

DALHOUSIE'S ANATOMY MUSEUM VISIT

The **Anatomy Museum** in Dalhousie's Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, will be open to registered CSWIP attendees from **1:45-3:30PM on Sunday, October 2nd**. The Museum is located on the 14th floor of the Tupper Medical Building, 5850 College Street—one block south of Spring Garden Road, one block east of Robie Street. To get to the Museum, once in the Tupper Building, take the main elevators to the 14th floor and turn left. The Museum is at the end of the hallway.

During this visitation period **Professor Richard Wassersug will be on site to try and answer any questions that you might have about normal human anatomy as well as the anatomy on display.** This optional tour is offered to complement the conference theme of “embodiment.”

Note: The Museum is not open to the public and will not be accessible except during those hours on Sunday, October 2nd.

About the Museum

The Museum exists as a teaching collection for medical students and other students in the allied health sciences. Over the years it has been an extremely valuable resource for students trying to learn human anatomy; anatomy which they then use to help patients deal with a multitude of medical problems. The students need to know this anatomy to reduce human suffering and to save lives.

The Museum is not normally open to the public, and what is on display there is not advertised. Here's why. Dalhousie depends on good relations with the public in order to keep its voluntary body donation program up and running. It is through that donor program that medical students get a chance to learn anatomy on cadavers before they work with live patients in the surgical theater and elsewhere in the university's hospitals. The department does not advertise to the public the fact that there are isolated regions of preserved bodies on display in the Museum, because of concerns for the sensitivities of our potential donors and their families. However everything on display has an academic reason for being there and the Museum is not simply an arbitrary collection of body parts. It is important that the people who come to the Museum understand that this is first and foremost an educational resource.

About Richard Wassersug

Richard Wassersug is a Full Professor in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, and has been teaching Human Gross Anatomy to medical, occupational therapy and physiotherapy students for over 30 years.

Richard is also a professional science communicator. Over the last decade he has been a columnist for a science news show on the Discovery Channel and a science panelist for CBC radio's “Maritime Noon.” In the last four years he has won the Atlantic Provinces Council on the Sciences Communications Award and also the Nova Scotia Science Champion Award from the Discovery Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

If people have questions about the Museum Visit in advance of October 2nd, they should feel free to contact Richard directly at tadpoles@dal.ca or 902-494-2244.