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My first year with MERIT (McMaster Education Research, Innovation and Theory Program) has been exciting and challenging. With the launch of a new name, our community has undergone a number of changes. Of course, we stand on more than 40 years of internationally recognized health professions education research, dating back to our origins as the Program for Educational Development.

Our mission statement speaks to the two inter-related goals of MERIT.

Conducting world-renowned health professions education scholarship is a core goal of MERIT. Within this report you will read the stories and scroll through the citations that provide more depth to the type and influence of our scholarship. Our areas of expertise are captured in our research themes.

The second goal of MERIT speaks to growing a community of practice. Our aim is to engage faculty from across Health Sciences who are involved in education scholarship. In the past year we have added 3 adjunct scientists, 3 scholars and 13 members to the MERIT program. Our community has facilitated conversations, debates, peer review, internal support and collaboration across projects. Through monthly MERIT Rounds, our open thinkTank consultation service, regular MERIT membership meetings, and our annual retreat, we have joined as a community to advance best practices for health professions education. Our collaborations with the Health Sciences Education graduate studies program, AFC Clinician Educator program, Centre for Simulation-based Learning, and DFM Medical Education Research Meeting have also encouraged the growth of our community.

At MERIT, we produce evidence to develop health professional expertise. We do this by advancing:

- Research on education in clinical, digital and simulated learning environments
- Innovative education designs and policies
- Theories of social, professional, and cognitive skill development for high quality healthcare

MISSION: Growing a community of clinicians and scientists to advance health professions education through research and applied science.
Of course, our connections have extended beyond McMaster. We have welcomed visiting speakers from across North America and Europe. We hosted Jamiu Busari MD PhD as a visiting scholar from Maastricht University for a three-month collaboration with the MERIT community. In November MERIT hosted and chaired a pan-Canadian consensus meeting to discuss competency-based medical education (CBME) and facilitate a research agenda to evaluate the assumptions underpinning CBME.

Finally, in the first half of 2019, there are a number of exciting events that we are supporting, including:

- Conference on Gender Equity in Academic Health Professions: **March 21-22**;
- Sibley Lecture on Health Professions Education with Dr. Jacalyn Duffin: **April 11**;
- Creating Spaces IX Conference - Cultural Humility and Contemporary Medical Practice: (How) Can the Humanities Help? **April 12-13**; and
- Norman Education Research Day: **June 5**.

We welcome you to join us for these special events. You can discover more about us at our website: merit.mcmaster.ca or reach out directly at: merit@mcmaster.ca.

Best wishes for 2019,

**WHAT'S IN A NAME?**

The MERIT logo is meant to evoke a number of themes.

- Evokes the image of a mountain, a reference to our city and the Niagara escarpment.
- Suggests progress, ascending the scholarly work of others to achieve new understanding.
- Incorporates books, a reference to the scholarship and rich tradition that support our programs of research.
- Incorporates the letter M, a reference to our university.
A FEW PLACES WE’VE PRESENTED

Dr. Geoff Norman
Mexican Association of Faculties and Schools of Medicine (AMFEM) Annual Congress. Mazatlan, Mexico

Dr. Lawrence Grierson & Dr. Meredith Vanstone

Dr. Sandra Monteiro & Dr. Ranil Sonnadara
2nd Annual International Competency Based Medical Education Summit. Basel, Switzerland

Dr. Kelly Dore
International Selection in the Health Professions Conference. Melbourne, Australia

Dr. Jonathan Sherbino
Canadian Conference on Medical Education. Halifax, Nova Scotia

Dr. Teresa Chan
Council of Residency Directors (CORD) Academic Assembly 2018. San Antonio, Texas

Dr. Kelly Dore & Dr. Sandra Monteiro
Ottawa Conference and ICME. Abu Dhabi, UAE
38th Annual Meeting of the Association for Surgical Education (ASE).

**Austin, Texas**
74th Annual Clinical and Scientific Conference, Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC). **Victoria, British Columbia**
American Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) Annual Conference. **Orlando, Florida**
Asia Pacific Medical Education Conference (APMEC) Annual Conference, Singapore
Association for Psychological Science (APS) Annual Conference. **San Francisco, California**
Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians. **Calgary, Alberta**
Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians National Conference. **Halifax, Nova Scotia**
Canadian Medical Protective Association. **Winnipeg, Manitoba**
Canadian Nursing Education Conference (CASN) Annual Conference. **Montreal, Quebec**
Canadian Pharmacy Education and Research Conference (CPERC) Annual Conference. **Ottawa, Ontario**
Celebration of Education Scholarship, Department of Community and Family Medicine, University of Toronto.

**Toronto, Ontario**
Department of Medical Education & Innovation, University of Ottawa. **Ottawa, Ontario**
Development & Education in Simulation Inter-professional Group of Niagara (DESIGN) Simulation Kick-Off event.

**Niagara Falls, Ontario**
Diagnostic Errors in Medicine Europe. **Bern, Switzerland**
Health Workforce Evidence Unit, Ministry of Health and Long-term Care. **Toronto, Ontario**
Human Sciences Speaker Series. Northern Ontario School of Medicine. **Thunder Bay, Ontario**
International Association for Medical Education (AMEE) Annual Conference. **Basel, Switzerland**
International Conference of Residency Education (ICRE). **Halifax, Nova Scotia**
New York University School of Medicine. **New York, New York**
Norman Education Research Day. McMaster University. **Hamilton, Ontario**
Ontario Health Technology Advisory Committee. Health Quality Ontario. **Toronto, Ontario**
Professional Competencies Lecture for UGME, McMaster University. **Hamilton, Ontario**
Society for Thoracic Surgery Conference on Clinical Reasoning. **Montreal, Quebec**
St. Michael’s Hospital Education Research Committee. **Toronto, Ontario**
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<td>Canadian Association of Medical Educators Wooster Family Grant in Medical Education</td>
<td>McMaster Surgical Associates Education Research Grant</td>
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<td>Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR-CHRP) x2</td>
<td>Michael G. DeGroote Health Leadership Academy</td>
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<td>Compute Ontario</td>
<td>PSI Foundation Graham Farquharson Knowledge Translation Fellowship</td>
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<td>Continuing Health Science Education Program Research and Innovation Fund</td>
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<td>FHS Innovation Grant</td>
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<td>Greenwall Foundation</td>
<td>Royal College Medical Education Research Grant x6</td>
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<td>Kelowna Emergency Physician Association Research Grant</td>
<td>Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Health System Research Fund</td>
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<td>MacPherson Institute ELAP Grant</td>
<td>University of Washington Education Grant</td>
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**TOTAL GRANTS:** $4.7 million
Awards & Honours

Dr. Teresa Chan
- Journal of Graduate Medical Education 2017 Top Reviewer Award
- Young Alumni of Distinction Award, Western University
- Publons Peer Review Award

Dr. Sandra Monteiro
- Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE) Best Research Paper Award

Dr. Meredith Vanstone
- Promotion to Associate Professor (effective July 1, 2019)
- Faculty of Health Sciences Award for Excellence in Graduate Supervision

Dr. Matthew Sibbald
- 2018 Postgraduate Medical Education Award: Faculty Award for Excellence and Innovation

Dr. Jonathan Sherbino
- Promotion to Professor
- Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP) Teacher of the Year Award

Dr. Lawrence Grierson
- Promotion to Assistant Dean, Health Sciences Education
- 2019 Canadian Association for Medical Education Certificate of Merit
- Jacqui Wakefield Mentorship Award

Dr. Kelly Dore
- Graduate Teaching Award, Department of Medicine
- Long standing Contribution Award, McMaster University Faculty of Health Sciences
- Best Conference Research Paper: 100th AAOMS Annual Meeting

Dr. Geoff Norman
- Faculty of Health Sciences’ Community of Distinction Award
MERIT MEMBERSHIP

There are three levels of membership: **Member, Scholar, and Scientist.**

**MEMBER**

**Benefits:**
- MERIT affiliation
- Profile in MERIT communications
- Opportunity for project consultation with one of our scholars or scientists

**Responsibilities:**
- Regular attendance at our monthly MERIT Rounds
- Presentation at MERIT rounds

**SCHOLAR**

**Benefits:**
- Eligibility to compete for conference funding, limited research assistance support
- Access to internal peer review of applications and publications and academic mentorship
- Access to tele- or video-conferencing for project communication
- Profile in MERIT communications
- Opportunity for project consultation with one of our scholars or scientists

**Responsibilities:**
- Peer consultations with Scientists
- Scholarly paper review
- Membership on HSEd thesis committee(s)
- Regular attendance at our monthly MERIT meetings
- Regular attendance at our monthly MERIT Rounds
- Presentation at MERIT rounds

**SCIENTIST**

**Benefits:**
- Office space, conference funding, research assistance support
- SPSS / NVivo subscription, CV management, expense management
- Access to senior academic mentorship
- Assisting with welcoming and hosting visiting scholars / scientists and eligibility for 1:1 consultation time
- Access to tele- or video-conferencing for project communication
- Profile in MERIT communications
- Opportunity for project consultation with one of our scholars or scientists

**Responsibilities:**
- Competing for peer-reviewed grants, producing first or senior author peer-reviewed publications, supervising HSEd thesis students
- Collaborating with Scholars
- Regular attendance at our monthly MERIT meetings
- Regular attendance at our monthly MERIT Rounds
- Presentation at MERIT rounds
Kelly is the Inaugural Director of the Masters Science in Health Science Education program at McMaster University. She is a MERIT Scientist and an Associate Professor in the Departments of Medicine (Division of Innovation and Education), Obstetrics and Gynecology, and the Post Graduate Medical Education Program. Kelly is affiliated with numerous professional organizations, including as the Canadian Representative at International Network for Researchers in Selection in Healthcare (INReSH). Kelly holds an affiliated appointment with the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact at McMaster University. She is involved in numerous internal and national grant selection committees.

Kelly completed her PhD in Health Research Methodology at McMaster University, under the supervision of Drs. Geoff Norman and Kevin Eva, with a focus on Health Professions Education Research and Cognitive Psychology. She is the Co-Creator of CASPer (Computer-based Assessment for Sampling Personal Characteristics) a selection tool used internationally for selection into health professions and teacher education.

Kelly’s current research interests include assessment/evaluation, measures of selection (including personal and professional/ non-academic characteristics) at the undergraduate and postgraduate education level. Additionally, she is interested in the unintended consequences resulting from large scale educational policy shifts, i.e. CBME implementation. She has held multiple grants from both the Medical Council of Canada and the National Board of Medical Examiners (Stemmler Grant). She has received the Department of Medicine Internal Career Award for Quality in Patient Safety and was the recipient of the Canadian Association of Medical Education Award of Merit.
Dr. Lawrence Grierson, PhD
Associate Professor, Family Medicine

Dr. Lawrence Grierson is Associate Professor with the Department of Family Medicine at McMaster University and an Education Scientist with the McMaster Faculty of Health Sciences’s Program for Educational Research, Innovation, and Theory (MERIT), the Program for Community and Rural Education (Mac-CARE), and the Undergraduate MD Program at McMaster University; appointments through which he leads a variety of research pertaining to Health Professions Education. Lawrence is also the Associate Director of the McMaster’s Graduate Program Health Sciences Education and a member of the CFPC’s Program Evaluation Advisory Group for the Triple-C Curriculum.

Through this multi-faceted position, Dr. Grierson works to develop lines of inquiry within the context of a translational (theory-to-applied) environment that engages and supports graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and clinician-educators and clinician-researchers. A main goal with these activities is to tie educational research into the greater health care community’s mandates around patient safety and quality improvement so as to foster a better understanding of the downstream impacts of educational and/or curricular reform on patient, hospital, and health system outcomes.

The particular themes of Lawrence’s research can be organized under two broad classifications:

1. With respect to the integration of theoretical kinesiology and applied medical education research as it pertains to the control and acquisition of precision clinical-technical skills.
2. With respect to research in priority areas of medical education, which reflect efforts to nurture scholarship and inquiry within the Department of Family Medicine, Undergraduate MD Program, and McMaster Community and Rural Education Program.

Lawrence obtained his PhD in Kinesiology at McMaster University before completing concurrent postdoctoral fellowships with the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, Sick Kids Learning Institute, Lawrence S. Bloomberg School of Nursing, and The Department of Occupational Therapy and Occupational Science at the University of Toronto.

Lawrence is especially interested in the way sensory-perceptual information processing impacts the control and learning of precision manual movements, and he applies this perspective in studies concerned with understanding the features of effective clinical skills training, the objective assessment of technical skills, and the feasibility of internet-mediated networked learning tools for clinical skills training.
Dr. Sandra Monteiro, PhD
Assistant Professor, Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact

Sandra Monteiro is an Assistant Professor with the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact at McMaster University. Sandra has a PhD in Cognitive Psychology from McMaster University. As an education research scientist with MERIT, her program of research encompasses clinical competence and patient safety. Her current focus is on the development of clinical reasoning skills and strategies to avoid errors.

Sandra serves as the Assistant Director of Research at the Centre for Simulation Based Learning and is seconded to Touchstone Institute in Toronto as the Director of Research and Analysis.

Sandra’s primary research investigates theoretical models of cognitive processes behind clinical reasoning with application for education and assessment. In particular, she is interested in factors that influence the detection and correction of errors in judgment.

In addition to her primary research program on clinical reasoning, Sandra has expertise in the area of competence assessment and best practices for education strategies. Her contribution to these programs is mainly as a content expert on theories of learning, cognition more broadly, data analysis and research design. Within her main research focus on clinical reasoning, Sandra is part of an internationally recognized research collaboration with Geoff Norman, Matthew Sibbald and Jonathan Sherbino.

This research collaboration extends to international research partners including Jonathan Ilgen from the University of Washington and Henk Schmidt and Laura Zwaan from Erasmus University. Locally, with methodological expertise from Meredith Vanstone, they have conducted a study to explore the personal reflections of primary care physicians on their own diagnostic errors as well as the perceived impact on their approaches to education with medical residents. This project has produced data that offers incredible insights about how physicians struggle with their own mistakes and how they may pass on those internal struggles to their trainees. These data are still being explored and will certainly inform strategies for error reduction and correction.
Dr. Geoffrey Norman, PhD
Professor, Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact

Geoff has been a MERIT Scientist since 1971. His primary faculty appointment is in Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact, and he also has an associate membership in Psychology, Neurosciences, and Behaviour.

His long-standing interest is in cognitive psychology, particularly as it applies to clinical reasoning, learning, and decision-making. Allied to this is a recent interest in the role of technical simulation in learning. He has particular expertise in statistics and measurement, and has authored several popular books in this area, with David Streiner. He has taught these subjects for years at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

Geoff has a PhD in Nuclear Physics from McMaster, in 1971, which was followed sometime later by a M.A. in Educational Psychology from Michigan State University. He has won numerous awards, including the Medical Council of Canada Outstanding Achievement Award, the Hubbard Award of the National Board of Medical Examiners, US, and the Karolinska Prize. He received an honorary degree from Erasmus University, Rotterdam in 2010. He has held a Canada Research Chair since 2001.
Jonathan is the assistant dean of MERIT. He is a professor in the Department of Medicine. Jonathan is the past chair of the Royal College Emergency Medicine Specialty Committee, the co-editor of CanMEDS 2015, and co-founder of the Royal College Area of Focused Competence – Clinician Educator. He is the co-host of the Key Literature in Medical Education (KeyLIME) podcast, which has an audience in 80 countries around the world. Jonathan’s program of research is in diagnostic reasoning.

The VEGA Project (Violence Evidence Guidance Action: A public health response to family violence) is a multi-million dollar initiative funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada. Jonathan has supported the principle investigators (Harriett McMillan – McMaster, Nadine Wathen, Western) in building a competency framework and national curriculum for 22 different health and social service professionals based on learning science. This program aims to provide evidence-informed best practices for front line professionals treating patients and supporting clients experiencing or exposed to family violence. In the coming year a pan Canadian program evaluation of this initiative will be undertaken.

The collaborative research program in clinical reasoning (with Geoff Norman, MERIT; Sandra Monteiro, MERIT, Matt Sibbald, MERIT; Jon Ilgen, University of Washington; Laura Zwaan, Erasmus University) continues with a number of successful projects. A Royal College Medical Education Research Grant funded a successful randomized trial that investigated the influence of category priming on clinical diagnosis. With novices (but not expert) diagnosticians, exposure to a diagnosis within an appropriate differential diagnosis, increased diagnostic accuracy of a clinical case. A review article on the literature and controversy regarding diagnostic reasoning and bias, published in Academic Medicine, has become one of the most cited articles in the literature on this topic within a year of publication. And, a JAMA commentary re-framing the problem of diagnostic reasoning has led to invitations to present to various academic and institutional organizations, including the Canadian Medical Protective Association.

Finally, a collaborative project, funded by Physician Services Incorporated, was completed that evaluated a mastery learning design to teach rarely performed, lifesaving technical skills. This large multi-centre randomized trial also determined six month and one-year retention of skills. This study helps to show the feasibility, efficiency and generalizability of mastery learning approaches for technical skills, including the incorporation of chronometry.

The coming year has a number of exciting initiatives. The most interesting (and challenging) relates to the Competency-based Medical Education movement that is transforming postgraduate medical education in Canada. Building off previous scholarship in this area and a key note presentation at the Canadian Conference on Medical Education, two forthcoming publications that provide a framework for evaluating CBME and pilot data on early curriculum transformations, will help inform a systematic approach to understanding the intended and unintended outcomes of this change to Canadian medical education.
Meredith Vanstone is a MERIT Scientist appointed to the Department of Family Medicine, with formal affiliation to the Undergraduate MD program. Meredith is also a member of CHEPA, the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis. Her training includes a PhD in Health Professions Education (Western University, 2012) and postdoctoral training in Health Policy at McMaster. Meredith’s program of research examines the ethical implications of policies about health professional education and practice.

Meredith is an interdisciplinary researcher who uses qualitative approaches to examine social and ethical issues related to health professional practice, education and health policy. Her research in the area of health professional education uses a policy lens to explore the social complexity of practice. Meredith has provided social and ethics evidence and consulting to provincial, national, and international health policy decision-makers.

When Meredith joined MERIT in 2016, she opened a number of new research projects on topics related to social interaction, power, and hierarchy in medical education and health professional practice. With two years spent securing funds and collecting data, Meredith is excited to dive into analysis. Her team is set to produce 4 publications next year in this area, examining mistreatment and abuse of medical learners, how organizational factors in the clinical environment influence teacher-learner relationships, how medical learners navigate social hierarchies, and how practicing physicians cope with their own mistakes and failure.
Teresa Chan is an adjunct MERIT Scientist. Her primary appointment is as an assistant professor within the Department of Medicine’s Division of Emergency Medicine. She is also the director of the McMaster Clinician Educator Area of Focused Competency Program, the first in Canada. She is also the Continuing Professional Development Director for the Division of EM, and Competency Committee Director for the RCPSC emergency medicine residency program. She received her Masters of Health Professions Education from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). She serves on the editorial boards of five journals including: AEM Education & Training, Canadian Journal of Emergency Medicine, Perspectives on Medical Education, the Journal of Education and Training in Emergency Medicine (JETem), and BMJ’s Journal of Simulation and Technology-Enhanced Learning. Dr. Chan is well known for her education research and innovation. She is one of the founding members of the CanadiEM website, the MedEdLIFE research collaborative, and a key member of the METRIQ Study Group. Her programs of research include: contextualized clinical decision making; improving knowledge translation using education theory and innovation.

Along with colleagues in other areas, Teresa has been working with a number of qualitative projects about how physicians think through multiple diagnostic possibilities at once. The work on this has been a labour of love, but it has been really exciting to see the results coming forth.

Another area where Teresa will be exploring and innovating is with the online sphere. Social media is clearly part of the fabric of the modern world, and scientists are often wary to dive in. With the support of the PSI Graham Farquharson Knowledge Translation Fellowship, Teresa is very excited to embark upon a new area of interesting research and innovation around improving knowledge translation in the age of social media. This mixed methods program of research will seek to improve the way we help scientists make their work compatible with social media.

Also, as we roll into the era of competency-based medical education, Teresa and her team are working on a series of studies that are relevant to CBME: 1. Examining the faculty perceptions of programmatic, workplace-based assessment; 2. Developing and validating a scoring tool for short comments (the Qualitative Assessment for Learning score) to help with faculty development; 3. Exploring how gender and entrustment affects assessment of faculty members.
Dr. Matthew Sibbald, MD
Assistant Professor, Cardiology

Matt Sibbald is an Assistant Professor, Director of the Centre for Simulation Based Learning and program director for the Cardiology Residency Program at McMaster University.

Clinically, he works as an interventional cardiologist at both Hamilton Health Sciences and Niagara Health Systems, completing his medical training at the University of Toronto. He completed a masters and PhD in Health Professions Education from Maastricht University, Netherlands. His research interests include clinical reasoning, feedback and simulation.
Ranil Sonnadara wears a few different hats. As Special Advisor to the Vice President Research, he serves as the institutional lead for digital research infrastructure and is a senior member of the leadership team of the Office of the Vice President Research. As Director of the Office of Education Science for the Department of Surgery, Ranil’s mandate includes overseeing the transition to the new Competence By Design Curriculum for all surgical programs as well as integrating recent advances in education science into surgical curricula. Ranil is also a Faculty Affiliate with the Vector Institute for Artificial Intelligence, a member of the Schools of Computational Science and Engineering and Biomedical Engineering, and is an Adjunct Scientist with MERIT.

Ranil’s team will be investigating the role of observation in learning surgical skills. Upcoming studies will explore how trainees learn from watching expert versus novice performance of skills, and determine whether assessing a peer’s performance influences how the observer learns the skill. They are beginning to explore the implementation of a new competency-based education curriculum in surgical training programs. Specifically, how the new curriculum might impact residents’ perceptions of their professional identity. Through qualitative interviews, Rail’s team will explore what it means to be a medical professional, how residents’ view themselves in their professional role, and how their program helped them come to their understanding. They are also exploring the use of machine learning and artificial intelligence in medical education.
Dr. Ellen Amster, PhD
Associate Professor, Family Medicine | History

Ellen Amster is the Jason A. Hannah Chair in the History of Medicine at McMaster University and Associate Professor in the Departments of Family Medicine and History. She received her B.A. from the University of Chicago and Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. A historian of North Africa, France, and medicine, her research on science in the French-Islamic colonial encounter was first a book, Medicine and the Saints: Science, Islam, and the Colonial Encounter in Morocco, 1877-1956 (University of Texas) and now extends to an interdisciplinary global health field course she leads in the determinants of women’s health for undergraduate students in Morocco.

She is the Principal Investigator of the Morocco-Canadian Network in Maternal and Infant Health, a project funded by the Canadian Institute for Research on Health. Her research has also received funding from Fulbright, SSRC, AIMS, CIHR, and the Government of France. Current research interests include Islamic biopolitics, globalizing the history of public health, and North African gender, religious, and race identities. She has created a resource for all researchers in the history of medicine and medical humanities that includes worldwide library, archival, museum, grants and digital collections, the History of Medicine and Medical Humanities Research Portal.

Dr. Leslie Martin, MD
Assistant Professor, General Internal Medicine

Leslie Martin is an Assistant Professor with the Division of General Internal Medicine, Department of Medicine at McMaster University. She completed a Masters in Health Professions Education from Maastricht University. She is interested in applying qualitative methodology to explore coaching, feedback and learning in postgraduate medical education during the era of competency based medical education. Her clinical interests include addictions medicine, bedside ultrasound and integration of direct observation and feedback into daily clinical medicine.

Dr. Mohammad Zubairi, MD
Assistant Professor, Pediatrics

Dr. Mohammad Zubairi is a Developmental Paediatrician & Assistant Professor at Ron Joyce Children’s Health Centre at McMaster University and member of MacART. His primary area of clinical work is with children and youth with autism. He completed his MEd at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education along with a fellowship at The Wilson Centre with a research focus on how clinicians engage in cultural encounters, and how we can best teach about and learn from such encounters. He is also interested in studying how clinicians reflect on their day-to-day practice, and how simulations can be used to support such reflection in the context of health profession education.
**Dr. Bojana Babic, MD**  
Associate Clinical Professor, Pediatrics

Dr. Bojana Babic completed her pediatric residency training at McMaster University in 2005, and her fellowship in pediatric endocrinology at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto in 2008. Following her training, she joined the Division of General Pediatrics at McMaster University in 2009, and currently is an associate clinical professor in the Department of Pediatrics. She works as a consultant pediatrician at McMaster Children’s Hospital and St. Joseph’s Hospital in Hamilton.

Dr. Babic has always been interested in the medical education of health professionals. She is currently in a second year of Clinician Educator program at McMaster University. Dr. Babic is an education lead for the pediatric CTUs at McMaster Children’s Hospital and St. Joseph’s Hospital in Hamilton. She was the program director for the General Pediatric Fellowship from 2011-2017, and has been an associate program director for the Pediatric Postgraduate Residency Education at McMaster since May 2018.

**Dr. Ereny Bassilious, MD, FRCPC, MHPE**  
Associate Professor, Pediatrics

Dr. Ereny Bassilious is a pediatric endocrinologist at McMaster Children’s Hospital and Associate Professor at McMaster University. She completed her MHPE at the University of Illinois at Chicago and fellowship at the Wilson Centre. Ereny is the program director for our fellowship program for which she helped secure new accreditation with the Royal College two years ago.

**Dr. Amanda Bell, MD**  
Associate Clinical Professor, Family Medicine

Amanda Bell is an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Family Medicine and practices as a small-town family physician in Niagara. She is currently serving as the Regional Assistant Dean at the Niagara Regional Campus of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine. Dr. Bell is also a student in the Masters of Health Science Education program at McMaster University. Her areas of education research and include student mistreatment and professionalism.

**Kat Butler, MSc**  
MD Student, Michael DeGroote School of Medicine

Kat Butler is a final year medical student at McMaster University, with interests in qualitative research, simulation, interprofessional education and the role of medical education in health equity. Their most recent project is focused on the experiences of trans and gender non-conforming medical students in Canadian universities.
MEMBERS

**Dr. Kyla Caners, MD**  
Assistant Clinical Professor, Emergency Medicine

Dr. Kyla Caners is an Emergency Physician and Assistant Clinical Professor at McMaster University. She serves as the Director of Simulation for the McMaster Royal College Emergency Medicine training program. She is also the Assistant Director of Patient Safety and in situ Simulation at the Centre for Simulation Based Learning. Her work to date has focused largely on curriculum design and implementation. She is currently examining the integration of simulation into quality improvement processes and design. In her spare time, she runs the blog emsimcases.com, which acts as a free, online repository of peer-reviewed simulation cases for emergency medicine.

**Alice Cavanagh, MA**  
MD Student, Michael DeGroote School of Medicine  
PhD Student, Health Policy Programme

Alice Cavanagh is an MD/PhD student, completing her doctoral work in Health Policy. Her research explores how Canadian physicians learn to think about sexual violence in the course of the medical training.

**Dr. Alex Chorley, MD**  
Assistant Clinical Professor, Emergency Medicine

Alex Chorley is an emergency physician in Hamilton, Ontario, where he practices both general and pediatric emergency medicine. He completed his Bachelor of Science at Western University and went on to do his medical degree and FRCP-EM residency training at McMaster University. He also completed the Royal College’s Clinician Educator diploma during his subspecialty year. As part of his medical education fellowship at McMaster, he created a new academic half-day curriculum for the FRCP-EM program founded in competency-based medical education principals. His academic interests include curriculum design as well as simulation-based education.

**Marco Zaccagnini, BSc, RRT, CCAA**  
MSc Student, Health Science Education

Marco Zaccagnini is a Registered Respiratory Therapist and Clinical Anesthesia Assistant working at the McGill University Health Centre in Montréal, Québec. He is currently in his second and final year of McMaster University’s Health Science Education. Since beginning the program, Marco has become involved in scholarly activities within his profession at the national level and contributing to the scholarly vision of McGill University. He is currently a research assistant for the Centre of Medical Education and the Knowledge Exchange and Education in the health Professions (KEEP) Lab, providing both clinical and scholarly contributions.
**Dr. Michelle Howard, MSc, PhD**  
Associate Professor, Family Medicine

Michelle Howard has an MSc in Epidemiology from the University of Toronto and a PhD in Health Research Methodology from McMaster University.

Her research is on helping with communication and decision-making between patients, families and the health care system to plan for serious illness or end of life, and on understanding how primary care and communities can be organized to ensure quality end-of-life care. She is an adjunct scientist with the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (IC/ES-McMaster) conducting health system research with health administrative data, and an associate member of McMaster Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact.

Her educational roles include teaching Program Evaluation in the McMaster Health Science Education graduate program, supporting resident research projects in the Division of Palliative Care, supervising Health Sciences student research projects and theses, and tutoring in the Health Research Methodology graduate program at McMaster.

**Dr. Quang Ngo, MD**  
Assistant Professor, Pediatrics

Before joining the team at McMaster, Dr. Ngo graduated from Western University in 2006, and later completed his pediatric training and a chief residency year at the Children’s Hospital – London Health Sciences Centre. He subsequently completed a fellowship in Pediatric Emergency Medicine at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. His enthusiasm for medical education has been recognized throughout his training, having received awards for excellence in teaching both as a resident and as a fellow. During his fellowship, he developed an interest in medical simulation and continues to pursue advanced simulation training as it pertains to medical education and quality improvement in the pediatric emergency department.

Dr. Ngo’s joined the McMaster Pediatrics Residency Training Committee as the co-chair of curriculum and simulation in 2014, transitioning to the role of Associate Program Director in 2016 and is currently the Interim Program Director of Pediatrics.

Dr. Ngo’s previous research has included the use of medical simulation in space design and quality improvement. He is currently pursuing a Master’s Degree in Health Professions Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago where he is exploring simulation based assessment.
MEMBERS

Dr. Shawn Mondoux, MD
Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine

Shawn is a MERIT member, an Assistant Professor in the Division of Emergency Medicine at McMaster University and an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation at the University of Toronto. He holds a Master’s degree in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (QuIPS) and has, among others, an interest in developing health system capacity for improvement by creating educational programming in QuIPS.

Dilshan Pieris, BHSc
MSc Student, Health Science Education

Dilshan is an Instructor in the Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours) program at McMaster University. He is also the Education & Research Lead at IMHope, which is an organization that uses music to foster meaningful relationships between children and older adults. Dilshan obtained his undergraduate degree at McMaster University in the Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours) program and is completing his final year of graduate training at McMaster University in the Masters of Science in Health Science Education program, for which he is the Student Ambassador.

Dilshan is especially interested in empathy in medical education and medical humanities. He is currently working on his thesis, which seeks to characterize moral empathy and understand how it is experienced by medical residents. Dilshan also has interests in knowledge translation and public scholarship, which inspire him to actively contribute to various academic blogs. In terms of his personal interests, Dilshan writes poetry for his personal blog and has self-published an anthology of poetic works.

Dr. Inge Schabort, MD
Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine

Dr. Inge Schabort (MB ChB, CCFP, FCFP) is an Associate Professor of Family Medicine and the International Medical Graduate (IMG) Coordinator and Academic Half Day Coordinator at McMaster University. She practices as a full-time family physician at Stonechurch Family Health Centre and she tutors Evidence-Based Medicine, Quality Assurance and Behavioural Sciences in the residency program. She teaches in, and developed curriculum for, the provincial Pre-residency IMG program in Ontario.

Her clinical and academic interests include medical education, IMG education and advocacy, disease screening, prevention and health promotion, diabetes and pain management using clinical decision support systems in primary care, global health, inter-professional care and education, refugee health, women’s health, chronic disease management, evidence-based medicine and primary care research.
MERIT ROUNDS

MERIT Rounds are the third Tuesday of every month.

The Rounds profile emerging topics of interest and controversy in health professions education. Using a facilitated, interactive format, local and international presenters share ideas for discussion and debate.

2018 Rounds Event Listing

Drs. Shawn Mondoux & Chris Hillis
Educating in Quality Improvement: Building Capacity for Broader Improvement

Dr. Andrew Petrosoniak, University of Toronto
Inspiring Change: A modernized vision of healthcare simulation

Drs. Teresa Chan, Alena Skrinskas, Daniel Brandt Vegas, Patrick Kennedy / Co-facilitators: Drs. Ranil Sonnadara & Jonathan Sherbino
Competency by Design by McMaster Innovators: Learning from Local Experience

Dr. Torgny Roxa, Lund University
Scientific Networks & Micro Cultures within Health Science Education

Dr. Anna McLeod, Dalhousie University
Neither Here nor There: Thinking Critically about Technology and Distributed Medical Education

Dr. Matthew Lineberry, University of Kansas
Assessment for Learning: Re-thinking Teaching, Learning, and Testing

Dr. Meredith Vanstone
Power, Hierarchy, Mistreatment & Abuse: The Dark Side of Medical Education

Dr. Tanya Horsley, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
Lost in Translation? Thinking Critically About Reporting Guidelines for Health Professions Education Research
MERIT THINKTANK

MERIT thinkTank events are the first Tuesday of every month.

MERIT thinkTank is an education research consultation service. Education scholars working on a project or research design can request a consult. All MERIT Scientists attend, bringing diverse perspectives that include: cognitive psychology, social sciences, kinesiology, qualitative and quantitative methodologies, psychometrics, and more.

Each consultation is 45 minutes long. A 15 minute presentation by the principle investigator, is followed by a 30 minute facilitated discussion between the MERIT scientists and the PI. Two consultations are scheduled each month.

This session is open to all members of the Faculty of Health Sciences community.

2018 thinkTank Event Listing

Dr. Rob Whyte
Progress Testing in Undergraduate Medical Education

John H. Parker, Keisha Jack, Debbie Mings
Neuroscience Pressure Injury Prevention Program

Dr. Jamiu Busari & Dr. Deepak Dath
Achieving the Aspirations of Competency by Design in PGME: The Role of Peer-assisted Teaching in Residents’ Management and Leadership Development
SIBLEY AWARDS

The John C. Sibley Award for Excellence in Education for Part-Time Faculty is presented annually to a part-time faculty member who has made outstanding contributions to the education of health professionals. It is named for a former associate dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences who was known for his interdisciplinary approach to community health.

2018 Sibley Awards Recipient:

Patricia Ford
Assistant Clinical Professor, School of Nursing

Ford completed a diploma and bachelor’s degree in nursing in Montreal, where she worked as a nurse for more than a decade, moving to Hamilton in 1988 to pursue a career at St. Joe’s. She graduated with a MHSc degree from McMaster in 1995 and completed an acute care nurse practitioner certificate in 1998. She joined McMaster as a faculty member in 1999.

Wearing the hats of both an instructor and a nurse practitioner in geriatrics, Ford estimates she has mentored more than 100 students over the years from a variety of programs in the Faculty. She also mentors aspiring clinical faculty members.
PAPERS & PUBLICATIONS - 2018

* Names of MERIT Scientists bolded


Azim A, Beck-Esmay J, **Chan TM.** Editorial processes in Free Open Access Medical educational (FOAM) Resources. AEM Education and Training. 2018;2(3); 204-212.


**Chan TM,** Jo D, Shih AW, Bhagirath VC, Castellucci LA, Yeh C, Tseng EK, Thoma B, De Wit K. The Massive Online Needs Assessment (MONA) to inform the development of an emergency hematology educational blog series. Perspectives on Medical Education. 2018; 7(3); 219-223.


Chen E, Tsoy D, Upadhye S, Chan TM. The Acute Care of Chronic Pain Study: Perceptions of Acute Care Providers on Chronic Pain, a Social Media-based Investigation. Cureus 10(3): e2399.


PAPERS & PUBLICATIONS - 2018

* Names of MERIT Scientists as principal author bolded


Gottlieb M, Lam K, Shamsoon S, Chan TM. Comparative Analysis of Junior and Senior Clinician Educator Evaluation of Relevant Articles Within Medical Education. Cureus; 2018; 10(5): e2594.


PAPERS & PUBLICATIONS - 2018

* Names of MERIT Scientists bolded


PAPERS & PUBLICATIONS - 2018

* Names of MERIT Scientists bolded


Reiter, HI, Baskharoun, Y, **Dore, KL**. What Engineering Admissions Can Learn from Medical School Admissions. World Engineering Education Forum, WEEF-GEDC 2018 Peace Engineering Conference.


**Sherbino, J.** (2018). You don’t need a mentor; you need a board of directors. CJEM. 20. 816-817.


