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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

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Message from the Dean

Catharine Whiteside

Diversity among our students, faculty and staff at the University of Toronto is one of our great strengths. Reflective of the diversity of the Greater Toronto Area, our Faculty of Medicine has a student, faculty and staff population that is one of the most ethnically diverse -- not only in Canada -- but across the globe. We celebrated all this and more in our clearly articulated Diversity Statement -- approved by our Faculty Council in September 2011 -- where we identified Indigenous Peoples, African Canadians and the economically disadvantaged for priority attention for admissions to our MD program. One of the goals of our

Strategic Plan 2011-16 is to help all individuals reach their full potential. Our efforts to reach this goal are continuous and without compromise. Accessibility equity and social justice are key values that our Faculty embraces as part of our social responsibility.

How can we achieve improved respect, recognition and integration among all individuals in our Faculty? We can only hope to do better if we understand the gaps and perceived shortcomings experienced by those among us who represent diverse groups based on race, ethnicity, sexual identity, age, disability and gender. We must improve our cultural competence in all of these domains. In fact, managing our approach to diversity was one of the standards in our recent Medical School accreditation that we did not meet successfully. But, while many North American medical schools struggle to adequately fulfill this accreditation standard, we intend to aim for complete approval on this standard.

To help lead our efforts and to help us understand how to approach our goal of complete diversity, our Associate Dean of Equity and Professionalism, Professor David McKnight, has searched for best practice. He has identified the National Initiative on Gender, Culture and Leadership in Medicine, known as "C-Change" (for culture-change) that engages medical schools in action research with Brandeis University (U.S.) to facilitate culture change so that all individuals can contribute fully. Its goal is to create a more supportive, inclusive and engaging working environment while also examining the diversity of leadership within universities.

The Faculty of Medicine will begin by launching the "C-Change Faculty Survey" -- a voluntary survey of 74 questions that takes about 20 min to complete. The results will be anonymous, aggregated and cannot be linked to individuals or departments. It will reveal our shared perceptions about career advancement opportunities, mentoring, personal and Faculty of Medicine values, as well as provide us with a sense of the Faculty's inclusiveness and trustworthiness. It will also provide vital data about how our faculty members divide their time among education, research, administrative and health professional roles -- and their feelings about their academic

career choice.

This survey represents a major step for our Faculty, because it will give us important information we have not captured previously. It will provide a snapshot of the diversity and feelings of our faculty members to guide education about cultural competence and improved workplace behaviour. Acting on this information will be the responsibility of every member of our Faculty. I encourage our faculty members to participate in the C-Change Survey and look forward to sharing the results later this year and our next steps.

Diversity matters to all of us. Our Faculty must improve the outward impressions of our school and our inward treatment of others. These are goals we can attain and that we can all be proud of.

Catharine Whiteside, Dean, Faculty of Medicine
Vice-Provost, Relations with Health Care Institutions

IN THE NEWS:

Does wearing antiperspirant cause cancer? And other cancer myths exposed

St. Michael's Hospital appoints Dr. Stephen Hwang inaugural chair in homelessness, housing and health

'It's such a high-risk medication': Researchers uncover potential errors in chemotherapy use at Canadian hospitals

25 Appointees Named to Ontario's Highest Honour

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 [Jim Oldfield](#).

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EVENTS CALENDAR

MEDEMAIL ARCHIVE

1. Honours and Awards

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Order of Ontario

The Faculty of Medicine is pleased to announce that four of our Faculty members have been awarded the Order of Ontario. They are:

- **Professor Izzeldin Abuelaish** (Dalla Lana School of Public Health) is an internationally recognized human rights and peace activist devoted to advancing health and education for women and girls in the Middle East. He is also the founder of The Daughters for Life Foundation in Toronto.
- **Professor Rory Fisher** (Department of Medicine) has made monumental contributions to the fields of end-of-life care, ethics in geriatric care and prevention of elder abuse. He headed the

Department of Extended Care at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto for almost 20 years.

- **Professor Shafique Keshavjee** (Department of Surgery) is a world leader in lung transplantation. His advances in organ preservation and repair have significantly increased the number of donor lungs used to save lives with lung transplantation.
- **Professor Gail Robinson** (Department of Psychiatry) is a crusader in the fight against violence toward women. She co-founded Canada's first rape crisis centre, and helped establish the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario's task force on physician-patient sexual abuse.

Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) Awards

Professors **Sanjeev Sockalingam** (Department of Psychiatry) and **Jane Philpott** (Department of Family and Community Medicine) have been honoured by the AFMC with the Young Educators Award and the May Cohen Gender Equity and Diversity Award, respectively.

Professor **Sockalingam** -- the Director of IMG Training in Psychiatry -- has developed various innovative clinical and educational programs. He's won multiple awards for his commitment to teaching and medical education, including the Canadian Medical Association's Award for Young Leaders.

Professor **Philpott** is the Chief of Family Medicine at Markham Stouffville Hospital. A tireless advocate for global health and social justice, she is the founder of "Give a Day to World AIDS," a grassroots movement which has raised over \$3 million to help those affected by HIV in Africa since 2004.

Graduate Faculty Teaching Awards

The following faculty members have won a 2012-2013 Graduate Faculty Teaching Award:

Professors **Michael Archer** (Department of Nutritional Sciences) and **Eleftherios Diamandis** (Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathobiology) have been awarded the **Senior Sustained Excellence in Graduate Teaching award**. This award recognizes sustained contributions of at least 15 years to any aspect of graduate teaching including graduate student supervision and mentoring; curriculum development; regular support of graduate departmental, faculty and university graduate activities; and graduate program administration.

Professors **Heyu Ni** (Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathobiology) and **Valerie Tarasuk** (Department of Nutritional Sciences) have been awarded the **Graduate Student Mentorship award**. This award recognizes sustained contribution of eight years or more to graduate student mentorship including: major contribution to graduate student learning; enthusiastic and empathic critical appraisal of students'

work; timely assessment of students' research programs including program advisory committee meetings and prompt turnaround of written work; and careful attention to a critical path laid out for students' research.

Professors **Anthony Gramolini** (Department of Physiology) and **Michelle Keightley** (Graduate Department of Rehabilitation Science) have been awarded the **Early Career Excellence award**. This award recognizes the contributions of Faculty in the early stages of their career - within eight years of their initial SGS appointment -- who are committed to the training and experience of graduate students, as evidenced by excellence in teaching, supervision and mentorship, and dedication to students.

The awards will be presented at the 11th Annual Education Achievement Celebration, which will be held on May 7, 2013.

International Neuropsychological Society Lifetime Achievement Award

Professor **Donald Stuss** (Department of Medicine) has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Neuropsychological Society. His research focuses on cognitive functions and personality changes associated with the frontal lobes as they occur after stroke, in the elderly, and in those with traumatic brain injury or dementia. Professor Stuss is currently the President and Scientific Director of the Ontario Brain Institute and was the founding Director of the Rotman Research Institute at Baycrest.

2. Announcements

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CIHR Research Chair in Gender, Work and Health

Professor **Angela Colantonio** (Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy) has been awarded the CIHR Research Chair in Gender, Work and Health for her research program *Gender, Work and Traumatic Brain Injury: Addressing the Gap in Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Research, Policy, and Practice*. This newly established Research Chair will build capacity for research on work and health that accounts for gender and sex, and foster the translation of that research into gender- and sex-sensitive policies and interventions that improve workers' health.

Dr. Charlotte Ringsted named new Director of the Wilson Centre

Dr. **Charlotte Ringsted** (Department of Anesthesia) is the new Director of the Wilson Centre. Professor Ringsted established a clinical skills lab in Copenhagen University Hospital in 1995 and served as Director of the Centre for Clinical Education, University of Copenhagen and Capital Region, Denmark. Her current areas of research are training and

assessment of clinical skills in clinical and laboratory settings, virtual reality/simulation-based training, interprofessional teamwork, workplace-based assessment and the role of students and patients as teachers.

3. Around Campus

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CEPD Workshop: Reflection in the Health Professions

The Department of Speech-Language Pathology is hosting *Practical Wisdom and Beyond: Fostering Reflection in Health Professions Education and Practice*, a continuing education/professional development workshop. Dr. Hedy Wald -- Professor of Family Medicine at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University -- will explore reflection and its relationship to lifelong learning.

Event Details

Date: March 4, 2013

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: 500 University Ave, room 132

Registration: [Click here](#) to register.

Examining Canada's Human Rights Obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: How Can a Civil Society Shadow Report Improve Accountability?

U of T's International Centre for Disability and Rehabilitation and the Munk Centre's Comparative Program on Health and Society are hosting a public event, "Examining Canada's Human Rights Obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD): How Can a Civil Society Shadow Report Improve Accountability?"

Event Details:

Date: February 14, 2013

Time: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Location: Campbell Conference Facility, Munk School of Global Affairs, 1 Devonshire Place, Toronto

Contact: [Click here](#) for more information.

A live webcast will be available [here](#).

27th annual Medical Student Research Day

The Faculty of Medicine held its 27th annual Medical Student Research Day on Tuesday, January 29. The MSRD committee received a record number of student abstract submissions this year, reflecting strong research interest and aptitude across all four years of undergraduate medical trainees at the University. More than 180 students presented posters in nine research categories.

The following students were selected for an oral presentation by a group

of their peers in the MD and MD/PhD programs, on the basis of their abstracts:

Basic Science: **Farshad Nassiri**
Clinical: **Azra Premji**
CREMS Scholar 2011: **Robert Mitchell**
Health Care: **Jennifer Campbell**
MD/PhD: **Jared Wilcox**

The following awards were presented to students judged to have the best poster presentation:

Basic Science: **Michael Fridman**
Clinical: **Mary Yang**
CREMS Scholar 2011: **Mark Szykaruk**
CREMS Scholar 2012: **Mostafa Fatehi**
Health Care: **Andrew Kapoor**
International Health: **Suparna Sharma, Dylan Kain & Michael Hammer**
Determinants of Community Health: **Jordan Silverman & Miliana Vojvodic**
First Year: **Nardin Samuel & Liang Zeng**
MD/PhD: **Sean Nestor**

Congratulations to this year's winners!

MSRD 2013 promotional poster designed by: Olivia Yonsoo Shim

The MSRD Organizing committee would like to thank Dr. **Peter Singer** for delivering a stimulating talk on global health as the keynote speaker for this year's conference. Special thanks also to the students and faculty who gave their time to read and adjudicate the many abstracts and posters.

The Faculty also thanks the 2013 MSRD student organizing committee members, Brian Ballios, Natasha Lane, Minji Kim and Melanie Kalbfleisch, CREMS Coordinator Lisa Charrette and faculty advisor Dr. Donald Branch, for their efforts in making this day successful!

4. Medicine Research Online

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RESEARCH GRANTS

- Canadian Cancer Society - Impact, Quality of Life Research, and Innovation Grants
- Canadian Foundation for Innovation – Leading Edge Fund
- CIHR Open Operating Grants – Fall 2012
- CIHR Open Operating Grants – Priority Announcements & Bridge Funding - Fall 2012
- CIHR Proof of Principle Program - Phase 1

- CIHR Operating Grant – Industry-Partnered Collaborative Research Grants
- CIHR Chair: GlaxoSmithKline Partnered
- Physicians' Services Inc. Foundation Fellowship for Translational Research
- Prostate Cancer Canada – Rising Star in Prostate Cancer Research
- University of Toronto – Connaught Innovation Award

~ Our congratulations to all! ~

UPCOMING AWARD DEADLINES

February

Japan Prize
Margolese National Brain and Heart Disorders

March

Balzan Prize
CIHR Health Researcher of the Year
FASEB Excellence in Science Award
Fellowship in the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences
Keio Medical Science Prize
Ken Standing Award
Order of Ontario
Orion Awards
Prince of Asturias Awards
SSHRC Gold Medal for Achievement in Research

April

American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology Gold Medal
American Society of Microbiology Cubist-ICAAC Award
American Society of Microbiology ICAAC Young Investigator Awards
Fellowship in the American Association for the Advancement of Science
NSERC Synergy Awards for Innovation
Paul Marks Prize for Cancer Research

For any queries regarding awards, please contact:

Janet Hyer
Email: 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

The submission deadline for the next issue of MedEmail (to be published on Wednesday, February 27, 2013) is Wednesday, February 20, 2013.

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