Welcome

Faculty of Health Sciences | Academic Year 2013-2014 | Department of Medicine
Our Mission

We are a Department of Medicine, characterized by a collegial, interprofessional, and interinstitutional cooperation, working to achieve our goals of excellence in health education, research and clinical care which embraces the continuum from the basic science laboratory to the individual patient to the health care system.

Our Goals

To facilitate the provision of the highest possible quality of care of the medical diseases of adults, giving appropriate consideration to costs and utilities.

To take responsibility for the quality of the education programs offered by McMaster University for physicians in training and practice in the disciplines of general internal medicine and the medical subspecialties and to provide many of the planners and teachers for this broad undertaking. To be involved as appropriate in the education programs offered by McMaster University for non-physician scientists working in health-related fields and non-physician health professionals.

To develop and critically evaluate new knowledge across a wide range of disciplines from basic science to the clinical disciplines of general internal medicine and its subspecialties, to the health care system itself. The Department of Medicine will set priorities for its research endeavours, based upon excellence, societal relevance, the availability of collaborative links, the opportunity for national and international significance, and additional criteria as judged appropriate.
I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to the Department of Medicine on another year of exceptional achievement in research, teaching and clinical care. The hard work and dedication of everyone within the Department has helped McMaster to fulfill its vision of achieving international distinction for creativity, innovation and excellence.

As the largest unit within the Faculty of Health Sciences, the Department of Medicine continues to be a world-leader in medical teaching and education. Indeed, I am reminded daily about the Department’s impact on health: one need only pick up a newspaper, or turn on the evening news to appreciate that our experts are frequently sought out by the media to comment on the world’s most pressing health issues, as well as being asked by other organizations to provide guidance and advice in addressing those issues.

All of this builds McMaster’s longstanding reputation for excellence, as do the important research discoveries made by members of the Department, which directly support the University’s impressive global rankings. McMaster is one of only four Canadian universities ranked among the top 100 in the world by the Academic Ranking of World Universities and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings. Furthermore, researchers in the Faculty of Health Sciences and its academic hospitals oversee $223 million in research funding a year, which places McMaster among the top four universities in Canada for biomedical and health care research, and has done so every year for the last decade. In Canada, Maclean’s University Rankings placed McMaster sixth among fifteen in the medical-doctoral category for the fifth year in a row.

While such rankings are simply a snapshot in time, it is tremendously gratifying that McMaster continues to stand among the best universities in the world. The teaching contributions and innovative research undertaken by faculty, along with the tireless support provided by administrative and technical staff, directly furthers this success year after year. In addition, the talented scholars within the Department of Medicine publish consistently in the medical field’s most prestigious journals. They also attract millions of dollars in research grants and support from federal and provincial governments, industry and charitable organizations, as well as significant funding from private donors.

As you read through the pages of this report, you will no doubt be impressed with the key role the Department plays in ensuring the continued success of McMaster as a world-class institution. Congratulations to all members of the Department on your outstanding accomplishments throughout 2013-2014. I commend you for your success and wish you all the best in the coming year.

— Dr. Patrick Deane
Another year has been filled with many achievements by the faculty and staff of McMaster’s Department of Medicine, and I would like to congratulate all for these significant contributions.

With nearly 600 faculty members in 17 divisions, the Department is dedicated to excellence in all areas of academic medicine. Its commitment to scholarship in care, research and education is second to none.

Research undertaken within the Department is having a direct impact on the health of Canadians, but this influence does not stop at our borders. Many research projects and discoveries have made headlines here at home and around the world. To note only a few of the significant ones this year:

- Researchers led by principal investigator and assistant professor Jocelyn Srigley discovered that hospitalized patients wash their hands infrequently. The team used new electronic hand hygiene monitoring technology involving sensors on all soap and sanitizer dispensers. Using the same system in another study, they found fewer health care workers wash their hands when not being observed.

- The largest ever study of its kind found that the current recommended maximum sodium intake is too low and may even be unsafe, but that high sodium is also harmful, so an “optimal” range is the best target. Professor Salim Yusuf is the study’s principal investigator and senior author.

- Led by professor Susan Wasserman, researchers are evaluating a pilot project where security guards at Hamilton’s Jackson Square carry epinephrine auto-injectors. The team will look at the efficacy of the training, use of stock epinephrine auto-injectors during the pilot program, and the knowledge of consumers at risk of anaphylaxis and foodservice staff.

- New research by professor Sonia Anand showed that South Asians living in Canada have a higher rate of heart disease and double the rate of diabetes compared with Caucasians.

During this time, members of the Department have also collected many awards and accolades. These include:

- Deborah Cook, professor of medicine and clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, was made an Officer of the Order of Canada. She was recognized for her contributions to the improvement of global intensive care unit procedures and the creation of a national network for critical care research.

- Mark Loeb, a professor in the departments of Pathology and Molecular Medicine, Medicine, and Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, received the Jonas Salk Award (lifetime achievement) from the March of Dimes of Canada.

- Salim Yusuf, professor of medicine, was inducted into Canada’s Medical Hall of Fame for his research into the prevention and management of cardiovascular disease. He was also celebrated in national media as “Canada’s most influential scientist” based on citations.

- Gregory Steinberg, professor of medicine, was named to the Royal Society of Canada’s College of New Scholars, a national group that recognizes the country’s emerging academic leaders.

Currently, there are 10 Canada Research Chairs and 29 endowed chairs and professorships held by members of the Department. These positions allow our top scientists to focus on critically important areas of study and recruit and develop the next generation of researchers. They also serve to attract and retain internationally renowned researchers in a variety of disciplines, ensuring that our students learn from the best in the world.

Congratulations again to everyone in the Department of Medicine on a fantastic 2013-2014 year.

On behalf of the Faculty of Health Sciences, I wish to thank you for your steadfast commitment to improving the health of patients everywhere.

Best wishes for the year ahead.

Dr. John G. Kelton
Dean and Vice-President
Faculty of Health Sciences
Dean of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine

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Research undertaken within the Department is having a direct impact on the health of Canadians, but this influence does not stop at our borders.

— Dr. John Kelton
During the academic year 2013-2014, the Department of Medicine continues to increase its number of faculty, its academic productivity and impact. There were a further 21 new geographic full-time faculty members appointed to the Department, which now has a total of 591 faculty members, of which 229 are geographic full-time faculty, 285 part-time faculty, 38 professor emeriti, 8 clinical scholars, and 31 joint and associate members. The Department is the largest in the Faculty of Health Sciences and the largest single Department at McMaster University.

Patient care is the cornerstone of the Department’s activity, and is the foundation upon which all of its scholarly activity occurs. The Department works within the framework of two hospital systems, Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) and St. Joseph’s Healthcare (SJH), because of the efforts of the Chiefs of Medicine in these two hospital systems, Dr. Barry Lumb at HHS and Dr. David Russell at SJH, the facilities, the infrastructure, and the quality of the teaching continue to improve. This has been the result, in part, of recruitment of outstanding young clinician educators. These new faculty, together with a core of some of the highest regarded teachers in the Faculty of Health Sciences, have ensured that the clinical teaching units at three of our hospital sites (Hamilton General Hospital, Juravinski Hospital and St. Joseph’s Hospital) continue to be outstanding learning environments.

The Department has 16 training programs in Internal Medicine and its specialties accredited by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC). The last Royal College accreditation process confirmed the excellence of these programs. Our Internal Medicine Program received the highest accolades from the RCPSC accreditors and was approved without a single weakness being identified. In addition, all of the sub-specialty programs have received full accreditation (five of these without any weakness identified). This excellence has been reflected in the quality of evaluations from both residents and undergraduate trainees. Drs. Lumb and Russell, together with Dr. Shariq Haider, the postgraduate Program Director, are committed to ensuring that our training programs remain amongst the most sought after in Canada.

Undergraduate and postgraduate medical education is a vitally important academic endeavour of the Department. The Department provides almost one-third of all educational activities within the Faculty of Health Sciences and it has opportunities to undertake stimulating and valuable educational roles. This remains a major reason that we were able to attract so many high quality, young clinician educators to the Faculty of Health Sciences. The Associate Chair, Education, Dr. Ameen Patel, has made a major effort to ensure the careful documentation of the magnitude of the contributions made by faculty members. This is crucial not only at the time of promotion and tenure, but also because the allocation of resources such as the Alternative Funding Plan (AFP) are made based, in part, on these educational contributions.

Postgraduate training in the Department of Medicine also continues to move from strength to strength. The Internal Medicine Residency Training Program is now regarded as one of the most sought after in Canada for newly qualified physicians to begin their training in Medicine. The program has attracted almost 375 applications in the past year for 21 positions, which included some of the very best applicants in the country. All of this success can be accounted for by the energy and commitment of Dr. Shariq Haider, the Program Director, and Jan Taylor, the Program Administrator, along with the residents currently in the program and the clinical educators in the Department, who have gone to remarkable lengths to ensure the program is seen to be vibrant, energetic, and forward-looking. Initiatives that continue to be very successful have been the International Health Program, which allows residents to travel to Uganda each year to spend time working in Makerere University in Kampala. In addition, the development of Canada’s first ambulatory Clinical Teaching Unit was advanced by the opening of Phase 1 of the Boris Academic Medicine Outpatient Clinic at McMaster University Medical Centre, under the leadership of Dr Akbar Panju. The final phase of The Boris Clinic will be completed in summer of 2015.

The Resident’s Research Day has grown in size and developed in stature over the past five years. This is currently directed by Dr. Donnie Arnold, and is one of the highlights of the academic year. More than 90 abstracts were submitted for review and the quality of the presentations and posters at the Research Day were extraordinarily high, and some of our residents went on to win awards at the Canadian Association of Internal Medicine competitions. A research or quality assurance program is mandated during the period of training in Internal Medicine and this provides some opportunity to work with many of the world class researchers within the Department. Indeed, this is a major attraction to obtaining the best candidates to our training program.

The parameters which would indicate success in research have also increased over the past year. Dr. Jeff Woltz remains as the Associate Chair, Research for the Department, Faculty in the Department currently hold 29 endowed chairs or professorships, and 10 Canada Research Chairs. The number of high profile peer-reviewed papers has also increased during 2013 to more than 600 separate publications. Many of them are in the highest quality peer-reviewed journals. The
number and quality of these papers attest to the continuing impact that the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Department of Medicine have on basic clinical research, both in Canada and internationally. The research contributions highlight the fact that many of the research groups working within the Department of Medicine are considered to be among the very best in the world in their area of research endeavour.

I also want to recognize and congratulate all faculty members in the Department who received awards during 2013-14 (and which have been identified in the Faculty Awards and Highlights). A special mention must be accorded to Dr. Jeff Ginsberg, who was the recipient of the 2014 Jack Hirsh Award, which is the Department’s highest accolade for academic achievement. Other outstanding contributions to scholarship were recognized by the awarding of the Order of Canada to two members of the Department, Dr. Salim Yusuf and Dr. Deborah Cook. Dr. Yusuf also received the 2014 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award from the Gairdner Foundation, which is the highest recognition of scientific excellence given to a Canadian scientist. Dr. Eva Szabo was appointed the Canada Research Chair in Metabolism in Human Stem Cells and Cancer Development, Dr. Walter Reinisch was appointed to the Audrey Campbell Chair in Ulcerative Colitis Research, and Dr. Clive Keenan was appointed to the Jack Hirsh Professorship in Thrombosis.

Research funding is also a mark of research success and this is reflected in the number of peer-reviewed grants and industrial awards to members of the Department. The amount in 2013-14 was almost $100M. In addition, faculty in the Department obtained almost $3M in personnel awards. The total amount of funding represents more than 30 percent of the entire funding obtained by the Faculty of Health Sciences and does not include many of our industry-sponsored studies, whose budgets are held in our partner hospitals. The total research support received by the Department in 2013-14 was in excess of $200M.

The Department has improved its communication strategies with faculty and with the rest of the world. The Department of Medicine website is fully functional, easy to use and dynamic. It contains a completely novel Events Tracking Assistant with an ability to document the presence at Rounds which is required for MOCOMP credits. The website allows faculty to document their educational contributions, and includes Divisional sites which highlight the expertise of members, monthly publication highlights, and a number of new initiatives that are being developed.

While the successes enjoyed by the Department of Medicine during the 2013-14 academic year are impressive and rewarding, a number of challenges remain. A major challenge continues to be ensuring the best quality in patient care in light of continuing resource constraints imposed on our hospital systems. In addition, maintaining the level and quality of scholarship in both education and research, which is an absolute requirement for a vibrant, energetic Department, continues to be difficult in the face of increasing clinical loads.

The ongoing success of members of the Department and by the Faculty of Health Sciences in obtaining peer-reviewed grants and resources for new infrastructure and personal support have made the past few years an exciting time for both expansion and recruitment. The past year has seen the distance educational initiatives for McMaster medical students in Kitchener-Waterloo and in St. Catharines both expanding. This is yet another exciting initiative for the Faculty of Health Sciences and for the Department of Medicine. It also brings challenges in terms of recruiting new faculty and educators to undertake the roles needed to ensure that these educational sites remain strong.

I remain excited and energized by successes that the Department has enjoyed over the past year. Problems remain, but none of these are insurmountable, and indeed, the challenges in solving these bring their own rewards. I also regard it as a great privilege to have the opportunity of working closely with so many outstanding colleagues who are committed to scholarship at the highest level. This is what makes the Department of Medicine at the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine at McMaster University a success.

Paul M. O’Byrne, MB, FRCP(C), FRSC
E.J. Moran Campbell Professor
Chair, Department of Medicine

INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCE
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE INVITED PRESENTATIONS, 2013-2014
**Dr. Margaret Ackerman**
- MSA Award for Distinguished Service, Hamilton Health Sciences

**Dr. Rick Adachi**
- 2014 Olaf Johnell Science Award, International Osteoporosis Foundation

**Dr. Cheryl Allaby**
- Reappointed to the Heart and Stroke Foundation / Michael G. DeGroote Chair in Population Health Research

**Dr. Sonia Anand**
- Reappointed to the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine 2013 Clerkship Preceptor Award

**Dr. Sonia Anand**
- Reappointed to the Heart and Stroke Foundation / Michael G. DeGroote Chair in Population Health Research

**Dr. Shannon Bates**
- Appointed to the Eli Lilly Canada / May Cohen Chair in Women’s Health

**Dr. David Clark**
- Senior Investigator Award, European Society for Reproductive Immunology

**Dr. Stephen Collins**
- Reappointed to the GlaxoSmithKline Chair in Gastroenterology
- Elected to the Royal Society of Canada

**Dr. Stuart Connolly**
- CHRI Distinguished Lecture in Cardiovascular Disease
- University of Toronto Annual Ken Brown Lecture

**Dr. Deborah Cook**
- Officer of the Order of Canada, Government of Canada

**Dr. Andrea Delrue**
- Certificate of Merit for Teaching Excellence in Internal Medicine Core Clerkship

**Dr. Catherine Demers**
- The President’s Award for Distinguished Service, Medical Staff Association
- L. Lavon Cook Estate Award for Cardiovascular Research

**Dr. Robbie-Jane Eby**
- Dr. Helen Karounis Memorial Award for Professionalism in Emergency Medicine, Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians

**Dr. Jerome Fan**
- Brampton Postgraduate Teacher of the Year, Division of Emergency Medicine, Department of Medicine

**Dr. Ari Greenwald**
- Outstanding Contributions to the RCPSC Residency Program, Division of Emergency Medicine, Department of Medicine

**Dr. Brian Haynes**
- Hypertension Canada George Fodor Award for “distinguished contributions that impact on the health of Canadians”, 2013

**Dr. Catherine Hayward**
- Berend Houwen Achievement Award, International Society for Laboratory Hematology (ISLH)
- 2013 Berend Houwen Memorial Lecture, XXVI International Symposium on Technological Innovations in Laboratory Hematology, May 2013

**Dr. Jeff Healey**
- Named Head of the Canadian Stroke Prevention Intervention Network (C-SPIN)

**Dr. Nancy Hedde**
- Emil von Behring Award, German Society of Blood Transfusion

**Dr. Paul Hosek**
- Certificate of Merit for Teaching Excellence in Medicine Subspecialty Selective Clerkship

**Dr. Derek Hunt**
- Certificate of Merit for Teaching Excellence in Internal Medicine Core Clerkship

**Dr. Massoud Jalayer**
- Undergraduate Teacher of the Year, Division of Emergency Medicine, Department of Medicine

**Dr. Clive Keenan**
- Named as the holder of the Jack Hirsh Professorship in Thrombosis

**Dr. Christian Kraeker**
- Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine 2013 Clerkship Preceptor Award

**Dr. Mark Larché**
- Renewal of the Canada Research Chair in Allergy and Immune Tolerance

**Dr. Kim Legault**
- Geoff Carr Lupus Fellowship, Lupus Ontario

**Dr. Mark Leeb**
- Jonas Salk Award, 2013

**Dr. Eva Lonon**
- 2013 Governor-Elect for Ontario, Board of Governors of the American College of Cardiology

**Dr. Cheryl Main**
- Faculty Teaching Award, Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine

**Dr. Sharon Marr**
- Teaching Award in Undergraduate Teaching

**Dr. Michael Newhouse**
- Received the Forest Bird Scientific Achievement Award

**Dr. Paul O’Byrne**
- Reappointed to the Moran Campbell Chair in Respiratory Medicine

**Dr. Akbar Panju**
- Named Inaugural Medical Director of The Boris Clinic, McMaster University Medical Centre

**Dr. Mohamed Panju**
- CTU Teaching Award, Hamilton General Hospital, 2014

**Dr. Alexandra Papaisanous**
- Named Scientific Director, Geriatric Research in Education and Research in Aging Scientific Centre (GERAS)
- Ontario College of Family Physicians Certificate of Recognition

**Dr. Alim Pardhan**
- Internal Medicine Outstanding ER Mentor Award, Department of Medicine
- Outstanding Contributions to RCPSC Residency Program, Division of Emergency Medicine, Department of Medicine
- PARQ Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award
- Outstanding Preceptor in Emergency Medicine, MD Undergraduate Program, McMaster University

**Dr. John Patcai**
- 2014 Chapter Award for Distinguished Service, Canadian College of Health Leaders

**Dr. Ameen Patel**
- Named to the William J. Walsh Chair in Medical Education

**Dr. Ally Prebstein**
- MSA Humanitarian Award for Community and Global Service for 2014, HHS Medical Staff Association
JULY 2013

AUGUST 2013

SEPTEMBER 2013

OCTOBER 2013

FEBRUARY 2014

MARCH 2014

APRIL 2014

MAY 2014

JUNE 2014
It’s easy to forget that advances in medicine hinge entirely on passionate researchers—driven to challenge accepted understanding and take risks in the pursuit of life-saving discoveries. Their success further hinges on having the infrastructure in place to support their tireless pursuits.

McMaster is an internationally recognized powerhouse of research because it strives to provide funding, cutting-edge lab environments, spirited mentorship and standards of excellence to its research intensive educators. These capacities are what enable them to pursue their breakthrough findings from bench-to-bedside; in other words, to take them out of the lab and put them into use to save lives.

“McMaster is definitely one of the top three centres in the world conducting research into blood clots,” says Dr. Mark Crowther, Vice-President Research, St. Joseph’s Healthcare. “That strength is all down to the Department of Medicine’s commitment to support excellence in research.”

Recently, faculty, including Dr. Jeff Weitz, Director of the Thrombosis & Atherosclerosis Research Institute, made a huge breakthrough for the treatment of patients at high risk of bleeding from traditional anticoagulants (used to reduce risk of blood clots). The researchers showed—starting in the lab with mice, then rabbits, then non-human primates, and finally, in humans undergoing knee replacements—that ASO (antisense oligonucleotides) can be used to effectively knock out factor XI, preventing clot formation after surgery. That’s not all, Dr. Crowther and Dr. Stuart Connolly, Director, Division of Cardiology, are the researchers behind the first reversal agent designed to alleviate bleeding associated with the newest factor Xa anticoagulants. Instead of flooding the body, the new drug is designed to target and remove the blood thinner with surgical precision. “The minute the drug is approved, it will save lives,” adds Dr. Crowther.

At the Farncombe Family Digestive Health Institute, bench-to-beside research developments could have profound treatment promise for those suffering from digestive disorders, and even behavioural and mental health issues. Professor Dr. Stephen Collins’ work in the pathogenesis of functional bowel disorders and the role of infection, immune activation and inflammation has led to yet another major breakthrough: the connection between bacteria and changes in brain chemistry and behaviour.

Working with healthy mice, the researchers showed that disrupting the normal bacteria content of the gut with antibiotics, the mice became less cautious or anxious. This change was accompanied by an increase in brain-derived neurotrophic factor, which has been linked to depression and anxiety. “These results lay the foundation for investigating the therapeutic potential of probiotic bacteria and their products in the treatment of behavioural disorders,” explains Dr. Collins.

Allergic asthma sufferers could also enjoy a dramatically improved quality of life thanks to research led by Dr. Paul O’Byrne, Executive Director, Firestone Institute of Respiratory Health, and Dr. Gail Gauvreau, Professor. Their research, conducted with support from the AllerGen network of Centers of Excellence, found that treating mild allergic asthma patients with an antibody that blocks a specific protein in the lungs significantly improves symptoms, such as wheezing. “The research shows for the first time the exact mechanism of how an allergic asthma medicine works,” says Dr. Gauvreau. This could lead to a treatment for people with severe asthma, particularly resistant to existing treatments, she adds.

Researchers also contribute to the world-class, large-scale clinic trials and population studies conducted at McMaster’s affiliate, the Population Health Research Institute. Deputy Director, Dr. Herbert Gerstein, who is also Professor at McMaster’s Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine, has contributed to findings—from a massive research project involving 12,900 people at 537 sites in 40 countries—that showed insulin is safe and effective for people with Type 2 diabetes. The research showed it is also safe in long-term use for Type 1 patients. “There’s been controversy around insulin since it was discovered 90 years ago. Our discovery finally showed it does not cause health problems.” Their hard work has been appropriately rewarded—they’ve been given an award grant to search for biological markers and identify new pathways for why people at risk of diabetes are also at risk of stroke and heart attack. “These are exciting projects that could eventually change lives, and that wouldn’t be possible without support from the Department of Medicine.”

People, passion and infrastructure are the pillars of McMaster’s world-class research, and its profound discoveries for medicine.
The long-awaited dream of McMaster educators to create a state-of-the-art clinic that improves the way patients are cared for has finally been realized. The Boris Clinic will be opened fully in 2015 and features timely patient-centered, easy-to-navigate healthcare as well as the first-of-its-kind outpatient general internal medicine clinical teaching unit in Canada. “We’ve always called it the Mayo Clinic of the north, and now it’s finally here,” says Dr. Akbar Panju, Associate Chair, Clinical. “It is based on three pillars of excellence: clinical care, education and research.”

The model is the ideal answer to the shift in healthcare delivery from inpatient to outpatient clinical care, and the rise of increasingly difficult, complex chronic diseases in Canada. At any one time, The Boris Clinic will have 12 specialists on site, from physicians to nurse practitioners, dietitians to kinesiologists and psychologists, who will collaborate to provide one-stop care for 40,000 visitors annually. “Instead of waiting two to three months to see various specialists, patients will get everything taken care of within a few days. It is far more efficient, cost effective and we hope that it will improve patient outcomes,” explains Dr. Panju. “And now we are training the doctors of the future in how to manage patients in outpatient settings.”

Combining general internal medicine and subspecialty medicine experts who are focused on ambulatory research, while ultimately finding yet new and improved ways to advance outpatient care, is a remarkable learning opportunity for medical residents and other allied health professionals, says Dr. Barry Lumb, Physician-in-Chief at HHS. “Enhancing learning opportunities for how best to take care of ambulatory patients, instead of patients lying horizontal in bed, will be nothing short of transformative.”

The Boris Clinic is also the first outpatient clinic to move to fully electronic health records, ensuring physicians and specialists share information and provide smooth coordinated experiences for patients, adds Dr. Lumb. “Nothing will be fragmented, it reduces duplication immensely, and improves patient safety.”

While McMaster educators are bringing new models of care to Canadian patients, they are also hard at work finding other innovative solutions to limitations that affect its academic missions and quality of healthcare. “The continued growth of inpatients cared for by general internists on both teaching and non-teaching teams is no longer sustainable,” explains Dr. David Russell, Chief of Medicine at St. Joseph’s Hospital. SJH experiences the highest volume of general internal medicine patients. “They can’t take care of patients 24/7 and do research and support a thriving academic career.” The solution: a Hospitalist Program, launching at the end of 2014. “Hospitalists are specialized practitioners able to take over caring for patients with less acute, long-term chronic illness, who also require a lot of family communication,” explains Dr. Russell.

Finally, the Department of Medicine is helping to launch a new Community-based Internal Medicine Rapid Access Clinic (C-IMRAC) in 2015 at the new West 5th Campus. This innovative model will provide a solution for family physicians with complex patient cases who might otherwise be referred to Emergency. “What this clinic really does is open up access to the few general internists in the community,” explains Dr. Russell.

Family physicians will now have somewhere to send complex care patients who need to be seen by a Cardiologist, Respirologist or Gastroenterologist, for example, quickly, and those family physicians will be able to discuss cases directly with the consultant over the phone. “Without this clinic, these patients would enter the system through Emergency and be trapped. The goal of C-IMRAC is nothing short of reconnecting the fragmented community relationships that currently exist along the path of care, he adds. This is just another step in McMaster’s commitment to advance the future of care.
Why are so many McMaster clinical educators homegrown? Because the academic experience fosters a powerful sense of ownership.

It’s a testament to the quality of McMaster’s learner environment that residents have nominated the Internal Medicine Residency Program for the PAIRO Residency Program Excellence Award, which recognizes exceptionally positive and rewarding experiences, two years in a row. The program is so popular, it received 1,000 applications this past year for just 25 available positions. The reasons why? Resident empowerment, proactive, forward-thinking planning, and a huge commitment by faculty to continually enrich an already strong academic experience.

“We’re dedicated to providing a resident-centered program, and we recognize that requires residents be involved with building on and improving their own academic experience,” explains Dr. Shariq Haider, Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program. Engaging learners in their own education sparks a real sense of ownership that is evident in their degree of involvement, and also validated by student electives, he adds. “Within two days, student electives forgot they are not residents here. There’s such a sense of collegiality and engagement, and while we don’t draw everyone back into the faculty, many of our clinical educators have been home grown.”

Collaboration and engagement aren’t the only cornerstones that plant seeds for life-long learning in McMaster learners; a desire to provide the best teaching environments that align with the future needs of health care has resulted in pioneering initiatives. For example, to meet the increased need for ambulatory care, McMaster developed the first outpatient clinical teaching unit in Canada, The Boris Clinic. The clinic’s innovative approach to care includes teaching residents about the availability of community resources and the importance of interprofessional collaboration in an outpatient setting.

Similarly, anticipating a regulatory change in resident hours, the faculty developed a reduced-hour “Float Model” call-structure, which underwent yet more improvements this past year, including further changes to reduce impacts of fatigue, preserving sub-specialty training, and inclusion of time for residents to pursue research interests, says Dr. Ameen Patel, Associate Chair, Education. Meanwhile, the already innovative Medical Liaison Program, which pairs a third-year resident with one emergency room attending physician for a period of intense mentoring, was also enhanced to include a “field note.”

This evaluation tool ensures faculty provides residents direct, immediate, contextual feedback about an observed clinical encounter, explains Patel. “Evidence-based research shows how important in-the-moment feedback is to advance learning.” Furthermore, adds Patel, “There is a move toward developing competency-based education, and in order to do that, there is a need for more direct observation of competencies. We’re improving our ability to do that.”

The commitment of faculty to promoting excellence in learning is also evident in the expansion of residents at the McMaster distributive campus in Kitchener, Waterloo. Not only do the residents serve as mentors for the undergraduate medical students at the city’s campus, they gain experience by participating in the CTUs in Hamilton. “Distributive campuses are very novel and very difficult to achieve because they involve inspiring local physicians with busy clinical practices to take on a educational role,” explains Dr. Haider. The importance of optimizing learning for students at the Kitchener, and Niagara distributive campuses begins early on, with undergraduate medical students seeing increasingly wide varieties of patients. “We’re also recruiting faculty who are really very excited about teaching and mentoring students,” adds Dr. Jill Rudkowski, Internal Medicine Clerkship Director.

Clearly, McMaster instills a learner passion that isn’t limited by boundaries, such as geography or a lack of resources—faculty will simply inspire others when and if necessary.

Our Internal Medicine Program received the highest accolades from the RCPSC accreditors and was approved without a single weakness being identified.

— Dr. Paul O’Byrne

The program has attracted almost 375 applications in the past year for 21 positions, which included some of the very best applicants in the country.
**GLOBAL CONNECTIONS**

Humanitarianism and collaboration are at the heart of McMaster’s efforts to boost cross-cultural medical experience and expertise.

Care is borderless, and that’s a core philosophy McMaster educators are dedicated to inspiring in the physicians of the future. Since Dr. Ally Prebani founded the International Health Program in Internal Medicine eleven years ago, Medicine residents have been traveling to Uganda for one month to gain unparalleled learning in international health, while also exchanging their own medical knowledge through formal and informal teaching, bedside teaching and supervision of interns.

“The goal of this program has always been to empower local health care providers and build international knowledge sharing,” explains Dr. Prebani. And the program continues to expand on those foundations. For example, after consultations last spring between senior department delegates, including Chair Dr. Paul O’Byrne, and Uganda’s chief medical stakeholders, a brand new way to assist emerged. “Now we’re working on ways to collaborate so that residents in Uganda can come to McMaster, develop subspecialty training, and go back home to capacity build,” he says. In another initiative, the department began sharing its archived Grand Rounds via internet broadcast with Uganda residents. The difference this will make in the resource-limited academic institutions is profound, says Dr. Prebani.

The department is also increasing its support to the new medical school at Uganda’s Gulu University, says Dr. Tim O’Shea, Assistant Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases. After years of civil war, Gulu’s medical needs are acute, he adds. “The hospital is very understaffed and under-resourced.” To help offset that, McMaster is partnering with the University of British Columbia and the University of Manchester to support the development of a curriculum in internal medicine. “The goal is to create a postgraduate resident program in internal medicine there,” he adds.

Global health outreach is also taking place in other countries. For example, department educators are also collaborating with other McMaster physicians to help contribute to a general internal medicine training program in Guyana in South America. Dr. Christian Kraeker, Assistant Professor of Medicine, has been hands-on involved with helping to establish a formal link between the University of Namibia by establishing cross-appointments (Adjunct Professor). As well, he and Dr. Zahra Khalid, Assistant Professor of Medicine, have helped to create an Internal Medicine Preclerkship course in Namibia, which is as much about sharing learning as it is contributing actual medical work.

“There is a severe medical human resource shortage there,” explains Dr. Kraeker. That’s why Dr. Khalid’s efforts to set up an medical simulation lab in Namibia, fitted with equipment, this past year will greatly boost resident’s learning. “It’s a huge advancement for students learning to be able to practice and be evaluated using simulation machinery,” adds Dr. Kraeker.

And while the activities of department educators advance knowledge and skills in resource poor nations, they are having a huge impact back home—namely increasing future physicians’ global health interest. Every year, resident participation in the annual Global Health Retreat increases, as do the number of applicants to the postgraduate Global Health program, established by the department and now in its third year.

Dr. Rebeca Kruisselbrink, Clinical Scholar, attributes her passion for global health to the mentorship she received from McMaster educators, including Dr. O’Shea and Dr. Kraeker. “They really inspired me and helped guide my career.” After doing a one-month elective in Uganda, Dr. Kruisselbrink continued on to contribute to the advancement of medicine abroad. Currently, in addition to working on small research projects with collaborators in Kampala in the field of critical care, she’s helping to facilitate a major initiative: the training of qualified Uganda candidates in a specialty field for an entire year at McMaster. “There’s no real way to quantify the benefit this will have for foreign physicians to receive hands-on specialty clinical training,” she adds. There’s also no real way to quantify, or contain, the many benefits of McMaster’s pursuit of global health learning and sharing.
The mandate of the Associate Chair, Research is to promote and facilitate research within the Department. To meet this mandate, the Associate Chair has focused on the following activities: (1) ensuring the success of junior faculty involved in research activities, (2) updating the scoring system that was implemented to quantify research output of faculty for purposes of remuneration and promotion and tenure, (3) ensuring that adequate departmental resources are earmarked for research, and (4) facilitating the internal peer review of tri-council grant submissions.

The Associate Chair, Research meets all new recruits to provide feedback to the Department Chair regarding their research potential. Those selected for faculty appointments meet with the Associate Chair on a regular basis in the research stream for mentorship and advice regarding grant applications, funding and career planning. The Associate Chair also provides advice to department members regarding new funding opportunities and research strategies.

The Associate Chair, Research serves as a member of the Departmental Executive, Research Executive, Promotion and Tenure and Alternate Funding Plan Committees. The role of the Associate Chair on these committees is to advise and advocate for research. A standardized scoring system has been developed to quantify research output.

The Department of Medicine Internal Career Awards for new faculty members have a tenure of up to three years and are granted on a competitive basis. Awards are available for both research and education and are aimed at fostering the next generation of researchers and educators. Funding from this source can be used to offset clinical expenses, thereby increasing protected time for research. The Associate Chair, Research is a member of the committee that reviews and prioritizes the application for Internal Career Awards.

The Department of Medicine continues to be a major contributor to the research productivity of McMaster University. The amount of research funding for 2013-14 was maintained at the level of the previous year; that is approximately $50 million. The majority of this funding is from peer-reviewed sources. In fact, 40% is from tri-council, 15% from National Centres of Excellence, 4% from the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada and 4% from disease-specific funding agencies. Members of the Department of Medicine also received a considerable amount of funding from industry. These funds are normally mainly administered through the hospitals. These accomplishments are all the more noteworthy given the increasing emphasis on clinical productivity and the competitive nature of the grant review process.
The mandate of the Associate Chair, Finance & Administration, is to provide oversight of the expenditures and administrative staff of the department, with a particular focus on ensuring the long-term financial viability of the department. To meet this mandate, the Associate Chair, Finance and Administration, works closely with the Director of Administration, Ms. Annette Rosati.

2013-14 was another successful year for the department. The department has a large and successful practice plan which incorporates physicians who both pay the annual membership fee and are tithed. At the end of the financial year, the department had more than 300 faculty, including full-time faculty, part-time faculty, and clinical scholars.

Costs supported by practice plan earnings include the Chair’s office administrative staff which provides support to the faculty in the following areas: finance/human resources, site operations, tenure & promotion, recruitment, website, annual report, and the Chair’s executive administrative support.

The practice plan had a surplus in 2013-14. The surplus is used to provide a buffer for future periods of reduced income and is used to support specific strategic directions of the department. At present, we are focusing our discussions on strategic investments in academic excellence, faculty development, global health and endowed chairs.

“...we are focusing our discussions on strategic investments in academic excellence, faculty development, global health and endowed chairs.”

Dr. Mark Crowther
The 2013/2014 academic year continued the department’s history of successful promotion of all eligible candidates. There were 12 members successfully promoted to Associate Professor with CAWAR. Ten of these candidates went forward as Clinician/Educators and two as Research/Educators. The Clinician/Educators included Drs. Margaret Ackerman, Syamkumar Divakaramon, Eric Greenwald, Nader Khalidi, Grigorios Leontiadis, Meera Luthra, Dan Perri, Nishma Singhal, Keith Tsoi and Heather Whittingham. Drs. Premysl Bercik and Shirya Rashid were successful in obtaining promotion as Research/Educators. Dr. Madhu Natarajan was promoted to full Professor as a Clinician/Educator. Dr. Naoki Chiba was promoted to Clinical Professor of Medicine. It was especially gratifying to see Dr. Chiba achieve this high level as a part-time faculty. It is hoped that his successful promotion will encourage other part-time faculty members who have made significant contributions over many years to consider going forward for promotion as a way for the department and university to recognize their accomplishments and contributions.

The requirements for promotion have continually increased since I first took on this role. In addition, the promotion process and documentation required has become much more rigorous. The process requires significantly more preparation and attention to detail with the transition from the required standard university CV to a STAR CV and, more recently, a MacFACTS CV. Although faculty are made aware of the requirements for reappointment and promotion at recruitment meetings with multiple members of the department including myself, the success of the department and individual members in reappointment and promotion is aided tremendously by the incredible amount of work put in by Ms. Sharon Hendershott, my administrative assistant; Ms. Cathy Stampfli, Department Academic Coordinator; and Ms. Melissa Robinson, Department MacFACTS administrator. Melissa is responsible for adding postgraduate teaching contributions for all members onto the Faculty of Health Sciences database. This is an extremely important task throughout the year but especially so for candidates going forward for reappointment and promotion. Sharon has been an enormous asset to me and the Department of Medicine. She plays an instrumental role starting with the recruitment visit and follows this with regular communication with new members as well members coming up for reappointment and promotion. The Senate mandates demonstration of quantity and quality of teaching for all candidates going forward for reappointment and promotion. Sharon plays a key role in assisting candidates in obtaining evaluations, reconciling the evaluations and creating teaching tables. Cathy was the Department Academic Coordinator at the time I took on the role as Department Education Coordinator and she has been instrumental in the success of the department and its members.

The MacMAPS project that includes MedSiS (UGMEL, MAP and PAEP functions), POWER (PGME functions) and T-IME (Mac-CARE functions and MTD) is now well underway. There are two modules of MedSiS that are currently being worked on prior to implementation: clerkship scheduling/evaluations and home school electives. The POWER deployment was broken into two phases: phase 1 (registration and replacement of McPOST) and phase 2 (scheduling/evaluation and replacement of WebEval). The final release of POWER phase 1 will occur on September 19th, 2014. There are two components of POWER that still need to be defined: certificate printing/reporting and a payment gateway for off-cycle trainee registrations. At present, each of these three systems requires separate applications with different logins, URLs and functionality. There is ongoing discussion regarding rebranding the system, which would include a single sign on, one faculty registry, one location registry, etc. This will allow a much easier transition to the system from users with multiple roles.

There is significant heterogeneity in evaluations across activities and programs at present. I was part of the committee that reviewed the new Senate teaching evaluation requirements and provided feedback to the MacMAPS Governance Committee on modifying and standardizing
evaluations. In the Undergraduate MD Program, there are several different teacher evaluations forms, all of which meet the Senate criteria for a seven point scale with the first question on the evaluation assessing overall effectiveness of the instructor. At present, the Undergraduate MD Program has teacher evaluations for presenter, clinical preceptor/supervisor/teacher and small group facilitator.

There is ongoing discussion regarding the postgraduate teacher evaluations.

The Department of Medicine Academic Contribution Forms were reviewed and modified over the past academic year. New features included were; changes to the face sheet requiring completion by the Division Director, drop down lists were provided to standardize entries, and the claimants and the Directors were required to sign off on the totals sheet (face sheet). There were colour coded tabs and new and changed roles were highlighted in the tab colour. The glossary was embedded in the work book with a hyperlink to the relevant section of the glossary with a link at the top of each sheet to make it easier to go back and forth between the glossary and the entry sheet. A hyperlink was created to a glossary table of contents to obtain more detailed glossary material. Finally, there was a set of fundamental principles for both making academic claims and evaluating academic claims embedded in the form.

I would like to thank Mr. Graeme Matheson for his yeoman work in assisting with the modification of the form, collection and vetting of the submissions and for his administrative leadership in distributing the merit payments.

The top contributors to education based on the AFP form were well represented across the department with representation from Nephrology (Dr. Azim Gangji), General Internal Medicine (Dr. Akbar Panju, Dr. Raj Hamniah, Dr. Jill Rudkowski), and Dr. Khalid Azzam), Infectious Diseases (Dr. Shariq Haidar and Dr. Martha Fulford), Hematology (Dr. Parveen Wasi and Dr. Jeff Wetli), Respiratory (Dr. Andy Fritzag and Dr. Lori Whitehead), Cardiology (Dr. P. J. Devereaux and Dr. Elaine Gordon), Endocrinology (Dr. Ally Prebtani), Gastroenterology (Dr. Marco Puglia), Emergency Medicine (Dr. Alim Pardhan) and Neurology (Dr. Andy Freitag and Dr. Lori Whitehead).

The competition for Department of Medicine Career Awards was extremely robust once again. A new Quality and Patient Safety Award was added for this past academic year. The winners were as follows:

- Dr. Bandar Baw and Dr. Jeffrey Dickhout (Medicine Internal Career Awards)
- Dr. Madeleine Verhovsek (W. Watson Buchanan AFP Clinician Educator Award)
- Dr. Christian Kraeker (AFP Clinician Educator Award)
- Dr. Christine Ribic (E. J. Moran Campbell AFP Internal Career Research Award)
- Dr. Philip Joseph and Dr. Smita Halder (AFP Internal Career Research Awards) and Dr. Greg Steinberg for graduate teaching.

The 2013/2014 academic year was a huge success entirely due to our members’ dedication and commitment to teaching. In closing, I would like to thank Dr. O’Byrne, Division and Program Directors, and undergraduate and postgraduate education leaders for all their time, energy and contributions.
As we approach our Royal College External Review in April 2015, we have successfully gone through an Internal Review of the Internal Medicine Residency Program; this was chaired by Dr. Tom Maniatis from McGill University. The program received an overwhelmingly positive review, but the Internal Review has highlighted the potential threat of rising patient volumes on Residency Training.

I wish to thank our entire faculty and notably Dr. Paul O’Byrne, for his ongoing support and dedication to the Internal Medicine Residency Program.

Dr. Shariq Haider
MD, FRCP(C), FACP, CCST(UK)
Director, Internal Medicine Residency Program
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

It gives me great pleasure to provide an overview of achievements in the Internal Medicine Residency Program for the year 2013-2014.

The year was marked by a National Dialogue in Residency Training centered on the theme of reduced resident working hours. Our program responded by developing a pilot initiative in July 2013 after an extensive consultation process involving all stakeholders: residents, faculty, hospital administration, and academic leads. The Float Model of call targeted only senior medical residents, who would participate in a 13 hour call (9 p.m. to 10 a.m.) as a block rotation over 2 weeks, bridged to other two week rotations. Each senior medical resident would complete three night float blocks per year. This night float model had the distinct benefit of protecting senior medical residents from call while on the Clinical Teaching Unit (CTU), which has optimized the learning objectives, evaluation process, and clinical care of patients on the CTU. Our Float Model of call was identified by PARO and CAIR (Canadian Association of Interns and Residents) as one of a select group of successful reduced working hour models. An IHSC AFP grant was awarded to myself and Dr. Wasi to review the impact of the new Float Model of call on residents, faculty, and patient related outcomes. I am indebted to our Float Model Working Group notably our resident representatives.

The program continues to attract the best trainees from across Canada, as evidenced by our successful CARMS match. The program is a functionally resident-centered program with a focus on innovation, which has been recognized by PARO through a nomination for the PARO Residency Program Award in two successive years (2012 and 2013), in addition to a nomination for the PARO Program Director of the Year award in 2013.

This year also marked the third year of implementation of our Distributed Campus for Residency Training in Kitchener Waterloo (KW). I am pleased to report that the Kitchener Waterloo PGY3 Residents matched successfully in the subspecialty match of 2013-2014, a testament to the early success of this program. This is substantively due to the leadership of our Regional Educational Lead (for Kitchener/Waterloo) Dr. Nicole Didyk. We anticipate ongoing growth in the KW program with a greater number of entry positions over the next 5 years and a proposal for a future local CTU (Clinical Teaching Unit) in Kitchener Waterloo.

Interest in medical education research continues to develop amongst both our residents and faculty. Dr. Lindsay Melvin, PGY3, was the recipient of the top What Works Category Paper at the prestigious ICRE (International Conference in Residency Education) 2013. This is the third successive year that a McMaster Internal Medicine resident has been the recipient of this award. Dr. Donnie Arnold, Research Director for the Internal Medicine Residency Program, has enhanced the overall productivity of resident research. Dr. Arnold has published an elegant study assessing predictors of success in resident research using a qualitative study design. This study will provide further guidance to enhancing resident research within our training program.

As we approach our Royal College External Review in April 2015, we have successfully gone through an Internal Review of the Internal Medicine Residency Program; this was chaired by Dr. Tom Maniatis from McGill University. The program received an overwhelmingly positive review, but the Internal Review has highlighted the potential threat of rising patient volumes on Residency Training.

I wish to thank our entire faculty and notably Dr. Paul O’Byrne, for his ongoing support and dedication to the Internal Medicine Residency Program.
The Internal Medicine Clerkship program had a successful year in 2013-2014. The Medicine Clerkship Program is mandatory for all McMaster medical students and consists of a 6-week “core” rotation and a 2-week Medical Subspecialty Selective (MSS) rotation. The Department of Medicine faculty within the Hamilton, Niagara, and Waterloo campuses work in close collaboration to ensure that our program provides excellence in clinical education to our medical students. The dedication, leadership and pursuit of teaching excellence by our faculty and their support staff are the key components to the program’s ongoing success.

CAMPUS UPDATES

203 McMaster medical students in the Class of 2014 completed their Internal Medicine and MSS Clerkship rotations at all three campus sites. The Class of 2014 “Dr. Paul O’Byrne Award for Academic Achievement” was awarded to the following students:

Hamilton Campus - Sites

- HGH – Kyle Arsenault
- JH – James Rassos
- SJH – Esther Ernst

Waterloo Regional Campus

- Jessica Njan

Niagara Regional Campus

- Ashley Kellam

The MSS clerkship rotation awards were given to the following students:

Niagara Regional Campus

- MSS – Dr. Martin Samosh

Dr. Jill Rudkowski

BSc, MD, FRCP

Faculty Clerkship Director
Internal Medicine and Medicine Selective Subspecialty Clerkship Program

The Niagara and Waterloo regional campuses celebrated the graduation of 25 and 29 students respectively in 2014. Drs. Eli Rabin and Mary Jackson, Regional Education Leaders (REL) for Internal Medicine, and Drs. George Zimakas and Nicole Didyk, RELs for MSS, continue to contribute a wealth of experience and dedication to ensure the success of our Medicine Clerkship Programs in the Niagara and Waterloo Regional Campuses. Dr. Jaffer Syed joined the NRC team as the Clinical Education Coordinator and we thank him, and Dr. Val Mueller in WRC, for their ongoing support of the IM program. Each of the regional campuses continues to recruit enthusiastic new faculty who contribute to the solid clinical teaching provided in the Medicine rotations. The NRC campus has developed the Ward for Interprofessional Education and both campuses are looking at the feasibility of developing Clinical Teaching Units.

Within the Hamilton campus, the students participate in their core rotations on the Clinical Teaching Units (CTUs) at the Hamilton General Hospital (GH), the Juravinski Hospital (JH) and St. Joseph’s Hospital (SJH). We welcomed a new Clerkship Site Coordinator, Dr. Juan Guzman, at the GH who works alongside his colleagues at the JH and SJH (Drs. Christian Kruexer and Zara Khaili) in collaborating with local faculty and students on a day-to-day basis. The CTUs continue to provide an excellent and innovative teaching environment for the clerks. This is due to the support from the CTU directors: Drs. Marianne Talman, Ameen Patel, and Raj Hanmiah, as well as their administrative assistants. The Chief Medical Residents and Dr. Sharic Haider, Internal Medicine Residency Program Director, are invaluable in their support of the Internal Medicine Clerkship Program in Hamilton.

The Internal Medicine and MSS Clerkships at all campuses continue to provide a framework for educational innovation. Both committees added Internal Medicine representatives this year in order to both recognize and enhance the role of residents in the IM core and MSS clerkships.

Dr. Azim Gangi, as the MSS Coordinator, has continued to work with the MSS committee to standardize and innovate within the MSS curriculum. In preparation for its first accreditation, the MSS committee has devoted a great deal of time and energy in standardizing the curriculum across the three campuses and in developing a summative assessment tool that can be utilized across the broad medical specialties. A new MSS manual has been developed as well as an updated medportal website. These changes would not have been possible without close collaboration between the three campuses. Drs. Didyk (WRC), Zimakas (NRC) and the subspecialty selective coordinators at the Hamilton campus (listed below) have dedicated an enormous amount of time and effort in ensuring an excellent training environment.

Dr. Paul O’Byrne Award for Academic Achievement

The Class of 2014 “Dr. Paul O’Byrne Award for Academic Achievement” during the Internal Medicine core clerkship rotation was awarded to the following students:

Hamilton Campus - Sites

- HGH – Kyle Arsenault
- JH – James Rassos
- SJH – Esther Ernst

Waterloo Regional Campus

- Jessica Njan

Niagara Regional Campus

- Ashley Kellam

Dr. Alan Neville Academic Achievement Award

The MSS clerkship rotation awards were given to the following students:

Hamilton Campus – Adrian Budhram

Waterloo Regional Campus – Celina Lin

Niagara Regional Campus – Aidan Jeffer

Geriatric Medicine, Dr. Irene Turpie Award – Alison Flanagan

Rheumatology, Dr. Fred Bianchi Award – Yu Shan (Wendy) Zhang

Nephrology, Dr. David Russell Award – Karan Barni

Teaching Excellence Awards

Hamilton Campus

- Internal Medicine
  - HGH – Dr. John You
  - JH – Dr. Derek Hunt
  - SJH – Dr. Jill Rudkowski

- MSS – Dr. Paul Hosek

Niagara Regional Campus

- Internal Medicine
  - Dr. Heather Racz

- MSS – Dr. Andrea Delrue

Dr. Paul O’Byrne Award for Academic Achievement

The Class of 2014 “Dr. Paul O’Byrne Award for Academic Achievement” during the Internal Medicine core clerkship rotation was awarded to the following students:

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- HGH – Kyle Arsenault
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Waterloo Regional Campus

- Jessica Njan

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- Ashley Kellam

Dr. Alan Neville Academic Achievement Award

The MSS clerkship rotation awards were given to the following students:

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Waterloo Regional Campus – Celina Lin

Niagara Regional Campus – Aidan Jeffer

Geriatric Medicine, Dr. Irene Turpie Award – Alison Flanagan

Rheumatology, Dr. Fred Bianchi Award – Yu Shan (Wendy) Zhang

Nephrology, Dr. David Russell Award – Karan Barni

Teaching Excellence Awards

Hamilton Campus

- Internal Medicine
  - HGH – Dr. John You
  - JH – Dr. Derek Hunt
  - SJH – Dr. Jill Rudkowski

- MSS – Dr. Paul Hosek

Niagara Regional Campus

- Internal Medicine
  - Dr. Heather Racz

- MSS – Dr. Andrea Delrue

Dr. Paul O’Byrne Award for Academic Achievement
educational experience for the clinical clerks in the MSS rotation. Thanks go to Drs. Syam Divakaramon (Cardiology), Peter Kraus (Critical Care), Marco Puglia (Gastroenterology), Tricia Woo (Geriatrics), Kyle Lapic (Hematology), Christine Ribic (Nephrology), Louise Bortoleau (Medical Oncology) and Maggie Larche (Rheumatology) who have all been instrumental in ensuring broad clinical exposures for students in their MSS rotations. The MSS team is most grateful to the faculty and residents across all campuses that have dedicated their time and knowledge in educating our future physicians.

AWARDS
The Medicine Clerkship Program has been privileged to offer a number of awards to students and faculty since 2011. One medical student from each of the 5 training sites has been chosen to receive the “Dr. Paul O’Byrne Award for Outstanding Clinical and Academic Achievement”. The Medicine Selective Subspecialty Program awards one student from each campus the “Dr. Alan Neville Award for Outstanding Clinical Performance”. Dr. O’Byrne and Dr. Neville’s dedication, enthusiasm and passion for medical education and its learners has inspired and supported many students to specialize in this field and has helped to strengthen our Medicine Clerkship Program. We are grateful to Drs. Fred Bianchi, Irene Turpie, and David Russell for their generosity in sponsoring individual awards for the Rheumatology, Geriatrics, and Nephrology selectives respectively. Nominees for all of these awards are recognized for their outstanding performance by having their names posted on the medportal IM and MSS clerkship websites. The awards are presented at the annual awards dinner every spring. At this year’s dinner, we were honoured to have as guests, Drs. Paul O’Byrne, Rob Whyte, Irene Turpie, Alan Neville, Fred Bianchi, and Karl Stobbe to help present our awards. We were also honoured to have Dr. Karl Stobbe provide a keynote address as well as a fitting tribute to Dr. Martin Samosh, an NRC colleague who was posthumously awarded the NRC MSS Faculty Award. We were grateful and touched by the presence of Dr. Samosh’s wife and son who were able to attend and share what his commitment to his patients and his students meant to him. Faculty from the Department of Medicine were recognized for their excellence in teaching during our medicine clerkship rotations.

PROGRAM UPDATES
The Internal Medicine and MSS Clerkship Program has been collecting data on the clinical clerks’ clinical experiences, rotation specifics, and professional competencies since 2008. The data collected has been invaluable, as all medical school campuses must ensure that the patient clinical experiences continue to show that the students have comparable clinical experiences across all rotation sites in all three campuses. The data collected has been instrumental in ensuring broad clinical exposures for students in their MSS rotations. The MSS team is most grateful to the faculty and residents across all campuses that have dedicated their time and knowledge in educating our future physicians.

“Each of the regional campuses continues to recruit enthusiastic new faculty who contribute to the solid clinical teaching provided in the Medicine rotations.”

— Dr. Jill Rudkowski

Finally, a thank you to the patients and their families as their generosity and patience is the key to successful learning for all of our students.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
On behalf of the Internal Medicine Clerkship Program and the medical students, I would like to express my deepest thanks to the following people and groups without whom this program would not be possible: Dr. Azim Gangji, Wendy Clark, and Joyce Munga, MSS Coordinator and program assistants; Ms. Tina Laporte, the Medicine Clerkship administrative program coordinator; the Medicine and MSS Clerkship Committee members; the RELs, site coordinators, subspecialty selective coordinators, and their assistants; Dr. Paul O’Byrne; Ms. Annette Rosati; the Department of Medicine division directors, their faculty and assistants; Dr. Ameen Patel, Associate Chair, Education; Dr. Barry Lumb, Physician-in-Chief, HHS; Dr. David Russell, Chief of Medicine, SJH; the CTU Directors and their assistants; Drs. Rob Whyte, Val Mueller, Karl Stobbe, Cathy Morris, and Jaffer Syed; Ms. Kathy Oudshoorn, Ms. Fran Geikie, Ms. Tami Morris, and Jaffer Syed; Ms. Cathy Geike, Ms. Tami Everding, and the Undergraduate MD office; Dr. Sharif Haider, Ms. Jan Taylor of the Internal Medicine Residency Program, its residents and administrative staff. It is due to the generous support and commitment to teaching excellence that our Medicine Clerkship Programs continue to grow and maintain their high academic standard.
The 2013-14 academic year proved to be successful and challenging for the Department of Medicine. As Director of Administration for the Department of Medicine, I have the privilege of working with many exceptional faculty and staff. In fact, there was a dramatic increase of new faculty recruits during this year which has led to an increase in the number of staff to provide support. These dedicated and talented individuals span across all hospital sites including Hamilton Health Sciences (McMaster University Medical Centre, Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre, and the Hamilton General Hospital) and St. Joseph’s Healthcare, Hamilton. The Department continued to maintain a healthy financial position in 2013-14 and was able to continue to support important educational initiatives. Faculty development is also a key priority in the department as we continue to mentor our faculty to be mentored for leadership positions within the department. Our Council of Medicine held another leadership retreat in January 2014 at the Pillar & Post, Niagara-on-the-Lake. The retreat enables our division directors and the department’s other leadership to liaise in a non-working environment and hopefully learn important leadership and management information along the way. The 2014 sessions covered emotional intelligence, mediation as well as a social media session.

The university continues to be committed to developing its management team and provide the tools in order that managers can be effective and successful during these challenging times of adapting to technological changes. The DeGroote School of Business has developed an advanced executive management program and an executive management program. These courses are developed to further the management skills of our administrative leadership. Many strategic decisions are made by the core leadership group within the academic Department of Medicine. This cohesiveness and collegial executive team consists of Dr. Barry Lumb (Chair), Dr. Paul O’Byrne (Associate Chair, Research), Dr. Boris Panju (Associate Chair, Clinical) and Dr. Mark Crother (Associate Chair, Finance & Administration). This group continues to provide invaluable insight related to the challenges in clinical service and education. The administration also works very closely with Dr. Ameen Patel (Associate Chair, Education) and Dr. Jeff Weitz (Associate Chair, Research). Both are invaluable to the academic mission of the department.

The 2013-14 academic year saw the opening of St. Joseph’s Hospital West 5th campus. This brand new facility will house inpatient psychiatry as well as many diagnostic services. The new Boris Clinic, formerly known as the McMaster Academic Ambulatory Care (MAAC) at the McMaster site appointed Dr. Akbar Panju as its first Medical Director. The objective for this new and innovative adult outpatient facility is to ensure a coordinated approach to patient care with linkages to other clinical programs. The General Internal Medicine Clinic and Diabetes Clinic will be the first to open followed by the subspecialty clinics to open sometime in 2015. The Boris Clinic is an integral part of the education mission of the department and will certainly enhance the academic environment for learners.

The department continued to re-align administrative services during the past year. Changes were implemented for cost saving measures and to better streamline organizational structure to better serve our faculty, students and staff. Our dedicated team of site business managers continue to effectively manage issues as they emerge at the hospital sites. The team consists of Gail Laforme (Juravinski), Roberta Petitti (St. Joseph’s Healthcare) and Zrinka DiVincenzo (St. Joseph’s Healthcare) and Leslie Steinberg (McMaster University Medical Centre). This dedicated team is “hands on” and liaise closely with hospital personnel to ensure a fruitful university-hospital relationship. They are invaluable and a direct link for new faculty recruits as they get settled in their new surroundings. They also serve as our liaison with our administrative support in all geographic locations.

Equally important to the administrative team are Terry DeCola (Office Manager), Lorrie Reurink (Human Resources Manager), Lisa Geer (Finance Manager), and Graeme Matheson (AFP Business Analyst). Graeme continues to work closely with the AFP Executive and Finance Management Committees, including Dr. Ameen Patel (Associate Chair, Education), and Dr. Jeff Weitz (Associate Chair, Research), with regard to the AFP academic merit process.

The university continues to make essential and necessary changes to its finance, human resources and student services systems. The new financial system, Mosaic, went live in December 2013. After a few bumps, faculty and staff are more comfortable with using this new system. The launch of Human Resources and Student Administration is planned for October 2014 and February 2015, respectively. Effective communication is essential to keep faculty, students and staff informed of proposed changes implemented by the university. The Department of Medicine’s leadership and management teams are committed to support the university’s initiatives and to advocate the merits of change to our faculty, students and staff.
As I begin my seventh year as Physician-in-Chief at Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS), I continue to be overwhelmed by the commitment of the members of our department toward excellence in all of the domains of an academic teaching institution. Our continued success is a reflection of all of our faculty, but I want to particularly thank Paul O’Byrne, Annette Rosati and Dave Russell for their support. The ongoing spirit of cooperation between the Faculty, HHS and St. Joseph’s Hospital is critical to the success of our Department. I also want to thank Martha Fulford and Will Harper for their superb leadership as Chief at the MUMC and HGH sites.

The quality of our General Internal Medicine core program continues to be a source of great pride for the Department. Shariq Haider as Program Director, together with Marianne Talman and Ameen Patel as Site CTU Coordinators, and Akbar Panju as Academic Division Director are to be commended for the continued success of the Program.

Over the entire tenure of my role as Chief, we have been working towards the development of the McMaster Academic Ambulatory Clinic (now called The Boris Clinic). It was an extremely satisfying moment to see the opening of Phase 1 of The Boris Clinic at MUMC. Thanks to the generosity of the Boris Family and HHS, the physical clinic space is truly outstanding. Dr. Akbar Panju has accepted the Boris Family Chair in Education and Internal and has been appointed as inaugural Medical Director of the clinic for the next three years. This is a critical role during this time of planning and implementation of our vision for the Clinic. Currently, the General Internal Medicine Rapid Assessment Clinic (GIMRAC), Diabetes and Endocrinology are fully functional in this space. Dr. Donnie Arnold, together with the Department of Family Medicine, led an application to the Ontario Medical Association and was successful in receiving a significant funding grant to establish the MEDREACH Clinic. Similar to the GIMRAC, this clinic will facilitate rapid consultation of complex medical patients between the Family Practice Unit and The Boris Clinic. The general medicine component of the Clinic will now become a mandatory rotation for the Internal Medicine residents and be established as the first ambulatory clinical teaching unit in the country. Phase 2, involving multiple other subspecialties and a medical daycare will open in June of 2015. After a very rigorous selection process, we have selected an electronic health record vendor and have begun implementation of the system in The Boris Clinic at MUMC. It was an extremely satisfying moment to see the opening of Phase 1 of The Boris Clinic at MUMC. “

— Dr. Barry Lamb

...we have been working towards the development of the McMaster Academic Ambulatory Clinic (now called The Boris Clinic). It was an extremely satisfying moment to see the opening of Phase 1 of The Boris Clinic at MUMC. “

— Dr. Barry Lamb

As I look forward, leadership development and succession planning are extremely important. We will be offering a number of opportunities for our faculty to enhance their personal development and leadership skills. The importance of physician leaders in planning and implementing safe and high quality care while preserving our academic mission cannot be over emphasized.
It is a pleasure for me to present my fourth annual report as Chief of Medicine at St. Joseph’s Healthcare. There have been a number of major changes in the Department which directly enhance the Hospital’s academic and clinical mission.

The upcoming Royal College Accreditation in April 2015 has focused the Department’s attention on one of St. Joseph’s greatest strengths and biggest challenges: the continued growth in the number and acuity of in-patients cared for by general internists. The current approach of general internists working on both teaching and non-teaching teams is no longer sustainable from an academic or professional perspective. It has become clear that a hospitalist model is the best way to support the academic role internists on the CTU and their new role in the Hospital’s community engagement project. A hospitalist model will ensure that the GIM Service can meet the mandated cap of 25 patients for each CTU teaching team. Three hospitalists have been hired and in December 2014 we will start the Hospitalist Program with a goal of taking over the direct care of 25 to 30 patients.

A second theme in the Department is to expand general medical consultation to a new community-based Internal Medicine Rapid Access Clinic (C-IMRAC). The Clinic will be located at the new West 5th Campus and will address the need expressed by family physicians for easier access to same day/next day consultation for complex patients, and for those who would otherwise be referred to emergency departments. Unique features of the Clinic include the ability for referring physicians to discuss cases directly with the consultant prior to seeing the patient, ready access to psychiatric input, and direct partnership of family physicians in the Clinic. The pilot phase of C-IMRAC will begin in January 2015 with representatives of the McMaster and Hamilton Family Health Teams and the Family Medicine Association of Hamilton as participating family practices. Satisfaction data will be collected from patients and referring physicians and quality of life data will be collected prospectively as a routine part of our evaluation of patient care.

A third theme is the creation of a new research institute (The Research Institute of St. Joe’s Hamilton). The Research Institute comprises 120 investigators from four main research programs at St Joseph’s: Kidney and Urological Diseases, Respiratory Medicine and Thoracic Surgery, the Father Sean O’Sullivan Research group and Mental Health and Addictions. The Research Institute opened April 2014 with Dr. Mark Crowther as its Scientific Director. Many of the investigators in the Research Institute are members of the Department of Medicine and include respiratory, general internists, clinical pharmacologists, nephrologists, rheumatologists, intensivists and hematologists.

There have been a number of new appointments to academic and educational leadership positions for St. Joseph’s faculty. In July 2014 Dr. Mark Crowther will complete his term as Chief of Laboratory Medicine and has been appointed as Chair of the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine. Dr. David Morgan has been appointed Clinical Lead for Colonooscopy for Cancer Care Ontario and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. Dr. Scott Brimble succeeds Dr. Alastair Ingram as Division Director in Nephrology and Dr. Martin Kolb succeeds Dr. Gerard Cox as Division Director in Respiratory. Drs. Rebecca Amer and Kevin Woodward have been appointed Program Directors in the Divisions of Respiratory and Infectious Diseases, respectively. Last year, Dr. Raj Hannah was appointed Program Director of the new GIM Subspecialty Program.

I am pleased to welcome three new GFT faculty members (Drs. Zain Ghagia, Infectious Diseases; Dr. Andrew Gomez, Neurology; and Dr. Matt Miller, Nephrology) to St. Joseph’s. In addition, three Clinical Scholars have been recruited, two in General Internal Medicine (Drs. Jason Cheung and Andrew Duncan) and one in Hematology (Dr. Deborah Siegel). Five St. Joseph’s faculty members have been promoted, four (Drs. Nader Khalid, Meera Luthra, Dan Perri and Jill Rudkowski) to Associate Professor with CWR and one (Dr. Peter Margetts) to full Professor.

Three categories of teaching awards are now given by the University Department of Medicine, all based on resident evaluation of faculty performance. The Outstanding General Internal Medicine Clinical Teaching Award is given to a general internist at each of the three CTU sites and Dr. Joseph McMulkin was selected for St. Joseph's. Drs. Christine Ribic and Jill Rudkowski received the Certificate of Merit for Teaching Excellence for their work in the Clerkship Program.

Dr. Mitch Levine was given the Shali Award by the MD Program for distinguished undergraduate teaching. A third category of recognition is awarded to the top-ranked clinical rotation across all disciplines and all three hospital sites. This year, Nephrology at St. Joseph’s tied with Gastroenterology at the Juravinski Hospital as the leading city-wide rotations. Since the inception of this award in 2010, St. Joseph’s rotations have been honoured with this distinction in four of the past five years and Nephrology has been top-ranked twice.

In addition to the teaching awards given at McMaster, a number of other prestigious external awards have been given to St. Joseph’s faculty members and they are listed below:

• Dr. Deborah Cook, Order of Canada
• Dr. Michael Walsh, New Investigator Award, CIHR
• Dr. Ian Preyra, Royal College Program Director of the Year Award
• Dr. Martin Kolb, Distinction Award, American Thoracic Society
• Dr. Rick Adachi, 2014 Olaf Johnell Science Award, International Osteoporosis Foundation
• Dr. Wendy Lim, Mammens Young Investigator Award, American Society of Hematology
• Dr. Madeline Verhoeven, W. Watson Buchanan AJP Clinician Educator Award
• Dr. Lori Whitehead, Canadian Association for Medical Education Certificate of Merit 2014
• Dr. Sunee Ustadhye, Outstanding Preceptor in Emergency Medicine, MD Undergraduate Program

In closing, I want to extend my thanks to the senior leadership of St. Joseph’s (Drs. Hugh Fuller and David Higgins) and McMaster (Dr. Paul O’Byrne) for their advice and guidance, and to my colleagues in the Department of Medicine for their support and co-operation. I also owe special acknowledgement to Dr. Barry Lumb, Physician-in-Chief of Medicine at LHSC, for his continued collegiality and good will in planning and recruiting faculty to maintain balanced support for the three city-wide Clinical Teaching Units.

It has become clear that a hospitalist model is the best way to support the academic role internists on the CTU”

—Dr. David Russell