



THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE
is pleased to announce the appointment of

DR. ROBIN PARKS
to the position of
Director of PhD Research

It is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of Dr. Robin Parks as our new Director of PhD Research. Dr. Parks has both the academic leadership experience and research credentials to carry out the mandate of this new position. Among his responsibilities will be to strengthen the ties between PhD scientists and clinicians in the Department of Medicine to increase clinician-basic scientist collaborations, enhance research productivity, and enrich resident/fellow and graduate training experience. Dr. Parks has worked closely with his MD colleagues, particularly in uniting basic and clinical research efforts in neuromuscular disease in Ottawa and this past year, in collaboration with Dr. Curtis Cooper, he successfully integrated both basic and clinical research into this year's Resident Research Day, highlighting the breadth of research in the Department of Medicine. Please join me in officially welcoming Robin to this post.

Dr. Parks completed his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology at the University of Guelph (Guelph, Ontario) studying poxvirus biology. He then completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at McMaster University (Hamilton, Ontario), working on the development of novel adenoviruses for use as gene delivery vehicles for gene therapy applications.

Dr. Parks joined the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute in January 1999, and is a Senior Scientist in the Regenerative Medicine Program. He is an Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, at The Ottawa Hospital, and also an Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Ottawa. In January 2014, Dr. Parks became the co-Director of the uOttawa Centre for Neuromuscular Disease, where he has worked to unite basic and clinical neuromuscular research across Ottawa area institutes.

Research in the Parks laboratory is directed towards characterizing basic aspects of adenovirus biology that will improve its safety and efficacy as a therapeutic gene delivery vehicle, and testing these novel viruses in animal models of human disease, with a focus on both cancer and neuromuscular disorders such as spinal muscular atrophy.

Dr. Phil Wells

Philip Wells, MD FRCPC MSc Professor, Chair and Chief | Directeur et chef

Department of Medicine | Département de médecine

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