Endowed chairs are leaders in research
New growth in graduate studies

McMaster Donors
Generosity means new opportunities for students
It wasn’t all that long ago that a university education was a reality for only a small portion of the Canadian population. Now, the number of people seeking a university degree is continually climbing, creating the need for vision, foresight and innovation in order to rise to the challenge of meeting the demand for higher education.

At McMaster, there are currently 23,000 full-time students, a jump of 52 per cent in the last five years. In the Faculty of Health Sciences, our current enrolment is 3,700, an almost 100 per cent increase over five years.

Meeting that increased demand while ensuring our standard of quality education is a balancing act that we have successfully achieved through:

a) the use of new approaches to educational content delivery;

b) partnerships that extend beyond Hamilton; and

c) a significant expansion in faculty and staff.

Our faculty members, administrative staff and health care partners all play a fundamental role in sustaining and enhancing the Faculty’s ability to offer a top-notch education to future nurses, doctors, midwives, rehabilitation therapists and other health care professionals who choose McMaster for their education.

Throughout this magazine you will find many examples of how these key players are contributing to the Faculty’s intrinsic function of educating the health care providers and leaders of tomorrow.

Funding the necessary expansion of facilities and staff to retain our world-renowned reputation is a continuing challenge. So, too, is the dilemma faced by many students who have to incur substantial debt in order to pay for their education. In this magazine we will introduce you to just a few of the individuals and corporations who are generously providing resources essential to the Faculty of Health Sciences’ success. That support includes an escalating number of bursaries and scholarships to help our students realize their career aspirations.

A portion of that financial support is helping in two areas that are currently undergoing expansion: the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine and our Graduate Studies Program. This magazine will give you the latest news on the regional campuses being set up by our medical school, and on the increasing number of students who are seeking master’s degrees and PhDs in a range of health sciences fields.

You will also learn about The Campaign for McMaster University - appropriately named Inspiring Innovation - and how the campaign priorities for our Faculty have been determined in accordance with the most pressing health care needs today.

And, as usual, Network includes several pages highlighting the various developments within the Faculty and the achievements in research and teaching of numerous faculty members.

I wish to extend a special thanks to three senior faculty members who have stepped down from roles of responsibility after many years of dedicated service.

A huge debt of gratitude is extended to Karyn Kaufmann, who has retired as the founding assistant dean of the midwifery program. Her dedication was the driving force behind the establishment of McMaster’s respected midwifery program.

Dr. Cheryl Levitt (Family Medicine) and Dr. Richard Swinson (Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences) each served for 10 years as the chair of their respective departments. Their contributions are immeasurable, and we sincerely appreciate their efforts.

I’m sure that many of you reading this publication will have fond memories of these people and their impact on your own education.

I hope that you, the Health Sciences alumni, will find the news within these pages a source of pride in the accomplishments of your alma mater, and share the excitement we feel as we look towards a future of growth and achievement.
Despite a stellar academic record in high school, William To never imagined he would become a university student. But, thanks to the creativity and generosity of Gina Fraser, president of the Ronald K. Fraser Foundation, William is now in the first year of the Bachelor of Health Sciences (Hons.) program.

William (pictured on the cover with Fraser) is the first recipient of the new Ron and Gina Fraser Health Sciences Bursary, which pays full tuition for up to seven years for students who demonstrate academic excellence, but due to financial hardship or disadvantaged family situation, could not consider a university education in health sciences. William is the son of Vietnamese immigrants who work in low-paying jobs that make it impossible to pay for a university education.

The bursary is funded by a $1 million endowment from the Ronald K. Fraser Foundation, and is just one example of how individual benefactors and corporations are contributing to the education of thousands of McMaster students.

Supporting Student Success is one of the themes of the Campaign for McMaster.
The graduate studies program of the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) is undergoing substantial growth as more students than ever seek to earn a master’s degree or PhD. The number of students, the amount of external grant money awarded to those students, and the variety of programs available are all expanding as careers in the health sciences field become more complex and demanding.

Carl Richards, associate dean of graduate studies for the Faculty, says there are 790 students working towards a master’s degree or PhD in various health sciences programs. Over the past five years there has been an increase of about 20 per cent in full-time students.

An even greater increase has occurred in the amount of grant money awarded to FHS graduate students. For the 2005/2006 academic year, graduate students were awarded $1.5 million in external grants from organizations such as the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Heart and Stroke Foundation and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), as well as the Ontario Graduate Scholarships program. That’s a 25 per cent increase over the amount of external grants for the 2001/02 academic year.

Those numbers are expected to continue growing as more new graduate programs in health sciences are being developed, and recruitment efforts are stepped up in keeping with McMaster’s initiative to increase its total graduate student population to 20 per cent of total enrolment. The Ontario government is also promoting increased graduate education, and is offering $240 million to universities to increase the number of graduate students to accommodate the double cohort students who are now completing their undergraduate degrees.

“We plan to continue expanding graduate student programs, not only in response to the government initiative, but also to maintain our leadership as a research intensive university” said Richards. “The research carried out by our graduate students is part of the reason that the University earned that designation.”

The ability of graduate students to earn external grant money for their research is a measure of quality, he pointed out. As more grant money comes in, it raises the profile of the program and makes it possible to accept more graduate students, since there is more overall funding available in the system.

“Unlike undergraduate students, we pay all of our full-time graduate students, making support of graduate expansion a bit more complex,” said Richards. “In order to take on graduate students, the University must be able to fund the research itself. Our goal is to continue to increase the number of graduate students, since they contribute significantly to the research enterprise of the Faculty, and in each individual laboratory.”

Graduate programs in health sciences are well established at McMaster. Students can earn master’s or PhD degrees in...
Students boost Mac’s research strength

Michaela Devries is an example of how graduate students help McMaster University earn the designation as the most research intensive university in Canada.

The 27-year-old PhD candidate in Medical Sciences has been awarded several grants from prestigious organizations such as the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) to conduct research projects in exercise physiology and metabolism.

As she nears the completion of her PhD this summer, she has no doubt that McMaster’s Faculty of Health Sciences was the right place for her graduate studies.

“The facilities here are excellent, and I was very impressed right from the time I came for my interview,” said Devries. She came to McMaster in 2002, with an Honours B.Sc. from the University of Guelph. She started out in a master’s program, but in her second year switched into the PhD level.

Her decision to come to McMaster was largely based on the reputation of her supervisor, Dr. Mark Tarnopolsky, a clinician scientist and professor of medicine and pediatrics, who is renowned for his research in muscle metabolism and experimental therapeutics for neuromuscular and metabolic diseases.

Devries is conducting research on the effects of various forms of exercise, ranging from a single episode up to highly demanding endurance training. Her current project, funded by a $21,000 CIHR grant, involves studying the effects of regular exercise on previously sedentary women. They were divided into two groups depending on their percentage of body fat, and trained regularly for 12 weeks, starting out at twice a week for 20 minutes, than gradually increasing to three times a week for an hour.

The data is now being analysed, but early results show positive effects on energy levels, quality of life and impact on illness such as cardiovascular disease and the metabolic syndrome.

Her earlier research projects have included studying the effects of estrogen and the menstrual cycle phase on metabolism during a bout of endurance exercise.

New programs offered in FHS graduate studies

Students considering graduate studies in the health sciences area now have more options than ever at McMaster University.

Here’s a look at the newest options:

- **PhD in Rehabilitation Science**
  Launched in September 2006, this program educates rehabilitation scientists with master’s degrees in occupational therapy, physiotherapy or rehabilitation science, to advance research and transfer new knowledge into practice and policy. This is the first PhD program for McMaster’s School of Rehabilitation Science.

- **MD/PhD combined program**
  This program is planning to accept its first students this fall. It will combine the MD program of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine with established PhD programs in either Medical Sciences or Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences. The new program will educate a new generation of clinician/scientists to integrate basic science and clinical medicine.

- **Graduate Program in Neurosciences**
  This interdisciplinary, research-oriented training program established in 2006 is a collaboration of the Faculties of health sciences, science, engineering and social sciences. It will offer master’s degrees and PhDs in a field of significant growth. The first students are expected to start this fall.

- **Graduate Program in Biomedical Engineering**
  This program offers master’s degrees and PhDs through the School of Biomedical Engineering, a joint project of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering which was established in 2005. There are more than 20 students in the program that provides high-level, in-depth knowledge and hands-on experience in both life/health sciences and engineering/physical sciences. The focus is on developing new approaches in biomedical science and technology.

  The University is also seeking approval for a proposal to offer a PhD in Health Policy, which is an interdisciplinary field that investigates how health policy is made, what it is, what it might become, and its impacts. If approved by the Ontario Council of Graduate Studies, the PhD will be an inter-faculty, inter-departmental program.

Medical Sciences, Health Research Methodology, nursing and rehabilitation science, as well as master’s degrees in occupational therapy or physiotherapy. Master’s and PhD programs offered in Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences have recently been moved to Faculty of Health Sciences administration.

The programs available to students pursuing graduate degrees in health sciences are expanding. The PhD in rehabilitation science was launched last fall, and a joint MD/PhD program focused on training physician-scientists will accept its first students in September.

The Faculty of Health Sciences has also partnered with the Faculty of Science to offer a new graduate program in neurosciences. In 2005 health sciences partnered with the Faculty of Engineering to establish graduate programs in the School of Biomedical Engineering. Plans for a PhD in Health Policy, which would also be an inter-faculty program, have been developed and submitted for review to the Ontario Council of Graduate Studies.

Richards said that although the majority of graduate students are going directly into their programs after obtaining an undergraduate degree, there are many others who already have established careers and are now furthering their studies. Some students continue to work full or part-time as health care professionals.

He also noted that the willingness of faculty members to supervise master’s or PhD students is crucial to the continued success of the graduate studies program.

“Part of the graduate students’ ability to do research is the relationship between the student and the supervisor,” he said. “A grad student’s success is dependent upon the assistance of those people around them.”

Information on graduate programs offered through the Faculty of Health Sciences can be found at: http://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/grad/
Doctors in training
MGD School of Medicine gets set for further growth

Dr. Kara Nerenberg (left), conducts a session with (from left) resident Dr. Morry Black, second year medical student Roselyn Chuong, senior resident Dr. Derek Yung and second year medical student David Solazzo, at McMaster University Medical Centre.

The Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine is poised for an exciting period of further growth and innovation as it establishes its two regional campuses and completes the roll-out of its revamped curriculum.

The first 15 students to be trained at the new campus in Kitchener will be chosen during the medical school’s annual spring selection process. Of the 4,847 applications received this year, 546 have been chosen for interviews to determine which ones will be offered the 147 spots at the Kitchener campus, and the 15 spots at the new campus. Those chosen to attend the regional campus will begin their education at the main McMaster campus in August, and are expected to be attending sessions at the new facility in January 2008.

The 54,000-square-foot Kitchener facility is being co-located with the School of Pharmacy of the University of Waterloo (UW) at its new Kitchener Health Sciences Campus being built in the downtown core. It will include classrooms with state-of-the-art technology for the medical students, as well as a family medicine teaching clinic.

Plans for the regional campus in Niagara are also well underway. The site has not been finalized, but the first class will begin in the fall of 2008. It also will accept 15 students. At that point, total first-year enrolment in the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine will be 176. Both regional campuses will continue accepting 15 first year students each year, and eventually expand to include post-graduate resident training.

The regional campuses are part of a government initiative to address the chronic doctor shortage in Ontario, and are receiving substantial financial backing from Ontario. Besides an increased operating grant, the provincial government has allocated nearly $15 million towards the capital costs, including the technological infrastructure, of the campuses. In addition, the Region of Waterloo has committed $15 million towards the building of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine in Kitchener.

Upgrades are planned on the Hamilton campus to provide the hub of enhanced technology infrastructure that will be required for the full operation of the new campuses. At all three sites, medical students will have computer access to the digital library, curriculum, video archives and e-learning modules. They will also be able to participate in web and video conferences across the sites. The clinical portion of the students’ education will be in the hospitals and health care facilities of their campus area. All students of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine will continue to receive the innovative three-year undergraduate program that is in the midst of the roll-out of a revamped curriculum.

The updated curriculum, introduced to first-year students in the fall of 2005, places a greater emphasis on professional competencies, fundamental mechanisms that impact health, and has more opportunities for students to practise what they’ve learned. The new curriculum will be fully implemented later this year when the students who started in 2005 enter the third and final year of the undergraduate program.

Alan Neville, assistant dean of the undergraduate medical program, said there has been anecdotal, favourable feedback from both students and tutors on the revamped curriculum.

“The faculty are noticing that the students are, in fact, adapting to the changed curriculum and being driven in the direction we wanted . . . going for the deeper concepts,” he said. “We’re getting feedback from tutors who have been tutoring for awhile, so they have the experience from both the old and new curriculum.”

The changed curriculum has impacted both the classroom and clinical training portions of the undergraduate program. New initiatives introduced to the clerkship include expanded orientation sessions on hospital procedures and practices, a new four-week emergency medicine clerkship, and an obstetrics and gynecology rotation mixing real patient experiences with simulation training. The clerkships in both geriatrics and orthopedics are more specific and organized independently from the medicine and surgery rotations. There is also a continuation of the new tutorials on professional competencies that were introduced in the first year of the new curriculum and will be carried on throughout the three-year program.

Plans are also being developed to assess and evaluate the revamped curriculum program.
Community of Distinction - 2006 inductees

The five newest members of the Faculty of Health Sciences’ Community of Distinction represent the broad range of skills and talents that have contributed to the Faculty’s success in research and scholarship.

Edwin E. Daniel, Michael Gent, Ludmila (Niky) Melichar, George Torrance, and Karin C. von Schilling were inducted into the Community of Distinction during a November ceremony.

The photographs and a short biography on all inductees are displayed in the gallery on the second floor west wall in McMaster’s Health Sciences Centre. There are now 23 members in the Community of Distinction.

Nominations for 2007 are now being accepted, with a deadline of June 1. More information on the Community of Distinction, is at www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/distinction.htm

Edwin E. Daniel, PhD, cultivated and nurtured students to become leaders in education and research around the world during his career as a professor at McMaster University. From 1975 until after he became professor emeritus in 1994, he was an admired teacher and mentor of students from a wide range of disciplines, dedicated to the problem-based learning model and instrumental in exporting it to campuses around the world. Internationally known for his groundbreaking work on smooth muscle function, he was a brilliant scientist whose breadth of knowledge and critical thinking ability led to many achievement awards, including being named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Michael Gent, DSc, one of the world’s leading biostatisticians, was a founding member of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and served as its chair from 1973 to 1979. During his 33 years at McMaster beginning in 1969, he built the university’s international reputation as a pre-eminent site in clinical trials. A leader in shaping health care research, he demonstrated remarkable research productivity, conducting trials and publishing results that changed the global practice of health care. He has been considered an inspiring teacher, a rigorous scientist, and a leader demonstrating charm, wit and honesty. He became professor emeritus in 2002, and contributed to future developments in his field by establishing the Michael Gent Professorship in Healthcare Research.

Ludmila (Niky) Melichar, MA, first played a key role in the development of the Faculty of Health Sciences as the hospital’s lead in the building of the McMaster University Medical Centre, a unique facility combining hospital, research and education roles. Joining the Faculty as an administrator in 1973, her portfolio ranged from managing the biomedical research office and facilities, to the construction of several major buildings on campus and strategic planning. As an assistant professor (part time), she taught organizational behaviour. Her leadership, wisdom, negotiating skills and integrity influenced faculty, staff, and students. She retired three times, in 1994, 2000 and 2005, as her extraordinary talent and understanding of the complexities of organizations continued to be sought for special projects.

George Torrance, PhD, became a world leader in the economic evaluation of medical treatments and health services during his 30-year career at McMaster which began in 1967. With expertise in both health sciences and business, he was a pioneer in the development and application of methods to improve health care decision-making. He helped revolutionize the science and practice of assessing health status and determining the quality of life, and played an essential role in the Faculty’s reputation as a world leader in population health sciences. An outstanding teacher, colleague and mentor, he contributed to the career development of multiple generations of clinical and health services researchers.

Karin C. von Schilling, MScN, a professor in the School of Nursing from 1968 to 1988, influenced the move to multidisciplinary, problem-based education of health care professionals both at McMaster University and internationally. Known for upholding the highest standards for education and service, students sought her wisdom and assistance to enhance their learning. She also brought McMaster’s expertise to Germany, Austria and Sweden, promoting multi-professional team-building and introducing problem-based learning. A strong advocate for children, she was instrumental in the implementation of family-centred, multidisciplinary child care in Hamilton, and was the first School of Nursing professor to be cross-appointed to the Department of Pediatrics.
Three new endowed chairs

A range of illnesses and health-related subjects that are the focus of increased research at McMaster University continues to expand with the announcement of three more privately-funded endowed chairs.

The Faculty of Health Sciences now has more than 50 endowed professorial chairs that are funded by private contributions from a diverse range of individuals, corporations and agencies.

The Andrew Bruce Douglas Chair in Neurology has been established, funded in part by Bartek Ingredients Inc. of Stoney Creek in tribute to the company’s co-founder. Andrew Bruce Douglas was a chemical engineer who always sought solutions to challenges he faced. He died in 2004 of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). The University is matching the donation.

The inaugural recipient is Dr. John Turnbull, a professor of medicine of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine.

For more details, go to www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/pubrel/douglas.htm

The Beamish Family Chair in Peripheral Vascular Surgery was established with a $1 million endowment from the WB Foundation. The foundation has been set up by Bob and Marilyn Beamish, their children and representatives of Woodbridge Corporation. The donation is being matched by the Michael G. DeGroote Faculty of Health Sciences Development Fund established by the philanthropist in 2003.

Dr. Jacques Tittley, an assistant clinical professor and head of the division of vascular surgery at McMaster, is the inaugural holder of the chair.

For more details, go to www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/pubrel/Beamish-Chair.htm

The David R. (Dan) Offord Chair in Child Studies has been established in honour of the much-respected professor who died in 2004. Offord was known affectionately to children as “Dr. Dan,” but the world knew him as Canada’s most renowned child psychiatrist who spent his life working to better the lives of young people at risk.

The endowed chair is funded through a $1-million gift from the Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation and McMaster Children’s Hospital, with matching support from the University. Its focus is the child within the family. The first chair holder is Dr. Harriet MacMillan, a Canadian leader in the field of child maltreatment and family violence and a protégé of Offord. She is a professor of pediatrics, and of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences at the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine.

For more details: www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/pubrel/offord-chair.htm

Dr. John Turnbull speaks during the announcement of the Andrew Bruce Douglas Chair in Neurology.

New chairholder Dr. Jacques Tittley (right) with (from left) Dr. John Kelton, Dr. Peter George, Brenda Flaherty of Hamilton Health Sciences and Heather Beamish.

Dr. Harriet MacMillan received a standing ovation at her chair announcement.
Two new CRCs in health sciences

The Faculty of Health Sciences hired two new professors in 2006 to take new Canada Research Chairs.

McMaster University now has 62 Canada Research Chairs, positions established by the federal government in 2000 to both attract and retain some of the world’s most accomplished and promising minds to Canadian universities. It is part of a national strategy to make Canada one of the world’s top five countries for research and development.

Both of the Faculty’s new recruits are in tier one positions, which are for outstanding researchers acknowledged by their peers as world leaders in their fields.

Mark Larché, a scientist developing leading-edge treatments for a range of chronic immunological disorders through his research on asthma, holds a Chair in Allergy and Immune Tolerance. He came to McMaster from Imperial College at the University of London.

He is looking to find ways to stem the epidemic of chronic immunological diseases in the industrialized world that are characterized by an exaggerated immune response. In the case of allergies, the response is to harmless environmental substances - such as grass pollen and house-dust mites. In the case of certain autoimmune diseases, such as Type II diabetes, the reaction is to proteins in the patient’s own body. In both cases, the costs to society are enormous.

While his research is currently focused on allergy, in the long run Larché hopes his research will lead to the production of peptide vaccines for the treatment of a wide range of chronic immune diseases.

Larché, who earned his PhD at the University of London, has also been appointed as a professor in the Department of Medicine at McMaster.

Mick Bhatia, scientific director of the McMaster Stem Cell and Cancer Research Institute, has received a Chair in Human Stem Cell Biology. His research focuses on the mystery of how and why cancer begins. His study of human embryonic stem cells will be applied to understanding and treating cancer.

Bhatia has made several important advancements in human stem cell research, particularly with blood stem cells. His understanding of their molecular nature and the cell regulatory mechanisms will be used both to understand why stem cells mutate and then, how stem cells can be used as a tool kit to repair the damage done by cancer.

Bhatia is also a professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences.

Three other faculty members in health sciences have received renewals of their CRCs:

- Eric Brown, associate professor in biochemistry and biomedical sciences, has been renewed as the Canada Research Chair in Anti-Microbial Research;
- John Lavis, associate professor in clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, has been renewed as the Canada Research Chair in Knowledge Transfer and Exchange;
- Tim Whelan, associate professor in the Department of Medicine, has been renewed as the Canada Research Chair in Health Services Research in Cancer.

Several other health sciences faculty members have been reappointed to a variety of research chairs:

- Sonia Anand, of the Department of Medicine, was reappointed as Eli Lilly/May Cohen Chair in Women’s Health;
- Hertzel Gerstein, of medicine and clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, was reappointed as the Population Health Research Institute Chair in Diabetes Research;
- Cathy Risdon, of family medicine, was reappointed as the David Braley and Nancy Gordon Chair in Family Medicine;
- Lisa Schwartz, of clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, was reappointed the Arnold L. Johnson Chair in Health Care Ethics;
- Alba DiCenso, of the School of Nursing, was renewed for the final six years of a 10-year term as Chair in Advanced Practice Nursing.

Mike Bhatia, who joined McMaster University in January 2006, has received a Canada Research Chair in Human Stem Cell Biology.

Glenn Lowson
Students publish book

A research book compiled and written by a group of students from McMaster’s Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours) program will hit university bookstore shelves this spring.

Entitled Choose your own Inquiry, the book explores students’ experiences with “inquiry,” an education method that focuses on self-directed learning. The book is being published by University Press of America. It includes comprehensive qualitative data from more than 60 research subjects who were all enrolled in McMaster’s B.H.Sc. program in the 2005-06 academic year.

Inquiry is a key component of the popular undergraduate program that was launched at McMaster in 2000. It is centred on the philosophy that students should be active participants in their education in order to better develop critical thinking and communication skills, instead of being passive recipients of information. The inquiry teaching method was developed at McMaster University several years ago by Del Harnish, assistant dean of the B.H.Sc. program, and Miroslav Lovric, an associate professor of mathematics.

Randy Ai, one of the students involved in producing the book, said it grew out of a third-year inquiry course in the B.H.Sc. program, in which students select a health sciences topic for research and exploration. The students chose to research the use of inquiry in the B.H.Sc. program. The suggestion to compile the findings in a book came from the facilitator for the inquiry course, Sheila Barrett, an assistant clinical professor.

Twelve students who were in third year and two in the fourth year of the program worked collaboratively to research, write, edit and organize the book, over the period of a year and a half. Ai said the project required the students to put the philosophy of inquiry into practice.

Topics covered include the history of inquiry, how it is applied in health sciences, resources and student experiences such as challenges, goals and personal development.

Ai, who is now attending Osgoode Hall Law School, said the book provides a unique and interactive experience.

The book is intended for the academic market, and will be of interest to students and instructors interested in or using the inquiry method of teaching.

Dr. Arnold L. Johnson, a Canadian cardiology pioneer and professor emeritus in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, died in October at the age of 93.

More than 50 years ago, he performed the first heart catheterization for congenital heart disease in Canada. He went on to pioneer the application of both internal and external pacemakers for the treatment of heart block and established the first comprehensive program for cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

He made his name again in a new area as he took a prominent role in the developing, promoting and teaching of ethical decision making in health care.

Johnson’s distinguished career began in 1946 at McGill University. He joined McMaster in 1974, continuing his career in research, education and clinical care. He retired from McMaster in 1983, but assumed a leadership role in developing and teaching ethical decision making within hospitals and health care settings. He remained active with the University until he was 90.

Johnson’s initiative, dedication and work in this area culminated in the creation of the Arnold L. Johnson Chair in Health Care Ethics, which is held by Lisa Schwartz, an associate professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

He was also honoured by McMaster University with the establishment of the annual Arnold L. Johnson Lectureship in Cardiology, and in 2002 with an honorary Doctorate of Science.

Johnson is survived by his wife, Anne, two children, Philip and Nancy, and two grandchildren.

Health Sciences Library celebrates 35th anniversary

The Health Sciences Library marked its 35th anniversary recently with an informal party that featured a visit by Eberhard Zeidler, the architect of the Health Sciences Centre and the library. He also toured the construction of the library currently undergoing $7.8 million in renovations.

For information on the renovation, go to: http://hsl.mcmaster.ca/renovations/

Eberhard Zeidler with Health Sciences Library Director Dorothy Fitzgerald.

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Dr. Arya Sharma, a world-renowned expert in obesity research and management, is the leader of the recently-established Canadian Obesity Network.

The network is part of the federal government’s Centres of Excellence program, and is being funded initially by $800,000 over two years. The organization pulls together researchers, health professionals, industry, policy makers and others across Canada to become the primary network focused on preventing and reducing the consequences of excess body weight.

Sharma is a professor of medicine in the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine, holds a Canada Research Chair in Cardiovascular Obesity Research and Management, and is director of The Centre for Cardiovascular Obesity Research and Management at the Hamilton General Hospital.

Networks of Centres of Excellence are unique partnerships among universities, industry, government and not-for-profit organizations aimed at turning Canadian research and entrepreneurial talent into economic and social benefits for all Canadians. The Canadian Obesity Network involves scientists at more than 20 Canadian universities, more than 10 international institutes in North America and Europe, 15 non-profit organizations, governmental agencies, and 20 industry partners.

A Department of Oncology has been established in the Faculty of Health Sciences to put renewed focus on a multidisciplinary area. Led by acting chair Dr. Bill Evans, the department will enhance McMaster’s strength in cancer research and education and facilitate laboratory-based and clinical research interactions across departments, schools and Faculties.

The first new department in the Faculty for many years has been founded at a time when cancer poses a huge burden to society. One in three Canadians can expect to develop cancer in their lifetime, and this burden is projected to increase significantly over the next two to three decades as the baby boom population ages.

A wide range of cancer-related research and education is already being pursued at McMaster, and the new department provides a collaborative mechanism to facilitate this work. It will also provide a rich training ground for oncology health professionals as well as a broad range of health disciplines that would benefit from exposure to a multidisciplinary cancer-focused environment, including medical and radiation oncology, nursing radiation therapy, surgical oncology, rehabilitation medicine and family medicine.

The divisions of medical oncology and radiation oncology, formerly in the Department of Medicine, have been transferred with their members to the new department.

Evans is a McMaster professor, president of the Juravinski Cancer Centre and integrated vice-president for oncology services at Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph’s Healthcare. He is also the regional vice-president for Cancer Care Ontario.

He said the department will be a catalyst to bring researchers and care providers into a new dialogue to advance knowledge of the causes of cancer and develop better strategies to control cancer.

Dr. Mark Levine, a professor of medicine and clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, is the vice-chair, research for the new department. He holds the Buffett Taylor Chair in Breast Cancer Research at McMaster.
Dr. Deborah Cook, a professor of medicine and clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, received significant awards during 2006 for both her research and teaching at McMaster University. She received the American College of Critical Care Medicine’s (ACCM) highest honour, the 2006 Distinguished Investigator Award, and was also named an outstanding university teacher in a province-wide competition.

The ACCM award honors a clinical researcher for meritorious and pioneering research in critical care and for significantly contributing to the understanding of diseases and treatments of critically ill and injured patients. For eight years, Cook has chaired the Canadian Critical Care Trials, which form the most productive national ICU research consortium in the world. The trials group has published more than 40 articles in the top general medical and specialty journals on the best methods to diagnose, prevent, treat and palliate critical illness.

Cook was also one of six educators in Ontario honoured with the outstanding teaching award from the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA). She was described in the OCUFA citation as “extraordinarily gifted and dedicated teacher” with “a high degree of leadership locally, nationally and internationally.”

Collins leads research

Dr. Stephen Collins has been appointed associate dean, research for the Faculty of Health Sciences. He is a professor in the Department of Medicine, head of the Clinical Division of Gastroenterology, and holder of the Glaxo-Wellcome Chair in Gastroenterology.

He has worked at McMaster since 1981, and in 2002 was awarded the title of University Professor, McMaster’s highest academic award. He completed his medical training in the U.K. and at McMaster.

Collins is internationally recognized for his work and publications in gastroenterology, and he has held numerous leadership positions in his field.

He currently holds a CIHR award and two awards from the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of Canada.

Allyn Walsh honoured

Dr. Allyn Walsh, a faculty member and the Education Co-ordinator in the Department of Family Medicine, won the 2006 Ian McWhinney Family Medicine Education Award.

The award is given by the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) to acknowledge unique and innovative contributions that have made a significant national impact on the development of family medicine education in Canada. Walsh has been a family physician since completing her residency at McMaster in 1979. She joined the Department of Family Medicine as an assistant clinical professor in 1988. Since then she has contributed to improving education in areas central to family medicine, and in effective approaches to teaching and learning in clinical settings.

She has been a role model to hundreds of medical school students and residents, and recently completed a six-year term as assistant dean of the Program for Faculty Development for the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Walsh has served as the behavioural science co-ordinator for family medicine residents, the education co-ordinator for the Stonechurch Family Health Centre, and the Postgraduate Program Director for the Department of Family Medicine.
Several Faculty of Health Sciences educators have been honoured in recent months for their academic excellence. Dyanne Semogas, an assistant professor in the School of Nursing, was the driving force in the development of a course to make students more cognizant of the plight of the homeless. This work has won her the McMaster University President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching (Course or Resource Design). She worked with both faculty and students to develop the course which combines the traditional McMaster tutorial model of learning with a service learning strategy. Students explore issues of social justice in the classroom, and then apply their knowledge by serving community organizations that bring them into contact with the poor and marginalized of Hamilton. From an enrolment of six in 2002, the course has now grown to include about 40 students, many of them from outside of the School of Nursing. It is believed to be the only course of its kind in Canada.

The President’s Awards for Excellence in Teaching were established in 1993 to recognize outstanding contributions to education.

Linda Hilts, an assistant clinical professor in McMaster’s School of Nursing and an associate member of the Department of Family Medicine, is the winner of the 2006 John C. Sibley Award for part-time faculty. A nurse practitioner who is active in the clinical education of medical students, family medicine residents and nurse practitioners, Hilts started teaching McMaster nursing students in 1989, while working as the patient education co-ordinator for Hamilton Health Sciences. The Sibley award is presented annually to a part-time faculty member in the Faculty of Health Sciences who has made outstanding contributions to the education of health professionals. It recognizes excellence, initiative and sustained commitment among part-time faculty members. Hilts earned her Bachelor of Science, Nursing degree from McMaster in 1987.

MSU Teaching Awards

Three instructors in the Faculty of Health Sciences were among the winners of the 2005 McMaster Students Union Teaching Awards.

Two of the winners teach in the School of Nursing. John Vickers, a professor, was chosen as the winner for the Faculty. Clinton Betts, a part-time assistant professor, was the winner for the School of Nursing. Murray Junop, an assistant professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences, won the award for the Faculty of Science. The MSU Teaching Awards program is a student-run service designed to recognize and encourage excellence in teaching.

David Carr Award

Dr. Ari Shali, an assistant professor of pathology and molecular medicine, won the David Carr Teaching Award for the fourth consecutive year. The award is presented annually during the Oath Ceremony for the graduating class of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine. Shali is actively involved in the Undergraduate MD and Postgraduate Medicine Educational Programs. Clerkship, preceptor awards

The MD graduates also presented clerkship awards to Rob White, Kanwal Shankardass, Andrew Morris, Margot Loosley-Millman, Ramsey MacNay, Patricia Rosebush and Jaydeep Moro.

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

Meir Steiner elected to lead neuro group

Dr. Meir Steiner, a professor in the department of psychiatry and behavioural neurosciences, has been elected president of the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology for a period of two years. Steiner first joined McMaster in 1981 as an associate professor, after moving to Canada. He previously worked in Israel, where he earned his MD, and in Michigan, where he received his PhD.

He is also a professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at McMaster, and was the founding director of the Women’s Health Concerns Clinic at St. Joseph’s Hospital. His research focuses on mood disorders in women related to the reproductive system and hormones.
FHS researchers earn variety of honours

The outstanding contributions in research of several Health Sciences faculty members were recognized in the past year by a variety of awards from national and international organizations.

Brian Coombes, an assistant professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences, won a prestigious international award from the American Society for Microbiology. The ICAAC Young Investigator Award recognizes and rewards early career scientists for research excellence and potential in microbiology and infectious diseases. The awards are presented annually at the Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy (ICAAC). Coombes is a microbial biochemist whose research focuses on bacterial pathogens and understanding the genes that allow infection and cause disease.

Dr. Dean Daya, a professor of pathology and molecular medicine, and obstetrics and gynecology, won the Distinguished Service Award from the Canadian Association of Pathologists for 2006. He has given lectures and conducted workshops in gynecologic pathology at many national and international conferences and has served as chairman of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Anatomic Pathology. He did a fellowship in Gynecologic Pathology at the Harvard Medical School. He also won the National Faculty Award for Excellence in Residency Education from the Council on Resident Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Stephen Hill, an associate professor in pathology and molecular medicine, won the Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Profession of Clinical Biochemistry, from the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry. The award recognizes his significant contributions to the academy, including serving on the board of directors from 1999 to 2005. He played a key role in the establishment of the Professional Development Program.

Mary Law, chair of the School of Rehabilitation Science, received the 2006 Heart Award from Family Alliance Ontario. The award recognizes exceptional commitment to and compassion for the human rights of children and youth with disabilities. Through Law’s leadership at McMaster’s CanChild Centre for Childhood Disability Research, children and youth with disabilities and their families have found opportunities to contribute to research as community faculty members. Law is the holder of the John and Margaret Lillie Chair in Childhood Disability Research, and an associate member of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

Dr. Mark Loeb, a professor in pathology and molecular medicine and clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, won the 2006 Gold Medal from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. The annual award recognizes original work by a clinical investigator who has completed his or her training within the past 10 years. Loeb received the award for his manuscript on reducing hospitalization among residents of nursing homes with pneumonia or lower respiratory infection. Loeb is medical director, infection control, for Hamilton Health Sciences.

Patty Solomon, a professor in the School of Rehabilitation Science (SRS) has received an honorary membership from the Canadian Physiotherapy Association. The membership recognizes individuals for significantly enhancing the profession through contributions over a period of at least 15 years. Solomon has been with the SRS since its inception in 1989, and was instrumental in developing the physiotherapy program. She was assistant dean of the program from 1996 to 2003.

George Torrance, professor emeritus of clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, received the 2006 Avedis Donabedian Outcomes Research Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research. Torrance has been a leading researcher, teacher and practitioner in the field of health economics and outcomes research for more than 30 years. He is currently principal consultant for i3 Innovus, a global leader in health economics, outcomes and data analysis. Torrance pioneered many of the methods used today in health economics, including those used to measure the preferences of health outcomes.

Torrance was a founding member of the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis at McMaster, and served as dean of the DeGroote School of Business.
Appointments to senior faculty positions

**Dr. Denise Marshall**, an associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine and director of the Division of Palliative Care, has been appointed assistant dean of the Program for Faculty Development. Marshall joined the Faculty of Health Sciences in 1992, after completing her undergraduate MD and residency training in family medicine and palliative care at McMaster.

She will oversee a system that identifies the needs and objectives of faculty development. Her interest in undergraduate and graduate medical education includes interdisciplinary health science teaching, and all levels of palliative care and family medicine.

**Dr. David Price** has been appointed chair of the Department of Family Medicine. He joined the department as an assistant professor in 2000, and was named an associate professor in 2005.

As a clinician, Price is in a community practice with a broad spectrum of care, including obstetrics, pediatrics, extended care coverage, and palliative care. He was the founding director of the Maternity Centre of Hamilton (2000-2004), has been unit director of the Stonechurch Family Health Centre since 2001, and chief of the Department of Family Medicine for Hamilton Health Sciences since 2004.

He earned both a B.Sc. and his MD in the 1980s at the University of British Columbia.

Price replaces Dr. Cheryl Levitt, who served as chair of the department for 10 years.

**Dr. Robert Zipursky**, a renowned Canadian clinician scientist who earned his MD at McMaster in 1982, has been appointed chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences. Zipursky has been a faculty member at the University of Toronto since 1991, as a professor of psychiatry, head of the schizophrenia program, vice-chair for research and the Tapscott Chair in Schizophrenia Studies in the Department of Psychiatry. He has an extensive clinical research program for the study of first episode schizophrenia, and is director of the Schizophrenia Program at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, recognized as one of the top programs of its kind in the world.

Zipursky will hold the Morgan Firestone Chair in Psychiatry at the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine, and will be chief of psychiatry for both St. Joseph’s Healthcare (Hamilton) and Hamilton Health Sciences.

Zipursky replaced Dr. Richard Swinson, who had been chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences since October 1997.

**Several other faculty members** have been re-appointed to senior administrative positions:

- **Andrea Baumann** has been renewed as the associate vice-president (international health). She was first appointed to the newly-created position in 2004, and is a professor in the School of Nursing.

- **Gerry Wright** has been reappointed chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences. He is a professor in the department, an associate member of the Department of Chemistry and holds a Canada Research Chair in Antibiotic Biochemistry.

- **Craig Coblentz** has been reappointed acting chair of the Department of Radiology. He joined the Faculty in 1988, and has also served as program director for Diagnostic Radiology.

**Eileen Hutton**, who has contributed significantly to the development of midwifery in Canada, has been appointed assistant dean of McMaster’s Bachelor of Health Sciences in Midwifery Program.

Hutton was an assistant clinical professor in the Department of Family Medicine at McMaster from 1993 to 2003, before moving to British Columbia where she has been an assistant professor at the University of British Columbia. She has also been appointed as an associate professor in obstetrics and gynecology. Hutton has a MScN in Parent Child Nursing, a PhD in Clinical Epidemiology and a Certificate in Midwifery. She was part of the team which made recommendations for the development of the Midwifery Education Program in Ontario, and provided the prototype for the UBC program.

She has received numerous academic awards, including the 2006 Western Regional Award from the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada, in recognition of her leadership in research and education.

**McMaster network | Winter ’07**
FHS alumni, staff win McMaster awards

Three alumni were among the 2006 inductees to the McMaster Alumni Gallery, which is the university’s forum for honouring the outstanding achievements of its graduates.

Mohit Bhandari (M.Sc. ’99) is an orthopedic surgeon and assistant professor in McMaster’s Department of Surgery. He holds the Canada Research Chair in Musculoskeletal Trauma and Surgical Outcomes and has made significant contributions to the field of orthopedics in clinical research.

Louis Lamontagne (PhD ’92) is currently the president and CEO of PainCeptor Pharma Corporation, a Canadian-based private company focused on drug development for the treatment of acute and chronic pain. Prior to joining PainCeptor, he was the president of Neurochem Inc., which he transformed from the initial start-up into a competitive biopharmaceutical firm that completed the largest biotech IPO in Canada in 2000.

Peter James Newbery (MD ’76), is a family physician who has worked in rural and isolated Canadian communities. He is currently a family physician in Hazelton, B.C., as well as a minister of the United Church of Canada. Until 2001, he was the director of the United Church Health Services in B.C. which operates five hospitals, eight medical clinics and employs hundreds of health care workers.

Alan Nolet (B.H.Sc.PT ’98) has been inducted into McMaster’s Athletics Hall of Fame. He was a gymnast proficient in all disciplines, placing first in the all around Ontario University Athletics – West Gymnastics Championships for the 1993-94 year. He also competed at the national level for six years and was a member of the Canadian Olympic Gymnastics Team in 1988, 1992 and 1996. Two staff members in the Faculty of Health Sciences received the President’s Award for Outstanding Service.

Debra Lynn Kigar is a research assistant in psychiatry and behavioural neuroscience, and Lorraine Moss is program co-ordinator in pathology and molecular medicine.

New directors named

New leaders have been appointed for two research centres at McMaster University that focus on assessing and evaluating various facets of the public health care system.

Julia Abelson has been named director of the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis (CHEPA). She is an associate professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and has been a member of CHEPA since 1998.

Abelson holds a Canadian Institutes of Health Research New Investigator Award (2003-2008) and is a past recipient of an Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Career Scientist Award. She is a McMaster alumna, having received a B.Arts Sc. (Hon) from McMaster in 1988. She later earned a M.Sc. in health policy and management from the Harvard School of Public Health and a PhD in social and policy sciences from the University of Bath. CHEPA is an interdisciplinary research centre that acquires, produces and communicates knowledge in the fields of health economics and health policy analysis.

Ron Goeree is the new director of the Program for Assessment of Technology in Health (PATH), a joint research program of McMaster University and St. Joseph’s Healthcare.

Goeree is an assistant professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and a member of CHEPA. He obtained both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at McMaster University.

PATH conducts research to assess the costs and health benefits to patients of various health interventions ranging from pacemakers to diagnostic imaging to surgeries. The research is designed to help the province decide the most efficient and effective way to spend health care dollars.

Karyn Kaufman, who helped midwifery become a respected profession in Ontario and established McMaster University’s midwifery program, has retired as assistant dean. Kaufman, a professor of family medicine and an associate member of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, was assistant dean for the Bachelor of Health Sciences in Midwifery program since its inception in 1993. The program is a consortium with Ryerson and Laurentian universities.

Kaufman earned a nursing degree, master of science and a certificate of nurse-midwifery in the United States, before coming to McMaster University in 1972.

She was a clinical nurse specialist in the perinatal program for Chedoke-McMaster hospitals for 15 years, while she was also an assistant, later associate, professor for the School of Nursing. During the ’80s she took several leadership roles looking into the implementation of midwifery in Ontario for the RNAO and the provincial Ministry of Health, which led to the beginning of the midwifery program at McMaster.

Kaufman has received many accolades for her contributions, including an honorary doctorate from the University of British Columbia and the McMaster University President’s Award for Educational Leadership.

Kaufman retires
FHS alumni: Where are they now?

1970s

Andrew Padmos, MD '72

Dr. Andrew Padmos of Halifax, N.S. has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer of The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Padmos has played an active role in addressing the challenges in the cancer care system for Nova Scotia since 1998 as Commissioner of Cancer Care Nova Scotia. He has also held key posts at Capital Health/QEII Health Sciences Centre including vice-president, research, academic affairs and quality. He is associate dean of Cancer Programs at Dalhousie University, and a professor in the departments of community health and epidemiology.

Jane Galbraith, BScN '76

Nursing alumni Jane Galbraith of Burlington has published a book entitled Baby Boomers Face Grief – Survival and Recovery. The 100-page paperback helps readers understand the grief process and provides the tools needed to face the loss of a loved one. Galbraith is a consultant in medical malpractice cases and is the medical member for CPP Disability and Old Age Security Tribunals held mostly in Hamilton and surrounding areas. She previously worked as a case manager for the home care program at McMaster, and as a senior manager of the Community Care Access Centre of Halton. For information on how to obtain a copy of the book, go to www.trafford.com/05-2319 or e-mail jane.galbraith@sympatico.ca

1980s

Valerie Castle, MD '83

Dr. Valerie Castle has been appointed chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Communicable Diseases at the University of Michigan Medical School. The department has 527 faculty and staff, 128 trainees and a departmental clinical and research budget of $55.5 million. Castle obtained her MD at McMaster, and also completed a pediatrics residency. In 1990, she completed a fellowship in pediatric hematology/oncology at the University of Michigan, then joined its faculty. She is also involved in research focused on the childhood cancer neuroblastoma, specifically the mechanisms of chemotherapy and radiation resistance. Castle has been recognized in the Guide to America's Top Pediatricians and "Best Doctors" in America.

1990s

Remi Ejiwunni, B.Sc. ’93; Midwifery ’96

Remi Ejiwunni, who was part of the first graduating class of the Midwifery Program at McMaster University, continues to enjoy what she describes as a fulfilling, challenging and exciting career. She lives in Mississauga and is a senior partner with Midwifery Care of Peel and Halton Hills.

The agency’s 12 midwives include other McMaster graduates, as well as foreign-trained midwives and some who have been practicing since before it became a legislated profession. Ejiwunni was on the board of directors for the Association of Ontario Midwives, including two terms each as vice-president and president. She is the midwifery representative to the Canadian College of Family Physicians, and an instructor in the midwifery program at Ryerson University. She enjoys travelling, snowboarding and wall-climbing.

2000s

Michael Oyinema, BScN ’00

After graduating from McMaster, Michael Oyinema moved to North Carolina, where he worked for two hospitals and later a nursing agency. During those years, he travelled to Nigeria two or three times a year to volunteer in public health clinics in rural areas. His work included direct patient care as well as teaching the local health care workers.

Last year he began training to become a doctor at the University of Health Sciences Antigua School of Medicine in the West Indies. As a member of the American Medical Student Association (AMSA), Oyinema is a key player in a project that involved adopting a local elementary school where most of the pupils come from very poor families. The Antigua branch of the AMSA donates items needed by the school, such as books, computers and writing materials. Oyinema said he enjoys helping the school, as it reminds him of his own school days in rural Nigeria, where there were no pens and paper.

Jonathan DellaVedova, B.H.Sc. (Hon.) ’05

In his valedictory address at McMaster, Jonathan DellaVedova called upon his fellow graduates to use their leadership abilities to become agents of meaningful change. In keeping with these sentiments, he joined the Charter Class of the new Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM), drawn by the potential to influence curriculum development, student initiatives, and the cutting edge of medical care for underserviced populations. Based at the Sudbury campus, DellaVedova is helping to establish the NOSM Student Society, and currently serves as vice-president, education. He also serves on the Undergraduate Medical Education Committee, and was the first recipient of the NOSM Student Citizenship Award for leadership. On a national level, Jonathan is a Member of the Board for Canadian Doctors for Medicare, a physician group committed to the preservation of equitable health care access as well as supporting the development of evidence-based health care innovations that benefit all Canadians.
Alumni from various Faculty of Health Sciences programs came back to campus during 2006 to catch up on each other’s lives, reminisce about their days together at McMaster and see the changes at the University.

Three medical school classes, three nursing classes, the midwifery program, and two classes from the School of Rehabilitation Science (SRS) held reunions during the past year. Most of the reunions were centred on campus, and included tours as well as casual and formal meals.

The first-ever Midwifery reunion was held to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of its first graduating class. Graduates from all years were invited to a luncheon on campus and tours of the Michael G. DeGroote Centre for Learning and Discovery, where the program is now headquartered.

The MD classes of ’76, ’81 and ’96 each held events both on and off campus. The Class of ’76 held events Friday evening and throughout the day on Saturday, including tours on and off campus and dinner at the Faculty Club. The class of ’81 held a lunchtime family barbecue at a local park, and had dinner

Alumni and guests at the MD ’76 reunion had dinner at the Faculty Club.

Alumni from the 1976 MD class pose for a group photo in the Great Hall at the Faculty Club.

Dr. Joh Kelton, dean and vice-president of the Faculty of Health Sciences, addresses the MD Class of ’81 at the reunion dinner.

The MD Class of ’96 gathered on campus with their families for a lunchtime barbecue.

Dr. Laurel Moore (Deas) of the 1981 MD class.
tours, dinners and memories

Those attending the first-ever reunion for the midwifery program had lunch in the Skylight Room of the Commons Building.

at the Faculty Club. The Class of ’96 enjoyed a family barbecue on campus at lunch, and a formal dinner off campus.

The SRS classes of ’96 and ’01 gathered for a reunion including a family picnic, campus tours, and a reception, dinner and silent auction at the Faculty Club.

The Nursing Class of ’96 reunited on campus with tours and a dinner in the Skylight Room of the Commons Building.

The Nursing Class of ’86 organized a get-together in the Muskokas.

Several of the 2006 reunion classes picked up on the recent trend towards establishing bursaries in honour of their reunions to fund future generations of students training to become medical professionals. New bursaries were launched by each of the three MD reunions, by the midwifery program and by the Nursing Class of ’86. The SRS reunion classes chose to contribute to the SRS Graduate Bursary Fund, which was launched in 2004.

Close to $70,000 was donated or pledged as part of the 2006 reunions to the various bursaries.

Among those at the midwifery reunion were (from left): Andrea Robertson, class of ’03; Lorna MacRae, class of ’01; Patricia McNiven, associate professor in the program; Tonya MacDonald, class of ’04.

Alumni from the classes of ’96 and ’01 of The School of Rehabilitation Science gathered for dinner at the University Club.

Alumni from the Nursing Class of ’86 pose for a group photo in the Commons Building.

Karen Melnick (Ulan), left, and Corinne Zamora from the Nursing Class of ’86.
Biochemistry to mark 40th anniversary

Something amazing happened 40 years ago. It was in 1967 that McMaster’s Department of Biochemistry was born. And while the birth was a fairly quiet event, what’s happened in the department over the last 40 years has provided plenty of reasons to celebrate now, and that’s just what is planned.

Over the last four decades, the department has grown both in size and stature – indeed, it’s recognized as one of the top centres for life sciences research in North America. Some 1,600 students have graduated, it has received more than $100 million in research grants, and hundreds of honours and accolades have been awarded to faculty and students for their scientific contributions. World-class, state-of-the-art laboratories line the corridors in the area of McMaster Health Sciences Centre where it’s now located.

While some things have changed, like the name – it’s now the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences – other things have remained constant, like the commitment to excellence, both in teaching and research.

On McMaster’s Homecoming Weekend this year, everyone who is currently or was previously connected with the department is being invited to reunite with friends, colleagues and former and current students to celebrate past successes and future endeavours.

Activities, including a symposium, a poster session and a wine and cheese party, are being planned for October 12 and 13, 2007. So mark it on the calendar now and watch your mail for more details.

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MD Class of 1982 – 25th Reunion
Date: TBD
Reunion committee: Dr. Aubrey Goldstein.

MD Class of 1987 – 20th Reunion
Date: TBD
Reunion committee: John Granton.

To RSVP for your reunion or for more information, contact 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.

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 or visit our website where you can log on to our alumni web community at www.mcmaster.ca/ua/alumni

2007 Class Reunions
Is your class planning a reunion this year? Below are the details available to date on planned reunions this year in the Faculty of Health Sciences. If you would like to help organize a reunion for your class, please contact the Alumni Office at McMaster University. There are resources available to help you plan a memorable event!

MD Class of 1977 – 30th Reunion
Weekend of June 1-2, 2007
Location: McMaster University, Hamilton, ON
Reunion committee: Frank Murphy, Jennifer Blake, Jim McFarland, Cheryl Blinick.

MD Class of 1982 – 25th Reunion
Date: TBD
Reunion committee: Dr. Aubrey Goldstein.

MD Class of 1987 – 20th Reunion
Date: TBD
Reunion committee: John Granton.

School of Rehabilitation Science (OT & PT)
Classes of ‘92, ’97 and ’02
Saturday, June 9, 2007
Location: McMaster University, Hamilton, ON

Former acting chair Thomas Neilson in a 1969 photo from the Department of Biochemistry.