

The 18th Annual Helen & John Schilling Lecture



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Gerald M. Fried, MD, CM, FRC(C), FACS, FCAHS presented “Teaching Johnny How to Operate: Answering the ‘Bell’” for the 18th Annual Helen & John Schilling Lecture on Friday, January 27, 2012.

In his Presidential address to the Central Surgical Association entitled “Why Johnny Cannot Operate”, Dr. Richard H. Bell, Jr., at that time Assistant Executive Director of The American Board of Surgery, expressed grave concerns about the operative skills of graduating general surgery residents. This lucid review of current surgical training set a challenge for all those involved in surgical education. This presentation addresses these challenges and proposes some solutions, based on improved curricular design and better use of simulation strategies.

Dr. Gerald Fried graduated from Medicine at McGill and completed his residency training in general surgery at the Montreal General Hospital with clinical

fellowships in gastrointestinal surgery and gastroenterology at The Ohio State University. Following this he went to the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston for a research fellowship in gastrointestinal physiology. He then returned to McGill and The Montreal General Hospital where he has developed a clinical practice in gastrointestinal surgery, minimally invasive surgery (MIS), and surgical endoscopy.

In 1990, Dr. Fried went to Cologne, Germany to learn the technique of laparoscopic cholecystectomy, and then returned to establish minimally invasive surgery as a clinical and academic program. In the past 20 years, he and his colleagues at McGill have made the MIS program at McGill one of the foremost such programs in North America. They have made significant contributions to surgical education, simulation, and to the process of introducing innovative technology into clinical practice.

Dr. Fried is currently Adair Family Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at McGill, and Surgeon-in-Chief of the McGill University Health Centre. At McGill he has been recognized for his commitment to education, having been chosen by the residents twice for the best faculty teacher award and elected to the McGill Honour Role for Educational Excellence.

Nationally, he was awarded the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada John Ruedy Award for Innovation in Medical Education, and has been appointed to the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (the Canadian equivalent to the Institute of Medicine). In addition to his contributions to the university and

hospitals, Dr. Fried is past-president of the Canadian Association of General Surgeons, and is currently President of the Central Surgical Association and the James IV Association of Surgeons (Canadian Section). He serves as a member of the Boards of The Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons, The Society for Surgery of Alimentary Tract, the International Society for Digestive Surgery, Association for Surgical Education Foundation, and the Central Surgical Association. He also serves on the editorial board of *Annals of Surgery*, *Archives of Surgery*, *Surgery*, *Surgical Endoscopy*, *Surgical Innovation*, and *World Journal of Surgery*. He has given over 250 invited lectures around the world and published widely in the fields of minimally invasive GI surgery and surgical education.

The Helen and John Schilling Endowed Lectureship was established by the late Helen Schilling to bring distinguished scholars to the Department of Surgery at the University of Washington, and to enhance the Department’s commitment to the highest standards of patient care, teaching, research and scholarship. It was Mrs. Schilling’s wish that the lectureship be in honor of her husband, John.