

M. CHRISTOPHER WALLACE, MD, MSC, FRCSC.

Chris Wallace returned to his alma mater in 2011 to assume the position of Professor of Neurosurgery, Queen's University. He received his degrees in Physiology and Medicine from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. His Neurosurgery training in Toronto included MSc degree training in the Pathophysiology of Spinal Cord Injury. During residency training, it became clear that vascular neurosurgery held the greatest intrigue largely due to the influence of Bill Lougheed. Post training fellowships were arranged in clinical cerebrovascular disease (Charles Drake, London) and basic science of cerebral ischemia (Graham Teasdale, Jim McCulloch, Glasgow).



He assumed a faculty position in 1988 at The Toronto Western Hospital, University Health Network, University of Toronto. His career has focused on the clinical care, basic science and clinical research of cerebrovascular disease. The laboratory concentrated on mechanisms of neuronal cell death following experimental focal and global cerebral ischemia and was active until 2006. His clinical practice has focused on the management of patients with vascular malformations, intracranial aneurysms and carotid stenosis. He co-founded the University of Toronto Brain Vascular Malformation Study Group in 1989, and this multidisciplinary group's clinical research has concentrated on the natural history of patients with vascular malformations. He has been an advocate of randomized trials, participating in many trials including NASCET and ISAT. From 1999-2004, he was the Director of the Toronto Western Research Institute, with over 40 scientists and 100 graduate and post-doctoral students. He was Head of the Division of Neurosurgery at the Toronto Western Hospital, University Health Network (2004-2011).

Chris taught undergraduate and postgraduate students from first year medicine through to fellows in cerebrovascular neurosurgery. For over 20 years, he directed the W. Lougheed Microsurgical Course, a practical course in microsurgical anatomy held twice a year, which the majority of neurosurgical residents in Canada have completed. He completed 11 years as the Neurosurgery Program Director at the University of Toronto supervising at any one time 35 residents in training. Chris supervised a fellowship in Cerebrovascular Neurosurgery at the Toronto Western Hospital, with 26 neurosurgeons from 16 countries completing the fellowship.

He held the Foundation Baxter et Alma Ricard Chair in Cerebrovascular Neurosurgery (1996-2011). He was promoted to Professor in 1999. He has been recognized at the University of Toronto for his teaching, winning the faculty's highest teaching award, the W.T. Aitkin's Award, Individual Teaching Performance, Faculty of Medicine in 1994 and 2008.

He was President of the Canadian Neurosurgical Society (2010-2012) and the Neurosurgical Society of America (2018-2019). He was awarded the Charles Drake Medal Lifetime Achievement Award by the Canadian Neurosurgical Society (2017).

He is married to Katie, a Queen's Business graduate, and they have three children, and four grandchildren. All of their children have done Business or Economics and so Chris' love for Medicine and Science has not rubbed off at home!! They live on the Rideau Canal system of lakes north of Kingston. In his spare time, he enjoys his 1950 Shepherd boat, fine wine and ice hockey.