

**Department of Surgery Retreat
September 11, 2018**

**Vision of the Faculty, Where the Department of
Surgery Fits, How to Best use their Resources**

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Objectives

- Summarize current research strengths in Dept of Surgery from a Faculty perspective
- Review the Faculty's strategic planning efforts
- Review current research supports and initiatives
- Propose some questions for consideration in your planning exercise



Research in the Department of Surgery

- +/- \$5 million per year for the last few years
- ~7 current CIHR grantees; 4 NSERC
- CFI: both JELF (small-scale) and Innovation Fund (large-scale) grants
- Funding from local and other sources



Research in the Department of Surgery: Research Chairs

- AHS Chair in Transplantation: Norm Kneteman
- AHS Chair in Simulation: Bin Zheng
- Firefighters Chair in Burn Research: Ted Tredget
- Mr. Lube Foundation: Ron Moore
- Shriners Chair in Scoliosis: Fred Berry
- Canada Research Chair: James Shapiro



Research in the Department of Surgery:

Some selected areas of strength

- Cancer
- Diabetes
- Regeneration
- Simulation
- Transplantation



What are the Faculty areas of research priority?

- Current Faculty strategic plan does not identify specific areas of research priority
- Office of Research, under the leadership of the new Vice Dean (Chris Power) will be undertaking a strategic planning exercise this fall
- University strategic plans to be announced as Signature Areas in September



What are the FoMD areas of research priority?

- **Our research institutes represent research priorities:**

Alberta Diabetes Institute (ADI)

Alberta Transplant Institute (ATI)

Cancer Research Institute of Northern Alberta (CRINA)

Cardiovascular Translational Science Institute

Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology (LKSloV)

Neuroscience and Mental Health Institute (NMHI)

Women & Children's Health Research Institute (WCHRI)



What are the FoMD areas of research priority? Some general areas

- Precision health
- Big data
- Recruitment of new research-intensive assistant professors
- “Big Science Grants”: CFI, Genome Canada, NCE, etc.
- Regaining FoMD’s excellence and relative positioning in Canadian schools of medicine



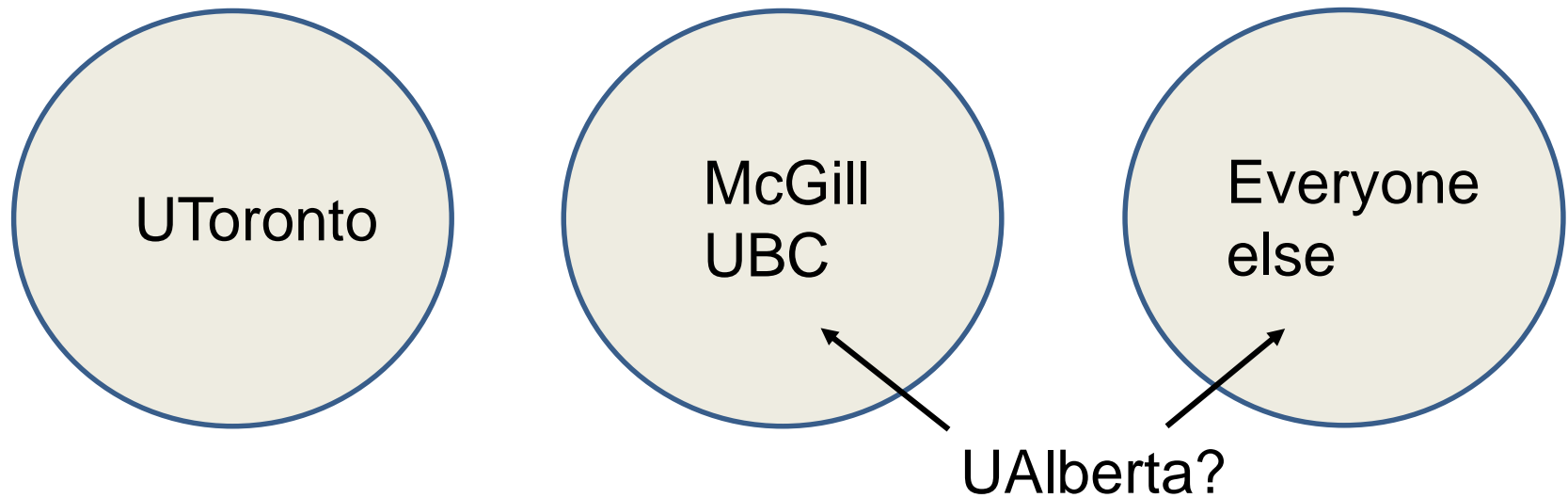
Regaining FoMD's excellence and relative positioning in Canadian schools of medicine

UA President's Visiting Committee 2016:

These findings, combined with the fact that most of FoMD's impact measures associated with citations to its papers experienced a decrease over the last 10 years, resulted in the Faculty losing ground compared to most of the Canadian faculties selected for comparison. While even in recent years the performance of the Faculty stands well above world levels, keeping up with the Canadian average could prove problematic if current trends are maintained in the future.



Regaining FoMD's excellence and relative positioning in Canadian schools of medicine



Research Support in FoMD and UA

UA: Research Services Office (research facilitator Angela McCormick)

- Identifying funding sources
- Preparing and submitting grant applications
- Setting up research accounts
- Many aspects of pre- and post-award

UA: Research Ethics Office

- All aspects of ethics review and approval



Research Support in FoMD and UA

UA: Grant Assist Program

- To help our researchers strengthen research proposals and increase funding success.
- Enhanced application preparation and support including concept discussion, internal review and feedback, workshops, and writing and editing.
- Primarily for Tri-council applications, but other submissions as well.
- **Highly recommended for all CIHR and NSERC applications**



Research Support in FoMD and UA

FoMD: Office of Research

- Vice Dean, Research: Dr. Chris Power
 - Associate Dean, Research Facilities: in recruitment
 - Associate Dean Research, Graduate Programs: Dr. Hanne Ostergaard
 - Associate Dean, Clinical and Translational Research: Dr. Lawrence Richer
 - Assistant Dean, Clinical Research Platforms: Dr. Neesh Pannu
 - Assistant Dean, Health Outcomes: Dr. Scott Klarenbach



Research Support in FoMD and UA

FoMD: Office of Research

- Any research-related questions
- Support for summer students, graduate students and other trainees
- Support for personnel support applications (CRCs, new investigator awards)
- Research core facilities and research equipment
- HSLAS
- CFI applications
- Major grants unit
- Clinical research unit



Clinical Research Support

Clinical Research Unit (Edmonton) - CRUE

- MOU with Quality Management Clinical Research
- Support for grant application development, clinical trial regulatory submissions, monitoring, and research coordination

Clinical Research Initiative - CRI

- Enhance community engagement (e.g. seminars)
- Identify opportunities for process improvement
- To understand and develop better and sustainable centralized supports for clinical research



Looking Ahead: Where does Surgery want to go with its research enterprise?

What are the key areas of opportunity?

- What are Surgery's areas of research strength?
- What areas have the potential to be developed?
- What areas should/must be developed in order to be in sync with FoMD and UA priorities, as well as those of other organizations (e.g. AHS, CIHR)?
- What needs to happen for this development to occur?



Looking Ahead: Where does Surgery want to go with its research enterprise?

What are the plans for faculty renewal and succession?

- What new recruitments need to occur to support specific areas of research?
- Is a succession plan in place for key positions?



Looking Ahead: Where does Surgery want to go with its research enterprise?

What do we need to do to ensure that all departmental members are appropriately engaged in research?

- What is the role of FoMD?
- What is the role of the department?
- What is the role of FoMD research institutes?
- What are the key limiting factors?



Looking Ahead: Where does Surgery want to go with its research enterprise?

What do we need to do to ...

- maximize opportunities in research
- ensure that Surgery is properly represented in the upcoming FoMD research strategic planning exercise?

