

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH POLICY, MANAGEMENT, AND EVALUATION - NEWSBYTES -

March/April 2004

Office of the Chair

## HPME Research Day 2004

Please mark your calendars for HPME's Annual Research Day, taking place on Tuesday, May 4, 2004. A student poster session will be followed by a keynote address, awards ceremony, and catered reception.

### Keynote Speaker - Peter A. Ubel

Keynote speaker, Peter A. Ubel, will speak on "**The Unbearable Rightness of Bedside Rationing**". Dr. Ubel is Associate Professor of Medicine and Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Michigan, a primary care physician at the Ann Arbor Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and Director of the Program for Improving Health Care Decisions. His research explores controversial issues about the role of values and preferences in health care decision making, from decisions at the bedside to policy decisions. He uses the tools of decision psychology to explore ethical debates about topics like informed consent and health care rationing. He is author of "*Pricing Life: Why It Is Time For Health Care Rationing*" (MIT Press, 2000) and is currently writing a book on illness, disability and the search for happiness.

### Schedule

Poster sessions	2 to 4:00 p.m.	MSB Alumni Lounge
Keynote Speaker and Awards	4 to 5:30 p.m.	MSB Room 3154
Wine & Cheese Reception	5 to 7 p.m.	MSB Alumni Lounge

## Achievements of HPME MHSc Program Recognized in UToronto Medicine

*"They are top executives in Canada's leading hospitals. They are senior policy advisors, consultants, CEOs in private sector companies, academics and thought leaders. They are graduates of U of T's renowned Master of Health Science in Health Administration program, which has been producing healthcare leaders for more than a century."*

So begins the article "Building Leaders" in the March 2004 issue of UToronto Medicine (Volume 2, Issue 1, Page 8). The article highlights HPME's unique MHSc program in Health Administration which trains healthcare professionals for management and policy positions in diverse health services organizations.

Louise Lemieux-Charles, Chair of the department of HPME, is quoted as saying that "Our underlying assumption is that there is special knowledge required to manage in healthcare. We believe it's important to understand the nature of not-for-profit and how the outcomes of your work must be measured differently."

Graduates of the MHSc program featured in this article include CEO Mark Rochon (Toronto Rehabilitation Institute), Joe Mapa (Mount Sinai Hospital), Leo Steven (Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre) Tony Dagnone (London Health Sciences Centre) and Shirlee Sharky (St. Elizabeth Health Care) and COO Catherine Zahn (Toronto Western Hospital).

Graduates point to the many advantages of completing the MHS in Health Administration over an MBA, including an understanding of the relationship between health policy and management, the opportunity to meet leaders in Canadian healthcare, and to gain experience in healthcare settings alongside top health care administrators.

---

## Raisa Deber Appointed to the Academic Board

Professor Raisa Deber of the Department of Health Policy, Management, and Evaluation, was acclaimed as a Faculty of Medicine representative on the U of T Academic Board. This seat has a three-year term, starting July 1, 2004. There are eleven seats in total for Faculty of Medicine representatives on the U of T Academic Board. The [Academic Board](#) of the Governing Council is responsible for admissions, curriculum, budget plans, capital plans, research, and new academic programs.

---

## Joseph Mapa Appointed to Governing Council

Joseph Mapa, the CEO of Mount Sinai Hospital and Adjunct faculty of the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, was appointed to the University of Toronto [Governing Council](#), for a three-year term effective March 10, 2004. Mr. Mapa is one of sixteen non-elected members of the Governing Council who are appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. The Governing Council oversees the academic, business, and institutional affairs of the University. In addition to an Executive Committee, the Council has delegated many of its powers to three boards, an Academic Board, a Business Board, and a University Affairs Board. Members of Council normally sit on at least one of these boards.



## Research

## Michael Rachlis Publishes New Book on Innovation and Health Care Delivery

[Dr. Michael Rachlis](#), Associate Professor in the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, recently had his book, "Prescription for Excellence: How Innovation is Saving Canada's Health Care System", published by HarperCollins. Dr. Rachlis has previously co-authored, with Carol Kushner, two national best-sellers on Canada's health care system. In his third book, Dr. Rachlis describes, in journalistic style, innovations in health care delivery he has encountered while travelling across the country. He argues that our health care system is not troubled by excessive costs, nor is it drastically underfunded. It does, however, require reorganization to effectively manage chronic illness and frailty. Innovation is the key to building a more effective system and improving the quality of care at minimal cost. Raisa Deber, in her April 10, 2004 Globe and Mail review, "[Good News for Modern Medicine](#)", observes that Rachlis's book focuses on what can be done "where the rubber meets the road: the millions of



encounters between individual patients and providers". This is where the problems of overuse, underuse or misuse can be eliminated through improvements to the quality of care. Some of the successful innovations Rachlis describes include better interdisciplinary teamwork, use of non-drug therapies and improved prescribing. Dr. Rachlis currently practices as a private consultant in health policy analysis. Since 1990, he has consulted to the federal government, nine provincial governments, and two royal commissions. He has lectured widely on health care issues and has been invited to make presentations to committees of the Canadian House of Commons and Senate and the United States House of Representatives and Senate. For more information about the book, including a free download of chapter one, see: [www.michaelrachlis.com](http://www.michaelrachlis.com).

---

## Dr. Gillian Hawker Heads New Study of Pain and Fatigue In Osteoarthritis

[Dr. Gillian Hawker](#), Associate Professor in HPME, is the principle investigator of a new study which will expand our understanding of women's experiences of pain and fatigue when living with osteoarthritis (OA). It is hoped that greater understanding of the interrelationships between pain, fatigue and mood, and how these relate to other factors, such as coping strategies, family support, and use of established treatments for OA, will enable the development of new treatments, targeted to individuals in the context of their families and the community as a whole. Co-investigators include Arthritis Community Research and Evaluation Unit (ACREU) investigators Elizabeth Badley and Monique Gignac, physical therapy researcher Aileen Davis (Professor in HPME), Shirley Brown, Chair in Women's Mental Health Research, Sarah Romans, and Allan Gordon from the University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain. This research initiative has been funded by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research and the Canadian Arthritis Network for a five-year period. Funding will support the development of a world-class team of clinical and population researchers in the area of pain and fatigue in OA, foster multidisciplinary collaboration and emphasize research training for young investigators. Dr. Hawker is a staff rheumatologist and the Director of the Osteoporosis Clinical Research Program at the Women's College Ambulatory Care Centre and is affiliated with [Centre for Research in Women's Health](#). She is also a Senior Investigator with the [Arthritis Community Research and Evaluation Unit](#) at The Toronto Hospital Research Unit.



---

## HCTP Strengthens Alliance with Change Foundation

In Fall 2003, the Change Foundation launched a \$1M/5 year Strategic Alliance with the HPME program [Health Care, Technology, and Place](#) (HCTP), to support knowledge translation, research, and mentoring initiatives. These shared objectives promise to be enhanced with the addition of Gale Murray, Jiahui Wong, and Julie Gilbert as newly appointed Lecturers to HPME. Gale Murray is President and CEO of The Change Foundation, Dr. Julie Gilbert, a recent HPME PhD Graduate, is Research Manager, and Dr. Jiahui Wong is Research Associate at [The Change Foundation](#). The Change Foundation was incorporated by the Ontario Hospital Association and endowed with part of the proceeds of the sale of Blue Cross in 1996 with a mandate to promote, support and improve health and the delivery of health care through four activity areas: Applied Research and Analysis; Development Program; Education; and Grants to Charities.

---

## Primary Care Knowledge Transfer Activities

Two Primary Care Research teams will be exhibiting information about their studies at the Primary Care Today conference sponsored by the Dept. of Family & Community Medicine, University of Toronto ([www.primarycareday.ca](http://www.primarycareday.ca)). The conference will take place on May 6 to 8, 2004 in Hall 5 at the International Centre, Toronto ON. The two studies are: 1) "*Performance Indicators and Benchmarks in Primary Health Care*" conducted by Dr's Jan Barnsley (PI), Whitney Berta, Rhonda Cockerill, Eugene Vayda and Judith MacPhail (Dept. of HPME) Jeff Bloom, Liisa Jaakkimainen, Yves Talbot (Dept. of Family & Community Medicine) and Raymond Pong (Laurentian University) and 2) "*Coordination of Care: Factors that influence horizontal and vertical information transfer between primary care practices and medical specialists*" conducted by Whitney Berta (PI), Jan Barnsley, Rhonda Cockerill, Dave Davis and Eugene Vayda (Dept. of HPME) Jeff Bloom, Liisa Jaakkimainen and Yves Talbot (Dept. of Family & Community Medicine). Please visit their booth to meet the Investigators and learn more about their research activities.

---

### Performance Indicators and Benchmarks in Primary Health Care Study - Phase III

Dr's [Jan Barnsley](#) (PI), [Whitney Berta](#), [Rhonda Cockerill](#) and Eugene Vayda (Dept. of HPME), Jeff Bloom, Liisa Jaakkimainen, Yves Talbot (Dept. of Family & Community Medicine) and Raymond Pong (Laurentian University) are involved in a number of study planning activities in preparation for the application of performance indicators in 48 Ontario practices over the next two years. Team members are meeting with key stakeholders such as Jan Kasperski (CEO, Ontario College of Family Physicians) and Mary Woodman (Manager, Nurse Practitioner Initiatives, The Nursing Secretariat, Ontario Ministry of Health & Long Term Care) to discuss study rationale, objectives and methods.

The purpose of the project is to work collaboratively with family physicians and nurse practitioners to implement and evaluate a performance measurement system. An Advisory Committee will be established to offer independent consultation to the research team and assist with practice site recruitment, data analysis and interpretation and knowledge transfer.

Two workshops, which were temporarily postponed related to the SARS Alert, of the Phase II Field Test of Primary Care Performance Indicators Project have now been conducted. These 10 consultative workshops were held at participating practices and included 25 family physicians and 2 nurse practitioners/Registered Nurses (Extended Class). During the workshop, the research team obtained extensive feedback about data quality and indicator feasibility. This feedback was reviewed and used to revise the performance indicators for the Phase III study. The revised data collection instruments are being converted to an electronic version which will be pre-tested at pilot sites within the next several months.

For additional details about study activities, contact Judith MacPhail, Project Coordinator at email address [primary.care@utoronto.ca](mailto:primary.care@utoronto.ca)

---

### Research and Teaching Profile

Faculty associated with the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation (HPME) are involved in a broad range of research activities with a variety of organizations. Success of the HPME Knowledge Transfer initiative is dependent on presenting our stakeholders with a unified, clear image of the depth and breadth of

Departmental expertise. To promote greater internal awareness of the knowledge developed through HPME, faculty research profiles will be included as a regular feature of this newsletter.

This issue of the HPME newsletter features a research profile for [Dr. David A. Davis](#).

## + + PROFILE OF THE MONTH + +

### David A. Davis, MD, CCFP, FCFP, BA

Dr. Dave Davis is a Professor in the Departments of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation and Family and Community Medicine, and Associate Dean of Continuing Education, Faculty of Medicine, the University of Toronto. He is an active staff physician in the Department of Family & Community Medicine at the Toronto Western Hospital, University Health Network.



#### Education and Work Background

Completing his medical training at the University of Western Ontario and the University of Toronto in 1969, Dr. Davis entered private family practice in Burlington, Ontario and began a life-long interest in continuing medical education (CME). This interest culminated in the development of a community hospital-based continuing education program under the rubric of the Interprofessional Education Council at Burlington's Joseph Brant Hospital, and his appointment, in 1977, as Director of Continuing Medical Education at the new Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University in Hamilton. Between 1977 and 1991, Dr. Davis was the primary developer of a comprehensive, faculty-wide program in continuing health sciences education, incorporating innovative programming (distance education, individualized and problem-based learning and other methods), competency assessment and objective evaluation strategies. During this time he also practiced as a staff physician at the North Hamilton Community Health Center, an inner-city primary care teaching practice. In 1994, Dr. Davis took up his current position as the Associate Dean for [Continuing Education](#) in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto.

In addition to his leadership at the local level, Dr. Davis has been actively involved in provincial, national, bi-national and international organizations, projects and committees related to CME. He has served as chair of the CME Committee of the [Council of Ontario Faculties of Medicine](#); president of the *Standing Committee on CME* for the [Association of Canadian Medical Colleges](#); the president of the Alliance for Continuing Medical Education (1990-1992), the largest organization of CME providers in the US and Canada; and the president of the [Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education](#) (1997-1998).

Dr. Davis is currently serving as:

- Interim Leader of the [Knowledge Translation Program](#) based out of the Faculty of Medicine, Office of Continuing Education;
- Chair of the [Guidelines Advisory Committee](#) of the Ontario Medical Association and the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care;
- Chair of the Advisory Council of the [Centre for Research in Education](#) of the Faculty of Medicine and University Health Network; and
- Chair of the [CME Congress 2004](#) Planning Committee (for details about the Congress, see the Other Notables section of this newsletter)



## Research Activities

Dr. Davis is the principal or co-principal investigator of CME research grants totalling over \$2 million and is a member of study teams in further grants totalling a further \$5 million. He is currently involved in research studies examining the development and implementation of clinical practice guidelines and training opinion leaders.

While at McMaster, he was involved in several academic CME developments, including: the concept of a CME membership (allowing physicians to register at all CME programs by paying an annual fee); the application of problem-based learning principles to CME; a comprehensive competency assessment program supported by the provincial licensing body; a Ministry of Health funded national audio-conferencing network; the use of innovative needs assessment and evaluative techniques, including standardized patients; a unique data base of CME research, called the [Research and Development Resource Base in CME](#); and the evolution of an evidence-based CME working group.

Dr. Davis has authored approximately 100 peer-reviewed papers, monographs and chapters, and co-edited a text on CME, "*The Physician as Learner: Linking Research to Practice*". Recent publications (2002-2003) include:

- The Case for Knowledge Translation: Shortening the Journey from Evidence to Effect ([full-text](#))
- Continuing Medical Education and the Physician as Learner: Guide to the Evidence ([full-text](#))
- Can We Alter Physician Behavior by Educational Methods?([abstract](#))
- Assessing Guidelines for Use In Family Practice ([full-text](#))

## Teaching and Supervisory Responsibilities

Dr. Davis teaches "Continuing Education in the Health Professions" for the Family and Community Medicine MHS program in the Department of Public Health Sciences. He is active in the supervision of several graduate students in education and health services research. At the clinical level, he teaches medical students in the Faculty of Medicine [Determinants of Community Health](#) program, and acts as a preceptor for clinical clerks in his practice setting.

## Education

### From Class Room to Court Room: HCTP Research Mentorship Pays Off

*Wynberg v Ontario* is \$75 M lawsuit over the discriminatory treatment of children with autism. Currently the province funds behavioral therapy for only one third of autistic children. When a parent told HPME Professor [Peter Coyte](#) about the case, he encouraged MSc students Sanober Motiwala, Shamali Wickremaarachi, and Meredith Lilly to evaluate the long-term cost-effectiveness of expanding therapy to all autistic children as coursework for Health Economics HAD 5730 .The research was onerous, as data were difficult to access and because outcomes from the therapy were controversial. But the students' hard work paid off when the analysis reflected a potential cost saving of \$172,549,472 associated with full expansion of the therapy!

After submission of the term paper, a different type of learning exercise took place, as Coyte and Wendy Ungar mentored the students to restructure the paper for legal decision-making and for publication. In April 2003, the research was submitted to both parties for review. In September, the study was entered as evidence in *Wynberg v. Ontario* on September 17, 2003. The paper is currently under review for scholarly publication. In January 2004, the Ministry of Community and Social Services disclosed additional information about current service provision of Ontario. The students and Coyte have been commissioned by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice to analyse these new data for the trial.

In this project, research mentorship transformed a classroom exercise into a real-world contribution, with significant legal, social, economic, and health ramifications. HPME students were educated about the role of the courts as an important forum for effecting health policy change and knowledge uptake, and relevant and timely knowledge with direct implications for decision-making was generated about the costs and consequences of health services in Ontario. The student team, reports Coyte, has done *"a better job than anybody else of assessing the pros and cons of expansion of autism services ... definitely better than anything ever done in Canada and much more scholarly than anywhere else in the world."*

---

## David Zakus To Be President of the International Health Medical Education Consortium

Associate Professor [David Zakus](#) of the Departments of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation; and Public Health Sciences; and Director of the [Centre for International Health](#), will be the first Canadian to hold the position of President of the [International Health Medical Education Consortium](#) (IHMEC). IHMEC is a consortium of 86 US and Canadian medical schools and residency programs and includes faculty and health care educators dedicated to international health medical education. Formed in 1991, its mission is to foster international health medical education in four program areas - curriculum, clinical training, career development, and international education policy. Dr. Zakus is currently serving as President-elect, and will assume Presidency in February 2005. The 14th annual IHMED conference will be held in Toronto in 2005.

### Honours and Awards

#### + + GRANTS + +

## Dr. Whitney Berta Receives Primary Health Care Transition Fund Award

Dr's [Whitney Berta](#) (PI), [Jan Barnsley](#), [Rhonda Cockerill](#), [Dave Davis](#) and Eugene Vayda (Department of HPME) and Dr's Jeff Bloom, Liisa Jaakkimainen and Yves Talbot (Department of Family & Community Medicine ) were awarded \$263,800 over two years (April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2006) from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Primary Health Care Transition Fund for their study *"Coordination of Care: Factors that influence horizontal and vertical information transfer between primary care practices and medical specialists."*

This two phase study uses a mixed methods design. Both phases involve an Expert Panel comprised of primary care physicians, nurse practitioners and medical specialists, all in active practice and caring for Asthma patients in Ontario. In phase 1, three site visits of "best practice sites" for the coordination of chronic care which will inform two subsequent focus groups with primary care physicians/nurse practitioners and medical specialists involved in the care of asthma patients in Ontario will be completed. The results of phase I will be used to inform the development and piloting of a set of interventions in phase II with 6 primary care practice/medical specialist dyads. At the conclusion of a 6 month pilot interval, the efficacy of the interventions will be assessed by the Expert Panel and by the practitioners involved in the pilot.

---

## Dr. Sophie Jamal Receives Physicians Services Incorporated Foundation Grant

Dr. Sophie A. Jamal, Assistant Professor in HPME, was awarded a [Physicians Services Incorporated Foundation Grant](#) for her project, "*The effect of organic nitrates on osteoporosis*". Dr. Jamal is also Assistant Professor / Clinical Research Fellow in the Department of Medicine, Staff Endocrinologist at the St. Michael's Hospital and a consultant with the [Osteoporosis Society of Canada Scientific Advisory Council](#). She is a recent recipient of the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) Young Investigator Award.

---

## CIHR Funding Decisions March 2004

*\*\*names in bold type are associated with HPME as core faculty, and cross-appointed and status-only members*

### [Results of the 15/09/2003 Global Health Research Pilot Project Grants Competition](#)

Beveridge M (Co-PI), Howard AW (Co-PI), Barradas R, Chan LK, Gomez M, Holder WR, James JH, **Zakus D**. The ptolemy project: Evaluation of electronic health information for surgical capacity building in East Africa. \$74,800 (operating) and \$16,900 (equipment) over 1 Yr.

Fraser WD (Co-PI), **Zwarenstein MF** (Co-PI), Althabe F (Co-PI), Belizan JM, Bergel E, Dumont AA, Sackett DL. Bed rest prescription for pregnant women with threatened preterm labor: Preliminary research for the design of a multicenter pragmatic trial. \$90,000 (operating) over 1 Yr

Labonte R (PI), Crush JS, Kazanjian A, McIntosh TA, **Zakus D**. Equity and health human resources: Canada and The 'Brain Drain' from Sub-Saharan Africa. \$97,519 (operating) and \$2,400 (equipment) over 1 Yr

Skinner HA (PI), Abdeen Z, Carmi R, Chalin CG, El Nasser Z, **Eysenbach G**, **Jadad AR**, Koo M, Linn S, Noyek A, Roth Y, Shidfar R, Siassi F. Adaptation of an eHealth web-based intervention for youth smoking prevention and cessation in the Middle East. \$94,120 (operating) and \$5,880 (equipment) over 1 Yr

### [Results of the 15/09/2003 Palliative and End of Life Care: Pilot Projects](#)

**Alibhai SM** (PI). A pilot study to evaluate quality of life in patients age 60 or older with newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukaemia. \$ 78,867 (operating) over 1 Yr

## CIHR Funding Decisions April 2004

### [Public Health and Health Care System Preparedness and Response to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome \(SARS\): Evaluation and Lessons Learned](#)

**Hwang SW** (Co-PI), Bell CM (Co-PI), **Cheung AM**, Moineddin R. The effect of the Ontario severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak on population mortality. \$32,395 (operating) and \$3,000 (equipment) over 1 Yr 6 Mths

Mittmann N (PI), Earn DJ, Loeb MB, Louie M, **McGeer AJ**, Phillips EJ, Rachlis A, Simor AE. Economic evaluation of direct medical and non medical costs associated with a severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak. \$96,100 (operating) over 1 Yr(s)



Pourbohloul BM (Co-PI), Lauren A (Co-PI), Skowronski DM (Co-PI), Brunham RC (Co-PI), Bowie WR, De Serres G, Halperin, SA, Johnston B, Krajden M, Langley J, Law B, **McGeer AJ**, McNeil SA. The spread and evolution of SARS coronaviruses through contact networks: Prediction, recognition, and control. \$134,480 (operating) and \$14,200 (equipment) over 1 Yr 6 Mths.

**Schull MJ** (Co-PI), **Stukel TA** (Co-PI), Alter DA, Guttman A, Jackson PM, **Laupacis A**, Manuel DG, Schwartz B, Zwarenstein MF. Determining the population health impact of the healthcare system response to SARS outbreak. \$160,044 (operating) over 1 Yr 6 Mths.

Upshur RE (Co-PI), Daar AS (Co-PI), Bernstein MA, Gold WL, Hawryluck L, **Martin D**, Singer PA, Styra R, Wilson K, Zlotnik Shaul R. Ethical challenges in the preparedness and response for SARS: An interdisciplinary research study. \$127,233 (operating) and \$4,000 (equipment) over 1 Yr(s) 6 Mths

## Appointments

### New Faculty Appointments

- Dr. Pat Armstrong, Adjunct Professor - Associate Member SGS  
Professor, Department of Sociology, York University
- Dr. Mark Dobrow, Adjunct Lecturer - Associate Member SGS  
Cancer Quality Council of Ontario Secretariat  
Cancer Care Ontario
- Dr. Julie Gilbert, Adjunct Lecturer  
Research Manager, The Change Foundation
- Dr. Susan Horton, Cross-Appointed Professor - Full Member SGS  
Professor, Department of Economics, University of Toronto  
Munk Centre for International Studies
- Dr. Joan Ivanov, Status-Only Assistant Professor - Associate Member SGS  
Toronto General Hospital
- Dr. Nora Jacobson, Status-Only Assistant Professor - Associate Member SGS  
Health Systems Research and Consulting Unit  
Centre for Addictions and Mental Health
- Dr. Sophie Jamal, Status-Only Assistant Professor - Associate Member SGS  
St. Michael's Hospital
- Dr. Alexander Kiss, Status-Only Lecturer - Associate Member SGS  
Department of Research Design and Biostatistics  
Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre
- Dr. Patrice Lindsay, Adjunct Lecturer - Associate Member SGS  
Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences
- Ms. Gale Murray, Adjunct Lecturer  
President and CEO, The Change Foundation

- Dr. Jiahui Wong, Adjunct Lecturer  
Research Officer, The Change Foundation

+ + + + +

HPME Faculty Listing - [www.utoronto.ca/hpme/faculty.htm](http://www.utoronto.ca/hpme/faculty.htm)

## Students

### Shahrzad Ossareh Receives 2004-5 Connaught Scholarship

Shahrzad Ossareh, an international student from Iran, will be entering the HPME MSc Clinical Epidemiology and Health Care Research Program in the Fall 2004. She is one of seven recipients of the highly competitive [University of Toronto Connaught Scholarship](#), an entrance award for international students.

---

### Sindhu Johnson Receives Ian Watson Award for Lupus Research

Sindhu Johnson, HPME MSc student in the Clinical Epidemiology and Health Care Research Program, received the Ian Watson Award for Lupus Research at the Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Meeting in February for her research on "Ethnic Variation in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus".

---

### HPME Students Awarded Ontario Graduate Scholarships in Science & Technology

Sindhu Johnson and Lorraine Lipscombe, HPME MSc students in the Clinical Epidemiology and Health Care Research Program, were each awarded a 2004 Government of Ontario / Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre Prehospital Care Program Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology (OGSST) in recognition of their academic achievement.

---

### HPME Students Receive CIHR Doctoral Research Awards

[Results of the 15/10/2003 CIHR Doctoral Research and Canada Graduate Scholarships Awards](#)

Holyoke, Paul Douglas. The effects of multiple payers on cost and access to care in the rehabilitation services sector in Ontario.

Supervisor: Raisa Deber

Kohli, Michele. Eliciting community preferences for home care using conjoint analysis and qualitative methods.

Supervisor: Peter Coyte

Lilly, Meredith B. Labour force participation and employment earnings by unpaid caregivers providing in-home care to family and friends across Canada: A quantitative study.

Supervisor: Peter Coyte

---

## **Ravi Retnakaran and Team Receive CIHR Grant for Longitudinal Diabetes Study**

Ravi Retnakaran, student of the HPME Clinical Epidemiology Diploma Program, is a co-applicant of the three-year CIHR-funded study "*Longitudinal association of dipocytokines and markers of sub-clinical inflammation with changes in insulin resistance and beta-cell function in women with a history o gestational Diabetes Mellitus*". The study is led by Principal Investigator Anthony Hanley of the Department of Medicine, along with co-PIs Bernard Zinman (Medicine), Philip Connelly (Medicine), Mathew Sermer (Obstetrics and Gynaecology) and Janet Raboud (Public Health Sciences).

---

## **3rd Annual Issues in Women's Health Graduate Student Research Conference**

The Centre for Research in Women's Health invites you to attend the 3rd Annual [Graduate Student Research Conference](#) on Thursday May 20, 2004 at 790 Bay Street, 7th Floor. This year's theme is "Issues in Women's Health: Diversity in Research". This day-long conference is unique in bringing together researchers-in-training from across the University of Toronto to exchange research findings, innovative methodologies and theoretical insights about women's health. For more information, contact Lisa Hall, Communications Assistant, at [lisa.hall@sw.ca](mailto:lisa.hall@sw.ca).

### **Alumni**

## **Emily Musing Appointed President-Elect of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists**

Emily Musing, alumnus of HPME and Director of Pharmacy at the University Health Network, is now the President-Elect of the [Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists](#). This is a three year term, moving from President-Elect, to President, to Past-President. The Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists is the national voluntary organization of pharmacists committed to the advancement of patient-centred pharmacy practice in hospitals and related health care settings.

---

## **Faith Malach New Executive Director of the Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health**

Alumnus of the HPME MHS program, Faith Malach was recently appointed Executive Director of the [Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health](#) (CCSMH). Established in 2002, the goal of the CCSMH is to support collaborative initiatives which will facilitate positive mental health for seniors through innovation and dissemination of best practices.

---

---

## Susan Law Appointed CHSRF Director of Research Programs

Susan Law, alumnus of the HPME MHSc program, was recently appointed as the new Director of Research Programs of the [Canadian Health Services Research Foundation](#) (CHSRF). Law has extensive experience as a health service manager in both Canada and the UK and as a senior scientist and consultant researcher. She is scheduled to complete her PhD through the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 2004. As both health researcher and decision-maker, Law is experienced in evidence-based decision-making from both sides of the fence. The CHSRF sponsors and promotes applied health systems and policy research, including nursing management and organization issues, primarily through the funded programs that the research branch implements and administers.

### Other Notables

## Paul Williams Keynote Speaker on Health Policy, Restructuring and Elder Abuse

Recent data suggest that between 5 and 10% of Ontario seniors experience some form of financial, emotional, psychological or physical abuse. There is also a growing awareness that senior abuse is a global problem and the governments have a key role to play in preventing and redressing abuse. [Paul Williams](#), Associate Professor in HPME, and Keith Norton, Chief Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission, were keynote speakers at the [Ontario Strategy to Combat Elder Abuse](#) Provincial Stakeholder Networking Day at Queen's Park on March 3, 2004. Professor Williams' presentation, "*My mother's keeper: the impact of health and social services restructuring on seniors and ethnocultural communities*", examined the ways in which provincial government policies can either alleviate or aggravate risk factors for elder abuse including poverty, isolation, dependency, gender and ethnocultural minority status.

---

## Middle-East Peace-Building Project Moves Forward With Professional Development

Professors [Paul Williams](#) (HPME) and Catherine Chalin (Public Health Sciences) traveled to the Middle East in March 2004 as part of a CISEPO mission in support of a Jordanian government initiative to establish a program of universal newborn screening for hearing loss, a health problem of major significance in the region. Led by Dr. Arnold Noyek, the [Canada International Scientific Exchange Program](#) (CISEPO) is a charitable NGO based at Mount Sinai Hospital and the University of Toronto which works across borders with Israeli, Jordanian and Palestinian academics and clinicians and their institutions on collaborative, mutually beneficial projects. CISEPO's lead program is the Middle East Association for Managing Hearing Loss (MEHA). To date, more than 14,000 Arab and Israeli newborns have been tested for hearing loss, and hundreds of children have been supported in their habilitation with hearing aids, auditory therapy, and family and professional education.

Williams and Chalin are working with the Jordan University of Science and Technology, the University of Jordan, and the Royal Medical Services to assess the professional development needs of faculty who will be involved in the new screening program. A key objective is to design and implement appropriate educational modules which meet faculty needs. Modules on research design and approaches to health systems analysis are anticipated. Lessons learned from the Jordanian experience will be shared with Israeli and Palestinian partners as

they also consider implementation of universal newborn screening programs. CISEPO will be awarded with the Red Cross Power of Humanity Award at a dinner on April 28, 2004 at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel. For more information about tickets or award nominations, please call Arthur Peters at 905-890-1203 ext. 213.

---

## Call for Papers for Ryerson Conference on Knowledge Management

The International Conference on Intellectual Capital, Knowledge Management and Organisational Learning is being held at Ryerson University on October 29-30, 2004. Abstracts (500 word) are due by May 3, 2004. [Click here \(pdf\)](#) for details. Submissions are invited on the theory and practice of all aspects of intellectual capital, knowledge management and organizational learning. The conference is seeking quantitative, qualitative and experience-based papers from industry and academe. In addition to multiple streams of papers, the conference committee are inviting proposals for workshops and tutorials on topics related to KM and research methods applicable to this field. The conference is being chaired by Ken Grant, Director of the School of Information Technology Management at Ryerson University. Selected papers from the Conference will be considered for publication in the [Electronic Journal of Knowledge Management](#). To register, see the Academic Conferences International website: [www.academic-conferences.org/icickm2004/icickm2004-home.htm](http://www.academic-conferences.org/icickm2004/icickm2004-home.htm).

---

### ++ IN THE NEWS ++

## Dr. Shabir Alibhai Interviewed by Toronto Star

In an article in the March 15, 2004 Toronto Star, Metro Diary writer Joe Fiorito relates the story of an interaction in the emergency department between [Dr. Shabir Alibhai](#), a Muslim doctor, and Yo'av Kaplun, the Jewish son of a terminally ill patient. The two reflect on the importance of Dr. Alibhai's simple question, "Will your father require a kosher meal?" and how important the care provider's understanding of different religious faiths can be to patient and family members at the end of life. In addition to his position in HPME, Dr. Alibhai is a specialist in Geriatric Medicine at the University Health Network. He is co-author of "*Ethical Issues in End-of-Life Geriatric Care: The Approach of Three Monotheistic Religions Judaism, Catholicism, and Islam*" in the August 2003 Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.