

PDU Winter Meeting August 17—20

17th & final Perfusion Downunder meeting

International Guest Speakers



Thor Sundt, MD, is the Churchill Professor of Surgery, chief of the Division of Cardiac Surgery and director of the Mass General Hospital Corrigan Minehan Heart Center. He is an internationally recognized thought-leader on thoracic aortic aneurysms and other aortic diseases and is also widely recognized as an expert in reparative procedures for vascular heart conditions, including mitral regurgitation and aortic valve regurgitation. His research interests have ranged from organ transplantation to the genetics and genomics of bicuspid aortic valve disease. He has served in numerous executive roles, including surgical director for cardiac transplantation at Washington University in St. Louis, surgical director of the Thoracic Aortic and Marfan Clinic at the Mayo Clinic and vice-chair of the Department of Surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

Most recently, he collaborated with investigators in the disciplines of human factors and systems engineering to improve the safety and efficiency of healthcare delivery. On a national level, he was the first chair of the Workforce on Patient Safety for the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. He is actively collaborating with members of the Mass General Physician Organization in the development of tools to enhance patient centered and shared decision making.



Dr. Hilary Grocott completed medical school in Canada at the University of Saskatchewan in 1990, and after finishing an anaesthesia residency at the University of Manitoba in 1995, he went on to complete both cardiothoracic anaesthesiology and research fellowships at Duke University where he later joined the faculty, advancing to tenured Professor over the ensuing decade. From 2007-2022, he served as Professor in the Department of Anaesthesia, Perioperative & Pain Medicine at the University of Manitoba. Since relocating in 2022, he now serves as Clinical Professor in the Department of Anaesthesia, Pharmacology & Therapeutics at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada.

In addition to having served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Anaesthesia, he has published more than 450 peer-reviewed articles, abstracts, and book chapters on a range of topics related to perioperative outcomes after cardiac surgery amongst others. His almost 250 invited lectures and Visiting Professorships across six continents includes the inaugural Perfusion Downunder Meeting in 2005 and as a PDU guest faculty speaker at a further five meetings including as the Wayne Pearson Keynote Lecturer in 2018.



Scott A. LeMaire, M.D., is the Jimmy and Roberta Howell Professor of Cardiovascular Surgery, the Vice Chair for Research in the Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery, the Director of Research in the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, and Professor of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics at Baylor College of Medicine, as well as a member of the professional staff in the Department of Cardiovascular Surgery at the Texas Heart Institute and Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center in Houston, Texas. His primary clinical interest focuses on the management of patients with thoracic aortic disease, with a particular emphasis on the treatment of aortic dissection and thoracoabdominal aortic aneurysms. His corresponding research program focuses on organ protection during aortic surgery, genetic aspects of thoracic aortic disease, and molecular mechanisms of aortic degeneration. At Baylor, he has received both the Michael E. DeBakey Excellence in Research Award and the Fulbright & Jaworski Faculty Excellence Award for Teaching and Evaluation, is a past-president of the Association for Academic Surgery and is the current editor-in-chief of the Journal of Surgical Research.

Dr. LeMaire's basic science laboratory research—conducted in the Aortic Disease Research Lab—is currently focusing on the role of various aspects of extracellular matrix metabolism in the development of aortic aneurysms and dissections.

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The Final Wayne Pearson Keynote Lecture



Professor Simon Mitchell works as an anaesthesiologist at Auckland City Hospital, a diving physician at North Shore Hospital (Auckland), and is Professor of Anaesthesiology and Head of Department at the University of Auckland. Over many years he has combined his research interest in diving pathophysiology with cardiac surgery and perfusion; being parallel fields in which patients are also exposed to bubbles. In 2022 he was ranked by Expertscape as the world's foremost expert in air embolism and decompression sickness. Simon co-authored the hyperbaric and diving medicine chapter for the last four editions of Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine and has been Editor-in-Chief of Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine Journal since 2019. Simon has a long career in sport, scientific, commercial, and military diving. He was first to dive and identify three historic deep shipwrecks in Australia and New Zealand, including one in 2002 which was the deepest wreck dive undertaken worldwide at the time. He was conferred Fellowship of the Explorers' Club of New York in 2006, and was the Rolex Diver of the Year in 2015.

His most recent expeditions were a project to take arterial blood gas specimens from an elite freediver at 60m depth in January 2021, searching for a shipwreck in the sub-Antarctic in February 2022 and the Pearse Resurgence cave exploration with the Australian 'Wet Mules' team in February 2023. The 2023 WPL is entitled "Fusing perfusion and diving: a 30-year journey of science and adventure."

The Final Professor Merry Lecture



Professor Alan Merry has lectured at every Perfusion Downunder Meeting from the first meeting in 2005 and the Prof Merry Lecture was established in his honour. Over the years this coveted Lecture has been variably given by guest lecturers chosen by Alan in discussion with the committee. Fittingly for this final PDU meeting the lecture will be given by the Prof himself. Prof Merry has recently retired from his position of Deputy Dean of the University of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences at the University of Auckland. He was the foundation Chair of the NZ Health Quality and Safety Commission and has served on the boards of the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists and Lifebox. He is an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit and a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. His books, book chapters and papers in peer-reviewed journals reflect interests in human factors, patient safety, legal responses to negligence in healthcare, global health and simulation. Alan's support of PDU and the PDU Research database - now the Australia and New Zealand Collaborative Perfusion Registry has been pivotal in their endeavours. The title of the 2023 Prof Merry lecture is "The Heart of the Matter".

REGISTER and SECURE ACCOMMODATION EARLY for this FINAL PDU MEETING

avoid FOMO — Registrations will be strictly capped

<https://www.perfusiondownunder.com>