



Dear Sahar,

Reflecting on my first nine months as the R.S. McLaughlin Professor and Chair of the world-renowned Department of Surgery here at the University of Toronto's Temerty Faculty of Medicine, I can't help but feel extremely proud of our multi-talented faculty and the discoveries, innovations and insights they bring to every facet of our academic life.

It is a joy to lead a department that not only maintains, but helps set, the global standard for surgical excellence in education, research and clinical care. We are achieving great things — transforming surgery for the betterment of health and health care in Canada and beyond.

So much has been accomplished in the recent past under the leadership of my predecessor, **James T. Rutka**. However, many challenges remain on our path towards being the best we can be.

I envision a department of surgery that not only maintains but surpasses the standards of excellence that we have already attained.

Thanks to the support of our community, we have achieved and will continue to achieve great things in our research enterprise, our educational mission, our innovation in clinical practice, our outreach to underserved populations and our leadership in health policy and management.

My vision for the future is to “change the face of surgery” in a way that aligns with Temerty Medicine's strategic plan. Achieving this vision will involve new initiatives and development in four key areas:

1. Ensuring and enhancing faculty and trainee wellness
2. Recommitting to full engagement in teaching of students in our MD Program
3. Maintaining and implementing measures for transparency and good governance
4. Prioritizing and enacting the principles of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Indigeneity, and Accessibility

Together, we can change the face of surgery so that we reflect our medical school, our city and the communities we serve. In my eyes, global surgery means not only that we travel to other jurisdictions, but also that we reach out to people here in Toronto and across Canada and address the health needs of underserved groups.

I will always appreciate and count on the engagement and support of our alumni community, and I look forward to making this vision a reality for all of us.

To learn more about the impact of your support, or ways you can make a difference through philanthropy, please reach out to **Effy Ordon**, Associate Director, Development at [stephanie.ordon@utoronto.ca](mailto:stephanie.ordon@utoronto.ca) or visit [our secure, online giving page](#).

Sincerely,

**Carol J. Swallow** MD PhD FRCS FACS  
RS McLaughlin Professor and Chair  
Department of Surgery, Temerty Faculty of Medicine  
University of Toronto

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## NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS



**Dr. Giuseppe Papia Appointed Chair of the Division of Vascular Surgery**



**Congratulations to Dr. Gelareh Zadeh on receiving the Canada Gairdner Momentum Award**



**Val Cabral, Research Program Manager at the Department of Surgery, Retires After More Than 25 Years of Service**



**Connections Between Music and Math Resonate in Groundbreaking Epilepsy Research by Taufik Valiante**



Dr. Zane Cohen



Dr. Allan Gross



Dr. Richard Weisel

**An Activist and PhD Student, Niloofar Ganji is Making Her Mark in the Lab — and On the Streets**



**Dr. George Oreopoulos, From Father to Son: A Legacy of International Care**

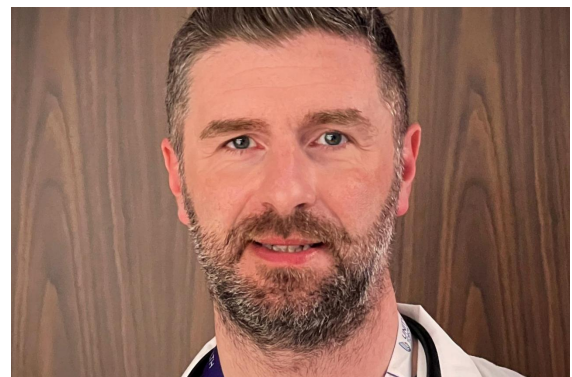
**The University of Toronto Department of Surgery Congratulates Three of its Surgeons Who Were Appointed to the Order of Canada in 2022**



**Temerty Medicine Alum: David S. Young on the Journey from Surgeon-Scientist to CEO**



**U of T's Dr. Karen Devon Prescribes 'School Awareness' as an Antidote for Antisemitism**



**Mending Broken Hearts: New Frontiers in Cardiac Surgery**



**Clinical Trial Delivers Chemotherapy to Paediatric Brain Tumours Using MRI-Guided Focused Ultrasound**



**Working Across Disciplines, U of T and UHN Researchers Are Rapidly Revolutionizing Lung Transplant Surgery**



**Temerty Medicine Scholars Awarded New or Renewed Canada Research Chairs**



**\$90-million Gift to the Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research Marks New Era in Cardiac Health**

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## EVENTS

### **Save the Date for Gallie Day 2023 – Friday, May 5, 2023**

The Department of Surgery kindly requests you save the date for the department's annual awards celebration, taking place at the MaRS Discovery District with livestreaming available. More details will be available at the [event page](#). Contact **Renata Musa** at [renata.musa@utoronto.ca](mailto:renata.musa@utoronto.ca) for more information.

### **Department of Surgery Annual Address and University Rounds**

The Department of Surgery launched its annual university rounds for the academic year of 2022-2023 in September, with the Chair's annual address about "Hard Truths in Our Department of Surgery". Monthly rounds have run regularly throughout the year featuring local and global prominent speakers and awardees.

[View recordings of previous rounds](#)

[Stay tuned to upcoming rounds](#)

### **The Department of Surgery Start-up Pitch Competition**

On November 9th, the Department of Surgery hosted its inaugural start-up pitch competition. Six high quality finalists were selected by a review committee to give their pitch and compete for \$30,000 of non-dilutive capital from the Department of Surgery. Congratulations to MD Program student **Sonia Igboanugo** who took home the

prize for her pitch on Xpan — a start-up focused on developing expandable trochars and cannulas for minimally invasive surgical techniques. The Department of Surgery will continue to build a platform for the next generation of surgeon-innovators through these and similar events.

[View a recording of the competition](#)

[Read more about the competition](#)

[VIEW ALL EVENTS](#)

Alumni

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Congratulations, alumni! *U.S. News & World Report* ranks your Temerty Faculty of Medicine #4 in the world for clinical medicine.

The Temerty Faculty of Medicine's Advancement Office connects our community of alumni, volunteers and donors to meaningful and transformative initiatives advancing health and health care.

**Temerty**  
**Medicine**

Temerty Faculty of Medicine Advancement Office  
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