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Welcome from the Associate Vice President, Faculty of Health Sciences, Global Health

The Global Health Office in the Faculty of Health Sciences has undergone some changes during the past year, including a name change (formerly known as the International Health Office). Its mission remains the same, to build partnerships between the Faculty of Health Sciences, researchers, educators and clinicians, funding agencies and global development initiatives to commit university research and education to the service of people's health worldwide for the mutual benefit of science, health, clinical practice, and human development.

The Faculty of Health Sciences continues to demonstrate strength in terms of its leadership and commitment to global health. New partnerships have emerged over the past year, and ongoing partnerships continue. Members in the Faculty of Health Sciences have many outstanding projects and collaborations in the area of global health and the Global Health Office is pleased to participate in many of these activities.

Partnerships in research have developed between the Global Health Office and departments across the faculty including radiology, surgery, anesthesia, and nursing. Together, with our colleagues from these departments, we have prepared and submitted eleven research grants to various funding organizations including the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and United States Agency International Development (USAID). To date, three proposals have been funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade for capacity building projects. The departments of Anesthesiology, Surgery and the School of Nursing are working with our partners in Haiti to increase capacity in health human resources after the country fell victim to the devastating earthquake in January 2010. Please see page 4 and 5 for more information on this successful interdisciplinary project. We will continue to work with agencies to secure research funding for these and other important initiatives with colleagues from McMaster and colleagues from around the world that will contribute toward better healthcare for all.

This past year the Global Health Office has welcomed and hosted more than 50 visitors from various countries including Botswana, Denmark, China, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Mexico, Pakistan, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania, The Netherlands, and the United States. Many of these visitors are coming to McMaster to meet about ongoing projects or to explore new partnership initiatives in education, research and practice. The Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster is well-known for its innovative problem-based, inquiry-based and evidence-based learning techniques. Many of our colleagues from around the world continue to come to McMaster to participate in workshops, attend active tutorial sessions, and hold discussions and share information with experts on topics such as curriculum planning, program implementation, and evaluation measures.
One of the biggest changes in the Global Health Office is the amount of student activity. The Master of Science in Global Health Program started in September 2010, and the Global Health Office is where the first class of 28 students refer to as home. These students have proven to be a welcomed addition to the Faculty of Health Sciences, DeGroote School of Business, and Faculty of Social Sciences. The program is a unique, collaborative, educational program that spans across three faculties at McMaster and has a European partner, Maastricht University in The Netherlands. The 45 Maastricht students work together with the McMaster students in small groups, ‘global learning pods’, where they are taught virtually by experts from around the world on numerous topics in global health. The program continues its uniqueness through an Advisory Board that provides guidance in relevant areas such as current topics and research initiatives in global health, funding and aid agencies and future partnerships. The Board membership consists of world renowned global health experts, health advocates, and business professionals who are passionate about contributing to education and global health issues.

This year the Global Health Office was pleased to launch the Global Health Speaker’s Series. There have been five lectures to date provided by local, national and international colleagues who are well-known in their areas of global health. Topics included relief/aid work that is being conducted in Haiti, lessons learned from the 1995 earthquake in Japan, teleradiology, surgical aid initiatives in Africa, equitable access to health and resource rights in developing countries, and WHO’s governance and policy setting strategies. A common theme arising from this Speaker Series was the prevalence of clinicians who are making selfless contributions to areas throughout the world that are in need of resources in order to increase access to much needed healthcare.

As the Associate Vice-President of Global Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, it is a privilege to be part of these initiatives. I invite you to read further about these activities, and more, on the following pages of the 2010/11 Faculty of Health Sciences Global Health Office Annual Report.

Dr. Andrea Baumann, Associate Vice-President
Faculty of Health Sciences, Global Health

MISSION

To build a partnership between the Faculty of Health Sciences, researchers, educators and clinicians, funding agencies and global development initiatives to commit university research and education to the service of people’s health worldwide for the mutual benefit of science, health, clinical practice, and human development.

Please read further for details on how our work in the Global Health Office enriched the knowledge and experience of Canadian researchers and academics, while building capacity for better health, knowledge and practice around the globe.
Building Capacity in Haiti funded by Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT)

After the earthquake that damaged Port-Au-Prince in 2010, McMaster Health Sciences recognized that there was a greater need for not only educators, but frontline workers as well. The Global Health Office in the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University, was designated to co-ordinate a project which would increase capacity between collaborative interdisciplinary boundaries, including areas of nursing, anesthesia, and surgery.

Anesthesia

This project, led by Dr. Alezandre Dauphin, Clinical Professor, McMaster University, intended to strengthen the Hopital Universitaire de la Paix, Port-au-Prince, in two phases. Phase one consisted of a regional anesthesia workshop for all anesthesiologists in Port-au-Prince at the end of October 2010, by visiting expert anesthesiologists from McMaster University. Through a list of needs assessment, other in-service training sessions were held as well. Phase two consisted of a visit from two Haitian anesthesia-in-training students that visited McMaster University for 6-8 weeks. During this time, they received orientation, a simulation in anesthesia course and collaboration with clinical teams of the anesthesia departments. Their visit allowed them to experience teaching rounds, ward conferences and observe procedures in the operating room.

Nursing

The objective of the program was to support joint Canadian-Haitian academic projects to build the capacity of academic institutions and provide opportunities for Haitians to resume their studies and enhance the skill sets in primary and acute care nursing. The project was designed in two phases. The first aimed to provide short term opportunities for Canadian nursing educators and professionals to travel to Haiti and meet with nursing clinical educators and nurses from University de la Paix to learn more about the macro and micro issues currently facing Haiti’s healthcare system. In October 2010, Dr. Anita Fisher, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, and Ms. Gisele Neilson, St. Joseph’s Hospital, travelled to Port-au-Prince to conduct a needs assessment before planning for the Haitian visit to McMaster. The initial visit to Haiti was to ensure what is truly needed to assist nursing leadership in Haiti would be addressed during the visit to McMaster University. The second phase, to be executed in June 2011, was designed to allow four Haitian nurses to come to McMaster University to learn along side Canadian healthcare professionals and address the needs identified for Haiti’s nursing workforce. Through a train-the-trainer approach, Haitian nurse trainers returning to Haiti will be able to continue educating future frontline workers to ensure that the project is sustainable and effective.
Surgery

Under the leadership of Dr. Brian Cameron, Director of the International Surgery Desk, McMaster University, the focus of this project is to improve the capacity of surgical educators and delivery of surgical services at the Hopital Universitaire de la Paix teaching hospital in Port-au-Prince in order that they can better teach their residents and medical students. Historically, clinicians in Haiti taking care of patients, who provide most of the practical skills and education for medical students, have received little formal training in educational methods and adult learning principles.

The objectives of the project are to:

■ Build capacity for surgical care at Hopital La Paix and assist its restoration as a premier public teaching hospital in Haiti,

■ Support improvements in the general surgery and orthopedic residency training programs at La Paix, and

■ Provide training to staff and resident surgeons to strengthen their capacity to train larger numbers of medical students at La Paix.

In October 2010, Dr. Petrisor and Dr. Levis travelled to Hopital La Paix. Each surgeon visited the hospital for one week, and took part in clinical and teaching activities. Clinical surgical teaching was provided to three staff orthopedic and general surgeons at La Paix and four surgical and orthopedic resident trainees. A full day of didactic tutorials was delivered to two junior surgical residents. A teaching visit to the University Hospital included clinical surgical teaching of staff and residents.

The expected results of the project include:

■ Improvement of general surgery, orthopedic and plastic surgical care at Hopital la Paix.

■ Two young Haitian surgical leaders will receive ESS Instructor certification.

■ Further educational and research collaborative opportunities will be identified between the two partner institution Departments of Surgery.
Inequalities in healthcare around the globe have broadened; rather than narrowed, in the last 50 years. Life expectancy at birth, for example, has continued to widen for well over 70 years, and is rising in highly industrialized countries yet falling to below 50 years in many countries, such as in Sub-Saharan Africa. Haile T. Debis, founding chair of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health and director of the University of California’s Global Health Initiative, asked the question as to whether or not we have adequately engaged all the available talent pool of professionals to solve these complex problems in global health. He suggested the expertise of academic institutions in both poor and rich countries has been inadequately tapped and that effective collaborations among governments, non-governmental agencies, and academia will be key to addressing the health workforce crisis and to training the leadership that health care requires. The MSc Global Health Program at McMaster and Maastricht universities strives to achieve this.

In keeping with the Ontario government’s Open Ontario Plan to improve the quality of education and promote internationalization, the Master of Science in Global Health Program tapped academic expertise at McMaster and its partner, Maastricht University in The Netherlands as well as educational leaders at Thamisaat University in Thailand and Manipal University in India. Effective collaborations between the universities are ongoing. With on-line learning increasingly incorporated into the curriculum of Ontario’s universities and colleges, students in the Global Health program readily adapted to the virtual learning environment by communicating with their classmates situated around the world. Students worked on projects through learning pods, working together in virtual teams over the internet by using online collaboration and technology to simulate the global working environment. They successfully blended their on-line learning with face-to-face work in the field during a unique, two-week learning symposium in Manipal, India.

The program has engaged experts from around the world to take part in working together to teach students about the pressing issues in global health and equip them with skills needed to confront and solve complex healthcare problems facing the world today. These experts are from academia, government, and non-governmental agencies. The program is guided by an Advisory Board whose membership spans these areas:

- **Her Royal Highness Princess Margriet of The Netherlands** is honorary chair of the Master of Science Global Health Program’s advisory board. She is recognized for her dedication to humanity, her leadership within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and for her unwavering commitment to improve the lives of vulnerable people around the world. In 2002, the Canadian Red Cross inducted her into the Order of Red Cross at the Companion Level.

- **Elizabeth Witmer** is chair of the Master of Science Global Health Program advisory board. MPP for Kitchener-Waterloo, Mrs. Witmer is former Deputy Premier of Ontario and currently serves as opposition critic on education and women’s issues. First elected to the Ontario legislature in 1990, she has served as both Minister of Labour and Minister of Health.

- **Abbas Gullett** is secretary general of the Kenya Red Cross Society (KCRS). In 2007, he was named the United Nations in Kenya Person of the Year for his important contributions to his country. His leadership has made the KCRS the leading national humanitarian organization in Africa, recognized across the world as one of the best performing national Red Cross societies.

- **Mary Heersink** is an articulate advocate for food safety in North America and the Netherlands. She is the co-founder of Safe Tables Our Priority. Author of a best-selling book on the topic, she has testified before federal government committees investigating food safety issues.

- **Ilona Kickbusch** is an independent global health consultant based in Brien, Switzerland. She has been active in global health for 25 years and is recognized throughout the world for her contributions to innovation in public health, health promotion and global health. She has also held senior positions with the World Health Organization. As Professor for Global Health at Yale University, and leader of the Fulbright New Century Scholars program, she contributed significantly to the development of global public health.

- **Priscilla Reddy** is director of the Health Promotion and Behavioural Interventions Research Unit of the South African Medical Research Council (MRC). The unit has developed into a successful and vibrant research facility and raised millions of dollars in research grants while training doctoral level graduates at Maastricht University.
Thijs Teeling is chair of Task Force Health Care (TFHC), a platform for the Dutch medical technological sector. Since 1996, the TFHC’s mission has been to provide a structural contribution to the improvement of healthcare infrastructure in emerging and developing countries.

Students entering the program are from eclectic backgrounds including business, international health, medicine, nursing, occupational therapy, biology, and sociology and the program is taught by an equally diverse group of experts from McMaster, Maastricht and beyond. Professors span across different disciplines including health sciences, social sciences and business. The program is rooted in two Foundation courses where students from both universities are taught using an innovative model of learning where they work together in teams referred to as “global learning pods.”

There is an opportunity for the student to study at either university during the second semester. Students have the unique prospect to engage in two diverse cultural learning environments, expanding the breadth and the depth of their expertise, making them more readily equipped to participate in the global workforce.

The inaugural class were an exceptional group of students. At McMaster’s Faculty of Health Sciences Plenary on May, 2011 where selected graduate students from the programs within health sciences are provided an opportunity to present their research related to their thesis or scholarly papers, two MSc Global Health students were presented with awards. Alyshah Kaba received best oral presentation and Cristina Mattison received a poster award, both pictured above. Two of the MSc GH Teaching Assistants, Kristin Cleverley and Catherine Kreatsoulos received awards.

During the third semester, all of the students from both universities travelled to the University of Manipal, India where they took part in a Global Learning Symposium and presented their scholarly work to their peers, educators and researchers from Canada, India, and The Netherlands. Students were exposed to research and development projects in the field where they participated in activities such as teaching malaria prevention techniques, developing microfinance programs and researching the barriers to access of the current maternal child health and substance abuse programs in Karnataka, India.

The students from Maastricht and McMaster have chosen to participate in internships during the last semester of the program. Examples of these internships include the Kenyan Red Cross; Gender Health in New York City; World Health Organization (WHO) in Switzerland, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center in Bangkok, Thailand, and Population Services International office in Delhi, India.

Each MSc Global Health student will present a thesis or scholarly paper upon completion of their course work. The topics range from local to global health issues including a study regarding best practices for procurement at the Kenya Red Cross, the changing nature of health care professional’s work caused by infectious disease, the impact of disability and the role of occupational therapy in the reconstruction of Haiti, and a study on best practices for pandemic planning. Expert advisors from the universities and our global network of communities, who are well-known nationally and internationally, are participating in the MSc Global Health Program by providing guidance to the students as they complete their research.

Upon graduation from the one-year program this fall, students will have the training and skills required to become tomorrow’s leaders in the emerging global health workforce.

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The Director of the Branch for International Surgery at the University of British Columbia and the Director of the International Surgery Desk at McMaster met with the Associate Vice-President of Global Health to discuss their goals regarding a collaborative educational program. The partners are proposing to develop a 30-credit online Master’s in International Surgery degree, with additional courses in disaster response, global disability, and epidemiology.

May 25, 2011 brought President Zhang Jie and his delegation from Shanghai Jiao Tong University to McMaster. Dr. Andrea Baumann, Associate Vice-President, Global Health, attended a meeting with the delegation to discuss possible collaborations in health sciences. The Office of International Affairs has arranged meetings to discuss future initiatives between the two universities.

Elisa Ambrosi, from the Department of Medicine and Public Health, University Of Verona, visited McMaster University from February 1st to March 12th, 2010. The intent of her visit was to learn more about evidence-based practice implementation. During her visit she met with Dr. Andrea Baumann, Associate Vice President, Faculty of Health Sciences, Global Health.

On June 29, 2010, a delegation of 13 nurses from various schools of nursing in Italy visited McMaster University to discuss McMaster’s research programs and possible future collaborations. Delegates had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Baumann, Associate Vice President of Global Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, as well as Dr. Anita Fisher, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, who spoke about critical care nursing, Dr. Catherine Tompkins, Associate Dean Nursing, Faculty of Health Science, Dr. Alba DiCenso, Professor, Nursing and Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics, and Dr. Janet Landeen, Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Nursing Education Program, to learn about undergraduate curriculum design.
Tokyo Women’s Medical University

Professor Yumiko Yamamoto and Mikko Hara of Tokyo’s Women’s University School of Nursing visited the Faculty of Health Science on October 26-29, 2010 to learn more about McMaster University’s innovative health sciences curricula. During their visit, they had the opportunity to observe Problem Based Learning (PBL) tutorials and to meet with faculty members and students in both the BScN and BHSc programs. Professor Yamamoto and Ms. Hara also met with Dr. David Musson, Director of Simulation-Based Learning and Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesia, to hear about simulation and interprofessional learning. Finally, the visitors met with Dr. Sheila Whalen, Instructor, Bachelor of Health Sciences, as well as third year students of the Space Medicine and Physiology program.

Mexico

A visit to McMaster University from Professor Elsa Rodriguez, Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Nursing, and Cristina Govea, Nursing student from Universidad Autonoma in San Luis Potosí, Mexico took place in April 2011. Faculty, staff, and students from the School of Nursing met with the visitors to discuss McMaster’s nursing curricula. Visitors also had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Patty Solomon, Associate Dean and Director, Rehabilitation Sciences, to learn more about developing a School of Rehabilitation Science at Universidad Autonoma.

Uganda

Dr. Sam Kaggwa, Senior Lecturer and Head of Department of Surgery at Mulago/Makerere College of Health Sciences, Kampala, Uganda, visited McMaster University on April 5 and 6, 2011. There have been long-standing multidisciplinary collaborations coordinated through St. Joseph’s International Outreach Program with organizations in Uganda, including electives at McMaster by Ugandan residents under Dr. Brian Cameron’s leadership. During his visit there were opportunities to learn about the Department of Surgical Education as well as simulation based learning.

United States of America

On April 20, 2010, Dr. Nicholas Taley, Chair, Department of Internal Medicine, Mayo Clinic Florida, visited McMaster University and met with Dr. Alan Neville, Assistant Dean, Undergraduate MD Program, Dr. Rob Whyte, Clinical Placement Liaison Office Director, Undergraduate MD Program, and Dr. Andrea Baumann, Associate Vice President, Faculty of Health Sciences, Global Health. During his visit, he also had the opportunity to deliver rounds.
The Global Health Speaker’s Series were developed in 2010. This successful series of five lectures offered an exciting opportunity to share ideas and discuss global health. These lectures were presented live and were offered via Elluminate for people attending by distance and were also taped for future viewing.

In the first presentation, Dr. Dauphin, a Haitian-born physician, talked about the role of St. Joseph’s Health-care and McMaster University in providing disaster relief in Haiti after the 2010 earthquake. Dr. Alexandre Dauphin gathered a group of Hamilton community leaders and traveled to Port-au-Prince to share his expertise and time to those affected by the earthquake. St. Joseph’s Hospital and McMaster University have taken part in four team trips with Dr. Dauphin in order to assist in relief efforts. Following Dr. Dauphin’s presentation, Dr. Sachi Shindo, from the Japanese Red Cross Hospital, walked the audience through her experience as a Director of Nursing at the time of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995. During her presentation, Dr. Shindo discussed the efforts of the Japanese Red Cross and the involvement of Japanese nurses during and after the earthquake. Her presentation included effective methods of responding to disaster situations, such as organizing food and resources for staff and patients. Suggestions regarding nursing activities in disaster relief were also discussed. Her concluding remarks emphasized the need to take initiative, build networks and the importance of preparation in disaster relief.

On October 25, 2010, the second global health speaker series provided two lectures, given by Dr. Dan Poenaru and Dr. Stephen Foster. They shared their insights into the substantial need for healthcare workers in Africa. Dr. Poenaru is a Canadian pediatric surgeon, adjunct Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics at Queen’s University and Clinical Director of BethanyKids at Kijabe Hospital in Kenya. BethanyKids’ vision is to see “healing and hope brought to Africa’s needy children and their families,” with a focus on disability rehabilitation. Dr. Poenaru discussed the contrasts in clinical practice, pathology, and financial and human healthcare resources between Canada and Kenya. Dr. Poenaru and BethanyKids are involved in training nurses, general surgeons in pediatric surgery, interns, and medical students in Kenya. BethanyKids’ current clinical partnership and training in Kenya has extended to hospitals in Tanzania and Madagascar, with plans for partnership with a medical center in Ethiopia in 2012. Dr. Stephen Foster, a Clinical Associate Professor with McMaster’s Department of Surgery, discussed his experiences as a founder and medical director of the Centro Evangelico de Medicina do Lubango in Angola. In his medical centre, Dr. Foster trains nurses to perform minor surgeries, as there is a lack of medical doctors willing to live and work in the region. He has developed a training program for nurses to enhance their scope of practice and surgical skills. In his presentation Dr. Foster emphasized the importance of culture and community context when engaging in global health. Dr. Foster also spoke about the importance of focusing not only primary health care initiatives in developing countries, but the need to engage more health professionals in providing acute care such as surgery. Following his presentation, two first year medical students from McMaster shared their inspirational experiences working alongside Dr. Foster doing surgery and research in Angola.
On January 31, 2011, Dr. David Koff, Associate Professor of Radiology and Chief Department of Diagnostic Imaging at Hamilton Health Sciences, led the third lecture on the topic of the globalization of radiology. With the growing shortage of radiologists, it is becoming more difficult for community hospitals to access specialty radiologist support. In his lecture, Dr. Koff discussed the role of teleradiology as a solution to providing collaborative expertise in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of care delivery, providing equitable access to care, enhancing educational opportunities and allowing access to subspecialty radiologic support. He further discussed the standards and regulatory practices of teleradiology including qualifications, licensing, credentialing and liability. The goal of this growing advancement is to move towards maximizing inter-provincial and cross-border transactions to ensure safe and quality care for patients.

On February 8, 2011 Bruce Moore, Director of the North South Institute, Founder of the International Land Coalition and board member in many global organizations, presented the fourth Global Health Speaker’s Series lecture concerning the unequal balance of global rights and resources. Moore’s extensive research has led to the conclusion that land ownership is the key for overcoming global poverty, and expanding global health. Moore outlined six benefits of land tenure such as, food security, sustainable natural resource management, environmental sustainability, democracy, poverty reduction, and improvements in the physical quality of life index. In his experience and research, Moore has witnessed that equitable access to land has increased global food security, thereby increasing the nutrition levels of families, leading them to be more productive in their local economy. Lastly, Moore answered questions on Canada’s role in mining exploitation, and its devastating health effects in Guyana, calling for more global accountability.

The fifth lecture was given on March 24, 2011 by Dr. Holger Schünemann, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Dr. Schünemann discussed his recent appointment with the World Health Organization’s Global Advisory Committee on Health Research. He described the implications of recommendations that are largely influenced by industry and the need for a shift to guideline development that is based on best-available evidence and outlined the efforts of the WHO in creating evidence-based guidelines, including the development of the ‘WHO Handbook for Guideline Development’ and the creation of the ‘Guidelines Review Committee.’ He described some of the most notable changes in the processes of developing WHO guidelines. These include the commissioning of systematic reviews, preparation of evidence summaries, use of decision tables, emphasis on structuring group processes, and development of training workshops for staff to connect to guideline panels. Finally, Dr. Schünemann conveyed the importance of restructuring the development and review processes of guidelines using an example case study on Avian Flu in rural Indonesia.
McMaster University and Aga Khan University School of Nursing & Midwifery [AKUSON & M]

A Curriculum Development Workshop for Undergraduate Nursing Education [UGNE] was held at the Aga Khan University (AKU) in Nairobi, Kenya from January 17th through January 20th, 2011 to discuss the development of an innovative nursing education model for East Africa. Dr. Andrea Baumann, Dr. Catherine Tompkins, Dr. Janet Landeen and Alyshah Kaba of McMaster University were invited to the Curriculum Development Workshop to share their experiences related to issues, challenges faced and strategies used to promote integration of liberal arts with science and nursing in McMaster’s undergraduate nursing curriculum. The workshop discussed the attributes of BScN graduates from AKU, Nairobi, innovative teaching/learning strategies, different pedagogies that engender student engagement as well as assessment strategies.

Following the UGNE Curriculum Workshop, Dr. Andrea Baumann and Alyshah Kaba of McMaster University and Dr. Yasmin Amarsi and Farida Shamsy of AKU compiled the Development of an Undergraduate Nursing Education Plan: Curriculum Planning Report. The report focuses on the next steps of curriculum development which include development of timelines, a governance structure, by-laws, a curriculum blueprint, student admission process, budget and human resource plan. The next workshop is planned to be held at the end of 2011 to discuss the progress of the Committee’s work and availability of budget.

McMaster University, Aga Khan University and the Aga Khan Global Centre for Nursing

President Firoz Rasul (Aga Khan University, Pakistan) and Ms. Farzana Karim Haji (University Partnership Office, AKU), visited McMaster University on December 21, 2010 to meet with President Patrick Deane, Dr. Andrea Baumann, Dr. John Kelton and Dr. Catherine Tompkins regarding the proposed establishment of The Aga Khan Global Centre for Nursing Excellence. The Aga Khan Global Centre for Nursing Excellence will focus on three core areas: (1) Research - This will be collaborative between AKU and McMaster University. Expert researchers from McMaster University School of Nursing (SON) will come to the Centre to facilitate and lead research in nursing and midwifery; (2) Education – Faculty from around the globe will share evidence for best practices in curriculum development, faculty development, strengthening of clinical education and quality assurance; (3) Policy: Strengthening of Professional Nursing Bodies – McMaster University will support the AKU in developing and/or strengthening professional nursing bodies that will improve the educational and professional conditions of nurses and also allow for the attraction and retention of nurses.

Maastricht University, The Netherlands

A visit from Dr. Frits van Merode, Vice-Dean of Maastricht University on October 13, 2010 presented an opportunity to discuss the ongoing partnership as well as possible future ventures between the collaborative Masters in Global Health program offered at Maastricht University and McMaster University. Dr. Frits van Merode met with Dr. Del Harnish, Assistant Dean of Health Sciences and the Director of the program, as well as other faculty members involved with the program. Discussions about developing a Global Health research observatory (a mechanism by which students can be matched with industry and public sector initiatives) have been ongoing. Following this meeting, Drs. Gerard Mols and Frits van Merode of Maastricht University returned to McMaster on March 24-25, 2011 to further investigate relationships beyond health sciences. During this time, they met with President Patrick Deane; Dr. John Capone, Dean of Science; Dr. Suzanne Crosta, Dean of Humanities; and Dr. David Wilkinson, Dean of Engineering.
Targeted International Activities

Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research

On December 8, 2010, the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research in partnership with the federal government, invited experts from various universities and organizations across Canada to provide advice and information on university-based global health programs.

Dr. Andrea Baumann, Associate Vice-President, Global Health, FHSc McMaster, was invited to present on pressing global health issues in which Canada could have the most impact, Canada’s current strategic role in global health, and recent success stories of Canada’s role in global health. The session addressed the panel’s mandate, which was to look at how increasing interest in global health on Canada’s university campuses can be constructively channelled into supporting Canada’s strategic role in global health.

McMaster – Brock Global Health Research Forum

The FHSc Global Health Office supported a knowledge sharing initiative between McMaster University, Brock University, and the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research where discussions were held surrounding the current challenges and innovations in global health research. The forum was held May 4 and 5, 2011 at McMaster University. Invited speakers included Dr. Patrick Deane, President and Vice Chancellor, McMaster University, and Dr. Jack Lightstone, President and Vice-Chancellor, Brock University. Both university presidents provided comments on the Council of Ontario Universities: The “Open Ontario” Strategy for Internationalizing Post-Secondary Education document and confirmed their commitment to internationalization. Dr. James Lavery, Research Scientist at the Center for Global Health and Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto, presented a lecture on the Evolving Values in Ethics and Global Health Research.

Reception for His Excellency, Dr. Abdullah Al-Rabeeah

An invitation was received for Dr. Andrea Baumann, Associate Vice-President, Global Health, to attend a reception in honour of His Excellency Dr. Abdullah Al-Rabeeah, Minister of Health, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The event was held May 26, 2010 at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. His Excellency provided an overview of the variety of health care initiatives in Saudi Arabia.

WHO Collaborating Center, McMaster School of Nursing

McMaster University’s School of Nursing, Faculty of Health Sciences has been redesignated as a Pan-American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) Collaborating Center in Primary Care Nursing and Human Health Resources. This exciting reassignment will be for a period of four years, 2011-2015. The School of Nursing’s terms of reference involve collaboration with the PAHO/WHO in order to complete the following:

1. Analysis of the nursing workforce in order to inform health human resources and health service policies
2. Strengthening nursing education to contribute to the development of primary health care integrated services
3. Developing and disseminating knowledge related to nursing human health resources and inter-professional collaboration to address workforce needs

WHO Meeting in Sao Paul, Brazil

The annual Pan American Network of Nursing and Midwifery Collaborating Centers (PANMCC) meeting brings together members from eleven designated WHO Collaborating Centres from Nursing and Midwifery Development in the Region of the Americas. The aim of the meeting is to strengthen nursing goals and discuss activities specific to the Pan American Health Organization. The meeting was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil on July 26, 2010. It discussed the goals of the collaborating centers and outlined the terms of reference for the proposed activities, which include strengthening education and practice of collaborating partners in the developing countries and providing educational approaches in development of nurses for leadership roles in nursing education and practice. The need for strengthening capacity for policy and health human resource planning and assessing relationships among quality work environments, leadership, and nurse and patient outcomes were also discussed. A five year collaborative research program in public health was introduced, which will be exploring provincial policy implementation in the areas of chronic disease and sexually-transmitted infection prevention in Ontario and British Columbia.
SUMMER INSTITUTE

The Global Health Office hosted their 5th Annual International Interdisciplinary Summer Institute June 21st through June 25th 2010. The program was held at McMaster University where faculty from different parts of the world gathered to learn about educational methodologies used at McMaster.

The Institute has been successful over the past five years attracting faculty from all over the world. In June 2010, seventeen participants attended the Institute from North-West University, South Africa (10); Yonsei University, South Korea (2); Japanese Red Cross, Hiroshima College of Nursing, Japan (2); Niigata University Hospital, Japan (1), Daejeon University, South Korea (1); and University of Botswana, Botswana (1). The interdisciplinary group comprised of nurses, midwives as well as a physician and an academic counselor.

The Institute has provided opportunities for future collaboration with international academic institutions. The ongoing goal of the Summer Institute is to share ideas and best practices with colleagues from around the world regarding education and practice, and to discuss unique educational approaches in the development of health care workers.

A partnership program between McMaster University and North West University was solidified in 2009 and a Memorandum of Understanding was signed that demonstrated a commitment to capacity building.

On the basis of this agreement, Dr. Catherine Tompkins, Associate Dean of the School of Nursing and McMaster nursing faculty assist North West in its development of their nursing programs and faculty development, including post doctoral studies. Other activities include enhancing research skills, staff and student exchanges and assisting in the broader development of Problem Based Learning (PBL) in South Africa.

This program implements community oriented, people-centered, interdisciplinary and PBL. This “McMaster Approach” is being adapted in whole or in part by many universities across the world. North West University held a PBL workshop highlighting what they had learned while sharing the “McMaster Approach” with representatives from three other South African Universities.

The 6th Annual International Interdisciplinary Summer Institute is being held June 21st through 25th, 2011. There are twenty participants registered from institutions, including University College Lillebaelt, Denmark (3); North West University, South Africa (10); Multi Campus, South Africa (2); University of Botswana, Botswana (1); Aga Khan University, East Africa (3); Red Cross College of Nursing, Korea (1).
There were a lot of the green and gold colours of South Africa’s World Cup soccer team around campus at the end of June, and for good reason. The national team’s jerseys and jackets belonged to 10 proud health professionals from South Africa’s North West University who participated in McMaster’s fifth annual International Interdisciplinary Summer Institute, organized by the Global Health Office.

Delegates also came from Japan, South Korea and Botswana.

The South Africans’ enthusiasm for their home soccer team was matched only by their enthusiasm for McMaster whose faculty are helping them implement the McMaster approach and Problem-Based Learning (PBL) at North West.

Along with sessions on PBL, educational methodologies, simulated patients and faculty development, the five-day institute included an interactive workshop on interprofessional education. In this presentation, participants learned how several different professionals - a ward nurse, senior resident and home care nurse - effectively worked as a team in the care of a patient being discharged from hospital.

The partnership between McMaster and North West was galvanized by a successful $2 million grant for capacity building from the Atlantic Philanthropies of New York proposed by Andrea Baumann, associate vice-president, Global Health, and Mashudu Maselesele, dean of agriculture, science and technology and the department of nursing at North West.

"It is this type of human infrastructure funding that helps provide the badly needed educational development in countries suffering an acute shortage of nurses," said Baumann. "Through this agreement, McMaster’s nursing faculty is assisting North West in its development of master’s and doctoral degrees, opportunities for post-doctoral studies, while enhancing research and education skills along with staff and student exchanges between the two universities."

With only 3,185 professional nurses to serve a population 3.8 million, North West province - the fifth largest of South Africa’s nine provinces - has a dire need for nurses as people struggle with an aging population, HIV, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and malnutrition. Recruiting and retaining nurses is a major challenge.

Five months after last year’s group attended the summer institute, North West held a PBL workshop highlighting what they had learned while sharing the McMaster approach with representatives from three other South African universities.

Rene Phetlhu, senior lecturer and collaboration coordinator at North West University, said one of the next steps is to tease out aspects of the McMaster approach that can be adapted to the South African context. For example, McMaster’s emphasis is on small group discussions but a South African class can have as many as 70 students.

"The question is how to divide the students so that every group has the same consistency and each student gets the best out of it," she said.

Jude Igumbor, project manager in North West’s Department of Nursing Science, said that while last year’s group brought back knowledge of PBL, this year’s group hopes to develop their skills and expertise in this approach.

"The next step is to work with McMaster to adjust our curriculum and materials to better incorporate the McMaster approach," he said.
International Grant Submissions

**GUYANA**

**St. Joseph’s Community Healthcare System**

St. Joseph’s Community Healthcare System in Hamilton has had a longstanding relationship with the anesthesia chief in Guyana to develop a new curriculum for anesthesia to elevate their level of practice (arising out of the project led by Dr. Brian Cameron). As part of the surgical curriculum in Guyana, the Simulation Centre at McMaster (Dr. Dave Musson) has provided the infrastructure for the distance managed use of the simulation program in order to support trauma instruction in Guyana.

**UGANDA**

**Department of Radiology/St. Joseph’s Community Healthcare System**

Case Study Partnerships – Strengthening higher education stakeholder relations in Africa (2011-2012) (AUCC-CIDA): The department of Radiology has partnered with two African Institutions: Adekunle Ajasin University (Nigeria) and Makerere University (Uganda) for a case study strategic planning partnership that will allow the two African Universities to enhance their roles in teaching, research, human resources development, storage and dissemination of knowledge and contribution to national, regional and international cooperation and understanding. The proposal was submitted in October 2010.

The grant allows St. Joseph’s Community Healthcare System to meet regularly with the University of Mbarare to provide workshops in order to train Ugandan anesthesiologists in regional anesthesia techniques that are appropriate for their work. There has also been a long standing multidisciplinary collaboration in training and research with the head of Surgery at Mulago/ Makerere University Medical Centre enabling Ugandan residents to take elective courses at McMaster University.

**UGANDA**

**Department of Radiology**

Capacity building proposal in health human resources using ultrasound: a Canada-Africa Research Exchange project between Canada and Uganda (IDRC).

The Department of Radiology has partnered with two African Institutions: Adekunle Ajasin University (Nigeria) and Makerere University (Uganda) for a case study strategic planning partnership that will allow the two universities to enhance their roles in teaching, research, human resources development, storage and dissemination of knowledge and contribution to national, regional and international cooperation and understanding. The proposal was submitted to the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in June 2010.

**SOUTH AFRICA**

**Mafikeng: North West University**

The Department of Nursing Science, North West University, Mafikeng Campus and the School of Nursing at McMaster University have been working collaboratively together to implement Problem Based Learning Workshops that will enable educators to learn about Problem Based Learning (PBL) through intense experiential and practice activities built on evidence based PBL theories. The workshops are aimed to help educators appreciate PBL as a learning strategy that better enhance learners’ knowledge base, communication skills, and complex problem solving abilities, effective critical thinking, decision making, leadership, respect, collaboration and lifelong learning culture.
Faculty of Health Science- Anesthesia, Surgery and Nursing, Canadian Bureau of International Education (CBIE) (funded by DFAIT)

In collaboration with the McMaster Department of Anesthesia and Department of Surgery, the McMaster School of Nursing formed a partnership with the State University of Haiti’s Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, the National School of Nursing and a Haitian based non-government organization to conduct a project addressing education and primary health care in Haiti. This multidisciplinary project seeks to build capacity of academic institutions and provide opportunities for Haitians to study and enhance skill sets, particularly in the priority area of primary health care and acute care nursing. This partnership recognizes that a long-term reduction in infant/maternal mortality rates in Haiti depends upon an efficient health system from primary, through secondary, to tertiary care. In order to address this issue, a sustainable “training the trainer” approach has been facilitated through workshops proposed by the multidisciplinary team. In partnership with the Hopital Universitaire de La Paix, the McMaster School of Nursing and Department of Anesthesia established workshops that offer the opportunity for Haitian primary healthcare workers to come to McMaster and train with Canadian educators and front-line staff. Subsequently, both a regional nursing workshop and regional anesthesia workshop were held in Haiti to provide education for the nursing and anesthesia departments at Hopital Universitaire de La Paix. These initiatives will improve the quality of nursing and specialized care while simultaneously enhancing interprofessional education. Consequently, Haitian nurses and specialists will receive primary health care and acute care training (from both the new Haitian nurse trainees and from Canadian educators) to ultimately provide the hospital with sustainable long term nurse and specialist training capabilities.

Department of Radiology: Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) - Muskoka Initiative Partnership Program (2011)

The Department of Radiology partnered with the Universities and the Ministries of Health and Social Welfare in Tanzania and Ethiopia in East Africa and submitted a proposal to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) initiative to address maternal, newborn and child health. The project is entitled, “A private public partnership to train health personnel in maternal and infant diagnosis and referrals using innovative leading edge.” The lead researcher is Dr. Eli Tshibwabwa. The proposal was submitted in January 2011 for approximately $5 Million.

Department of Radiology

Creating a robust, but affordable portable ultrasound machine in Sub-Saharan Africa (2011-2012) Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation – Grand Challenges Round 6): The department of Radiology (Dr. Eli Tshibwabwa) submitted a proposal in November 2010 regarding an innovative technology for improving the health of mothers and newborns. The proposal is lead by Dr. Eli Tshibwabwa who is working with the Global Health Office. The proposal was submitted November 2nd, 2010.
eHealth: Human Resources & Health Service Strengthening in Tanzania

The Department of Radiology and the Universities and the Ministries of Health and Social Welfare in Tanzania and Ethiopia submitted a proposal to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to address maternal, newborn and child health (March 31, 2011). The aim of the project is to train over 1000 health professionals in the province of Bukoba, Tanzania, over a 4 year time frame. The project proponents are Memorial University’s Centre for Nursing Studies/Distance Education Learning Technologies and McMaster University’s Global Health Office. The proposed partners are the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare: Department of Distance Education and the Aga Khan University in Pakistan.

Proposal to USAID, Grand Challenges Canada

A proposal was submitted in partnership with the Department of Radiology (Dr. Tshibwabwa) entitled, “Rural Tanzania: Reducing Risks in maternal and Neonatal Health at Birth”. This capacity building project is designed to utilize a private-public partnership by utilizing compact ultrasound machines and training of health personnel. The implementation of this integrated innovation will increase the early detection of maternal and neonatal complications, public and staff education, and healthcare accessibility, thus reducing maternal and infant morbidity and mortality rates in rural Tanzania.
President Patrick Deane held a Town Hall Dialogue with members of the McMaster community to discuss internationalization at McMaster. The government of Ontario has published a position paper, Open Ontario that discusses internationalization in higher education. McMaster’s Global Health Office is implementing the directions gained from these resources to guide its activities and future directions. Through the vision of reinforcing McMaster’s reputation in global health, our aim is to build upon current successes and seek to coordinate, as well as facilitate, McMaster’s expertise in a highly complex and changing global environment. The altruistic component of globalization allows us to create new opportunities that bring the Faculty of Health Sciences closer to its perception of being renowned worldwide for research, education and community development.

The following statements will help to guide the future directions of the Global Health Office:

- Increase international profile
- Align current efforts with the intellectual vision for McMaster
- Maximize communications and relationships to support our vision
- Examine current efforts and achievements towards global development
- Capitalize on activities to accelerate the impact of internationalization
- Maximize faculty and student exchanges
- Develop altruistic approaches (e.g., Doctors Without Borders)
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