

A man with a beard, wearing a white button-down shirt and dark jeans, stands in a modern building with large glass windows. He is holding a model of a human brain in his right hand. The building has a high ceiling with a grid of white structural beams. Outside the windows, a landscape with trees and a building is visible. Two wooden benches are positioned near the windows.

# **DESTINED FOR EXCELLENCE**

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



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## DEAN'S MESSAGE

What a year of progress and opportunity we have had at Memorial University's Faculty of Medicine!

As the only medical school in Newfoundland and Labrador, we have a special obligation to meet the unique health needs of our rural and urban communities; our aging population; and Indigenous people. Our strategic plan, Destination Excellence provides guiding values that help us focus our priorities and celebrate accomplishments.

Destination Excellence is now in its second year of implementation and a lot has happened. Our project teams are working hard to help us reach our goals. Each project team is accountable to the Destination Excellence Implementation Steering Team (DEIST) and is made up of a diverse group of individuals (i.e. learners, faculty, staff, leaders, etc.) from across the faculty. The project teams are: Research, Social Accountability, Wellness, Mentorship, Progress Report Card as well as a number of education initiatives. Updates on the implementation of the strategic plan can be found on our website: <http://bit.ly/strategicplan2023>.



A lot of important research on questions that matter for the people in our communities is happening at Memorial University and is receiving national recognition and funding. Through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, innovative projects focusing on diseases like cardiovascular disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, genetic research, and more will help advance the health of our communities. This year we had six faculty members receive CIHR grants. Our success rate was 33 per cent compared to the national average of less than 15 per cent. Which is certainly impressive and we are proud of the hard work of our medical scientists and their passion for research.

This year also saw an increase in support for learners through our donors and you will have an opportunity to read more about some of these generous gifts. I would like to express my gratitude to all of our donors and supporters of the Faculty of Medicine. Because of their support, our learners have access to scholarships, bursaries and awards that will help them continue their studies.

We are committed to achieving our vision and mission of advancing the health of the people and communities we serve, but in order to do that we must first ensure that we are enabling our learners, faculty and staff to thrive. In 2018, we had an independent unit assessment completed. The assessment contained 39 recommendations, which will enable the Faculty of Medicine to improve our culture. We are very proud of the steps we have taken to ensure we are providing a welcoming environment for our learners, faculty and staff; free of harassment, bullying and intimidation.

On behalf of the Faculty of Medicine, I extend my thanks to all those who support and are connected to Memorial's Faculty of Medicine in so many different ways. As we continue to advance health through medical education, research and social accountability, I appreciate having you on this journey with us.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Steele".

Margaret Steele, MD, FRCPC, MEd, DF CPA, CCPE, FCAHS  
Dean  
Professor, Discipline of Psychiatry  
Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University of Newfoundland

# FUTURE LEADERS

## THE ROAD TO OXFORD

Matthew Downer's academic path is impressive having received numerous awards.

From his bachelor of science in psychology (B.Sc. '17), specializing in neuroscience, to his current doctor of medicine (MD class of 2021), Mr. Downer's curriculum vitae is already longer than most people twice his age. His latest honour: 2019 Rhodes Scholar Elect from Newfoundland and Labrador.

Mr. Downer already has the following achievements: the 2018 Memorial University Award for Outstanding Self-Directed Learning; The Captain Robert A. Bartlett Convocation Award for Science; three years on the Faculty of Science Dean's List; the Colbourne Family Scholarship; and a Fulbright Canada Killam Fellowship, among many others.

Since starting his MD program, Mr. Downer has also undertaken a lot of community work. "My family has always taught me that the greatest work you can do is what you can do for others. I think this is one of the reasons medicine felt like such a nice career fit for me as it allowed me to put a love of science to good use," he said.

The Rhodes Scholarship means Mr. Downer has the opportunity to join other outstanding young people from around the world for full-time postgraduate study at the University of Oxford this fall.

<https://gazette.mun.ca/student-life/hallowed-halls/>

## CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE CARE

Dr. Jennifer Shea is embarking on a project that she hopes will de-stigmatize mental health within the NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC) and enhance access to mental health and addictions programming.

Dr. Shea's research includes community-based participatory and decolonizing approaches.

"The lived experience and local knowledge within NunatuKavut's territory will guide all aspects of the project," she said, adding that community leadership and governance is critical to the work. "Community members are the experts on the reality of mental health and addictions in NunatuKavut communities. They know first-hand what's available, what works and doesn't work, and what's needed to close the gap."

Dr. Shea and her interdisciplinary team, which includes community members, received \$100,000 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for the project.



<https://gazette.mun.ca/research/culturally-appropriate-care/>





*"I feel a wave of change happening and it's truly exciting to be on this cusp with an amazing group of humans."*

## PROFILE: MICHELLE SNOW BRINGS WELLNESS TO LEARNERS

Since October 2018, Michelle Snow has been helping our learners stay healthy with some new wellness initiatives like movement and meditation sessions, Wisdom Wednesday messages and support groups. She brings a rich background to the role of student wellness consultant and has embraced the challenge.

*Can you tell me a little about your past work experience?*

Over the past 10 years I have been involved in working with post-secondary students as a student counsellor, educator (Sexual Harassment Office), instructor and now as the Student Wellness consultant. I've also had a private practice where I offered counselling, hypnotherapy and psychosomatic therapy, in addition to creating various seminars, workshops and even a dance group for women in Calgary, AB and here in N.L.

*What drew you to this role?*

Wellness has been in the forefront of my life for many years. To be in a position that aligns with my own personal journey is meaningful. My work has to have meaning or I lose interest very quickly. Connecting with students and serving them in a meaningful way contributes to my wellbeing.

Read more about Michelle's goals for student wellness and the wave of change she believes is happening in medical schools.

<http://bit.ly/2Wul1Er>

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## TRIPLE FEATURE

A recent masters graduate has found her research at the centre of a prestigious medical journal.

Brittany Gillies had her research published in the *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research*, but she also scored the cover image and an accompanying editorial. In the paper, Gillies and her team discuss how pregnant mothers meet the demand for calcium by increasing intestinal absorption of the mineral.

"Determining the factors that enable the mother's skeleton to regain bone mass so efficiently is important because the adult skeleton normally experiences only partial and slow recovery after other causes of bone loss such as osteoporosis or astronauts in space who have only slow and partial recovery after return to earth," said Ms. Gillies.

"The increased exposure brings hope that the factors involved in bone recovery may soon be identified and used to help find better treatment for osteoporosis and other conditions of bone loss."

<http://bit.ly/2BLYVaB>



## ONE TO WATCH

### Dr. Craig Moore, Canada Research Chair in Neuroscience and Brain Repair

Over the past five years, Dr. Craig Moore has established Memorial University's and Atlantic Canada's first basic and clinical neuroimmunology research program, enhancing the quality of life of individuals suffering from chronic neurological disease. With Canada, and the Atlantic region, having some of the highest rates of multiple sclerosis (MS) globally, the need to discover novel treatments and biomarkers is an important goal.

Dr. Moore's research is helping solve the biggest questions related to the brain responding to injury and stimulating repair. He has established a network of national and international collaborators and has launched a unique inter-disciplinary and translationally relevant research program that aims to discover mechanisms that enhance brain repair.

#### Funding includes:

- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) (2018-2023; \$600,525).
- The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada (MSSOC) (2019-2022; \$354,000).
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Research Tools and Instruments Grant valued at \$150,000 to purchase a new flow cytometer that is not only benefiting his lab, but also the entire Faculty of Medicine and university community.

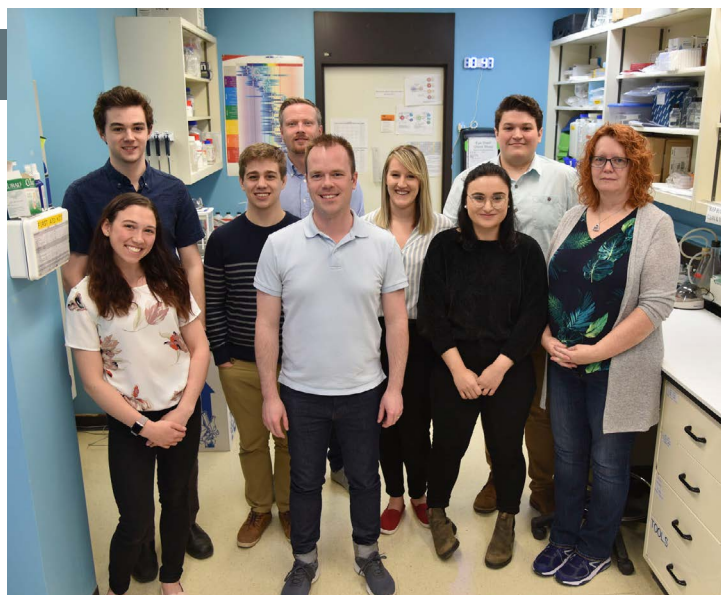
Dr. Moore's primary research goal is to discover how the immune system mediates cell-specific injury and repair mechanisms in the central nervous system.

#### Training for the next generation of young scientists

Dr. Moore's PhD students, Dylan Galloway and Stephanie Blandford, are also leaders in their field. Both have:

- Received full studentship funding from the MSSOC for the duration of their program.
- Won several travel awards to present their research at national and international conferences.
- Successfully passed their comprehensive qualifying exams with distinction.
- Received multiple recognitions within the Faculty of Medicine (Dean's Building a Healthy Tomorrow Award, Colman Graduate Student Award, Dean's Fellowship, Medical Graduate Student Society Scholar & Community Involvement Award) and national recognition from the MSSOC Research and Network training program as being some of Canada's top trainees engaged in MS research.

Dr. Moore's laboratory has recently published a primary research article that was a culmination of 3+ years of research in the journal *GLIA*, a highly respected and cited neuroscience journal, with Galloway as first author. The publication is a result of the collaboration and the cross-disciplinary nature of MS research. Dr. Moore's lab collaborates with researchers in biomedical sciences, medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, neurology and pathology:





# RESEARCH BREAKTHROUGHS

## NEW RESEARCH UNLOCKS INSIGHTS INTO CANCER CELLS

Nearly one in two Canadians are expected to be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime according to a report, Canadian Cancer Statistics 2017, released by the Canadian Cancer Society in partnership with the Public Health Agency of Canada and Statistics Canada.

However, numerous advances have been made in cancer research to fight the disease, including studying the intricacies of cancer cells, which is what Dr. Kenneth Kao, a professor of oncology, and his research team have spent the last 12 years doing.

In a recent paper, Dr. Kao and his lab introduce new findings on a very important cancer-causing protein.

<http://bit.ly/2s48Vo4>

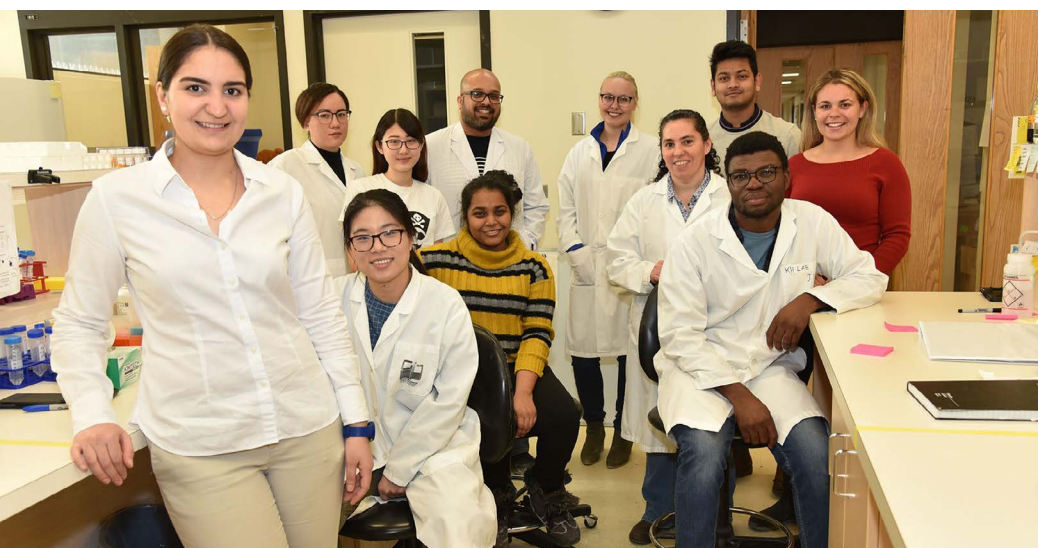
## NO CANCER CELL LEFT BEHIND

Undergoing surgery to remove a cancerous tumor is not something anyone wants to experience. But to then discover that the surgery did not remove all the cancer is another harsh reality that many face.

Dr. Ken Hirasawa, a professor of immunology and his team are looking at ways to ensure that the success rate for destroying cancer cells during surgery becomes 100 per cent.

With a large grant from the Canadian Cancer Society, the researchers hope their work will lead to better detection of those cells using something called protoporphyrin IX (PpIX): a glow-in-the-dark molecule that only develops in cancer cells.

<https://gazette.mun.ca/research/search-and-destroy/>



## IS IT SOMETHING IN THE WATER?

Faculty of Medicine researchers have linked water contaminants to type 1 diabetes in children. More specifically, they've found a correlation between higher concentrations of arsenic and fluoride in public drinking water in the province and the disease.

Newfoundland and Labrador has the second highest incidence rate of type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM) in the world after Finland.

Dr. Roger Chafe, associate professor of pediatrics and director of Janeway Pediatric Research Unit, is the lead author on the study. "It is suspected that environmental triggers play a role in the cause of type 1 diabetes. Research conducted in other countries has found some associations between type 1 diabetes and components in water. Given our high rates of type 1 diabetes and the availability of reliable data on water quality across the province, there was a great opportunity to study the connection for our population."

<https://gazette.mun.ca/research/is-it-something-in-the-water/>



# COMMUNITY INSPIRED

## BRAIN STORM 2018 HITS MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

The university's Faculty of Medicine hosted the 2018 provincial Brain Storm Competition in May 2018. The spelling bee-style competition, aims for students to have fun while learning about the anatomy of the brain, how the brain processes information and brain diseases.

The Brain Storm Competition is supported by the Faculty of Medicine and the Society for Neuroscience. This year's competition was also funded by Memorial University Office of Student Recruitment, O'Neill Motors in Mount Pearl and Faculty of Medicine graduate students.

<http://bit.ly/2s2m7db>

## PUT AWAY THE PRESCRIPTION PAD

### Prescription overload: Preserving antibiotic effectiveness to save lives

We are becoming resistant to antibiotics. It's a major public health risk, according to experts. Unfortunately, Newfoundland and Labrador is leading the way when it comes to overusing antibiotics.

In 2016, the national average of antibiotic use was 635 prescriptions per 1,000 people; in Newfoundland and Labrador, that number was 955, according to the Public Health Agency of Canada. Meanwhile, half of the seniors in this province receive at least one prescription for antibiotics per year. But a team at the Faculty of Medicine has been working hard to change those statistics.

For the third year in a row, Quality Care Newfoundland and Labrador (QCNL) and Choosing Wisely Newfoundland and Labrador (CWNL) are working in partnership with Choosing Wisely Canada to promote guidelines and recommendations on the appropriate use of antibiotics.

Their efforts seem to be working. Prescription rates for 2017/2018 indicates a 9.3 per cent reduction in the number of prescriptions by family physicians.

***"Because antibiotics selects for the expression of resistance genes in bacteria, and bacteria spread between people, antibiotics impact the future health of us all, not only the health of the person taking the antibiotic." ~ Dr. Peter Daley, infectious disease expert***

<https://gazette.mun.ca/public-engagement/put-away-the-pad/>

## SERVICE LEARNING ON THE INSIDE

### Faculty of Medicine students attend career fair for inmates

The Workin'It Training Fair at Her Majesty's Penitentiary (HMP) in St. John's NL is set up in a gymnasium where community organizations and training partners spend the day speaking with over 100 inmates about career and employment options once they're released.

The (then) second-year doctor of medicine (MD) students Matthew Downer, Josh Lehr and Madison Lewis were the first MD students to take part in the annual fair; learning about how the facility functions, greeting inmates and hearing first-hand about the issues that contribute to poverty and social challenges.



*"When inmates get released from prison, they have nothing. Some of them have trouble finding money, getting a job, etc. As a future physician, I will be dealing with these types of populations. If I choose to practice as a physician in St. John's, knowing about these resources and organizations will help me provide better care to my patients." - Madison Lewis*

<https://gazette.mun.ca/teaching-and-learning/service-learning-on-the-inside/>

## 2018 ABORIGINAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

On June 6, 2018, we held our second annual Aboriginal Health Symposium. The half day event showcased Aboriginal education and research taking place at Memorial and featured keynote speaker Dr. Jeff Reading, professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University, and First Nations Health Authority Chair in Heart Health and Wellness, St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver, British Columbia.



## SAVE THE DATE

The 2019 Aboriginal Health Symposium will be a full day event on Nov. 21. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Debbie Martin, Tier II Canada Research Chair, Indigenous Peoples Health and Well-Being, associate professor, health promotion, School of Health and Human Performance, Dalhousie University.

Check our website for more details: [www.med.mun.ca/AHI/](http://www.med.mun.ca/AHI/)

## OPEN HOUSE 2018

On October 14, 2018 the Faculty of Medicine opened its doors for its second annual Open House. Hundreds of visitors came through for the family friendly event that included a teddy bear clinic, Body Works and some amazing artwork by our faculty, staff and learners.



## SAVE THE DATE!

The 2019 Open House is  
Sunday, Nov. 17.



## MEDQUEST

Established almost 30 years ago, MedQUEST is an exciting, career-oriented summer program for students in grades 10-12 in Newfoundland and Labrador. Each year, six one-week sessions are organized and delivered by the Office of Student Affairs. Seven university students are hired for seven weeks each summer as MedQUEST team leaders and several medical school students volunteer with the program.

The programs introduce students to the fascinating world of health sciences and provide them with information about rewarding careers. Hands-on experiences and lectures are provided by volunteer physicians, physiotherapists, pharmacists, dentists, veterinarians, nurses and medical scientists.



***"Best program I ever took part in! The people you meet will forever be your MedQuest family. You instantly bond and many friendships are created. The sessions and tours are amazing. So informative, heart-touching and interesting. I definitely recommend this program. It truly is an amazing, unforgettable experience!" - Brianna, MedQUEST 2018***





# ENDURING LEGACY

## SUPPORTING LEARNERS WITH THE GIFT OF SPACE



Dr. Peter Collingwood (MD'81) and his wife, Deborah Collingwood, have supported learners in the Faculty of Medicine for years. Now, there is a suite of rooms on the second floor in honour of these proud Memorial alumni.

The three rooms are called the Dr. Peter and Mrs. Deborah Collingwood Suite of Group Learning Rooms: The Collaborator Room (2M200), The Communicator Room (2M201) and The Scholar Room (2M209). They're based on the CanMeds framework that identifies and describes the abilities physicians require to effectively meet the health-care needs of the people they serve.

"By supporting medical students and research we are helping to provide a high standard of health care for the province, but personally I think it is also providing another way for us/me to individually mentor learners, which is very important," said Dr. Collingwood. "I think it's important for them to know that there's someone supporting them and interested in how they do. We hope it will inspire others to do the same."

<http://bit.ly/2AWzsYR>

## THE GREAT APE HEART PROJECT

### Alum uses his skills to save primates

Dr. William Devlin (MD'88) is a successful cardiologist with the Michigan Heart Group and medical director of the Coronary Care Unit. But it's his passion outside his day job that gets more attention.

Dr. Devlin works on the hearts of great apes through the Great Ape Heart Project.

Great apes, which include gorillas, orangutans, chimps and bonobos, in captivity are dying of heart disease.

"We don't know why these animals are developing heart disease but we are using the knowledge of human disease to help animals. It is a unique situation to be in as too often animals are used to help people but here we are going in the other direction."



The native of St. John's was in N.L. for his 30th MD reunion. While here, Dr. Devlin and his wife, Molly Brennan, supported the Faculty of

Medicine with a donation to help students. As a result, the student lounge was renamed the Devlin Family Student Facilities.

"My wife and I have been very fortunate in our education and Memorial gave me an opportunity to get a fantastic medical education. I am very grateful for what I learned here and the mentors I had. I am proud to be from Memorial. This is one way to give something back to help future generations."

<http://bit.ly/2RUcsBK>



## WHEN RESEARCH PASSION MEETS DONOR PRIDE

Augustine J. Devasahayam (AJ) is working hard to make life better for people with multiple sclerosis (MS) in this province and ultimately around the world. His research path led him here to Atlantic Canada; to a place with the highest rate of MS in the world.

AJ, a PhD candidate, is one of the first recipients of the three new O'Dea Research Fellowships, established by John and Janet O'Dea, and valued at \$10,000 each. Megan Kirkland, MD-PhD learner, and Arthur Chaves, PhD candidate, were also recipients.

The O'Dea's felt strongly about supporting individuals with disorders like MS so they can 'get more of their lives back.' That motivation fits very well with AJ's passion.

"People living with long-standing diseases such as MS need new treatments founded on novel ideas, conceptions and discoveries. At Dr. [Michelle] Ploughman's laboratory, I have opportunities to test new rehabilitation ideas. My work is geared towards testing proof of principle of a novel idea, which in turn may improve MS patient outcomes in the future."

Rehabilitation work like AJ's, is what motivated the O'Dea's to establish the fellowship at Memorial University. Their support stems from Janet's career as a physiotherapist and John's leadership and support as campaign co-chair for the Faculty of Medicine's Building a Healthy Tomorrow capital campaign.

"I was immensely impressed," said Mr. O'Dea about his time as co-chair. "I became motivated by the work that was being done here. I discovered stories that needed to be told as to why this is such a worthwhile medical school to support."

<http://bit.ly/2WC9Rxm>

## DISCIPLINE OF ONCOLOGY MD ENTRANCE BURSARY

Members of the Discipline of Oncology are committed to giving back to Memorial University and are proud to support students entering medical school with this bursary. Together, faculty and staff established an entrance bursary that will be awarded annually to a student entering into the doctor of medicine degree program.

"I was thrilled and surprised to have received this bursary. It has greatly contributed to the financial coverage of my medical school studies. Not only has this bursary supported me financially, but academically as well as it has connected me with a mentor for my future in medicine." - Brittany Bolt, first recipient

## THE DR. ANIL IMBULGODA MEMORIAL AWARD

Dr. Anil Imbulgoda, a graduate from the doctor of medicine program, class of 2013, passed away in 2017. In memory of their friend, the class of 2013 collectively initiated a scholarship in hopes that it will continue to honour his legacy.

Anil is best remembered for his humour, humility and humanity. This award is decided by peer nomination to the graduating MD student who best embodies Anil's spirit – an individual who is most deserving of recognition for their altruism and integrity, but who is least likely to nominate themselves. Jacques Van Wijk was the first recipient of this award.

## NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR MEDICAL ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS, BURSARIES AND AWARDS

Through a generous multi-year pledge commitment from the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association (NLMA), the Faculty of Medicine has been able to establish 20 new scholarships, awards and bursaries:

- NLMA Bursary – providing financial support to 10 medical students.
- Gerald F. Lynch Essau Award in Medical History and Humanities – awarded to a student who has submitted a research paper on a medical history or medical humanities topic.
- NLMA President's Scholarship – awarded to two students who have shown interest in the organizational aspects of medicine as shown by contributions to the governance of the medical school.
- Dr. Phyllis H. Madryga Scholarship – awarded to two medical students from rural Newfoundland and Labrador in their final year of the MD program.
- TD Insurance Meloche Monnex Health and Well-being Award – awarded to two students who demonstrate a commitment to achieving healthy work-life balance as well as promoting a culture of health and well-being among peers.
- NLMA Leadership Scholarship – awarded to a student entering the MD program who has illustrated leadership and community engagement.
- NLMA Resident Travel Award – two awards to assist in covering the cost of attending an educational conference.

## DR. DAVID ALMOND AND DR. DENNIS MORGAN (CLASS OF 1980) MEMORIAL BURSARY ENDOWMENT FUND

Drs. David Almond and Dennis Morgan were known for their compassion and ability to help patients feel comfortable and empowered in their care. To honour their memory, Dr. Madeline Connors established an endowment fund for medical students.

It is awarded annually to a student from Newfoundland and Labrador who has completed their third year of the doctor of medicine program who has shown excellence in both academics and clinical skills.

Cody Dunne was the first recipient for this new bursary. "It was an honour to receive the bursary named in the memory of two former physicians. To receive it during this phase of my studies, during the transition to residency, I have been able to worry less about financial strains and focus more on starting this chapter of my career feeling prepared."

"It also re-emphasized to me the pay-it-forward attitude in medicine, and how, as future physicians we have such an ability and duty to help those in need throughout our personal and professional lives."

The families of Drs. Almond and Morgan encourage recipients of this bursary to strive for balance between their career in medicine, and with the personal activities and relationships that bring them happiness.



# EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

## UPDATE ON THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE UNIT ASSESSMENT

On March 15, 2019 the Faculty of Medicine delivered a unit assessment progress report to Memorial University President Gary Kachanoski. The report contains the faculty's progress on the implementation of the 39 recommendations contained in a Unit Assessment, which was completed for the Faculty of Medicine in November 2017. President Kachanoski has accepted the report and supports our work on addressing the recommendations.

"Transparency regarding the progress of the Unit Assessment implementation is a priority for the Faculty of Medicine," said Dean Margaret Steele. "We want to ensure that our stakeholders know that our goal is to have a welcoming environment for our learners, faculty and staff, free of harassment, bullying and intimidation. We are taking the recommendations very seriously and many have already been implemented."

The recommendations that have already been addressed include:

- A website focused on professionalism and mistreatment, which contains resources and contact information for faculty, staff and learners <http://bit.ly/2SxmaOr>;
- A Professionalism Working Group established in June 2017 with a mandate to review professionalism practices and curriculum within all educational programs, create a set of recommendations to enhance the culture of professionalism within the faculty and encourage the appropriate development of a professional identity in our learners has completed its work;
- A survey of faculty, staff and learners on mistreatment; changes and updates to policies; and increasing awareness of policies and procedures regarding intimidation, bullying, harassment and sexual harassment with education sessions and training modules.
- There will be a reconstitution of the Office of Student Affairs.
- A planning committee has been established to develop an action plan to develop an assistant dean, Faculty Wellness, Equity and Professionalism position.

"Some recommendations are more complex and will take more time to implement but we are committed to ensuring all 39 are addressed," Dr. Steele added. "We will establish an accountability framework and process to monitor and evaluate the action plans. The Faculty of Medicine is confident that the tremendous work currently underway will foster an enhanced and renewed culture of professionalism within the faculty."

<http://bit.ly/2Gv6XEx>

## OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RECEIVES FULL ACCREDITATION

The Faculty of Medicine's Office of Professional and Educational Development (OPED) continues to provide excellence in continuing professional development. The Committee on Accreditation of Continuing Medical Education (CACME) voted to continue accreditation of the office for an eight-year term.

The Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada's CACME provides a periodic accreditation process to ensure that university continuing medical education and continuing professional development (CME/CPD) offices exhibit high standards of performance through a standards-based external review.

The surveyor's report highlighted a number of key strengths including a dedicated senior leadership team, providing innovative online and webinar learning opportunities, and supporting research.

"As the only university-accredited provider of CME/CPD in the province, we have a strong accountability to physicians and other health professionals," said Dr. Vernon Curran, associate dean, educational development.

## NEW LEADERSHIP IN INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

As of Jan. 1, 2019, Dr. Julia Trahey has been appointed as the new director for the Centre for Collaborative Health Professional Education (CCHPE).

"When I started my own medical training almost 40 years ago we really worked in silos. Creating connections and learning the theories and practices that make those working relationships more joyful and less frustrating has been very gratifying for me, personally," Dr. Trahey noted. "Transferring that knowledge to younger generations of health care professionals as they prepare for their own professional lives is really rewarding."

*"Transferring that knowledge to younger generations of health care professionals as they prepare for their own professional lives is really rewarding."*



The CCHPE is a collaborative effort of the Faculties of Medicine, Education and Nursing, as well as the Schools of Pharmacy, Social Work and Human Kinetics and Recreation, and the Student Wellness and Counseling Centre. The centre initiates, facilitates and coordinates activities to enhance interprofessional teaching and learning for students.

<http://bit.ly/2lp3Sde>

## BEYOND THE IMAGE

### New ultrasound machines for medical education

Some clinicians call them the modern stethoscope. "Those of us who have been using ultrasound machines from the beginning of our practice can't imagine not having them," said Dr. Gillian Sheppard, assistant professor of emergency medicine and director of Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) at the Faculty of Medicine.

The 12 new machines will continue to be used for skills training but will also help expand the faculty's undergraduate curriculum, which, in the past year, started using ultrasound technology to teach anatomy.

*"We can now, fairly seamlessly, transition from not only using wet specimens or software to look at anatomy, to having enough units to show 80 students, in one session, this is what you're learning about from your textbooks."*

*~ Dr. Patricia Cousins, manager of Medical Laboratories for the Faculty of Medicine*

<http://bit.ly/2JDikKw>

## POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION: CHALLENGES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In the last five years, six new residency programs have been implemented at Memorial. As of March 1, 2019, there were nearly 280 residents enrolled in 19 residency programs in the following disciplines:

Program	Years of training	Current number of residents
Anatomical Pathology	5	8
Anesthesia	5	21
Care of the Elderly*	6 months	0
Care of Under-served Populations*	6 months – 1 year	0
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	2	1
Diagnostic Radiology	5	15
Emergency Medicine	1	5
Family Medicine	2	69
General Internal Medicine	2	4
General Surgery	5	20
Geriatric Psychiatry –begins July 1, 2020	2	0
Internal Medicine	3- 4	36
Medical Oncology	2	2
Nephrology	2	2
Neurology	5	9
Obstetrics/Gynecology	5	20
Orthopedic Surgery	5	14
Pediatrics	3-4	20
Psychiatry	5	26
Total		272

\* Discipline of Family Medicine

Currently the biggest change facing postgraduate medical education (PGME) is the implementation of Competency Based Medical Education (CBME), specifically Competence by Design for all specialty-based training. This change moves the focus from training based on a set number of years (typically up to five years of training after an MD), to focusing on the acquisition of specific skills, knowledge and attitudes relevant to the specialty. The Discipline of Family Medicine adopted this approach and continues to implement it since 2015.

CBME curricula have been introduced nationally, and will further strengthen the quality of training received. Currently, four Faculty of Medicine programs have successfully rolled out CBME, with additional programs scheduled in July 2019. For more information, visit: <https://www.med.mun.ca/CBME/Home.aspx>.

In addition to the new competency based curriculum, the introduction of a new accreditation process in 2019 will result in an evolution in accreditation standards, systems and processes. All programs fall under the umbrella of PGME for ongoing support and guidance, especially as they navigate through the current rapidly evolving postgraduate medical education environment.



## CURRICULUM REVIEW FINALIZED

December 2019 marked the completion of the Undergraduate Medical Education Curriculum Review.

In 2013-14, an integrated, spiral undergraduate medical education curriculum was launched at the Faculty of Medicine; developed to ensure coverage of the Medical Council of Canada objectives and the CanMEDS-based program competencies.

Three cohorts of learners have graduated from the new curriculum and, consistent with the Faculty of Medicine's Undergraduate Curriculum Review Policy, the Program Evaluation Sub Committee (PESC) was asked by the Undergraduate Medical Studies Committee (UGMS) to conduct a curriculum review, focusing on improvements to the existing curriculum.

The review team, formed in the spring of 2018, was co-chaired by Dr. Alan Goodridge, chair of PESC, and Ms. Gerona McGrath, education specialist with the Office of Professional and Educational Development. Members also included current PESC and non-PESC members.

"The timing of the review coincided with the implementation of the Faculty of Medicine's strategic plan, *Destination Excellence*, with many of the principles in the plan guiding the review process," noted Ms. McGrath.

The team considered existing evaluation data and solicited input from various stakeholder groups and individuals. "Our investigation was broad in the sense that we focused primarily on finding general areas of strength, areas for improvement and gaps in the curriculum," she added.

Based on the committee's findings, they made a series of recommendations focused on enhancing governance and improving communication as well as changing components of the undergraduate curriculum.

Strengths included:

- Faculty and staff who support and deliver the curriculum;
- Clinically competent, confident learners; and
- Highly rated early clinical experience and community visits.

There were areas for improvement. They related mainly to the management of the curriculum and communication of processes and procedures rather than to the actual content. The review also notes some gaps and redundancies in the curriculum such as:

- Reducing time on some topics to make room for others not currently covered
- The need to increase social accountability teaching
- The need to incorporate learner wellness topics like physician wellness sessions

**STRATEGIC PLAN  
PRIORITIES**

Among the recommendations, the review committee noted there should be a curriculum oversight working group; that the process related to curriculum management be clarified; and the titles of some courses should be changed to align with the approach used.

The Undergraduate Medical Education Curriculum Review final report has been submitted to UGMS for acceptance and implementation.

## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Our graduate students have been making an impact on an international scale, attending and participating in conferences around the globe; from Vancouver to Katmandu and places in between.

### GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL - 2018/19



This past year also saw some new faculty hires including:



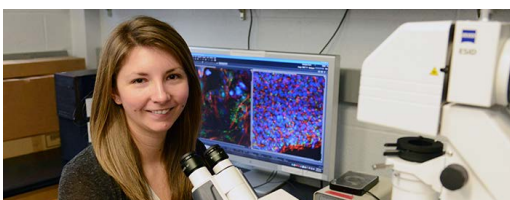
#### Dr. Brenda Wilson

Professor and associate dean, Division of Community Health and Humanities  
As a public health physician and health services researcher, Dr. Wilson's research interests include: the population and health system aspects of developments in genetics, genomics and precision health; and promoting evidence-based approaches to shared decision making about prevention and screening in primary care.



#### Dr. Touati Benoukraf

Canada Research Chair in Bioinformatics for Personalized Medicine  
Assistant professor, Discipline of Genetics  
Dr. Benoukraf focuses his research on pan-omics analytics with a particular interest in integrating genomics, epigenomics and microbiomics information to decipher novel pathophysiological mechanisms.



#### Dr. Jessica Esseltine

Assistant professor of cancer and development  
The focus of Dr. Esseltine's laboratory is to investigate cellular communication in pluripotent and adult stem cells.

# SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

## MEMORIAL 'S OPIOID AWARENESS AND SUPPORT TEAM

A Memorial student interest group is trying to make a difference in the ongoing opioid crisis.

According to a report published by the Government of Canada, there were approximately 4,000 apparent opioid-related deaths in the country in 2017, 92 per cent of which were accidental (unintentional).

Matthew Downer and members of the Opioid Awareness and Support Team (OAST) aim to see that number decrease, as well as increase knowledge and awareness of a range of opioid-related issues, by engaging with community partners to create a new network of education programs and awareness initiatives.

Last year, medical students presented a naloxone and opioid overdose awareness session to Memorial residence advisors, helping them recognize the signs of an overdose and how to respond and inform Campus Enforcement Patrol. The group of medical students included (from left to right): Luke Duffley, Brooke Turner, Matthew Downer, Dr. Allison, Kieran Lacey, Madison Lewis, Philip Hillier.

"On my placement in New Brunswick, I saw an increasing prevalence of opioid use and I thought this was a great opportunity to help spread awareness to better inform people in my community both here and back home." - Brooke Turner, MD student



<http://bit.ly/2AWrz5L>



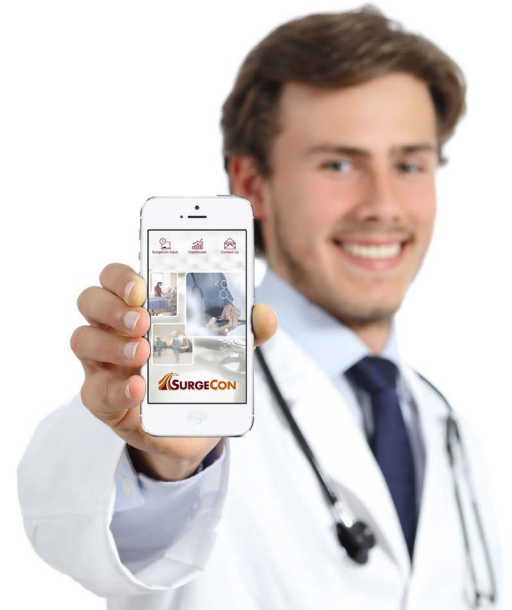
## THE NEXT WAVE IN EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE

A new app developed by a doctor and a nurse could help the flow of emergency rooms. Dr. Chris Patey, assistant professor of family medicine and Paul Norman, a registered nurse, have been working on a method to improve patient care in the emergency department at the Carbonear Hospital.

"We were working in an environment, like many other emergency services across the province, where there is an ever increasing volume of patients, and as the population gets older, the complexity of those patient's illness gets more complicated. So we started to think about ways to deliver care differently and challenge existing ideas," said Mr. Norman.

The duo decided to create a platform to help predict volume in the department. They recorded patient surges, the peaks and lows in real time, assigned them a value, and made decisions based on that data with an innovate app, called SurgeCon. After a positive initial testing phase, the team received a \$100,000 grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to fine-tune the app.

<https://gazette.mun.ca/research/anticipating-a-need/>



*"Emergency health care hasn't had much innovation, as it's a complicated space, but we see this app as a starting off point. We have a lot more ideas that we'd like to pursue."*  
~ Dr. Chris Patey.

## NEW FAMILY MEDICINE CLINIC

The Discipline of Family Medicine held a grand opening on Nov. 7, 2018 for their new clinic located at the Janeway Hostel at the Health Sciences Centre. Mr. John Abbott, deputy minister of Health and Community Services; Dr. Larry Alteen, vice president of Medical Services for Eastern Health; Dr. Kath Stringer, chair of Family Medicine; and Dean Margaret Steele brought greetings.

The new clinic was developed to allow for interprofessional activities, a refugee intake clinic, a general practice clinic and a maternity clinic.



# FUNDING AND AWARDS

## EYE ON INNOVATION

Two researchers were awarded more than \$3.8 million in federal funding through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA).

Dr. Proton Rahman, associate dean, Clinical Research and professor of medicine (Rheumatology), received a total of \$2,445,091. Memorial is partnering with the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information (NLCHI) to better utilize genetic information to diagnose disease and predict drug response to improve the lives of the people and communities it serves.

"Our vision is to develop an innovative platform that will allow us to efficiently utilize large amounts of genetic data to improve health outcomes for our patients and, at the same time, enhance pharmacogenetic research in the province," explained Dr. Rahman.



<http://bit.ly/2xmaWQd>

## MUN MED 3D NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

The Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) named the MUN MED 3D team winner of the 2019 John Ruedy Award for Innovation in Medical Education. The award is named in honour of Dr. John Ruedy, a former Dean of Medicine at Dalhousie University, and is awarded to an individual or group who has developed innovative print materials, electronic learning aids or other teaching aids.

Three years ago, MUN MED 3D was created by three medical students, Michael Bartellas, Travis Pickett and Dr. Stephen Ryan under the guidance of two faculty members, Drs. Adam Dubrowski, Gary Paterno. The MUN MED 3D team also includes Greg Walsh, project manager and engineer; Christine Goudie, research assistant and designer; and Nicole Bishop, research assistant.

<http://bit.ly/2SECrkD>



## NEW CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR

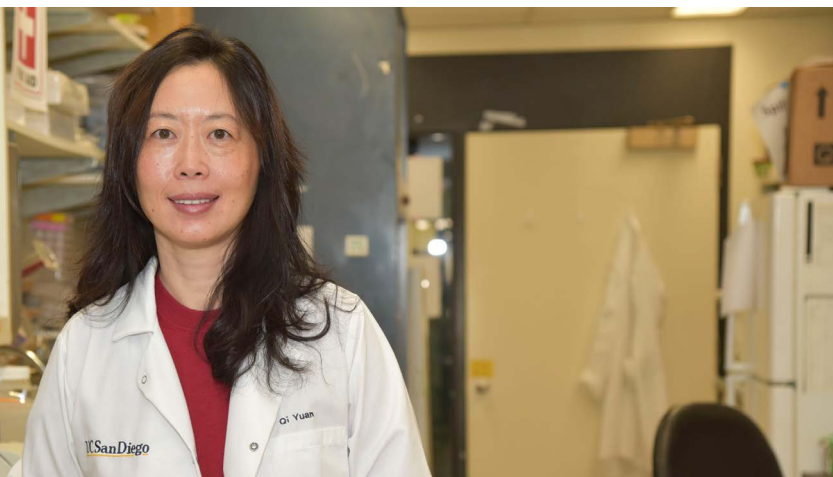
Dr. Touati Benoukraf has been appointed Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Bioinformatics for Personalized Medicine under new federal investments totalling more than \$4.5 million.

Dr. Benoukraf joined Memorial from the National University of Singapore. His research aims to generate and analyze individual genomic data sets to discover novel mechanisms involved in pathogenesis and therapeutic resistance.

"The Faculty of Medicine at Memorial goes beyond the clinic with its important computational infrastructure via the Translational and Personalized Medicine Initiative, which is an ideal environment for my research," said Dr. Benoukraf.

<http://bit.ly/2KII20G>

## INFUSION FOR INNOVATION



A number of researchers received funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) in October 2018.

### Discovery Grants

- Rodney Russell, BioMedical Sciences: Expanding the Genetic Code of Viruses
- Qi Yuan, BioMedical Sciences: L-type calcium channels in memory
- Laura Gillespie, BioMedical Sciences: Molecular characterization of the MIER2 and MIER3 transcriptional regulatory complexes

### Research Tools and Instruments Grants

- Craig Moore, BioMedical Sciences: Using Flow Cytometry to Elucidate Cell Phenotype and Function in Life Sciences Research

### NSERC Postgraduate Scholarships

Postgraduate Scholarships – Doctoral Program (PGS D – \$21,000 per year)

- Brandon Collins, PGSD3
- Evan Lockyer, PGSD3

### Canada Graduate Scholarships Masters (CGS M – \$17,500 per year)

- Erynn Button

<http://bit.ly/2JhSVHz>

## HIGH RISK, HIGH REWARD

Dr. Matthew Parsons (B.Sc.'04, M.Sc.'06, PhD'11) is being recognized for his transformative research to advance the understanding of the brain, in illness or health.

The assistant professor in the Division of BioMedical Sciences (neurosciences) received a \$100,000 Canadian Early-Career Capacity Building Grant from The Azrieli Foundation, in partnership with the Brain Canada Foundation. He is among 10 new recipients of the funding, which is supported by Health Canada through the Canada Brain Research Fund.



Dr. Parsons' funded project is titled, How Do Brain Cells Communicate and Why Do Some Cells Stop Talking to One Another?

"Most funding opportunities require the applicant to show a significant amount of preliminary data that support the hypothesis of the project. This requirement makes it difficult for a new lab to explore new territory and take risks – risks that often times lead to great discoveries."

<http://bit.ly/2lfbz46>



## LET'S TALK SEX-ED

Memorial University uses its first Grand Challenges grant to develop peer sexual education programs in Nepal.

Our Global Health Division has partnered with Worec Nepal, a women's rights organization, to develop a peer-to-peer education program for schools in Nepal. The project received a \$100,000 grant from Grand Challenges Canada, which is funded by the Government of Canada, and aims to improve adolescent access and uptake of reproductive health services in the country.

"World-wide, people are realizing that if we don't give adolescents the tools they need, they are at risk of numerous sexual health-related issues," said Dr. Jill Allison, Global Health coordinator. "So my colleague in Nepal, Dr. Laxmi Tamang, suggested the idea of peer education to help provide children with the information they need to make good reproductive and sexual health choices."

Dr. Allison believes that many adults in Nepal haven't had adequate access to sexual and reproductive health education. So, if they've been misinformed and carry that knowledge throughout their lives, they may be reluctant to share information that they don't believe in, even if it is part of the school curriculum.

"This project is a great opportunity for young people to become change agents of values in their own community."



<https://gazette.mun.ca/research/lets-talk-sex-ed/>

## DOUBLE HITTER

Two PhD students from the Faculty of Medicine received silver medals at the 2018 Canadian Student Health Research Forum in July 2018.

Hosted by the Max Rady College of Medicine at the University of Manitoba, the forum offered health science students the opportunity to network, learn about cutting-edge research from internationally renowned experts, and be recognized for their own outstanding scientific accomplishments.



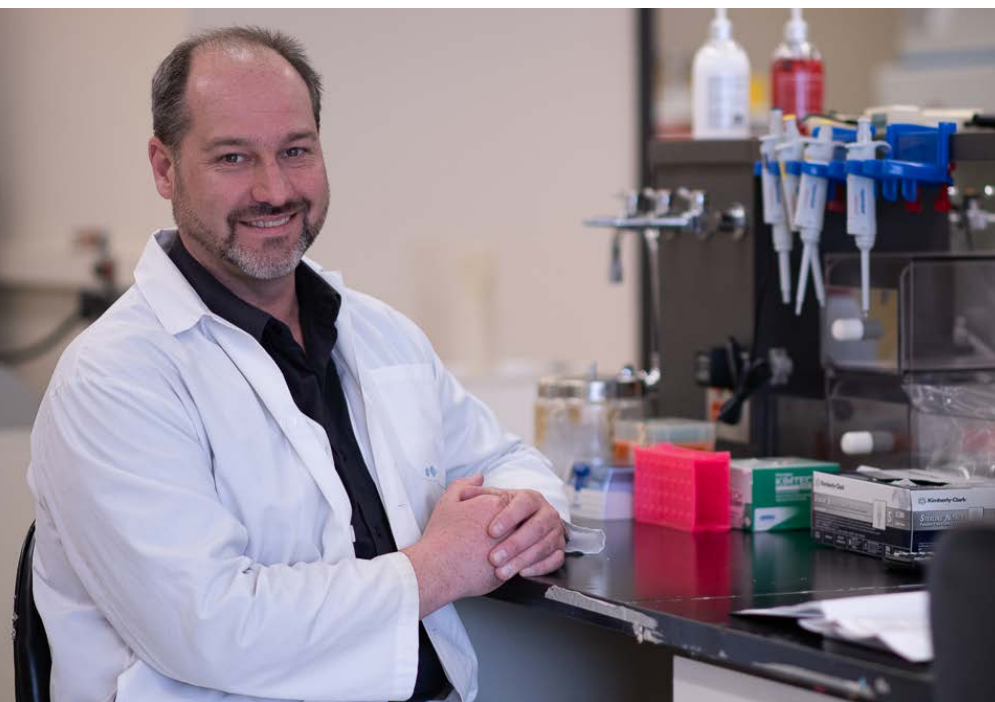
For the first time, two learners in the Division of BioMedical Sciences, Bandhan Mukherjee and Roya Derwish, won silver medals for their poster presentations.

"Sometimes when we work really hard, we think in our mind that no one is noticing our dedication and effort. But that's not true. This award is proof that some people are always watching," said Mr. Mukherjee, who is finishing his PhD in neuroscience. Ms. Derwish is in the final stages of her PhD in cancer and development.

<http://bit.ly/2LztpAN>



## HIGH IMPACT



Improving access to primary health care, a better understanding of the hepatitis C virus and enhancing access to mental health programming within Indigenous communities are projects that received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) this past year.

Dr. Rodney Russell, associate professor of immunology and infectious diseases, Division of BioMedical Sciences, received \$535,500 for a project entitled Analysis of Virus-Induced Mechanisms of Programmed Cell Death. Dr. Russell and his local and national collaborators want to better understand how viruses such as HCV cause multiple forms of cell death in virus-infected tissue.

Dr. Jennifer Shea, assistant professor of Aboriginal health, Division of Community Health and Humanities, received \$100,000 for a project focused on mental health and addictions in communities comprising the NunatuKavut Community Council in Labrador.

Dr. Shea's research is rooted in the local expertise from diverse stakeholders, including patients, families, health-care providers and community leaders. "This investment enables us to create and implement a culturally relevant and community-based mental health and addictions program to improve health and well-being for Southern Inuit peoples. Community members are the experts on the reality of mental health and addictions in NunatuKavut communities."

<http://bit.ly/2OftpEO>

## DEAN RECEIVES HIGH ACADEMIC HONOUR

Dean Margaret Steele has been elected as a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS).

Induction into the CAHS as a Fellow is considered one of the highest honours within Canada's academic community. CAHS Fellows, who serve as unpaid volunteers, are nominated by their institutions and peers and selected in a competitive process based on their internationally recognized leadership, academic performance, scientific creativity and willingness to serve.

Fellows are expected to be active in promoting improved health, health care and health-related policies, the latter criterion is particularly important in the nomination process. Selection places considerable emphasis on internationally recognized leadership and contributions that have meaningfully advanced the academic health sciences, health care, health policy or related impacts.

<http://bit.ly/2CYHrZY>

## RECOGNITION FOR A LIFETIME OF WORK

Dr. Jane Green, honorary research professor from the Discipline of Genetics, has been named as an Officer to the Order of Canada.

At the forefront of genetic research for nearly 40 years, Dr. Green's studies have led to numerous discoveries, including novel genes in Newfoundland and Labrador families, and a new understanding of pathways to development of cancer and blindness.



*"The recognition by the Order of Canada acknowledges that genetics research in Newfoundland and Labrador (N.L.) benefits families in this province, across Canada and even beyond," said Dr. Green, "I am proud that I have been able to work with so many families from N.L., and that they have welcomed me into their homes, shared their medical histories and provided many generations of family history information."*

<http://bit.ly/2SS5OiG>

## FAMILY PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR: DR. NORAH DUGGAN

Dr. Norah Duggan, Discipline of Family Medicine, was awarded the 2018-2019 NL College of Family Physicians family physician of the year award. The Reg L. Perkins Award recognizes family physicians who exemplify the best of what being a family doctor is all about.

Dr. Duggan (MD'95) is an associate professor with a practice at the Shea Heights Community Health Centre. Dr. Duggan received her award at the Family Medicine Conference in Gander in October.

<http://bit.ly/2PbLtmo>

## PALLIATIVE CARE PIONEER RECOGNIZED

Dr. Susan MacDonald believes people should be able to choose how they die and she's devoted her medical career to the cause; bringing national attention to palliative care.

Because of her dedication, the associate professor was awarded a Founders Designation by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (Royal College) for developing a palliative medicine subspecialty.

"Palliative medicine chose me," said Dr. MacDonald. "I've devoted my career to educating my fellow physicians, nurses and health care professionals about realistic decision making at end of life. I want clinicians to understand that death is a normal part of living and that all of us have choices about how we die."

Founder Designations are permanent recognition of Fellows who have been instrumental in the creation of a new discipline approved by the Royal College. Dr. MacDonald is one of only four College of Family Physicians Canada members to be recognized as a Founder.

<http://bit.ly/2K4APsJ>

## OUTSTANDING SELF-DIRECTED LEARNER

MD student Matthew Downer was awarded the 2018 Memorial University Award for Outstanding Self-directed Learning.

Mr. Downer completed a Bachelor of Science degree (psychology) at Memorial in 2017. By following his interests and focusing on activities he is passionate about, Mr. Downer was able to navigate through his self-directed learning experience which resulted in tremendous personal, academic and professional growth.

Mr. Downer volunteers for the St. John's Special Olympics. Since starting the MD program, he has also volunteered in Dr. Michelle Ploughman's Recovery and Performance Lab where he designed and conducted his own research project for which he received funding from the MS Society of Canada endMS Research and Training Network and published his results in the Journal Human Movement Science.

The Memorial University Award for Outstanding Self-directed Learning celebrates undergraduate students with the qualities and skills that enable them to manage their own learning and successfully undertake self-directed learning projects during their formal studies.

<https://gazette.mun.ca/teaching-and-learning/self-directed-learning/>



## ADDING TO THE HALL OF FAME

The Faculty of Medicine has another Canadian Hall of Fame recipient hanging on the wall.

Travis Pickett has been awarded the Jim Glionna Canadian Medical Hall of Fame (CMHF) Award. A prestigious honour for the doctor of medicine student who says when he found out, "It was as if I had been accepted to medical school all over again. I was absolutely exhilarated!"

In his application letter, Mr. Pickett says he was Inspired by 2018 Laureate Dr. Balfour Mount, a pioneer in palliative care. "Dr. Mount was a practicing surgical oncologist but identified an important need in our society and shifted his entire career toward making that need happen effectively. This inherent drive inspires my own desire to create positive change. It shows me that if you want to make something meaningful happen, you need to be dedicated, have your boots on the ground and be ready to work through any hurdle that may arise."

Mr. Pickett is hoping to pursue a career in surgery. "My hope is that this award will allow me to connect with leaders in health across Canada who will serve as a constant inspiration to keep innovating within my fields of interest. To me, receiving this award also means that our Faculty of Medicine at Memorial values and, most importantly, supports scientific exploration, as well as artistic endeavors in medicine."

Mr. Pickett joins previous students Drs. Desmond Whelan (2015), Anthony Maher (2016) and Michael Bartellas (2017) as Canadian Medical Hall of Fame award recipients.

<https://gazette.mun.ca/student-life/adding-to-the-hall-of-fame/>



*"It was as if I had been accepted to medical school all over again. I was absolutely exhilarated!"*

## FACULTY RECOGNIZED FOR HER PASSION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION

Dr. Taryn Hearn, associate professor of psychiatry, was awarded a Canadian Association for Medical Education (CAME) certificate of merit; an award that promotes, recognizes and rewards faculty committed to medical education in Canadian medical schools.

Dr. Hearn is also a general adult psychiatrist at the Waterford Hospital, Eastern Health and the faculty accreditation lead for undergraduate medical accreditation at Memorial.

She chaired the Interim Accreditation Review Committee and the Interim Accreditation Review, and is chairing the Accreditation Oversight Committee at the faculty.

Dr. Hearn says she is very passionate about training high quality physicians. "I especially enjoy working at the undergraduate level to guide the early development of our trainees and with accreditation, I contribute to the continuous quality improvement of our medical school."

<http://bit.ly/2SJSTAy>



## REPRESENTING NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

One of Memorial University's most prominent faculty members has been appointed as an independent senator with the Government of Canada.

Dr. Mohamed Ravalia is a retired associate professor of family medicine and former assistant dean of the Faculty of Medicine's Rural Medical Education Network (RMEN). He has been based at the Notre Dame Bay Memorial Health Centre in Twillingate for more than 30 years.



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the Senate appointment in June 2018 after a recommendation from the independent advisory board for Senate appointments to fill a vacancy in Newfoundland and Labrador.

<http://bit.ly/2WHi186>

## A PERFECT RUN

Dr. Michael Grant, professor of immunology, Division of BioMedical Sciences, is the 2018 Hardy Cinader Award recipient from the Canadian Society for Immunology (CSI).

Named in honour of Dr. Hardy Cinader, the award is presented to an immunologist working in Canada who is an exceptional researcher that possess an extra "je ne sais quoi."

"To be recognized by my peers within the Canadian Society for Immunology as someone deserving of this award is a high point of my career, and having my name recorded alongside past winners I truly admire is a tremendous honour," said Dr. Grant.

Dr. Grant studies the immunology of chronic viral infection with a focus on human immunodeficiency virus, hepatitis C virus and cytomegalovirus. His research goal is to develop immune-based strategies that slow the onset of immune senescence and limit the need for antiviral drugs.

<http://bit.ly/2JSYFtU>

## RESIDENT RECOGNIZED FOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY PROGRAM

Dr. Samantha Dubé was presented with the Dr. James T. Dunne Resident of the Year award in June 2018.

"I've worked very hard these past five years trying to learn, improve on my skill as well as teach our junior residents and medical students so it's rewarding to have that recognized," said Dr. Dubé, a Postgraduate Year 5 (PGY5) at the time.

The Dr. James T. Dunne Resident of the Year was established by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the family of the late Dr. Dunne, an obstetrician and gynecologist with a legacy for drawing out the very best in residents and for celebrating resident achievements.

Dr. Dubé is known for her impeccable work ethic, contribution to resident morale and enthusiasm for advancing women's health. She will be heading to Université de Montréal in July to begin her fellowship in gynecological oncology.

<http://bit.ly/2IKuh26>

## TOP CANADIAN HONOUR

A team of researchers received the Governor General's Innovation Award for their ground breaking discovery that's saving the lives of those affected by a deadly genetic disease. Drs. Terry-Lynn Young, Kathy Hodgkinson, Sean Connors and Daryl Pullman are the first recipients from Memorial to receive this prestigious award.

They are being recognized for the discovery and treatment of a cardiac muscle disorder known as arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC). ARVC, a rare heart arrhythmia, is often referred to by family members as "The Newfoundland Curse." It has affected families for hundreds of years. The group has also spearheaded the establishment of life-saving screening methods and changes to important health legislation.

"Receiving the Governor General's Innovation Award brings recognition to the interdisciplinary teamwork we have been leading for more than a decade," the researchers said in a group statement. "It is incredibly gratifying to receive this distinction. Our research is meaningful because of the lives we've touched and legislation that's been enacted because of our work. We thank the many patients and families we have had the opportunity to collaborate with as well as our researcher partners at Memorial."

The Governor General's Innovation Award is Canada's highest honour for innovation. It recognizes and celebrates outstanding Canadian individuals, teams and organizations who's exceptional and transformative work help shape our future and positively impact our quality of life.

<https://gazette.mun.ca/research/top-canadian-honour/>



# NEWS THAT GOT ATTENTION IN 2018/2019

## **Masters student presents HIV research**

April 9, 2018

Graduate student Emilie Comeau will be presenting her research at the 2018 Canadian Association for HIV Research (CAHR) Conference thanks to a travel award from the Mark Wainberg Fund.

<http://bit.ly/2IB1Qlu>

## **International conference win for MD student**

April 27, 2018

Medical student, Maria Doyle, is doing some pretty original research and she's got the recognition to prove it.

<http://bit.ly/2qZSSbl>

## **De-implementing low value health care**

July 26, 2018

Up to 30 per cent of tests and treatments given to patients are not needed. This can lead to significant inconvenience and potential harm for patients without any benefit in addition to wasting money for patients and the health system. A new research network looking at solutions for de-implementing this low value care received a boost in funding recently.

<http://bit.ly/2MNSg67>

## **The doctor is in: Preparing residents for rural practice**

October 10, 2018

When the area he grew up in was hit hard by Hurricane Igor in 2010, Dr. Desmond Whalen went home to help in the storm's aftermath.

<http://bit.ly/2yDo577>

## **New research shows stroke patients should get active**

October 19, 2018

A study by Dr. Michelle Ploughman shows that aerobic exercise combined with cognitive training can make a significant difference for stroke patients.

<http://bit.ly/2R4vNin>

## **Roadside to beach-side**

October 25, 2018

Susan Stuckless used to play ball hockey in the streets of Herring Neck, N.L. Little did she know those games would lead her to a gold medal.

<http://bit.ly/2Au71mm>

## **Behind the scenes heroes**

November 21, 2018

While Memorial's Campus and Enforcement Patrol (CEP) officers usually have pretty routine days, one Tuesday in October was anything but ordinary.

<http://bit.ly/2AbMm4X>

## **Fall 2018 MUNMED magazine is online!**

<http://bit.ly/2Pnx2If>



### **Leading the charge**

November 28, 2018

The Faculty of Medicine's Dr. Jill Allison is among an international group of women recognized for their achievements and expertise in global health.

<http://bit.ly/2Qcovgw>

### **Poster boys**

January 8, 2019

A PhD candidate and graduate student from the Faculty of Medicine have both taken home best poster awards at recent competitions.

<http://bit.ly/2WueNJq>

### **Medal awarded for humanitarian work**

January 28, 2019

Dr. Jeremy Pridham recently received a special award for his community work. At a special ceremony on Nov. 30, 2018, Dr. Pridham received a Senate 150th Medal.

<http://bit.ly/2DDHhW1>

### **No looking back: How a research breakthrough is giving back control —and hope — to MS patients**

January 17, 2019

Over the years, Jennifer Archer watched as her mother and her grandmother succumbed to the symptoms of multiple sclerosis (MS). So when she, too, was diagnosed with the disease 30 years ago, she knew what her fate would be. Or, at least she thought she did. Then Ms. Archer met Dr. Michelle Ploughman and her team at Memorial's Faculty of Medicine.

<http://bit.ly/2TTCpBq>

### **MED 3D Network takes home innovation award**

February 15, 2019

The Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) named the MUN MED 3D team winner of the 2019 John Ruedy Award for Innovation in Medical Education.

<http://bit.ly/2SECrkD>

### **Graduate student wins platinum for volunteering**

March 21, 2019

Growing up in the small community of Bell Island, Leah Curnew saw the gaps in scientific leadership, literacy and engagement. That's what prompted her love of mentoring.

<http://bit.ly/2U2IPTJ>

### **The job's not done**

March 7, 2019

Personal connection pushes researcher to do it 'for this family'

Dr. Mani Larijani has had one constant relationship throughout his career as a university professor: an enzyme called activation induced deaminase, or AID.

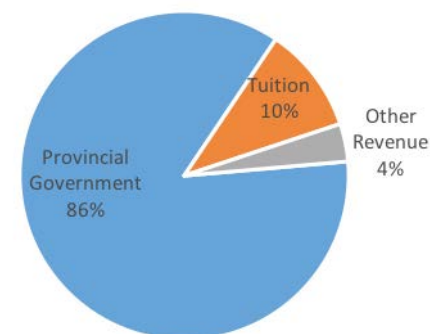
<http://bit.ly/2H5nOAt>

# ADMINISTRATIVE OVERVIEW 2018-2019

In 2018/19, the Faculty of Medicine received more than \$20 million in research awards and earned \$69 million in operating revenues, including a \$4.7 million stabilization payment from the Department of Health & Community Services. As of March 31, 2019, the faculty had an annual operating surplus of \$142,282.

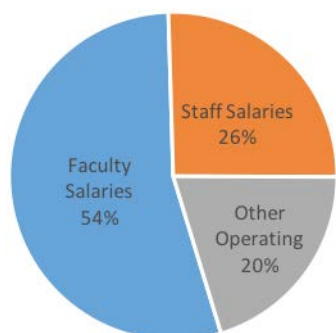
## 2018-19

- 321 medical students
- 299 postgraduate residents
- 360 graduate students per year
- 348 staff
- 1,444 faculty



### Other Revenue is comprised of:

- Deferred capital revenue
- External recoveries
- CSAT assessment fees
- Library services
- Research overhead
- Student services fees



### Other Operating is comprised of:

- Security/maintenance/repairs
- Utilities/infrastructure costs
- Reference books/materials
- Materials and supplies
- Travel/hosting
- Professional fees
- Internal transfers

## Faculty

Discipline/Department	Full time	Part time
Anesthesia	12	62
BioMedical Sciences	29	10
Community Health and Humanities	21	22
Emergency Medicine	8	54
Family Medicine	33	379
Genetics	8	12
Laboratory Medicine	10	42
Medicine	58	183
Obstetrics and Gynecology	15	45
Oncology	8	22
Pediatrics	23	76
Psychiatry	21	75
Radiology	5	53
Surgery	13	139
Health Sciences Library	6	0

## Staff

Discipline	Contractual	Permanent
Anesthesia	0	2
BioMedical Sciences	2	8
Community Health and Humanities	0	14
Emergency Medicine	1	1
Family Medicine	8	18
Genetics	0	1
Laboratory Medicine	0	2
Medicine	0	8
Obstetrics and Gynecology	0	2
Oncology	1	1
Pediatrics	1	2
Psychiatry	0	3
Radiology	1	3
Surgery	0	3
Health Sciences Library	1	14
Student Services	14	22
Research	99	0
Multi-Disciplinary Laboratories	0	11
Educational Development	15	17
Administrative Services	2	14
Dean's Office	0	7
HSIMS	12	25
CLSC	2	11



Memorial University of Newfoundland is a community of more than 18,000 students and about 5,000 faculty and staff. Founded in 1925, the institution is a living memorial to the Newfoundlanders and Labradorians who lost their lives in the First and Second World Wars.

Memorial provides excellent undergraduate, postgraduate, graduate and professional programs in a vast array of diverse disciplines. Outstanding research and scholarship, extraordinary teaching and a focus on community service are the university's hallmarks. Many teaching and research activities reflect our mid-North Atlantic locations; these unique settings and our cultural heritage have led to the creation of highly-regarded academic programs and specialized facilities in areas such as music, linguistics, folklore and human genetics, as well as earth sciences, cold-ocean engineering, rural health care and archaeology.

Providing a comprehensive range of undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, the university delivers courses at four diverse campuses, complemented by extensive online offerings.