

SWAHN CONFERENCE 2019 – Speaker Biographies (in order of appearance)

Dr. Ken Blanchette



Dr. Ken Blanchette is currently the Associate Vice President Academic for St. Clair College. His portfolio encompasses the operational oversight and delivery of the academic programming for all three of the college's campuses.

When he joined the college as Chair for the School of Health Sciences in 2010, Ken became the school lead for a \$32 million Centre for Applied Health Sciences building completion and purchasing of state-of-the-art simulation and lab equipment. In 2011, he became responsible for creating and providing opportunities for our local professionals and health care organizations to have the space, resources and continuing education and competency training. Since 2011, he has established collaboration with local hospitals, allied health professions, nurses and physicians and has implemented three new academic programs (Cardiovascular technologist; Diagnostic Medical Sonography; and Respiratory Therapy), to address the local and national needs for health care professionals.

Prior to joining St. Clair College, Dr. Blanchette spent 12 years practicing in Michigan. Ken has a Doctor of Chiropractic, Bachelor of Science in Human Biology, advanced training in Phytochemical and Botanical medicine from the National University of Health Sciences in Lombard, Illinois and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Windsor. He has extensive teaching experience at numerous institutions including Everest College in Windsor, Michigan Board of Education, and the National University of Health Sciences in Lombard, Illinois.

Ken is actively involved in the Windsor and Essex County communities. He is the past Vice Chair of the board of directors for the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit, past Chair for the Quality and Strategic Advisory Committee and the Vice Chair of the Board for Hotel Dieu Grace Healthcare, , Co-Chair for the Health Standards Organizations Academic Health Centers and Clinical Research Technical Committee and Co-Chair for the South Western Academic Health Network (SWAHN). He has also served his home town community as a Coach for the Amherstburg Minor Hockey Association for the past 13 years.

Dr. Javeed Sukhera



Dr. Javeed Sukhera is Interim Chair and Associate Professor in the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and is cross-appointed to the Department of Paediatrics. He is also Senior Designate Physician Lead, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at London Health Sciences Centre, and a Scientist at the Centre for Education Research and Innovation at Western University. His interdisciplinary research program explores novel approaches to stigma reduction and implicit bias recognition and management in health professionals. Since 2012, he has secured over 2 million dollars in grant funding and over 60 conference presentations. His research has been published in high impact journals and he is routinely interviewed by local and national media for his expertise. He teaches in all four years of Schulich's Undergraduate Medical Program where he also served as Academic Director, Global Health Curriculum from 2013-2016. He also teaches psychiatry, child and adolescent psychiatry, and paediatrics residents, and led the psychiatry residency's ethics portfolio from 2013-2018. He is also

involved in numerous committees and councils at local, national, and international levels. He is a member of the London Police Services Board, the Board of the Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and a former member of the Association of American Medical Colleges Board of Directors. He has been recognized for his work by the May Court Champion for Children's Mental Health by Vanier Children's Centre, Schulich Award of Excellence in Undergraduate Education, AMS-Phoenix Fellowship, and Department of Psychiatry Clinical Innovation Award.

Dr. David Edwards



Dr. David Edwards is Professor and Hallman Director, School of Pharmacy, at the University of Waterloo. He received his undergraduate pharmacy degree from the University of Toronto, completed a pharmacy residency at Sunnybrook Medical Centre and graduated from the Doctor of Pharmacy program at the State University of New York at Buffalo where he did postdoctoral research in pharmacokinetics and drug metabolism. He also completed a Master in Public Health (MPH) degree at Wayne State University in Detroit where he was a faculty member and Chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice. He is the author of over

100 scientific papers, review articles and book chapters related to pharmacokinetics, drug metabolism, therapeutic drug monitoring, bioequivalence and drug interactions, and is a co-author of the textbook *"Evaluating Drug Literature: A Statistical Approach"*. Research in his laboratory identified the mechanism by which drugs interact with grapefruit juice as well as the compounds in grapefruit juice responsible for this interaction. Dr. Edwards is a member of the board of the Ontario College of Pharmacists, the Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP), Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada (AFPC) and the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy. He received the Honorary Life Award from the Canadian Pharmacists Association in 2018.

Mr. Andrew Harkness



Andrew Harkness is the Strategy Advisor-Organizational Health Initiatives at the Workplace Safety and Prevention Services (WSPS) of Ontario. He has been with the health and safety association since 1988.

Andrew has Bachelor of Arts degrees in Economics and Labour Studies and a post graduate diploma in Occupational Health and Safety from McMaster University. Andrew is a Certified Health and Safety Consultant and a Professional Member of the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering.

Andrew is a member of the CSA/BNQ technical committees CSA Z1003 -13, the National Standard for Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace, and sits on the Canadian technical committee in support of the development of ISO 45003, Occupational health and safety management – Psychological health and safety in the workplace – Guidelines.

Andrew is an auditor for the R.W. Campbell Awards program for Environmental, Health and Safety Management Excellence.

Dr. Gillian Kernaghan



Dr. Gillian Kernaghan was appointed the President and Chief Executive Officer of St. Joseph's Health Care London (St. Joseph's) in 2010. St. Joseph's is a multi-sited, academic health care organization serving London and region. Her passion for integrated patient care, leadership and performance excellence has inspired the organization to focus on the vision to "earn complete confidence in the care we provide."

Prior to assuming this role, Dr. Kernaghan served for 17 years as the Vice President, Medical for various hospitals in London and led the medical staff during complex restructuring in which four hospitals merged to form St. Joseph's. Through this restructuring and various program transfers between organizations, the roles of the London hospitals dramatically changed.

In 1984, Dr. Kernaghan joined the medical staff of St. Joseph's, Parkwood Hospital and London Health Sciences Centre as a family physician. She completed her residency at St. Joseph's Hospital in 1984 upon graduation from Western University and was awarded her Fellowship in 2000. Degrees and certifications include: MD (with Honours), CCFP, FCFP, and CCPE.

She currently serves on the Ontario Hospital Association Board, is Chair of the Catholic Health Association of Ontario, serves on the CAHO Executive and Council, is a member of the Premier's Council on Improving Healthcare and Ending Hallway Medicine and Co-Chair of the Southwestern Academic Health Network. Prior appointments include Co-Chair of the Canadian Health Leadership Network (2014-2018) and Past President of the Canadian Society of Physician Executives (2010-12). In addition, she has also served on numerous regional, provincial and national committees/boards.

Academic appointments include: Associate Professor, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, Western University; Adjunct Professor, Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing, Western University; and Faculty, Physician Leadership Institute, Canadian Medical Association.

Dr. Kernaghan is a frequent speaker at conferences and a certified trainer in Crucial Conversations, Crucial Accountability and Influencer leadership courses. She is also the recipient of the YMCA Women of Excellence Award in Health, Science and Technology, the Studer Group Fire Starter Hall of Fame Award 2017, and the Canadian Society of Physician Leaders Excellence in Medical Leadership Award, which she received in 2018.

Dr. Kernaghan has been married for 39 years and is the proud mother of three sons, three daughters-in-law and two little grandsons.

Ms. Debra Miller



Deb Miller, Director of Organizational Development and Learning Services (ODLS) has been with St Joseph's Health Care London since 1982, serving in roles of staff & charge nurse and Educator in NICU, staff Educator focusing on Quality Improvement; she has been Director of ODLS since 1999. She was a proud member of the MHCC National Collaborative "By Health For Health" which has developed a tool kit for Psychological Health and safety in health care

environments. She is the chair of the Psychological Health and Safety Working Group at St Joseph's Health Care London, working with a strong team to foster corporate commitment to and create and implement strategies to advance our focus on psychological health and safety.

Mr. Neil Mackenzie



Mr. Neil MacKenzie is a Manager in the Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention Department in the Health Promotion Division of the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit. His responsibilities include overseeing the planning, development, implementation, and monitoring of the Mental Health, Sleep, Nutrition, Physical Activity, Injury Prevention, and Workplace Wellness programs. Mr. MacKenzie has been a manager with the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit since July 1992. He works out of the Health Unit's Essex Office where he is the management representative on the Joint Health and Safety Committee. Neil's education consists of an

Undergraduate degree in Physical Education from Laurentian University and a Masters degree in Applied Human Nutrition from the University of Guelph. Professionally, Mr. MacKenzie is a Registered Dietitian. In his off time, Neil is a Doping Control Officer with the Canadian Centre for Ethics and Sport.

Ms. Alexis Erickson



Ms. Alexis Erickson is a Mental Health Specialist in the Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention Department and Health Promotion Division of the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit. She is responsible for planning, developing, implementing, and monitoring community mental health promotion programs, projects, and strategies designed to meet the needs of various target groups in the community. Ms. Erickson has been a Mental Health Specialist at the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit since July of 2019. Her education consists of a Bachelor's of Social Work degree from the University of Windsor and a Master's of Social Work degree from the University of Windsor. In

her off time, Ms. Erickson is a Dance Instructor and Choreographer at Cathy's Dance Studio in Windsor, Ontario.

Mr. Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams is the President & Chief Executive Officer of the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA), a voluntary alliance of the hospitals in Clinton, St. Marys, Seaforth and Stratford, a position he has held since the organization's formation in 2003.

Throughout his 30+ year career in healthcare leadership, Andrew has had the opportunity to work in and with numerous healthcare organizations locally, and across Canada. His experience spans small, community, teaching and research hospitals, the community

sector, regional systems, and private clinics. He is a passionate advocate for patient and family centred care, and believes our healthcare system should be less about its structures and more about ensuring the individual needs of those who use the system and who provide care and service are met in the safest and most appropriate manner.

Andrew holds an Honours Degree in Biology and Masters in Health Services Administration, both from Dalhousie University. He is an active Member of the Canadian College of Healthcare Leaders and the American College of Healthcare Executives and is a Surveyor with Accreditation Canada.

Dr. Donald Farquhar



Dr. Donald Farquhar is a Professor of Medicine, in the Divisions of Respiriology and Internal Medicine, and Assistant Dean for Resident Wellbeing at the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, Western University. He obtained his medical degree from Queen's University, and completed residency education and specialty certification in internal medicine and respirology at Western. He later obtained a master's degree in Health Policy and Management from the Harvard School of Public Health, with concentration in Quality of Care.

Since 2016, Dr. Farquhar has served as Medical Director of the COPD and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program at St. Joseph's Health Care London, leading and collaborating in the development of services in clinical care, education, exercise, psychosocial support, and advance care planning for patients with moderate to severe COPD. He attends regularly on the inpatient Respiriology service at the London Health Sciences Centre, and is actively engaged in the education of medical students, residents, family physicians and allied health professionals.

Ms. Nastaran Keshmiri



Nastaran Keshmiri is a third year Doctor of Pharmacy candidate at the University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy. Through the well-established cooperative education program at the University of Waterloo, Nastaran has been able to work in an outpatient cancer centre, a hospital as well a corporation. She has held various leadership roles during her time at the School of Pharmacy including President of the Oncology Pharmacy Interest Group, Interprofessional Representative, Student Ambassador and Finance Officer of the Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns (CAPSI). She received the 2019 Canadian Pharmacists Association Centennial Leadership

Award which is awarded to one student from each pharmacy school in Canada who has actively promoted the profession of pharmacy and his/her faculty. After graduation, she hopes to continue advocating for the pharmacy profession and is excited to become part of the future of pharmacy.

Mr. Zachary Weiss



Zachary Weiss is a second-year medical student at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western University. Zach has a deep passion for politics and policy, and has spent way more hours listening to political podcasts than he's willing to admit. At Schulich, he's grown particularly interested in learner mental wellness, having been diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder himself. Zach has used this curiosity and personal experience to create Proaction on Mental Health (Pro-MH), a student group of over 20 members actively working to identify, discuss, and solve the structural issues within medical education that lead to students becoming mentally unwell.

Zach also works with several other student groups at Schulich to promote discussion around the impact of politics and policy in the field of medicine. In these roles, Zach works tirelessly to highlight how proper advocacy can better the lives of our patients and our healthcare system as a whole.

Dr. Davy Cheng



Dr. Davy Cheng is the Acting Dean and a Distinguished University Professor at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University. He is also the co-founder and Medical Director of the Centre for Medical Evidence, Decision Integrity Clinical Impact. Previously, he served as the Vice Dean, Faculty Affairs at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry and the Chair/Chief for the Department of Anesthesia & Perioperative Medicine.

He holds a BSc (Hon) in Biochemistry from the University of Ottawa, an MSc in Biochemistry from Western University, and his MD from the University of Toronto, where he completed his internal medicine internship and anesthesia residency in 1987. Dr. Cheng joined the faculty at the University of Toronto following a Clinical Research Fellowship and a Cardiovascular Anesthesia Fellowship at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Prior to joining Western in 2001, he was a Professor and Deputy Chief of Anesthesiology at Toronto General Hospital and he also served as Medical Director of the Cardiovascular Surgery Program for the University Health Network in Toronto.

An accomplished scientist and physician, Dr. Cheng has published more 156 peer reviewed scientific papers in high impact journals and 52 book chapters. He serves as the Chair of the Scientific Affairs Committee; is a Council Member of the World Federation Societies of Anesthesiologists; and Vice Chair of the Innovation Fund Provincial Oversight Committee, as part of the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care in Ontario.

Dr. Cheng has been recognized for his outstanding accomplishments by many organizations. He received the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society Gold Medal, was inducted as an honorary member of the German Society of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, and was awarded the Excellence in Medical Leadership Award by the Canadian Society of Physician Executives, to name a few.

Dr. Mithu Sen



Dr. Mithu Sen has been Acting Vice Dean, Faculty Affairs and Assistant Dean, Faculty Equity & Wellness at Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University.

Dr. Sen graduated from Queen's University with a BSc First Class Honors in 1991. She completed medical school at the University of Calgary in 1995, and continued in Calgary to complete her Internal Medicine Residency. She completed her fellowships in Respiriology, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry.

In 2003, Dr. Sen joined the Divisions of Respiriology and Critical Care Medicine, in the Department of Medicine at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry as an Assistant Professor. She has been involved in undergraduate, postgraduate, and continuing professional development since 2004. In 2010 she was promoted to Associate Professor, and to Full Professor in 2019. She has served as director of Undergraduate Education, Postgraduate Education, Program Director in Critical Medicine (Adult), and the founding Chair of the Canadian Critical Care Review Course. She has been the inaugural Assistant Dean, Faculty Equity and Wellness since 2014. She has been the Chair of the Mentorship Oversight Committee and established and chairs the Faculty Affairs Advisory Committee and the Faculty Wellness Committee. Her work led the creation of an international award-winning Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Faculty Wellness Program at our school in 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Dr. Sen serves on The Associated Medical Service Board of Directors, which oversees many aspects of education nationally including the Hannah Chair in the History of Medicine and the AMS Phoenix Project and is the Chair of the AMS Grants Committee. She is an experienced Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) appointed external surveyor for postgraduate training programs nationally. She serves on the Fellowship Affairs Committee of the RCPSC. Dr. Sen also served on the Board of Directors at London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC), Professional Staff Organization, and was the President, and Medical Advisory Committee member, as well as Chair of LHSC Resuscitation Committee.

Dr. Sen was elected to the Chair of the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada Physician Health and Wellness Group, bringing undergraduate, postgraduate, and faculty affairs work in this area and leading this initiative nationally. She serves on The RCPSC Specialty (Nucleus) Committee and is the past Director of Education for The Canadian Critical Care Society. She was the Chair of the Ontario Thoracic Society Better Breathing Conference in 2016 and has also been an instructor for Crucial Conversations (VitalSmarts) for over a decade.

Dr. Sen is a fellow in the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) (Drexel University). She was the recipient of The Cameron Gray Award, Ontario Thoracic Society in 2000, the Junior Teaching Award of Excellence in the Department of Medicine in 2008, and the Dean's Award of Excellence for Postgraduate Education in 2013. She received the Association of American Medical Colleges Best in Class international award from 2016 to 2018 for her leadership at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry in faculty wellness, resilience, and work life integration.