

## Highlights from Educational Workshop

The 2nd annual Clinical Trials Workshop was held at The Old Mill in Toronto on January 18 -19 2016. Applications were received from residents at training centers across Canada and 10 trainees were selected to attend. The workshop was also pleased to host 3 trainees sponsored by CANet. The Key Note address entitled *Reflections on Career Development from a Clinician Investigator* was delivered by Dr. Paul Armstrong.

Outstanding faculty provided didactic talks and preceptored small group sessions. The trainee presentations were, once again, the highlight of the workshop. Each presentation was followed by feedback from faculty and animated discussion around the research project proposed. Mentoring relationships were formed and there was opportunity for networking both with faculty and other trainees.

Preliminary feedback was very positive, with many excellent suggestions for innovations for next year's workshop which is tentatively scheduled for January 2017 and it move west.

## Fellowships Awarded

Many strong applications were received this year for both the C-SPIN/Bayer Fellowship and the C-SPIN Fellowship. We had 7 applicants in total for the 2016 awards.

### ***We congratulate the following:***



Dr. William McIntyre from the University of Manitoba who was awarded the C-SPIN Salary Support Fellowship: Atrial Fibrillation Occurring Transiently with Stress (AFOTS) Study. The objective of the proposed study will be to use a highly sensitive, 14-day continuous ECG monitoring device to determine the rate of recurrent AF among patients who experienced AFOTS due to medical illness, as compared to a group of controls matched for age, sex and presenting illness. William received his Bachelor of Science degree from Mount Allison University and attended Queen's University for Medical School and Internal Medicine Residency. He is currently in his final year of training in the Adult Cardiology residency program at the University of Manitoba as the Chief Resident. William will commence a clinical and research fellowship in arrhythmia at McMaster University, beginning July 1st, 2016

### ***Awardees of the C-SPIN Bayer Junior Faculty Award & Fellowship:***



Dr. Jason Roberts from Western University. Received this award based on GENE-AF trial: through partnerships with three large multi-centred Canadian clinical trials examining the role of catheter ablation as a treatment for atrial fibrillation (AF), and two high volume Canadian AF ablation centers, the GENetic Predictors of Successful Atrial Fibrillation Therapy (GENE-AF) study proposes to identify GENETIC VARIANTS that impact clinical efficacy. Jason received his Bachelor of Science degree and his Doctor of Medicine from Memorial University after which he attended U of T for Core Internal Medicine Residency, University of Ottawa for Cardiology Residency and the University of California on a Cardiac Electrophysiology and graduated from the Master's Degree Program in Clinical Research.



Dr. Thalia Field University of British Columbia, is receiving this award for the HI-ROLLER (High-Risk patient protocol for LEft aTRial appendage closure) study, a pilot study of high-risk patients for intracranial hemorrhage undergoing left atrial appendage closure who will receive 1 month of dual antiplatelet therapy and subsequent ASA monotherapy. This unblinded proof-of-concept study will ascertain: (1) Feasibility of recruitment for a larger trial for ICH/at-risk patients, (2) Phenotype of ICH (amyloid angiopathy-probable versus hypertensive-probable), and types of at-risk patients at risk for first ICH (high risk amyloid angiopathy-probable neuroimaging as given by high number of microbleeds or presence of cortical superficial siderosis), (3) Safety of LAAC with 1 month dual antiplatelet therapy and subsequent ASA monotherapy in patients with ICH/at-risk as determined using clinical and MRI surrogate markers. Thalia Field's interest in stroke began with her work as a summer student with the Calgary Stroke Program in 2001. She went on to complete her MD at Dalhousie University, followed by a neurology residency at the University of British Columbia and stroke fellowship training at the University of British Columbia and the University of Calgary. She is an Assistant Professor with the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia and a stroke neurologist and fellowship program director for the Vancouver Stroke Program. Her primary research interest is diagnosis and therapy of small vessel disease.

***Congratulations again to all the awardees from whom we expect to hear great things in their research careers.***

## **Congratulations to studies for reaching significant milestones:**

**OCEAN** for starting recruitment  
**BRAIN-AF** for enrolling >100 participants  
**ARTESiA** for enrolling >100 participants  
**LAAOS III** for enrolling 1770 participants  
**NAVIGATE ESUS** for enrolling >100 participants

***Congratulations to all the teams on their hard work and achievements!***

## **Next Live Webinar May 21, 2016**

### **Dr. Maria Blanco Presents “Educational Scholarship Grantsmanship: How to Write Promising Grant Proposals”**



Maria Alejandra Blanco, EdD, is the Associate Dean for Faculty Development at Tufts University School of Medicine and is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry. She is responsible for designing, implementing and evaluating faculty development programs for teaching faculty across the four years of medical education (including resident- and student-as-teachers programs). She is dedicated to scholarly activities and educational scholarship and to collaborating with faculty in creating educational programs and providing experience in new instructional methods and program evaluation, in addition to conducting research and mentoring in medical education. Maria is the principal investigator or Co-PI on numerous research projects, and received funding from the Schwartz Center and the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations for projects to advance training in compassionate care. Her most recent national research projects includes, The Learning Environment in Medical School; A Collaborative Study of the Innovative Strategies for Transforming the Education of Physicians (ISTEP) Study Group and A Survey Study of Evidence-Based Medicine Training in United States and Canadian Medical Schools; A Collaborative study of the AAHSL and GEA-MESRE Task Force. Her work has been presented at the Annual meetings of the American Association of Medical Colleges, American Educational Research Association (AERA), the AAMC Northeast Group on Educational Affairs (NEGEA), and the Generalists in Medical Education, and published in *Medical Teacher*, *Medical Education* and *MedEdPortal*. Maria was appointed Chair of the Faculty Development Group of the Medical Education Scholarship, Research and Evaluation (MESRE) section of the AAMC Group on Educational Affairs (GEA), and is a peer reviewer for *Academic Medicine*, *Medical Education*, *Teaching and Learning in Medicine*, *Advances in Health Sciences Education*, *Journal of Interprofessional Care* and *MedEdPORTAL*. She is also a faculty mentor for *MedEdPortal*, and has been appointed as president-elect of the Society of Directors in Medical Education Research (SDRME). ***Note: this Webinar will not be recorded for future viewing.***

## **C-SPIN- MENTORSHIP PRIZE**

Mentorship of junior faculty and/or fellows is an important component of the development of highly qualified personnel within the C-SPIN program. The C-SPIN Mentorship Award will provide recognition to outstanding Canadian atrial fibrillation or stroke researchers (including physicians, nurses, and non-clinical researchers) who are in their mid-career (eight to eighteen years since their first faculty/staff appointment) to provide direct research mentorship for junior faculty and/or fellows in atrial fibrillation and/or stroke research. Please email nominations to [cspin.admin@phri.ca](mailto:cspin.admin@phri.ca) by September 1st, 2016. [For more information please follow this link](#)