

TOGETHER, ADVANCING HEALTH THROUGH LEARNING AND DISCOVERY

*Dear colleagues and students:*

*With the advent of a new academic year upon us, we look forward to progress in the development of new knowledge, and embrace the opportunities to continue providing educational programs renowned for their innovation and excellence.*

## APPOINTMENTS

As clichéd as it may sound, time really does fly when you're having fun – or when you're doing anything that provides an opportunity to make a strong group even better.

And certainly, as I begin my second five-year term, I look back on the accomplishments in the Faculty of Health Sciences by our excellent faculty, staff and students, and look forward with anticipation to the progress we will continue to make in the coming years.

Among the many exciting developments that lie immediately ahead are the expansion of our medical school, the establishment of the new Department of Oncology and the continuing drive towards more integrated, interprofessional learning.

Our Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine saw its largest graduating class ever in May with 139 students receiving their MD, and we are poised for even further growth. With the additional spots already added to the medical school classes here in Hamilton, and the opening of satellite campuses in Niagara and Waterloo regions over the next two years, first year enrolment in the undergraduate program will reach 176 by the 2008/2009 academic year.

With increased enrolment comes an even greater commitment to provide the best possible education for our future medical professionals. We meet that challenge by changing and improving our resources, not only in the medical school, but also in our School of Nursing, School of Rehabilitation Science, and our programs for midwifery, graduate education and the Bachelor of Health Sciences.

Among the specific initiatives that are examples of how we change and grow to stay on the leading edge of education and research are:

- The opening of the Department of Oncology, which will be formally celebrated on September 21. The new department will provide a mechanism to facilitate and enhance cancer-related research and training across all of our schools, and in collaboration with other Faculties.
- The launch this fall of a PhD program in rehabilitation science, which adds further prestige to our school already known for graduating highly-skilled physiotherapists and occupational therapists.
- The development of the practical skills training centre, which eventually will offer interprofessional training with students from all disciplines learning side by side. The initial investment and operation of the centre is being led by our School of Nursing.
- The offering of two new courses through the B.H.Sc. program, focused on controversial issues in health. Specific topics will expose students to the differing viewpoints that co-exist in a pluralistic society.

The scientists, researchers and physicians who comprise our faculty create the foundation that allows all of us in health sciences to strive for excellence in learning, discovery and care. As testament to the extraordinary achievements of our faculty, this newsletter is once again filled by news of their achievements, awards and grants.

I congratulate all of them, and look forward to continuing to work with such dedicated people over the next five years.

Several of our Faculty members have recently been appointed or reappointed to important roles of responsibility.

**Stephen Collins** has been appointed associate dean, research for the Faculty of Health Sciences. He is a professor in the Department of Medicine, head of the Clinical Division of Gastroenterology, and holder of the Glaxo-Wellcome Chair in Gastroenterology. In 2002 he was awarded the title of University Professor. He has worked at McMaster since 1981, after completing his medical training in the U.K. and at McMaster. In his new role he will be responsible for guiding the research mission of the Faculty.

**Peter Dent** has been reappointed associate vice-president, clinical services for the Faculty. He has been with McMaster since 1968, serving as chair of the Department of Pediatrics from 1980 to 1990. He is professor emeritus in pediatrics, and a rheumatologist and immunologist.

**David Price** has been appointed chair of the Department of Family Medicine. He joined the Faculty in 2000, and is an associate professor. He was the founding director of the Maternity Centre of Hamilton (2000-2004), became unit director of the Stonechurch Family Health Centre in 2001, and has been chief of the Department of Family Medicine for Hamilton Health Sciences since 2004.

**Gerry Wright** has been reappointed chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences. He is a professor in that department, and an associate member of the Department of Chemistry. He holds a Canada Research Chair in Antibiotic Biochemistry, is the founding director of the McMaster Antimicrobial Research Centre and a co-founder of the McMaster High Throughput Screening Facility. He will be on administrative leave until Jan. 1, 2007.

**Eric Brown** has been appointed acting chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences for the remainder of 2006. He is an associate professor and co-founder and director of the McMaster High Throughput Screening Laboratory.

**Sonia Anand** has been reappointed as the Eli Lilly Canada/May Cohen Chair in Women's Health. She is an associate professor in the Department of Medicine,

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and holds a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Clinician Scientist Award Phase 2, as well as a CIHR and HSFO ICE grant devoted to the study of sex/gender determinants of cardiovascular disease.

**Hertzel Gerstein** has been reappointed as the Population Health Institute Chair in Diabetes Research. He is an endocrinologist and professor in the Department of Medicine, with an associate appointment in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics. He is also the director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism at McMaster University.

**Cathy Risdon** has been reappointed as the David Braley and Nancy Gordon Chair in Family Medicine. An associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine, she also has an associate appointment in the School of Rehabilitation Science. She is active in undergraduate medical education, teaching and designing curriculum in behavioural medicine, doctor-patient relationships and professionalism.

**Lisa Schwartz** has been reappointed as the Arnold L. Johnson Chair in Health Care Ethics. She is an associate professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and has been involved in the development of an ethics and moral reasoning stream of professional competencies for the undergraduate medical education program.

**Alba DiCenso**, a professor in the School of Nursing, has been renewed for the final six years of her 10-year term as Chair in Advanced Practice Nursing. Through this chair, DiCenso is involved in various projects to increase and improve research related to advanced practice nursing that will assist managers and policy makers in the health sector.

**John Lavis**, an associate professor in clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, has been renewed as the Canada Research Chair in Knowledge Transfer and Exchange. He is a member of the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis (CHEPA) at McMaster, and director of the Program for Policy Decision-Making. His principal research interests include knowledge transfer and uptake in public policy-making environments and the politics of health care systems.

**Timothy Whelan**, a radiation oncologist and professor in the department of medicine, has been renewed as the Canada Research Chair in Health Services Research in Cancer. He is also the director of the Supportive Cancer Care Research Unit. While the central goal of his research for the next five years is to arrive at an optimal formula for the treatment of breast cancer, an integral and over-arching component is facilitating communication of information to cancer patients.

**Julia Abelson** has been named Director of CHEPA. She is an associate professor in clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, and holds a CIHR New Investigator Award. She joined CHEPA in 1998. Her research interests include democratic participation in health policy decision-making and health policy analysis.

**Rocco Piro** has been appointed to the new senior administrative position of director, information technology for the Faculty. He has been working in technology at McMaster

since 1988, and has also been teaching technology-based courses since 1997. The new role was created to oversee all aspects of academic, research and administrative computing services within the Faculty of Health Sciences, working collaboratively with University Technology Services.

## HEADLINERS

The number of endowed chairs in the Faculty of Health Sciences continues to grow. The four new chairs announced this year bring the total number to 52.

**Rick Adachi**, professor of medicine, has been named to The Alliance for Better Bone Health Chair in Rheumatology. He is a McMaster alumnus, director of the Hamilton Arthritis Centre, and head of rheumatology at St. Joseph's Healthcare.

**Andrew Macpherson**, professor of medicine, is the inaugural holder of the Farncombe Family Chair in Inflammatory Bowel Disease. He is a specialist in gastroenterology and general medicine, and also holds a senior Canada Research Chair in Mucosal Immunology.

**Stuart Connolly** has been named as the holder of the Salim Yusuf Chair in Cardiology. He is a professor in the Department of Medicine, a cardiologist and director of the arrhythmia service for the McMaster Division of Cardiology.

**John Turnbull**, a professor of medicine, has been named to the Andrew Bruce Douglas Chair in Neurology. He is a neuroscientist and a renowned researcher of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Many other faculty members have been honoured by a wide range of organizations for their contributions to the advancement of health.

**Mohit Bhandari**, an assistant professor of surgery and associate member in clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, has been inducted into the McMaster Alumni Gallery. An orthopedic surgeon and Canada Research Chair in Musculoskeletal Trauma at McMaster University, he graduated with a Masters of Science degree in 1999. The gallery recognizes the achievements of McMaster graduates who make outstanding contributions to society.

**Jean Chamberlain**, an obstetrician and assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was the recipient of the 2005 Distinguished Community Service Award for Emergency Obstetrical Care from the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics.

**Fionella Crombie**, an associate clinical professor in the Department of Family Medicine, was named the 2005 Family Physician of the Year for the Southern Region of the Ontario College of Family Physicians.

**Brenda Flaherty**, an assistant clinical professor in the School of Nursing, won the Athena Award from the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce. It honours a person who demonstrates professional excellence, community service and a desire to help women attain professional excellence and leadership.

**Nancy Fowler**, assistant professor in the Department of

Medicine, received the Geeta Gupta Equity and Diversity Award from the College of Family Physicians of Canada. The award recognizes outstanding contributions in caring for diverse populations.

**Stephen Hill**, associate professor in pathology and molecular medicine, has been named the winner of the 2006 Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry Award for Outstanding Contribution to the profession of clinical biochemistry.

**Mark Loeb**, associate professor in pathology and molecular medicine, has won the 2006 Gold Medal Award in Medicine from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

**Colleen McKey**, assistant professor in the School of Nursing, has obtained the status of Diplomate in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

**Paul O'Byrne**, chair of the Department of Medicine, was chosen to give the Jerry Dolovich Memorial Lectureship at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology in Miami.

**Akbar Panju**, professor of medicine and holder of the Medard DeGroot Chair in Medicine, has been named a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh.

**Lynda Redwood Campbell**, associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine, was presented with the Paul Harris Fellow Award from the Burlington Rotary Club. The award recognizes her work in international health, particularly in Banda Aceh, Indonesia following the devastation from the 2004 tsunami.

**Patty Solomon**, a professor in the School of Rehabilitation Science, received an Honorary Membership from the Canadian Physiotherapy Association. It recognizes individuals for significantly enhancing the profession through contributions over a period of at least 15 years.

Two faculty members of the Program for Educational Research and Development (PERD) had publications that made the top three list of the journal *Medical Education* for the past two years. The journal monitors which published articles are downloaded most often. Last year, an article by **Geoff Norman**, assistant dean for PERD, was number two on the journal's list, and an article by assistant professor **Kevin Eva** was number three. In the prior year, an article by Eva won the top spot, with another article by Norman as number two.

Several McMaster faculty members have received honours recently for their teaching abilities.

**Linda Hilts**, an assistant clinical professor in the School of Nursing and associate member of the Department of Family Medicine, won the 2006 John C. Sibley Award for part-time faculty. A nurse practitioner who is active in the clinical education of medical students, family medicine residents and nurse practitioners, Hilts has been teaching McMaster students since 1989. She is the education co-ordinator for the Stonechurch Family Health Centre, and was cited for her dedication to both the School of Nursing and family medicine.

**Deborah Cook**, a professor of medicine, was chosen as one of the most outstanding university teachers in the province by the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations.

Three instructors in the Faculty of Health Sciences received McMaster Students Union (MSU) Teaching Awards for 2005. They are **John Vickers**, a professor, and **Clinton Betts**, part-time assistant professor, both in the School of Nursing; and Murray Junop, an assistant professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences.

During the Oath Ceremony for MD graduates in May, **Ari Shali** won the David Carr Teaching Award for the fourth consecutive year. The graduates also presented Clerkship Awards to **Rob White, Kanwal Shankardass, Andrew Morris, Margot Loosley-Millman, Ramsey MacNay, Patricia Rosebush** and **Jaydeep Moro**.

The Excellence in Tutorial Education Award was presented to **Will Harper**.

The Robert Wakefield Friend of the Students Award was presented to **Cathy Oudshoorn**.

At the School of Nursing convocation in June, Preceptor Awards of Distinction were presented to **Julie Thorpe, Veronica Gaudreau** and **Susan Wilson**.

## RESEARCHERS

Once again there is a long list of Faculty of Health Sciences researchers who have received various awards and significant grants from a wide range of agencies in recent months. Congratulations to all of them for having their dedication to improving health care recognized.

**Deborah Cook**, professor of medicine and joint member of clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, has received the 2006 Distinguished Investigator Award, the highest honour from the American College of Critical Care Medicine. It honours a clinical researcher for meritorious and pioneering research in critical care.

**Warren Foster**, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, received a 2005 Mid-Career Award from the Ontario Women's Health Council and the Institute of Gender and Health, which is part of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

**Nicholas Kates**, professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, received the Alex Leighton Joint Award in Psychiatric Epidemiology from the Canadian Psychiatric Association and Canadian Academy of Psychiatric Epidemiology.

**Arya Sharma**, professor of medicine and holder of the Canada Research Chair in Cardiovascular Obesity Research and Management, was named as the leader of the newly established Canadian Obesity Network, one of the federal government's Networks of Centres of Excellence. Sharma also won the Rick Gallop Award from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario (HSFO).

**Martin Stampfli**, associate professor in pathology and molecular medicine, received one of the Ontario government's newly-created Early Research Awards. The awards recognize young researchers whose work holds promise for Ontario's better health and economic welfare.

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**Salim Yusuf**, professor of medicine and director of the Population Health Research Institute, was inducted as a Fellow in the Royal Society of Canada, the highest honour that can be attained by scientists in Canada.

Several FHS faculty members were included in the recent announcement of research grants provided by CIHR. Receiving new grants are:

**Tim Whelan, Damu Tang, Judah Denburg** and **Dr. Sharma** of the Department of Medicine; **Dr. Cook, Mita Giacomini, Mark Levine, Parminder Raina** and **Donald Willison** of clinical epidemiology and biostatistics (CE&B); **Gerry Wright** and **Radhey Gupta** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences; **Zhou Xing, Catherine Hayward, Derek McKay** and **Pingchang Yang** of pathology and molecular medicine; **Peter Szatmari** of pediatrics; **Ram Mishra** of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences; **Dr. Foster** of obstetrics and gynecology; and **Joy MacDermid** and **Dianne Russell** of the School of Rehabilitation Science.

**Murray Potter** of pathology and molecular medicine, and **Maureen Markle-Reid** of the School of Nursing, received special initiative grants from CIHR, and **Alba Guarne** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences received a New Investigator Award. CIHR also announced renewal grants for **Paul O'Byrne** of medicine, **Lonnie Zwaigenbaum** of pediatrics, **Marko Simunovic** of surgery, and **Boris Zhorov** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences.

The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario's recent grant announcements included various McMaster researchers. Those granted funds for new projects include **Sonia Anand, Ashok Grover** and **Geoff Westruck** of medicine, **B.J. Clarke** and **Carl Richards** of pathology and molecular medicine, and **Karen Choong** of pediatrics. Renewal grants were awarded to **Catherine Hayward** and **W.P. Sheffield** of pathology and molecular medicine, **Jeffrey Weitz** of medicine and **Yu-Jing Gao** of anesthesiology. **Rick Austin** of pathology and molecular medicine had his Career Investigator Award renewed for a further five years.

Numerous other FHS faculty received significant grants from a wide range of organizations. They include:

**Dr. Sharma**, from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Merck Frosst Canada & Co., and Hamilton Health Sciences; **Mick Bhatia**, of biochemistry and biomedical sciences, from the National Cancer Institute of Canada, ASAHI Chemical Industry Co. Ltd., Geron Corporation and McMaster

University; **Dr. O'Byrne** from TOPIGEN Pharmaceuticals Inc. and Boehringer-Ingelheim Canada Ltd.; **Brian Lichty** of pathology and molecular medicine, from the Canadian Cancer Society and the Hospital For Sick Children Foundation; **Jane Foster** of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences from NSERC and the Ontario Mental Health Foundation (OMHF); **Marek Smieja** of medicine, from the Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute and GILEAD Sciences, Inc.; **Dr. Raina**, from the Agency for Healthcare and Research Quality; **Richard Hunt** of medicine, from Allergan; **William Sheffield** of pathology and molecular medicine, from Canadian Blood Services; **Shucui Jiang** of surgery, from the Canadian Spinal Research Organization; **Michel Rathbone** of medicine, from Aventis (now sonafi-aventis Group); **Sue Baptiste** of the School of Rehabilitation Science, from the Ministry of Community and Social Services; **Janusz Kaczorowski** of family medicine, from the Canadian Stroke Network; **Markad Kamath** of medicine, from NSERC; **Glenda MacQueen** and **Dr. Mishra** of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences, from OMHF; **Jehonathan Pinthus** of surgery, from the Hamilton Academic Health Sciences Organization; **David Churchill** of medicine, from St. Joseph's Healthcare; **Brian Coombes** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences, from Public Health and Community Services; **Judith West-Mays** of pathology and molecular medicine, from the National Institutes of Health; **Melissa Brouwers** of CE&B, from Cancer Care Ontario; **Mark Tarnopolsky** of pediatrics, from the Gatorade Sports Science Institute; **Russell Bishop** and **Lori Burrows** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences, from McMaster University; **Jack Gaudie** of pathology and molecular medicine, from the Ontario Cancer Research Network (OCRN) and a private donor; **Renee Labiris** of medicine, from St. Joseph's Healthcare; **Jonathan Bramson** of pathology and molecular medicine, from the OCRN; **Ranjan Sur** of medicine from the OCRN.

## PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

Three people in the Faculty of Health Sciences earned McMaster University President's Awards earlier this year.

**Dyanne Semogas**, assistant professor in the School of Nursing, received the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching (Course or Resource Design). The award recognized her work with the innovative nursing elective course, Poverty and Homelessness, which was established in 2002.

Two others received the President's Award for Outstanding Service. They are **Debra Lynne Kigar**, research assistant in psychiatry and behavioural neuroscience, and **Lorraine Moss**, program co-ordinator in pathology and molecular medicine.

*Congratulations on these achievements. They are an affirmation of the excellence found throughout our Faculty.*

Sincerely



John G. Kelton, MD  
Dean and Vice-President

