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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

# MedEmail

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## Message from the Dean

Catharine Whiteside

Graduate education builds knowledge capacity and leadership skills, and is essential for Canada's future. In our environment of discovery, usually graduate students are the most creative and interdisciplinary in their approach to research questions. Over the past decade, the Government of Ontario has recognized the importance of graduate education and invested significantly in supporting enrollment expansion of our graduate programs. The University of Toronto and our Faculty have responded by increasing enrollment and will continue to do so until 2016-17. The Faculty of Medicine, with over 3,000 graduate students in health

professional master's, thesis master's and PhD programs, accounts for one-fifth of the University's graduate population.

In response to a request by the Provost, our office of Graduate and Life Sciences Education (GLSE), under the leadership of Interim Vice Dean Avrum Gotlieb, has worked with our 16 graduate unit Chairs and administrators to set enrollment targets for the next three years. The Provost will provide a financial incentive directly to Graduate Departments next year for each new PhD student enrolled that contributes to the target.

Better communication with undergraduates in the Faculty of Arts and Science is critical to the growth of our graduate programs. The GLSE office now serves undergraduate life sciences students, as well as the Faculty of Medicine's graduate students. In January, the GLSE office hosted a Faculty of Medicine graduate program information fair which drew over 500 undergraduate students. The GLSE office alerts undergraduates to graduate research opportunities through Twitter and the web, and offers advice on finding faculty supervisors.

Our Faculty aspires to provide an outstanding learning experience for every graduate student. Excellent research programs, innovative course content and effective mentoring by committed supervisors are necessary to achieve our graduate education goals. Increasingly, graduate students are attracted to a more interdisciplinary curriculum, and better opportunities to work across departments and affiliated hospital research institutes on projects will translate into improved health of individuals and populations. To critically examine our current graduate offerings and recommend new directions, a Task Force on Innovation and Transformation in Graduate Education, co-chaired by Avrum Gotlieb and Alison Buchan, Vice Dean Research and International Relations, is now underway and will report before the next academic year.

A concern among our graduate units is the limitation on competitive grant-in-aid funding from all sources necessary to support graduate student research and student stipends. Improving our success rates in grant

competitions is necessary and a major focus of our Department Chairs and Vice Dean Research and International Relations. This may not be sufficient, and new fundraising support from both local and international sources is necessary. Achievement of our campaign goals and our enrollment expansion targets is extremely important. Our Department Chairs recently raised \$1.2 million, matched by the University, in the first round of the Provost's PhD Enhancement Fund (2012-13). The Provost will contribute an additional \$900,000 for matching of new student awards funds in the next round (2013-14).

Commitment to excellence and innovation in our graduate programs is essential for our continued contribution to building Canada's knowledge capacity and our global reputation.

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

## IN THE NEWS:

Fasting diets claim weight loss without the struggle

As a doctor, here's why I'm prescribing tax returns. Seriously.

10 years later, SARS-style pandemic still a possibility

Toronto General Hospital's 'operating room of the future'

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

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### 1. Honours and Awards

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#### 2013 Winn Award

The Society of Neurological Surgeons will present Professor **Michael Fehlings** (Department of Surgery) with the 2013 Winn Award for his work in the field of spinal cord injury and repair. The award is the highest honour for academic neurosurgeons in North America based on research and academic productivity.

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#### Distinguished Service Award, Association of Pathology Chairs

Professor **Avrum Gotlieb**, Interim Vice Dean, Graduate and Life Sciences Education, has been honoured with the Association of Pathology

Chairs' Distinguished Service Award, for his influence as a leader and mentor in the field of cardiovascular pathology and his commitment to medical education at the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels.

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### 2013 Undergraduate Teaching in Life Sciences Awards

The following faculty members have won a 2013 Undergraduate Teaching in Life Sciences Award:

- Professor **Barbara (Dee) Ballyk** (Department of Surgery): Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in Life Sciences
  - Professor **Carin Wittnich** (Department of Physiology): Excellence in Undergraduate Laboratory Teaching in Life Sciences
  - Professor **Richard Horner** (Department of Physiology): Excellence in Linking Undergraduate Teaching to Research in Life Sciences
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### Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

Professor **Gary Sibbald** (Dalla Lana School of Public Health) has won a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for his work in the field of wound care. He is director of the Wound Healing Clinic at Women's College Hospital.

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### PAIRO Awards

The Professional Association of Internes and Residents of Ontario (PAIRO) is honouring two faculty members and one department with awards.

Professors **Carol-Anne Moulton** (Department of Surgery) and **George Porfiris** (Department of Family and Community Medicine) have won the PAIRO Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award for the University of Toronto. The award enables residents to honour clinical teachers who have excelled in their role.

PAIRO is also honouring the **Department of Psychiatry** with the Residency Program Excellence Award.

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## 2. Announcements

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### New Edition of Medical Teaching in Ambulatory Care

The third edition of *Medical Teaching in Ambulatory Care* has been published by University of Toronto Press, marking the publication's 20th anniversary. Authored by Department of Family and Community Medicine Professors **Warren Rubenstein** and **Yves Talbot**, the guide is an ideal handbook for practitioners looking to upgrade their teaching skills. The guide is the only medical education textbook continuously sold worldwide since its first publication.

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### 3. Call for Applications

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#### **Continuing Education Research and Development Internal Grants -- Spring 2013 Cycle**

The Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development is soliciting nominations for the Spring 2013 Office of Continuing Education Research and Development Awards. The grants -- worth up to \$5,000 -- are intended to support projects that directly relate to the planning, implementation, delivery and evaluation of continuing education for health professionals.

Examples include needs assessments and other methods of evaluation to measure the impact of continuing education activities on health professional competence or behaviour.

The deadline for nominations is **Friday, April 19, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.** Should you require an extension, please contact [Vashty Hawkins](#).

Visit CEPD's [website](#) for more information and application forms. A regularly updated list of past recipients can be found [here](#).

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### 4. Around Campus

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#### **Annual Cardiovascular Scientific Day**

The Heart and Stroke Richard Lewar Centre of Excellence in Cardiovascular Research will be hosting its annual Cardiovascular Scientific Day on April 18, 2013. The symposium will provide updates on the frontiers of cardiovascular sciences, and will cover a variety of research themes including basic biomedical, clinical and outcomes. Deadline for abstract submission is **Friday, April 5, 2013**.

More event and registration information can be found [here](#). Deadline for online registration is **Friday, April 12, 2013**.

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#### **Best Practice in Education Rounds Session**

Professors **Fiona Webster** (Department of Family and Community Medicine) and **Nancy McNaughton** (Standardized Patient Program) will be leading a Best Practice in Education Rounds (BPER) session called *Constructing the "Good" Patient: Insights for Medical Education Research from the Standpoint of Patients*. The session will take place on **April 2, 2013**.

Session Description:

Patient-centred care is a core principle at the heart of health care delivery and thus is essential to the organization of care and central to the physician-patient relationship. However, patients are not a homogenous group and there have been few studies that provide direction on how to involve them in education, research and care in a meaningful way. Much literature has focused on physician accounts of the "difficult" patient. Who then is the good patient as we construct them in medical narratives? And what are the implications of this for medical education research? This presentation will explore how the role of the patient has developed and evolved over time in clinical, education and social science literature and discuss the implications of this for future research. Professor McNaughton will draw on her extensive experience with the Standardized Patient Program and its role in medical education, and Professor Webster will draw on her research in qualitative studies with patients who experience osteoarthritic pain.

### **Event Details**

Date: April 2, 2013

Time: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: Li Ka Shing Building, St. Michael's Hospital  
209 Victoria St., 2nd floor, Allan Waters Family Auditorium (LKSKI Auditorium)

Website: <http://www.cfd.med.utoronto.ca/programs/upcoming-bper-rounds.html>

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### **TEDMED comes to the Faculty of Medicine!**

**TEDMED** -- taking place from April 16 to 19, 2013, in Washington, D.C. -- features health care industry thought leaders and game-changing innovations.

The Faculty of Medicine is celebrating TEDMED with two great events!

The first is Continuing Education and Professional Development's TEDMED Live -- CEPD U of T, a live feed of the TEDMED talks streamed directly from Washington. This free event will take place on all three TEDMED days at 500 University Avenue, Suite 650. Visit [CEPD's website](#) for more information.

The second is TEDMED Day -- Faculty of Medicine U of T, hosted by the Institute of Medical Sciences. This one-day event will take place on April 19, and features live talks from IMS faculty members along with streamed TEDMED presentations from Washington. The event is open to all University of Toronto community members and will take place in the JJR Macleod Auditorium, Medical Sciences Building. Visit <http://www.tedmedims.com> for a list of speakers and more information.

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### **Public Health Care: Transformation Through Disruption**

*Presented by the Society of Graduates in Health Policy, Management and Evaluation*

The Canadian health care system needs to focus on sustainability while advancing quality -- but how do we get there? The Society of Graduates

Education Day 2013 aims to find out. Held on May 9, 2013, the event is modeled after TEDTalks and will feature panel discussions, keynote speakers and networking opportunities.

**Event Details:**

**Date:** May 9, 2013

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

**Location:** Telus Tower, 25 York St., 3rd floor, Toronto

**Cost:** General -- \$95 (non-alumni are welcome)

Student -- \$50

**Registration:** [http://my.alumni.utoronto.ca/2013\\_education\\_day](http://my.alumni.utoronto.ca/2013_education_day)

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## 5. Medicine Research Online

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### RESEARCH GRANTS

- CIHR Catalyst Grants
- CIHR Chair: Gender, Work and Health
- CIHR - Applied Chairs in Reproductive, Child & Youth Health Services & Policy Research
- CIHR -- Healthcare Renewal Policy Analysis
- CIHR -- Knowledge Synthesis Grants
- CIHR -- Operating Grant -- HIV/AIDS Community Based Research Program
- CIHR Planning and Dissemination Grants
- CIHR Team Grant: Mild Traumatic Brain Injury in Children and Youth - Ontario
- Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada -- Career Investigator Award
- The W. Garfield Weston Foundation -- Rapid Response Program Award

*~ Our congratulations to all! ~*

### UPCOMING AWARD DEADLINES

#### **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

Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ Prize (NAE)

HFSP Nakasone Award for Frontier Research

NSERC Brockhouse Canada Prize

NSERC Herzberg Medal

NSERC John C. Polanyi Award

NSERC Synergy Awards for Innovation

Paul Marks Prize for Cancer Research

#### **May**

Bower Award and Prize for Achievement in Science

J. Allyn Taylor International Prize in Medicine

King Faisal International Prize in Medicine  
Thomas E. Starzl Prize in Surgery & Immunology

**June**

AAAS Newcomb Cleveland Prize  
Eppendorf and *Science* Prize for Neurobiology

For any queries regarding awards, please contact:

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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**The submission deadline for the next issue of MedEmail (to be published on Wednesday, April 10, 2013) is Wednesday, April 3, 2013.**

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