

Executive Summary  
HUEC Educational Expenditures Report, December 17, 2002

Over the past 5 years, the Faculty of Medicine has experienced increasing difficulty in recruiting clinical faculty to teach in the undergraduate medical education program. The Urowitz/Whiteside Task Force made specific recommendations to address these issues, including developing, “synergistic partnerships in medical education between the Faculty of Medicine and the affiliated teaching hospitals by establishing a joint senior management group.”

This partnership is appropriate considering where medical education takes place. Undergraduate medical students in the Faculty of Medicine spend significant time in the Hospital setting starting in the first year. In 3rd and 4th years, medical students spend almost all of their time in the Hospitals and a variety of other sites outside the Medical Sciences Building. As well, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the College of Family Physicians of Canada delegate the responsibility for postgraduate medical education to the University of Toronto. In turn, the Faculty of Medicine places postgraduate trainees into the teaching environment of the affiliated teaching Hospitals and affiliated community practices for the entire tenure of their training program.

In May 2001, Dean David Naylor assigned the newly constituted Hospital University Education Committee (HUEC) the responsibility of identifying the resources provided for medical education by all the partners involved in the medical education endeavours at the University of Toronto for the year 2000-2001. A year later, this HUEC report states that the total reported yearly expenditures for MD stream undergraduate and postgraduate education at the University of Toronto and its affiliated hospitals and practice plans was \$82,850,963. Of total expenditures, the University contributions were 22%, the hospital contributions were 32%, and the practice plan contributions were 46%.

The reported figures for expenditures compared favourably with other widely known reports of medical education costs when all reported costs were converted to 2002 Canadian dollars. Comparison is complicated by the fact that most of the literature on the costs of medical education has been reported by undergraduate or postgraduate programs separately. At the University of Toronto the undergraduate and postgraduate programs are inseparable, as most of our teachers teach in both, and any division would have to be arbitrary. Thus in the first instance we assigned the expenses to each program based on the number of students in each (792 in undergraduate and 1018 in postgraduate). We recognized that this assignment rested on the assumption that the costs scaled on a strict per capita basis, when undergraduate MD education is likely to be more resource intense. As secondary analyses we allocated more realistic, larger amounts of the expenses (first 50%, then 60%, then 70%, see page 6) to the undergraduate endeavour. The resulting University of Toronto MD program costs fall well within the \$40,000 - \$80,000 per year range reported in most published studies.

Data on costs of postgraduate training are less commonly reported. Three published studies suggest a cost per resident per year ranging from \$55,000 – 70,000. From a per trainee percentage of 56.3% based on per capita cost equivalency with the MD program, to the more reasonable and

conservative 30% allocation, the University of Toronto postgraduate educational endeavour costs fall from within the reported range to far below the lowest reported costs for postgraduate training.

We conclude that the costs of the MD-stream educational enterprise (UME & PG) at the University of Toronto are similar to the lower estimates of costs in other institutions. These calculations make no allowance for the differential allocations by source in UME and PG. It appears that UME is heavily supported by University budgetary sources, while PG is supported heavily by practice plans and other hospital subsidies. This differential in sources of support helps to account for continued resistance to the concept of University tuition fees for PG training.

As illustrated below, one of the most striking findings is the extent to which clinical faculty members, through unremunerated time commitments as well as personal earnings shared through practice plans, support the training of our future health care providers in the educational enterprise at the University of Toronto. A priority in developing Alternative Funding Plans for compensation of academic physicians should be enhanced financial resources to pay for clinical teaching. More generally, these findings illustrate that MD-stream education in the Faculty of Medicine is highly dependent on a partnership with teaching hospitals and practice plans. Any increase in educational programming or student numbers will require additional funding from Government to ensure that the University contribution rises appropriately.

### Summary of Educational Expenditures for University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine, Hospitals and Practice Plans

Detailed Definitions of these expenditures are found within the report	Category A Portion of academic salaries devoted to the educational endeavour	Category B Faculty, managerial, secretarial or other administrative support to the educational endeavour	Category C 50% of salary, 100% of tuition support for non-MOHLTC supported residents	Category D Portion of operating expenses dedicated to the educational endeavour	Total Total of previous categories
Total University	\$9,646,846*	\$4,910,741*	\$544,073*	\$2,955,288*	\$18,637,266
Practice Plans	\$31,633,715*	\$936,275*	\$4,333,637*	\$482,000*	\$38,087,525
Hospitals	\$8,096,372	\$7,595,871	\$2,924,000	\$7,509,929	\$26,126,172
Total University, Practice Plans and Hospitals contributions	\$49,376,933*	\$13,442,887*	\$7,801,710*	\$10,947,217*	\$82,850,963
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>University and Practice Plan category sub-totals are incomplete, as some organizations reported only totals.</li> </ul>					