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An artist's portrait shows the north-facing front of the Centre for Learning and Discovery.

## New building boosts capacity for students and research

It will be a building for students and new ideas. Construction is under way on the University's five-storey Centre for Learning and Discovery to the north of the McMaster Health Sciences Centre.

The \$70-million, 300,000-square-foot facility will provide much needed space for learning and research and will address a number of critical needs for the University and its affiliates.

Staff is expected to move into the building, designed by NORR architects of Toronto, during the summer of 2004.

The first floor will provide the University with classroom space of six large classrooms and five lecture theatres. One theatre, with 600 seats, will be the largest seating space on campus. For flexibility it may be divided into two 300-seat lecture halls when needed.

Altogether, the first floor will seat more than 1,800 students and will help McMaster address the needs created by Ontario's "double cohort."

The second floor is to be connected by an enclosed ramp to the Health Sciences Centre and will be used by Hamilton Health Sciences for patient care services. Plans are still being finalized, but the hospital may use the space for intensive care facilities.

The third floor has been dedicated

to the needs of the Faculty of Health Sciences for classrooms, tutorial rooms, postgraduate offices and laboratories. A rounds room is scheduled to have state-of-the-art teleconferencing facilities, allowing students and faculty at hospitals across the city or throughout the province to join in discussions as if they were sitting in the room.

McMaster's renowned education programs are adapting new learning technologies to ensure continued innovation with respect to what and how people learn, says Dr. Susan Denburg, associate dean, academic for the Faculty.

"This new space will allow us to consolidate key educational researchers and planners. Their physical proximity to each other and to a revitalized learning resource area will enhance our efficiency and enable a creative synergy," she said.

The fourth and most of the fifth floors will showcase the Institute for Molecular Medicine and Health (IMMH), which includes the Centre for Gene Therapeutics, and is a prototype for the University's new revolution in health sciences education and research.

The two floors will contain a variety of offices and wet laboratories. A second

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# Message From the *Dean and Vice-President*

While doing background reading for a talk recently, I was struck by the relationship between major revolutions in our Faculty's development and the opening of new buildings.

Back in the early '40s, McMaster chemistry professor Charles Burke initiated an innovative nursing program to answer the growing need for more and better prepared nurses in an era of burgeoning medical advances. He felt, as we do still, that the University had a responsibility to meet community needs.

The School of Nursing opened in Hamilton Hall, which was built by the citizens of Hamilton to welcome the move of McMaster from Toronto a few short years before.

The nursing students also received training at Hamilton General Hospital. This collaboration between the University and local hospitals is still essential and flourishing.

Two decades later a rebel team of innovators, led by Dr. John Evans, created a revolution in health care training with the establishment of a medical school which was community-oriented, people-centred, interdisciplinary and problem-based.

At the same time, the McMaster Health Sciences Centre became a landmark in Hamilton when construction was completed in 1972. The most important concept behind its distinctly different design was flexibility in its structural and mechanical functions for easy conversion of space to the future needs of education and research as well as the community's health care needs.

Our collaborative nature grew when, in 2000, Mohawk College and McMaster jointly opened the Institute for Applied Health Sciences Centre that houses Mohawk's health sciences programs and our rehabilitation sciences school.

Today we're on the threshold of a

new era in health sciences education and research.

We now have an enrolment of 3,000, including a record 390 medical students and more than 1,100 nursing students on the Mohawk, McMaster and Conestoga College campuses. They head out for placements and electives to more

than 60 locations in Ontario, as far away as Wawa.

To teach them, we've hired 80 faculty members in the past year. The recruits have come from as far away as Australia, South Africa, Germany, Scotland and Switzerland.

Research overseen by the Faculty has soared to a record \$84 million. We're proud of our researchers' work, but space has become at a premium.

Our curriculum is undergoing rejuvenation as we've made important discoveries

about how health care professionals become experts in their field. One recent example is the development of our clinical skills "flight simulator" which allows students to practice until perfect.

Now we're breaking new ground for another exciting building, the largest built at the University since our medical centre 30 years ago. The Centre for Learning and Discovery will create the infrastructure needed to pioneer a new era in education excellence, accommodate increased student enrolment and provide more opportunities for outstanding research.

I'm very pleased with the support the community is already showing towards this \$70 million centre, and I'm particularly appreciative of the lead role of Charles and Margaret Juravinski in the fundraising campaign.

In talking about the wonderful community support for our University and our Faculty, I must say I'm happy to see the total amount in bursaries to our medical students is more than any other

medical school in Ontario.

The generosity of donors to the University's drive to raise funds to invest in scholarships and bursaries for our "human capital" has coincided with the rise in tuitions, and has increased available aid for our students by more than 17 fold.

We can also say that even as we consider the necessary tuition increases for our medical school to maintain quality, we have the least expensive medical degree in Ontario.

We're glad the friends of the University and our Faculty have been showing this kind of bursary support for our students. It is a true investment in the future, both of the individuals and of health care in Ontario. In this issue you'll see stories of a few of the people assisting our students in realizing their dreams.

We have many people connected to the Faculty of whom we may be proud. Some of the individuals are featured in this issue.

We're also proud of our nursing alumni members' involvement in providing mentors for our first year nursing students. We all need guidance and advice during our academic development, and I encourage alumni to share their experience from both education and career with our students in this field. I know the enthusiasm will be infectious.

Our current students also make great ambassadors. There was great acclaim for the first season of Med Students, a reality television show aired on Life Network last summer and Discovery Channel in the fall. This spring the production teams will return to film a second season.

I mentioned the rejuvenation of our medical curriculum and some of you may be contacted as, over the next few months, we survey students and alumni for their experience.

I thank you in advance for helping us make exciting innovations in the development of our education and ensuring our program continually strives to be inspiring innovation and discovery.



**John G. Kelton, MD**  
*Dean and Vice-President,  
Faculty of Health Sciences*

# Bursaries for medical students tops in Ontario

For a second-year medical student like Andrew Stewart, the McMaster Student Opportunity Fund has delivered what its name implies, an opportunity.

“My mom is a nurse, and a single parent. I’m now in my sixth year of university, my undergraduate degree is in psychology and criminology from Carleton University,” says the 25-year-old Guelph native.

“If I hadn’t received a bursary, this would be really hard for her.”

As a student Andrew has been relying on the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP), as well as a student line of credit from the Royal Bank. The bursary he received this year will give him the opportunity to purchase textbooks and supplies and do electives outside the city.

“It’s expensive to live elsewhere for four months. I can kind of relax and not worry so much now,” says Andrew, who has held jobs as a waiter, summer camp counsellor and bar doorman.

Choosing a post-secondary education has always been an important life decision about the investment of time and money. Part of the consideration is providing for tuition and the expenses of life during that time.

Tuition covers about one-third of the cost of providing the education and ranges from \$4,700 a year for undergraduate programs like nursing, to \$7,500 for a 12-month professional program such as occupational or physical therapy. Undergraduate medical students, who along with business students have deregulated tuition, paid \$14,000 this year.

However, the University’s concerted campaign during the past eight years to raise money for scholarships and bursaries has built the funds to be distributed to students across the university from \$400,000 to \$7 million a year.

The effect of McMaster’s Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Funds initiative has been substantial.

In the Faculty of Health Sciences, the \$2.2 million in bursaries given out to medical students last year topped the amount given out at the other Ontario medical schools, including the University of Toronto.

The 373 bursaries available to McMaster medical students this year was

a jump from 45 bursaries in 1997-98 worth a total of \$126,000.

Eighty per cent of McMaster’s 386 medical students applied for bursary support this year. Only three were unable to demonstrate financial need and did not receive funds.

The average award given to medical students was \$6,900.

The overall increase in financial support for students is much appreciated, said Carolyn Snider, a third-year medical student.

“It really is a vote of support and understanding. As tuitions have gone up, the university and its donors have said we’re going to support you more.”

But Carolyn, 29, who worked in business before entering medical school, said the increasing debt load for her classmates might affect their future plans.

“Fewer students are considering family medicine as a career which is not as financially rewarding as other specialties, yet there is such a shortage of family practitioners.”

For many students, the cost of coming to school at McMaster is short-term pain for long-term gain.

“I liked the character of the program here, the problem-based learning, the higher communications skills of the students,” said Diana Gerty, 26. She expects to owe about \$30,000 when she finishes her Masters of Science, Occupational Therapy degree this year.

“I went in thinking of my long-term goals. If finances had a role, I wouldn’t have come here,” said Gerty. She is a registered kinesiologist in her native B.C.

“I’m not accumulating things of value, it’s a lifestyle choice,” she said, adding that her master’s degree will give her a more stable and versatile career future.

Rebecca Davis, a second-year nursing student, worked two full-time jobs last summer – an 80-hour workweek – to support her schooling.

“I’ve always wanted to be a nurse. I’m very glad to be here, it’s always intense,” she said.

What with working and her parents’ support, the 20-year-old student from Mississauga won’t need an OSAP loan during her education.

“My only debt will be to my parents,

but it’s a big one.”

Occupational therapy student Corey Stock, 28, was attracted to McMaster’s masters program because it is two years instead of three. He figures he’ll owe about \$26,000.

“I feel the debt is worthwhile, although it will be tough and slow to pay back. I will be doing something I’m passionate about.”

A task force of the Council of Ontario Universities recently asked the provincial government to increase the limits on OSAP tuition eligibility and loans. The task force into medical student financial aid also asked universities to work towards increasing financial supports and ensuring students know about available aid.

The Faculty agrees with the recommendations, said Susan Denburg, associate dean, academic.

“We’re pleased McMaster leads the way in financial support for medical students and we believe the unified approach to this issue by Ontario universities will be the most effective.

“We are also working diligently to maximize the availability of funds for all our students.”

For Andrew Stewart the increase in amount of available bursaries makes it easier to cope.

“The Faculty is doing its best to try and help everyone.”



Medical student Carolyn Snider cooks her dinner.

Photo by: Glen Lawson

## Boosting capacity

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enclosed pedestrian ramp will link the new building with the Health Sciences Centre at the fourth floor level.

This facility will help ensure McMaster continues to grow as a leading centre in gene therapy, says Dr. Jack Gaudie, head of IMM, holder of the John Bienenstock Chair in Molecular Medicine and Chair of the Department of Pathology.

The Centre for Gene Therapeutics, begun in 1996, already has an impressive track record for investigating, creating and implementing ways to use genes as medicines in infectious diseases, cancer and diseases of the lung.

The IMM will promote “bench to bedside” research designed to decrease the time it takes medical discoveries to move from the research laboratory to the doctor’s office.

Dr. John Capone, associate dean of research for the Faculty, says there has been tremendous growth in research programs, including the recruitment of a large number of outstanding new research scientists.

“Our ability to exploit new opportunities has been severely limited by the

lack of research space.

“The new facility will ensure that we continue to attract exceptional scientists to McMaster and that we remain at the leading edge of current and emerging research areas in molecular medicine and biotechnology.”

The rest of the fifth floor will be used to provide support for the development of research findings that have commercialization potential.

“This is part of a broader strategic plan that we are undertaking in partnership with municipal leaders to establish an incubator facility and discovery district to exploit our regional strengths in biotechnology and medical research for commercial and economic development,” said Capone.

Funds for the construction have been committed by the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, Ontario Innovation Trust, Ontario Research and Development Challenge Fund, Hamilton Health Sciences and McMaster University.

Funds are being sought from the provincial government’s SuperBuild fund and a campaign to raise \$20 million from private donors.

## Individuals give fundraising backbone

Generous supporters of research and health care education donated more than \$5.7 million last year to the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Although the image may be that corporations provide the most backing for the Faculty, more than 35 per cent comes from individuals, said Floyd Mann, the Faculty’s advancement manager.

A significant proportion came to support research funds of individual diseases, in tribute to deceased friends and relatives.

Almost \$3.7 million was received from corporations, organizations and foundations.

Mann pointed out that all of the funds are restricted, that is, the money is allocated by the donor to support specific research, scholarships, bursaries, endowed chairs and professorships.

“This recognition of the exciting innovation of the Faculty in education and research scholarship is very rewarding. The Faculty has great friends who want to see us continue to excel,” he said.

## \$16 million in gifts to support health care

It was no horse race.

The clear leaders in major community support for the new Centre for Learning and Discovery are Charles Juravinski, former owner of Flamborough Downs race track, and his wife Margaret.

The couple has put \$1 million on the table for education research as the first key donation towards the new campus building for education and health research.

It was part of \$16 million in gifts to support Hamilton health-care and research facilities announced recently by the Greensville couple.

At the time Juravinski said he and his wife are giving back to people.

“It’s people who have made everything possible for not only me and Margaret, but also in support of the businesses we’ve been involved in. It’s always revolved around people.

“In appreciation, what do you do? You give it back to the people.”

Besides the donation towards the Centre for Learning and Discovery being constructed north of the Health Sciences

Centre, the gifts included a \$1 million endowment to help young surgeons advance their training; \$5 million to the Hamilton Regional Cancer Centre; \$5 million for St. Joseph’s Villa building campaign; \$2 million to St. Joseph’s Hospital for a new research centre and an endowment to recruit a lung cancer surgeon; and \$2 million to Hamilton General Hospital for a new cardiac catheterization unit.

Last year Juravinski, 73, sold the harness race track he helped found more than 30 years ago to Magna Entertainment, owned by horse lover Frank Stronach.

A native of Blaine Lake, Sask., Juravinski came to Hamilton when his father sought work here during the Depression. Juravinski worked as a construction worker, gas station owner and developer before becoming a co-founder of Flamborough Downs.

McMaster President Dr. Peter George said he appreciated that the University was invited to list its priorities for a gift.

“Margaret and Charles are generous in spirit as well as generous financially.”

## FOG hike for research

On Sunday, May 25, FOG will roll in on the Bruce Trail in Dundas.

It will be the second annual Friends of Glen (FOG) Hike for Leukemia Research, to raise money for the McMaster University Bone Marrow Transplant/Leukemia Research Fund.

Last May, the inaugural seven-kilometre FOG Hike around Spencer Gorge attracted 50 participants who raised more than \$13,000 for research, patient assistance and staff education.

The fund, administered by Dr. Irwin Walker and Dr. Brian Leber of the Faculty of Health Sciences, is named for Glen Ferguson, who died in 2000, a day before he was to receive a bone marrow transplant in his battle with acute myelogenous leukemia. Glen, 52, was a prolific Bruce Trail hiker and the walks are along his favourite trails.

Additional walkers are welcome and pledge forms will be available on 3Z of the Health Sciences Centre and from the advancement office at HSC 2E4. For information, call Nancy Kolenski at 905-525-9140, ext. 22170.

# People in the **KNOW**

## Family creates legacy of endowed scholarships

A family dealing with the impact of multiple sclerosis has established scholarships for McMaster's undergraduate medical students.

Tania Cholowsky and her daughter Alexandra, who has multiple sclerosis, have endowed the Cholowsky Family Multiple Sclerosis-Neurology Scholarships with \$250,000. The proceeds from the gift will be distributed among up to four medical students a year for completing an elective, educational or research project in the field of multiple sclerosis or the broader area of neurology.

Tania Cholowsky, who was born in the Ukraine, immigrated to Canada with her husband Roman after the Second World War. Together they worked to set up a successful importing business.

Roman died 19 years ago, and it was in memory of his life-long commitment to the importance of education that the scholarships were established.

"His father instilled that commitment in him. Roman was a graduate of the

University of Munich in economics and business administration," said Tania Cholowsky.

Alexandra, a former teacher, said she was delighted to think that students receiving the scholarships may someday be finding a cure for the condition she's lived with for 20 years.

At a luncheon to herald the gift, University President Peter George said perpetual, endowed awards such as the Cholowsky Family scholarships provide the University with the ability to recognize and reward academic excellence.

"You have enabled generations of undergraduate medical students to more adeptly face the daunting costs of a university education. This scholarship is truly a legacy that will honour your family and foster new research in an area of medicine very dear to your hearts."

Dr. John Kelton, dean and vice-president of the Faculty of Health Sciences, said the new scholarships would encourage undergraduate medical students to

develop further interests in an important area.

"The best way we can attack this illness is with a concerted plan to train doctors and researchers to be passionate in investigating its causes, treatments and cures."



Tania Cholowsky and her daughter Alexandra.

Photo by: Rob Tatlock

## Awards support work of graduate students

The internal and external scholarships and awards for graduate students range from \$1,000 to \$50,000, although many are in the \$15,000 range.

The winners of 2002/2003 are:

### University Scholarships:

Mutual Group	Karen Burns
Lorne F. Lambier Q.C.	Arkan Al Abadi
Dalley Fellowship	Monique Maarschalkerveerd

### Health Sciences Scholarships and Awards:

Aileen McPhail Memorial	Michelle Hogan
Anne Hall Memorial	Ruby Miller
D.C. Russell	Valerie Abbott-Mitchell
Akerke Baibergenova	Louis Minden
Paul Leblanc	Rose C. Mosgrove
Valerie Abbott-Mitchell	W.E. Rawls Memorial
Arkan Al Abadi	

### Premier's Research Excellence Awards:

Michaela Devries	Lawrence DeKoning
Joanna Kasaboski	Maria Diamandis
Stephanie Osip	Dragoslava Velkovic
Eric Payne	Maria Anzulovic
Stephen Colgan	Michael Santosuosso

### Ontario Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology:

Virginia Wright  
Yi Zhang

### Canadian Blood Services Awards:

Aisha Headley  
Susan Whittaker

### Canadian Institutes of Health Sciences Awards:

David Alvarez	Ryan Wiley
Peter Margetts	Richard Leigh
Filip Swirski	Parameswaran Nair
Monica Verma	Amit Garg
Jun Wang	Joanna Sale

### Father Sean O'Sullivan Research Centre Awards:

Dustin Johnson  
David Southam

### Rx&D Health Research Foundation Awards:

Christina Green  
Safa Elgamal

### IODE Scholarship:

Stacey Ritz

### National Cancer Institute of Canada Award:

Grace Trentini

### National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Awards:

Douglas Mahoney	Yarema Bezchlibynk
Jason Sutherland	Tara Sullivan
Ramzi Fattouh	Adriana Catalli
Kathryn Howe	Leigh Wilson
Pengfei Zhou	

### Ontario Graduate Scholarships:

Marc Fillion	Victor Chong
Daniel Stephenson	Erin Giles
Lindsay Watson	Paul Leblanc
Darryl Vaz	Michelle Butt
Meaghan Hunter	Jennifer Dziuba
Jill Johnson	Mandi Newton
Teng-Chih Yang	Sumeet Singh
Elizabeth Cates	Heather McDonald

### James Watson

David Ballok  
Laura Pacey  
Diego Garzon  
Yingtao Xu  
Megan Miller  
Elizabeth White  
Heather Camerson

### Sandy Steinwender

Soo Chan Carusone  
Chris Goodwin  
Kimberley Whibbs  
Juleen Knechtel  
Meghan Brown  
Diana Gerty  
Alia Pfeiffer

### Ontario HIV Treatment Network Award:

Janina Jiang

### Ontario Women's Health Award:

Alison Shea

### U.S. Army Award:

Niki Sharan

### Alberta Heritage Foundation Award:

John D. McLennan

### Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada Awards:

Femida Gwadry-Sridhar  
Olga Cortes Ferriera

### Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada/ Canadian Institutes for Health Sciences Awards:

Afshin Jahromi  
P.J. Devereaux  
Juan Carlos Villar

### Canadian Nurses Foundation, Aventis Pasteur Award:

Charles Anyinam

### National Health Research and Development Program Award:

Susan Jack





Laura Babiski

## Bursary honours clinical lecturer

The first recipient of the Laura Babiski Memorial Bursary is Shannon Dalzell, a Level II occupational therapy student.

The award was established in 2000 in tribute to the late Laura Babiski, a clinical lecturer in occupational therapy from 1991 to 2000.

The bursary is to be awarded to a student in second year of the Master of Clinical Health Sciences, Occupational Therapy Program, who has achieved excellence in mental health practice as demonstrated by passion for the practice area, compassion for individuals with serious mental illness and their families, recognition, advocacy and action for system change.

Babiski, a graduate of the University of Toronto's occupational therapy program, came to McMaster for her Masters of Health Science, graduating in 1990. Her practice area involved people with serious mental illness living in the community. She taught at Mohawk College as well as being a clinical lecturer at McMaster.

Associate Dean Mary Law recalled Babiski's energy and commitment, not only to the profession, but also to the essential importance of mental health principles.

"She was a vivid presence, with a warmth and intensity which was particularly noteworthy. Her eyes and her smile, as well as her intelligence and warmth, will be her legacy."

Dalzell has been involved in a research project looking to assist mental health consumers overcome barriers to participating in the community.

Donations for the bursary are still being accepted. For more information, or to make a donation to the bursary, contact [macfund@mcmaster.ca](mailto:macfund@mcmaster.ca) or call 905-525-9140, ext. 24224.



Laurie Kennedy



Jackie Bosche and Janice Pogue

## Staff recognized for excellence

Three staff members of the Faculty of Health Sciences have been recognized for their excellent work and commitment, receiving Working at McMaster awards presented by McMaster University President Peter George.

Across the University there were 10 winners from more than 100 nominees.

Recognition of Laurie Kennedy, administrative coordinator in the School of Nursing, was well deserved, said Dr. Andrea Baumann, Associate Dean of Nursing.

"She's one of the people who makes the School of Nursing a special place to work and learn."

A fixture at McMaster since 1988, Laurie has played a key role in the development of students in both the undergraduate and graduate nursing programs.

Laurie was also applauded for her work overseeing the operations of the Nursing Effectiveness, Utilization and Outcomes Research Unit and her involvement with the MacSOC program for the homeless.

HOPE study team members Jackie Bosche and Janice Pogue won for their role as the heart of the Heart Outcomes Prevention Evaluation (HOPE) team of the Canadian Cardiovascular Collaboration at McMaster.

The two staff members were recognized for the central and substantive role they played in the success of this internationally acclaimed research study.

The trial involved more than 250 centres in 19 countries and Jackie and Janice were critical in keeping everything coordinated and working smoothly, organizing data collection and assisting in data analysis and reporting.

## Rehabilitation scholarship awarded

Michelle Cardy, a second year occupational therapy student, is the inaugural recipient of the Rosemary Elizabeth Nielsen Memorial Scholarship.

The award honours the memory of the late Rosemary Nielsen, a former clinical lecturer in the School of Rehabilitation Sciences for more than ten years. Robert Nielsen and their children Brett, Peter and Marina established the award in 2000.

Rosemary Nielsen became committed to the McMaster occupational therapy program at its inception in 1990 and over the years rehabilitation sciences benefited from her professional wisdom and extensive clinical experiences. The scholarship reflects her devotion to the education and caring of students.

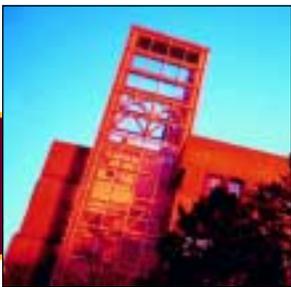
The scholarship is awarded by the School of Graduate Studies, on the

recommendation of the School of Rehabilitation Sciences, to a student in first year of the Master of Clinical Health Sciences, Occupational Therapy Program, who has achieved academic excellence and practical experience in mental health and wellness.

Cardy was awarded the scholarship in recognition of her excellent work in the first year of her studies.



Rosemary Nielsen



## People in the **KNOW**

### Professor receives top university honour for life

**D**r. Stephen M. Collins received the University's highest honour when he was bestowed with the title University Professor at McMaster's fall convocation.

The professor of gastroenterology shares the prestigious title with only six other full-time faculty members. The title is held for life and McMaster currently has a total of 13 University Professors.

The title is very well deserved, said Dr. John Kelton, dean and vice-president of the Faculty of Health Sciences.

"Dr. Collins is a distinguished scholar of the highest calibre who not only produces new knowledge with his research, but also is a superb educator."

Collins received his medical education and early clinical training in England, coming to Canada and McMaster University as a resident in internal medicine in 1975. He completed additional training in

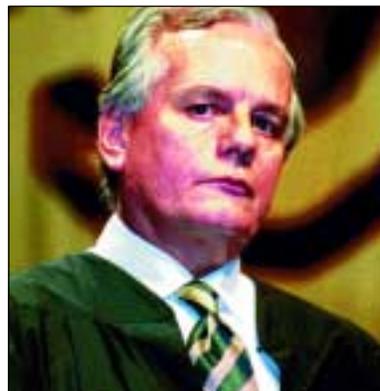
gastroenterology here.

He left McMaster in 1978 to become a research associate within the Digestive Branch of the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, but returned in 1981.

He has received international renown for his research studies that have examined the role of the immune system and its interface with the gastrointestinal system, and the connection between the gastrointestinal tract and the external environment.

He has published some 200 peer-reviewed publications, most in high-impact journals including *Gastroenterology*, *American Journal of Physiology* and the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

McMaster President Peter George's citation pointed out that Collins is considered to be the preeminent gastroenterologist in Canada and among the top few in the world.



*Dr. Stephen Collins*

He has been the recipient of numerous national and international honours and awards.

The President also said Collins has excelled as an educator, partly for his establishment of a team of basic scientists, applied scientists and clinical trial investigators that is known as the top clinical and investigative gastrointestinal group in the world.

Other University Professors in the Faculty of Health Sciences are Dr. John Bienenstock, Dr. Jack Gaudie, Dr. Frank Graham and Dr. Shepard Seigel.

### Renowned gerontologist named to new chair

**A**long-time advocate for older adults has been appointed to the new St. Peter's/McMaster Chair in Aging in the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University.

Dr. William Molloy, internationally recognized for his contribution to research in aging, is working at the new St. Peter's Centre for Studies in Aging, located at St. Peter's Hospital in Hamilton.

His responsibilities now include the development of academic programs related to aging and working with relevant organizations that are responsible for the care of



*Dr. William Molloy*

older adults.

"I am thrilled to be working at St. Peter's; there's a great 'can do' attitude," said Molloy, who has authored several research studies, articles and books such as *Vital Choices: Life, Death and the Health Care Crisis*. He is a professor of medicine in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Grant Walsh, president and CEO of St. Peter's Health System said the jointly funded \$2-million endowed chair appointment is important to both St. Peter's and McMaster University.

"It puts issues associated with aging at the forefront of teaching, research and service in Hamilton, and will help to improve the lives of those entrusted to our care. St. Peter's is delighted to welcome such a prestigious researcher as Dr. Molloy to the St. Peter's family."

Dr. John Kelton, dean and vice-president of the Faculty of Health Sciences, said, "With a growing population of seniors, appointing an international leader in aging and health to this Chair demonstrates our joint commitment to research and education in this area."

The appointment contributes to St. Peter's leadership in providing a continuum of service and care for older adults and the chronically ill.

# People in the **NEWS**



Arya M. Sharma



Manel Jordana

## Two take their chairs

The focus of research being done by the two newest Canada Research Chair holders of the Faculty of Health Sciences is obesity and allergic inflammation.

Dr. Arya Sharma and Dr. Manel Jordana have been appointed to seven-year, renewable chairs meant for experienced researchers who are acknowledged by their peers as world leaders in their fields.

Sharma, a new arrival at McMaster after leaving a prestigious position with Humboldt University in Germany, is looking at novel ways to prevent people from becoming dangerously overweight.

This work, of basic and clinical research, is to obtain a better understanding of the underlying mechanism of obesity, as well as ensuring the complications of the condition are addressed adequately.

Sharma will also be establishing a Centre of Excellence for Obesity Outcome Research.

Jordana, an expert on allergic inflammation, has received a research chair in immune biology of respiratory diseases and allergy. The work of the professor of pathology and molecular medicine could lead to new therapies for asthma, including the development of genetic immunotherapy strategies.

The Faculty of Health Sciences has 14 of the 35 Canada Research Chairs held at McMaster. The University has been allotted 73 chairs in the \$900 million federal program to help Canadian universities attract and retain researchers and achieve the highest level of research excellence.

## Mac has two Health Heroes

Two McMaster doctors have been named Health Heroes for their worldwide contributions to public health.

Dr. Victor Neufeld and Dr. David Sackett were among 17 Canadians given the honour by the Pan American Health Organization recently.

Their passion and commitment to international health was cited by Janet Hatcher Roberts, executive director of the Canadian Society for International Health.

Neufeld, 67, is professor emeritus of medicine, clinical epidemiology and biostatistics. He established and directed McMaster's Centre for International Health.

Sackett, 68, is widely regarded as the originator of evidence-based medicine, which is the use of critical appraisal and published evidence to improve patient care.

He was founding chairman of the department of clinical epidemiology and biostatistics.

## Buckley named acting chair

A McMaster alumnus has been named acting chair of anesthesia for the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Dr. Norm Buckley, who graduated as a MD in 1982, has been an associate professor and an active member of the department of anesthesia since 1987.

He is also a developer and the director of the Pain Management Centre and director of the anaesthesia pain fellowship program.

His clinical activities include chronic and acute pain management, while his research includes multi-centre evaluative drug studies in pain management.

Buckley, 48, is also currently a scientific officer of the clinical trials committee of Canadian Institutes for Health Research.

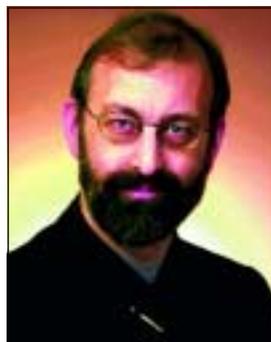
## Neonatologist steering pediatrics

He left the beach in Australia for winter in Hamilton.

In January Dr. Peter Steer joined the Faculty of Health Sciences as chair of the department of pediatrics. At the same time he became chief of pediatrics for Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton and took up a newly created position as president of McMaster Children's Hospital.

Steer, 43, is a neonatologist who was director of the Centre for Clinical Studies Women's and Children's Health at Mater Hospital in Queensland, Australia.

He is familiar with Hamilton's pediatric departments. He served as a McMaster visiting professor in the department of pediatrics from July to December 2001.



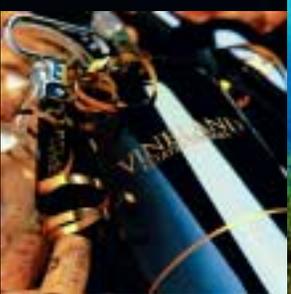
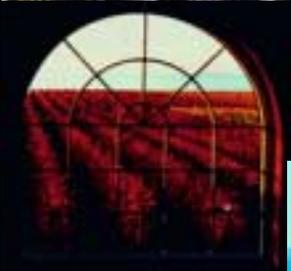
Dr. Norman Buckley



Dr. Peter Steer

# Give a Gift that gives back to McMaster

**Konzelmann Estate Winery and Vineland Estates Winery support McMaster University Faculty of Health Sciences Research Fund by donating a portion of the proceeds of the purchase of any gift package.**



Konzelmann Estate Winery, Niagara's Exclusive Lakefront Winery, produces wines that represent the culmination of four generations of oenology. From its humble beginnings in Canada in 1984, this family owned winery now offers more than 30 different VQA selections of national and international award-winning wines and Icewines. For details regarding our Winery Boutique, tasting bar, tours, special events and complete history, call 905.935.2866 or visit our website at [www.konzelmannwines.com](http://www.konzelmannwines.com)



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# The McMaster Premier Label Wine Selection



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The recipient of your gift will receive an acknowledgement to inform them of your generous donation.



### Award Series

2000 Merlot Reserve (0)

An elegant oak aged wine that presents itself with fine complexity, full body and soft tannin. Dark cherry, slight coffee and mint aromas are followed with rich, blackberry flavours, hints of herbs and pepper, concluded with a touch of dryness in the finish.

\$14.95

X \_\_\_\_\_ Qty = \_\_\_\_\_



### Reserve Series

2001 Chardonnay Reserve (0)

(Barrel Fermented)

This Chardonnay is aromatically generous with an essence of pear-peach, fresh cream and light butter. The structure is full of integrity with fine acidity and fruit effortlessly intertwined.

\$20.95

X \_\_\_\_\_ Qty = \_\_\_\_\_



### Vineland Estates Premium White

2001 Sauvignon Blanc (0)

Medium bodied and well structured, this wonderful example of Ontario Sauvignon Blanc is the perfect choice for entertaining with overtones of white grapefruit and lemon grass.

\$15.95

X \_\_\_\_\_ Qty = \_\_\_\_\_



### Vineland Estates Premium Red

2001 Cabernet Sauvignon (0)

Ripe black cherry and a hint of tobacco round out this deep and delicious medium bodied red.

Bronze Medal - VinItaly 2002 in Verona, Italy  
"Four Stars" - Malcolm Anderson, The Montreal Gazette - Wine of the Week

\$17.95

X \_\_\_\_\_ Qty = \_\_\_\_\_



### Winemaster's Collection Series

2000 Riesling 'Grand Reserve' (0)

With ripe fruit in the nose, this balanced dry wine shows excellent structured acidity, and is full bodied with citrus notes of fresh green apples, with a touch of exotic fruit.

Gold - InterVin International (New York)  
Best of Show - Toronto Wine & Cheese Show

\$42.95

X \_\_\_\_\_ Qty = \_\_\_\_\_



### Dessert Wine

2000 Vidal Icewine (21)

This golden coloured dessert wine has a rich and luscious sweetness with distinct aromas of apricot and honey. Tropical fruit flavours combined with a nice crisp acidity balances and allows for an enjoyable lingering finish.

Best Vidal Icewine Trophy  
2002 Canadian Wine Awards (Vancouver, BC)

\$49.95

X \_\_\_\_\_ Qty = \_\_\_\_\_



### Vineland Estates Reserve Red

2000 Cabernet Merlot (0)

Deep berry notes with 'sparkles' of cassis and raspberry introduce the wine to the palate.

"One of the best reds I have ever tasted" - Malcolm Anderson, The Montreal Gazette - Wine of the Week.

\$38.00

X \_\_\_\_\_ Qty = \_\_\_\_\_



### Vineland Estates Dessert Wine

1999 Vidal Icewine (23)

Our mouth watering 'nectar of the gods' displays intense apricot on the nose, and exotic flavours of kiwi, papaya and mango offers richness and finesse.

Gold Medal - Cellars of The World  
2002 - Ottawa, Ontario

\$45.00

X \_\_\_\_\_ Qty = \_\_\_\_\_

## McMaster Alumni ORDER FORM Premier Label



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E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Type:  Visa  Master Card  American Express

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE or FAX your order NOW! (six bottle minimum per winery)

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (res.): \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (bus.): \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

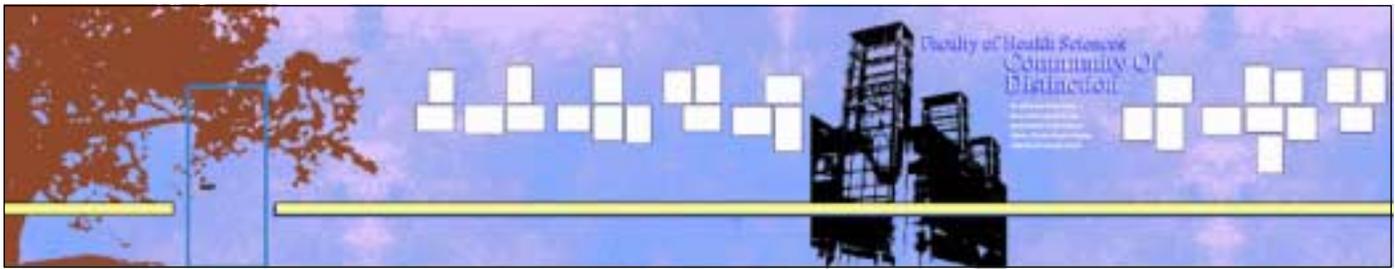
Credit Card Type:  Visa  Master Card  American Express

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_

Order confirmation, such as delivery details and payment method verification, will be fulfilled by each winery within one working week of receiving your order.

Offer subject to wine availability. OFFER expires May 31, 2003 and is only available to Ontario residents.

Donations determined by both Konzelmann Estate Winery and Vineland Estates Winery.



An illustration of a portion of the Community of Distinction wall designed by artist Rick Zazulak.

## Wall of distinction will herald our best

People making outstanding achievements that bring fame to the Faculty and University, will soon find themselves framed and hung.

That is, their portraits will be added to the new Community of Distinction being formed along a wall of the Health Sciences Centre.

The pictorial history will feature pictures and stories of alumni, faculty and staff who have brought distinction and recognition to McMaster University and the Faculty of Health Sciences through outstanding scholarship and innovative research.

The 120-foot gallery will be along the west wall on the second floor, between the School of Nursing offices and the Ewart Angus Centre. To the left will be a three-dimensional graphic of a tree. The individual pictures and biographies of individuals will be set around another three-dimensional graphic of the HSC and the gallery's sign. To the right will be more individual honours, plus recognition of the Faculty's partners in education and research, Hamilton Health Sciences, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton and St. Peter's Healthcare.

"We're a relatively young Faculty, but we have a clear history of excellence and innovation," said Dr. John Kelton, dean and vice-president of the Faculty. "It's important we recognize the individuals and groups who have put us on the map."

Nominations are now being collected for the initial 15

honours to be announced in June 2003. Subsequent years will have a maximum of five individuals selected.

The basic criterion is distinguished contribution in scholarship or conspicuous contribution in the science or delivery of health care or demonstrated outstanding leadership that is recognized by peers. Those eligible include alumni and anyone who is, or has been, faculty or staff of the Faculty.

The selection committee will include the dean, associate deans, presidents of alumni branches and several managers.

The nominator must indicate whether the nomination is for an individual or a team and must attach a supporting narrative of not more than 750 words. A few pictures or graphics illustrating the contribution may be submitted.

Each nomination must be supported by a minimum of two, but not more than four, references. Their support, of a maximum of 150 words, may be sent by e-mail through the nominator or separately. The position and contact information for the nominator and all references is required.

The deadline for nominations is April 17, 2003.

Nominations should be e-mailed to Manager of Development and Alumni Affairs Floyd Mann at [mannf@mcmaster.ca](mailto:mannf@mcmaster.ca). The Faculty's Office of development and alumni relations will manage the Community of Distinction program.

Individuals or groups selected will be notified by the dean and invited to a special reception in their honour.

## McMaster Plus provides personal digital library for northern physicians

The government of Ontario is investing \$1 million over three years so McMaster can create and test an online information service for physicians in isolated areas.

The project, known as "McMaster Plus: Harnessing Digital Libraries for Better Health Care," will begin by determining what information northern health care providers require. It will then develop an online system to provide them with the best evidence-based health literature and evaluate how the service is used.

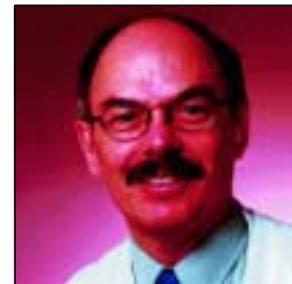
"Medical information is increasing at an exponential rate," said Dean and Vice-President Dr. John Kelton, at the announcement of the grant.

"The vast amount of literature, the complexity of results and rapid changes in knowledge can make it very difficult

for physicians to keep up. McMaster Plus is the first system of its kind to make health care knowledge available to clinicians in an easily-digestible form."

McMaster Plus is an enhancement to a digital health sciences library already in use in selected communities in northern Ontario through the Northern Academic Health Sciences Network (NASHN).

The project will not only expand the existing network but adds an extra level of sophistication. The new service will have the capacity to provide customized information and alert practitioners to breaking information specific and relevant to their field of practice or study, such as aboriginal health, geriatric care and rural medicine. When fully developed, it is expected the system will reach close to 10,000 health professionals in northern



Dr. Brian Haynes

Ontario, including doctors and nurses.

McMaster Plus builds upon the Faculty's extensive expertise in evidence-based health care.

Lead investigator for the project is Dr. Brian Haynes, chair of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and member of the Health Information Research Unit (HIRU).

# Shaping the *FUTURE*

## Interdisciplinary program involves six universities

McMaster and five other Ontario universities are receiving \$2.1 million over the next six years to develop and evaluate a provincial training centre for health services and health policy researchers.

The other universities are Lakehead, Laurentian, Ottawa, Toronto and York.

The money is from the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) and the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF).

Lead McMaster faculty in the initiative include Drs. Alba DiCenso of the School of Nursing, Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics; Christel Woodward, Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis, Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics; and Brian Hutchinson of Family Medicine and Director, Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis.

“CIHR, CHSRF and the federal government are on the right track in providing funds to train the next generation of health service researchers,” said DiCenso.

Health services research develops the sort of knowledge that is essential in some of the most important and controversial decision-making in the country: how to allocate resources for health care and organize, fund and deliver services.

Using a consortium approach, the training centre will draw on faculty and research expertise at the six universities to build a critical mass of skilled health services researchers.

Students enrolled at the centre, which could include faculty, post-doctoral fellows, graduate students and health care managers, will be trained to conduct research that meets the needs of health service policy makers, planners and managers, including those in rural, remote and northern communities.

One of the unique features of the training centre is the involvement of over 30 faculty members from a variety of disciplines such as economic, geography, labour studies, political science and business.

The interdisciplinary approach will enrich and broaden the learning experience and reflect the variety of challenge in health services research and delivery.

## Innovative network improves diabetes care

Better management of diabetes by patients and their physicians is the goal of an information and communications network being developed by a team of partners led by the Centre for Evaluation of Medicines.

The network, known as COMPETE II, will link family doctors, specialists, nurses, pharmacists and patients.

It will permit the secure transmission of electronic health records, drug information and lab tests and provide individualized, up-to-date information to support the education and self-management of patients with diabetes.

Over two million Canadians have diabetes, and the number is expected to increase as the population ages. Complications associated with diabetes and poor glucose control include heart disease, adult blindness, kidney disease and non-traumatic limb amputations.

“COMPETE I was the first Canadian study to evaluate electronic medical records in primary care,” said lead investigator Dr. Anne Holbrook.

“COMPETE II is moving on to assist both electronic and paper-based practices using automated phone and data-fax technology.

“The goal is to better integrate care among providers and to bring patients directly into the information and monitoring loop.”

One hundred family physicians in three cities, caring for approximately 6,000 Ontarians with diabetes, will collaborate to pilot the Diabetes Tracker of COMPETE II.

The Tracker allows both paper- and electronic-based physicians and their patients to participate and monitor how well individual risk factors are being followed, whether goals are being met, and provide specific advice to meet those goals.

The Tracker also makes possible the creation of a Core Data Set, a summary health record that allows physicians to easily build an electronic health record practice that can communicate with others, regardless of



*Dr. Anne Holbrook*

the software used.

COMPETE II is funded by a \$1 million Canadian Health Info-structure Partnership Program grant, with an additional \$1 million being provided by private partners.

The Centre for Evaluation of Medicines is affiliated with McMaster University and the St. Joseph's Healthcare Father Sean O'Sullivan Research Centre.



Global Communications cameramen film medical student Adam Bretholz and simulated patient Trent Copp.

## Media puts wide focus on medical “flight simulator”

The new Clinical Learning Centre has certainly been making the news.

The official opening by Dianne Cunningham, minister of training, colleges and universities, last fall was covered by local media, including The Hamilton Spectator, CH TV television, and radio stations CHML and Oldies 1150.

Since then news staff from CTV, CBC Radio Canada and Global Communications have been to visit the \$1.1 million facility on the first floor of the McMaster Health Sciences Centre.

The 4,700-square-foot facility offers the latest in technology to help students in medicine, nursing, midwifery, and occupational and physical therapy master the clinical skills they need – in a safe, controlled environment.

“McMaster has a reputation of getting students in the clinics and on the wards early and often, and that won’t change,” said Dr. John Kelton, dean and vice-president.

“At the same time, we have to recognize that developing clinical skills such as making incisions, suturing or conducting an examination takes repeated practice.

“Just as airline pilots practise over and over with flight simulators, the Clinical Learning Centre will give our students the opportunity will be able to repeat and practise their clinical skills in a risk-free environment.”

The centre includes a virtual reality surgery simulator for practicing the

finely-tuned eye-hand coordination needed for minimal access surgery and a laparoscopic suturing simulator.

A lab has been set up where computer simulations will be both developed and tested for McMaster’s next generation of health education — electronic problem-based learning (e-PBL).

There are also 12 examination rooms equipped with two-way glass so students can be observed and evaluated while practising their interviewing and examining techniques with simulated patients.

The standardized patient program, pioneered at McMaster thirty years ago, uses professional actors and makeup artists to create realistic medical problems and injuries in patients representing real-life situations.

Plans for the future call for a full-size “human simulator” that replicates human anatomy and respiratory and heart functions.

“One of the unique aspects of the centre is that it also houses a computer research lab funded through Canada Foundation for Innovation, in association with a Canada Research Chair,” said Dr. Susan Denburg, associate dean, academic.

“This allows us to study how expertise develops and to assess the impact on students of simulated clinical experiences.”

Funding for the new centre came from McMaster University, the provincial government and the Canada Foundation for Innovation.



Dr. Bill Bensen

## \$1 million given for national arthritis program

An innovative educational initiative to improve treatment received by arthritis patients has received major funding of \$1 million from Pharmacia Canada Inc. and Pfizer Canada Inc.

The Arthritis Treatment Program, funded for five years, is designed to train primary care physicians and other health professionals in providing optimal care for people with arthritis.

More than four million Canadians, or one in every seven individuals, suffer from some form of arthritis. That number is expected to grow at a rate of one million more Canadians per decade, at least until the year 2031.

Led by one of Canada’s leading clinical rheumatologists, Dr. William Bensen and a team of rheumatologists at McMaster and its partner institution, St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton, the program will consist of an overall practical management package including concepts and tools for managing rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis.

A simple, easy-to-use measurement tool will be developed for use in clinical practice that provides a common language between physician and patient and acts as a benchmark for improving arthritis care.

“If you envision the evolution of care for arthritis as a step ladder, with each rung representing an advancement in care, a number of Canadians remain on the bottom rungs,” said Bensen, of the Arthritis Treatment Program at McMaster University, adding that effective treatment must be early and aggressive.

“The gap between currently available standards of care and actual care received by patients continues to widen, putting patients at unnecessary risk.”

# Nursing Alumni *Hole in the Wall*

## 1970s

The class of 1977 held a reunion in November. Here is a selection of their updates. More will run in the next Network magazine.

### **KATHERINE CUMMINGS (STICKWOOD) '77**

Doug and I celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this fall and we have two children, Karen, 20, and Matthew, 18. I have been teaching at Durham College since 1980 and excitedly anticipate our first year nursing students in September in the new University of Ontario Institute of Technology BScN program. Currently I am on a sabbatical finishing a Master of Health Science.

### **DENISE HESLER '77**

After graduation I worked in the public health field for about 10 years. I became Bruce's dental assistant and still manage "our" dental practice in Port Colbourne. We're celebrating 28 years of marriage. He's still the love of my life! We have two boys, Nicolas, 23, who's teaching multi-media communication in a Brampton high school; and Richard, 21, is in third year engineering at McMaster. Between the dental office, watercolour art classes, knitting and home renovations, I've been kept pretty busy.

### **CATHY (VENDALL) BUFFETT '77**

Currently I'm the Director of Community Programs for Hamilton's Social and Public Health Services. Lindsay is at the University of Ottawa and James is in Grade 12.

### **CHRIS APOSTOLON (GIRARDI) '77**

Working as a diabetes educator at the Group Health Centre in Sault Ste. Marie. I'm married to Paul and have Joel, 19, at Brock University and Tricia, 17, in Grade 12.

### **WENDY BRICK (nee JOHNSON) '77**

After 13 years of nursing I went back to school and obtained my BEd and have been a teacher now for 12 years. I've taught Grades 8, 7, 6, 5 and now 4. (I feel taller now!)

I have two children: Adam is 17, in his last year of high school, and Lauren is 20, attending McMaster doing science.

### **MARY MARTIN-SMITH '77**

Moved to Regina in 1997 to accept a position as public health nursing consultant for Saskatchewan Health. Rick is teaching part-time and looking after our grandson Gage. Gage's parents, our son Todd and Jocelyn are university students. Garrett is finished high school and

exploring firefighting as a career. Maggie is in Grade 11. We love Saskatchewan. The hot dry summers are such a relief from the humidity and smog of Ontario. We miss family and friends and maple trees in the fall, but can navigate Chicago without too much of a problem, as all our family is still in Ontario.

### **INGRID FELL '77**

Gary, unfortunately, lost his battle with cancer five years ago. Michael, 19, is working full-time at an Internet service provider. We're still in Smithville, sharing our house with one dog, two cats and a full aquarium. I finally completed my MBA in June 2002. I learned that "all-nighters" are a lot harder on you 25 years later. I've begun work for the CCAC of Halton as a client services manager.

### **MERRILL CARMICHAEL '77**

I did volunteer work on medical teams in Belize, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic. I worked for the VON and the Ministry of Health in Toronto. I'm currently Director of Quality for the Hamilton CCAC. I have a son, now 16! I've traveled a lot for fun and in 2003 I'm off to Greece, Turkey and Crete. In 2004, I plan to get to Macchu Picchu and Galapagos Islands while I'm still young enough to survive 13,000 feet above sea level.

### **CAROL AIRD '77**

After graduation I spent three years outpost nursing in Manitoba and NWT. Returned to Ontario and worked as staff and supervisor for Victorian Order of Nurses and Public Health in Victoria. In 1989 I was hired as a nurse practitioner at Women's Health Care Centre - Peterborough Civic Hospital. I'm married, and live on Lake Scugog.

### **JANICE SANCAN '77**

After graduation I worked in Alberta, including staff work, administration and teaching. I also traveled in the South Pacific for a year and half. I'm just back from Saudi Arabia where I worked for 10 and half years. Now I'm completing the last course of a master's program and I'm ready to find employment.

### **BARBARA RAMORE (nee HOPKINS) '77**

I'm still working part-time in Intensive Care Unit in North Bay. My oldest daughter is in her second year at McMaster. The middle daughter is off to university next year and my son has a couple years left at home. We moved to the lake (near Corbeil) last May and are really enjoying it. Bill and I are celebrating our 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary. We met

all those years ago at McMaster. He is teaching at Canadore College.

### **MARY (GARNER) DI CESARE '77**

Guido and I have celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We have Catherine, 20, at University of Guelph; Gillian, 17, in Grade 12 and Justine, 13, in Grade 8. I work part-time as a case manager in Information and Referral with Halton CCAC. After a two-year stint of full-time, I'm happy to be back to part-time and plan to stay that way!

### **SANDY MCCAMUS '77**

Married Don McCamus, months after university. Our daughters have been a great source of joy and fun. Sarah Jane, 21, is at the University of Waterloo; Claire, 19, is at Western; Holly, 17, is part of that "double cohort" and Penny, 15, is in Grade 10. Don has worked at Labatt for 25 years. I initially worked in public health, but taught prenatal classes and did some contract jobs when the children were young. In 1993 I began work with Home Care in Toronto. I have been working with the Etobicoke CCAC as a case manager in the information and referral division since 1996. No long commutes!

## 2000s

### **NATASHA BROWNRIGG '02**

Working at Sick Kids in cardiology. Applying for a masters.

### **JILLIAN JOELLE FERRIS '02**

Working full time on a cardiac stepdown unit and working on expanding my professional profile via committees and groups.

## Volunteers needed

*Volunteers are needed to review applicants to next fall's BScN student body.*

*Candidates are assessed both on academic credentials and on personal attributes that are believed to be predictive of success in our small-group, problem-solving curriculum.*

*Alumni, senior students and community members are sought to help with the admission process, particularly with the questionnaire reading.*

*For more information, please contact Vicki Lewis at 905-525-9140, ext. 22232, or at [lewisvi@mcmaster.ca](mailto:lewisvi@mcmaster.ca)*

## President's Pen



Joanne Wright, '81  
President, of the  
Nursing Alumni Branch

The Nursing Alumni Branch executive members are: Joanne Wright '81, President; Rich Hesch '96, Awards Chair; Cynthia Forest '94, Member at Large; Nancy Carter '87, Member at Large; Emily Booth, Treasurer; Michelle Drummond Young '84, Faculty Representative and Rebecca Davis, MUNNS Representative.

The activities of the alumni executive this year have focused on the launch of the 2002-2003 mentorship program and strategic planning. As last year, the mentorship program includes students from the McMaster, Mohawk, and Conestoga campuses.

Once again we have a large intake of requests from the students for mentors. The mentorship program matches alumni with first year students, to assist BScN students in learning about the nursing profession in a supportive, non-evaluative relationship.

Rick Hesch and the executive have worked during the past several years to develop the Nursing Alumni prize into the Nursing Alumni Memorial Prize. The impetus for this change is a result of receiving donations made in the memory of nursing alumni. This prize will be awarded at the 2003 fall convocation.

As part of the strategic plan the branch is trying different ways to communicate with its members, including working with the university to improve our web page. We would ask that you use [intouch@mcmaster.ca](mailto:intouch@mcmaster.ca) to communicate with the Nursing Alumni Branch regarding updates in your life for the Hole In Wall, or your thoughts on what you would like from the Nursing Alumni Branch.

I would invite McMaster nursing program graduates to join the Alumni Branch. Volunteers for the executive are needed. The meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. from September to June. There is very little work to be done outside the meeting times. Please contact the Alumni Office at 905-525-9140, ext. 22196 or by e-mail at [intouch@mcmaster.ca](mailto:intouch@mcmaster.ca)

## MD Alumni Mary's Corner

### 1970s

#### STEPHEN G. HAYES '73

Passed away in 2001. His wife Rosalind wrote from La Canada, California to say he was proud of his affiliation with McMaster and grateful for the exceptional education, adding that he was a gentleman, scholar and much beloved by his patients. He was the father of Kathleen, Andrew, Emmet, William and Garret and the step-father of James and Chloe.

#### ALAN GOLDBLOOM, '73

Became chief executive officer of Children's Hospitals and Clinics in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN, the largest children's health care provider in the Midwest, in January 2003. Previously, he spent 15 years at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto where his most recent position was executive vice president.

### 1980s

#### JOSEPH FINKLER '89

Greetings to all from Vancouver. Please come and visit me and my girls, wife Lidia and daughters Katy and Laura. Still working like a dog. I need to go back to medical school!

## Alumni call

We know this was the first page you turned to because you wanted to see how your classmates are faring. How about you let them know what you've been up to lately.

Send your updated profile to Ann Downie, Alumni Office at [network@mcmaster.ca](mailto:network@mcmaster.ca) or by fax at (905) 529-3177. Please include your current address, phone number and e-mail address so you can be contacted.

## 2003 reunion celebrations

It doesn't seem that long since you were on campus at McMaster University but if you graduated in a year ending in a three or an eight, 2003 is your time to celebrate a reunion with your class.

The Advancement Office will assist representatives of the reunion classes in coordinating mailings and events in 2003, making it an easy task even for organizers living outside of the Hamilton area.

For more information, please contact Ann Downie in the Alumni Office at 905-525-9140, ext. 22196 or e-mail [network@mcmaster.ca](mailto:network@mcmaster.ca)

## President's Pen



Dr. Jacqueline Bourgeois '92  
President, of the  
MD Alumni Branch

The MD Alumni Branch is looking forward to a year of renewal and expansion. The annual 5K Run/Walk for Awareness was held Nov. 10 to raise funds for colorectal cancer. The cause was good, the course was smooth and the companionship great!

The branch would also like to welcome Ann Downie to McMaster.

Late last year Ann joined the team in the Faculty's Development Office with Floyd Mann, Susan Emigh, Veronica McGuire and Nancy Kolenski, which is responsible for fundraising, public and media relations and alumni development.

Ann has a long and distinguished history of working in fundraising and development for Sheridan College and Brock University, and we're fortunate that her number one priority is alumni relations.

With Ann's help, we're confident the MD Alumni Branch will begin to experience the growth and increased interest by our current and joining alumni.

One of our favorite yearly supported events is the MD Alumni Career Night, which is usually held in June. In 2002, we were unable to organize a Career Night and we're anxious to get this important, and usually highly successful, event on track for 2003. Anyone who would like to volunteer to help with this event should contact me or the Alumni Office.

New members are always welcome at the MD Alumni Association. We're now also looking for members to take on executive roles.

Please give me or Ann in the Alumni Office a call if you think you can spare a few hours to help your alumni branch.

To contact me, please email me at [bourjac@hhsc.ca](mailto:bourjac@hhsc.ca) Or visit the alumni branch on the Faculty of Health Sciences' web site: [www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/alumni/mdalum~1.htm](http://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/alumni/mdalum~1.htm).

# Mini-medical school sold out

Armchair MDs are taking the opportunity to see behind the scenes of a medical education this spring by attending mini-medical school.

Tickets quickly sold out for the series of seven public seminars, similar to those received by medical students, being given by faculty.

The seminars, using McMaster's world-renowned problem-based learning approach, will explore the scientific basis for topical medical issues, followed by a question and answer session. Topics will include heart and lung disease, infectious diseases, aging and arthritis, genetics and cancer.

The concept of a mini-medical school for the public was developed in the U.S. and recent programs at McGill and University of Toronto have also been sold-out events.

At McMaster, the sessions were organized by third-year medical students Janine Davies, Sheila Harms, Melanie Mar, Menaka Pai and Carolyn Snider.

Davies said the group hopes the program forges an important link between the medical school and the community.

"We want people to experience the thrill of cutting edge research and to understand how it applies to a medical problem," she said. "We also know these topic areas are relevant to people in the Hamilton community."

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

"It's a wonderful opportunity for the community to study under some of McMaster's finest educators and researchers."

The students plan to use the proceeds towards a scholarship recognizing student research or community service.

## Patients sought to teach doctors

Hamilton residents are putting graduating doctors on the right path to developing excellent relationships with their future patients.

One hundred and twenty people who have had a good relationship with a medical doctor have been invited to talk one to one about their experience with a third-year medical student. The sessions, organized in partnership with the City of Hamilton, will be held at the end of April.

Associate professor Dr. Cathy Risdon said the first-person stories about memorable encounters, and the positive difference it made for the patient, are important for the students to hear.

"Stories are a powerful tool for

teaching. Patients have invaluable expertise in defining excellent medical care, and they can have a true impact on the students' perspective on their future."

The program is part of a new curriculum at the end of the students' third year, to prepare them for their lives as medical professionals.

Dr. Risdon holds the endowed Braley-Gordon Chair in Family Medicine, which supports the interviewing project as part of its mandate to enhance communication and collaboration between doctors and patients.

For more information, call Gayle MacDonell at 905-521-2100, extension 76197 or e-mail at [macdon@mcmaster.ca](mailto:macdon@mcmaster.ca).

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