

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Children's Health Research Institute (CHRI) is pleased to announce the appointment of the Chairs of the three new Divisions, which are reorganized from the five previous Programs.

### **Dr. William Avison, Chair, Division of Children's Health & Therapeutics**



Dr. Avison is an internationally known researcher in the sociology and epidemiology of mental health. His current research focuses on the ways in which socio-economic disadvantage and various types of social stressors affect the mental health of families and children. Dr. Avison is a Professor in the Departments of Sociology, Paediatrics, and Epidemiology & Biostatistics. He is the 2009 recipient of the Leonard I. Pearlman Award from the American Sociological Association for significant contributions to the study of mental health.

The Division's research is on population health and clinical research, with focus on quality of life in children and paediatric personalized medicine. The Division has 19 scientists and 18 associate scientists.

### **Dr. Gerald Kidder, Chair, Division of Genetics & Development**



Dr. Kidder is an internationally known researcher in developmental biology. His current research focuses on the roles of cell-to-cell communication in gametogenesis and embryogenesis. Dr. Kidder is a Professor in the Departments Physiology & Pharmacology, Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Paediatrics. Dr. Kidder was awarded a Distinguished University Professorship by the UWO in 2010. He also served as the Associate Vice President, Research, of UWO for the past 5 years.

The Division's goal is to discover new information on the genetic and epigenetic causes of diseases and disabilities affecting children and to use that information to provide better quality of life through prevention, early diagnosis, and treatment of such conditions. The Division has 15 scientists and 15 associate scientists.

### **Dr. Kaiping Yang, Chair, Division of Maternal, Fetal & Newborn Health**



Dr. Yang is an internationally known researcher in fetal & newborn physiology, and perinatal health. His current research focuses on genetic and environmental factors responsible for low birth weight babies, and their susceptibility to obesity in childhood and adulthood. Dr. Yang is a Professor in the Departments of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Physiology & Pharmacology.

The Division's goal is to understand the mechanisms of normal and abnormal fetal and newborn growth, and to develop non-invasive and safe methods of assessing fetal, newborn and maternal health. The Division has 9 scientists and 15 associate scientists.

We are very pleased that these renowned researchers have accepted to be the Chairs of the three Divisions of CHRI effective July 1, 2010. Please join us in congratulating and welcoming them to their new leadership positions.