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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

# MedEmail

October 2, 2013  
Vol. 22, No. 3



## Message from the Dean

Catharine Whiteside

Our Faculty of Medicine strategic plan is student-centered and commits to the best possible experience through institutional support, both academic and financial, and innovation that enable our students to become societal leaders of transformational change. Every student should have the opportunity to take advantage of our unique learning environment with its incredible breadth and depth of scholarship across disciplines.

The Faculty of Medicine has the largest (close to 3000) professional graduate and Masters/PhD student enrolment in health and biomedical sciences in Canada. We train ~25% of PhDs in Canada in the health and biomedical fields. Our aim is to be recognized globally for top-ranked, innovative education programs that apply leading-edge teaching and learning models. To analyze the learning needs of our graduate students in the context of implementing our strategic aims, I struck a Task Force on Innovation and Transformation in Graduate Education, co-chaired by our Vice Dean Research and International Relations, Alison Buchan and Interim Vice Dean Graduate and Life Sciences Education, Avrum Gotlieb. The Task Force has made several recommendations that will build on our strengths and address key issues in graduate education, including how we can best meet the career development needs of graduate students.

The majority of PhD students today will choose careers outside academia. Our graduate program curricula must reflect this shift, to ensure that our students have skills in communications and technology, career planning, time management, teamwork and leadership, all of which are needed in today's diverse workplaces. Based on the recommendations of the Task Force, the Faculty will develop a non-credit co-curriculum to help students learn these skills. This co-curriculum will align with existing career development activities in both the School of Graduate Studies and Faculty departments, such as departmental career workshops and alumni mentorship programs. You can read the Final Report of the Task Force on Innovation and Transformation in Graduate Education [here](#).

Last year, our Faculty also struck a Task Force on Physician Scientist Education, chaired by Associate Dean Physician Scientist Training, Norman Rosenblum. This Task Force conducted an extensive literature review and environmental scan, and found that our MD/PhD Program and Clinical Investigator Programs -- the largest of their kind in Canada -- are competitive among the best in North America. However, the Task Force recommended opportunities to improve these programs. One important direction is the plan to create an Integrated Physician Scientist Training Pathway for medical students. This pathway will offer better integration of clinical practice and science, and a flexible, competency-based curriculum

customized for individual students and trainees. While our current dual-degree, parallel stream has served students well, this new model will better equip students to take advantage of the many emerging career opportunities in translational medicine, while providing the complex care that today's patients need. You can read the full Report of the Task Force on Physician Scientist Education [here](#).

These and other positive changes to our physician scientist training and graduate programs will ensure we continue to deliver on our promise of improving health for people around the world through innovation in research and education.

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

## IN THE NEWS:

Advancing spinal research

Surgery helps common arthritis-related spinal disease, prevents paralysis: study

Alzheimer's drugs may harm people with mild memory issues

Canadian study links pot use and psychosis for those already vulnerable

Would a \$5 reward a week make you exercise regularly? Researchers test theory

If you would like to have a news item, research or

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## MEDEMAIL ARCHIVE

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### 1. In Memoriam

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#### **Professor Donald Low**

Professor **Donald Low** (Department of Medicine), a trusted leader in the field of infectious disease, a globally recognized researcher and mentor, passed away on September 18, 2013.

Low was the voice of Toronto's 2003 SARS crisis, using his expertise and communications skills to reassure and inform the public throughout the crisis. Afterwards, Low helped revitalize public health systems and advanced the practice of microbiology and infectious diseases across Canada. [Read the full story here](#).

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### 2. Honours and Awards

education  
award  
announcement  
placed in  
MedEmail  
please forward  
it by e-mail to  
[Jim Oldfield](#).

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## National Kidney Foundation's 2014 International Distinguished Medal

Professor **Daniel Cattran** (Department of Medicine) is the winner of the National Kidney Foundation's 2014 International Distinguished Medal. The award was established in 1990 to honor the achievement of individuals who have made significant accomplishments in kidney disease research through their clinical work, roles in academia, scientific discoveries or volunteer work.

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## Fellows, Canadian Academy of Health Sciences

Eighteen members of the Faculty of Medicine community have been named fellows of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences; one of Canada's most esteemed academic academies.

The fellows are recognized for their leadership, creativity and commitment to advancing academic health science and are drawn from a wide range of health professions -- recognizing work from basic science to population health. Election to fellowship in the Academy is considered one of the highest honours in the Canadian health sciences community.

The newly elected fellows are:

- Professor **Philip Berger** (Department of Family and Community Medicine)
- Professor **Dina Brooks** (Department of Physical Therapy)
- Professor **Paul Dorian** (Department of Medicine)
- Professor **Herbert Gaisano** (Department of Medicine)
- Professor **Prabhat Jha** (Dalla Lana School of Public Health)
- Professor **Rita Kandel** (Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology)
- Professor **Stephen Lye** (Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and Fraser Mustard Institute for Human Development)
- Professor **Muhammad Mamdani** (Institute of Health Policy, Management, and Evaluation)
- Professor **Phillip Marsden** (Department of Medicine)
- Professor **John Marshall** (Department of Surgery)
- Professor **Avery Nathens** (Department of Surgery)
- Professor **Patricia O'Campo** (Dalla Lana School of Public Health)
- Professor **Thomas Parker** (Department of Medicine)
- Professor **Paula Rochon** (Department of Medicine)
- Professor **Sean Rourke** (Department of Psychiatry)
- Professor **J. Paul Santerre** (Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering)
- Professor **Sharon Straus** (Department of Medicine)
- Professor **James Wright** (Department of Surgery)

The new fellows were inducted at a ceremony hosted by the Academy on September 19.

[Read the full story here.](#)

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## Latin American Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism's Best Poster Presentation

The Latin American Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism is honouring

Professor **Harold Kalant** (Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology) with a Best Poster Presentation award for his contributions to addiction research. The award further recognizes Professor Kalant's role in advancing education and supervising several Latin American doctorate students.

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### **The College of Family Physicians Canada's Dr. Bob Robertson Award**

Dr. **Michelle Kraus** -- a resident at Toronto East General Hospital -- won the College of Family Physicians Canada's Dr. Bob Robertson Award. The award is given to the resident who scores the highest on the CFPC's certification examination. Dr. Kraus is the Faculty's second winner in three years.

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### **University of Toronto's Arbor Awards**

Multiple Faculty of Medicine community members have won a 2013 Arbor Award.

The Arbor Awards were created by the University of Toronto in 1989 to recognize volunteers for their outstanding personal service to the University.

This year's winners include:

- **Carol Bisnath**  
Carol is a loyal member of the U of T Mississauga Alumni Board, and a Career Counsellor in the Office of Health Professions Student Affairs. She has engaged in strategic planning, been a keynote speaker for the Backpack to Briefcase series which brings students and alumni together and she has attended every Doors Open Mississauga and March Open House events. Her passion to see students acquire the tools needed to be successful is evident in her volunteer work.
- **Ruhe Chaudhry**  
Chaudhry served as President of the Public Health Alumni Association at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health for seven years, leading the Board in the development of initiatives for both students and her fellow graduates. She also served a four-year term on Governing Council's College of Electors, and was a member of the Executive Committee in her final year.
- **Carole Cooper**  
Cooper has been a dedicated supporter of the Department of Nutritional Sciences in the Faculty of Medicine since its creation. Carole has consistently helped organize the department's Spring Reunion luncheon and has been a champion of the annual Edna Park Lecture for departmental alumni.
- Professor **Iris Greenspoon** (Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy)  
Greenspoon has shared her knowledge and expertise in community occupational therapy practice with Masters of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy students through guest lectures and mentorship. Her membership on several committees has supported community practice development, continuing education, and community health programs at the Faculty of Medicine.
- **Laurie Munro**  
Munro was instrumental in establishing the relationship between the Tanz Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases and The Peter Cundill Foundation.

He has also been a leader in the campaign for the James Hunter Family ALS Initiative and has helped engage other volunteers in support of the cause.

- **J. Lawrence Naiman**

Naiman has kept in touch with his fellow graduates in the Faculty of Medicine's Class of '56 throughout his distinguished medical career. In 2006, he created and became webmaster of the first open website for a U of T medical class. His pioneering initiative helped his classmates keep in touch with one another for many years, and the website served as a model for other classes.

- Professor **Susan D. VanderBent**

VanderBent is president of The Society of Graduates in Health Policy, Management and Evaluation. She has contributed greatly to a sense of continuity among alumni, stakeholders and donors during the academic unit's transition to an institute from a department. Susan has also reached out to students through lunch and learn presentations and the annual Convocation Lunch.

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### 3. Call for Nominations

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#### **Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in Life Sciences**

The Faculty of Medicine is pleased to call for nominations of full-time faculty in medicine for the Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in Life Sciences Awards. The nomination deadline is **January 31, 2014**. There are a total of four awards in three categories available:

##### **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 Science 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 such as research project courses, summer student research projects or programs.

Nomination forms, submission requirements and lists of previous winners are available [online](#). For additional information, please contact Natasha Lowe, Administrative Coordinator, Life Sciences Education at [natasha.lowe@utoronto.ca](mailto:natasha.lowe@utoronto.ca).

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#### **Annual Graduate Faculty Teaching Awards**

Graduate and Life Sciences Education is seeking nominations the Annual Graduate Faculty Teaching Awards. There are six awards in total that honour and celebrate outstanding contributions to graduate education by full-time faculty who teach in doctoral stream or professional graduate programs.

Prizes consist of a framed certificate, a cash prize and formal recognition at the Faculty of Medicine Educational Achievement Event on May 13, 2014.

The nomination deadline is December 6, 2013 (note: each Graduate Department will have an earlier internal deadline).

More details on the awards can be found [here](#). Contact [Debbie Chau](#) for further information.

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### **Chair, Department of Physical Therapy**

Professor Katherine Berg will be completing her second term as Chair of the Department Physical Therapy on June 30, 2014; she is not eligible for reappointment. In accordance with the University of Toronto's "Policy on Appointment of Academic Administrators," a committee has been struck to advise on the appointment of the next Chair.

The composition of the committee, which has been approved by the Vice-President and Provost, is as follows:

**Catharine Whiteside** (Co-Chair) - Dean

**Sarita Verma** (Co-Chair) - Deputy Dean

**Ian Barrett** - MScPT Student, Department of Physical Therapy

**Aileen Davis** - Professor, Department of Physical Therapy

**Luc De Nil** - Vice-Dean, Students, School of Graduate Studies

**Jennifer Dermott** - PhD Candidate, Graduate Department of Rehabilitation Science

**Cathy Evans** - Assistant Professor and Graduate Coordinator, Department of Physical Therapy

**Avrum Gotlieb** - Interim Vice-Dean, Graduate and Life Sciences Education

**Sheila Jarvis** - President and CEO, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

**Stephanie Nixon** - Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy

**Amanda Patterson** - Business Manager, Department of Physical Therapy

**Susan Rappolt** - Chair, Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

**Joshua Tepper** - Vice-President, Education, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

The committee welcomes input. Please send comments and nominations to Dean Catharine Whiteside, c/o Anastasia Meletopoulos, Academic Affairs Specialist, at [anastasia.meletopoulos@utoronto.ca](mailto:anastasia.meletopoulos@utoronto.ca). Your opinions will be treated in strictest confidence and will be made known only to the Advisory Committee for the Appointment of Chair, Department Physical Therapy.

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### **Chair, Department of Speech-Language Pathology**

Professor Elizabeth Rochon will be completing her term as Interim Chair of the Department Speech-Language Pathology on June 30, 2014. In accordance with the University of Toronto's "Policy on Appointment of Academic Administrators," a committee has been struck to advise on the appointment of the Chair.

The composition of the committee, which has been approved by the Vice-President and Provost, is as follows:

**Catharine Whiteside** (Co-Chair) - Dean

**Sarita Verma** (Co-Chair) - Deputy Dean

**Katherine Berg** - Chair, Department of Physical Therapy

**Brian Corman** - Dean, School of Graduate Studies

**Deirdre Dawson** - Associate Professor, Department of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy

**Alice Eriks-Brophy** - Graduate Coordinator and Associate Professor, Department of Speech-Language Pathology

**Avrum Gotlieb** - Interim Vice-Dean, Graduate and Life Sciences Education

**Gresham Kimm** - 2nd-Year MHS Sc Student, Department of Speech-Language Pathology

**Elina Mainela-Arnold** - Assistant Professor, Department of Speech-Language Pathology

**Rosemary Martino** - Associate Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Speech-Language Pathology

**Teenu Sanjeevan** - PhD Candidate, Department of Speech-Language Pathology

**Catrina Steele** - Professor, Department of Speech-Language Pathology

**Susan Wagner** - Senior Lecturer, Department of Speech-Language Pathology

The committee welcomes input. Please send comments and nominations to Dean Catharine Whiteside, c/o Anastasia Meletopoulos, Academic Affairs Specialist, at [anastasia.meletopoulos@utoronto.ca](mailto:anastasia.meletopoulos@utoronto.ca). Your opinions will be treated in strictest confidence and will be made known only to the Advisory Committee for the Appointment of Chair, Department Speech-Language Pathology.

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## 4. Around Campus

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### 2013 Gairdner Symposia

The University of Toronto community will hear from many of the world's greatest minds in medical sciences research when they gather in Toronto in October for the 2013 Gairdner Symposia. Beginning on October 23, leading researchers will discuss critical topics in health research, including HIV and sexual transmitted infections, hepatitis C and protein structures, and functions in health and disease.

The recipients of the 2013 Canada Gairdner Awards -- Canada's most prestigious award in the health sciences -- will also deliver lectures on their groundbreaking research.

Full event details can be found [here](#).

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### Nutrition: Research, Innovation and Markets

The University of Toronto, in partnership with the Embassy of Italy in Canada, is hosting Nutrition: Research, Innovation and Markets on October 10, 2013. The day-long symposium features four sessions, and each will involve a keynote speaker followed by a panel discussion.

The sessions are:

- *Feeding the world into the future: the role of food science and technology*  
Speaker: **Rickey Yada**, University of Guelph
- *Food impact on Health: the Role of Packaging and Traceability*

Speaker: **Giovanni Fattore**, Università Bocconi

- *Shaking old paradigms: Future opportunities for the development of food products that promote health in children*

Speaker: Professor **Deborah O'Connor**, Department of Nutritional Sciences

- *Food innovation & development for the prevention of chronic disease*

Speaker: Professor **David Jenkins**, Department of Nutritional Sciences

**Event Details:**

Date: October 10, 2013

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Health Sciences Building Auditorium

Cost: free, but space is limited

Further details and online registration can be found at [www.eventbrite.ca/event/8261391043](http://www.eventbrite.ca/event/8261391043).

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**Epilepsy: The challenges and the future of understanding**

The Faculty of Medicine community is invited to Epilepsy: The challenges and the future of understanding, a CIHR Cafe Scientifique. The event will cover the latest clinical, surgical and drug developments, and will also look at different policy perspectives.

Speakers include:

- Professor (Emeritus) **Mac Burnham** (Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology)
- Professor **Carter Snead** (Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology)
- Professor **Taufik Valiante** (Department of Surgery)

The event will be moderated by Dr. Chau Tran.

**Event Details:**

Date: October 21, 2013

Time: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Location: University of Toronto Faculty Club, Upper Dining Room

Cost: Free

Contact [Wendy Ricketts](#) to RSVP. Please include "RSVP Cafe" in the subject line.

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**Knowledge Translation in Health Professions Education (BPER)**

St. Michael's Hospital is hosting Knowledge Translation in Health Professions Education, a Best Practice in Education Rounds (BPER) session by Dr. Yvonne Steinert.

Session Description:

How do we define "best evidence" in health professions education? How do we define and determine "best practices"? The goal of this session is to discuss ways in which we can incorporate evidence into our educational and teaching practices, overcome common

barriers and ensure that research informs practice in this evolving field.

**Event Details:**

Date: October 8, 2013

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

Location: Li Ka Shing Auditorium, St. Michael's Hospital

Cost: Free

For more information contact [Jasmine Sheehan](#).

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**Scotiabank Nuit Blanche: My Virtual Dream**

Scotiabank Nuit Blanche is coming to the Faculty of Medicine! We've teamed up with Baycrest to bring you [My Virtual Dream](#), an exhibit showcasing the research of Professor Randy McIntosh (Institute of Medical Sciences and Department of Psychology), who is leading the development of a [virtual brain](#).

**Event Details:**

Date: October 5, 2013

Time: 6:52 p.m. to sunrise on October 6

Location: in front of the Leslie L. Dan Pharmacy Building (corner of University Avenue and College Street)

Cost: Free

Join us to see art, music and science come alive!

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**2013 Anne and Max Tanenbaum Symposium in Molecular Medicine**

The 2013 Anne and Max Tanenbaum Symposium in Molecular Medicine will take place on October 3, 2013. The Symposium's theme is Genotype to Phenotype, and it features speakers from the University of Washington, University of Minnesota and University of California, Berkeley.

**Event Details:**

Date: October 3, 2013

Time: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: East Common Room, Hart House

Cost: Free

Click [here](#) to RSVP.

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**5. Medicine Research Online**

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**RESEARCH GRANTS**

- [Canadian Cancer Society](#)

- CIHR Chair: GlaxoSmithKline Partnered
- CIHR International COEN Initiative in Neurodegeneration
- CIHR Knowledge Synthesis Grants
- CIHR - Maud Menten New Principal Investigator Prizes
- CIHR Operating Grant: Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
- Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario - 2013 Personnel Awards
- NSERC CREATE: NSERC/German Research Foundation
- Ontario Mental Health Foundation
- Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO)
- Prostate Cancer Canada - Movember Discovery Grants

*~ Our congratulations to all! ~*

### **UPCOMING AWARD DEADLINES**

#### **October**

OMHF John Dewan Prize

#### **November**

Canadian Cancer Society Awards for Excellence

Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology Awards

Canadian Society for Atherosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology Scientific Excellence Award

Canadian Society for Clinical Investigation Awards

Hamdan International Awards

Ho-Am Prize

Jonas Salk Award

Warren Alpert Foundation prize

#### **December**

Manning Awards

Royal Society of Canada Fellowship

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)

UHN Shanghai Custom Chemical Synthesis

#### **Regular Departments:**

Updates from CIHR University Delegate

Funding News & Opportunities -- local, national, international

Links to Departmental News & Events

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**The submission deadline for the next issue of MedEmail (to be published on Wednesday, October 16, 2013) is Wednesday, October 9, 2013.**

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