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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

# MedEmail

November 23, 2012

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## Message from the Dean

Catharine Whiteside

On November 7, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology held its 125th anniversary dinner. The occasion was noteworthy as a chance to reflect on the department's remarkable history. But as the largest-ever recent gathering of Obstetrics and Gynaecology alumni, it was also a milestone for alumni relations. Seasoned alumni and faculty met and mingled with students and recent graduates. Connections were made, stories were told. All this following a day of professional development, which included departmental learning sessions accredited by the Faculty's Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development.

Better relations with Faculty alumni are crucial to our vision of international leadership in health care, and strengthening alumni relations hinges on how well our academic units engage their alumni. That is why our Office of Advancement Manager of Alumni, Julie Lafford, is working with our Vice Dean of Continuing Education Professional Development, Professor Dimitri Anastakis, to develop educational opportunities for alumni from all Faculty units. It is also why we are building partnerships with our departmental and programmatic alumni associations, to leverage the experience of our alumni in new volunteer roles: the Department of Nutritional Sciences, for example, has piloted a student/alumni mentorship program which in its first year created 28 matches, more than double the initial goal.

We are also fostering interaction among alumni, by telling alumni stories in our communications and creating alumni social media connections. We are seeking out engagement with those who can champion existing alumni networks and build new ones. Under Julie Lafford's leadership, opportunities for alumni to collectively develop strategic initiatives -- such as a database of alumni achievements and profiles -- are now available.

The overarching goal of these activities is to take alumni engagement to a new level. More engaged alumni enrich the student experience, improving our ability to educate health leaders -- and seeding a lifelong relationship with students who, once they graduate, never really leave our academic family. Engaged alumni also support the Faculty financially, and I am pleased to report that alumni donations in the last fiscal year accounted for one quarter of charitable giving to the Faculty. This support is crucial to our Boundless Campaign, and shows we are building momentum following the Campaign launch this fall. A testament to our excellence in education, research and clinical care, the success of our alumni is our legacy in Toronto, across Canada and around the world.

**Catharine Whiteside**  
Dean, Faculty of Medicine

## IN THE NEWS:

Possible link between immune system and Alzheimer's

Umbilical Cord Cells Outperform Bone Marrow Cells in Repairing Damaged Hearts

Anti-hypertensive drugs linked to increased risk of hip fracture

Research shows probiotics can minimize *C. difficile* in some hospital settings

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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#### **2012 Karolinska Institutet Olivecrona Medal**

**Prof. Andres Lozano** is the recipient of the 2012 Olivecrona Medal from the Karolinska Institutet. The institute honors an international neurosurgeon annually for his or her contribution to brain and spinal cord surgery or research. Prof. Lozano is recognized internationally for his work on Deep Brain Stimulation, with which his group has pioneered treatment for several disorders including depression, Huntington's disease and Alzheimer's disease. Prof. Lozano holds the Dan Family Chair in Neurosurgery at U of T, and the RR Tasker Chair in Functional Neurosurgery at University Health Network.

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#### **Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association**

**Prof. Rosemary Martino** was elected a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) in November 2012. Fellowship is one of the highest forms of recognition ASHA provides for an individual's accomplishments; Prof. Martino was recognized for her outstanding professional achievements in the field of speech-language pathology and dysphagia research. Prof. Martino is an Associate Professor and Associate Chair in Speech-Language Pathology.

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#### **2011-12 Awards of Excellence in Teaching and Research**

## Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

### Chair's Award

- Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching -- **Mark Yudin**
- Excellence in Postgraduate Teaching -- **Sari Kives**
- Postgraduate Program Development/Innovation -- **Donna Steele, Janet Bodley, and Michèle Farrugia** (Wellness Team)
- Outstanding Research Potential -- **Sarah Ferguson**
- Outstanding Research Facilitation -- **Art Zaltz**
- Sustained Excellence in Research -- **Jon Barrett**
- Continuing Medical Education Teaching Excellence -- **Jason Dodge**
- Excellence in Continuing Medical Education Course Coordination -  
- **Deborah Robertson** (Women's Health Symposium)
- (New) Excellence in Integrated Undergraduate Medical Education -  
- **Dalip Bhangu**
- (New) Excellence in Integrated Postgraduate Medical Education --  
**Melanie Ornstein**

### Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

#### *Undergraduate Teaching Award Recipients*

- **Fred Engle**
- **Johannes (Han) Keunen**
- **Grace Liu**
- **Filomena Meffe**
- **Melanie Ornstein**
- **Jeremy Wong**
- **Suzanne Wong**

#### *Master Teacher Award Recipients*

- **Grace Liu**
- **Filomena Meffe**
- **Suzanne Wong**

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### **2012 World Ginseng Science Award**

**Prof. Vladimir Vuksan** is the recipient the inaugural World Ginseng Science Award, given by the South Korean government. Prof. Vuksan's research focuses on the development of novel nutritional therapies in the prevention and treatment of diabetes and cardiovascular disease. His group has spent the last 15 years working to establish the long-term benefits of American and Korean ginseng and was the first to show the effect of ginseng on regulation of blood glucose. Prof. Vuksan is a faculty member in the Departments of Medicine and Nutritional Sciences, and a scientist at the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute of St. Michael's Hospital.

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### **2011 Canadian Family Physician's Best Research Paper of the Year**

**Prof. Michelle Greiver** (Department of Family and Community Medicine) was honoured with the CFP's Best Research Paper of the Year award this month. The paper is based on her M.Sc. thesis in Institute for Health Policy, Management and Evaluation. Prof. Greiver is Director of the Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network, and a member of the North York Family Health Team.

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## 2. Announcements

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**Prof. Baraa Alghalyini** (Department of Family and Community Medicine) has been appointed Head of Family and Community Medicine at Al Faisal University College of Medicine. Prof. Alghalyini's role will straddle management and consultative functions, complementing her strong commitment to medical education, faculty development and research. Prof. Alghalyini offers her sincere appreciation for the support she received from U of T's professors, mentors and students during her time as a trainee and faculty member, and she looks forward to establishing a network of collaboration between Al Faisal and U of T.

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### 2012 -- 2013 AMS Phoenix Project Call to Caring Grants

Two U of T Medicine faculty have received AMS Phoenix Project Call to Caring Grants. These awards are given to projects designed to increase understanding of compassionate, person-centred care through narrative approaches, and/or to address aspects of the "hidden curricula" that can work against compassionate care in some learning and practice environments. The Medicine awardees and projects are:

**Carol Fancott and Prof. Ross Baker** (Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation) "Letting Stories Breathe": Using Patient Stories for Organizational Learning and Improvement

**Prof. Kenneth Locke** (Department of Medicine)  
A Pathway to Caring: Introducing a Multiple Narrative Approach to the Undergraduate Medical Curriculum

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## 3. Call for Nominations

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### Annual Graduate Faculty Teaching Awards

This year the Faculty of Medicine increased the number of awards to two per category, and will award up to six graduate faculty teaching awards. The purpose is to honour and celebrate outstanding contributions to graduate education by full-time faculty who teach in doctoral stream or professional graduate programs. The award will consist of a framed certificate, a cash prize and formal recognition at the Faculty of Medicine

Educational Achievement Event on May 7, 2013.

Nomination deadline: **December 7, 2012** (Note: each graduate department will have an earlier internal deadline).

Further Information:

<http://www.facmed.utoronto.ca/programs/graduate/award.htm>.

Contact: [debbie.chau@utoronto.ca](mailto:debbie.chau@utoronto.ca).

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### **Helen P. Batty Awards**

The Centre for Faculty Development is now accepting nominations for the 2013 Helen P. Batty Awards for Excellence and Achievement in Faculty Development:

- *Sustained Excellence in Teaching as Faculty Developer* -- recognizes sustained excellence in teaching faculty
- *Innovation in Program Development and Design* -- recognition of an outstanding faculty development program
- *Sustained Contribution to the Field of Faculty Development* -- recognizes an individual or group that has made an exceptional contribution in the area of faculty development.

Nominations are due by **Monday January 14, 2013** at 5:00 p.m.

For more information on award criteria and required nomination materials, click [here](#), or contact Jasmine Sheehan at [sheehanj@smh.ca](mailto:sheehanj@smh.ca) or 416-864-6060 ext. 77419.

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### **November 30, 2012 Internal Nomination Deadlines**

#### AAMC Abraham Flexner Award

Award for Distinguished Service to Medical Education: for extraordinary contributions to the medical education community, recognizes the highest standards in medical education and honors individuals whose impact on medical education is national [North American] in scope.

#### AAMC Alpha Omega Alpha (AΩA) Robert J. Glaser Distinguished Teacher Awards

To provide national [North American] recognition to faculty members who have distinguished themselves in medical student education.

#### OCUFA Teaching Award

Recognizes outstanding teachers in Ontario universities. Nominees will generally have already been substantially recognized at the Faculty or University level.

#### STLHE 3M National Teaching Fellowship

Recognizes excellence in teaching over a number of years, principally (but not exclusively) at the undergraduate level. Nominees will generally

have already been substantially recognized at the Faculty or University level.

#### CAME Certificate of Merit Awards

Recognizes members of faculty who have made a valuable contribution to medical education (in any area, including undergraduate, postgraduate, continuing education and faculty development) in the areas of teaching, evaluation, leadership, course coordination, etc., **but have not already been nationally recognized for this contribution**. One nominee per department. Nomination consists of a letter (max. 2pp) from the Department Chair outlining the specific contributions of the Faculty member in the area of education.

For additional information and to access the electronic nomination form, click [here](#). Please contact [edudeans@utoronto.ca](mailto:edudeans@utoronto.ca) if you have questions, or would like assistance identifying a nominee or submitting a nomination.

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## 4. Around Campus

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### **Taking Toronto's Healthcare History, November 23-24, 2012**

You are invited to *Taking Toronto's Healthcare History*, an interdisciplinary conference about Toronto's healthcare communities and their history.

#### Opening Reception:

Friday, November 23, 2012, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Great Hall at Hart House (7 Hart House Circle).

Speakers: University of Toronto President David Naylor, ROM Director and CEO Janet Carding, and University Professor Emeritus Michael Bliss. There will be light refreshments and a cash bar.

#### Main Conference

Saturday, November 24, 2012, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the MacLeod Auditorium of the Medical Sciences Building (1 King's College Circle, Room 2158). The conference is accredited for CME and IPE (red).

#### Cost

Students: Free, but must still register.

University of Toronto Alumni: Reception \$10, Conference \$40, Full Weekend \$45. General: Reception \$20, Conference \$50, Full Weekend \$60.

RSVP: [Register Online](#) | Contact [torontohealthcarehistory@gmail.com](mailto:torontohealthcarehistory@gmail.com)

Funding for this event has been generously provided by the University of Toronto Medical Alumni Association and by Associated Medical Services.

From soulful songs to hard-rocking rhythms, the lineup is set for EarthTones, the University of Toronto's biggest benefit concert, organized by students and staff from the Faculty of Medicine. Hosted by Canadian Idol judge Farley Flex, the concert will support Canadian Feed the Children, Helping Hands International and CWFET Tanzania.

#### Event Details

Date: **December 1, 2012**

Time: 7:00 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

Venue: Convocation Hall, University of Toronto

31 King's College Circle

Toronto, ON M5S 3G4

Cost: \$15 for students, \$25 for general public

Visit [Eventbrite](#) to purchase tickets

Contact number and email: 416-978-2100 or [earthtones2012@live.ca](mailto:earthtones2012@live.ca)

Website: <http://uoftearthtones.com/>

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#### **U of T Medicine and Munk School Celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities**

The Faculty of Medicine and Munk School of Global Affairs are collaborating to bring attention to the strength, resilience and ability of people with disabilities, through an innovative photographic exhibition. This exhibit will question assumptions about ability and disability using critical approaches to thinking and seeing, marrying visual art with medicine and rehabilitation.

#### Event Details

Date: December 3 -- 7

(Launch: December 3 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.)

Location: 500 University Ave., Rehabilitation Sciences Building (lobby)

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#### **SPLICE: At the Intersection of Art and Medicine**

SPLICE: At the Intersection of Art and Medicine presents a scientific gaze at the human body by showcasing traditional anatomical art, complemented and challenged by contemporary artworks. A large-scale showing of anatomical images by from the collection of Biomedical Communications, University of Toronto Mississauga and the Division of Anatomy, is included in the show. These works utilize traditional knowledge of art and science to achieve a balance between realistic rendering and an artistic vision of the human body.

#### Event Details

Date: October 23 -- December 1

Location: U of T Art Centre, 15 King's College Circle, U of T St. George Campus, and Blackwood Gallery, 3359 Mississauga Road North, U of T Mississauga Campus

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The **Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Science** held its eighth Faculty Research Day on November 2, 2012. The event was organized and chaired by Prof. Agnes Wong and featured Prof. Roderick McInnes (Departments of Paediatrics and Molecular Genetics), who gave the 6th Dr. Martin J. Steinbach Lecture, "Inherited photoreceptor degenerations: Why do the cells die? What can we do about it?"

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## **5. Medicine Research Online**

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### **RESEARCH GRANTS**

- Canadian Cancer Society - 2012 Multisector Team Grants in Prevention Research
- CIHR China-Canada Joint Health Research Initiative
- CIHR Planning Grants and Dissemination Events
- CIHR Team Grant: China-Canada: Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders
- CIHR Team Grant -- Joint call for Res Appl (JCRA) Ageing Res-ERA-AGE2
- NSERC/CIHR -- Collaborative Health Research Program (CHRP)
- Ontario Mental Health Foundation
- Prostate Cancer Research Foundation of Canada

*~ Our congratulations to all! ~*

### **UPCOMING AWARD DEADLINES**

#### **November**

Albert Einstein World Award of Science  
Canadian Science and Engineering Hall of Fame  
Ho-Am Prize

#### **December**

Manning Innovation Awards  
Royal Society of Canada

#### **January**

Henry G Friesen International Prize in Health Research  
Rolf Luft Award in Endocrinology and Diabetes Research

#### **February**

Membership in the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies

For any queries regarding awards, please contact:

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



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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