

# OSSU UPDATE



Ontario SPOR SUPPORT Unit Newsletter

Winter 2017

## Research Day 2016

OSSU hosted over 200 participants at its Research Day 2016 held on November 30<sup>th</sup> at the MaRS auditorium in Toronto. The event served to showcase ongoing Health Services Research Fund (HSRF) and OSSU projects as well as to engage and network OSSU research groups and centres with SPOR Networks and MOHLTC HSRF researchers. Deputy Minister Bob Bell opened the meeting with a discussion of the



Participants at the OSSU Research Day 2016

Ministry of Health's evidence needs for planning. Dr. Andreas Laupacis gave a moving presentation on the Faces of Health Care web resource. Dr. Simon Denegri's (Chair of the National Institute for Health Research INVOLVE initiative) closing remarks focused on the great progress OSSU has made in patient engagement since its launch in 2014. Assistant Deputy Minister Patrick Dicerni closed the meeting with congratulations to OSSU. Participant feedback confirmed that it was a useful and fantastic event.

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## Meet OSSU's new Scientific co-Lead

Mr. Michael Decter, Chair of the Board of Directors is pleased to announce that as of January 1, 2017, Dr. Dean Fergusson has agreed to serve as the Scientific co-Lead (along with Dr. Salim Yusuf, PHRI) of OSSU. Dr. Fergusson is a Senior Scientist & Director of

the Clinical Epidemiology Program at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute. Dr. Fergusson has been involved with OSSU from the start and brings a wealth of experience to the table. Dr. Vasanthi Srinivasan commented that *"...Dean's expertise and experience will bring a valuable new perspective to OSSU and help to shape the SUPPORT Unit's continuing role in patient-oriented research in Ontario"*. Dr. Fergusson replaces Dr. David Henry who has taken a new position in Australia.

## New CRC in Indigenous Health

On December 2, 2016, Dr. Jennifer Walker (CRaNH) was appointed the new Canada Research Chair of Indigenous Health at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario. Dr. Walker's research aims to work with First Nations and Métis populations to enable them to take ownership and control of their own health data, and to assist communities with training on how best use this knowledge in their communities.



Dr. Walker and Marc Serré, MP for Nickel Belt

## AHRC, a new OSSU partner

We have a new member in the OSSU family: the Applied Health Research Centre (AHRC). As part of The HUB at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, AHRC provides many of the necessary services for patient-oriented research such as: Clinical Trials Design and Co-ordination; Biostatistics; Observational Epidemiology & Qualitative Research; Data Capture & Management; Health Economics; Research Information Systems; Business Operations; Quality Assurance & Monitoring; and, Knowledge Translation. To learn more, visit <http://www.stmichaelshospital.com/research/ahrc/>.

AHRC | Applied Health Research Centre

Academic Excellence.  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 2,3 POR Foundational Curriculum Training, Toronto, ON. Find out more about the event at <http://ossu.ca/events/upcoming-events/>.
- Mar 6 Women's Xchange Workshop, Toronto, ON. To register, please visit: [www.womensxchange.eventbrite.ca](http://www.womensxchange.eventbrite.ca).
- Mar 7 Pragmatic Trials Workshop, Toronto, ON. To learn more about this event, and register, visit <http://ossu.ca/events/upcoming-events/>.
- Mar 8,9 CTO Conference, Toronto, ON. To learn more about this event, and register, visit [www.ctoconference.ca](http://www.ctoconference.ca).
- Apr 6 OCHSU Symposium: *Patient Engagement in Child Health Research*, Toronto, ON. For more information about this event, please contact Donna Wilkes, at [donna.wilkes@sickkids.ca](mailto:donna.wilkes@sickkids.ca).
- May 31 Trillium Primary Health Care Research Day, Toronto, ON. To find out more and register for this event, visit [www.trilliumresearchday.com](http://www.trilliumresearchday.com).

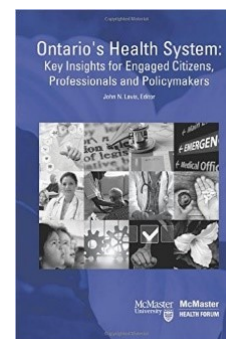
## Patient-Oriented Research Capacity Building Initiatives Awards

OSSU is pleased to announce seven winners of the POR Capacity Building Initiative Awards. These projects will build online resources that will help patients, health care providers, policy makers and managers, and researchers and research trainees develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills required to use, conduct and/or participate in patient-engaged health research. Once complete, these resources will cover training on indigenous, primary care, francophone and KTE research, and be widely available to people interested in learning more about POR across Ontario. Visit <http://ossu.ca/training/patient-oriented-research-capacity-building-initiative-awards/> to see the results.



## New Book by Dr. John Lavis

On Monday, December 12, 2016, Drs. John Lavis and Vasanthi Srinivasan participated in a webinar entitled "*10 things you need to know about how Ontario's health system works (and how this can apply to other jurisdictions)*". The webinar featured a new book edited by Dr. Lavis entitled "*Ontario's Health System*" and will be available shortly on the McMaster Health Forum website. [www.mcmasterhealthforum.org](http://www.mcmasterhealthforum.org).



## Healthy Debate

OSSU's partnership with Healthy Debate ([healthydebate.ca](http://healthydebate.ca)) entered its second year this winter. Many articles, opinions and 'faces of healthcare' have showcased how patient-oriented research should be part of the broader conversation about health care and health policy. Recent examples include articles on:

- Diversity in Patient Engagement (<http://healthydebate.ca/2017/01/topic/diversity-patient-engagement/>);
- Ontario's Opioid Epidemic (<http://healthydebate.ca/2016/09/topic/opioid-epidemic/>); and,
- First Nations' Health Research (<http://healthydebate.ca/2016/08/topic/first-nations-research/>)

...and personal stories in Faces of Healthcare:

- Simon Denegri (<http://healthydebate.ca/faces-health-care/simon-d-patient-oriented-research/>) (UK INVOLVE),
- Bob Bell (<http://healthydebate.ca/faces-health-care/bob-bell-deputy-minister-health-ontario/>) (Ontario Deputy Minister of Health) and
- Jennifer (<http://healthydebate.ca/faces-health-care/jennifer/>) – a patient recruited to a stem cell trial in Ontario.



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