



UGME NEWS

November 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:



Wishing You a Healthy and Joyful Holiday Season!

As we approach the end of 2023, we reflect on the achievements and growth within the UGME. In this, our final e-newsletter of the year, we extend heartfelt gratitude for your dedication to advancing healthcare.

Amidst the festivities, let's remember the gift of good health. May the holidays bring joy, warmth, and rejuvenation. As we eagerly anticipate the promising year ahead, we thank you for your contributions to our shared mission.

Wishing you and your loved ones a restful holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

UGME Achieves Full Accreditation

We are excited to announce that the UGME program has received full accreditation from CACMS. Overall, the reports confirm we have a strong program in good standing. There are some areas identified that CACMS will require update reports. A tremendous thanks to everyone for their support and preparation that helped to attain full accreditation status.



Advocating for a Positive Learning Environment

At McMaster, we are dedicated to cultivating learning environments that are inclusive, safe, and supportive. Have you encountered someone who goes above and beyond in creating a positive educational space? Nominate them to be recognized as a [Learning Environment Champion](#)! Your nominations help us acknowledge and appreciate those making a difference.



FACULTY/STAFF CORNER:

Leadership Announcements

The UGME program wants to share the exciting news of the appointments of Dr. Firas Al-Qadhi (left) as WRC Regional Education Lead, UG Anesthesia, effective November 13, 2023; [Dr. Kallirroi Laiya Carayannopoulos](#) (centre) as Director, Clerkship Integration, effective December 1, 2023; and Dr. Ashifa Jiwa (right) as WRC Pre-Clerkship Coordinator, effective December 4, 2023.

Please join in wishing Dr. Al-Qadhi, Dr. Carayannopoulos, and Dr. Jiwa congratulations on their new positions!



STUDENT CORNER:



MD Alumna Nancy Olivieri Wins 2023 Maddox Prize

Nancy Olivieri, a distinguished alumna from the MD Class of 1978, has been honored with the prestigious [2023 Maddox Prize](#) for fighting for patient safety through research integrity. This award recognizes her outstanding contributions to upholding the highest standards in medical research.

To learn more about Nancy's remarkable journey and the impact of her work, we invite you to watch the insightful interview [here](#).

Join us in congratulating Nancy Olivieri on this well-deserved achievement!



Protecting Your Learning Environment

The Office of Learning Environment and Mistreatment (OLEM) is a stand-alone office in the Faculty of Health Sciences; its purpose is to identify and address mistreatment experienced by UGME, PGME, or PAEP students in a learning environment.

McMaster UGME learners can confidentially or anonymously [report student mistreatment](#). More information can be found on the [OLEM website](#) or by contacting OLEM via [email](#).

Students who have experienced or witnessed mistreatment are also encouraged to reach out to [Student Affairs](#), who can provide support in these difficult situations and ensure students understand processes and reporting mechanisms.



Service-Learning: Connecting Classroom and Community

Discover the transformative impact of [Service-Learning](#) in our medical curriculum. Unlike traditional volunteering, Service-Learning seamlessly integrates community service with academic learning, fostering reciprocal experiences with marginalized communities. Benefits extend to enhanced academic learning, personal growth, and skills development in areas like leadership and cultural humility. Medical students delve into the social determinants of health, advocating for health equity. Service-Learning opportunities, both episodic and ongoing, are available. Choose from our verified sites or bring your community placement.



Highlights from the Career Fair

Over 170 students registered from the Class of 2025 and 2026 for the Career Fair hosted by Student Affairs. The event featured McMaster Postgraduate Medical Residency Programs, including Emergency Medicine, Ophthalmology, Diagnostic Radiology, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Radiation Oncology, Neurosurgery, and more. Attendees seized the opportunity to gain insights into these programs, with a chance to pose inquiries and expand their understanding. The engaging atmosphere facilitated meaningful connections, providing a comprehensive overview of potential career paths. A big thank you to all who contributed to making this event a valuable exploration of diverse medical futures.



McMaster UGME Student Excels at Perioperative Care Congress

Ghazal Razeghi, a Class of 2025 McMaster UGME student, showcased her research prowess at the [Perioperative Care Congress in Montreal](#) on November 3. Presenting on "Colchicine and risk of venous thromboembolism," Ghazal earned a coveted spot in the Resident/Fellow oral session, sharing the stage with esteemed clinicians and researchers. Her work awarded her second place in the PCC Trainee/Fellow Research Competition.



Waterloo Regional Campus hosts first vision clinic for refugees

Earlier this month, UGME medical learners at the WRC held the region's inaugural [refugee vision screening clinic](#), serving 60 patients. Organized on [November 10](#) by students Amin Hatamnejad and Justin Grad, this initiative was a demonstration of the community's commitment to accessible healthcare. Dr. Chryssa McAlister and Community HealthCaring Kitchener-Waterloo, led by Dr. Shiva Adel, collaborated to provide comprehensive eye examinations, showcasing a dedication to the refugee population.



MacHealth DNA Community Saturday

MacHealth DNA is a student-run initiative that partners with the Hamilton Urban Core and McMaster to deliver healthcare to marginalized populations in Hamilton.

On Saturday, November 18, MacHealth DNA hosted their [annual Community Saturday](#) event, inviting local community members to join for a day filled with activities. Attendees had the opportunity to have their portraits taken, enjoy a meal while receiving health promotion teachings, engage in colouring activities at the kids' table, and explore the offerings of the clothes drive. This event was generously sponsored by Sealed Art, De La Sol Yoga, and Little Rays Reptile Zoo and Nature Centre.



WRC's Teddy Bear Clinic

UGME WRC students hosted a [Teddy Bear Clinic](#) at the Guelph Public Library's East Side Branch to dispel kids' fears of doctor visits. The event, covered in detail [here](#), immersed over 60 children in a playful exploration of routine medical scenarios, from X-rays to operating rooms. Each young participant left with a certificate, a tangible reminder of their positive experience in healthcare. Congratulations to the organizing students for fostering a positive healthcare experience for the next generation.



Speaker Bureau Presented at St. Mary's High School

The students in Mr. Acheson's class at St. Mary's High School were introduced to the student journey and pathways leading to [admission into the McMaster MD Program](#). The session included a comprehensive introduction to vital medical skills, with practical hands-on experience using blood pressure cuffs and stethoscopes. This experience was part of a WRC Service Learning initiative at the WRC, and the primary aim of the event was to ignite inspiration for health and medical career choices among students from diverse backgrounds.



WRC Medical Learners Inspire Young Minds at Take Your Kids to Work Day

Grand River Hospital welcomed WRC medical learners to spearhead two enlightening workstations during the ["Take Your Kids to Work Day"](#) event. At the CPR station, students demonstrated proper ventilation techniques and first aid protocols. Meanwhile, at the sports medicine station, students delved into suturing and creating slings for arm injuries. A proud parent shared, "My daughter couldn't stop talking about her day, from CPR practice to intubation activities. Your involvement sparked interest and left a lasting impression on many teens in the room."

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

COORDINATOR, CLINICAL EDUCATION (WRC): Responsible for tasks associated with coordinating clinical clerkship and other clinical placements within the WRC. [Click here](#) for more information.

CONTACT US: