

medpoint

We teach to heal! | Summer 2010 No. 2

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Colleagues and Staff



JACQUES BRADWEJN
Dean

We are heading into summer after a very busy spring, as you will read in this issue. Indeed, spring saw the long awaited CACMS/LCME accreditation visit, with a very positive exit conference. The official conclusion should be known around October.

Also long awaited was the approval by uOttawa for the uOttawa Brain and Mind Research Institute (uOBMRI). In the scope and size of the multi-organization partnerships which characterize it, this institute is a real precedent for Ottawa.

The first cohort of MD/PhD students has been constituted. The four available places were readily filled, as we had over 100 applicants. As you will read, a generous donation is leading the way to a healthy bursary support for these students, who will be enrolled without interruption in the seven-year program.

And the first holders of the very prestigious University of Ottawa Faculty of Medicine Research Chairs have been selected, following a rigorous CIHR-type panel process.

All this and much more news awaits you in the next few pages of the summer 2010 edition of *medpoint*. On this note, I wish you a very pleasant summer.

UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

We admit it. We have lots of news about admissions!

Determining who we admit to our profession is undoubtedly one of the most important functions of a medical school. We are at the end of an era in admissions, as Dr. Richard Hébert completes his 10-year term as assistant dean. We are thankful to Dr. Hébert, who facilitated advances such as the use of the weighted grade point average, the autobiographical sketch and the use of semi-structured, behavior-driven interviews. He introduced fourth-year medical students as part of the interviewing team (which now includes a physician, a community member and a fourth-year student) and developed the Aboriginal Program interviewing team.

He pioneered the mandatory use of police record checks for all successful candidates. His most important contribution for 2010 was the implementation of our new MD/

PhD Program, which will welcome its first four students in September.

We are delighted that Dr. Gary Hollingworth, a member of the Department of Family Medicine and longtime Admissions Committee member, has agreed to lead our admissions process for the next decade. As the Association of Faculties of Medicine has recommended a review of admissions processes throughout Canada, Dr. Hollingworth will be tasked with several hard questions to answer: Are we using the best cognitive and non-cognitive indicators for admission? What is the best evidence in admissions? What research should we undertake in relation to unanswered questions? Do our students accurately represent our population?

We wish Dr Hollingworth well in his new functions!

TABLE OF CONTENT

KUDOS CORNER 2

IN BRIEF 2

What's new at the Faculty

REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION 3

NEWS FROM THE POSTGRADUATE OFFICE 3

PRESTIGIOUS VANIER CANADA GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS...3

LEADERS IN ACADEMIC MEDICINE 3

NEWS FROM THE RESEARCH OFFICE 4

FIRST RECIPIENTS OF THE NEW RESEARCH CHAIRS..... 4

TOMORROW'S DOCTORS IN WELLAND!..... 5

DR. CHARLES MACLEOD AND THE NEW MD/PHD PROGRAM 5

KUDOS CORNER

Congratulations!

Graduation of 147 new physicians who have all matched, with 50% in family medicine

BENJAMIN YIN MING KWAN,
2nd year Medicine

The 2010 American Academy of Neurology Saul R. Korey Award for best medical student essay in experimental neurology

DR. ANTOINE HAKIM
For his outstanding contributions to neuroscience research

The Biomedical Science Ambassador Award

DR. MICHEL CHRÉTIEN
For his life-time contribution to biochemistry, molecular and cell biology in Canada

The Canadian Society of Biochemistry, Molecular and Cellular Biology's Arthur Wynne Gold Medal

DR. EVE TSAI
Department of Surgery, Ottawa Hospital

Canada's Top 40 under 40

DR. ANNETTE O'CONNOR,
Department of Epidemiology and Community Medicine

DR. ROBERT G. KORNELUK,
Department of Pediatrics

Distinguished University Professor Appointments in 2009-2010

EMILY BEAUDOIN, JESSICA DUNKLEY, JAMES MAKOKIS, MELANIE HALVORSEN, MARIO MORIN

Eagle Feathers (Eagle Feathers are awarded to someone for showing bravery and courage. It is the highest honor in the

Aboriginal community.)

DR. JACQUELINE CARNEGIE,
Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine

University of Ottawa
Excellence in Teaching Award

DR. DUNCAN STEWART,
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

The OCRI Research Award

NANCY DELCELLIER and VANESSA SUTTON
for the pandemic planning and response efforts



The President's Award for Service Excellence – Team Award (H1N1)

DR. ALI JALALI,
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

The 2009-2010 University of Ottawa Excellence in Education Prize

DR. MONA NEMER,
Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology

Appointed Chevalière de l'Ordre national du Québec

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA YEARS OF SERVICE:

10 YEARS:
Sylvie Deblois,
Jean-François Dion,
Carol Ann Kelly

15 YEARS: Fay Draper

20 YEARS:
André Bergeron,
Donna Hooper

25 YEARS: Denyse Blais

35 YEARS: Vijay Kapal

IN BRIEF

UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

- Accreditation ran smoothly, positive verbal comments, awaiting final report in October

RESEARCH

- The summer studentship program, which funds undergraduate medical students enrolled in their first or second year of training, awarded funding to 24 student research projects for summer 2010.
- May 5, 2010, marked the launch of a new funding opportunity for collaborative projects in neuroscience between the University of Ottawa and Paris-Descartes University.
- On May 10, 2010, Dr. Paul Hébert spoke with University of Ottawa researchers about the CIHR Strategy on Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR). This information session allowed researchers to gain valuable information and provide feedback on this CIHR initiative to support clinical research, which will result in improved health care for Canadians.
- uOBMRI sponsored the 2010 Canadian Neurosciences Meeting, May 15 to 18, 2010.

ALUMNI

Save these dates!
2010 Homecoming Faculty Events:

- Dean's Reception, Roger Guindon Hall : Friday September 24, 2010
- Gala Dinner and Dance, Château Laurier : Saturday September 25, 2010
- Faculty Brunch, Château Laurier : Sunday September 26, 2010
- Homecoming Registration coming soon online!

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Report from the Office of Continuing Medical Education

OCME has been very active in the last few months. We were successfully accredited and thank all of the office staff and faculty who participated in the review. We are improving our programs and services to help facilitate continuing medical education at uOttawa. We recently completed the 59th Annual Refresher Course for Family Physicians and thank all Faculty members who took time to give such excellent presentations. OCME has also been collaborating with Faculty departments in course development for family physicians and specialists, including the second Annual Ottawa Conference on Smoking Cessation, the 2010 National Capital Conference on Emergency Medicine, the Update in Internal Medicine and a variety of updates in radiology. Note: The 8th Symposium on Joint Preserving and Minimally Invasive Surgery of the Hip from June 10 to 12 in

Ottawa and the 2010 Musculoskeletal Imaging Update in Quebec City from June 28 to 30.

Our Mini-Med School program has continued to be popular with the general public with this spring's focus on "Mini-Med School goes to the Ottawa Heart Institute".

Finally, we are developing a research program, including a LHIN-wide needs assessment of randomly selected family physicians, to best identify learning needs and a CIHR-supported two-day workshop to start development of a LHIN-based infrastructure for knowledge to action. We intend to continue to link physicians, other health care workers, administrators and researchers to develop an approach to optimally bring knowledge into practice, resulting in improved outcomes and patient care.

GRADUATE STUDIES

Prestigious Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships

The Faculty of Medicine would like to congratulate its graduate students who received a Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship. The winners of this prestigious award are chosen based on their demonstrated leadership skills and outstanding scholarly achievement in graduate studies in the social sciences and humanities, natural sciences and engineering or health research fields. Candidates compete with their peers from across Canada and the world.

The Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships Program is designed to attract and retain world-class doctoral students by offering them a significant financial award to assist them during their studies at Canadian universities. The recipients of the award receive \$50,000 annually for up to three years.

The scholarship honors distinguished Canadian soldier and diplomat Major-General, the Right Honourable Georges Philias Vanier (1888-1967), who served as governor general of Canada from 1959

to 1967. The program is administered jointly by Canada's three research granting agencies: the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

The recipients of this year's Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships are:

Vanier / NSERC - Ragunath Singaravelu
Master of science, microbiology and immunology. Supervisor: John Pezacki

Vanier / CIHR
Naomi Samantha De Silva
Master of science, biochemistry specialization in human and molecular genetics. Supervisor: John Bell

Mame Daro Faye -
Doctorate in philosophy, biochemistry.
Supervisor: Martin Holcik

Please join us in extending congratulations to our winners!

PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS

Leaders in academic medicine

The Faculty of Medicine, in collaboration with affiliated teaching hospitals, successfully offered the Tenth Ottawa Academic Health Sciences Leadership Course. The graduates from The Ottawa Hospital, the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Bruyère Continuing Care, the Royal Ottawa Hospital and the Faculty, were awarded their certificate of completion by their respective CEOs on 14 May 2010. The course was co-directed by Dr. Jolanta Karpinski (director, Faculty Development) and Dr. Rama Nair (associate dean, Professional Affairs).

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

News from the postgraduate office

Each year, the University of Ottawa holds fellowship competitions. Many of the fellowships are designed to offer candidates from abroad the experience of training at the University of Ottawa. These visitors gain valuable experience at the University and develop partnerships that continue well past the actual fellowship. Other fellowships support our graduate physicians who have committed to establishing a career in Ottawa and who will bring back greater knowledge and skills to their department. Over the past three years, these fellowships have benefited 23 new faculty members, their departments and their patients. The annual fellowship budget is over \$1 million, with individual fellowships valued at up to \$74,000. For full fellowship application details, visit the Faculty of Medicine's postgraduate studies awards, fellowships and grants webpage at: http://www.med.uottawa.ca/Postgraduate/eng/awards_fellowships_grants.html.

RESEARCH

News from the Research Office

On May 3, 2010, the University of Ottawa Senate officially approved the application for a University of Ottawa Brain and Mind Research Institute (uOBMRI). The uOBMRI brings basic and clinical investigators from a broad spectrum of neuroscience, behavioral, psychiatric, psychological, health and associated disciplines under a unifying umbrella. The Institute's research programs focus on interdisciplinary, translational and developmental approaches to brain-related illnesses. The approaches cut across basic, clinical and human population studies, emphasizing translation of research into practice, particularly in the development of novel therapeutics and diagnostics. The uOBMRI integrates these activities among the faculties of Medicine, Health Sciences, Science, Social Sciences

and Education, and incorporates existing partnerships with several of its affiliated, hospital-based research institutes and Saint Paul University. The Institute thus provides leadership and focus for the University's dedication to enhancing neuroscience and behavioral research.

In the area of clinical research, on May 10, 2010, Dr. Paul Hebert gave a seminar to discuss the CIHR Strategy on Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR). Together with our affiliated institutes and hospitals, the University of Ottawa is particularly well positioned to benefit from this initiative. Significant contributions to patient-oriented research, knowledge synthesis and translation have resulted in the formation of clinically oriented groups, including the

Ottawa Methods Centre, Knowledge Translation Canada, Nursing Best Practice Research Unit, Cochrane Canada, and the Canadian Critical Care Trials Network.

Finally, the Ottawa Conference on New Directions in Biology and Disease of Skeletal Muscle was an outstanding success. Held at the Westin Hotel May 5 to 8, 2010, this joint meeting brought together more than 400 researchers and trainees to discuss emerging themes in muscle biology and neuromuscular disease. Keynote speakers included Dr. Eric Olson and Dr. Andrew Marks.

FACULTY HOSPITALS LIAISON SERVICES

First recipients of the new research chairs

The Faculty of Medicine is proud to announce the first recipients of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa Research Chairs.

Medpoint (see the Spring 2010 issue) announced the creation of the new research chairs, funded by the Faculty of Medicine, clinical departments and registered partners, to improve health and patient care. There are two levels of awards. The first, for researchers at the associate or full professor level, provides \$200,000 a year for up to five years; the second, for researchers at the assistant or associate professor level, provides

\$100,000 a year for up to five years.

We are delighted to announce the names of the first recipients:

Level 1: \$200,000 a year

- Dr. Mark Walker, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Chair in Perinatal Research
- Dr. Greg Knoll, Department of Medicine, Chair in Transplantation Research
- Dr. Marc Alan Rodger,

Department of Medicine, Chair in Venous Thromboembolism and Thrombophilia

Level 2: \$100,000 a year

- Dr. Christian Vaillancourt, Department of Emergency Medicine, Chair in Emergency Cardiac Resuscitation
- Dr. Amy Plint, Department of Pediatrics, Chair in Pediatric Emergency Medicine

OFFICE OF FRANCOPHONE AFFAIRS

Tomorrow's doctors in Welland

On April 26 and 27, 2010, some 36 students in grades 11 and 12 at schools belonging to the Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud and the Conseil scolaire public du district du Centre Sud-Ouest had the opportunity to participate in an Introduction to Medicine Mini-course at École secondaire catholique Jean-Vanier in Welland, Ontario.

The program, organized by the Office of Francophone Affairs (OFA) in partnership with the host school, featured a variety of workshops led by eleven first-year medical students. Participants attended presentations on aspects such as the systems of the body (musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory and neurological) as well as practical activities (stitches, casts, scrubbing, eye and ear examination, injections, discussions and simulated case studies and clinics).

At the end of the two days, the students said how important they had found the mini-course, pointing out that it allowed them to consider the possibility of studying medicine or a health-related discipline in French at the University of Ottawa. They were also extremely appreciative of the opportunity to meet and talk with the university students.

The activity would not have been possible without the energy and enthusiasm of the 11 Meds-2013 students and the participation of Dr. Antoine Gagnon, the physician in charge of the activity.



Students from Welland-area high schools at the cast workshop with medical students from the class of 2013

ADVANCEMENT OFFICE

Dr. Charles MacLeod and the new MD/PHD program

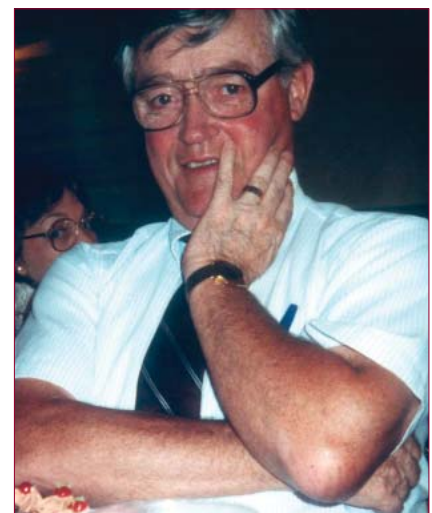
From small acts of foresight come truly wonderful things: it is through a planned gift that one of the newest and most innovative programs at uOttawa is getting started. The MD/PhD Program is a new curriculum set up to allow exceptional students to complete their university education over seven years with both a medical doctorate (MD) and a graduate school degree (PhD).

The purpose of our MD/PhD curriculum is to produce well-qualified “physician-scientists” who through their future work will explore new frontiers in medicine by bridging the steadily widening gap between bedside care and bench research. Students are engaged in clinical learning and laboratory work for the entire duration of their program, including during the summer months, therefore limiting opportunities to supplement their income. The Faculty

of Medicine has made it its goal to raise the funds to pay for the tuition of the small cadre of MD/PhD students that will enter the program every summer (four per incoming class of medical students).

The newly created “Dr. Charles W. MacLeod MD/PhD Fellowship” ensures that this pioneer of medicine continues to help others by fostering the training of the next generation of doctors and researchers. Dr. MacLeod, a graduate of the inaugural 1951 class from uOttawa’s Faculty of Medicine, never forgot his roots or the many people who helped him throughout his career.

Through a bequest and the gift of a life insurance policy by his estate to the Faculty of Medicine, he has helped to make the completion of this seven-year program financially feasible for MD/PhD students.



Charles MacLeod