

UGME NEWS

October 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:



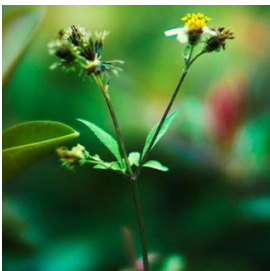
Happy Halloween!

The UGME (University of Ghoulsville's Department of Monster Education) is thrilled to wish everyone a spooktacular Halloween! Join in celebrating this ghostly holiday with creepy costumes, eerie enchantments, and fang-tastic fun. May your night be filled with treats, tricks, and a whole lot of boo-tiful memories. Happy Halloween, from the UGME!



Bridging Education and Community Impact

The UGME's service-learning program is more than just education—it's a transformative experience uniting learning with community impact. Through carefully curated placements and intentional engagement, students delve into the core of social determinants of health. This structured initiative enhances academic understanding in areas like population health and social medicine while nurturing vital skills such as leadership and cultural competence. Students' commitment, starting at just 4 hours, allows them to contribute meaningfully, shaping their growth as future healers. [Click here](#) for more information.



UGME's Student Wellness Support

The UGME program recognizes the struggle of balancing academic pressures with personal well-being and extends its support to every student.

The Student Affairs team has dedicated wellness counseling services tailored for all medical students. Whether you require a brief 15-minute check-in or a comprehensive 50-minute session, UGME counselors are here to assist you. Counselors are eager to lend a compassionate ear and provide learner-centered support throughout your academic journey. Your well-being is the program's utmost concern, and it's here to assist you every step of the way.

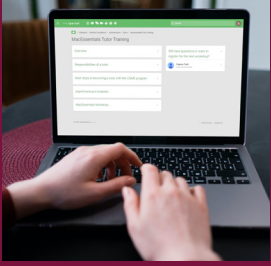
You can read the [health and wellness section of MedPortal](#) for more information, or book a [one-on-one in-person or virtual appointment](#).

FACULTY/STAFF CORNER:



Leadership Announcement: Dr. Siwar Albashir

The UGME program wants to share the exciting news of the appointment of [Dr. Siwar Albashir](#) as Sub-Unit Planner, Gastroenterology, effective November 1, 2023. Please join in wishing Dr. Albashir congratulations on her new position!



Become a MacEssentials Certified Tutor

Calling all physicians interested in tutoring undergraduate medical students! Join the UGME MacEssentials Tutor Training Program and complete the self-paced e-modules followed by a complimentary 1.5-hour live virtual workshop on December 13, 2023, at 6 pm. Strengthen your tutoring skills while earning educational credits. Following completion of MacEssentials you can start tutoring as early as January 2024!

For further details and registration, please [click here](#).



Sign Up as a Tutor for MF3 at Hamilton Campus

Hamilton Campus is on the lookout for dedicated tutors for MF3 program. Your expertise can help our students thrive, and it's easy to get started. Just complete the registration form linked here: [Tutor Registration Form](#). Your involvement will play a pivotal role in the success of the program, and your willingness to contribute is appreciated. Help empower UGME learners and build a brighter future.



Evaluating ChatGPT's Impact on Medical Student Assessments

In a study recently published in the Journal of Medical Education and Curricular Development, a group of UGME faculty, including the Associate Dean and Chairs of Pre-Clerkship and Student Assessment, explored the integration of ChatGPT, an advanced AI, in pre-clerkship medical assessments. The study analyzed 40 assessment problems, revealing that ChatGPT outperformed struggling students but fell behind historical class averages. This prompts questions about the AI's efficacy in nuanced cognitive assessments and raises concerns regarding timely student intervention. For further details, read the study [here](#).



2023 Lean in Higher Education International Conference

The 2023 Lean in Higher Education International Conference, hosted by the University of California San Diego from October 18-20, brought together professionals passionate about continuous improvement in the academic sphere. UGME attendees, Wendy Edge and Jen Bowen, connected with other McMaster colleagues from diverse sectors like student success, human resources, and student housing. This annual event proved invaluable, fostering a vibrant exchange of insights and solutions aimed at enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of higher education. The conference reinforced the transformative impact of collaborative efforts, emphasizing the crucial role of lean methodologies in shaping the future of education.



UGME Participates in the Ontario Universities Fair

The UGME team made a significant impact at the Ontario Universities Fair, one of North America's largest educational events. Over October 21-22, 2023, our representatives engaged with many of the 86,318 visitors, guiding prospective students through the intricacies of the program, admissions criteria, and student life. It was an excellent opportunity for attendees to understand what it takes to enter the UGME program and excel in their medical education journey.

STUDENT CORNER:



Class of 2026 MMSC Committee Welcome Night

Earlier this month the Class of 2025 MMSC Committee welcomed the newly elected Class of 2026 MMSC Committee. Dr. Karen McAssey, Professional Development Chair, began the evening by introducing the Student Leaders Journal Club and emphasizing mentorship's importance. UGME Associate Dean, Dr. Matt Sibbald, shared insights on leadership, encouraging students to find perspective, nurture curiosity, and build meaningful connections. Nicky Dunn, MMSC President for C2025, offered wisdom from past presidents and reflections from the past year. The event not only marked the beginning of a new chapter but also highlighted the strength of community within the MMSC.



McMaster Medical Students Triumph at CIBC Run for the Cure

McMaster medical students Anisa, Nima, Si Cheng, Emily, Alex (Veilleux), Alex (Gleave), Junaid, Amr, Omolara, Rodney, Rabia, Chris, Clarissa, Sophia and Iliya completed a [5K run for the CIBC Run for the Cure](#), a charitable run for breast cancer. Under the team name “Mac Med Mammary Mission,” they raised an impressive \$1,533.50 for breast cancer research. Notably, Anisa Khalfan, a C2025 student, ran in honor of her mother, Shelyna, a breast cancer survivor who inspired the crowd by bravely sharing her story. The group’s remarkable achievement earned them the 1st place award for most funds raised as a school team. The program is very proud of their accomplishment!



McMaster Medical Students Advocating for Hamilton’s Homeless Population

McMaster medical students from the Political Advocacy Interest Group organized their annual Municipal Day of Action (MDoA) on September 26, 2023, addressing the pressing issue of the Hamilton Housing Crisis. Engaging with City Councillors Cameron Kroetsch and Tom Jackson, the students passionately advocated for the health and safety of Hamilton residents impacted by homelessness. They presented specific requests and recommendations, focusing on the medical challenges faced by the homeless population. The group plans to expand their advocacy efforts by presenting their message to the Public Health Committee of the City of Hamilton, emphasizing their dedication to this vital cause.



Introducing the UGME’s Area of Focused Professional Development (AFPD)

The UGME program has a new longitudinal professional development opportunity for students in the Class of 2026 and 2025 called Area of Focused Professional Development (AFPD). The AFPD provides structure and support for experiences in one of four areas: Health Innovation, Service-Learning, Leadership, and Research and Scholarship which incorporate preparation, experiential learning, reflection and dissemination aligned with the outcomes of the MD program. You can find out more about an AFPD on the [MedPortal policy page](#) or by contacting [Dr. Karen McAssey](#), Chair of Professional Development.



Join the Clinical Pharmacology Toxicology Advisory Panel

Medical students have the opportunity to join the Clinical Pharmacology Toxicology (CPT) advisory panel. CPT faculty, leaders in evidence-based therapeutics, are developing an e-Curriculum and need your input on content and integration. Your involvement will directly impact prescribing competence education. Contact Dr. Anne Holbrook at holbrook@mcmaster.ca or call 905-522-1155 ext 35269.



2024 Sandra Banner Student Award for Leadership

The application window for the 2024 Sandra Banner Student Award for Leadership (SBSAL) is now open until January 26, 2024, at 5PM. This prestigious award recognizes exceptional leadership qualities in one undergraduate medical student and one postgraduate medical trainee. Eligible candidates can apply on the [website](#).

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

DIRECTOR, CLERKSHIP INTEGRATION: Seeking a faculty member who will support developing pedagogically grounded clinical education content and delivery methods with a focus on optimizing clinical learning. [Click here](#) for more information.

CONTACT US: