

UGME NEWS

February 2023

Your guide to the latest news from the
McMaster University Undergraduate
Medical Education Program

Educating and inspiring future physicians to improve health and well-being for all through clinical excellence, innovation, scholarship, leadership, and social accountability.

TOP STORIES:

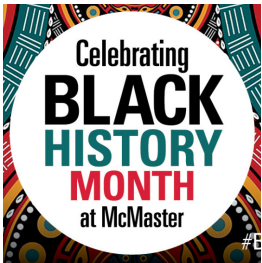


MACcred2023

The accreditation team is working hard to prepare for the next stage of our accreditation process: site visits. The Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS) team will meet virtually with our faculty, students, and staff from Monday, March 27th to Thursday, March 30th, 2023. There will then be a follow-up on-site visit from Tuesday, May 9th to Wednesday, May 10th, 2023.

The CACMS visit team conducts site visits to “verify and update information compiled in the school’s DCI, clarify any issues that are unclear, view the environment and facilities for learning first-hand, and meet with administrators, faculty members, and students.”

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



Black History Month

February is Black History Month (BHM) – a time to celebrate the contributions and achievements of Black and African diasporic peoples.

The Black History Month Planning Committee, in partnership with the Equity and Inclusion Office and other partners throughout McMaster, held virtual and in-person events throughout the month. [Click here](#) for more information.



Honouring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

On Tuesday, February 14th, red dresses were hung in locations around McMaster’s main campus to commemorate the lives of [missing or murdered Indigenous women and girls](#). [Valentine’s Day has long been a day to raise awareness about gender-based violence](#), especially the colonial gender-based violence experienced by Indigenous women. The [REDress Project](#) was started by artist Jaime Black, who hopes the red dresses offer us “a visual reminder of the staggering number of women who are no longer with us.”

FACULTY/STAFF CORNER:



Leadership in the Spotlight: Dr. Natasja Menezes

Congratulations to Dr. Menezes who is a recipient of the 2023 Canadian Association for Medical Education Certificate of Merit which promotes, recognizes and rewards faculty committed to medical education in Canada. Dr. Menezes is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster. In her role as Chair of Student Affairs, Dr. Menezes collaborates with colleagues across the Hamilton and Regional Campuses to oversee a network of programming focused on student academic support, personal counselling, and career planning. She is actively involved in multiple aspects of undergraduate and postgraduate medical education and has led student affairs work provincially and nationally.



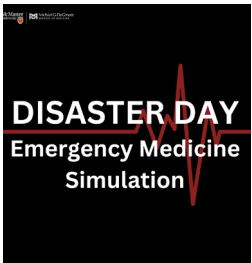
Professional Competencies Facilitators Needed

The UGME Program is seeking physicians to become [Longitudinal Facilitators](#) in the Professional Competencies stream of the curriculum next fall in the Hamilton campus. Sessions are held Tuesday mornings from 9 am – 12 pm on campus, from end-August 2023 until December 2024 (with July and August off).

This role is eligible for 320 education credits and comes with a stipend of \$16,500.

Anyone interested please reach out to Dagmar Todd (toddd2@mcmaster.ca) with a letter of interest and resume.

STUDENT CORNER:



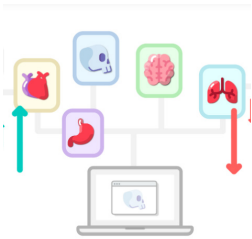
Disaster Day Volunteers

Participants wanted to join [Disaster Day](#), a simulated mass casualty event in a mock emergency department. A healthcare team will work together to provide care in an environment that simulates limited resources, uncertainty, and an overwhelming number of patients.

This will be a chance to practice resuscitation, teamwork, and crisis management skills. Disaster Day is an exciting and fun opportunity for our medical student to gain understanding of disaster and triage scenarios.

Interested folks can [sign up here](#) or email [Sophie Ramsdem](#) for more information.

AI OSPE



The Education Program in Anatomy has developed an online, objectively structured practical exam (OSPE) that is graded using artificial intelligence (AI). The AI OSPE tool will be rolled out to help students prepare for the anatomy-rich offerings in MF4 and is currently being studied in the School of Rehabilitation Sciences. The AI OSPE questions are mainly in the realm of the musculoskeletal system and neuroanatomy. Answers to questions are entered as free text, and the probability that the correct answer has been given is returned along with the expected answers. The tool will run on any device with an internet connection. [Click here](#) to try it for yourself!

Appointments with Student Affairs



The Student Affairs team is available to meet with you virtually or in-person. Our Hamilton office (HSC-3N44) is staffed weekly, Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM-4:30PM, with virtual support provided on Fridays.

When you [Book an Appointment](#) through our website, you can select either the virtual calendar, or the in-person calendar for your campus. If you are looking for an in-person appointment but can't find one that works with your schedule, please contact [Student Affairs](#).

For more helpful information from Student Affairs, check out their monthly newsletter: [Student Affairs Connections: February 2023](#).

Harm Reduction Student Volunteers



This month, McMaster UGME students organized a volunteering event at [The Hub Hamilton](#), an organization that supports individuals experiencing housing instability, homelessness, and addictions in the Hamilton community.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who showed up and helped with sorting and folding clothing donations and packing harm reduction kits! We appreciate The Hub for being so open to having us help out and for sharing with us about the work they do in our local community and how we can get involved.

For more opportunities to get involved with the Community Engagement Committee, [click here](#).



Student Research Spotlight: Hira Aslam

Hira Aslam, McMaster UGME Class of 2024 student, is on the road to becoming a future medical scientist. Prior to joining medical school, Hira was already featured by the BBC and [The Guardian](#) for her [2021 Lancet article](#) on the association between head injury and violent crimes among incarcerated women in the Scottish prison system. Her research not only had directly influenced policy, program development, and advocacy across the Scottish prison estate but also initiated a dialogue about the high incidence of head trauma and domestic violence in this population.

After completing her MSc in Psychological Research at the University of Oxford, Hira was onboarded as a researcher for a National Offending Study on head injury, trauma, and other correlates of offending in the Scottish prison system. During her graduate studies, Hira worked on stress reactivity and its import for resiliency in individuals with Psychopathic traits.

Hira has co-authored three journal articles, five abstracts, two conference papers and symposia, six posters, and one book chapter. Her publications include co-authoring an encyclopedia entry on sexual violence victimization. For a list of her publications [click here](#).

Hira will be presenting at the Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience [Virtual Department Round](#) on Wednesday, March 1st, at 9am. Hira and Dr. Paul Links, McMaster Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, will be discussing Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) for Individuals with Mental Illness, with an emphasis on irremediable Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD). They will provide an overview of MAiD for Mental Illness in Canada, and outline an approach for assessing irremediability in BPD. To register for this Grand Rounds session, [click here](#).

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CHAIR, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION: Responsible for the development of policies, programming, and practices that support or enhance the diversity of applicants and medical students. [Click here](#) for more information.

CO-CHAIR, PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES: Responsible for overseeing the planning and delivery of the Professional Competencies curriculum within the distributed UGME network. [Click here](#) for more information.

MF4 DIRECTOR: Responsible for overseeing the planning and delivery of MF4 within the distributed UGME network. [Click here](#) for more information.

MF4 BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR SUBUNIT PLANNER: Responsible for overseeing the planning, delivery, and evaluation of the Brain and Behaviour subunit within MF4. [Click here](#) for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 13: Class of 2025 Townhall, 8-9 AM, on [Zoom](#).

March 13: Class of 2023 Townhall, 9-10 AM, on [Zoom](#).



CONTACT US: