

Since its beginning, the Faculty of Health Sciences has built a reputation as a global leader for research and education in child health. In collaboration with our affiliated teaching hospitals, we have developed state-of-the-art clinical and research facilities, and become a magnet for world-class investigators who help save lives and improve the quality of life for children and their families.

In January, the Faculty of Health Sciences announced the establishment of two additional endowed research chairs in child health, bringing our total complement in this area to seven. The newest chairs – the McMaster Children’s Hospital/Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation Chair in Neuromuscular Disorders and the Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation/Jack Sinclair Chair in Neonatology – will ensure McMaster University continues to be a leader in pediatric research and education. You can learn more about the inaugural chairholders, Mark Tarnopolsky and Christoph Fusch, inside this newsletter.

There have been other gains on the child health front. Harriet MacMillan, a professor in Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, received a \$2-million grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to establish the Centre for Research Development in Gender, Mental Health and Violence Across the Lifespan. The centre’s research will increase understanding of the links between mental health issues and family violence.

Students in our School of Nursing will soon benefit from the newly established CIBC Undergraduate Bursaries in Nursing. These awards support aspiring nurses with a specific interest in breast cancer research and education. CIBC established the bursaries with a \$500,000 donation, which was matched by the province.

Educational milestones are being celebrated as well. The School of Rehabilitation Science marked 20 years of excellence in 2009, and celebrations continue throughout the year. The Bachelor of Health Sciences Program



Physician-scientist Mark Tarnopolsky (right) smiles at patient Tucker Patterson, 3, at the announcement of the endowed McMaster Children’s Hospital/Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation Chair in Neuromuscular Disorders. Tarnopolsky is the inaugural chairholder.

launched a year-long calendar of events to mark its tenth anniversary. Celebrations kicked off in January with a cake-cutting ceremony and open house.

The Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine celebrated several new partnerships this past fall. In September, a \$4-million agreement was announced with Brock University. The partnership will see the Niagara Regional Campus move to a permanent home within the Niagara Health and Bioscience Research Complex, currently under construction on the Brock campus.

The Waterloo Regional Campus has moved into its permanent home located on the University of Waterloo’s Downtown Kitchener Health Sciences Campus. A grand opening celebration is being planned for later this spring.

Norfolk General Hospital has become an official teaching site for the Faculty of Health Sciences. The Simcoe hospital currently hosts medical students and family medicine residents, and will eventually welcome other Faculty students.

The Faculty of Health Sciences is committed to developing a culture of sustainability here at McMaster. In January, the Health Sciences Library launched “go green@HSL” – an



Christoph Fusch, professor of pediatrics and head of neonatology at McMaster University.

initiative to promote waste reduction in the library.

In closing, I want to acknowledge our dedicated faculty, staff and students who have pledged their support and offered assistance in the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake. While there are too many names to mention, I want to specifically draw attention to the efforts of those in the Department of Anesthesia, the Department of Family Medicine and the Department of Medicine. Our dedicated faculty members have taken the first step in what will be an ongoing commitment from the Faculty to provide support to build capacity in the wake of this disaster.

The Faculty of Health Sciences celebrated the announcement of several research chairs this winter:

Christoph Fusch, a professor in the Department of Pediatrics and head of the neonatology division at McMaster University, has been appointed the Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation/Jack Sinclair Chair in Neonatology. The current focus of his research is on evidence-based strategies to improve outcomes of premature infants and high-risk term neonates. A key area is identification of factors that will optimize normal brain development and function in infants born very preterm.

Hsien Seow, an assistant professor in the Department of Oncology, has been appointed the Cancer Care Ontario Health Services Research Chair at McMaster University. His research focus is on improving quality of care and the organization and delivery of health-care services for cancer patients and those with other serious, chronic illnesses.

Mark Tarnopolsky, a professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Department of Medicine, has been named the inaugural holder of the McMaster Children's Hospital/Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation Chair in Neuromuscular Disorders. His primary research is in mitochondrial

disease and mitochondrial dysfunction in aging. His current focus is discovering and evaluating therapies that enhance muscle function in people with acquired and genetic neuromuscular disorders and mitochondrial dysfunction.

Heather Arthur, a professor in the School of Nursing, has been reappointed for a second term as the endowed Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario/Michael G. DeGroot Chair in Cardiovascular Nursing. Her research focuses on the education and training of cardiovascular nurse-scientists as well as clinical research in improving cardiovascular health.

Several faculty members have been appointed to senior positions both within and outside the University:

Stephanie Atkinson, a professor and associate chair, research, for the Department of Pediatrics, has been appointed by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to the Advisory Board of the Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes.

Steven Hanna, an associate professor of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and the School of Rehabilitation Science, has been appointed the assistant dean of the Health Research Methods Program. An investigator with the CanChild Centre for Childhood Disability Research, Hanna has focused his research on biostatistics, childhood disability and development, knowledge translation and clinical practice guidelines.

Catherine Hayward, a professor of pathology

and molecular medicine, has been appointed the associate dean, health sciences (graduate studies). A hematologist, she has been involved in FHS graduate programs since earning her PhD in medical sciences in 1995.

Lennox Huang has been named the acting chair of the Department of Pediatrics. The assistant professor has served as associate chair, clinical, of the Department of Pediatrics and deputy chief of pediatrics for McMaster Children's Hospital (MCH). He is also currently serving as acting chief of pediatrics for MCH.

Lori Letts, an associate professor in the School of Rehabilitation Science (SRS), has been named the assistant dean for the M.Sc. (Occupational Therapy) Program. Since joining the SRS in 1994, she has focused her research on environments, health promotion, primary health care, aging, community rehabilitation and participatory research.

Penny Thompson, an associate clinical professor in the Department of Pediatrics, has been appointed academic director of the Physician Assistant Education Program. She holds three degrees from McMaster, including her MA and MD.

Several faculty members were reappointed to senior positions within the FHS:

Andrea Baumann, a professor in the School of Nursing, has been reappointed as the associate vice-president, health sciences (international health);

Professor **Patrick Mohide** has been reappointed chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology;

Professor **William Orovan** has been reappointed chair of the Department of Surgery. He has also been reappointed for a third term as the endowed John A. Bauer Chair in Medicine (Surgery).

We were saddened to hear of the passing of two long-time professors of the Faculty of Health Sciences this past fall.

Mary Tremblay, an associate professor who helped pioneer the development of occupational therapy programs in Hamilton, died in October at the age of 64. One of the founding therapists of the occupational therapy programs at Mohawk College in the 1970s, she moved to McMaster in 1985 and directed the degree-completion program for occupational therapy and physiotherapy. In

1989, she served a year as the acting associate dean of the fledgling School of Rehabilitation Science. She is remembered as an exceptional educator and for her research on disabled war veterans and the disability rights movement. Tremblay retired from the University in August 2009.

Ronald McAuley, a physician who was instrumental in the development of family medicine at the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine, died in October at the age of 79. A professor and past chair of the

Department of Family Medicine, McAuley played a key role in launching the family medicine residency program. He also led a group to establish the first family practice teaching unit at Henderson hospital. He became a consultant for McMaster's problem-based learning methods and, in recognition of his contributions to family medicine at their medical schools, he received honorary doctorates from the University of Linköping, Sweden and the University of Tampere in Finland. McAuley retired from McMaster in 1996.

Several of our faculty members have received awards for their achievements in research, teaching and clinical practice:

Ronald Barr, a professor of pediatrics, medicine and pathology and molecular medicine, has been named the 2009 recipient of the O. Harold Warwick Prize. The award honours a Canadian investigator who has undertaken research that has led to significant advances in cancer control.

Andrea Baumann, associate vice-president, health sciences (international health), has been inducted into the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences for her significant contributions at the provincial and national level to health services research and nursing health human resources.

Mohit Bhandari, an associate professor in the Department of Surgery, has been named the recipient of 2010 Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation Clinical Research Award for a paper entitled “Setting a New Benchmark for Collaborative Trials in Trauma: The Rationale, Design and Execution of the Study to Prospectively Evaluate Intramedullary Nails in Tibial Shaft Fractures.”

Michael Boyle, a professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, has been named the 2009 Researcher of the Year in Health Services and Systems and Population Health by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Boyle and the late Dan Offord pioneered the Ontario Child Health Study, recognized as the single most important study of children’s mental health in Canada.

Deborah Cook, a professor of medicine and clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, has been inducted as a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. She also holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair of Research Transfer in Intensive Care and the endowed McMaster University/St. Joseph’s Healthcare Regional Academic Chair in Critical Care Medicine.

Alezandre Dauphin, a clinical professor of anesthesia, received the Reverend John C. Holland Award for Business/Professional Achievement. The award recognizes the contributions of African Canadians to the social, economic and cultural life of Hamilton. Dauphin is coordinator of St. Joseph’s outreach programs in Haiti.

Brian Hamister, web coordinator for the Faculty of Health Sciences, received the Award of Excellence in the Diploma in Web Design and Development Program from the Centre for Continuing Education/McMaster Association of Part-Time Students. This distinction recognizes consistent and excellent academic performance throughout the program’s curriculum.

Brian Haynes, a professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and the Department of Medicine, has been elected to the Institute of Medicine (IOM), a prestigious branch of the National Academy of Sciences. The IOM recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service.

Richard Hunt, a professor in the Department of Medicine, received the Henry L. Bockus Medal from the World Gastroenterology Organisation. The prestigious award is given once every four years for distinguished international contributions in the field of gastroenterology.

Michael Kiang, an assistant professor of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, has been awarded a John Charles Polanyi Prize for his innovative work in mental health research. The prestigious award, established by the province, recognizes outstanding researchers in the early stages of their career who are continuing their post-doctoral studies at an Ontario university.

Carlos Morillo, a professor in the Department of Medicine, has been named one of Canada’s top 10 most influential Hispanic Canadians by the Hispanic Business Association. A cardiologist and electrophysiologist, Morillo is the director of the arrhythmia service at Hamilton Health Sciences.

Peter Rosenbaum, professor and past chair of the Department of Pediatrics, was honoured at the 2010 Hamilton Health Sciences Gala for his research and clinical accomplishments in childhood development. Rosenbaum is director of the McMaster Child Health Research Institute. He holds the Canada Research Chair in Childhood Disability Research, Dissemination and Mentoring and the endowed Scotiabank Chair in Child Health Research.

Karen Saperson, an associate professor in the

Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, is the inaugural recipient of the Lois Ross Award for Service to Residents, given out by the Canadian Association of Internes and Residents (CAIR). The award honours contributions to the advancement of medical residents in Canada.

Peter Szatmari, a professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, received the George Tarjan Award for Contributions in Developmental Disabilities from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Anne Wong, an associate clinical professor and education coordinator for the Department of Anesthesia, has been named the recipient of the 2010 Higher Education Special Interest Group Best Dissertation Award by the Comparative and International Education Society. Wong is honoured for her PhD dissertation comparing anesthesia residency training in Thailand and Canada.

Two faculty members received awards at the St. Joseph’s Healthcare Annual Medical Staff Dinner Meeting: **Janet Farrell**, an associate clinical professor of anesthesia, received the Sister Joan O’Sullivan Award for excellence in clinical care and teaching; **Joseph McMullin**, an associate professor of medicine, received the Peder Larsen Memorial Award for Excellence in Consultation Services.

Several members of the Department of Family Medicine were honoured with awards from the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) in 2009: **Cheryl Levitt**, **David Price** and **Elizabeth Shaw** each received the Award of Excellence; **Sarah-Lynn Newbery** and **Samantha Winemaker** both received prestigious research grants from CFPC.

Research projects in improving neonatal health outcomes, overcoming antibiotic resistance and understanding how diabetes affects muscle structure and function received more than \$1 million in infrastructure support from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). FHS investigators who received CFI funding include: **Dawn Bowdish** and **Thomas Hawke** of the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine; **Christoph Fusch** of the Department of Pediatrics; and **Nathan Magarvey** of the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences.

The Faculty of Health Sciences oversees \$133 million in research a year. The following faculty members received grants of more than \$100,000 between June and December 2009.

Several faculty members received research and personnel grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR):

Sarah McDonald of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology received a New Investigator Award. **Peter Margetts** of the Department of Medicine received a Phase 2 Clinician Scientist Award.

Other faculty members who received new CIHR grants include: **Patty Solomon** of the School of Rehabilitation Science; **Brian Coombes, Alba Guarne, Yingfu Li** and **Justin Nodwell** of the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences; **Kathryn Bennett, P.J. Devereaux, Mita Giacomini, John Lavis, Lisa Schwartz** and **Don Willison** of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CE&B); **John Eikelboom, Nancy Heddle, Anne Holbrook** and **Irwin Walker** of medicine; **Catherine Hayward, Peter Kavsak, Gurmit Singh** and **Martin Stämpfli** of the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine; **Harriet MacMillan** and **Mark Tarnopolsky** of the Department of Pediatrics; **Michael Boyle** and **Lennard Niles** of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences.

Faculty members who received renewals of CIHR grants include: **Eric Brown** and **Gerry Wright** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences; **Melissa Brouwers** of the Department of Oncology; **Ping Chang Yang** of pathology and molecular medicine.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) granted funding to several faculty members from the School of Nursing including: **Susan Jack, Sharon**

Kaasalainen and **Maureen Markle-Reid. Jenny Ploeg** received a MOHLTC Nursing Mid-Career Research Award.

Faculty members who received grants from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario (HSFO) include: **Catherine Demers, John Eikelboom** and **George Heckman** of medicine; **Steven Shaughnessy** of pathology and molecular medicine. **Mark Crowther** of medicine received a new grant, as well as a HSFO Career Investigator Award. Renewals of HSFO grants were received by **Catherine Hayward** and **Bill Sheffield** of pathology and molecular medicine.

At the national level, **Lori-Ann Linkins** of medicine received a New Investigator Award and a grant renewal from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (HSFC). **Peter Gross** of medicine received a HSFC grant renewal.

The Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR) awarded grants to several faculty members: **David Andrews** and **John Hassell** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences; **Melissa Brouwers** and **Jonathan Sussman** of oncology. **Anita Bane** of oncology received a five-year Clinician Scientist Award from the OICR.

Three faculty members received grants from AllerGen: **Paul Forsythe** and **Paul O'Byrne** of medicine; **John Bienenstock** of pathology and molecular medicine.

Two faculty members received grants from the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation: **Christopher Wynder** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences; **Peter Lovrics** of the Department of Surgery.

The Ontario Mental Health Foundation awarded grants to **Michael Boyle** and **Michael Kiang**, both of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences.

Gina Browne, School of Nursing, and **Jonathan Sussman**, oncology, received grants from the University of Western Ontario.

Other FHS faculty members received significant grants from a wide range of organizations. They include: **Denise Bryant-Lukosius**, School of Nursing, from Hamilton Health Sciences; **Mick Bhatia**, biochemistry and biomedical sciences, Choongwae Pharma Corp., **Richard Epand**, biochemistry and biomedical sciences, from the National Institutes of Health; **Nathan Magarvey**, biochemistry and biomedical sciences, from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada; **Brian Haynes**, CE&B, from BMJ Publishing; **Parminder Raina**, CE&B, from the Agency for Healthcare and Research Quality; **Holger Schünemann**, CE&B, from the World Allergy Organization; **Kenya Bracken**, Department of Family Medicine, from the Hamilton Academic Health Sciences Organization; **Premysl Bercik**, medicine, from the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada; **Shirya Rashid**, medicine, from Merck Frosst Canada; **Geoff Werstuck**, medicine, from the Canadian Diabetes Association; **Brian Lichty**, pathology and molecular medicine, from the Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute; **Karen Mossman**, pathology and molecular medicine, from the Canadian Breast Cancer Research Alliance; **Ted Warkentin**, pathology and molecular medicine, from GlaxoSmithKline; **Anthony Chan**, pediatrics, from Bayer Inc.; **Ronald Barr**, pediatrics, from the Public Health Agency of Canada; **Anne Klassen**, pediatrics, from the Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute; **Brian Timmons**, pediatrics, from Dairy Management Inc.; **Peter Szatmari**, psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences, from the Sinneave Family Foundation; **Shucui Jiang**, surgery, from the Canadian Spinal Research Organization.

Congratulations to our highly valued faculty and staff members on these wonderful accomplishments. Your contributions are the reason why our Faculty continues to be a leader in research and education in the health sciences.

Sincerely,



John G. Kelton, MD
Dean and Vice-President

