

While summer is a time of relaxation and renewal, it's also a period of immense transition for the Faculty of Health Sciences.

In July, we announced several changes to our senior academic teams.

McMaster alumnus Rob Whyte, a member of the Department of Anesthesia, has succeeded Alan Neville as assistant dean of the undergraduate medical program of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine. Dr. Neville, a renowned innovator of medical education, has been promoted to associate dean, education. The position, previously held by Susan Denburg, has been made into a separate role following the doubling of enrolment within a decade. Dr. Denburg has been reappointed as associate vice-president, academic.

Major leadership changes have also taken place in several other areas of the Faculty, most notably in the School of Rehabilitation Science. You can read more about these developments inside this newsletter.

In May, the School of Nursing welcomed a group of visiting nurses enrolled in the post-diploma BScN-linked Oncology Nursing Program in Trinidad. The capacity-building project was developed by McMaster's School of Nursing in partnership with the University of the West Indies (UWI) School of Advanced Nursing Education. Beginning this fall, the project will run independently at UWI.

The McMaster Stem Cell and Cancer Research Institute has received \$11.5 million to lead a world-class initiative to develop new stem cell-based therapies. The Ontario Consortium for Regeneration-inducing Therapeutics (OCRiT) is led by Mick Bhatia, scientific director of the institute. The collaborative initiative integrates robotics and high-performance computing to create an automated stem cell platform to identify new drugs capable of inducing stem cells in one's own body to repair damaged tissues.



University and government officials gathered in April for the official opening of the Waterloo Regional Campus of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine. In May, the Kitchener-based campus graduated its first class of physicians during spring convocation ceremonies.

The School of Rehabilitation Science (SRS) has received more than \$1.3 million in provincial funding to continue a program that supports internationally educated occupational therapists as they transition into practice in Canada. Following the success of an 18-month pilot project, the SRS has launched the Ontario Occupational Therapy Examination and Practice Preparation Project (OTEpp), as well as a national version of the program in partnership with the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists. The latter initiative received \$2.1 million in federal funding.

A research team co-led by Peter Szatmari, a professor of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences, has been awarded an \$8.9 million grant from the provincial government to investigate the genetic basis of autism spectrum disorder. Dr. Szatmari's work has already garnered headlines. In June, his research about the genetic underpinnings of autism was published in *Nature*.

The University is already seeing the benefits of the new David Braley Cardiac, Vascular and Stroke Research Institute, which opened at the Hamilton General Hospital site in March. The institute brings together two world-renowned research teams led by Salim Yusuf and Jeffrey Weitz.



Students of the oncology nursing program of the University of the West Indies work in the McMaster Health Sciences Library during a campus visit in May.

McMaster and Maastricht University of the Netherlands and have announced a partnership to launch a Master of Science Program in Global Health this fall. The affiliation is in response to the growing need for a well-prepared global health workforce to address the world's most pressing health issues.

Thank you for taking a few minutes out of your summer schedule to read through this issue of the newsletter. Remember to visit our website, [fhs.mcmaster.ca](http://fhs.mcmaster.ca), for the latest Faculty news.

**The Faculty's leadership** has been renewed following several new senior appointments in July. Other faculty members have been appointed to senior positions both within and outside the University.

**Marcel Doré**, an assistant clinical professor in the Department of Family Medicine, has been appointed the acting assistant dean of the Continuing Health Sciences Education Program. Doré is based at the Waterloo Regional Campus of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine where he is also the faculty development and continuing health science education coordinator.

**Jennifer Everson**, an associate clinical professor of family medicine, has been appointed the LHIN liaison for the Faculty of Health Sciences, as well as the physician lead, planning and integration, for the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network. She will liaise between the LHIN and the Faculty to facilitate the integration of clinical, teaching and research activities across the LHIN.

**Brian Haynes**, a professor in Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and the Department of Medicine, has been named an Officer of the Order of Canada. The appointment recognizes a lifetime of outstanding achievement and merit of a high degree, especially in service to Canada or to humanity at large. Haynes is recognized for his contributions as a world leader in medical information research, and for advancing evidence-based medicine in Canada and abroad.

**Eileen Hutton**, assistant dean of McMaster's midwifery program, is the first midwife to hold an endowed professorship in the Netherlands. She has been appointed to the new role as professor of the Midwifery Science Division at Vrije University (VU) and VU Medical Centre in Amsterdam or a five-year term. She will maintain her McMaster roles as assistant dean and director for the McMaster Midwifery Education Program and associate professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

**Mark Kamath**, an associate professor of medicine, has been appointed editor-in-chief of the journal *Critical Reviews in Biomedical Engineering*. He has been a member of the journal's editorial advisory board since 1994.

**Nicholas Leyland**, a leading researcher in the development of new minimally invasive surgical techniques, has been appointed chair and chief of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Formerly of the University of Toronto, Leyland has been a part-time associate clinical professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at McMaster since 2009 and is now appointed full-time professor.

**James Mahony**, a professor of pathology and molecular medicine, has been appointed assistant dean of the Medical Sciences Graduate Program. He is director of the Regional Virology and Chlamydiology Laboratory at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, as well as an investigator in the Michael G. DeGroot Institute for Infectious Disease Research.

**David Morgan**, an associate professor of medicine, has been named president of the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology. He is a member of the Division of Gastroenterology and head of the gastroenterology service at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton.

**Alan Neville** has been named the associate dean, education, for the Faculty. He is a professor in the Department of Oncology and a medical oncologist at the Juravinski Cancer Centre. A renowned leader in medical education, he received three awards for his educational innovation and teaching earlier this year. He was instrumental in the development of the COMPASS curriculum for the undergraduate medical program, which was introduced in 2005.

**Akbar Panju**, professor and deputy chair, clinical programs, for the Department of Medicine, has been named president of the Hamilton Academy of Medicine. He also holds appointments as director of the Division of General Internal Medicine, medical director of the Michael G. DeGroot Institute for Pain Research and Care and the inaugural holder of the Medard DeGroot Chair in Medicine.

**Patty Solomon**, a physiotherapist and professor in the School of Rehabilitation Science, has been appointed associate dean, rehabilitation science, beginning Jan. 1, 2011. Solomon is director of the Program for Interprofessional Practice, Education and Research. She was actively involved in

developing the first professional masters of physiotherapy in Canada and she is one of the first rehabilitation scientists to develop a research program in the area of HIV and disability.

**Rob Whyte**, an assistant professor in the Department of Anesthesia, has been appointed assistant dean for the undergraduate medical education program. The McMaster medical alumnus is an anesthesiologist at Hamilton Health Sciences. He has held appointments as clerkship chair and electives chair in the undergraduate MD program and director of the Clinical Placement Liaison Office in the medical school.

**Seanne Wilkins**, an associate professor in the School of Rehabilitation Science, will serve as associate dean (acting), rehabilitation science until Dec. 31, 2010. An occupational therapist, she recently completed a term as assistant dean for the school's graduate program during which it expanded to include a new PhD program.

The following faculty members have been reappointed to senior positions within the Faculty:

**Susan Denburg**, a professor in of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences, has been reappointed for a second term as associate vice-president, academic. Previously, she held a joint appointment as the associate dean, education, for the Faculty of Health Sciences. The position was divided into two separate roles as a result of the Faculty doubling enrolment during the past decade.

**Del Harnish**, a professor in the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine and the Department of Biology, has been reappointed the assistant dean, Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours) Program. Harnish has led the innovative undergraduate program since its establishment in 2000.

**Salim Yusuf**, a professor of medicine, has been reappointed for a second five-year term as director of the Population Health Research Institute at McMaster University and Hamilton Health Sciences. He also holds the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario/Marion W. Burke Chair in Cardiovascular Disease.

**The Faculty of Health Sciences** continues to enrich its research programs through the support of endowed chairs and professorships, as well as the Canada Research Chairs program.

**Guillaume Paré**, an assistant professor in the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine and the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, has been named the Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Genetic and Molecular Epidemiology. Paré is director of the Genetic and Molecular Epidemiology Laboratory. His research focuses on using genetic and molecular markers to help prevent strokes.

A \$2-million investment has established the latest endowed research chair in the Faculty of Health Sciences. In May, the Faculty celebrated the establishment of the LEO Pharma Chair in Thromboembolism, which will support thromboembolism initiatives at McMaster and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton. A formal announcement of the chair holder is expected in September.

**Mehran Anvari**, a professor in the Department of Surgery, has been named a 2010 recipient of the ORION Leadership Award. The ORION Awards recognize individuals and groups who have led and championed the use of advanced and collaborative technologies to support research, education and discovery in Ontario or on the global stage.

**Jean Clinton**, an associate professor of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences, has won a 2010 Women of Distinction Award in the health and wellness category. The child psychiatrist is recognized internationally as an advocate for children's issues.

**Brian Coombes**, an assistant professor of biochemistry and biomedical sciences, has been awarded the Young Investigator Award in Biological Sciences from Boehringer Ingelheim. The award supports research by new faculty members at Canadian universities in virology, cellular and molecular or structural biology, biochemistry or pharmacology.

**Mark Crowther**, a professor of medicine, pathology and molecular medicine and director of the Division of Hematology and

Several faculty members were reappointed to research chairs this year:

**Mohit Bhandari**, an associate professor of surgery, has received a renewal of his Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Musculoskeletal Trauma and Surgical Outcomes;

**Stuart Connolly**, a professor in the Department of Medicine, has been reappointed for a second term as the Salim Yusuf Chair in Cardiology;

**John Eikelboom**, an associate professor of medicine, has received a renewal of his Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine;

**Jeffrey Ginsberg**, a professor of medicine, has been reappointed for a second term as the David Braley and Nancy Gordon Chair in Thromboembolic Disease;

**Manel Jordana**, a professor of pathology and molecular medicine, has received a renewal of his Tier 1 Canada Research

Thromboembolism, has received the 2009 Council Award from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO). The award is presented at each annual council meeting of the CPSO to honour outstanding Ontario physicians who have demonstrated excellence and come closest to meeting society's vision of an "ideal physician."

**Stephen Foster**, an associate clinical professor of surgery, has been named the 2010 recipient of the Teasdale-Corti Humanitarian Award by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. The award is given to a Canadian physician whose current practice reflects altruism and integrity, courage and perseverance in the alleviation of human suffering.

**Cheryl Levitt**, a professor in the Department of Family Medicine, has won the prestigious World Organization of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians (Wonca) Fellowship. The award is given to individuals who have rendered outstanding service to Wonca and its mission to improve the quality of life of the peoples of the world by fostering high standards of care in general practice and family medicine.

Chair in Immunobiology of Respiratory Diseases and Allergy;

**Mary Law**, a professor in the School of Rehabilitation Science, has been reappointed for a third term as the John and Margaret Lillie Chair in Childhood Disability Research;

**Mark Levine**, a professor and chair of the Department of Oncology, has been reappointed for a third term as the Buffett Taylor Chair in Breast Cancer Research;

**John Turnbull**, a professor and head of the Division of Neurology of the Department of Medicine, has been reappointed for a second term as the Andrew Bruce Douglas Chair in Neurology;

**Jeffrey Weitz**, a professor of medicine and director of the Thrombosis and Atherosclerosis Research Institute, has been reappointed for a third term as the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario/J. Fraser Mustard Chair in Cardiovascular Research.

**Sat Somers**, a professor and former chair of the Department of Radiology, has been named the recipient of the Richard H. Marshak International Lecturer Award by the Society of Gastrointestinal Radiologists. He will represent the society at the international education conference held in Cape Town, South Africa, in August.

**Karl Stobbe**, the regional assistant dean for the Niagara Regional Campus of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine, has been named the 2010 recipient of the John C. Sibley Award. The award is presented annually to a part-time faculty member in the Faculty of Health Sciences who has made outstanding contributions to the education of health professionals.

Six doctoral students in the Faculty of Health Sciences have been honoured with 2010 Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships. This year's recipients include: **Rebecca Ganann**, School of Nursing; **Christine Kerr**, Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine; **Regan Patrick**, Neuroscience Graduate Program; **Rhandi Senaratne**, Medical Sciences Graduate Program; **Andy Kin On Wong**, Medical Sciences Graduate Program; and **Soumaya Zlitni**, Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences.

**The Faculty of Health Sciences** manages \$133 million in research a year. Grants of \$100,000 or more were received by these faculty members between January and June 2010.

FHS researchers have been successful in earning important research and personnel grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). Faculty members who received new grants include:

**Wendy Sword** of the School of Nursing; **Carol DeMatteo, Monica Maly, Joy MacDermid** and **Patty Solomon** of the School of Rehabilitation Science; **Eric Brown, Bradley Doble** and **Bernardo Trigatti** of the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences; **P.J. Devereaux, Mita Giacomini, Gordon Guyatt, John Lavis, Barbara Schmidt, Lehana Thabane** and **Feng Xie** of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CE&B); **Lisa Dolovich** of the Department of Family Medicine; **Donald Arnold, Carlos Morillo, Damu Tang** and **Jeffrey Weitz** of the Department of Medicine; **Som Mukherjee** of the Department of Oncology; **Dawn Bowdish, Carl Richards** and **Yonghong Wan** of the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine; **Peter Rosenbaum** and **Brian Timmons** of the Department of Pediatrics; **Michael Boyle, Margaret Fahnstock, Katholiki Georgiades** and **Michael Van Ameringen** of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences; **Niv Sne** and **Kevin Teoh** of the Department of Surgery.

Faculty members who received renewals of CIHR grants include: **Eric Brown** and **David Andrews** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences; **Jan Huizinga** of medicine.

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada granted or

renewed funding for several research projects led by investigators in the Faculty of Health Sciences: **Yingfu Li** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences and **Dawn Bowdish** of pathology and molecular medicine received a new grants; **Laurie Doering** of pathology and molecular medicine and **Brian Coombes** and **Gerry Wright** of biochemistry and biomedical sciences received grant renewals.

The Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation granted funding to several FHS researchers including: **Peter Kavsak** and **Waliul Khan** of pathology and molecular medicine; **Katholiki Georgiades** of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences.

The Ontario Institute for Cancer Research awarded grants to several faculty members: **Anita Bane** and **Mark Levine** of oncology; **Brian Lichty** of pathology and molecular medicine.

Other FHS faculty members received significant grants from a wide range of organizations in 2009-2010. They include:

**Andrew Mente**, CE&B, received a Hamil-

ton Health Sciences Early Research Career Award from Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation; **Brian Haynes**, CE&B, from Elsevier Inc.; **Alison Fox-Robichaud**, medicine, from Canadian Blood Services; **Paul Moayyedi**, medicine, from AstraZeneca; **Premysl Bercik**, medicine, from Nestec Ltd; **Irwin Walker**, medicine, from Genzyme; **Warren Foster**, obstetrics and gynecology, from Health Canada; **Guillaume Paré**, pathology and molecular medicine, from the Canadian Stroke Network; **Fred Ofosu**, pathology and molecular medicine, from Boehringer International; **Waliul Khan**, pathology and molecular medicine, from the Canada Foundation for Innovation; **John Bienenstock**, pathology and molecular medicine, from Abbott Laboratories, Ltd. (Canada); **Uma Athale**, pediatrics, from C17 Research Network and Childhood Cancer Foundation/Candlelighters Canada; **Brian Timmons**, pediatrics, from the Dairy Farmers of Canada; **Anthony Levinson**, psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences, from AllerGen; **Boris Sakic**, psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences, from the Ontario Mental Health Foundation; and **David Koff**, radiology, from the National Research Council of Canada.



From left: Holger Schünemann, chair of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CE&B); Brian Haynes, immediate past chair of CE&B; Michael Gent, professor emeritus, past CE&B chair and 2010 honorary degree recipient; and David Sackett, founding chair of CE&B, celebrate at the health sciences convocation dinner in May.

*Congratulations on these remarkable achievements. Your contributions to the Faculty of Health Sciences inspire a sense of pride in all of us.*

Sincerely,

John G. Kelton, MD  
Dean and Vice-President

