



2013 Annual Report

Leadership in Canadian Transplantation



MISSION

The mission of the Canadian Society of Transplantation is to advance the practice and science of transplantation for the benefit of Canadians and society.

PURPOSE

The Canadian Society of Transplantation is the organization of professionals dedicated to leading, advancing, and advocating for patient care, research, and education in donation and transplantation in Canada.

CST BOARD

EXECUTIVE

Dr. Steven Paraskevas, President
Dr. Tom Blydt-Hansen, Past-President
Dr. Atul Humar, Vice-President
Dr. Ian Alwayn, Secretary
Dr. David Grant, Treasurer

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Dr. Joseph Kim
Dr. Tammy Keough-Ryan
Dr. Michael Mengel
Dr. Jean Tchervenkov
Dr. Kathryn Tinckam

LIASON OFFICERS

Ms. Jenny Wichart, Associate Member
Dr. Sam Shemie, Critical Care Donation Specialist

CST COUNCIL

ALLIED HEALTH – Chair, Ms. Jenny Wichart

CCTN – Chair, Dr. Debra Isaac

DONATION – Chair, Dr. Adrian Robertson

HLA – Chair, Dr. Patricia Campbell

KIDNEY – Chair, Dr. Jeff Zaltzman

LIVER – Chair, Dr. Paul Marotta

LUNG – Chair, Dr. Lianne Singer

PANCREAS – Chair, Dr. Jeffrey Schiff

PEDIATRIC – Chair, Dr. Susan Samuel

PHARMACIST – Chair, Ms. Jennifer Harrison



Letter from the President

— Dr. Steven Paraskevas

Dear CST Members,

The past year has been one of great change, perhaps the most significant restructuring our society's history. In March, we bade farewell to the Royal College and the administrators we had worked with for so long. We hoped our transition would be a smooth one, and while it may have had some unexpected turns, the year's end brings many reasons for great optimism. Introducing new management to the society gave us the opportunity to re-examine how the society works and how it is structured, with a fresh eye, unbiased by established traditions. One thing we realized in the first few months of our transition was that CST, as a large and incredibly diverse body of professionals, needs a fully engaged, proactive management, dedicated to us and to our mission. We were fortunate though, that in late 2012, we had crossed paths with Rob Gallaher, who possessed that great enthusiasm and energy which we knew would be good for us. In mid-summer, Rob assumed the management of the Annual Scientific Meeting, and by October, it was clear he was the one to take CST forward. Since then, Rob has worked tirelessly to acquaint himself with all the committees, groups and individuals who make up the society, to get a firm grip on our financial structure and needs, and to begin planning for the ASM 2015 and the years to come. Rob is now our new Executive Director, and he brings with him Ms. Holly Fan, whose administrative and creative talents have breathed fresh new life into our communications, both within and outside the society. It is truly a pleasure to officially welcome them into the CST family, and to look forward to a long and prosperous association with them.

As we entered 2013, it became apparent that declining sponsorship levels, the departure from the transplant field of one major sponsor, and the ongoing high costs associated with our contract with the Royal College Association Management arm, had created a 'perfect storm' that threatened us with a significant budget deficit that, if not rectified, could become serious. It is perhaps fortuitous that, at precisely this time, the Royal College decided to dissolve RCAM, forcing us to re-examine how our society is managed. I believe that,

"It will certainly be prudent to remember the lessons of 2013, and the value of looking at our task from a new or different perspective."

- Steven Paraskevas

in looking anew at our way of functioning, we were able to identify areas where we could reduce our expenses significantly. With the arrival of Rob Gallaher in the fall, we embarked on a comprehensive overhaul of our finances, from the reporting of our monthly statements to investing. While a detailed audit of our finances is still being completed at the time of this report, I am confident we will see a balanced budget in the near future. Special thanks is also due to Treasurer David Grant, now in the middle of a second tour of duty in this position. David's attention to detail and dedication have been essential in working our way out of last year's situation, and the migration of our financial data to new managerial offices twice in one year was a burden he shouldered stoically.

Many members will have already taken advantage of our new web site. The redevelopment of our site began last year with the Royal College, and delays were incurred following the transition in April, as the site was left incomplete by the College's contractor, who was no longer available to work for us. Finally, in November, Rob and Holly, working diligently with Jeff Legault were able to provide some clarity about the prior situation, optimize its function and stability and ultimately deploy it in time for online meeting registrations to begin. While even the new site remains a work in progress, we are grateful to Rob and his staff for their hard work on this vital upgrade.

Since 2009, the CST has sought accreditation of training and expertise in transplantation and this year, the work of the CST's Royal College Accreditation committee finally bore fruit, with the announcement from the College of a new Area of Focused Competence (Diploma) in Solid Organ Transplantation. This new accreditation, available to candidates from nine medical and surgical subspecialties, is a major accomplishment for the society, and highlights our belief in strengthening the commonalities between the various disciplines

represented by our membership. The diploma is tangible evidence of these commonalities, as the RC committee itself had representation from all organ groups within the society.

This year also saw the first 9 months of life of the new Canadian National Transplant Research Program. This research collaborative, born of years of effort by CST members, channels new funding from CIHR directly to the missions most critical to our profession. In total, the \$10 million CAD award, brought to \$30 million through a diligent fund raising and sponsorship campaign, now becomes the jewel in the scientific crown in transplantation, donation and immunology, and has already begun to generate publications and data. As a new and valuable partner in the scientific mission of the CST, the CNTRP will be providing all members with an update on its progress at this year's ASM, a template we hope to reproduce in future meetings.



As we look to the start of planning for the 2015 ASM, we are delighted to report that the CST and the Banff Foundation for Allograft Pathology have agreed to collaborate on a joint meeting. A steering committee consisting of four representatives of each society has begun examining options and concepts for this meeting, which we hope will bring a large, international body of delegates to the CST meeting. In so doing, the committee has proposed moving the meeting time to mid-September to capitalize on better weather in host city Vancouver. This led to a membership-wide vote on the timing of the ASM in general, and the results of this vote have given us a clear mandate to move the CST annual meeting to the fall. This will provide the society with greater options in the sites hosting the meeting, provide delegates with a meeting held at a more attractive time of year, while avoiding conflicts with other major events on our calendar.

Completing this year of re-engineering the CST, I was very happy to host members of the Board and Council in November for a biennial strategic priority setting exercise in Toronto. We identified three areas in which we will continue to focus our energies. These are 1) Fostering research and knowledge creation, 2) Promoting teaching, education and professional development, and 3) Developing consensus, best practices and improving the communication of professional opinion. These areas highlight both what make the CST unique in Canada, and what brings out our common interests as transplant professionals. They underscore what we do best. To continue our accomplishments in these areas will require us yet again to revise and improve the way the various elements and interests in the society interact. It will certainly be prudent to remember the lessons of 2013, and the value of looking at our task from a new or different perspective.

I would like to thank all the members who have given of their time and effort in advancing the cause of the CST, ultimately helping to improve the care of Canadians receiving organ transplantation. The members of the Board, the Council, the groups and committees who lead many of our initiatives, the members who contribute to the richness of our annual meeting, are all to be congratulated. Many of you have also showed great patience in accommodating our transitions of management, and for this too, I thank you. As these changes have been necessary, so have they led us to new opportunities. With those in mind, I look forward to the year ahead, and to seeing you all at our meeting.

Sincerely,

Steven Paraskevas, MD, PhD
President, Canadian Society of Transplantation

COMMITTEES IN ACTION

Innovations

Collaboration

Integrity

Communication

Quality

EDUCATION – Dr. Patricia Birk

In 2013, the CST Education Committee remained active in the establishment and maintenance of intraprofessional educational initiatives for its members. The Research Fellows in Transplantation (Research FITS) program now follows a 2-year academic cycle. The 2014 program is featuring core lectures by Canadian faculty on transplant research ethics and statistical methodology, academic mentorship as well as an afternoon workshop on observational study design.

Of additional interest to trainees is Principles in Immunology course, which consists of a series of basic science and clinical lectures (live and archived) in solid organ transplantation. Special thanks to course director, Dr. Michael McDonald (University of Toronto) for facilitating this partnership with the CST. In addition to the website, Transplant Now, Dr. Jeff Schiff has initiated Transplant Pearls, which makes topical clinical questions and answers available to the membership. The joint CST-TTS webinar program has been highly successful in highlighting Canadian clinical practice and research initiatives.

Finally, under the direction of Dr. Janice Bissonette, the committee has completed an associate members educational needs survey, which will provide direction for future educational initiatives for the allied health membership.

ETHICS – Dr. Aviva Goldberg

Over the past year, the Ethics Committee continued to work with the CMA on the changes to their Policy document *PD00-07 - Organ and tissue donation and transplantation*. This document was last updated in 2000.

Looking forward, the Committee will be preparing briefing notes for Board on common ethical issues in transplant, to help with response to media or public when cases/questions arise. For the 2014 CST Annual Scientific Meeting, the Committee, in collaboration with the CST Scientific Meeting Committee and the CBS, have developed the annual Ethics Forum.

GRANTS & AWARDS – Dr. Ramesh Prasad

At the 2013 ASM, recipients were recognized for the Fellowship Award, Research Excellence Award, Lifetime Achievement Award, and the newly created Clinician Recognition Award. Extensive discussions were held for enhancing the visibility of the awards given by the CST so that more applications are submitted each year. All internal processes and deadlines have been streamlined and thus far have been rigorously implemented.

For the 2014 ASM, we look forward to celebrating the achievements of another group of stellar colleagues at the Annual Dinner & Gala night!

LEADING CLINICAL PRACTICE – Dr. Eberhard Renner

The membership of the Leading Clinical Practice Committee is still in its formation phase to ensure a balanced representation across disciplines. In the upcoming year, the Committee plans to develop vaccination guidelines for adult and pediatric transplant patients; solicit three top priority areas for clinical guideline development from all CST Organ Working Group and to develop one to two guidelines each year.

GOVERNANCE & NOMINATIONS – *Dr. Tom Blydt-Hansen*

The GNC (formerly the Nominations Committee) was given an expanded mandate to oversee governance, in addition to nominations for the CST Board and its committees.

The CST committee structures were updated with revisions and standardization of reporting and language in each of the Charters. There is now a transparent and consultative process for appointment to committee leadership and membership.

The GNC was also busy updating the CST internal policy framework. A related initiative was revision of CST bylaws, which was mandated by changes in federal legislation. The objective was to incorporate the existing governance into the new bylaw framework. This included input from legal counsel, revision by a working group, the GNC and consultation with the CST leadership - it is now in circulation to membership and will be voted on at the 2014 AGM.

RC CERTIFICATION – *Dr. Justin Weinkauf*

The RC Certification committee completed the application process for an Area of Focused Competence (AFC-diploma) in Solid Organ Transplantation (SOT). This required multiple teleconferences over the past year and an extensive preparation of required documents for this application. The application has been through Part I and II of the RCPSC Committee on Specialties review process.

The application has received full support and most recently the Education Committee of the RCPSC approved SOT as an AFC-diploma discipline.

RESEARCH – *Dr. Joseph Kim*

The main focus of work for the CST Research Committee this last year was the development of a research presence on the CST website. In order to achieve this goal, the Research Committee was divided into three subcommittees.

The Grants and Trials (GT) subcommittee (comprised of Drs. Singer, Levings, De Serres, Ghanekar, and Robinson) was charged with the task of assembling information on granting agencies, programs, and grant-writing resources that are relevant to transplantation. Moreover, this subcommittee is collecting information on all actively recruiting transplant-related trials and observational studies in Canada with the goal of increasing exposure and recruitment into these studies.

The Research Directory (RD) subcommittee (comprised of Drs. Kim, Ho, Fairhead, and Foster), have been charged with creating a directory of all transplant researchers across the country. The goal is to develop a definitive, up-to-date listing of all transplant researchers in Canada to facilitate collaboration and training opportunities for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows.

The Website Design (WD) subcommittee (comprised of Drs. Gill, Hébert, Mainra, and Selzner) has been charged with developing a framework for the research pages of the CST website to allow the aforementioned content to be uploaded seamlessly and be easily accessed by the CST membership.

The subcommittees have made steady progress over the last year and we expect to continue our efforts into 2014. We hope to complete the research section of the CST website by the summer or fall of this calendar year.

SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS – *Dr. Deepali Kumar*

The Scientific Meeting Committee comprised of members representing all organ systems, surgical and medical specialties and allied health specialties. All members of the committee contributed to programming decisions and other operational decisions regarding meeting content.

Program content was largely based on a needs assessment survey of the membership that was circulated in June 2013. Topics were also based on feedback received for the 2013 meeting as well as what the program committee considered state-of-the-art topics. The abstracts review was led by Dr. Prosanto Chaudhury. The CST research group as well as the program committee comprised the 30 member Abstract Review Committee. Reviewers were balanced on disciplines, organ groups, and expertise. Abstract review was double-blinded. There were a total of 80 abstracts submitted (both clinical and basic). All submissions were accepted to the main meeting in the form of plenary, oral or posters.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Montreal, Quebec from Feb. 27 - March 1, 2014.

STANDARDS – *Dr. Carey Beninger*

The 2nd edition of Z900.1 Cells, Tissues, and Organs for Transplantation: General Requirements and Z900.2.3-03 Perfusable Organs for Transplantation were published in December 2012. Health Canada followed with the 2nd Edition Guidance Document for Cell, Tissue and Organ Establishments in June 2013 and this document was further updated in August 2013.

Portions of the CSA Standards are incorporated by reference into the Safety of Human Cells, Tissues and Organs for Transplantation Regulations and thus have the force of law (i.e. Suitability of Donors, Documentation, Physical Examination, and Minimum Serological Testing for Infectious Diseases). The Health Canada Guidance document expands on the federal Regulations and provides assistance on how these objectives should be implemented, although the document itself does not have the force of law.

With these recent publications, the Standards Committee has been able to take a more proactive position. The main goal over the past year has been to complete a review of the updated documents and create a list of recommendations for future updates. An additional review to determine the outcome of CST comments sent to Health Canada on Draft Second Edition of the Safety of Human Cells, Tissues and Organs for Transplantation Guidance Document for Cell, Tissue and Organ Establishments was also completed by the Committee. The list of recommendations is currently in draft form and is being circulated within the Committee for comments. A total of 37 recommendations are under review. Members of the CST are invited to forward any comments or suggestions regarding the standards to the Standards Committee. Upon completion of the review, the recommendations will be forwarded to the CST Board for approval.

The CSA Technical Committee on Cells, Tissues, and Organs for Transplantation and Assisted Reproduction (Z900) as well as the Technical Subcommittee on Perfusable Organs (Z293.3) are planning meetings in 2014 to discuss potential revisions to the Standards. The CSA Project Manager has indicated that input from the CST would be most welcome and the CST input may determine the timing of the meetings.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Audited Financials For year ended December 31, 2013

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – JANUARY 1, 2013 – DECEMBER 31, 2013

Summary of Operations

REVENUE	\$ 528,040
EXPENSES	\$ 530, 491
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ (2,451)

Summary of Financial Position

ASSETS	\$ 2,882,049
LIABILITES	\$ 371, 219
NET ASSETS	\$ 2,510,830

CST COMMITTEE MEMBERS		
COMMUNICATIONS		
Jagbir Gill, Chair Jeffrey Schiff, Co-Chair	Jillian Barrott Carole Chatalalsingh	Rahul Mainra Jackson Wong
EDUCATION		
Patricia Birk, Chair Tammy Keough-Ryan, Co-Chair Lorraine Bell Janice Bissonnette	Christopher Daley Nancy Dodd Azim Gangji Jennifer Harrison Noreen Heywood	Diane McKenty Vicky Mg Jeff Schiff William Wall Kim Young
ETHICS		
Aviva Goldberg, Chair Marie-Chantal Fortin, Co-Chair Marie Josee Clermont	Annie Fecteau Adeera Levin Ramesh Prasad	Bradford Strijack Jean-Luc Wolff Linda Wright Jason Yap
GRANTS & AWARDS		
Ramesh Prasad, Chair Michel Paquet, Co-Chair Robin Deliva Sita Gourishankar	Haissam Haddad Roberto Hernandez-Alejandro Olwyn Johnston Anil Kapoor	Robert Levy Eberhard Renner Dalyce Zuk
GOVERNANCE & NOMINATIONS		
Tom Blydt-Hansen, Chair Kathryn Tinckam, Co-Chair	Dale Lien Shelley Zieroth Sacha DeSerres	Jennifer Harrison Anand Ghanekar
RC CERTIFICATION		
Justin Weinkauff, Chair Mark Walsh, Co-Chair Vince Bain Patricia Birk Brian Clarke	Karen Doucette Bill Gourlay Haissam Haddad Diane Hebert Atul Humar	Jolanta Karpinski Tammy Keough-Ryan Peter Metrakos John Mullen Eberhard L. Renner
RESEARCH		
Joseph Kim, Chair Marie-Josée Hébert, Co-Chair Marcus Selzner Jagbir Gill	Julie Ho Todd Fairhead Anand Ghanekar Megan Levings Lisa Robinson	Beth Foster Sacha De Serres Lianne Singer Mainra Rahul Michael White
SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS		
Deepali Kumar, Chair Prosanto Chaudhury, Co-Chair Sasha DeSerres Jagbir Gill Marie Josee Hebert Megan Levings	Janet Madill Mike McDonald Jayan Nagendran Vicky Ng Eberhard Renner Marcus Selzner	Alp Sener Lianne Singer Banu Sis Kathryn Tinckam Simon Urschel Dalyce Zuk
STANDARDS		
Carey Beninger, Chair Prosanto Chaudhury, Co-Chair	Jackson Wong Kathryn Tinckam Ron Moore	David Landsberg Anand Ghanekar
LEADING CLINICAL PRACTICE		PUBLIC POLICY
Eberhard L. Renner, Chair Yaron Avitzur, Co-Chair		Todd Fairhead, Chair

Vision

Leadership in Canadian Transplantation

Canadian Society of Transplantation

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www.cst-transplant.ca

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