

McMaster is Research University of the Year



photo by: Glenn Lowson

Research technician Susan Collins develops test results of a viral infection in one of the state-of-the-art laboratories on the fifth floor of the new Michael G. DeGroot Centre for Learning and Discovery. This laboratory is part of the Centre for Gene Therapeutics.

McMaster University's reputation for leadership in research and innovation is, in part, due to achievements in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

The Faculty has received a substantial increase in research funding and an impressive number of researchers and professors have garnered national and international awards during the past year.

One important honour is the designation of McMaster as the Research University of the Year for 2004, based on its ability to attract and capitalize on research income, from Research InfoSource Inc. The rankings for this designation are based on total sponsored research income, faculty and graduate student research intensity and the number of publications in leading journals.

Dr. John Capone, associate dean of research of the Faculty of Health Sciences, said the top ranking reflects the many strategic investments made at McMaster.

"As well as investing in the research infrastructure, such as new buildings, laboratories, computers and

equipment, we've been able to attract a growing number of outstanding young investigators and staff with expertise in research planning, ethics and industrial liaison," he said.

"These investments ensure we retain and improve our status of employer of choice for faculty and staff, and school of choice for the best and brightest students and investigators."

Other indicators of McMaster's growing strength are the maintenance of its position as Canada's most innovative university, according to the 2004 Maclean's magazine annual report on universities, and its ranking by scientists as an excellent place to work. McMaster was one of five Canadian universities included among the top 10 places to work in international academia, by The Scientist magazine. Universities that ranked favourably scored high points in the areas of laboratory and research facilities.

The Faculty of Health Sciences' success as the nucleus for health care research is seen in the increased funding that has funneled into

research pursuits. In 2003-2004, health sciences investigators oversaw more than \$108 million in research funding from international, national and provincial agencies, government bodies and corporations. It was an increase of 23 per cent from the previous year, and more than double the amount of research funding just five years earlier.

More than 313 full-time FHS faculty members hold research grants for work ranging from bench to bedside. That's from basic science, such as identification of new proteins, to health policy evaluation, clinical trials and population health studies such as the Interheart study which identified nine risks for heart disease that are the same world-wide.

This year is the beginning of the McMaster-based operations for Canada's only new federal Network of Centres of Excellence. AllerGen will focus on research and developing new treatments for allergic diseases. The centre is located at the new

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Message from the Dean and Vice-President



Dr. John Kelton
Dean and
Vice-President

It is an appropriate time, as we celebrate the convocation of 500 graduates, to reflect on and be proud of the University's essential function as a provider of higher education.

However, it's not only our top-notch graduates who are responsible for the international reputation of McMaster. The innovative, world-class research that is rising to ever-higher levels – both in scope and importance – has become as much a part of McMaster's identity, as the exemplary education and training we provide.

Looking back at the accomplishments of the research done in Health Sciences over the past year provides an opportunity to appreciate our achievements, and explore the potential for the continued pursuit of excellence.

Within the Faculty of Health Sciences, the amount of research funding for our investigators is soaring. For 2003/2004 that figure stood at \$108 million, an increase of 23 per cent from the previous year's research funding, and a doubling of the dollars from just five years earlier.

That was a key reason McMaster was named **Research University of the Year** (Research Infosource Inc., an independent analytic group).

This funding comes to us from a range of government bodies and other agencies which know they can trust our ability to use that money to advance knowledge in health sciences.

Federal government agencies, most notably the Canadian Institutes for Health Research, have invested millions of dollars into medical research conducted here on campus, and in conjunction with our affiliated academic hospitals – Hamilton Health Sciences, St. Joseph's Healthcare and St. Peter's Hospital.

Non-profit agencies, such as the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation, also show confidence in our world-renowned researchers by granting millions of dollars for research – money that is used to study the causes and treatments of illnesses that affect millions of people world-wide annually.

Our research excellence is also sought by international organizations, including the prestigious National Institutes of Health in the United States, which last fall announced \$19 million for a North American study of West Nile

Virus to be led by Dr. Mark Loeb, an associate professor in the departments of Pathology and Molecular Medicine as well as Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the **Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine**.

Last year, Canada awarded only one major Network of Centres of Excellence – to Dr. Judah Denburg, at McMaster's Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine. As the scientific director of AllerGen, which is funded by a \$20-million federal government grant, Dr. Denburg will lead the efforts of 120 researchers and collaborators located at 14 Canadian universities in projects to better understand and treat allergic diseases.

Everyone has heard about Michael G. DeGroot's historic gift of \$105 million to the faculty, and this newsletter provides an update on how those

funds are being leveraged to ensure financial support in several health care areas for decades to come.

Another recent contribution came from the Thomas Assaly Canadian Charitable Foundation, which gave McMaster \$122,000 for equipment to further research into Parkinson's Disease under the leadership of Dr. Laurie Doering, an associate professor in our Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine. This was the largest ever donation for Parkinson's research at McMaster.

The faculty now has 45 endowed chairs, scientists and educators supported by private donors. These corporations and individuals generously provide financial assistance because of their belief in McMaster's commitment to having the best scientists in the world.

Endowed chairs provide a cascade of benefits to the university by supporting our top scientists. These individuals in turn attract the brightest graduate students and staff to help drive the research mission.

Since the beginning of 2004, inaugural endowed chair appointments include:

- Dr. Malcolm Sears as the AstraZeneca Chair in Respiratory Epidemiology;
- Dr. Peter Szatmari as the Chedoke Health Corporation Chair in Child Psychiatry;
- Dr. Paul Moayyedi as the Richard Hunt-AstraZeneca Chair in Gastroenterology;
- Dr. John Miller as the Mortgage Intelligence/GMAC Residential Funding of Canada Chair in Thoracic Surgery;
- Dr. Mehran Anvari as the Johnson & Johnson Chair in Minimally Invasive Surgery and Surgical Innovation;
- Dr. Anthony Levinson as the John R. Evans Chair in Health Sciences Education Research;
- Dr. Paul Whelan as the David Braley and Nancy Gordon Chair in Urology.

Just the names of these endowed chairs provide insight into the range of donors who have partnered with McMaster to ensure that our research will continue to help millions of people, and the ability to educate and train the students who will become the next leaders in health care. And we will make several new and significant chair announcements in the coming months.

Endowed chairs are among the reasons we are able to continually evolve the training we provide our students, in keeping with the faculty's vision: *Within a culture of innovation, exploration and collaboration, we lead by challenging what is and embracing what could be.*

Two examples currently leading that transformation are the revamped MD curriculum (led by Dr. Alan Neville and Geoff Norman, among others), being introduced in September, and the development of Mac-CARE (led by Dr. Karl

Stobbe), an extended and improved method for students to further their medical education within rural and under-served communities.

The dedication, energy and effort that have gone into the development of the new curriculum – which you will read about in this newsletter – are indicative of the culture defined in our vision and the quest for excellence that is pervasive throughout the McMaster community.

We hope our alumni readers share in our pride in the amazing strides being made in the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the expectations of even greater future accomplishments.

The innovative, world-class research that is rising to ever-higher levels – both in scope and importance – has become as much a part of McMaster's identity as the exemplary education and training we provide.



photo by: Glenn Lowson

A group of first-year students of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine engage in discussions following one of their classes. The small-group learning environment will continue as a mainstay in the revamped curriculum being introduced in September.

New curriculum places greater emphasis on **fundamentals**

Future students of McMaster's undergraduate MD program will be benefiting from the insights of some of their predecessors as they experience the new curriculum being introduced in September.

The revamped curriculum that places greater emphasis on ensuring graduates have a solid grasp of fundamental mechanisms that impact health, includes many components developed in response to feedback obtained from students and residents during the initial stages of the program redevelopment.

The curriculum is being rolled out this fall for the 138 students who will be entering the first year of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine undergraduate program. It will be expanded to the second and third years of the medical program in the next two years.

The new curriculum is the result of more than two years of intensive work by a team of dedicated faculty led by Dr. Alan Neville, assistant dean of the medical school, and professor Geoff Norman, assistant dean of the Program for Educational Research and Development (PERD) for the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Small, problem-based learning groups will continue as the mainstay of the program, but the new curriculum will emphasize a more conceptual approach, and give students more opportunities to explore the mechanisms of illnesses and disorders.

The curriculum changes will beef up the scientific components of the program, adding more

tutorials and ensuring the clinical side of the program has students applying their knowledge in a wider range of options for diagnosis and treatment of conditions.

Practice is a key component, with students spending more time practising what they've learned, in order to master all the necessary basic concepts. As an example, instead of just learning how to treat a heart attack, these types of large concepts will be broken up into multiple smaller problems, allowing students to study and work with various conditions that could lead to heart attacks.

"The more you practise working with a particular concept and learn to recognize it in all its guises, the better you learn," said Neville.

Other key changes in the revitalized curriculum include more rigorous clerkships ensuring students obtain experience with all core conditions they need to manage, and enhanced electronic resources in both the academic and practical sides of the MD program.

Neville explained that there were many reasons for redesigning the curriculum, including the results of a handful of studies that have shown that the problem-based learning (PBL) approach – in which units like anatomy, chemistry and biology are integrated rather than taught separately – can run the risk of allowing students to get by in terms of their scientific knowledge.

This is the first overhaul in many years to the PBL curriculum that was both innovative and controversial when introduced more than 35 years ago.

Students who were in the medical school two to three years ago when planning the curriculum

changes was getting underway, were given the opportunity to express their views on the type of education they preferred. Many of those views were incorporated into the new curriculum.

Dr. Charles Cunningham, a McMaster professor who holds the Jack Laidlaw Chair in Patient-Centred Health Care, headed up the research project to gather medical student views. A system called quantitative consumer preference modeling methods – which Cunningham uses to gather patient input in designing new health care services – was utilized for gathering student feedback.

Although this method hadn't previously been used for medical education purposes, it proved very helpful in determining the direction of the curriculum redesign, said Cunningham, who is also clinical director of the Community Education Service for McMaster Children's Hospital. An initial, electronic focus group of 25 people, including students, faculty and planners, was involved in the development of an e-mail survey aimed at gathering the views of students on specific components of the medical program. That survey was answered by a total of 254 students, and the results clearly showed which components of a medical education program were most important to students. Those views were key to the direction followed by those responsible for drafting the new curriculum.

Many aspects of the new curriculum, including greater integration between clinical practice and tutorials, better access to electronic resources such as web-enhanced tutorials and computer-simulated

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Mini interviews mean more candidates considered

A new way to select students for McMaster's world-renowned medical school means nearly twice as many candidates are now interviewed for the coveted positions.

The selection process, now in its second year, involves applicants doing a series of 12 short, successive interviews instead of the traditional panel interview.

About 700 prospective students were interviewed over the course of two weekends in March and April. Last year, 384 potential students for the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine were interviewed for the 138 available spots. Each interviewer asks the same questions of each candidate on a topic in the areas of ethics, communications, collaborative work or critical thinking.

Dr. Harold Reiter, chair of admissions for the medical school, said that the new method of interviewing students was developed based on research that measured the performance of medical students.

The new interview process is much better than other methods for being able to differentiate between candidates, said Reiter. "Research has found the measuring of personal qualities through traditional interviews is weak."

The multi-mini interviews are conducted by volunteers. About one-third are faculty, one-third are medical school students, and the remainder come from various professions and roles in the community.

The candidates spend 10 minutes with each of 12 interviewers, and are given only one 10-minute break during the process. Students who took part in the interviews said the new system gave them the opportunity to make a first impression many times, rather than just once.

Students who were selected for interviewing were drawn from more than 3,900 applications received for the three-year undergraduate medical program. McMaster traditionally receives more applications than any other Canadian medical school.

MUMJ aims to increase topics, raise its profile

The McMaster University Medical Journal is aiming to raise its profile and increase the number of submissions it receives as it rolls into its third year of production.

The journal, commonly known as MUMJ, is a peer-reviewed publication that is organized and produced by students in the undergraduate program of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine, and features articles by both faculty and students within the Faculty of Health Sciences.

It is expected that this year's issue, due out in October, will include about 15 articles on a broad range of topics. Last year's edition featured 12 articles.

Dawn Gano, a first-year medical student and this year's MUMJ editor-in-chief, said that in addition to the sections featured in the past, this year's edition will include the new topics of health

technology, public health and international health. There are also plans to bring back a section of original research.

Other sections cover various topics including evidence-based medicine, health policy, clinical research and medical ethics, education and careers.

The journal will emphasize a multi-disciplinary-based approach in its content. In particular, Gano said additional efforts are being made to encourage submissions from the other schools in the Faculty of Health Sciences, such as nursing and rehabilitation science.

It is hoped the journal can attract submissions covering the gamut of health care, from scientific and clinical research through the transition to care at the bedside, said Gano.

"We want to cover the broad range of issues that typifies the McMaster community," she said.

The journal is put together by about 15 medical school students with the help of a dozen faculty advisors. The Faculty of Health Sciences provided initial capital funding when MUMJ was launched in 2003, but since then the publication has been financially self-sustaining through advertising revenue.

Gano said plans are under way to turn MUMJ into a bi-annual publication, with issues in both the spring and fall, provided a sufficient stream of submissions of a high enough calibre can be generated. Currently, 1,500 copies of the publication are printed annually and distributed.

Gano also hopes the journal can build its profile and establish a broader distribution through both online access and "getting the word out about it," particularly to alumni and others outside of the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Revamped curriculum . . . continued from page 3

problems, and a stronger link between past studies and present curriculum, were a direct result of the student feedback.

The views of residents were also collected and factored into the curriculum changes. Dr. Lynne Lohfeld, an assistant professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, oversaw the research project that involved face-to-face interviews with 17 medical residents at McMaster. The qualitative study gathered the residents' views on their undergraduate programs, and how well prepared they felt they were for their residencies. They were asked to discuss subjects such as strengths and weaknesses of their programs, how well clinical skills were taught and evaluated, and their transition from school to residency, said Lohfeld.

"We wanted to see how the curriculum linked to the residence experience," she said. "This was a way for the student voice to be heard in the curriculum redevelopment."

The residents interviewed were from six different undergraduate programs across the country,

including McMaster.

A key component of the new curriculum is technology-enhanced learning. Efforts led by Dr. Anthony Levinson will provide for the use of electronic information and communications technologies to enhance the educational experience. Students will be able to access online the entire curriculum outline, including cases and learning resources.

Levinson is the inaugural holder of the John R. Evans Chair in Health Sciences Educational Research and Instructional Development.

Preparations for the launch of the new curriculum are ongoing. Neville said the writing of the new materials is well underway, and resources for training faculty on the best ways to teach the new curriculum are being developed. Among those resources are videotaped vignettes of sample tutorials that will be used in faculty training sessions.

"One of the difficulties we face in introducing a new curriculum is a tendency for some faculty to think, 'so, what's new?'," he said. It is hoped the vignettes dubbed "McBloopers" will help get the message across in an enlightening and effective manner.

Work on the new curriculum began in 2002.

Norman's PERD organization was integral to the process. He has been exploring how best to teach health care workers since 1970, and his team is one of the few in Canada conducting this type of work.

The first public forum to discuss the new curriculum was held recently at the university. Neville, Levinson and Norman provided explanations about how and why the new curriculum was developed, and answered various questions from an audience that included many current MD students. The students were assured that they needn't feel short-changed in any way, since they are the last group to experience the "old" curriculum.

"What we are doing here is evolving what has always been a pretty good curriculum," said Neville, adding that some of the concepts of the new program will likely be incorporated into the current second and third year training, even though the new three-year curriculum won't be fully implemented until 2007.

He noted that the overall goal of the program remains the same: To graduate physicians who are medical experts, patient advocates and resource managers, scholars and learners, good communicators and collaborators, and self-reflective.

DeGroote gift begins to materialize on campus

The impact of Michael G. DeGroote's historic gift of \$105 million to McMaster University is beginning to materialize on campus.

One of the most noticeable changes is the construction under way at the entrance to the new Michael G. DeGroote Centre for Learning and Discovery, where a striking glass atrium is taking shape. The atrium, which will house a winter garden and serve as a quiet place for reflection for students and staff from across campus as well as for patients, is expected to be completed this summer, with a formal opening to follow in the fall.

In the meantime, much of the rest of the building is full of people and activity as the building known in campus shorthand as MDCL becomes a nucleus for McMaster, and particularly the Faculty of Health Sciences and its Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine. A portion of the DeGroote gift has been designated specifically for future development and enhancements to the MDCL.

The first floor provides classrooms and lecture halls used by students from faculties across the McMaster campus.

In addition to the medical school, the third floor of the building is home for students and staff of the Midwifery Education program and the Bachelor of Health Sciences program, as well as major research units including AllerGen, a national Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE) created in November 2004 by the federal government and led by Dr. Judah Denburg.

The floor also houses the Nursing Health Services Research Unit, headed by Andrea Baumann, associate vice-president, international health for the Faculty of Health Sciences, as well as the headquarters for the work being conducted with a \$19-million U.S. National Institutes of Health study on West Nile virus, led by Dr. Mark Loeb, a prominent infectious disease specialist.

The fourth and fifth floors are occupied by a host of laboratories where McMaster researchers are conducting cutting-edge work designed to advance the knowledge and therapies available in numerous health care disciplines, including cancer and other diseases.

These labs include the Institute for Molecular Medicine and Health (IMMH), a facility that occupies 63,000 square feet on the two floors. The building and its state-of-the-art laboratories mean the IMMH scientists will be able to bring new treatments to patients' bedsides far more rapidly than ever before.

The director of IMMH is Jack Gaudie, University Professor and also director of the Centre for Gene Therapeutics, which is part of the institute.

Another direct benefit of the DeGroote gift is the establishment of the Michael G. DeGroote Institute for Pain Research and Care. Dr. Jim Henry, Canada's foremost authority on medical pain, has been named scientific director, and Dr. Akbar Panju, a professor of medicine at McMaster and chief of medicine for Hamilton Health Sciences, is medical director of the institute.

In keeping with the "people first" philosophy



photo by: Glenn Lowson

Vibrant coloured glass panels cast a brilliant reflection on Natalie Arinshtein, a PhD student, and Jeff Hummel, at McMaster on a post-doctoral fellowship, as they discuss some of the findings from their work in the laboratories in the Michael G. DeGroote Centre for Learning and Discovery.

adopted in utilizing the funds, the two directors are now putting together a team of scientists and clinicians who will work together to advance the understanding and treatment of pain. The institute will encompass an array of technologies, disciplines and specialties to prevent, diagnose and manage pain, and eventually provide innovative care to patients. The researchers with the pain centre will be integrated with the world-class research already under way in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Henry, a neurophysiologist who has worked throughout his career to understand underlying mechanisms of chronic pain, joined McMaster in January as a professor in the departments of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences and anesthesia. He is president of the Canadian Pain Foundation, and project leader of the Canadian Consortium on Pain Mechanisms, Diagnosis and Management. He was a professor in the Department of Physiology at McGill University from 1977 to 2002, and was chair and professor of the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology at the University of Western Ontario from 2002 until 2004.

Panju has been a faculty member at McMaster since 1986, and has a particular interest in the mechanisms and treatment of pain. He was the recipient of the 2003 national Osler Award from the

Canadian Society of Internal Medicine, and has been nominated to the endowed Medard DeGroote Chair in Medicine, named for Michael DeGroote's father.

The DeGroote gift, announced in December 2003, includes several other initiatives for which plans are being developed. These include a centre for research, education and care of cancer, and a similar centre for infectious diseases. An international search is now under way for a leader for the cancer centre, and later this year a search will be launched for the leader of the infectious diseases centre.

The DeGroote funds also allow for the establishment of an endowed chair in stroke prevention and treatment, as well as a Faculty of Health Sciences development fund, intended to support research into medicine and health issues.

A portion of the funds is allowing Hamilton Health Sciences to plan for a pediatric and adult intensive care unit to be established on the second floor of MDCL.

The \$105 million is being disbursed to the university over a period of five years, and comprises \$41 million in capital money, and \$64 million in endowments which are invested to supply interest income that will advance research and education in health care in perpetuity.

Five-year West Nile Virus study funded by NIH

McMaster professor Dr. Mark Loeb is leading a \$19-million research project on West Nile Virus that is being funded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Loeb is a McMaster alumnus and associate professor in the departments of Pathology and Molecular Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics for the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine. He was awarded the contract by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which is part of the NIH.

The five-year case-control study will involve West Nile virus patients from across the U.S. as well as from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario. The project will examine why some people who get West

Nile virus become seriously or chronically ill, while others shrug it off.

"If we can identify the genetic predisposition to this virus, we can potentially develop effective therapies as well as find ways to prevent it," said Loeb, who is also an infectious disease specialist for Hamilton Health Sciences.

Dr. John Kelton, dean and vice-president of the



Dr. Mark Loeb

Faculty of Health Sciences, noted that the NIH will only fund a non-U.S. study if no one in that country has the credentials for the project.

Loeb has also received a \$380,000 grant from the Canadian Institutes for Health Research for a separate four-year study of West Nile Virus, examining the long-term impacts of severe infection. He is following 100 patients with severe cases of the virus to find out how it affects their quality of life, mental health, fatigue, upper limb movement and neurological functioning.

Loeb graduated with a M.Sc. in Health Research Methodology from McMaster in 1996. He earlier obtained his MD and B.Sc. from McGill University in Montreal.

New Network of Centres of Excellence to study allergies

McMaster University will receive more than \$20 million in federal government research funds during the next five years for its role as the leader in a new Network of Centres of Excellence.

The centre, announced last fall, will focus on research and developing new and better treatments for allergic diseases. Known as AllerGen (Allergy, Genes and Environment Network), the centre will be a unique network of researchers and private and public sector partners that will work towards new insights into the genesis and impact of allergies.

Headquarters for AllerGen have been established in the new Michael G. DeGroot Centre for Learning and Discovery, under the leadership of Scientific Director Dr. Judah Denburg, professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences' Department of Medicine.

Allergies are increasing in epidemic proportions, Denburg says, and AllerGen will work to better understand the reasons for this, in order to stop the increase and identify cures. The centre will unite disparate sectors in Canada to support research, networking and development of new products to reduce the incidence of allergic diseases and its socioeconomic impact.



Dr. Judah Denburg

Anand inducted into gallery

Dr. Sonia Anand, an associate professor in the Department of Medicine and holder of the endowed Eli Lilly Canada - May Cohen Chair in Women's Health, has been inducted into the McMaster University Alumni Gallery.

Anand, who has garnered an impressive list of achievements at just 36 years old, earned her MD, MA and PhD degrees from McMaster University. She graduated as an MD in 1992, and earned a Master's in clinical epidemiology in 1996. She pursued a Fellowship in Vascular Medicine at Harvard in 2000-2001, then returned to McMaster to earn her PhD in Health Research Methodology in 2002. She was named an associate professor in 2003, after serving as an assistant professor since 1999.

Anand's academic and professional activities are extensive. She holds a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Clinician Scientist Phase 2 Award, and is an active physician and director of the vascular medicine clinic at Hamilton Health Sciences.

Her main research focus is on risk factors for vascular disease in varying ethnic groups, but her work also encompasses illnesses such as diabetes and obesity, with an added emphasis on women's health.

Her teaching focuses on clinical trials methodology and the epidemiology of cardiovascular disease. She has earned many prestigious awards during her career, including the Cardiovascular Society Young Investigator Award in 1999.

The McMaster Alumni Gallery is McMaster's forum for recognizing the achievements of graduates who make outstanding contributions to society. Anand was one of 13 alumni inducted during an early-June ceremony.

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Michael G. DeGroot Centre for Learning and Discovery.

Besides classrooms, lecture halls and offices, the new building provides two floors of new wet laboratories, strategically designed with an open concept to foster collaboration. Its state-of-the-art equipment offers even more potential for the Faculty to continue expanding its emphasis on cutting-edge research in multiple fields of medicine.

Other new facilities include Canada's first university laboratory to be certified to provide vectors for use in clinical trials for patients. The Robert E. Fitzhenry Vector Laboratory was opened by alumnus Bob Fitzhenry and professor Jack Gaudin last fall. The Farncombe Family Gnotobiotic Facility, an extremely sterile environment for gastroenterology research, was opened this spring.

Plans for new and enhanced research facilities and projects throughout the Faculty of Health Sciences are continually evolving.

The continual development of such facilities and the growing renown of McMaster's scientists and faculty members will ensure the university stays in the forefront of medical discovery, and helps redefine the possibilities of health care throughout the world.



Karen Mossman, a member of the Infectious Disease division of the Centre for Gene Therapeutics, operates a Leica DM-IRE2 inverted fluorescent microscope, which allows researchers to monitor cellular processes in living cells in real time.

Baumann takes lead in international health

Andrea Baumann has been appointed to the new position of associate vice-president (international health) for the Faculty of Health Sciences.

In the role, Baumann will lead the faculty in establishing international health partnerships in education,



Dr. Andrea Baumann,
Associate Vice President

research and health care, both within FHS and the University.

During her 13 years as the associate dean of the School of Nursing, Baumann played a key role in growing the school's enrolment, and widening the Faculty's reputation internationally.

Her international accomplishments include the groundbreaking initiative of providing direction and assistance in the development of the College of Health Sciences, University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates.

Baumann is a professor in the School of Nursing

and co-director of the Nursing Health Services Research Unit that studies health human resources and health services. This Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care nursing research unit co-ordinates many projects relevant to health human resources, including economics, business, epidemiology and health policy.

Baumann has authored or edited several books and has many peer-reviewed publications focusing on decision-making and health human resource issues. She is also editor for the Journal of Advanced Nursing for the Americas.

Six faculty members take on new senior roles

A professor with a long and active career at McMaster University has been appointed associate dean of McMaster University's School of Nursing.

Catherine Tompkins, who joined the School of Nursing in 1977 and has taught in all levels of the nursing program, took the position in July 2004.

Among her previous roles with the school were chair of the BScN program, assistant dean, undergraduate nursing education and acting associate dean of health sciences (nursing). She has been chair of the Northern Clinical Nursing Program, co-ordinator of the Aga Khan Project in Pakistan, chair of the Post-RN stream of the BScN Program and chair of the Undergraduate Council Awards Committee. She has been actively involved in the development of the collaborative BScN Program with Mohawk College and Conestoga College and served on the McMaster University Senate from 1998 to 2004.

Her research interests lie in the areas of education, disability and chronic illness, and feminist and critical research.

She said the nursing program's focus on developing self-directed, life-long learners is more important than ever, as nursing now demands more highly educated professionals. As well as increasing the number of advanced practice nurses for the community, she said the school is expanding the graduate program to develop the nurse educators of the future.

Tompkins graduated with a BScN from The University of Western Ontario in 1971, followed by a M.Ed. from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education with a focus on adult education and counselling in 1981, and a PhD in Nursing from the University of California, San Francisco in 1995.

Five other faculty members have taken on senior appointments in their areas:



Catherine Tompkins,
Associate Dean,
School of Nursing

Dr. Greg Peachey, an associate clinical professor and postgraduate program director in the Department of Anesthesia, has been appointed as the new assistant dean for the Continuing Health Sciences Education Program. The appointment took effect March 1, 2005 and runs until June 30, 2010.

Peachey, who joined McMaster's faculty as an assistant professor in 1996, completed his undergraduate medical education and his anaesthesia residency at Memorial University in Newfoundland. He was named an associate professor in anaesthesia at McMaster in 2003. Peachey has also been a staff anesthetist at Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Hospital since 1996.

He is a board member of the Ontario Peri-Anesthesia Nurses Association, a member of the Hamilton Anesthesia Associates Executive, president of the Hamilton Anesthesia Associates and secretary of the Hamilton Physicians Association.

Dr. Norman (Norm) Buckley has accepted an appointment as chair, Department of Anesthesia, effective since July 1, 2004.

Buckley is an associate professor in the Department of Anesthesia of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine, and is founder and director of the Pain Management Centre for Hamilton Health Sciences and McMaster University.

Buckley obtained a BA in psychology from McMaster in 1977 and graduated from McMaster University Medical School in 1982. He completed his anaesthesia residency at McMaster and Stanford universities from 1983 to 1987, then joined McMaster as an assistant professor.

He is a member of the University's Clinical Faculty Association Executive Committee and the Senate Executive Committee, and served as acting chair of the Department of Anesthesia from January 2003 - June 2004.



Dr. Norm Buckley,
Chair, Department of
Anesthesia

Dr. Mark Walton has taken on a term as assistant dean of the Postgraduate Medical Education Program. Walton, described as a good communicator with a consultative management style, has been the postgraduate program director for the general surgery program for the past five years. He is also an associate professor in the Department of Surgery.



Dr. Mark Walton,
Assistant Dean,
Postgraduate Medical
Education Program

Dr. Fiona Smaill, an educator and researcher at McMaster since 1989, has been appointed as acting chair for the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine. Dr. Smaill, a microbiologist and infectious disease specialist, is known for her leadership when Hamilton was facing the SARS crisis.

She is director of microbiology for the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program, and consultant in infectious diseases and infection control at Hamilton Health Sciences.

She graduated as a doctor from Otago University in New Zealand in 1978, and arrived at McMaster in 1984 to complete her residencies in internal medicine, infectious diseases and medical microbiology. She received her Masters of Science in Health Research Methodology in 1997.

Dr. Craig Coblenz has been named acting chair of the Department of Radiology. He joined McMaster as an assistant professor in 1988, later becoming associate professor and then professor in radiology. He has also served as program director for Diagnostic Radiology in the Faculty of Health Sciences, and since 1993 has been the medical director of Mohawk College's Radiography Program. Coblenz graduated from McMaster's MD program in 1980.

Community of Distinction



The Faculty of Health Sciences' Community of Distinction has grown to a total of 14 inductees chosen for their distinguished contributions in scholarship and research.

In a mid-February ceremony, five former leaders in the faculty were added to the nine inaugural inductees.

The photographs and a short biography on all inductees are displayed in a gallery on a second floor wall in McMaster's Health Sciences Centre.

The Community of Distinction was established in 2002 to honour those whose leadership and contributions had a profound impact on the development and work of the Faculty of Health Sciences.

"The Faculty's initiatives today are spiraling quickly upwards to larger success, but none of this would have happened without the hard work and dedication of our members of the Community of Distinction," said Dr. John Kelton, dean and vice-president of the Faculty of Health Sciences and dean of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine.

"It's very important that we recognize these outstanding individuals, who have made significant contributions to the development of the Faculty of Health Sciences."

Up to five individuals are chosen annually for the Community of Distinction. Eligible nominees include alumni and anyone who is, or has been, faculty or staff in the Faculty of Health Sciences. Nominations must include a narrative detailing the nominee's contributions and leadership qualities that have brought distinction and recognition to McMaster University and the Faculty of Health Sciences. Each nomination, solicited annually each spring, must be supported by two to four references. A selection committee that includes the faculty's dean and representatives of its staff and alumni chooses the inductees. Nominations are now being sought for the 2005 inductions.

The 120-foot Community of Distinction gallery is along the west wall of the Health Sciences Centre's second floor between the School of Nursing offices and the Ewart Angus Centre. The wall also contains recognition of the Faculty of Health Sciences' affiliated academic hospitals, Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton.

Community of Distinction Inductees:



John Basmajian

John Basmajian MD is internationally recognized as a leader in the field of rehabilitation science, specifically in the area of electromyography. At McMaster he was a professor of medicine with a joint appointment to biomedical sciences from 1977 to 1986. Well known as a pioneer of biofeedback, a technique widely used in rehabilitation, he is also the inventor of several medical devices. The author or editor of 66 books and nearly 400 scientific articles, Basmajian has been a mentor to many students, physiotherapists and physicians.



May Cohen

May Cohen MD worked to promote the equality and well being of women, both as providers and beneficiaries of health care. She joined the Department of Family Medicine in 1977 and was associate dean, Health Sciences from 1991 to 1996. As an educator, researcher and clinician, she sought to raise awareness of gender and equity issues in medicine. Cohen has been highly regarded for combining caring with passionate activism to improve the lives of women. Her legacy continues with the annual May Cohen Lectureship in Women's Health and the Eli Lilly May Cohen Chair in Women's Health.



Murray Enkin

Murray Enkin MD brought care and compassion together with a progressive attitude to advocate change within the field of obstetrics and gynecology. He joined the Faculty of Health Sciences in 1965 and taught until 1988. Enkin sought valid evidence for the improvement of childbirth practices and an increase in options for pregnant women. His broadminded views led him to be an early supporter of midwifery education and practice. Enkin co-wrote the internationally published and widely read reference book, *A Guide to Effective Care in Pregnancy and Childbirth*.



Moran Campbell

Moran Campbell MD was the founding Chair (1968-1975) of the Department of Medicine for McMaster's medical school, to which he remained dedicated for his lifetime. As a scientist, physician and educator, he was recognized internationally as the foremost respiratory physiologist of his generation, with distinctions including Officer of the Order of Canada. Dr. Campbell's innovation and dedication to the pursuit of excellence in research and education had a profound effect on the development of knowledge and practices in the treatment of respiratory illness. His iconoclastic and mercurial style was a delightful mix of erudition, joie de vivre and dedication to the art and science of medicine.



Jerry Dolovich

Jerry Dolovich MD founded the Division of Allergy and Immunology at McMaster and was a professor of pediatrics from 1968 to 1997. Credited with important discoveries in the diagnosis and treatment of asthma and allergies, he had a worldwide influence in his specialties. He was a humane and compassionate clinician, who made patient care and patient education top priorities in both his research and teaching. In 1990, Dolovich wrote the first Canadian Asthma Guidelines. In 1997, he was named distinguished clinician by the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.



John Evans

John Evans MD was appointed founding dean of McMaster's Faculty of Medicine in 1965, serving until 1972. Under his leadership, a group of innovative educators began developing an undergraduate medical program that defied convention by emphasizing self-directed learning. Evans pioneered the problem-based learning curriculum that influenced health care education worldwide and became the hallmark of McMaster's integrated Faculty of Health Sciences. Evans also made significant contributions as an international health advisor and researcher, conducting a global study of public health and population-based medicine in 1979 and chairing the international Commission on Health Research for Development in 1988.

Chosen for distinguished contributions in scholarship and research



Susan French

Susan French, RN, PhD is recognized as a nursing leader who, during her 31 years at McMaster, helped transform nursing practice, research and teaching in North America. As Associate Dean of Health Sciences, Nursing, from 1980 to 1990, Dr. French guided the school to its status as one of Canada's most respected nursing schools. She played a key role in the development of a national accreditation program for undergraduate nursing. Her impact in capacity-building spread her influence internationally, beginning with multi-phase projects which developed nursing programs in Third World countries.



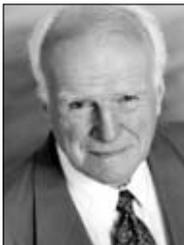
Beatrix Robinow

Beatrix Robinow BA was McMaster University's first Health Sciences Librarian, playing a leading role in designing and establishing a library that would serve as the heart of the fledgling Faculty of Health Sciences. She joined McMaster in 1966 and, until her retirement in 1982, was known for her enthusiasm, creativity and skill in overseeing a library that became the focal point of the health sciences community. She also took a leadership role in the international Medical Library Association. The continual growth of the highly-respected Health Sciences Library and the establishment of a Library Enrichment Fund in her name are testaments to her contributions.



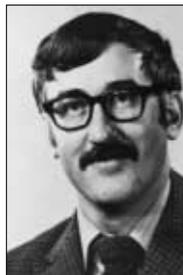
Henry (Harry) Thode

Henry (Harry) Thode PhD was president of McMaster from 1961 to 1972. Under his guidance, McMaster became what it is today; respected worldwide for groundbreaking research and excellent education. His vision and leadership allowed for the innovative approach of the medical school, and later, the development of the Faculty of Health Sciences. Thode also initiated the construction of the Health Sciences Centre. As a scientist, he is known for his contributions to the field of atomic energy. As a leader, he is known for his commitment and devotion to McMaster.



J. Fraser Mustard

J. Fraser Mustard MD joined the Faculty of Health Sciences in 1966, becoming involved in developing both the medical school curriculum and its research capability. From 1972 to 1982 he was dean and vice-president, and during that time he was responsible for the School of Nursing, assisting in the development of nursing at Aga Khan University in Pakistan. His influence extended beyond the University with contributions to research and health care policy. He is world-renowned for his work on platelets, vessel injury and the effect of Aspirin. In 1982, Mustard founded the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research.



David Sackett

David Sackett MD founded Canada's first Department of Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics and chaired the Division of Internal Medicine. At McMaster from 1967 to 1994, he developed and mentored a new breed of applied clinician-scientists and worked with them to create and disseminate evidence-based medicine throughout the world. His collaborative research teams were the first to validate the efficacy of aspirin and carotid endarterectomy for patients with threatened stroke, to develop effective strategies for helping hypertensive patients and to generate compelling evidence of the effectiveness of nurse practitioners.



William Walsh

William Walsh MD was a pillar of the new medical school and an integral part of the Faculty of Health Sciences from his appointment as the Assistant Dean of Medicine in 1965 to his retirement in 1990. As one of the founders of the medical school, he was instrumental in developing its revolutionary curriculum. His reputation as a leader in the medical community helped the school gain acceptance among area health professionals. He held various leadership posts including Director of Continuing Medical Education and Associate Dean of Education. A creative and pioneering educator, Dr. Walsh fostered commitment to the discipline of medicine.



Alma Reid

Alma Reid PhD was director of the School of Nursing from 1949 to 1970. During this time her dedication and vision led the school to great change. As well as increasing enrolment, she was instrumental in integrating the School of Nursing into the Faculty of Health Sciences, fostering the interdisciplinary spirit at McMaster. Reid promoted nursing within McMaster, as well as nationally and internationally, taking leadership roles within many professional organizations. As a teacher, she is known for encouraging self-direction and valuing personal differences.



William Spaulding

William Spaulding MD was one of the pioneers who developed the innovative medical school launched at McMaster University. As the Associate Dean of Health Sciences from 1965 to 1970, he was pivotal in developing

the self-directed, problem-based approach to learning that today is used around the world. After his 1987 retirement, he co-authored the book *Revitalizing Medical Education: McMaster Medical School - The Early Years*, capturing the excitement and challenges of the Faculty of Health Sciences' early history.

Juravinski time capsule to be opened in 2054

A time capsule has been installed at the new Margaret and Charles Juravinski Education Research and Development Centre at McMaster University.

At a special celebration, the Hamilton philanthropists placed the stainless steel capsule at the research centre, which is located on the third floor of the Michael G. DeGroot Centre for Learning and Discovery.

The capsule, which is not to be opened until 2054, is filled with memorabilia that highlights Charles Juravinski's entrepreneurial business career, including an original photograph of him as a young man, as well as the tie he was wearing in the photo.

Juravinski began his professional career at a construction company, then went on to own various businesses including a gas station, a development company, and Flamboro Downs racetrack.

"This time capsule will be like time-release medicine," said Dr. John Kelton, dean and vice-president of the Faculty of Health Sciences, during the ceremony to install the capsule. "Charles Juravinski has learned much during his long life as an entrepreneur. It will do good for our descendants to learn his lessons when (the capsule) is opened in 2054."

In September 2003, Margaret and Charles Juravinski made a generous donation of \$1 million towards the research centre that now bears their names. The centre houses McMaster University educators who are at the forefront of research on new ways to teach health science professionals.

It brings together, in one location, faculty and staff from four programs: Program for Education Research and Development, Program for Faculty Development, Continuing Health Sciences Education, and Learning Resources. The Juravinskis believe supporting the centre is one way to give back to the community they love.



Margaret and Charles Juravinski prepare to place a time capsule into the wall of the Margaret and Charles Juravinski Education Research and Development Centre.

Alumni establish forum for research and education

A husband and wife, both alumni of McMaster University, have established an annual forum for the advancement of research and public education, as a tribute to their alma mater.

Each year the Henry and Sylvia Wong Forum in Medicine will feature an eminent practitioner or researcher who will offer a seminar to an interprofessional group including doctors, nurses, medical and graduate students, as well as other health care professionals. The speaker will also give a public lecture geared to current public issues and interests in medical research.

Sylvia graduated in psychology with a minor in sociology in 1969, and then worked in McMaster's Health Sciences Library while her husband continued his studies. He graduated in 1973 with the medical school's second graduating class. The couple now lives in California, where Dr. Wong is a radiation oncologist.

Henry Wong said the couple wanted to set up the forum in recognition of both the education and enjoyment they had as McMaster students.

"McMaster is one of the best schools in the world," he said. "I really enjoyed the problem-based learning method, where we used our leaders as resources, and studied on our own and with the help of fellow students in small groups. It really is the best way to learn."

Dr. John Kelton, dean and vice-president of the Faculty of Health Sciences and dean of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine, praised the Wongs for sponsoring this new academic endeavor, noting that such undertakings are important to the enhancement of the University's programs.

"This will promote the exchange of ideas, the development of new research collaborations and public engagement with the University," said Kelton. "I'm very grateful to Henry and Sylvia for their generous support in establishing this innovative forum."

The inaugural forum, held last fall, featured Dr. Harvey Alter, a U.S. leader in the field of hematology. The chief of the immunology section of the department of transfusion medicine of the National Institute of Health discussed the Natural and Unnatural History of Hepatitis C Virus Infection.

Scotiabank investment provides medical student scholarships

The Faculty of Health Sciences has received a \$750,000 endowment from Scotiabank to establish three new medical scholarship funds: Scotiabank Medical Scholarships, Scotiabank Pediatric Scholarships, and Scotiabank Ontario Graduate Scholarships in Medical Sciences. Each of the three scholarship funds will be allocated \$250,000.

Interest from the endowment will provide \$5,000 annual awards for students of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine. Half of these scholarships will be specifically earmarked for medical students focusing on education or research in the field of pediatrics. The awards are granted based on academic merit and financial need and may be eligible for matching funds from the provincial government.

In addition, two \$15,000 scholarships will be given annually to graduate students enrolled in the medical sciences program. The \$10,000 generated by the Scotiabank allocation for the Graduate Scholarships fund will be matched two-to-one by the Ontario Graduate Scholarship program, providing a total of \$30,000 annually.

This is the second time Scotiabank has made a \$750,000 investment in scholarships for McMaster medical students. The previous endowment in 1999 was matched by the provincial government during the first phase of the Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund. Thirty medical scholarships have been awarded since that scholarship program began.

Peter George, president and vice-chancellor of McMaster University, praised Scotiabank during the recent ceremony to announce the new endowment.

"Today's announcement builds on Scotiabank's charitable history of supporting our medical students and scientists who will be the clinical and research leaders of tomorrow," he said.



Dr. Peter George, President and Vice-Chancellor

Collaborative nursing program holds first graduation

McMaster celebrated its first-ever convocation ceremony for only nurses, at the graduation of the inaugural class of the new collaborative nursing degree program.

About 259 students graduated from the McMaster-Mohawk-Conestoga Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing program in a ceremony at Hamilton Place on June 9. Graduates of other programs of the School of Nursing also took part in the convocation. Traditionally, graduation ceremonies for the School of Nursing have been held in conjunction with the Faculty of Health Sciences' convocation in May.

The four-year collaborative program was launched in September 2001, after the provincial government implemented new requirements that, by 2005, all graduating nurses require a baccalaureate degree in nursing to become licensed to practice as registered nurses.

The collaborative program involves nursing students registered at Mohawk College in Hamilton, Conestoga College in Kitchener-Waterloo, or McMaster, but all are studying McMaster University's curriculum for the Bachelor of Sciences Nursing degree.

Students from all three campuses, as well as dignitaries from all three sites took part in the convocation.

Barbara Brown, co-ordinator of the collaborative program for the past three years, said McMaster's collaborative program has been unique for its integrated approach among Ontario college/university consortiums for training nurses.

The curriculum is taught by faculty from McMaster as well as the two colleges. While each campus has its own timetable, the program uses the same courses and McMaster's problem-based and small group learning approach. Students at Conestoga do their clinical work in Kitchener-Waterloo and area hospitals.

A variety of innovative teaching and learning strategies have been implemented in order to ensure the program is equitable across all sites. For



Nursing student Andrea L'Anson consults the Medication Administration Record to ensure that the medication is the right dose for her patient, and that she is giving it at the right time and by the correct method.

example, models and other resources needed in basic sciences courses are transported back and forth between sites. As well, the first year biochemistry course lectures and other resources are offered via CD, and all students and faculty of the program

have access to Learnlink, a McMaster-based server that provides access to online resources, conferences and e-mail.

Brown said the first four years of the program have run extremely well.

"I can't praise enough the administrators of all three sites, whether they be faculty, chairs, course planners and others, for accepting all the extra work that was needed to plan the logistics of the collaborative program," she said. "And it's not just the faculty and administration . . . the registrar's offices, admissions staff, libraries, the financial people responsible for the budgets . . . all of these people from the three sites worked together to make the collaborative program such a success."

The collaborative approach to developing and administering the program has helped McMaster earn a reputation of offering one of the best nursing collaborative programs in the province, said Brown. There are now about 1,700 students studying towards a McMaster BScN degree, and a total of about 2,000 will be accommodated as the program grows. Each year, Mohawk can take 200 students in the first year of the program, while Conestoga has 120 spots and McMaster offers 100.

The administration of the program is overseen by the McMaster-Mohawk-Conestoga Nursing Steering Committee, which includes representatives from the three facilities and is headed by Catherine Tompkins, associate dean of health sciences, nursing at McMaster.

Brown said that there is now a curriculum renewal committee involving faculty from all three schools as well as a recruitment committee working together to attract new students each year.

"It has been a real pleasure working with such committed people from all three sites who are dedicated to the success of the collaborative program," said Brown.

"I am confident this program is graduating nurses who are well-equipped to take on the many challenges they will face in the health care field."

New program will help RPNs upgrade to RN degree

McMaster's School of Nursing is launching a new program to allow college-trained, diploma-prepared registered practical nurses to upgrade to a university degree in nursing.

The new program will allow registered practical nurses (RPNs) to earn their Bachelor of Science (Nursing) degree and become registered nurses (RNs) in three years rather than taking the traditional four-year BScN program.

RPNs have graduated from a two-year diploma program and work with stable, predictable patients, such as at nursing homes and on many units in hospitals.

Twenty students are expected for the first class in September of the new McMaster Post Diploma Practical Nurse (BScN) stream. The program is awaiting University Senate approval. The new program allows the students to enter Level 2 of the nursing degree curriculum, where they will be mostly integrated into existing basic and post-diploma courses. They also will take two new courses specifically designed for this new program.

Marilyn Parsons, an associate professor in McMaster's School of Nursing, says there is a great deal of interest from current RPN students and from

high school guidance counselors, who ask if students may become RNs after obtaining their RPN diploma.

"Some students may initially choose the RPN program, rather than a university BScN program, because they've made their career choice late in high school or later in life, and do not have university entrance courses or grades," she said, adding that others say they couldn't afford four years of university study or they need to get into the workforce quickly for a variety of reasons.

"As a part-time RPN, they can earn a relatively good salary while attending university full-time. As an RPN they may also be eligible to receive some funding from the Ministry of Health Nursing Education Initiative."

The new McMaster degree will allow RPNs to build on the knowledge and skills they acquired in the college program, and will prepare them to function as registered nurses in a variety of settings, said Parsons.

McMaster School of Nursing uses self-directed and problem-based methods of instruction for all nursing and some health sciences courses. This method is particularly appropriate for adult learners who are embarking on a university education, usually for the first time.

Outstanding researchers honoured

The Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster continues its award-winning ways as an impressive number of researchers garnered various honours from a range of organizations during the past year.



Dr. Morris Blajchman, a professor of pathology and molecular medicine in the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine, was awarded the prestigious Emily Cooley Memorial Award by the American Association of Blood Banks, for his career in transfusion medicine. Blajchman, who is also a Hamilton physician and the medical director of

Canadian Blood Services in Hamilton, received the award at the association's annual conference in November. The award recognizes scientific and teaching ability in an individual who has made a major contribution to the field of blood transfusion medicine or immunohematology.



Eric Brown, an associate professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences, has been named the 2005 recipient of the Merck Frosst Prize from the Canadian Society of Biochemistry, Molecular and Cellular Biology. This award recognizes outstanding achievement by scientists early in their career. Brown, who also holds a

Canada Research Chair in Microbial Biochemistry, is director of McMaster's High Throughput Screening Laboratory. His work focuses on developing new therapies intended to counter the growing threat of bacterial drug resistance to existing antibiotics.

Dr. Watson Buchanan, McMaster University professor emeritus of rheumatology, received the Cullen Prize from the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, to recognize a lifetime of clinical research and academic excellence. The Prize, awarded every three years, is named after Dr. William Cullen, born in Hamilton, Lanarkshire, Scotland in 1710. Buchanan was also recognized last year as a "Distinguished Rheumatologist," by the Canadian Rheumatology Association.

Dr. Lorne Finkelstein, a clinical professor in cardiology, received a distinguished service award from the Hamilton Academy of Medicine, for contributing to the city of Hamilton as a health professional and member of the community. The award recognizes "unparalleled contributions" to medicine and the community. Finkelstein is on active staff at St. Joseph's Healthcare, and past-president of both the St. Joseph's Medical Staff Executive and the Hamilton Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Brian Hutchison, director of the McMaster Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis (CHEPA), was the recipient of the 2004 Health Services Research Advancement Award from the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation. The award recognizes significant contributions to the advancement of the health services research community in Canada. Hutchison is a family physician and a professor in the departments of Family Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics.



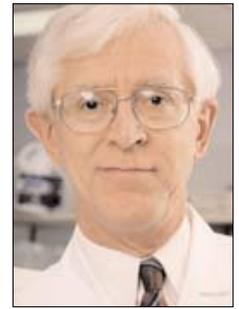
Shucui Jiang, a research fellow in the Department of Medicine, was honoured at the Third China Overseas Personnel Exchange and Economic Trade Cooperation Fair in Jinang, Shandong. Jiang's presentation at the fair was one of only three university-based projects singled out for agreements for future collaborations. Her research is in the regeneration of functional nerve fibres in injured spinal cords, and is at the stage at which it may be translated into clinical trials. The Chinese government is encouraging collaboration with ex-patriot scientists.

Dean and Vice-president **Dr. John Kelton** was the first North American physician to receive Germany's top award in transfusion medicine. He received the prestigious Karl Landsteiner award from the German Society of Transfusion Medicine and Immunohematology in September, for his contributions in the field. The award has been bestowed biennially for more than 30 years. Kelton, who is also dean and professor of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine, is a hematologist known internationally for his leading edge "bench to bedside" translational research which has changed the management of many patients around the world, most notably pregnant women with platelet disorders and their children.

Dr. Cheryl Levitt, chair of the Department of Family Medicine, was recognized by South African Women for Women for her contributions and commitment to improving the lives of others in the field of health. The Canadian-based organization honours women who serve their communities in education, health, the arts and liberation movements. Levitt, who was born and educated in South Africa, is a family doctor with a special interest in breastfeeding and maternal and child health.



Dr. Matthew McQueen, a professor in the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine, received the Award for Outstanding Contributions to Clinical Chemistry from the American Association for Clinical Chemistry. McQueen is also director of the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program, and chief of the departments of laboratory medicine at Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Healthcare.



Dr. Shamir Mehta, a cardiologist in the Department of Medicine, was recognized for the impact he has had on patients and the practice of medicine, when he was named one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40™. Recipients of the award are recognized for outstanding achievements, and considered the country's best and brightest Canadians under the age of 40. Mehta is among a small number of physicians who perform complex and lifesaving interventional cardiac procedures that are minimally invasive.

Dr. Alan J. Neville, assistant dean of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine, received a 2004 Council Award from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, for internal medicine and medical oncology. The award recognizes physicians who have demonstrated excellence of eight essential qualities for a physician: medical expert, communicator, collaborator, resource manager, health advocate, self-directed learner, scientist and scholar, and individual.



McMaster University radiologist **Dr. Sat Somers** received an honorary fellowship from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. The chairman emeritus of the Department of Radiology, and head of gastrointestinal radiology was honoured at the annual scientific meeting of the Faculty of Radiologists of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. The fellowship recognizes those who are outstanding in the field of radiology and related sciences.



McMaster educators honoured by their peers, students

Several educators in the Faculty of Health Sciences have been honoured during the past year for their outstanding contributions.

Dr. Deborah Cook, a professor in the departments of Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, received a McMaster University President's Award for Excellence in Educational Leadership, during last spring's convocation. Cook, who has always approached teaching as an opportunity to fully engage in the learning process, is



Dr. Deborah Cook



Dr. J. Santa Barbara

one of the most influential leaders in the movement to encourage evidence-based decision-making among clinicians.

Dr. Joanna Santa Barbara, a member of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, was the recipient of the John C. Sibley Award for part-time faculty.

Santa Barbara, a child psychiatrist who mentors medical students regarding issues related to international health, was honoured for her extensive accomplishments and commitment to health care education.

Denis Crankshaw, a professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and **Ola Lunyk-Child**, an assistant professor in the School of Nursing, were each presented with a McMaster Students Union Faculty Teaching Award for 2004-2005. **Bruce Wainman**, an associate professor in obstetrics and gynecology who also teaches in the Midwifery Education Program, received a 2003-2004 MSU Faculty Teaching Award. The faculty awards recognize outstanding all-round teaching

performance of the instructor. The recipients are chosen by student votes and follow-up evaluations.

Dr. Joseph Pham of gastroenterology was named the 2004-2005 McMaster winner of the Excellence in Teaching Award for Senior Residents from the Professional Association of Internes and Residents of Ontario (PAIRO). **Dr. John Rawlinson** of diagnostic radiology was the winner of the award for the previous year. The award pro-

vides \$1,000 for a senior resident who has provided outstanding clinical teaching experiences to junior house staff and clinical clerks.

Resident **Peter Leong-Sit** of internal medicine received the PAIRO Trust Fund Resident Teaching Award for McMaster. The David Carr Teaching Award was presented to **Dr. Ari Shali**, an assistant professor in the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine.

FHS staff members among those chosen for President's Awards

Three individuals in the Faculty of Health Sciences are among the recipients of McMaster University President's Awards for 2004.

Carol Lavery, a senior research technician at the Centre for Gene Therapeutics, saves the researchers time, effort and money by overseeing grant expenditures, managing the media and glass washing facilities, and purchasing major equipment. Her involvement in moving the lab from the Health Sciences Centre into the Institute for Molecular Medicine and Health last year was instrumental in making this transition a tremendous success.

Mary Jane Sales is a clinical trials nurse co-ordi-

nator based at St. Joseph's Hospital. She is viewed by the Canadian and international pharmaceutical industry as instrumental to the delivery of high quality research conducted at McMaster. Her programs have recently received industry awards for high patient enrolment and retention rates in long-term studies.

Bogdan Wilk is a research associate and exercise physiologist in the area of pediatric sports medicine. Wilk's fascination with research has earned him an international reputation in the field of pediatric sports medicine. He is considered a world expert in the area of exercise, hydration, and thermoregulation in children and adolescents. By establishing

close connections between experts abroad and McMaster University, Wilk helps to enhance the reputation of McMaster as a scientifically dynamic university.

The three received their awards at a reception in June to honour all of this year's nominations.

Bert Visheau, manager of the Prototype Workshop in the Faculty of Health Sciences, was one of nine individuals honoured with a 2003 McMaster University President's Award. The award recognized Visheau's dedication and innovation in his role of running the entire operation of the prototype workshop, and manufacturing prototypes for new instruments for use in research laboratories.

Mac professor receives honorary degree from UBC



Karyn Kaufman

Karyn Kaufman, director of the Midwifery Education Program and professor of family medicine at McMaster University, is receiving an honorary doctorate from the University of British Columbia (UBC).

She is being honoured for providing outstanding leadership in the development of the midwifery profession in Canada and internationally, at the spring convocation. UBC's charter class of the province's first Bachelor of Midwifery degree program are graduating this year.

Working collaboratively with governments, Kaufman overcame early resistance within the medical establishment and shaped the conditions for B.C.'s first midwifery degree.

Kaufman has been director of McMaster's undergraduate Midwifery Education Program since its inception in 1993. She received a McMaster President's Award for Excellence in Educational Leadership in 1996.

McMaster PT graduate earns education award from OPA

A graduate of McMaster's physiotherapy program has earned the Ontario Physiotherapy Association's special award for education.

Elaine Foster-Seargant of Thunder Bay is an assistant professor with the Northern Studies Stream at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay. She graduated from the former Mohawk-McMaster Diploma Program in Physiotherapy in 1979, then returned to McMaster in 1991 to earn a B.H.Sc. in physiotherapy. She also earned a master's degree in education from Lakehead in 2002.

Northern studies is a satellite program of McMaster's physiotherapy program that places university students in Thunder Bay to help them become familiar with the challenges and rewards of a rural and remote practice.

Foster-Seargant has worked as a physiotherapist for more than 25 years, and been a McMaster assistant professor since 1996.

The OPA award for education recognizes an individual with a history of educational excellence and commitment to professional development. Foster-Seargant was chosen for her contributions as a respected voice for students, clinicians and clients living in remote and rural areas of Northwestern Ontario.

MD grads from '81 receive Family Physician awards

Two McMaster University medical school graduates of 1981 have been jointly named Family Physician of the Year for the Southern Ontario Region by the Ontario College of Family Physicians.

Dr. Elizabeth Shaw of Hamilton, and Dr. Stephen (Sandy) Buchman of Mississauga are also both faculty members in the Department of Family Medicine of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine. Shaw is an associate professor and director of McMaster's Family Medicine postgraduate program, and Buchman is an associate clinical professor.

Shaw, who also did her family medicine residency at McMaster, has a small clinical practice within the McMaster Family Practice Unit at the West End Clinic on Main Street West.

Buchman is a family physician with Village Medical Associates in Mississauga. He did his family medicine residency at the University of Toronto. Both doctors see family medicine as a rewarding and challenging field.

Shaw said her profession is all about the opportunity to build relationships that are unique to the profession.

"Being a family doctor is a unique profession because you are not committed



Dr. Elizabeth Shaw



Dr. Stephen Buchman

to a defined body of knowledge. You are committed to knowing what is necessary to care for your patients and the community in which they live," she said.

Family medicine also offers classic cradle-to-grave care.

"The chance to deliver babies and watch them grow or to be with your patients when they die – it is an amazing privilege," said Shaw. "These are experiences that personally and professionally feed me."

Buchman said that being a family doctor isn't just a role.

"It's part and parcel of who you are," he said. "It's integrated into your person and being. It's a meaningful profession because you are helping others. It gives your life purpose."

In addition to these two McMaster alumni, a third graduate of the university's medical program has been singled out for the top family medicine award in Ontario.

Dr. Lynn Wilson, who graduated from McMaster's Faculty of Health Sciences in 1979, was named Family Physician of the Year for both the Toronto Region and the province. She received the Reg L. Perkin Award from the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

Sackett's research earns top international honour

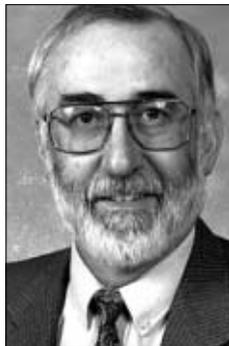
The founding chair of McMaster's Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics has earned what is internationally recognized as one of the highest distinctions for researchers in the health services field.

Dr. David Sackett, who worked at McMaster from 1967 until 1994, is to receive The Baxter International Foundation Health Services Research Prize in June, during the annual meeting of the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA).

The award recognizes researchers who have made major contributions to the health of the public through innovative research in health services.

Sackett is also a member of McMaster's Faculty of Health Sciences' Community of Distinction. The epidemiology and biostatistics department was the first in Canada when McMaster's medical school was launched in 1967. He also served as chair of the University's Division of Internal Medicine until 1994, when he accepted a position at Oxford University in England.

While at McMaster, Sackett developed and



Dr. David Sackett

mentored a new breed of applied clinician-scientists and worked with them to create and disseminate evidence-based medicine throughout the world.

He is now the director of the Kilgore S. Trout Research and Education Centre at Irish Lake, near Markdale Ont., a facility he founded. He also initiated the Trout Research Workshops for graduate students and junior faculty who come to Irish Lake from across Ontario, the U.S. and South America to polish their protocols for patient-based research.

The Baxter International Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Baxter International Inc., and helps organizations expand access to health care in countries around the world.

In memory

The medical class of 1987 lost a friend and colleague last Dec. 2. Dr. Doug Shrives was only 42, had just begun a new general practice in Toronto and was doing well in all ways.

Doug and I had summer jobs together back in the early '80s at St. Joseph's Hospital where we were lab techs. I remember the celebration we had when we found out we were going to become doctors together at McMaster and how happy he was to be setting out on such an adventure. Even back then he had sophistication beyond his years: cooking up gourmet meals for his classmates, impeccably dressed for dinner in the apartment he loved, which had an antique camera collection behind glass and original art covering the walls. It was a time of great possibility and he lived life fully, involving himself in such a wide range of pursuits inside and outside of medicine.

I remember him telling me how his father died of a familial cardiomyopathy, sadly, at age 29 and now, with no more warning than that, the same thing happened to Doug. I know he would remind us here that not all in medicine, or in life for that matter, is foreseeable or understandable.

There's still so much mystery.

I know he'd say that what can't be denied is that people, his friends and family, meant everything. If he were here, there'd be some spirited reminiscing about all the fun, all the learning and the traveling, all the compassionate care he gave to his patients and the love he gave his family and friends. We are richer for having had Doug as a friend and we just can't believe he's gone so soon.

- Richard Heinzl, MD '87

Joy MacDermid to lecture in Texas

Joy MacDermid, an associate professor in the School of Rehabilitation Sciences, has been awarded the Nathalie Barr Lectureship by the American Society of Hand Therapists. She will deliver her lecture at the combined meeting of the American Society of Hand Therapists and the American Society for Surgery of the Hand in San Antonio, Texas in September.

The Nathalie Barr Lectureship honours a member of the American Society of Hand Therapists who has made significant original contributions to hand rehabilitation in the development or refinement of professional theory and/or techniques, contributions to hand therapy development, or outstanding research.

Faculty's graduates make their mark in many health care fields

MMcMaster Faculty of Health Sciences' 10,000 graduates have made their mark in a wide range of health care and research fields. Here is a look at five graduates.

Jennifer Baker, PT '03

Jennifer Baker describes her transition from her student days to life as a practising physiotherapist (PT) as "decently smooth." But, as someone who has combined a demanding career as a practising physiotherapist with an equally demanding career as a dancer, the 2003 PT grad has had a variety of career highlights in the last couple of years.

After co-winning the Canadian Physiotherapy Association's award for top marks and the inaugural Physiotherapy Professional Advancement Award upon her graduation, Baker won a place as a dancer in Calgary's Corps Bara Dance Theatre, and moved to Calgary early in 2004. She also found work as a physiotherapist in Calgary, joining the staff of a clinic of the Canadian Sport Rehabilitation Institute that treats patients with injuries from work, sports, car accidents or other circumstances.

"I've really enjoyed the opportunity to consolidate the information and skills I learned through the McMaster program, and to develop meaningful relationships with clients and to be making differences in people's lives, one person at a time," says Baker. "I have worked with both simple and complex injuries and conditions, and have felt fulfilled in each. I thoroughly enjoy educating and empowering clients."

Baker's dance career is still a priority, and she spends about 10 to 15 hours a week practising or performing. Last year she was part of a Corps Bara tour to New York City for Project Dance, a 10-hour dance concert in Times Square. She danced solo in the heart of Times Square, inspired by the events of 9/11.

While Baker is making the most of her time in Calgary, she plans to eventually move back to Ontario.



Amanda Jerome, B.H.Sc. '03:

A lot happened to Amanda Jerome right around the time she graduated with her Bachelor of Health Sciences degree in the spring of 2003.

Just after her final exams in May, she was engaged to her boyfriend, Jason. Exactly one month later, she received her offer of acceptance from McMaster's MD program, and accepted it immediately. Having spent her entire life in Hamilton, she says she is honoured to have the opportunity to continue her education in her home city.

"It is so nice to have the love and support of all my friends and family," says Jerome. "My classmates are also a very supportive group. Not a month goes by without having committee meetings or a bunch of social events for the whole class."

Now in her second year of the program, and planning for her wedding to take place in August, Jerome continues to cement her bond with her home town, even completing the community family medicine placement of her clerkship in her old neighbourhood.

Jerome's roots at McMaster grew deeper during her 2003 graduation ceremony when she learned that her great-great uncle, Howard P. Whidden, had been McMaster University's chancellor from 1927 to 1941 and was involved in McMaster's historical move from Toronto to Hamilton in 1930.

Jerome says her B.H.Sc. degree from McMaster provided excellent preparation for life in medical school.

"Although I recognize that I am always refining my critical appraisal and time management skills, having started this process in the B.H.Sc. program made my transition much easier. I enjoy the small group learning environments and the independence to direct my own learning. Having such flexibility gives me the chance to be exposed to a variety of clinical experiences while ensuring time for personal growth."

Jerome will be doing her obstetrics rotation later this year, before taking a two-week vacation for her wedding and honeymoon.



Sandy Knight, MEP '97

As a member of the second graduating class of the Midwifery Education Program (MEP) in 1997, Sandy Knight wasted no time in putting the lessons she had received at McMaster into practice.

Just a month after graduation, she and another midwife opened the first midwifery practice in the Niagara region. Now five midwives run the practice, and Knight hopes to hire another partner soon. She has also been mentor to seven newly registered midwives since graduation, and has acted as a preceptor to midwifery students since 1998.

Knight, 32, who also earned a diploma in nursing prior to beginning the MEP, has attended over 500 births since graduation. She has taught in various midwifery intensive courses, and has offered frequent clinical placements to medical and nurse practitioner students in conjunction with McMaster and local family physicians. She serves as clinical head of Midwifery for the Niagara Health System, and as a tutor with the MEP at McMaster.

Outside of midwifery, Knight is passionate about singing, and performs with a band and a choir. "It helps keep me sane," she jokes. "But I'm glad I work with such a great group of women who support me in all of my endeavours - singing and otherwise."



Jim Kraemer, Medicine '73

Dr. James (Jim) Kraemer, MD, graduated in 1973 as a member of the second graduating class of McMaster's then-new medical school. Receiving his certification to practice family medicine in 1975, he joined the Burlington, Ontario-based Caroline Medical Group, which was one of Ontario's first health service organizations, an alternatively-funded, primary health care model. Founded by doctors Ian Hay and Pat Sweeny, Kraemer is now one of the centre's senior partners.

The Caroline Medical Group has won acclaim for its pioneering work in the training and use of nurse practitioners. As well, under Kraemer's leadership, the CMG has been involved in various large, practice-based studies on mood disorders and cardiovascular disease.

Today, more than 30 years after his graduation, Kraemer remains connected to McMaster. He has been an assistant clinical director of continuing medical education for the Faculty for the past decade and a half, and continues to take in family medicine residents and students doing the family medicine component of their training.

He is also active in the licensing procedures for the Medical Council of Canada.



Mary Martin-Smith, Nursing '77

A 1977 graduate of the School of Nursing, Mary Martin-Smith is once again posed for a graduation - this time with her M.Sc. degree in health promotion from the University of Alberta's Centre for Health Promotion Studies. She graduated this month.

In keeping with her long-time focus on public health, Martin-Smith is now director of health promotions for the Government of Saskatchewan. She previously worked as a public nursing health consultant in Saskatchewan's Population Health Branch.

A resident of Regina since 1997, Martin-Smith has worked on a wide range of public health projects across the province, and represents Saskatchewan Health on various inter-sectoral committees that work to improve public health. Two of her current projects involve implementing the new indoors smoke-free provisions in the province, and promoting population health strategies. She is also co-chair of a national committee on public health accreditation standards.

Her contributions to public health nursing were recognized in 2003 when she was awarded the Community Health Nurses Association of Canada's Annual Award of Merit for outstanding career contributions to community health nursing.

Martin-Smith, honorary secretary and member of the executive board of the Canadian Public Health Association, holds a professional affiliate faculty appointment in the nursing program at the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, and was a member of the working group that developed the Canadian Community Health Nursing Standards (2003). Married with three children and one grandchild, Martin-Smith enjoys visiting family and friends in Ontario.



New Advancement Officer • Class Reunions

The Faculty of Health Sciences welcomes its new advancement officer, Marisa Loduca, who provides a link between the faculty, alumni, and the University Advancement Office.

Marisa co-ordinates activities to build support from our alumni and stakeholders for the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine, School of Nursing, School of Rehabilitation Science, Midwifery Education Program, and Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours) Program.

She is also involved in broadening the base of alumni activity, planning class reunions, working with alumni volunteers, supporting students' initiatives, and keeping alumni connected with each other and the faculty.

Marisa previously worked for the Faculty of Social Sciences, and a Toronto public relations office.

2005 Class Reunions

Nursing Class of 1965 - 40th Year Reunion Wednesday, June 22 to Thursday, June 23, 2005

St. Jacobs Country Inn, Best Western, Waterloo, ON. Reunion dinner at Benjamin's Restaurant and Inn. Various local activities available.

Reunion Committee: Christine Nanson.

Nursing Class of 1974 - 30th Year Reunion Saturday, July 9, 2005 (1 year overdue)

Reunion dinner at President's Residence, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON.

Reunion Committee: Deb Kyle & Kee Tucker Scott.

MD Class of 1995 - 10th Year Reunion Saturday, September 24, 2005.

Picnic lunch at local park for alumni and families. Reunion dinner for alumni and spouses/partners at The Carriage House Restaurant, Burlington, ON.

Reunion Committee: Kim Curtin, Kelly Fitzpatrick & Catharine Munn.

MD Class of 1980 - 25th Year Reunion Saturday, October 1, 2005 (Homecoming Weekend)

Reunion dinner at McMaster University, Hamilton, ON. Alumni and spouses/partners welcome to attend. Various tours and campus activities available.

Reunion Committee: Brian Egier, Cecil Hershler, Mary Lou Jackson, Fran Scott & Janet Sproat.

MD Class of 1975 - 30th Year Reunion Saturday, October 1, 2005 (Homecoming Weekend)

Reunion dinner at McMaster University, Hamilton, ON.

Reunion Committee: Hans Stelzer.

Nursing Class of 1980 - 25th Year Reunion Saturday, October 15, 2005

The Pillar and Post Inn, Spa and Conference Centre, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON. Reunion dinner cost: \$72 (approximately). Alumni and family welcome to attend. Various reunion events planned for Friday, Saturday and Sunday plus local activities are available. To book accommodations contact the Pillar & Post at 1-888-669-5566. Reunion Committee: Michele Adams, Joanne Doucette, Kimberley Farrow, Marnie Kraguljac & Ina (Vainauskas) Radziunas.

On Saturday, June 4, the **School of Rehabilitation Sciences** celebrated its first ever Alumni Reunion for all OT & PT graduates. It was great to see so many alumni, especially members of the Class of '95 who celebrated their 10th year anniversary. Thanks for making the reunion a wonderful success.

To RSVP for any of the above reunions or for more information, contact Marisa Loduca in the Alumni Office at 905-525-9140, ext. 23900 or alumni@mcmaster.ca. You may also reach us toll free at 1-888-217-6003.

2006 Reunion Celebrations

Did you graduate in a year that ends in a one or a six? If so, your class is celebrating a reunion in 2006!

The Advancement Office will assist representatives of the reunion classes in co-ordinating mailings and events to plan your 2006 reunion. Reunions can be planned to coincide with Alumni Weekend in June or Homecoming Weekend in the fall or anytime throughout the year.

For more information about organizing a reunion for your graduating class, please contact Marisa Loduca, Advancement Officer in the Faculty of Health Sciences, at 905-525-9140, ext. 23900 or e-mail alumni@mcmaster.ca.

Stay Connected

Share your news, interests, achievements, hobbies and activities with friends and colleagues! We would like to hear from you! You are welcome to send in your photos too. E-mail us at alumni@mcmaster.ca. Website: www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/alumni/

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