at Kilimanjaro. This makes it the second center for ESS in Tanzania as the program is already running in Dar es Salaam. At the KCMC an ESS course was conducted by Dr. Ronald Lett with the support of Dr. Robin Fairfull-Smith, a Surgical Educator of University of Ottawa, and followed by provider's course with 24 interns participating. CNIS provided all the teaching equipment and learning aids necessary to run the course. As Dr. Fairfull-Smith states "CNIS had developed such cheap, but meaningful simulation models of practicing surgical techniques. I was extremely impressed with the Essential Surgical Skills course". At the end of the course, Dr. Kondo was named the ESS patron and Dr. Swai the ESS director. The course was well received and it is expected that Dr. Fairfull-Smith will return in June to work with Dr. Kondo and Dr. Swai to implement another provider's course. The five day intensive workshop continues to benefit primary care practitioners throughout Africa. The ESS program in Tanzania is supported by CIDA and the Donner Canadian Foundation.



## Facility upgrade for the CNIS

The CNIS will move its office to #105-1985 West Broadway on April 1st. The new location will be further west on Broadway in the Kitsilano neighbourhood and is half way between Vancouver Hospital and the University of British Columbia. The move will not only be an upgrade in appearance and local visibility for the CNIS, but more importantly will increase opportunities to engage the Canadian public in various events. In addition to administrative space, there will be a classroom which CNIS intends



to convert to a surgical learning centre. The other public area will be a development resource center. Over the past 11 years the CNIS has gained a lot of experience in surgical education, and has published instructors and learners manuals on a variety of subjects. CNIS utilized this knowledge by providing workshops on development issues. Having in-house accommodations for these activities will increase our productivity. Funding is being sought for accomplishment of these public engagement objectives.



# ACC-ESS meeting; showing fast forward progress

The African Canadian Committee for Essential Surgical Skills held its 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from November 30<sup>th</sup> to December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Naboth Mbembati, and Dr. Ronald Lett. Surgeons from Ethiopia, Uganda, Malawi and Tanzania attended. Canadian surgeons from the CNIS, and the Office of International Surgery, University of Toronto were also present. The ESS program which is conducted in these countries was reviewed, and plans were made to continue updating the students' manual. Discussions also evolved around the Innovation project

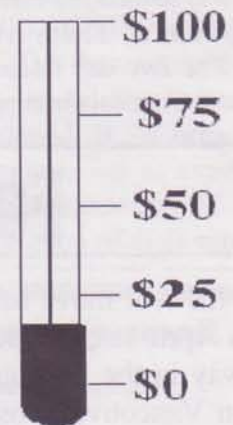


which is the establishment of dedicated surgical learning centers at 6 Universities in Ethiopia. The Ethiopian surgeons had a satellite meeting to draw plans for the first of these centers. Following the structured meeting, the surgeons performed the 40 skills of ESS as the stars of a DVD recording. The main purpose behind the DVD is to produce a standard presentation for all centers on how each surgical skill is performed. The next step, editing of these recordings is underway. After the ACC-ESS meeting the participants from the 5 countries had the opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the College of Surgeons of East Central and Southern Africa also held in Dar es Salaam. Dr. Mulat Taye will co-chair ACC-ESS 2006.

## ENAHPA WORKING TOWARDS \$100,000 FOR INNOVATION PROJECT

The Innovation project involves the establishment of surgical learning centers in six universities in Ethiopia. These centers will be dedicated towards the teaching of surgical and obstetrical care. The CNIS initiated this project to increase the Ethiopian capacity to train and certify physicians. The Ethiopian North American Health Professionals Association (ENAHPA) has agreed to raise \$100,000 for the CNIS Innovation project. So far ENAHPA has contributed \$14,500. The first of the dedicated learning centers is now under way in Addis Abba and the first of the satellite learning centers will be initiated in Awassa at Debub University in March. Dr. Ronald Lett and Dr. Tarek Razek (board member from Montreal) will conduct a workshop on International Surgery in conjunction with the ENAHPA Annual General Meeting, in Washington DC. Both ENAHPA members and others interested in international surgery are encouraged to attend. The partnership of CNIS with the Ethiopian diaspora represented by ENAHPA is also innovative.

### Our 2006 Goal



Join us for an interactive and practical day of learning. To register, please phone CNIS office at (604) 739-4708, or e-mail [events@cnis.ca](mailto:events@cnis.ca)

**WHAT?** A workshop about "The Place Of Surgery In International Development"

**WHEN?** Sunday April 30, 2006, & Friday June 3rd, 2006

**WHERE?** At : Crowne Plaza, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910 USA, & Royal University Hospital Theatre in the Mall, 103 Hospital Drive Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, respectively

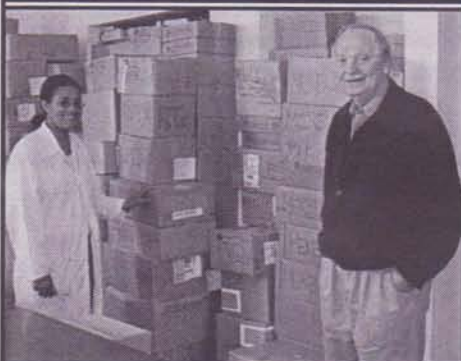


# VOLUNTEER AND DONOR APPRECIATION NIGHT

The Volunteer and Donor Appreciation evening was held at the Howe Street Gallery, Soul of Africa on January 13, 2006. The purpose of the event is to acknowledge the contribution of volunteers and donors. CNIS would not have the capacity to function at such a high level if not for the continuing commitment & support of our volunteers. Around 40 enthusiastic supporters of the CNIS attended the event, including board chair Doug Wallis who acknowledged the works of the CNIS through his motivational speech. The Gallery displays some of the finest paintings and carvings representing African culture. The exquisite food served during the event was complimented by many, making it one of the highlights for the evening. **Elaine Gibson** who was proclaimed as the volunteer of the year, has been volunteering with the CNIS since July, 2004. She put in endless time and effort to edit CNIS manuals, which made her a popular selection for volunteer of the year. Elaine Gibson's face lights up with pride, as she receives the Volunteer of the year Plaque. The CNIS would like to thank all its volunteers and Elaine who represents them this year.



## Books distributed in Ethiopia



**Right Dr. Zufan Lakew with Dr. Peter McLean.**

Medical books valued at about \$300, 000 arrived in Ethiopia in late December and were stored at the Black Lion hospital, Addis Ababa in the interval. In mid January, Dr. Peter McLean and his wife Ariane undertook the task of unpacking, sorting, distributing equitably, and repacking 400 boxes of books for transport to the six medical schools. Dr. Zufan Lakew, Dean of Medicine (AAU) provided the Dean Conference room for the process. Her efforts are highly appreciated. Five outlying universities collected the books over

	Titles	Books	%
<b>Addis Ababa</b>	815	841	20
<b>Jimma</b>	695	727	17
<b>Gondar</b>	660	694	16
<b>Awassa</b>	647	676	16
<b>Alemaya</b>	610	637	15
<b>Meleke</b>	603	628	15
<b>Totals</b>	4030	4200	

the period of three weeks. A visit was made to Awassa Debus University Hospital on February 2nd, where Dean Zelalem kindly showed Dr. McLean and his wife around. The boxes of books had arrived and were in a storage space. The present medical school library at Awassa is in temporary quarters with a small stacking facility. Adjacent to the Hospital is a new library that is under construction and has not yet been occupied. In March, a number of visits to the other outlying universities will be undertaken.

## AFRICAN AWARENESS IN VANCOUVER AT UBC

During the month of January Dr. Ronald Lett who is an adjunct professor at the University of British Columbia presented to the Surgical Advisory Committee, recommending the establishment of an MSc in International Surgery. Dr. Lett also gave a guest lecture to graduate students in the department of community health and epidemiology about the works of the CNIS. On a separate event, Dr. Lett held a forum to initiate a Student Research Consortium on Injury in Africa with Matt Smith, a UBC student volunteer. Dr. Lett presented a photo exhibit entitled Safari Za Arika. The last two events were part of the UBC African Awareness week organized by Ruth Situma and Jo-Ann Osei-Twum. Dr. Lett also gave a presentation on the Child Traffic Injury Prevention project funded by Rotary to the Arbutus Rotary Club in Vancouver.



**(Left) Ruth Situma, & (Right) Jo-Ann Osei-Twum**





# Ehh, What's up Doc?

**HELLOS AND FAREWELLS:** On January 15, 2006 Awet Kidane, the CNIS Public Engagement Associate bid her goodbyes with the CNIS. She had completed one year of service. We would like to thank Awet for her dedication and commitment, wishing her the best in all future endeavors.

The CNIS staff now is made up of: Abir Al Sayyed returns to the office and will be working Tuesdays as the publicity assistant. Abir will work on promoting the CNIS through this newsletter, the website, and pamphlets. Fatima Pedrosa who volunteered with the CNIS two years ago returned as the events coordinator. She will be organizing workshops and the upcoming Africa night. Leah Pare has been recruited as the clerical assistant. She will be working in the office on Fridays helping Elizabeth as well as supporting the library project. Tom Canning, the book keeper and Lorne Braun the reports consultant both continue on a part time basis with Elizabeth Schaefer, the office manger.



Left to right: Lorne Braun, Leah Pare, Abir Al-Sayyed, Tom Canning, Elizabeth Schaefer, and last but not least Fatima Pedrosa make up the staff of the CNIS.



Souad Boutouili was recruited as a volunteer by the CNIS in February to translate the non-violent conflict resolution curriculum into French. Souad has a bachelor degree in translation, from University of Algiers, in Algeria.

## What is going on in Africa ?

Gwen Hollaar, CNIS past chair and Berhanu Kottisso, ESS senior instructor conducted the first Structured Hernia Repair Workshop in Addis Ababa from January 23 - 28. The purpose of the workshop is to make junior doctors competent to perform this important procedure. Dr. Hollaar has volunteered many times for the CNIS in Uganda, but this was her first trip to Ethiopia. This workshop was supported with funding from CIDA and the Wild Rose Foundation of Alberta.



CIDA has appointed **Darren Rogers** as the Project Advisor to the CNIS. CNIS reports quarterly to CIDA, and Mr. Rogers wrote to CNIS on January 26th: "CIDA has reviewed and accepted the CNIS's progress report covering the period October 1st to December 31st 2005.....This report being my initiation to your project, I was surprised at its breadth of activities and I am pleased to read that all components appear to be progressing as expected." Lorne Braun, the CNIS Reports Consultant prepares the required documentation of CNIS activities to our various funders. These documents are a key to the continuation of their support.

**Please Note that the Operative Report will be available to you by email.**

If you are interested in receiving our newsletter by email, please subscribe at [www.cnis.ca](http://www.cnis.ca)

Please let us know if you would like to continue to receive the newsletter by mail!



## CANADIAN NETWORK FOR INTERNATIONAL SURGERY

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Chair: Doug Wallis  
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Book Keeper: Tom Canning  
Reports Consultant: Lorne Braun  
Publicity Assistant: Abir Al-Sayyed  
Events Coordinator: Fatima Pedrosa  
Clerical Assistant: Leah Pare

## JOIN THE CNIS or RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Individual Memberships: \$50.00

Student Memberships: \$25.00

Organizational Membership: \$500.00

### DONATE

To the ESS, INJURY CONTROL or SCHOOL PROJECTS online or by post. All donations and memberships are matched by CIDA and are tax deductible.