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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

# MedEmail

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## Message from the Dean

Catharine Whiteside

Health professionals must stay current with best practices. Understanding new diagnostic approaches and therapies is absolutely essential for delivering the best possible patient care.

Recognizing that health education is a life-long commitment, at the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine - in collaboration with several of our hospital affiliates and other strategic partners - we've set out to ensure that our faculty and other healthcare professionals have access to the opportunities they need to stay at the forefront of their practice. It's

why we created the [Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development \(CEPD\)](#), which has been globally-recognized for its innovation and leadership in this field, and is now the largest provider of CEPD in Canada.

As a knowledge hub for the research, design and delivery of accredited continuous learning experiences, the Office of CEPD leverages innovative education techniques and new research with the goal of turning knowledge into action. This knowledge transfer enables better decision-making in the care and treatment of patients, resulting in improved health outcomes.

Transferring knowledge is one part of the equation, but translating knowledge from the classroom or workshop into practice and policy, is another. On that front, the Office of CEPD has partnered with the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute at St. Michael's Hospital on a [Joint Program in Knowledge Translation](#) at the Keenan Research Centre. As part of this program, researchers seek out the best strategies to bring knowledge and evidence into practice in critical care and trauma, diabetes, the management of complex diseases, patient education, and many others, all with the aim of improved health outcomes.

Partnerships and collaborations with U of T education centres, institutes and programs have been central to the Office of CEPD's sustained productivity. These include the:

- [Centre for Faculty Development](#) (St. Michael's Hospital)
- [Centre for Interprofessional Education](#) (University Health Network)
- [Wilson Centre](#) (University Health Network)
- [Peter Silverman Centre for International Health](#) (Mount Sinai Hospital)
- [Joint Program in Knowledge Translation](#) at the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute (St. Michael's Hospital)
- [U of T School of Continuing Studies](#)
- [Centre for Patient Safety](#) (Hospital for Sick Children, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre), and

- Faculty of Medicine [Standardized Patient Program](#)

Every year, upwards of **25,000 participants** in **over 300** U of T-sponsored CEPD programs know they are getting some of the most valuable learning experiences available anywhere: only programs that demonstrate academic excellence and are outcome-based are accredited to the Faculty of Medicine. You can visit the website to [search for upcoming events](#), find [tips for course directors](#) or learn [how to plan a course](#).

Most importantly, we hope you will join our growing community of influential educators and scholars as we work together to foster and share the critical inquiry and scholarship that will lead to better learning, better care and improved health outcomes for all.

### **Catharine Whiteside**

Dean, Faculty of Medicine

Vice-Provost, Relations with Health Care Institutions

## **IN THE NEWS:**

Large-scale stem cell cultivation partnership formalized

Canadian first: Early-stage lung cancer gets new surgical treatment with robot

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](mailto:Leslie.Church@utoronto.ca).

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## **EVENTS CALENDAR**

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### **1. Honours and Awards**

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#### **Tufts University Dr. Jean Mayer Global Citizenship Award and Christopher Award**

**Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish** (Dalla Lana School of Public Health) has been recognized with one of the Tufts University Dr. Jean Mayer Global Citizenship Awards for his "tireless work in spreading peace and hope throughout the world," and captured in his book, *I Shall Not Hate*. The award – offered by the Institute for Global Leadership - is given annually to individuals or organizations who are dedicated to solving the most pressing problems facing the world. The first recipient of the award in 1993 was Amartya Sen and other recipients have included Martti Ahtisaari, Romeo Dallaire, John Kenneth Galbraith, Mary Robinson, Wole Soyinka, Desmond Tutu, and Sir Brian Urquhart.

**Dr. Abuelaish** was also selected as a recipient of the prestigious *Christopher Award* in the "Books for Adults" category for *I Shall Not Hate*. First presented in 1949, the Christopher Awards were established to salute media (TV programming, feature films,

books for adults and children) that "affirm the highest values of the human spirit." Dr. Abuelaish will be presented with the award at a ceremony on May 24, 2012 in New York City.

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### **2011 NSERC John C. Polanyi Award**

**Prof. Benjamin Blencowe** (Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research) and **Prof. Brendan Frey** (Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research, Dept. of Electrical & Computer Engineering) have been recognized with the prestigious 2011 NSERC John C. Polanyi Award, which honours an individual or team whose Canadian-based research has led to a recent outstanding advance in the natural sciences or engineering. Professors Blencowe and Frey were honoured for their research that cracked the codes hidden in DNA that allows a relatively small number of genes to be transformed into hundreds of thousands of variations in a process called alternative splicing.

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### **2012 CAME Ian Hart Award for Distinguished Contribution to Medical Education**

**Prof. Brian Hodges** (Dept. of Psychiatry, Toronto General Hospital) has been recognized by the Canadian Association for Medical Education (CAME) with the 2012 Ian Hart Award for Distinguished Contribution to Medical Education for his "life-long contributions across the continuum of medical education to advancing medical education in Canada and internationally." Dr. Hodges, who holds the Richard and Elizabeth Currie Chair in Health Professions Education Research at UHN/U of T, was praised for his dedication to excellence in teaching, and the impact he has had on clinicians, educators and researchers involved in medical education and education research in Canada and beyond.

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### **CHEC-CESC Virtual Patient Challenge**

**Dr. Adil Shamji** (Family Medicine resident, Toronto East General Hospital) was the **1st place winner** in this year's CHEC-CESC Virtual Patient Challenge for his submission, *A Peripheral Predicament* virtual patient. Awarded by the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) and Canada Health Infoway, the 2011 Challenge recognizes important contributions to e-health and e-learning among Canadian medical students and highlights the utility of virtual patients for learning, teaching, and assessment.

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## **2. Call for Nominations**

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### **2011 External Education and Teaching Awards – Deadline May 31st, 2012**

The Faculty of Medicine Education and Teaching and Awards Committee reviews proposed nominations for external awards twice annually. To ensure sufficient lead time for adjudication and preparation of nomination dossiers, the internal nomination deadlines are set well in advance of deadlines for final submission. The Education Vice-Deans are now calling for internal nominations for the following external awards with fall/winter deadlines:

Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC)

*Award for Outstanding Contribution to Faculty Development in Canada*

*Young Educators Award*  
*John Ruedy Award for Innovation in Medical Education*  
*May Cohen Gender Equity Award*  
*President's Award*  
*E-Health Award*

Canadian Association for Medical Education (CAME)

*New Educator's Award*  
*Ian Hart Award for Distinguished Contribution to Medical Education*

Canadian Medical Association (CMA)

*May Cohen Award for Women Mentors*  
*Award for Young Leaders*

Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)

*The Duncan Graham Award*

Society for Teaching & Learning in Higher Education (STLHE)

*Alan Blizzard Award*

University of Toronto

*President's Teaching Award*

For additional information about eligibility criteria and internal nomination procedures, visit: <http://www.facmed.utoronto.ca/staff/teach/external.htm>, or contact Jeananne Robertson.

Nominations must include:

- the name of the award
- a summary paragraph or statement explaining why the nominee is suitable for this award
- a current CV for the nominee, and
- a teaching dossier (if available).

Please submit nominations electronically to Jeananne Robertson at [edudeans@utoronto.ca](mailto:edudeans@utoronto.ca) by end of day on **Thursday, May 31st, 2012**.

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### **3. Around Campus**

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#### **Faculty of Medicine Annual Dean's Reception**

Dean Catharine Whiteside invites you to attend the Dean's Reception at the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada's Canadian Conference on Medical Education on Saturday, April 14, 6:00 – 8:30pm in the Baron Shaughnessy Room at the Fairmont Banff Springs.

Please join this intimate gathering of the University of Toronto community, including alumni, staff, faculty, students and friends. We look forward to welcoming you as we share our vision for the future and celebrate excellence within the Faculty of Medicine.

Date: **Saturday, April 14, 2012**

Time: 6 to 8:30 pm

Location: Fairmont Banff Springs, Baron Shaughnessy Room  
RSVP: [Acceptances online \(www.alumni.utoronto.ca/ccme2012\)](http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/ccme2012) or by phone 416-978-7142.

For more information, please contact Morgan Tilley at [morgan.tilley@utoronto.ca](mailto:morgan.tilley@utoronto.ca)

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## **2012 National Health Law Conference: Global Health Challenges & the Role of Law**

**May 4 & 5, 2012**

*Metropolitan Hotel, Toronto, Canada*

This conference will bring together leading scholars, policy-makers, practicing lawyers and health care professionals to explore how law can address global health challenges and make real progressive change. Participants will discuss challenges such as:

- i) access to care and essential medicines on the part of the most vulnerable  
(poor, mentally ill, aboriginal populations);
- ii) the rise and inequitable impact of medical tourism;
- iii) the spread of chronic diseases around the world;
- iv) exponential increases in smoking in many countries; and
- v) the obesity epidemic, among others.

For more information, visit <http://nhlc2012.ca/>.

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## **Institute for Health Policy, Management and Evaluation Education Day**

The Society of Graduates, Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation presents "*Transformative Change and Disruptive Innovations: Protecting the Public Health Care System through Innovation and Integration*" on **Thursday, May 10, 2012**. Join panelists Steini Brown, Will Falk and John Ronson for a thoughtful and challenging discussion.

For more information and to register: [www.alumni.utoronto.ca/sog-eduday](http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/sog-eduday)

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## **4. Medicine Research Online**

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### **RESEARCH GRANTS**

- [CIHR Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative](#)
- [CIHR Evidence on Tap – Expedited Knowledge Synthesis](#)
- [CIHR Team Grant: HIV/AIDS Vaccine Discovery and Social Research](#)
- [CIHR Team Grants: Metabolic Syndrome](#)
- [CIHR Knowledge Translation](#)

~ Our congratulations to all! ~

## **UPCOMING AWARD DEADLINES**

### **March**

SSHRC Gold Medal for Achievement in Research  
Canadian Academy of Health Sciences  
Order of Ontario  
NSERC John C. Polanyi Award  
Balzan Prize

### **April**

American Academy of Arts & Sciences Fellows

### **May**

World Food Prize  
Bower Award  
Rolf Luft Award in Endocrinology and Diabetes Research

For any queries regarding awards, please contact:

Heather Drouillard  
Email: [Heather.Drouillard@utoronto.ca](mailto:Heather.Drouillard@utoronto.ca)  
Phone: 416 978-4660 or

MaryAnn DeFrancis  
Email: [maryann.defrancis@utoronto.ca](mailto:maryann.defrancis@utoronto.ca)  
Phone: 416-978-8316

Janet Hyer  
Email: [Janet.Hyer@utoronto.ca](mailto:Janet.Hyer@utoronto.ca)  
Phone: 416 978-7342

### **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  
Funding News & Opportunities - local, national, international  
Links to Departmental Research Seminars

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