

in

Focus



SPRING 2001

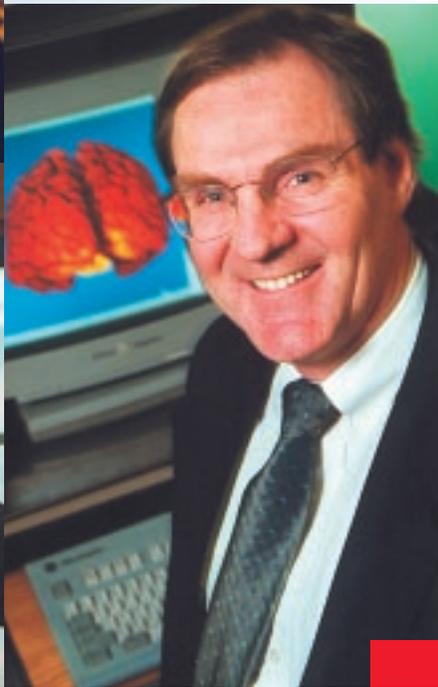
# MEDICINE

*edition*

McGill



*Getting the green light from CFI*



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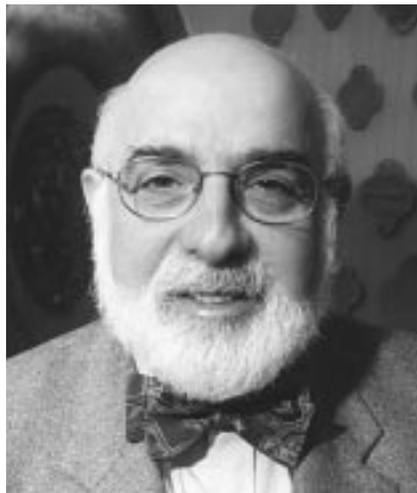
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*Dean of the Faculty of  
Medicine, Abraham Fuks*

## Dear Graduates and Friends,

**T**he past year has been an exciting and busy time for the faculty and staff of McGill's Faculty of Medicine. The coming months promise to be equally stimulating and engaging as we enter a period of recruitment and renewal.

The first item of good news that I would like to share with you is the increasing enrolment of the first-year medical class over the past three years. The Province of Quebec has responded to our request that more applicants be admitted to the program, and this year we have 129 medical students in the first-year class. This is a very significant increase from the low point of three years ago. At the same time, this rise in enrolment requires us to make adjustments to our curriculum and to the organization of teaching activities so that we can maintain our high quality of medical education with a larger class size. In particular, we have already made changes to ensure that we continue to work directly with students in teaching. This direct and individualized contact with students is the foundation of our high-quality curriculum.

I am also pleased to report that our first- and second-year medical students have taken the initiative to help us improve the recruitment and admissions process. They now play host to students who come to McGill for interviews, take them along to sample a medical lecture or small group session and introduce them to the Montreal environment. Their efforts are helping us make the Faculty of Medicine more attractive to the best candidates from throughout North America. The Admissions office has enjoyed working with our young "recruiters."

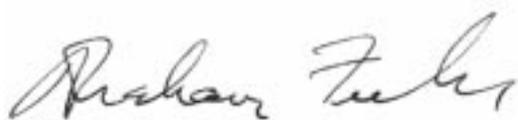
Our Faculty Development Program continues to ensure that our professors are able to maintain their high standard of teaching. This program allows our faculty to upgrade their skills in small group teaching, for example, and in the use of new computer technologies to enhance our pedagogical strategies. In addition, we continue our newly instituted program to recognize the very best teachers in our Faculty. Finally, we are very proud that a member of the Faculty of Medicine, Professor Ann Wechsler, MSc'59, PhD'62, from the Department of Physiology, was one of the winners of the Principal's Prize for Teaching, inaugurated this past year.

A long period of budget cuts and of restrictions on our ability to recruit the next generation of professors has finally come to an end. This past year marks the first time in many years that we have not experienced a cut to our operating budget. This, together with the expansion of research funding from the Canada Research Chairs, the Canadian Institutes for Health Research and the Canada Foundation for Innovation, allows us to launch a period of renewal and recruitment of young professors to the Faculty. Many of these programs entail a greater set of challenges and workload for our faculty and staff but the outcomes are rewarding. Our Faculty of Medicine and its teaching hospital network were exceptionally successful in receiving grants from the Canada Foundation for Innovation this past year. This will permit us to expand our research efforts in genomics, proteomics and health services research, to cite but three examples.

One of the challenges for the Faculty of Medicine is making sure that the initiatives of basic scientists interface well with those of clinical scientists and physicians. We have been actively developing interdisciplinary strategic research themes around which to focus our renewal efforts. At the same time, we are actively developing interfaces between our Basic Science Departments and our Clinical Units so that our strategic research initiatives cross departmental and institutional boundaries. Our objective remains to understand human biology and to use this knowledge to predict, treat and prevent human illness and suffering. It is clear that new technologies and research strategies will lead to innovative and fruitful approaches to the treatment and prevention of disease. Our current challenge is to develop the programs and recruit the "brain power" that will accomplish our objectives. It is clear that a major challenge for all Canadian research establishments will be the competition for the very best young talent available throughout the world. Our recruitment process began last summer and we are well positioned to succeed in attracting the finest young assistant professors to McGill.

An interesting development in the expansion of research funding in Canada has been the extension of efforts beyond the traditional spheres of basic biomedical research to broader areas of interest. These include the sectors of health services and health outcomes research. In other words, it is not sufficient to develop new methods of treating illness; we must discover the most effective means to deploy them in the community. This is one of the responsibilities of the Faculty of Medicine and, indeed the University, to our society and we are proud of the research endeavours that we have developed to address these questions. Research teams of physicians, scientists, epidemiologists and statisticians now include allied health professionals from the domains of nursing, psychology, rehabilitation medicine and social work. These groups can best address the questions relevant to preventive medicine and to the support of healthy behaviours amongst patients and physicians.

We are therefore enthusiastic about the opportunities and challenges that we face over the next several years. I would like to stress once again that our success depends in no small part on your commitment to medicine at McGill. Your support has been critical in helping us to develop our Faculty, to maintain our world-renowned capacity to train young men and women for a career in medicine and other health-related professions, and to carry out the biomedical and health-oriented research that will contribute to the understanding of disease and the prevention of illness.



Abraham Fuks, BSc'68, MDCM'70  
Dean  
Faculty of Medicine

## COMING EVENTS IN THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE

May 23, 2001  
Health Sciences Convocation

May 24, 2001  
Faculty Development Workshop  
on Leadership Skills for  
Health Care Professionals:  
Strategies for Managing Change

June 14, 2001  
Annual Symposium on Education  
in the Health Sciences, honouring  
the individuals named to  
the Faculty Honour List  
for Educational Excellence

June 27, 2001  
Collège des Médecins du Québec's  
swearing-in ceremony  
for residents who have chosen  
to practice in Quebec

August 15, 2001  
Registration and orientation for  
the students accepted in Med-1

## MEDICAL SCHOOL APPLICATION DEADLINES FOR AUGUST 2002

November 15, 2001  
for applicants whose residence  
is outside Quebec

November 15, 2001  
for all applicants to the MD-PhD  
and MD-MBA programs

January 15, 2002  
for residents of Quebec applying  
to the four-year program

March 1, 2002  
for residents of Quebec applying  
to the Med-P program

# *CFI gives the green light to some exciting projects in Medicine*

In the most recent round of Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) grants, McGill emerged as the big winner, garnering \$61 million of the \$354.3 million distributed by the granting agency. And the lion's share of that amount has landed in the Faculty of Medicine, where it will finance projects in biomedical science, clinical research, and health care research and epidemiology. In addition, the Quebec government will be matching CFI funds, so that the Faculty will be able to make some important moves in developing an infrastructure to address new concerns in research and health care.

"Canadian granting agencies have traditionally been somewhat restrained and conservative," says Dean of Medicine Abraham Fuks. But the CFI grants will result in a significant infusion of funds that will allow the Faculty to perform some major renovations on its infrastructure. "For instance, we will be able to buy multiple pieces of equipment instead of simply one piece at a time," points out Dean Fuks. This will allow McGill to develop state-of-the-art facilities, such as the new Brain Imaging Centre, that will be competitive with the very best international laboratories. "Science doesn't respect borders," he notes, "and we are competing with the best talent in the U.S., England and the rest of the world. American laboratories are able to acquire large grants and the latest equipment. We need a similar infrastructure if we are going to be at the cutting edge."

The CFI grants are also welcome news in light of the ever-increasing cost of equipment. Although good ideas still lie at the heart of professional research, to implement those ideas our Faculty needs the advanced hardware being developed by medical engineers and computer scientists. This machinery is not inexpensive; a Positron Emission Tomography machine, for example, costs \$3 million U.S.

Most CFI grants also are tied to new ways of envisioning academic research. Successful grant applications simply do not originate from one person or represent a single research project. Instead, most successful applications are interdisciplinary and multi-institutional. A successful CFI application certainly needs leadership from the major investigator, but the input of a whole team of people is what marks a winning effort. A number of Medicine's projects include engineers and computer scientists working on developing new approaches in conjunction with medical staff. Says John Bergeron, head of the new proteomics research effort centred at McGill, "The project is very interdisciplinary. We've got engineering graduate students working alongside medical researchers." The new projects also draw on knowledge and resources from across the province and the country. Alan Evans, describing the new Brain Imaging Centre, based primarily at the Montreal Neurological Institute but involving researchers from across the country and even from Cuba, says, "We're very excited about the multi-institutional network model. Traditionally, the University of Montreal and McGill don't talk to each other in this field. It's an exciting opportunity." Evans' point is echoed by Dean Fuks, who notes that "the degree of cooperation with institutions like the University of Montreal is new for us at this level."

*"...the project is very interdisciplinary.  
We've got engineering graduate students  
working alongside medical researchers."*

“...We will be able to develop highly qualified personnel who will spread knowledge and new methodologies through the academic community, hospitals and industrial partners.”

In addition to the benefit accruing to partner universities and research institutes, there will be a spin-off into the private research sector. Says Bergeron, “We will be able to develop highly qualified personnel who will spread knowledge and new methodologies through the academic community, hospitals and industrial partners. This is already happening; coincident with our CFI grant, many new companies have sprung up. This kind of work attracts huge amounts of venture capital.” Academic efforts will thus spearhead technological change and take it into the marketplace.

Luc Vinet, McGill’s Vice-Principal (Academic), emphasizes that the substantial CFI funding is important in that it provides both McGill and Montreal “with an extraordinary infrastructure and fantastic research advances.” One aspect is the capacity to nurture new ventures in the marketplace. “In genomics and proteomics, for instance, we will have facilities that will be used part of the time by industry,” says Vinet. “Moreover, we will have incubators for launching new companies.”

While the CFI grants provide a new infrastructure for the Faculty, Canada Research Chairs will help lure the brains. The new CIHR programs will provide operating funds, and will also increase funds for the training of new scientists and postdoctoral fellows. “We may over the next five years have increased resources for doing research,” points out Dean Fuks, “but we have to increase the pipeline of talent to do the research. We can import some, but we also need to develop our own talent. I believe we’ll see an expansion of training programs, scholarships and other training resources.”

Accommodating the new infrastructure and the young faculty and research fellows that McGill is recruiting and developing will provide yet another major challenge. “We are facing a space shortage,” the Dean admits. Some buildings will be expanded – the Montreal Neurological Institute, for instance, will add space to fit the expanded resources of the Brain Imaging Centre, and the new Genomics building will house research into DNA and proteins. But while space requirements will likely be a concern for the Faculty, it is at least one that results from the Faculty’s successes.

The amount and breadth of new money coming into the Faculty will result in a comprehensive enhancement of the medical research programs at McGill. Says Dean Fuks, “It will increase by a major factor not only our activity, but also its significance and impact on Canadian biomedical, health science and health care research.”

Despite the attendant concerns of space, recruitment, and just managing the recent successes in the grant competitions, the new possibilities are the best thing the Faculty could experience – and, as the Dean notes, his pleasure shining through, “It’s fun.”

“...I believe we’ll see an expansion of training programs, scholarships and other training resources.”

# Some CFI Success Stories



*Dr. Robyn Tamblin, PhD '89, is project coordinator for the Quebec Integrated Health Care and Research Network.*

## Delivering Health: The New Millennium Model for Health Care and Research

“The Quebec Integrated Health Care and Research Network is a truly grassroots project,” says epidemiologist Robyn Tamblin, PhD’89. Her team, which includes representatives from several Quebec universities, has received \$11.3 million from the CFI to develop a technological infrastructure that will integrate 29 medical databases across Quebec. According to Tamblin, this network could dramatically improve the delivery of patient care, and at the same time enrich McGill’s capacity for clinical, health care and population research.

Tamblin hopes the new infrastructure will provide access to the sort of information that researchers currently must put in many months of hard labour to procure. “Say I want to look at a new drug; perhaps there is some concern about hypoglycemia. I need to know who has been on the drug. Then, suppose I can find out if they were drivers, and then if they proved more likely to have car crashes.” This type of information often exists, but it would take a dedicated researcher a year of visiting various ministries to get it.

The goal of the four-year project headed by Tamblin is to get a solid prototype in place so that it can grow to a province-wide infrastructure. The initial focus of the project will be on the “big killers,” Tamblin says. “We’re trying to get the best bang for our buck by picking areas where we know there are a lot of problems in the care area, or where there is such a huge knowledge explosion that people cannot keep up.”

Eventually the health care consumer will benefit. Imagining the future, Tamblin hypothesizes an asthma patient interacting with the database. The patient purchases medication; if this patient is making numerous purchases, indicating that his condition is flaring up, the program will flag him as being at risk and prompt an emergency appointment with a physician. As well, the latest clinical results will be feeding the patient’s individualized program, so that the attending physician will always have access to the most recent work in the field, including the latest treatments. It’s not here yet, but this possible future of integrated and efficient health care is coming closer.

## Rigging the Research Lottery: McGill’s new high-throughput proteomics research facility

Every answer stimulates new questions; mapping the human genome requires that we now map the proteins that make up each gene, if we are to understand what genes do and how they work. Dr. John Bergeron, BSc’66, heads the Montreal Network for Pharmacoproteomics and Structural Genomics. This is a multi-institutional coalition that has received a CFI grant of \$9.53 million, along with funding from Genome Quebec, Genome Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), to interpret the protein complements of the human genome.

Proteomics involves the characterization of the protein product of genes, which enables researchers to acquire information about the gene’s function.

“This process is important when you are trying to understand a disease pathway or the function of a gene whose properties are uncharacterized,” explains Bergeron. “We can compare normal and diseased proteins, or those that have been drug-treated to identify a target. And we can pick out

very quickly only those proteins that are relevant, from a sea of those that are not.”

The human genome sequencing was made possible by robots and other examples of engineering brilliance, and proteomics will require the same. “The engineers, mathematicians and bioinformaticians are going to play the key role in making sure all of this works. We’ve never had this kind of close interaction before,” says Bergeron.

Enter the CFI grant, which allows the purchase of new technology to build a research network across the island of Montreal. Says Bergeron, “The CFI is allowing us to bring everything to Montreal, centralize those parts that are centralizable, enable a critical mass of separation methodologies to be set up around Montreal but feeding into the centralized facility, and then allowing for highly detailed 3-D analysis of the proteins.” Certain aspects, such as the mass spectrometer facilities, will be centralized at McGill; there will be eight sub-centres, dispersed across the island of



*Professor Alan Evans heads the Montreal Consortium for Brain Imaging Research.*

## McConnell Brain Imaging Centre: Mapping the Brain

In 1848, a tamping iron was accidentally driven through Phineas Gage's cranium, but he lived. His accident, however unfortunate for Mr. Gage, opened new pathways into brain research. Today, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (which maps the physical structure of the brain) and Positron Emission Tomography (which shows functional activity as the brain carries out tasks) have eliminated the need for such intrusive methodologies to light the path of science. The McConnell Brain Imaging Centre, based at the Montreal Neurological Institute, is a global leader in mapping the brain and tracking its functions. It is also a primary beneficiary of a CFI grant for \$11.6 million awarded to the Montreal Consortium for Brain Imaging Research, in which the MNI works in conjunction with several other Quebec universities and research centres.

Genomics forms one focus of the consortium. What does genetic information do? How does it affect the organism? Often a disease can be a single defect in an enzyme, although more commonly they are multitrait phenomena, says Professor Alan Evans, the Centre's Lab Director and head of the consortium. Brain imaging could help identify some of the neurological characteristics and consequences associated with dementia, depression, mood disorders or autism. And, in conjunction with structural genomics research, it could also aid

in the identification of genes associated with these conditions.

The project also involves a database of brain image information. "We want to create a database of brain image data from very large numbers of individual subjects," says Evans. "We have the computational wherewithal with this award to build in Montreal a global database of brain imaging information that we can pass on to the world community." High-level research demands a large database against which to compare subjects, and the CFI allows the consortium to develop just that.

The CFI grant will go primarily to developing the infrastructure for the Brain Imaging Centre. "We have to retool everything," says Evans. The CFI program will enable the consortium to make extensive purchases of costly new equipment (each MRI machine costs in the neighbourhood of \$3 million), essentially rebuilding the image acquisition and analysis infrastructure of the Centre. This equipment will enable the Centre to carry out considerably more research with the latest technologies. With more and better equipment, the partners in the consortium will be able to investigate the brain under a wide variety of conditions and pathologies.

Ultimately, the grant will make the Centre the largest brain imaging facility in the world, and arguably the best.



*Dr. John Bergeron, BSc '66, heads the Montreal Network for Pharmacology-Proteomics and Structural Genomics.*

Montreal, where researchers will perform the first stage of separating and characterizing proteins. Their analyses will be sent to the University of Montreal, which has a centralized facility to map the products of this research. From that map of protein structure and characteristics, the key samples will be fed into McGill's mass spectrometry facility, which identifies the masses of each of the protein fragments, thus characterizing – that is, identifying and describing – the protein. The bioinformatics facility – a research manager and a database – is linked to workstations across the island, coordinating the computer analysis of imaging as well as the mass spectrometry. There is also a new infrastructure for X-ray crystallography at McGill, which will enable researchers to understand the three-dimensional make-up of proteins. The network and all of its components – from the individual research stations with robotic and two-dimensional characterization facilities, to the

mass spectrometry X-ray crystallography equipment at McGill – is being funded by the CFI and related monies.

The new centre will be the second in Canada; there are, according to Bergeron, a number of facilities in the United States and especially in Japan, where proteomics has been identified as the tsunami, so to speak, of the future. Says Bergeron, "The facility ensures that we won't be left behind in the proteomics revolution."

The advanced technology greatly speeds up the process of proteomic research. "In the past, one would make a career studying one gene or protein," explains Bergeron. "This methodology allows us to sample all proteins and focus on those that we think are relevant to the medical problem we are studying. Instead of buying a 6/49 ticket and hoping that your ticket is the one that will be meaningful, this allows us to have on our desk every single possible 6/49 ticket."

# Teaching and Learning

## Medical education for the masses: the Mini-Med School is coming to McGill

**M**edicine is a hot topic. Studies suggest that a third of people surfing the Web are looking for health-related information. One outgrowth of this public thirst for medical knowledge is the Mini-Med School, a public education initiative developed 13 years ago at the University of Colorado by McGill graduate Dr. John Cohen, BSc'59, MSc'60, PhD'64, MDCM'68. Since then, about seventy "Mini-Med Schools" have sprouted across the U.S.

Through the Office of Professional Development and Continuing Medical Education, the Faculty of Medicine will begin offering its own Mini-Med School in the coming academic year. It will be the first in Canada.

The Mini-Med School will consist of eight weeks of lectures that will mirror the medical curriculum but be presented at an accessible level. The Faculty will select some of its best teachers to come up with one-hour presentations on topics from the curriculum, for example, anatomy or heart disease. Each lecture will build on the previous one, and participants will receive a "Mini-Med Diploma" at the end of the series.

"Our motivation is to give something back to the public, to tell them something about what we do, and to invite them to come to the Faculty of Medicine," says Dr. Melvin Schloss, Associate Dean of Continuing Medical Education, who arranged, along with Dr. Yvonne Steinert, Associate Dean for Faculty Development, for Cohen to speak about mini-med schools to the Faculty. McGill will be targeting students attending Collèges d'enseignement général et professionnel (CEGEPs, the Quebec variation on the junior college) especially, as one means of bolstering recruitment for the undergraduate program.

Enthusiasm for the series is spreading among medical students and residents. Dr. Annabelle Cumyn, BSc'93, MDCM'97, a fourth-year resident in internal medicine at the Royal Victoria, has volunteered to assist in organizing the program. She says she was "impressed by the novelty of the idea." Further, she notes, "We have to improve communication with the public." Dee Young, MDCM'02, a medical student who has also volunteered to assist, notes that "people will get a chance to know something about medicine. On the Internet, who knows what information you're getting?"

The actual shape of the program – starting date, curriculum and a minimal tuition – is still being finalized. "We expect there will be a tremendous response," says Schloss.

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## A Report from Admissions

McGill's medical education equals the best that is offered on the continent, and talented young students considering a medical career can do no better than apply to McGill. That, in a nutshell, is the message coming from Dr. Phil Beck, MDCM'64, Dip Psych'69, Associate Dean for Admissions.

Why does it even need saying? McGill's reputation is rock-solid, as polls consistently indicate. But, says Beck, "We're facing a fair amount of competition, and we're not sure that we're always able to attract the most talented students." The trend across the continent is toward declining applications to medical schools, and Beck hypothesizes that there are just too many lucrative careers luring students away with the promise of a shorter training program and easier money. The concern is not so much about quantity as it is quality, and Beck has started developing new approaches to lure top-notch candidates to medicine, and McGill Medicine in particular.

The raw numbers work out this way. McGill accepts applicants to the medical program in four categories. Each year, the provincial government sets limits on how many can be accepted in each, with the past three years seeing the number grow from a low of 109 to the current 129. This past year, McGill was allowed to accept 20 to 24 American and international students, 5 out-of-province Canadian students and 45 Quebec students for the 4-year program, and 55 younger students coming from CEGEP into a 5-year program.

Medical students have begun tossing in their two cents worth on recruitment and the applications process, and their contribution is paying dividends. At the beginning of 1999, Beck held focus groups with students to ask about how they discovered McGill, their experience of the Admissions Office, their thoughts on the interview process, and so forth. "They suggested how we might improve certain aspects of the process," says Beck. The students established an ad hoc committee that works with the Admissions Office on many levels: contacting and billeting applicants, giving them support (as well as dinner and tours of Montreal), and generally showing their enthusiasm for McGill, Montreal and the medical program. Students also helped design a handbook for international applicants, pitched in with the welcoming program, and made themselves available for telephone and email contacts.

The strengths of McGill's program are easy to identify, says Beck. "We have a curriculum that integrates basic sciences and clinical issues, along with lots of small group teaching so students have a chance to get close to instructors and learn about the physiology of diseases and their clinical manifestations. Plus, they get early clinical experience. It's an excellent way of learning medicine." Now the job is for the Admissions Office, with help from students and alumni, to ensure that potential applicants know about McGill's many attractions.

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*Upper left: Dr. Melvin Schloss, Associate Dean of Continuing Medical Education, is expecting a great response to the Faculty's new program.*

*Lower left: Dr. John Cohen, BSc'59, MSc'60, PhD'64, MDCM'68, developed the Mini-Med School concept for the University of Colorado 13 years ago.*

*Upper right: Dr. Phil Beck, MDCM'64, DipPsych'69, Associate Dean for Admissions, has integrated the input of medical students in order to attract the best recruits to the Faculty of Medicine.*

## Learning Online: Students take charge of new technologies

Are to experience again the anxiety of studying for exams? Check out the tropical diseases associated with your vacation spot? Listen to healthy, and less healthy, heartbeats online? McGill's Medicine students, thanks to the support of the Molson Medical Informatics project, are making it possible by developing an educational medical database online.

"We want the site to be open and accessible to everybody," says Dr. Leon Glass, Professor of Physiology, who oversees the project. "Everybody" includes the general public as well as med students: pages on gynecology, tropical disease and nicotine addiction are built for the layperson.

Most of the web pages, though, are aimed at the students, and there is a very practical aspect to an online database. As Glass points out, "The site with heart and breathing sounds contains information that could otherwise only be delivered by CD." With the web, valuable sources of information can be made available to large numbers of students.

Students volunteer to be in charge of organization, design and construction of the sites; they are guided by professors who volunteer to supervise the projects being carried out, and they get feedback from their peers. Says John Pereira, BSc'99, MDCM'03, a second-year medical student, "Students suggest projects that their class would benefit from: a site on anatomy, for instance."

Technical experts or students like Dion Fung, who has studied computers, teach other students how to use the programs needed for building their site. Fung, currently pursuing an MD/PhD, has taken full advantage of multimedia technology, setting up a site that includes films of people with different gait disorders. Similarly skilled Dan Flanders, BSc'98, MDCM'02, a third-year student, has created the CNS online learning resource for studying the central nervous system, as well as the tropical disease site map. He is currently working with his father, Dr. Michael Flanders, MDCM'70, Associate Professor in the Department of Ophthalmology, on an ophthalmology site.

The site's "quiz engine," designed by Pereira, addresses the age-old demand for pre-exam cramming assistance by letting students test themselves on course material. "Before midterms and finals, the number of hits goes up dramatically," says Pereira. "Now we're trying to get students to write questions as they go through the curriculum, so they can add material."

"It's an enormously powerful medium," observes Glass. The yearly budget of \$80,000 is donated by the Molson Foundation; most of the money goes to funding student bursaries, and the remainder to hiring technical help and making software purchases.

You can check out the site at <http://sprojects.mmi.mcgill.ca>

*Right: Dr. Ronald Gottesman, BSc'78, MDCM'82, Dr. Helen Karounis, MDCM'93, Dr. Patrick Ergina and Dr. Jeff Wiseman, BSc'72, MDCM'76, are the newest Teaching Scholars of the Faculty.*

*Far right (above): The Korean Folk Dance Association is one of the 15 groups of artists that participated in the Dance for Life event.*

*Far right (below): Rupa Narasimhadevera, BSc'00, Deepak Dhawan, BSc'01, and Ronny Leone Rotondo, BSc'01, are some of the student organizers who made the Dance for Life event such a success.*



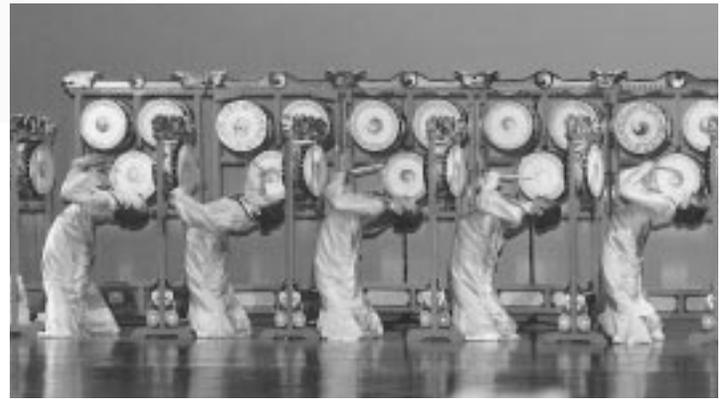
*Above: John Pereira, BSc'99, MDCM'03, Dr. Leon Glass and Dan Flanders, BSc'98, MDCM'02, are quite enthusiastic about developing an educational medical database online.*



### Recognizing and Developing Excellence in Teaching

**T**he Faculty Honour List for Educational Excellence, initiated in 1998, recognizes outstanding contributions to the Faculty of Medicine in the areas of teaching, educational leadership and innovation, faculty development, and research and scholarly activity within the Faculty of Medicine. This year, the following individuals were honoured: Eduardo Franco (Oncology), Daniel Frank, BSc'66, MDCM'70, DipPsych'74 (Psychiatry), Dennis Osmond (Anatomy and Cell Biology), Yoshinori Taguchi, BSc'55, MDCM'59, PhD'70 (Surgery), Pierre-Paul Tellier (Family Medicine), Mark Yaffe, BSc'70, MDCM'76 (Family Medicine), and Jean-Francois Yale (Medicine and McGill Nutrition and Food Science Centre).

**The Teaching Scholars Program for Educators in the Health Sciences** encourages the professional development of health science educators at McGill. This year-long program enables selected individuals to increase their expertise in developing and implementing educational programs, and to take on leadership roles in education. The 1999/2000 Teaching Scholars were Doctors Patrick Ergina (Surgery), Ronald Gottesman, BSc'78, MDCM'82 (Pediatrics), Helen Karounis, MDCM'93 (Pediatrics), and Jeff Wiseman, BSc'72, MDCM'76 (Medicine). Their independent research projects focused on the following themes: Developing a Core Curriculum for Cardiac Surgery; An Innovative Web-based Program for Pediatric Critical Care; Assessing the Learning Styles of McGill Residents; and Developing an Ambulatory Care Rotation in Medicine. The program was initiated in 1997 thanks to funding provided by the Henry and Berenice Kaufmann Foundation.



### Dance for Life

“**W**e had an all-star cast,” says Deepak Dhawan, BSc'01. He could be referring to the 15 groups of artists from dance schools and performance troupes in “Dance for Life,” an event that raised money for the Integrated Whole Person Care Project – a palliative care effort spearheaded by Dr. Balfour Mount and Patricia Boston, PhD'94 – and for cancer research. Or he could be referring to the group of student organizers and volunteers from across Montreal's universities that put together the highly successful and entertaining evening. Either interpretation is appropriate.

“Dance for Life” brought out an audience of 600, along with almost 200 performers and other volunteers. The dance troupes and schools represented Montreal's cultural communities, and raised \$12,000, an amount that will grow to \$40,000 over the next two years, thanks to the K.C. Dhawan Foundation (run by Dhawan père).

The event was the brainchild of Deepak Dhawan and his co-organizers, Ronny Leone Rotondo, BSc'01, Lakhbir Sandu, BSc'02, Rupa Narasimhadevera, BSc'00, and Anand Sanger. All are students in Microbiology and Immunology, except Narasimhadevera, who is a graduate student in biochemistry and works in radiation oncology at the Montreal General Hospital.

The organizers' commitment was mirrored by that of the performers, who donated their time and talent to the cause. Says Narasimhadevera, “The only ones who turned us down were actually going to be out of the country.” The artists were also lent support by organizations that contributed refreshments, technical equipment, space and expertise.



# Alumni Happenings

## News from the Development and Alumni Relations Office

### HOW TO CONTACT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICE:

Mailing Address:  
c/o the Dean's Office  
Faculty of Medicine  
3655 Promenade Sir William Osler  
(Drummond)  
Montreal, Quebec H3G 1Y6

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Development Officer  
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Amy Ma  
Development and  
Alumni Relations Associate  
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Vivian Belfo  
Administrative Coordinator  
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Fax: (514) 398-1753  
Email: vivian@med.mcgill.ca

*H.W. Scot DeJong, Executive  
Director, Development, BA '88,  
Amy Ma, Development  
and Alumni Relations Associate,  
Vivian Belfo, Administrative  
Coordinator, and Nadine Saumure,  
Development Officer*

The Faculty has once again been fortunate enough to receive substantial private support. This report covers the period from June 1, 1999, to May 31, 2000.

Annual gifts from graduates, parents of current and past students, faculty and staff, and other supporters increased by approximately 11 per cent, to \$860,089. These annual gifts have provided the Faculty with a base of funds that enable it to pursue opportunities that would not have otherwise been provided for in the Faculty's annual budget. As you will see further on in this section, the 2000 fund year saw an unprecedented number of graduates return to campus for reunion class activity and initiate special campaigns to mark the occasion with a class gift to the Faculty. A special thanks to class members who led their classes in these efforts.

Major gifts from individuals, corporations and foundations were also up: the Faculty received \$10,034,894, for a 4 per cent increase over the previous year's level of support. As well, planned gifts, gifts from bequests, insurance policies and other planned giving vehicles increased 154 per cent to \$1,549,229. Thanks to the hard work of Faculty members, alumni volunteers, and the Faculty Advisory Board, the Faculty's ability to secure the needed resources continues to grow. These results are a testimony to their hard work and devotion to its mission.

In the spring of 2000, Senior Development Officer Andrew Pentland, who had served the Faculty for five years, left to return to Australia to work as the Foundation Executive with the University of the Sunshine Coast, Noosa, and Australia.

With Andrew's departure, the Faculty has restructured the Development and Alumni Relations area. Nadine Saumure has joined the office as Development Officer. She comes to the Faculty after having spent four years with the Canadian Red Cross. At the Red Cross, her duties included fundraising, communications and disaster relief work. In the late summer of 2000, I returned to McGill after having spent almost four years working with two national health charities, the Kidney Foundation of Canada and the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada. The Development and Alumni Relations Group also includes Amy Ma, who has been with the Faculty for three years as Development and Alumni Relations Associate, and Administrative Coordinator Vivian Belfo.

As we look toward the coming year and to building the Faculty's Development and Alumni Relations program, we would like to have your feedback on the newsletter and suggestions regarding topics you would like to see covered. As well, we are planning to make long-needed updates to the Alumni Corner web site ([www.med.mcgill.ca/corner/](http://www.med.mcgill.ca/corner/)) and would appreciate hearing suggestions from those who have visited the site.



Scot DeJong,  
Executive Director,  
Development





Dean Fuks with Mary DeJong of the Class of '50.

Dean Fuks with David Harvey of the Class of '55.

Dean Fuks with Marvin Wexler of the Class of '65.

## Alumni support: annual gifts and class projects

Alumni support is an important part of McGill's success. Last year, a solid 32% of Faculty of Medicine alumni gave gifts to McGill. Class gifts have also been of great assistance to the Faculty. Here is a list of classes and class members who recently contributed to the funding of projects that will enhance medical education at McGill. Thank you to annual donors and Class Project participants!  
(Gifts received June 1, 2000, through February 15, 2001)

### MED'50

#### Class of Med'50 Osler Library Fund

47% Class participation  
\$15,576

Charles C Carleton  
William J Couldwell  
John F Davis  
Mary DeJong  
Maurice R Dufresne  
Henry B Durost  
Louis J Fortin  
Emmanuel R Ghent  
G B Clifton Harris  
Ruby G Jackson  
Ralph J Kimmerly  
Allan Knight  
C Crawford Lindsay  
A Brian Little  
David Luchs  
Alexander W McDonald  
Kenneth S Morton  
Brian S Potter  
John H Read  
I Morris Sabin  
John A Shanks  
Harry D Stevens  
Gerald S Stober  
Marshall Trossman  
Edward P Walter  
Alexander M Wright

### MED'55

#### Scriver Visiting Professorship in Genetics

43% Class participation  
\$37,230

David C Angell  
Pearl Arshawsky  
Donald Ballew  
Peter Benjamin  
William H Bentham  
Alfred J Brooks  
M Harley Dennett  
Andrew G Engel  
W King Engel  
Theodore Fainstat  
Phyllis Fischer  
Henry J Flood  
Robert W Frazier  
Arthur N Freedman  
David M Harvey  
George G Hinton  
D Gilles Hurteau  
E Donald Kaufmann  
Harold A Kozinn  
Arthur B Leith  
Duncan R Macmillan  
James W Mitchener  
Kenneth B Parrott  
Maxwell C Patterson  
Dorothy Piercy  
Albert M Rogers

Jacob Rosensweig  
John T Rulon  
Charles R Scriver  
Seymour A Siegal  
John G L Slater  
Bertram Ehrenfried Sohl  
Bennett M Stein  
J M Trainor  
Charles H Trask  
Hilda Tremblett  
R Keith Whiting  
Alan W Zeller

### MED'60

#### Class of Med'60 Health Sciences Library Fund

25% Class participation  
\$9,674

Richard G Andersen  
Eugene C Anderson  
Charles B Arnold, Jr.  
Paul G Dymont  
Robert A Fortune  
Richard O Gode  
Thomas C Hall  
Kenneth G Hamilton  
Ronald Kapusta  
James G Katis  
H Barbara Webb Lewis  
Andrew Q McCormick

Alfred K McNeill  
Jack Mendelson  
James P Munroe  
David A Murphy  
Robert S Pincott  
Leonard Pinsky  
Neville G Poy  
Franklin M Trunkey  
N Blair Whittemore

### MED'65

#### Class of Med'65 International Health Summer Bursary

44% Class participation  
\$19,593

A Wayne Barry  
Helene Bertrand  
J Raymond Buncic  
John R Burton  
Barbara W Colon  
Douglas B Craig  
John J Drammis  
Margaret L Ewing  
Bernard B Foster  
Eric D Foster  
D George Fraser  
Hyman Freedman  
Henry M Gally  
Dante P R Greco  
Helena Ho



Dean Fuks with Gordon Crelinsten of the Class of '70.



Dean Fuks with Kevin Watters of the Class of '75.



Dean Fuks with Roger Tabah of the Class of '80.

A Robin Hutchinson  
 Patricia Innis  
 Enn Jomm  
 J S Roger Jones  
 Nestor B Kowalsky  
 Vita J Land  
 Roger H S Langston  
 John Y Lee  
 Melvin I Marks  
 Rudolf Albert Meyendorf  
 Seymour Mishkin  
 Donald G Moehring  
 Raymond R Neutra  
 Joseph D Putignano  
 Lorne A Runge  
 Peter J Stephens  
 Charles Nash Swisher  
 Peter L Szego  
 Edemariam Tsega  
 Marvin J Wexler

**MED'70**

**Class of Med'70  
 Lectureship in  
 Medical Ethics**  
 36% Class participation  
 \$27,231

David Addleman  
 Robert Berke  
 Joy B Cass  
 Leo M Cass  
 James C W Chow  
 David F Copeland  
 Gordon L Crelinsten  
 Jeffrey A Danson  
 Roger F Fenster

Allan M Finesilver  
 Michael E Flanders  
 Allan J Fox  
 Abraham Fuks  
 C O Irving Fung  
 Cary H Gota  
 Gerrard C Greenstone  
 John E Hendry  
 Martin B Kaback  
 Edward Katz  
 Milton K H Leong  
 Robert S L Leung  
 Robert B Love  
 Alan J Maclean  
 Harvey V Marcus  
 James A McGregor  
 Marcellina E Mian  
 Keith R Mills  
 Catherine A Milne  
 Michael J Mindel  
 Allan Pont  
 John R Quagliarello  
 Peter C Quelch  
 David S Rosenblatt  
 George R Siber  
 Margaret Ward Siber  
 Richard H Sims  
 G Peter M Toussaint  
 Neil L Trister  
 Ronald M Vexler  
 Joe Zambilowicz  
 Anthony G Zekulin  
 Jack Zeltzer

**MED'75**

**Class of Med'75  
 Visiting Professorship**  
 25% Class participation  
 \$29,122

Samuel Henri Benaroya  
 Craig E Campbell  
 Nicolas Christou  
 D Paul Cleland  
 Philippe Cloutier  
 I George Fantus  
 Ann A Gagne  
 Irwin Goldstein  
 Emily F Hamilton  
 Ronald D Hart  
 Peter Herscovitch  
 A Ross Hill  
 W Wayne Hooper  
 Shirley Ann Howdle  
 James J Mahoney  
 Gary W Ogden  
 Andrew R Patterson  
 Elizabeth Powell  
 Arthur Propst  
 Christine C Rivet  
 Carla R Ross  
 Theodor H Schapira  
 Colin R Sharpe  
 Allan S Shustack  
 Michael G Thomassin  
 Elu M Thompson  
 Hugh D Tildesley  
 Bernie Unikowsky  
 A Kevin Watters  
 Gail Wong

**MED'80**

**Class of Med'80  
 Scholarship**  
 32% Class Participation  
 \$20,164

Dorit Adler  
 Philip Alexander Baer  
 Marie Josee Helene Beland  
 Leo Real Berger  
 Vincent Wing Suen Chan  
 Linda Jean Coffman  
 Raymond Alden Copes  
 Deborah Joan Davis  
 Janet Dollin  
 Allan George Fielding  
 Susan Barbara Fox  
 Joseph Froncioni  
 Judy Ellen Glass  
 Shelley Margaret Graham  
 Simone Guillon  
 Leonard Kaizer  
 William Atkins Kammerer  
 Mel Krajden  
 George Alexander Kuchel  
 David Loring Lee  
 John Myers Lewis  
 Susan Kathryn Lindley  
 Susan Carol Macdonald  
 Andrea McCrady  
 Melanie Mintzer  
 Gail Myhr  
 Ted Seymour Nemtean  
 Joel Michael Palefsky  
 Colette Paquin  
 Ermelinda Pelausa  
 Paul S Philbrook  
 Joyce Lillian Pickering



Dean Fuks with Robert Primavesi of the Class of '85.

From left to right, Caroline Bigue, MDCM'90, Dean Fuks, Sebastien Tuli and Raman Tuli, MDCM'90.

Leo Plouffe, Jr.  
 Steven Allan Poleski  
 Martha Jane Poulson  
 Michele Paule Pugnaire  
 Murray Rebner  
 Kenneth Alan Remsen  
 David Austin Rideout  
 Deborah Sue Schron  
 Roger John Tabah  
 Jean I Tchervenkov  
 Carol-Ann Vasilevsky  
 Cynthia Esther Withers  
 John Yaremko

Edith K Moser  
 Louise Pilote  
 Johanne R Plante  
 Johanne Poulin  
 Robert Primavesi  
 Peter Sauret  
 April Ann Shamy  
 Thomas Edward Shapiro  
 Mark Smilovitch  
 Kevin David Smith  
 Barry Stein  
 Jeffrey Zaltzman

**MED'85**

**Brian Newton Memorial Prize in Obstetrics**  
 24% Class Participation  
 \$5,926

Thierry Ezer Benaroch  
 Aidlee Craft  
 Marcel J R Dore  
 Roy Eappen  
 Stephen H Grodinsky  
 Murray Grossman  
 Helen Guilbeau  
 Jim Peter Halvorson  
 Kathryn Gail Jones  
 Susan Rebecca Kahn  
 Charles Khazzam  
 Marie-Claude Lemieux  
 Paola Leon  
 Michael David Libman  
 Brenda Allison Markland  
 Orly Haviva Mashal  
 Sarkis Meterissian  
 Liane Mizgala

**MED'90**

**Class of Med'90 Scholarship**  
 9% Class Participation  
 \$12,252

Kenneth Earle Balderson  
 Caroline Bigue  
 David Dannenbaum  
 Alain Gourgues  
 Graham Andrew Hendry  
 Jordan Douglas Lipton  
 Iain Colquhoun Murray  
 Emilio Rodriguez-Marin  
 Avrum Soicher  
 Claire Touchie  
 Raman Tuli

**Planning a gift to McGill University**

**H**ave you considered supporting McGill through a planned gift? There are many gift planning strategies that can ensure you have a lasting impact on the quality and standards of McGill University. Planned gifts, made now or through a will, can include transfers of securities or property, bequests, charitable gift annuities, gifts of life insurance, residual interests and charitable remainder trusts. Using these options, you can directly fund a current priority or create an endowment fund that will last in perpetuity. Your planned gift will benefit generations of McGill students.

For more information, please contact the Faculty Development and Alumni Relations Office or

Susan Reid  
 Director, Planned Gifts  
 McGill University  
 3605 de la Montagne  
 Montreal, Quebec, H3G 2M1  
 Tel.: (514) 398-3560  
 Fax: (514) 398-7362  
 Email: [susan.reid@mcgill.ca](mailto:susan.reid@mcgill.ca)  
[www.mcgill.ca/alumni/support/planned](http://www.mcgill.ca/alumni/support/planned)

Your inquiry will be kept confidential.

# Alumni: your corner on the web



FACULTY  
OF  
MEDICINE

McGILL  
UNIVERSITY



**David M. Fleiszer, BSc'69, MDCM'73, MSc'79**



Highlights since graduating from McGill:

- Marrying Ruth, having kids and thoroughly enjoying watching them grow up
- Taking care of sick people (especially in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit) and seeing them get better
- Being director of the SICU and helping to run the trauma program for a few years
- Being the Assistant Dean of Medical Informatics for 6 years
- Starting a comprehensive breast clinic
- Directing the Molson project, which aims to convert many of our didactic lectures into web-based interactive multimedia tutorials

We are collecting news of each medical class, with the goal of putting you on the web. To date, we have a page on:

The classes of 1942, 1943, 1945, 1947  
and each subsequent class including 2001

Faculty Web Site: [www.med.mcgill.ca](http://www.med.mcgill.ca)

Please fill out the form on the back of this page and send it to us by fax or mail. We also hope you will send a recent photo of yourself.

The Medical Alumni Web Corner is a great way for you and your class to support an Anniversary gift to Medicine. If you are interested, please contact Amy Ma, Faculty of Medicine, c/o Dean's Office, 3655 Promenade Sir William Osler (Drummond), Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H3G 1Y6. Telephone: (514) 398-1299; Fax: (514) 398-1753; Email: [amyma@med.mcgill.ca](mailto:amyma@med.mcgill.ca)

# Let's hear from you!

**AN EASY  
FORM TO FAX  
OR MAIL**  
PLEASE PRINT

.....  
LAST NAME FIRST YEAR GRADUATED

.....  
PRESENT POSITION

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HOME ADDRESS

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PHONE

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OFFICE ADDRESS

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PHONE

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EMAIL FAX

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HIGHLIGHTS SINCE GRADUATING FROM MCGILL:

.....  
WHAT I REMEMBER MOST ABOUT MCGILL:

.....  
PEOPLE AT MCGILL WHO INFLUENCED ME:

- I consent to have the above news published (it may appear in the *McGill News*, on the Alumni web site, or in the Faculty Newsletter).  
 I do not wish to have this news published.

.....  
SIGNATURE (PLEASE SIGN HERE):

- I would like information on:  contributing to the Annual Fund  making a bequest  special gift opportunities  
 organizing a medical alumni event  anniversary class gifts

# Homecoming

*At Homecoming 2001, left to right, Gerald Kaine, MDCM'35, Don Smail, MDCM'35, Dean Fuks and David Rodger, MDCM'35.*

*Dean's Reception, from left to right, John Martin, MDCM'45, Dean Fuks, Rita Shane, MDCM'42, and Clarence Rosenhek, MDCM40.*

*Stephen Leacock Luncheon, left to right, David Harvey, MDCM'55, Donnie Harvey, Marvin Wexler, MDCM'65, Amy Ma, Development and Alumni Relations Associate, and Robert Primavesi, MDCM'85.*



Homecoming 2000 saw a record number of participants and classes return to stroll the campus, greet old friends and relive med school hijinks. Graduates from 10 classes – including 3 members of the Class of 1935 – made the trip "home."

Homecoming 2001 promises to be as grand an event. It will run from Thursday, October 25, to Sunday, October 28. The Dean's Reception will be Friday afternoon. The focus is on classes of years ending in a "1" or a "6." Class contacts who have been identified so far include Henry Scott (1941), Hugh Brodie (1951), Peter Macklem (1956), Suzanne Levitz (1986) and Salim Abou-Khalil (1996).

For updates and breaking news, please check the Faculty of Medicine alumni web site: <http://www.med.mcgill.ca/corner/>

## Faculty of Medicine

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