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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

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Message from the Dean

Catharine Whiteside

From Banting and Best's discovery of insulin, to Till and McCullough's stem cell breakthrough, the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine has an incredible legacy of visionary, ground-breaking research. Medical advances traced back to our labs have made countless real-world improvements in patient therapies and care.

Together with our TAHSN partners, we truly are a national and international research powerhouse. Ranked **4th for research in Clinical Medicine** among World Universities by the Higher Education Council of

Taiwan, we are home to **125 Canada Research Chairs, 2 Canada Excellence in Research Chairs, and over 2000 masters and doctoral students** who are critical to our research capacity. On January 24, our medical students presented 170 research posters and several oral presentations at their annual research day - a remarkable demonstration of the interest and engagement of our students in scientific enquiry.

With the fundamentals in place, there is a tremendous opportunity in Canada to lead the future development of the health research agenda worldwide. But it is not sufficient to do what we have always done.

Leadership in the health research of tomorrow will require us to adapt to new realities - where leading-edge investigation takes place across systems and disciplines, and where data can be collected and shared in ways we have not previously envisioned and on a scale we have never before seen. We must create new structures that break down old silos and allow the broad sharing of knowledge. There will be a premium on the speed and efficiency with which we can *translate* discoveries in the lab into clinical research and then into proven therapies for patients. These are our new challenges.

During my visit to Academic Health Science Centres in the United Kingdom late last year, I was struck by their strategic focus on turning fundamental knowledge into practice, backed up with significant new investments into the critical infrastructure needed for effective *translational* research and into *bioinformatics* linked to primary care. The world is recognizing that to be at the forefront of the discoveries in this decade, our scientists need new platforms, infrastructure, and research models that cut across specialties, integrate novel information technology, and view chronic diseases not in isolation, but for the system-wide challenges they pose.

With this in mind, the Faculty of Medicine will launch a specific **Research Strategic Plan** in 2012. This plan will plot the course to achieve greater integration across our Faculty and with our partners, and we will set our sights on becoming a transformative global leader in health and medical research. Together, as our history shows, we will achieve it.

Catharine Whiteside

Dean, Faculty of Medicine

Vice-Provost, Relations with Health Care Institutions

IN THE NEWS:

Would you give a days pay to save a life?

Wirelessly enabling the long-distance house call

If you would like to have a news item or a research or education award announcement placed in MedEmail please forward it by e-mail to Leslie.Church@utoronto.ca.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

MEDEMAIL ARCHIVE

1. In Memoriam

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Dr. F. Marguerite (Peggy) Hill passed away on January 15, 2012. Born in 1919, Dr. Hill is an alumna of the Faculty of Medicine (Class of '52) and is remembered for her remarkable contributions to the status of women in the medical profession. Among her lifetime of accomplishments, Dr. Hill achieved many ground-breaking milestones including becoming first female chief medical resident at the Toronto General Hospital (1957) and serving as Physician-in-Chief of Medicine at Women's College Hospital - only the second woman to achieve this role at a University of Toronto teaching hospital. She was a founding member of the Canadian Society for Nephrologists, a member of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada, and the first woman to be appointed to the Board of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. As we remember her legacy to the profession, we offer our condolences to Dr. Hill's family and friends for their loss and ours.

In lieu of a memorial service, Dr. Hill requested that online condolences and anecdotes be relayed via www.trullfuneralsyonge.com, and any donations made to the F.M. Hill Trust Fund, Women's College Hospital Foundation. To read the full tribute to Dr. Hill's life in the Globe and Mail, click [here](#).

2. Accreditation News and Updates

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Every eight years, medical schools across North America undergo an accreditation process to confirm the quality of their education program leading to the MD degree. The University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine's next re-accreditation is scheduled to take place in May 2012, and considerable preparation is underway by faculty, students, and staff. Over the coming months, we will post accreditation-related news and updates in this section.

Undergraduate Medical Education: Program Objectives

It may be of interest to all members of the U of T Faculty of Medicine community to know that since 2003, the objectives of the Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) program have been organized along the lines of the CanMEDS roles. The CanMEDS roles also serve as the framework for learning objectives in the postgraduate training programs, and increasingly in continuing education and professional development. They were originally derived from the Educating Future Physicians for Ontario (EFPO) project, based on interviews and focus groups with many patients and patient groups, who expressed their views about the attributes they wished their physicians to possess. The roles are: Medical Expert, Communicator, Collaborator, Manager, Health Advocate, Scholar, and Professional. In the UME program, students are encouraged to develop in each of these roles by achieving several supporting objectives. The objectives are listed at the following website: <http://www.md.utoronto.ca/program/goals.htm>. All medical students, and all of their teachers (both faculty members, postgraduate trainees and others), are encouraged to thoroughly familiarize themselves with these objectives.

3. Honours and Awards

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Order of Ontario

Dr. Anna Banerji (Department of Paediatrics), **Dr. Sandra E. Black** (Department of Medicine) and **Dr. Louis Siminovitch** (Department of Molecular Genetics) have been awarded the Order of Ontario by The Hon. David Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

Dr. Anna Banerji is being recognized for her work as a specialist in tropical and infectious diseases and world-renowned expertise in the field of respiratory diseases in Inuit children. Through her work, she helped found the Immigrant Health and Infectious Disease Clinic and the Canadian Refugee Health Conference.

Dr. Sandra Black is one of the world's pre-eminent cognitive neurologists specializing in stroke and dementia, and the visionary leader behind the Ontario Stroke System, designed to improve stroke care from prevention to rehabilitation and reintegration.

Dr. Louis Siminovitch is being honoured for his pioneering accomplishments in the development of medical genetics in Canada, and in recognition of his dedication as the first head of four major research facilities in Ontario.

American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences

Professor Emeritus **Laszlo Endrenyi** of the Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology has been recognized as a Fellow of both the *American Association of Pharmaceutical*

Scientists and the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences, in recognition of his contributions to pharmacokinetic modeling and its applications to drug development.

Society for Biomaterials Clemson Award

Dr. Molley Shoichet, of the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, is the recipient of this year's *Clemson Award for Contributions to the Literature* presented by the U.S.-based Society for Biomaterials. This award recognizes significant contributions to the literature on the science or technology of biomaterials. Dr. Shoichet holds the Canada Research Chair in Tissue Engineering and her research currently focuses regenerative medicine, drug delivery and tissue engineering strategies to overcome diseases in the brain and after breast cancer.

CIHR-CMAJ Top Achievements in Health Research Awards

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ) have selected **Dr. Daniel Drucker** (Banting and Best Diabetes Centre) and **Dr. Gideon Koren** (Department of Paediatrics, Hospital for Sick Children) as recipients of this year's awards, which recognize the efforts of exceptional researchers in Canada whose achievements changed the course of health care delivery in their field of work. Both received additional recognition as "special mentions" for their highest-ranking successes among the award-winners. Dr. Drucker was honoured for his innovative work in improving the lives of patients with type 2 diabetes, while Dr. Koren and his colleagues were recognized for revolutionizing the area of medication safety in pregnancy.

2012 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Society of Transplantation

Professor **Ed Cole** of the Department of Medicine and Division of Nephrology, Toronto General Hospital, is the recipient of the 2012 *Canadian Society of Transplantation Lifetime Achievement Award*. This is the highest award presented by the CST, and was awarded to Dr. Cole for his significant contributions to transplantation in Canada and continued important work in the support of scientific research in Canada.

University of Toronto Musculoskeletal Centre Awards

The University of Toronto Musculoskeletal Centre, an Extra-departmental unit of the Faculty of Medicine and Sunnybrook and Mount Sinai Hospitals, announced the results of its Inaugural Studentship Competition, offered in partnership with the University of Toronto Bone and Mineral Group. Congratulations to the following recipients.

Bone and Mineral Research Group Award Winner:

Ms. Shabana Amanda Ali, PhD candidate
Institute of Medical Science

Toronto Musculoskeletal Center Award Winners:

Ms. Brianne Burton, MSc Candidate
Institute of Biomaterials & Biomedical Engineering

Ms. Mana Rezai, PhD Candidate
Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Ms. Nazish Ahmed, PhD
Post-Doctoral Fellow, Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute

Ms. Polyana Mendes, MSc Candidate
Graduate Department of Rehabilitation Science

Mr. Simon Eng, MSc Candidate
Department of Immunology

Ms. Ariana Fay dela Cruz, PhD Candidate
Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology

Mr. Patrick Henry, MSc candidate
Institute of Medical Science

Ms. Sarah L. West, PhD candidate
Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education

4. Announcements

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CIFAR announces Dr. Alan Bernstein, O.C. as President & CEO

The Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR) has announced **Dr. Alan Bernstein, O.C.** (Department of Medical Biophysics) as its new President and CEO commencing May 1, 2012. Most recently, Dr. Bernstein was executive director of the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise in New York. From 2000-2007 he served as the inaugural president of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, where he led the transformation of health research in Canada. A graduate of the University of Toronto, he joined the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute in 1985 and has been internationally recognized for his contributions to the study of stem cells, the formation of blood cells (hematopoiesis) and cancer. He succeeds current CEO Chaviva Hošek upon her retirement following eleven years of leadership and service at CIFAR.

5. Call for Applications

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Canadian Hematology Society RK Smiley Research Grant

The Canadian Hematology Society (CHS) is currently receiving applications for the RK Smiley Research Grant, named in honour of the founding president of the CHS. Established in 2011, this award marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the CHS and provides start-up grants of \$10,000 to clinicians or scientists whose research is relevant to the field of hematology. Applications should be emailed to chs@uniserve.com by 18:00 hrs EDT, **January 31, 2012**. For more information, please visit the [CHS website](#) or click [here](#).

6. Call for Nominations

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Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in Life Sciences Awards

This is a reminder that the submission deadline, **Tuesday January 31, 2012** is approaching for nominations for the Faculty of Medicine Excellence in Undergraduate

Teaching in Life Sciences Awards. The three awards are:

1. **Excellence in undergraduate teaching in life sciences**

This award is for sustained excellence in teaching, coordination and/or development of undergraduate lecture or seminar courses in Arts and Science offered by the Basic Sciences Departments in the Faculty of Medicine.

2. **Excellence in undergraduate laboratory teaching in life sciences**

This award is for sustained excellence in the teaching, coordination and/or development of laboratory based instruction in formal Arts and Science laboratory courses.

3. **Excellence in linking undergraduate teaching to research in life sciences**

This award is for sustained excellence, mentorship and innovative methods to link undergraduate teaching to experiential research opportunities in the classroom, formal laboratory courses, research project courses, summer student research project courses, or summer student research programs.

Nomination packages should include:

- a completed nomination form (2 pages)
- a supporting letter from the Department Chair
- supporting letters from students (minimum 2 students)
- a 1-2 page summary of contributions to teaching
- summaries of student evaluations of teaching/course material
- a current curriculum vitae
- the nominee's statement of teaching philosophy. (1 page max.)

The nomination form and a list of previous winners can be found [online](#). For additional information, please contact Jeananne Robertson, Education & Teaching Awards Coordinator at edudeans@utoronto.ca.

Aikins Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

This is a reminder that the deadline for nominations for the W. T. Aikins are due on **February 1, 2012**. These awards are the Faculty's most prestigious awards for commitment to and excellence in undergraduate teaching. All Faculty of Medicine academic staff who teach in the undergraduate medical (MD degree) program are eligible, and award winners selected from nominees in a Faculty-wide process that requires support from both faculty and students. This teaching award is given serious consideration in the academic promotions process.

The nomination procedure is a two-stage process: The first stage (**deadline, February 1, 2012**) requires nominators to complete the [on-line nomination form](#) and to submit a letter(s) indicating why they are nominating the individual(s). The letter should address the [criteria for the award](#) and show how the nominee meets the criteria. Letters that are particularly helpful to the committee include evidence supporting the conclusion that the nominee is an outstanding teacher. The nomination form requires the name of the nominee(s), the names of the nominators (at least 5 required for large group nominations and at least 2 required for small group nominations) and the award category. The Aikins committee will review and evaluate all nominations. Only nominees who are selected for further review will be required to submit more materials for the second stage.

Both faculty members and students are welcome to submit nominations. Nominations received by February 1, 2012 will be recognized at the 10th Annual Education Achievement Event in 2012. Any nominations received after February 1, 2012 will be

considered for the following academic year.
The award categories are:

- Individual teaching performance (large group: seminars, lectures)
- Individual teaching performance (small group: PBL tutoring, ward-based group teaching)
- Development and use of innovative instructional methods
- Course/program development and coordination.

Specific details about the nominations process and eligibility requirements can be viewed [here](#). For further information please contact Neil Neebar at 416-978-1831 or neil.neebar@utoronto.ca.

As the Aikins Award specifically targets teaching in the undergraduate medical program, Faculty of Medicine Academic staff who teach in the undergraduate Arts and Science Program are eligible for an [Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in Life Sciences Award](#).

7. Around Campus

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Resources for Teachers

It can be challenging for faculty to navigate the dizzying array of teaching-related support options. Many of you are familiar with the resources available within your Departments or Hospitals, but may not be aware of Faculty of Medicine or University of Toronto resources. On behalf of the Education Vice-Deans, this brief overview will assist you in identifying relevant teaching development opportunities:

University of Toronto, **Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation (CTSI)**
Located at Robarts Library

CTSI offers workshops and consultations on: Blackboard training; teaching; course design; course evaluation; and research on teaching. CTSI has detailed web-resources, and offers both a monthly electronic newsletter CTSI Connect (subscribe) and available RSS feeds of teaching-related workshops and Events, and News items. Please see the list of upcoming workshops.

Faculty of Medicine, **Centre for Faculty Development (CFD)**
Located at St. Michael's Hospital, Li Ka Shing International Healthcare Education Centre

The CFD offers **Best Practice in Education Rounds (BPER)** which link education research with practice; **workshops** devoted to the enhancement of teaching skills with additional workshop topics on mentoring, career development, scholarship in education and education leadership; **Stepping Stones Teacher Development Program** for those faculty interested in an in depth immersion in teaching skills; **Education Scholars Program (ESP)** devoted to enhancing competence in teaching, education leadership, and education scholarship; **outreach** - delivering professional development activities in your setting targeting your specific faculty needs; and **consultations** - on the planning, delivery and evaluation of faculty development activities. Please see the list of [upcoming workshops](#).

Faculty of Medicine, **The Wilson Centre for Research in Education**
Located at 200 Elizabeth Street

The Wilson Centre fosters the integration of research and practice in health professions education, and offers [workshops](#) on key topics and strategies in health professions education research.

Information Session on Physician Assistant Professional Degree Program (BScPA)

All those interested in learning about the new [Physician Assistant Professional Degree Program \(BScPA\)](#) program offered by the Department of Family and Community Medicine are welcome to attend an information session hosted at Toronto General Hospital and available by webcast.

Event date: Thursday, February 09, 2012, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Location: Local sites in [Toronto](#), [Sudbury](#), [Thunder Bay](#)

Online: Join an [interactive webcast](#) during the live session

Toronto Location: Toronto General Hospital
Eaton North Ground Floor, Medical Education Department
200 Elizabeth Street, Room 025/026

8. Medicine Research Online

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- [CIHR Team Grants: Childhood Cancer – Late Effects of Treatment](#)
- [011/2012 Connaught Innovation Award - University of Toronto](#)
- [2011/2012 Connaught Summer Institute Award - University of Toronto](#)
- [Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada](#)

~ Our congratulations to all! ~

Upcoming Award Deadlines

February

[Institute of Medicine](#)

[The Japan Prize](#)

[Lasker Prize](#)

March

[SSHRC Gold Medal for Achievement in Research](#)

[Canadian Academy of Health Sciences](#)

[Order of Ontario](#)

[NSERC John C. Polanyi Award](#)

[CIHR Michael Smith Prizes in Health Research](#)

[Balzan Prize](#)

For any queries regarding awards, please contact:

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Phone: 416 978-4660 or

MaryAnn DeFrancis
Email: maryann.defrancis@utoronto.ca
Phone: 416-978-8316

Resources:

[Henry Stewart Talks \(University of Toronto Libraries\)](#)
[Faculty of Medicine Equipment Repair Centre](#)
[UHN Shanghai Custom Chemical Synthesis](#)

Regular Departments:

[Updates from CIHR University Delegate](#)
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