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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

MedEmail

December 11, 2013
Vol. 22, No. 8



Message from the Dean

Catharine Whiteside

Nelson Mandela was an extraordinary leader. He overcame decades of incarceration to guide South Africa from apartheid to reconciliation and prosperity. For people around the world, he became a beacon of courage, dignity and grace.

With his death last week, the world has lost a great visionary. But his legacy is a model for living with purpose. The Faculty of Medicine is dedicated to international leadership in improving health through innovation in research and education.

We can take much inspiration from the life of Nelson Mandela.

Patients and families around the world rely on our Faculty to create new knowledge and enable our graduates to provide the best health care. We meet this challenge when we stay true to our core values: integrity in all our endeavours; life-long learning and critical inquiry; and, commitment to excellence, in particular.

Nelson Mandela embodied these values, and another one: partnership through effective relationship building. We need to find answers to this century's urgent health problems by working across disciplines, institutions and national borders. And the foundation of partnership, as Nelson Mandela showed us, is mutual respect.

Nowhere is the power and benefit of respect more evident than in applying the lens of social responsibility in all we do. As a Faculty, we embrace our social responsibility by developing leaders, contributing to our communities, and improving health through the discovery, application and communication of knowledge. Nelson Mandela's story is a poignant reminder that what we do for others matters more than what we do for ourselves.

All members of the University community are welcome to attend a celebration of the life of Nelson Mandela in Convocation Hall on Friday, December 13, from 2:15 to 4:00 p.m. Ticket and webcast information is available [here](#).

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

IN THE NEWS:

[Innovations for developing countries: Grand Challenges Canada](#)

[Recurring colon cancer deactivated using drug that 'wiped out the ability of cells to make new tumours,' Toronto researchers say](#)

[What composes the human heart? U of T Researchers crunch the numbers](#)

[Curb 'weekend effect' at hospitals to make Saturday or Sunday admittance less risky for patients: study](#)

[Medical journal author calls for better PTSD diagnosis among soldiers and veterans](#)

If you would like to have a news item, research or education award announcement placed in MedEmail please forward it by e-mail to [Jim Oldfield](#).

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[1. In Memoriam](#)

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Professor Ross Fleming

Professor Emeritus **Ross Fleming** (Department of Surgery) passed away peacefully on December 1, 2013. Professor Fleming was a skilled and committed neurosurgeon, known for his profound care of patients. He joined the neurosurgical staff at Toronto Western Hospital in 1956, and was division head of neurosurgery there from 1965 until 1984. In 1990, the Toronto Hospital renamed the Neurosurgical Intensive Care Unit the Fleming Neurosurgical Intensive Care Unit, in his honor.

Professor Fleming was also a dedicated and inspiring teacher and mentor, who stressed the importance of surgeons' involvement in undergraduate teaching. He had a positive influence on many medical students while he was Associate Dean of the Faculty. The University recognized his contributions to neurosurgical education in 1992 with the creation of the Ross Fleming Surgical Educator Award.

[2. Honours and Awards](#)

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Smile Foundation of South Africa's Humanitarian Award

Professor **Ronald Zuker** (Department of Surgery) won the Smile

Foundation of South Africa's Humanitarian Award. Professor Zuker, a paediatric plastic and reconstructive surgeon, focuses on facial reanimation and cleft lip and palate management. He is co-director of the Facial Paralysis Programme at SickKids and serves on Operation Smile's Plastic Surgery Council.

Professor Zuker also recently received an honorary fellowship to the College of Plastic Surgeons of South Africa, and became an honorary member of the Association of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons of Southern Africa.

The Ivey International Centre for Health Innovation's Reverse Innovation Challenge

MD students **Mohan Pandit** and **Jeff Martin** placed first in the the Ivey International Centre for Health Innovation's Reverse Innovation Challenge for their project 3nethra -- Non-Mydratic Eye Examination.

Handheld ophthalmoscopes, found in many primary care offices, are hard to use and not always effective. Pandit and Martin want to bring 3nethra, a non-mydratic eye prescreening tool, to family health centres across Ontario, saving the province an estimated \$1 billion dollars annually.

Joan Leishman Award

Bogusia Trojan, director of the Health Sciences Libraries at UHN, was awarded the Joan Leishman Award of Merit at the Health Science Information Consortium of Toronto's AGM on November 29.

The award recognizes the contributions of consortium library staff members who have helped advance health care through health science information service.

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Awards

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology recognized over a dozen faculty members with Undergraduate Teaching, Chair's and Master Teacher Awards for the 2012-2013 academic year.

View a complete list of winners [here](#).

[3. Announcements](#)

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National Physician Assistant Day

On November 28, faculty, students and staff from the Physician

Assistant Professional Degree Program came together to celebrate National PA Day. Students had a booth in the Gerstein Science Information Centre.

Physician assistants work in interprofessional teams, and their clinical duties may include taking medical histories, performing physical examinations and procedures, ordering tests and interpreting investigations, writing prescriptions and participating in management plans. The Faculty introduced the PA program in 2010.

4. Call for Applications

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CHEC-CESC Virtual Patient Challenge

The Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) and Canada Health Infoway are seeking submissions for the CHEC-CESC Virtual Patient Challenge 2013-14. The challenge is part of the AFMC Infoway Physician in Training e-Health Curriculum and e-Learning Initiative.

Medical students at the undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate levels can apply, and joint applications between faculty members and students are also welcome.

[Click here](#) for more information.

5. Call for Nominations

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Continuing Education Research and Development Internal Grants -- Winter 2014 Cycle

The Office of Continuing Professional Development is soliciting nominations for the Winter 2014 Research and Development Awards. The grants -- worth up to \$5,000 -- will support projects that directly relate to the planning, implementation, delivery and evaluation of continuing education for health professionals.

View more information [here](#), or contact [Vashty Hawkins](#).

The deadline for winter cycle nominations is **Friday, January 17, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.** If you require an extension, contact Ms. Hawkins.

W.T. Aikins Awards

The W.T. Aikins Awards are the Faculty's most prestigious awards

for commitment to and excellence in undergraduate teaching. All faculty members from the undergraduate medical (MD) program are eligible for nomination.

The Faculty selects recipients in a Faculty-wide process that includes faculty members and students. This award can benefit faculty members in the academic promotions process.

The award categories are:

- Individual teaching performance (large group: seminars, lectures)
- Individual teaching performance (small group: PBL tutoring, ward-based group teaching)
- Development and use of innovative instructional methods
- Course/program development and coordination

View details on the nomination process, eligibility requirements and deadline information [here](#).

For further information, please contact Effie Slapnicar at 416.978.8544 or effie.slapnicar@utoronto.ca.

2012-2013 Continuing Professional Development Awards

Continuing Professional Development is seeking nominations for various awards of excellence. The awards recognize faculty members who have made outstanding contributions in program development, research, online education, teaching excellence, interprofessional health care, innovation, and long-term continuing education.

The extended deadline for nominations is Friday, December 13, 2013.

View information on the nomination process [here](#).

CIHR Institute of Health Services and Policy Research Awards

Each year, the CIHR Institute of Health Services and Policy Research recognizes leaders in the health services and policy research community. From trainees to senior investigators, the organization celebrates researchers who are making a difference.

The CIHR is soliciting nominations for the following awards:

- [CIHR Barer-Flood Prize for Health Services and Policy Research](#) (\$25,000)
- [CIHR-IHSPR Article of the Year Award](#) (\$10,000)
- [CIHR-IHSPR Rising Star Award](#) (\$1,000)

For more information, click [here](#).

Excellence in Community-Based Teaching Awards

The Office of Integrated Medical Education is seeking nominations for the 2014 Excellence in Community-Based Teaching Awards. These awards acknowledge the significant contributions of community-based leaders who help teach medical students and residents.

More information, including nomination deadline, can be found [here](#).

6. Medicine Research Online

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- [Recently Awarded Research Grants](#)
 - [Upcoming Award Deadlines](#)
 - [Funding News and Opportunities - Local, National, International](#)
 - [Departmental News and Events](#)
 - [Updates from the CIHR University Delegate](#)
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The submission deadline for the next issue of MedEmail (to be published on Wednesday, January 15, 2014) is Wednesday, January 8, 2014.

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