



A  
COMMEMORATION  
OF OUR FIRST  
40 YEARS

*"Building a Healthy Tomorrow"™*



This coat of arms for the Faculty of Medicine was designed by Dr. Robert Salter when he was head of Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Toronto and the Hospital for Sick Children. He presented it as a personal gift to celebrate the faculty's 15th anniversary.

The colours and some of the symbols of the coat of arms of Memorial University are incorporated in this coat of arms of the Faculty of Medicine, indicating the parental relationship of the university.

- Across the top of the shield are two closed white and gold books (symbolic of knowledge and education) and in the centre, a gold moline cross (one form of Christian cross) is placed on a red background.
- Immediately below is a (horizontal) wavy white bar which is symbolic of the surface of the sea that surrounds Newfoundland.
- In the lower part of the shield, which is blue to represent the depths of the sea, is a gold anchor, an appropriate marine symbol for Newfoundland.
- Entwined around the shank of the anchor, which serves as a rod, is depicted the red serpent of *Asclepius*, the attributes of the Greek God of Medicine and the accepted heraldic symbol of the profession of medicine.

#### **The motto**

Dr. Salter translated a quotation from Sir Wilfred Grenfell, who founded the Grenfell Medical Mission in northern Newfoundland. The quotation is, "Life is a Field of Service" which is translated into Latin as *VITA CAMPUS MINISTERII*.

*After Dr. Salter's initial artwork he commissioned Stanley Arculus, a renowned Canadian heraldic artist, to prepare the final presentation.*

## **Mission of the Faculty of Medicine**

"Our purpose is to enhance the health of the people of Newfoundland and Labrador by educating physicians and health scientists; by conducting research in clinical, biomedical and applied health sciences and by promoting the skills and attitudes of lifelong learning."

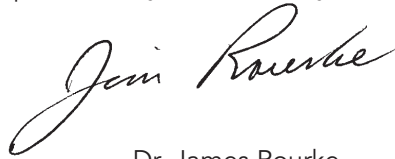
## Message from the dean



The Faculty of Medicine's rich and extensive history spans 40 years and includes thousands of individuals who have contributed in so many ways to our mission. We have begun to document that history in our Founders' Archive, and a virtual exhibit on the Early Days of the Medical School at Memorial University of Newfoundland provides access to thousands of documents.

In this commemorative booklet, some of our history and accomplishments are highlighted. Inevitably, many contributions have been left out – not because they are not valued, but because a document like this can only provide some broad strokes of our past.

If you have memories you would like to share, please take the time to visit our virtual archive at [www.med.mun.ca/earlydays/](http://www.med.mun.ca/earlydays/) and use our survey to submit your thoughts and comments. With your help, we will continue to build this archive to provide a more complete history of the Faculty of Medicine.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Rourke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. James Rourke

## Message from the premier



It is my pleasure to extend congratulations to the faculty and staff of Memorial University's Faculty of Medicine on your 40th anniversary. It is remarkable to see how the faculty has grown since 1967 to become one of the primary pillars for health care delivery in our province.

Through its integration with health care and research facilities, as well as with other health-related faculties within the university, the Faculty of Medicine provides top-notch education for our future physicians while delivering quality health care to our residents. Furthermore, the faculty is well-known as a leader in health research which has an impact on our provincial, national and international health care system and medical knowledge base.

The shared approach of the Provincial Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Memorial University's Faculty of Medicine is resulting in positive outcomes for the people of this province. Our collaboration on recruitment and retention initiatives, in addition to investments in technological innovations, are vital to building a quality and sustainable health care system.

Our government is proud of the faculty's success and the high caliber of graduates our province produces each year. I thank the staff and faculty both past and present for their commitment to quality education, research and health care. It is through your work that the Faculty of Medicine has earned its solid reputation, making it a leading choice for medical school candidates.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Danny Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Danny Williams, Q.C.

## Message from the lieutenant governor of Newfoundland and Labrador



*The medical school was brought about by the vision, courage and tenacity of a small handful of men.*

Memorial's medical school is the most important development in medicine in Newfoundland since John Clinch first administered Jenner's anti-smallpox vaccine in Trinity in 1798. The many hundreds of men and women who have trained there, and the highly-educated and skilled doctors and health scientists who have come here because of the Faculty of Medicine, have made our health care system immeasurably better than if it had never existed. The problems and concerns that trouble us today pale into insignificance when compared to those we would have had to face had there been no medical school.

The medical school was brought about by the vision, courage and tenacity of a small handful of men. Five stand out above all the others. Ian Rusted was an early advocate of the imperative need to establish a medical school in Newfoundland. The eminent neurologist Russell Brain (Lord Brain), gave credibility in his 1966 Royal Commission Report, to the suggestion, which many had derided as being impossibly ambitious. Joseph R. Smallwood, the premier, transformed the notion into policy, by committing the government to support the school financially, in April 1967, with the commitment being conditional upon "substantial assistance from the Health Resources Fund" of the federal government. (I actually drafted Mr. Smallwood's letter). Dr. Rusted's appointment as the first dean of medicine became effective five months later, on Sept. 1, and the first students began their studies two years after that, in September 1969.

But there are two unsung heroes to the tale – two men who made decisive interventions, each of which prevented disaster. Many prominent members of Newfoundland's medical profession strongly opposed the establishment of a medical school, and in 1967 and 1968 their views began to gain political favour. (I have always been proud that my father, Dr. Harry Roberts, was one of the doctors who lobbied ardently in favour of establishment of the school. Dr. Max House, my predecessor as lieutenant governor, was equally strong in the cause). The failure to win federal support added strength to those who fought the proposal. Stephen Taylor, Memorial's president, came staunchly and even stridently to the defence of the fledgling school. He took his case to the premier. Their conversation was as heated and as personal as any I encountered during all my years in public life.

Mr. Smallwood stood by his April 1967 letter. Two or three years later, John Munro, Canada's minister of National Health and Welfare, agreed to provide the requested money. I know about this, because I became minister of health in June 1969 and had the extraordinary good fortune to be in the midst of these debates. The rest is history.

Every Newfoundlander and every Labradorian owes an almost incalculable debt to the men who made the medical school possible. It is right and meet to honour them on this, the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty of Medicine.

Edward Roberts

## Message from the president



Memorial University's Faculty of Medicine has made outstanding progress in the last 40 years. Upon the appointment of Dr. Ian Rusted as the founding dean of medicine in September 1967, faculty and staff were hired and an undergraduate medical program was created within two years. Operating out of temporary buildings on the south side of campus, the first class of 22 students completed their undergraduate medical degree in 1973.

Since 1973, Memorial University has awarded 1,917 medical degrees. In addition, over 350 diplomas and graduate degrees, including 88 PhDs, have been awarded. This year, approximately 230 graduate students are enrolled in the Faculty of Medicine.

Memorial's Faculty of Medicine has made, and continues to make, exceptional contributions to health care in Newfoundland and Labrador. Of the 873 fully licensed doctors practicing in the province today, 250 family doctors are MUN graduates and another 220 specialists are MUN graduates.

The quality of our medical graduates is well recognized. They consistently excel in the Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Exam. In 2006, they placed first in the country in Part II of the exam, written after the first year of postgraduate training. This is the second time in six years that Memorial has ranked first in this exam.

I share pride in the Faculty of Medicine's faculty, staff, students and alumni as we celebrate 40 years of growth and achievement. I am confident that this growth will continue. We are now planning for a major expansion in our undergraduate program, the introduction of interprofessional health education and major increases in our research.

I congratulate the members of the Faculty of Medicine for their success. This success reflects the dreams and honours the memory of our good friend Ian Rusted.

Axel Meisen, PhD, P.Eng.  
President and vice-chancellor

## Message from the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association



Congratulations on the 40th anniversary of Memorial University's Faculty of Medicine.

The founder of Memorial's medical school, the late Dr. Ian Rusted, was instrumental in establishing the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association as the unified voice of organized medicine in the province.

In the early 1950s Dr. Rusted was medical consultant to the Department of Health and director of medical education at the General Hospital. During that time he made it a personal priority to tour Cottage Hospitals and other institutions throughout the province to consult with rural doctors.

Each tour involved more than 240 kilometres of travel – at a time when the Trans-Canada Highway had not yet been completed. Clinical discussions at places such as Grand Falls and Botwood led to the formation of new branches of the then Newfoundland Medical Association.

In 1955, Dr. Rusted also worked with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons to develop approved hospital residency programs in most major medical specialties. His hard work and perseverance eventually led to the establishment of a medical school at Memorial University. He went on to serve as chairman of the NLMA's medical education committee.

Today the Faculty of Medicine is a thriving institution, providing medical education, postgraduate residency training and continuing medical education for physicians. Although my medical degree is from Dalhousie University, I completed my postgraduate residency training in orthopedics at Memorial University and I am proud of the education I received at Memorial.

The NLMA is pleased to offer membership and financial support to medical students through bursaries and scholarships. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the Faculty of Medicine, to ensure the people of Newfoundland and Labrador have access to quality health care.

Joseph Tumilty, MD, FRCSC  
President NLMA

## A history of the faculty of medicine



*Ian Rusted*

Dr. Ian Rusted was appointed by Memorial University in September 1967 as the first dean of medicine, a position he held until 1974 before moving on to serve as vice-president (health sciences) from 1974-1979 and vice-president (health sciences and professional schools) from 1979 until his official retirement in 1988. He remained active in the Faculty of Medicine until he had a severe stroke in January 2007. He died July 14, 2007, age 86.

### Dr. Ian Rusted

Ian Edwin Rusted was born in Upper Island Cove, Newfoundland, on July 12, 1921. Following high school in Carbonear and St. John's, he spent two years at Memorial University College ('38 to '40) followed by three years at Trinity College, University of Toronto, receiving a bachelor of arts degree in 1943. He completed his medical degree and rotating internship at Dalhousie University in 1948, followed by a M.Sc. degree from McGill University in 1949, with research support from a National Research Council grant.

The award of a Fellowship in Medicine from the Mayo Foundation led to additional postgraduate experience at the Mayo Clinic, with several research publications emphasizing chest and cardiovascular diseases. During this time, he was also an assistant to the staff of the Mayo Clinic and was invited to continue at that institution. He was also invited to return to McGill University and the Royal Victoria Hospital, but two summers spent on the NL Government coastal boat *S.S. Kyle* along the coast of Labrador, along with his childhood years in Newfoundland, led him to choose to return to what had now become the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

As medical consultant to the Department of Health and director of medical education at the General Hospital, Dr. Rusted's top priority was visiting Cottage Hospitals and other provincial institutions, working closely with rural doctors. Beginning in 1955, he was responsible for the development of approved residency programs in most major specialties, in close cooperation with the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons. He was also chairman of the Newfoundland Medical Association's Education Committee and these activities were combined with a busy consulting practice as well as research projects. During this period he collected information regarding the possibility of a new medical school in Atlantic Canada.

Dr. Rusted's vision and determination were the two key factors that led to the establishment of a Faculty of Medicine at Memorial University in 1967. This was a remarkable accomplishment at that time as Memorial became one of only 16 universities in Canada to have a medical school.

Recognition of Dr. Rusted's many activities included four honorary degrees and being made an Officer of the Order of Canada and a Master of the American College of Physicians. To honour its founding dean, the Faculty of Medicine is in the process of seeking funding to establish the Dr. Ian Rusted Founder's Chair in Medical Education, our first endowed chair, to build upon our medical school's reputation for innovation and leadership in educating our doctors of tomorrow. This fund was initiated through the personal commitment of Dean *Emeritus* Dr. Ian Rusted.

## The development of the medical school

By Dr. Ian Rusted

*With our all too common negativity, many opinions were expressed that a Newfoundland medical school would never get 25 or 30 applicants per year. In fact, the average numbers were 150 to 200 from Newfoundland and 700 in total each year.*

To pave the way to a medical school, I recommended a meeting between the minister and deputy minister of health with university president Raymond Gushue and dean M.O. Morgan, along with two representatives from the Newfoundland Medical Association – myself and Dr. A.M. House. That meeting took place in mid-September of 1966, leading quickly to the preliminary report and subsequent MacFarlane and Lord Brain Commissions. The course was rapid but not always smooth! My first formal meeting with Premier Smallwood was necessary to overcome initial resistance to any special commission.

Meanwhile, there were major changes happening to the province's health care system. The U.S. Armed Forces Hospital at Fort Pepperell was converted to a children's hospital, accommodating all children from the Victoria and Alexander wards of the General Hospital, and the Salvation Army Grace Hospital was reconstructed. These changes coincided with the Hall Royal Commission on Health Services, followed by the MacFarlane and Brain Commissions. Their recommendations and the creation of the \$500 million Health Resources Fund (most of it to be matched by the provinces) led to a revolution in Canadian health care, especially in Newfoundland.

In addition to these developments, it is important to remember that Memorial University moved to its new campus in 1961–1962 and immediately began to expand rapidly, including plans (in 1966) for a degree program in nursing. Also, the College of Trades and Technology was developing and new hospitals began to be built. Some of the new hospitals included St. Clare's in St. John's, in Carbonear, Gander, Grand Falls, Corner Brook, St. Anthony, and at three locations in Labrador. This was followed a few years later by other new regional or community hospitals – creating new demands, needs and opportunities for health care professionals.

With our all too common negativity, many opinions were expressed that a Newfoundland medical school would never get 25 or 30 applicants per year. In fact, the average numbers were 150 to 200 from Newfoundland and 700 in total each year. Since the advent of the medical school, students have been admitted from every region of the province. This was one of the major mandates of the medical school – to make it possible for more Newfoundlanders to choose a career in medicine – and it has been fulfilled.

The second major objective, from the beginning, was to improve the standards of health care in the province. This too has been achieved, bringing with it increased expectations.

However, within two years of the first graduating classes, there were cries that Newfoundland would have too many doctors! By 1977 this had reached such a peak that I felt compelled to write one of only two letters that I have ever directed to a premier of our province, pointing out that:

*"No anglophone medical school in Canada has all its graduates remaining in their own province. The average is closer to 60 per cent or less, ranging from 30 per cent in Saskatchewan to a high of 75 per cent of the Newfoundlanders who have so far graduated from our own medical school... Most MUN graduates are in smaller Newfoundland communities, contrary to the impression created by recent press reports. From the 116 graduates in the three classes between 1973-75, 80 were Newfoundlanders and 61 of these are still in the province as of Jan. 1, 1977. Of the 46 in general practice, 36 were outside St. John's, Corner Brook or Grand Falls. They are located at Burgeo, Hermitage, Jeffreys in the Codroy Valley, Lourdes (Port au Port), Cow Head, Hampden, Springdale, Labrador City, Botwood, Bonavista, Catalina, Grand Bank, Placentia, Come by Chance and several other places."*

This excerpt is selected from an article by the late Dr. Ian Rusted, originally published in MUNMED Vol. 11 No. 1, Winter 1999, in the conclusion to a three-part series on Changes in Newfoundland medicine: A 50-year perspective.



Dr. Ian Rusted



Dr. Ken Roberts



Dr. William Marshall



Dr. J.M. Dart



Dr. George Flight



Dr. J. Hoenig

These photos of early faculty members were used on a poster titled "Early Faculty Recruitment 1968-1969" created by Dr. Brian Payton as one of 14 posters for the 15th anniversary of the medical school.



Dr. Albert Cox



Dr. Clويد Green



Dr. Max House



Dr. C.L. Holt



Dr. J.B. Littlefield



Dr. J.T. Dunne



Dr. H.B. Kedward



Dr. R.C. Way



Dr. L.J. Peddle



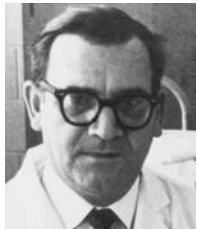
Dr. P.R. Ingram



Dr. H.M. Sampath



Dr. Cliff Joy



Dr. L.A.W. Feltham



Dr. E.P. Sheppard-Shaw



Dr. G. Hopkinson



Dr. S.C. Peterson



Dr. Brian Payton



Ms. J.A. Sylph

"To achieve development of a new medical school requires of a mere handful of all-too-human founding faculty members, patience, faith and a hundred other virtues."

*(Editorial, CMA Journal, June 2, 1973)*



## Selected biographies of early faculty members

Many of the early faculty hired for the new medical school devoted their entire careers to building the excellence of the curriculum, teaching and research endeavour. Here are a just a few examples of those who contributed.

### Dr. K. B. Roberts



In 1968, Dr. Ken Roberts was appointed the first associate dean of medicine and professor of physiology for the new medical school at Memorial University. In 1975 he resigned as associate dean of Basic Medical Sciences to devote himself to full-time teaching and research as professor of physiology. He became the first John Clinch Professor of History of Medicine in 1978 after the university and the Faculty of Medicine established a chair for the History of Medicine. This position allowed him to collect and care for valuable medical texts, produce historical lectures, and teach in special history of medicine courses. He retired from this post in 1988.

Dr. Roberts held positions in a variety of medical organizations including: member, the executive committee of the Medical Research Council of Canada; chairman of the Scientific Committee of the Canadian Heart Foundation; member, the executive committee of the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine. He was founding editor of the *Canadian Bulletin of Medical History* and has contributed to a number of books and published papers in pathology, physiology, molecular biology, the history of medicine and higher education. He co-authored a major work with MUN colleague J.D.W. Tomlinson: *The Fabric of the Body: European Traditions of Anatomical Illustration*.

Dr. Roberts was born in London, England in 1923, and attended King's College, University of London, graduating (MB, BS, MRCS, LRCP) in 1945. He next attended Oxford University earning a BA (honours physiology) in 1948 and a D. Phil in Medicine, 1952. Before being recruited to Memorial University, he held academic appointments at the University of Edinburgh and University of London.

### Dr. John Tomlinson



The first professor of anatomy at the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. John (Tommy) Tomlinson, was born in England and began his medical studies at Cambridge University and clinical training at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School.

The medical undergraduate curriculum planned at Memorial was significantly different from the traditional programs taught in most medical schools in the English-speaking world. The only prerequisites students required were courses in chemistry and English, so some students had limited backgrounds in biology or physics. Anatomy teaching was planned as an intensive six-week program in the mornings which took place at the beginning of the second year of studies. Dr. Tomlinson was responsible for designing and contributing to the anatomy program.

At first the majority of the lectures in the anatomy program were given by Dr. Tomlinson using numerous blackboard chalk drawings. In recognition of his outstanding teaching he was one of the first faculty members to receive The Silver Orator Award from the students, and also received the Order of the Killick in 1978. With Dr. Ken Roberts, he co-authored *The Fabric of the Body: European Traditions of Anatomical Illustration*. On his retirement, in recognition of his contributions to the Faculty of Medicine and the university he was named professor *emeritus*.

### Dr. William Pryse-Phillips



Dr. William Pryse-Phillips, professor *emeritus*, was the first academic neurologist hired for Memorial's medical school. He developed teaching materials that became the basis for two books, and started a program of research on common neurological problems in the province's population. The careful clinical work he did on hereditary neuropathy, an illness of the nerves affecting body extremities, was critical to the discovery of the gene for the rare HSAN II by Xenon Genetics – an important step in the diagnosis and future management of this disease.

## Dr. Albert Davis



Dr. Albert (Bert) Davis joined the Faculty of Medicine in 1969, one of three full-time pediatric faculty, just two years after Dr. Ian Rusted was appointed dean. Diabetes is one of his sub-specialty areas and he had the opportunity to start a diabetes clinic in St. John's and establish a team to do treatment and follow-up. He also established the Neonatal Transport Service for the province and the provincial neo-natal screening for congenital hypothyroidism – the third to be established in Canada – as well as a provincial screening program for hereditary amino acid disorders. Pediatric residents were a part of the Faculty of Medicine from its beginning and accreditation of the pediatric residency program wasn't long in coming. From the days when the medical school was housed in temporary buildings on the south campus and pediatric services provided by the old Janeway Hospital in Pleasantville, Dr. Davis has seen numerous changes over the years. He was a strong advocate of the Janeway's move to the Health Sciences Centre and said one of the most important benefits of this move was to bring obstetrics and the children's hospital together.

## Dr. Wallace Ingram



Dr. Wallace Ingram joined the Faculty of Medicine in 1971 and has served in many capacities – in particular as a wonderful tutor, lecturer and mentor to many. Originally from Belfast, Northern Ireland, he earned his medical degree at Medical School Queens College in 1950, followed by additional training in Belfast from 1950–1952. He came to St. John's in 1952 and did a rotating internship at the St. John's General Hospital. He practiced in St. John's from 1953–1954 and in Springdale from 1954–1958. In 1958 he went to Rochester Minnesota and was a fellow in Medicine at the Mayo Clinic; he completed his fellowship and M.Sc. (Medicine) in 1961. Dr. Ingram practiced as an internist in Grand Falls Windsor from 1961–1964, returning to St. John's in 1964.

In 1998 Dr. Ingram won the Atlantic Provinces Regional Award for outstanding service, given by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. The Dr. Wallace Ingram Award for New Faculty was established in 2004 by the Medical Graduates' Society under the leadership of President Dr. Wayne Gulliver.

## Dr. John Martin



Dr. John R. Martin joined the Faculty of Medicine in 1971 as a professor of medicine (rheumatology). He also served as director of the Northern Medicine and Health Program from 1978-1984 and was involved with several studies and projects including the Labrador West Dust Study and the Labrador Institute of Northern Studies (1979-1984). He was a member of the Ocean Ranger study team of the Royal Commission into the Ocean Ranger Disaster (1982-1983) and principal investigator for the Intersalt Project on the relationship of dietary factors including sodium and potassium to blood pressure for western Newfoundland (1985-1987).

Dr. Martin is the author of *Leonard Albert Miller – Public Servant*. Throughout his career he has also written numerous articles and been published in a broad variety of professional journals.

## Dr. Henry Gault



Dr. Henry Gault (1925–2003), a pioneer in the field of nephrology, was instrumental in building a strong program of clinical and research nephrology at the General Hospital and the Faculty of Medicine. He was involved in recruiting Drs. Michael Paul, Patrick Parfrey, John Harnett, Brendan Barrett and Rob Foley to Memorial.

One of Dr. Gault's major contributions to the field was a landmark paper in nephrology that showed how to calculate the function of the kidney using the variables of weight, gender and age. The formula for this calculation is known as the Cockcroft-Gault formula and is regarded as one of the most reliable practical measures of kidney function in clinical practice.

Dr. Gault's major contribution to clinical services in nephrology for Newfoundland and Labrador was to set up a renal laboratory. He developed a number of clinical laboratory tests that had not been previously available as well as state-of-the-art renal stone analysis that were provided as a clinical service for patients in the province.

## Dr. Brian Payton



Dr. Brian Payton joined the Faculty of Medicine in 1969 as associate professor of physiology, and was promoted in 1977 to professor of physiology until his retirement in 1995. He has published several textbooks and monographs and contributed numerous articles to scientific journals, proceedings and newsletters. His research interests have been in the field of synaptic and membrane physiology and pharmacology. In addition, he has scripted, prepared and produced several media productions, as well as assisted with many others.

In 1973, Dr. Payton became director of Medical Audiovisual Service (MAVS). Over a period of almost three decades, MAVS created many videocassettes for the Faculty of Medicine and made them available as teaching aids, public awareness tools and medical learning resources for students, staff and faculty.

In January 1995 computer services were merged with MAVS to create Health Sciences Information and Media Service (HSIMS). Today the services offered include computer support, photography, graphic design, instructional design, public relations and room bookings.

## Dr. William Marshall



Dr. William (Bill) Marshall was recruited to the Faculty of Medicine effective September 1, 1968. He was appointed director of Postgraduate Medical Education and after the first small classes began he also became the first secretary of the Curriculum Committee. In those early days, Dr. Marshall and 11 other appointed faculty members shared teaching and research space in small temporary buildings. Despite the tight spaces in the new facilities, Dr. Marshall was quick to assert himself as a teaching force and by October of 1968 he was holding a course in clinical sciences. This course consisted of lectures by Memorial University faculty and visiting medical persons. It was designed to

keep postgraduate doctors up-to-date with advances in scientific disciplines, such as physiology, biochemistry and experimental pathology.

As the first associate professor of immunology, the task of establishing research facilities fell to Dr. Marshall. Under his direction a clinical immunology diagnostic laboratory was established and he became its permanent director. Over his career Dr. Marshall received many research grants and supervised one of the first large immunology studies, the West Coast Health Survey.

Dr. Marshall was born in London, England, and educated at Cambridge University and the London Hospital Medical College, where he earned his MB in 1957. After obtaining his MRCP, he began work on his MD thesis at Cambridge. Under the guidance of Dr. Kenneth Roberts, he undertook a thesis project on human blood lymphocytes, which was the beginning of his involvement with immunology.

## Dr. John M. Darte



Dr. John Darte (1920-1975) was appointed professor of pediatrics and chief of medicine at the Janeway Child Health Centre in February 1968. He played a major role in helping develop the curriculum at the medical school, particularly in the clinical teaching of pediatrics. He was the first chair of the Discipline of Pediatrics from 1969-1975 and the annual Pediatrics Residents' Research Forum is named in his honour.

In 1974 Dr. Darte accepted the position of director of the Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto and a professorship at the University of Toronto. Mrs. Margaret Darte and her daughter, Mrs. France Darte McCabe, established memorial scholarships in Dr. Darte's name for medical students: four awards are given out each year – two for pre-clerkship and two for clerkship students.

## Early staff at the medical school

### Secretaries



*Genevieve Colman*

#### **The Colman Graduate Student Award**

The Colman Graduate Student Award, valued at \$1,000, was established in memory of Genevieve Colman and her daughter Roberta Colman, with the goal of encouraging graduate students to produce work of outstanding quality.



*Norma Wellman*



*Honor Carnell*



*Christine Brown and  
Dr. Uwe Ackerman*



*Colleen Colman,  
Gladys Chalker and  
Joan Morgan*



*Jean Gaulton*



*Carmel Murphy*

### Finance and Administration



*Bill Stapleton*



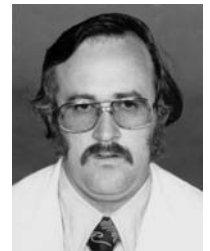
*Commander H. Garrett*



*Rowland Burke*



*Ed Scammell*



*Cliff George*

### M.A.V.S.

### Lab Technicians



*Jim Eustace, Penny  
Hansen, Deborah  
Hyam, Tina Morgan*



*Jim Hansen*



*Phil Hyam*



*Katherine Ashley, Dick Campbell,  
Roberta Snow*

Dick Campbell (1920-2000) was one of the earliest employees in the medical school, already on staff when the first temporary building became ready for use in September 1968. He took on various roles to start, doing some of the office work connected with purchasing and setting up the first small room where some experimental animals were housed. As more staff and faculty were taken on, and as laboratories began their research work, Mr. Campbell became progressively more involved with animal care. The animal quarters expanded to house rats, mice, guinea pigs and rabbits. In 1975, when the first part of the new Health Sciences Centre became useable, he was there to participate in moving the ever-expanding animal quarters to its new locations.

## Construction of the Health Sciences Centre

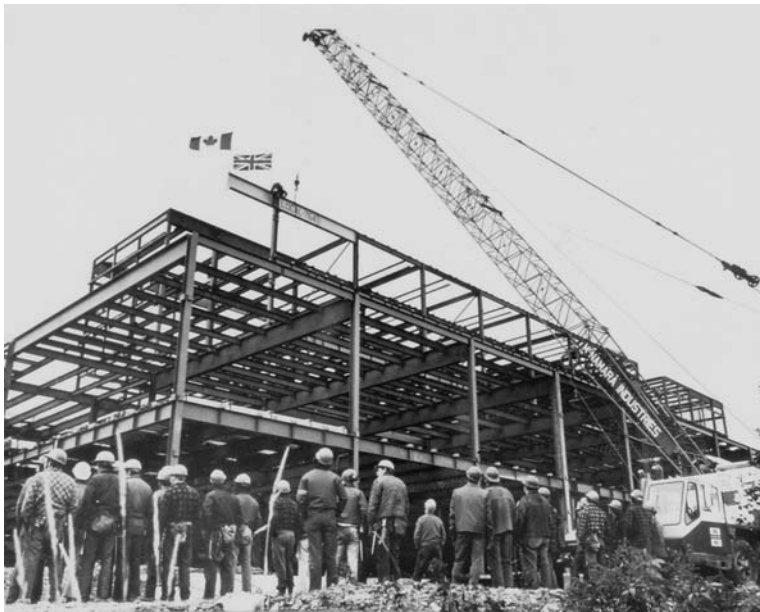
The building of the Health Sciences Centre to house the medical school and the General Hospital involved not only the actual construction, but many hours of committee meetings by the various planning and development committees.

Such meetings involved representatives of the provincial government, the project management company (Scrivener), the architects (Parkin), the medical school, the university and management of the General hospital. In addition there was frequent consultation with faculty and staff at all levels.

In those early days the faces of many of those actively engaged in these pursuits were as familiar to most faculty and staff as were those of the students. Indeed, probably more so, as they often seemed to outnumber them.



*In 1967 the site on which the Health Sciences Centre was to be built was largely scrub and bog. This required considerable clearing and draining before foundations could start being laid.*



*On Oct. 5, 1973, workers watched the last piece of steel set in place. Also witnessing the ceremony were the minister of Public Works, J. G. Rousseau, Jr., and the minister of Health, Dr. A. T. (Gus) Rowe. Once the "shell" was up, work continued with the many intricate construction problems associated with such a specialized building.*

*At the centre of the action, and somehow maintaining the peace between such unlikely groups as politicians, architects, construction engineers, hospital administrators, academics, physicians, faculty, staff and students, was the medical school's project director "Chic" Campbell.*

*Adept at organizing everything from tuna-fishing expeditions to barbecues, Chic's previous experience as a hospital administrator even had him as a faculty member teaching in the Community Medicine Program.*



## The medical school moves to the Health Sciences Centre

Occupancy of the Health Sciences Centre by the medical school took place continuously between 1974 and 1978. As certain areas became complete, various teaching or research personnel occupied them.

Among the earliest areas occupied were for anatomy teaching, the lecture theatre facilities, Medical Audio Visual Service, the library, the student teaching laboratories, some research laboratories in the immunology and surgical research areas, and the animal care facilities.

As other areas of completed space became ready, they were occupied by medical school administration offices, the basic sciences research laboratories (largely on the fourth and fifth floors), technical services, and the offices of the Division of Community Medicine.

The offices of the Family Practice Unit did not move from the temporary buildings until other clinical facilities moved to the Health Sciences Centre with the General Hospital.



*The first formal use of the HSC by the medical school took place in December 1973 when Faculty Council held a meeting in the uncompleted auditorium.*

## The General Hospital moves to the HSC

The many clinical service facilities within the Health Sciences Centre would not be made available for patients until all of them were complete. This did not occur until 1978. Once this was accomplished, patients were moved from Forest Road to the new location of the General Hospital within the HSC. This complex move took place within a very few days, normal services hardly interrupted during the transfer.



*The official opening of the Health Sciences Centre took place Oct. 26, 1978. From left: Moses O. Morgan, president of Memorial University; G. Campbell Eaton, chairman of the St. John's General Hospital Corporation; Frederick W. Russell, chairman of the Board of Regents, Memorial University); Frank D. Moores, premier of Newfoundland.*



Dr. A.M. House played a substantial role in all phases of the development of the medical school from early interest within the Newfoundland Medical Association in the early 1960s through the extensive planning process up to the planning, building and joint operation of the Health Sciences Centre (HSC). He worked closely with Dr. Ian Rusted and with senior personnel within the General Hospital for many years and was a member of the HSC joint management committee for two decades.

## The Hon. Dr. A. Max House

Dr. House's career has been primarily devoted to the care of patients, the development of neurological services and the teaching of physicians and other health professionals. Stimulated by his experiences in a remote practice together with his involvement in continuing medical education, he became interested in telemedicine. Over three decades this led to the development of an internationally-recognized telemedicine/telehealth program at Memorial.

Telemedicine included early involvement with Canada's space program, the development of a provincial teleconference system, and numerous national and international telemedicine and distance education research projects. Dr. House is an international pioneer and expert in the field. These activities have brought in more than \$13 million in research funding and built the 10,000 square foot Telemedicine Centre and the Centre for Offshore and Remote Medicine. The distance CME program at Memorial continues to be a leader in Canada.

During his career, Dr. House has held a variety of academic and professional positions at Memorial University including: director, Continuing Medical Education (1968-1977); assistant dean, Continuing Medical Education (1973-1981); associate dean, Clinical Affairs (1977-1981); associate dean, Continuing Medical Education and Clinical Affairs (1981-1984); and associate dean, Professional Affairs (1984-1992).

Dr. House became the 10th lieutenant governor of Newfoundland and Labrador on February 5, 1997. He was the first in this position to establish a Government House website on which all his activities in office were documented.

After retirement from the Vice Regal Office in 2002, Dr. House returned to the practice of medicine and to Memorial as honorary research professor. He continues to be active in clinical practice and telehealth projects in tele-cancer services and health care generally.

Dr. House has been the recipient of many awards throughout his career including: Award for Communications Week at Expo '86 in Vancouver; Atlantic Canada Innovator of the Year (1990); Medal of Service, Canadian Medical Association (1997); James H. Graham Award of Merit, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (1998); honorary doctorate of laws (LLD), Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia (1998); honorary doctorate of laws (LLD), Memorial University of Newfoundland (1999); Lifetime Achievement Award, the Marconi 100th Anniversary Wireless Vision Conference and Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association (2001); professor *emeritus*, Memorial University (2003); Officer of the Order of Canada (2005); Order of Newfoundland and Labrador (2005); and Honorary Member of the Canadian Medical Association (June 2007).

## The development of the Telemedicine Centre



*In 1980 the offshore drill ship Nedrill was fitted with a Telemedicine link. On hand were (from left) Judy Roberts, then-director of Telemedicine, Dr. Max House and a technician from the Department of Communications.*

Even before the medical school opened, continuing medical education for physicians was a priority in the province. Dr. Max House was appointed in 1968 as the director of Continuing Medical Education (CME).

Dr. House had begun his medical career as a general practitioner in the town of Baie Verte in 1952 and knew first-hand how isolated the area could become during the winter months. As a result, he became interested in developing methods to provide health care and education to rural areas in Newfoundland and Labrador, an interest that remains with him to this day.

In January 1976, in preparation for the use of the Communications Technology Satellite being launched by Canada that month, tests were done to evaluate and test equipment and methods of communication for Memorial's proposed experiments in telemedicine. One part of those experiments was to determine if medical specialists in larger centres could provide a consultation service to outlying areas using interactive television. These experiments led to further developments in telemedicine.

The Telemedicine Centre was officially opened in 1977. Telemedicine, later renamed the Tele-health and Educational Technology Resource Agency (TETRA), was created to provide continuing education courses for physicians, nurses and other health professionals throughout the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Starting with the use of satellite technology in the early 1970s, TETRA subsequently developed proficiency with all types of information and communications systems and has acquired international recognition as one of the most advanced tele-health and tele-education service providers in North America. These services include conference calling, videoconferencing, and web-based technologies. Clients eventually included various levels of government and international organizations, as well as private companies.

An early highlight in the history of the Telemedicine Centre/TETRA was the opening in October 1979 of a teleconference system linking Memorial University campuses in St. John's and Grenfell College, Corner Brook, as well as a number of provincial hospitals and other health organizations,



*Demonstration of an EEG (electroencephalogram) transmission by telemedicine.*



In May 1980, a pilot project using the Federal Department of Communication's Anik B Satellite linked St. John's, Goose Bay, Labrador City and a small community on the coast of Labrador as well as a Petro Canada drill ship during the drilling season.

In August 1982, Memorial represented Canada at Unispace '82, an international event which demonstrated the uses of Canadian satellite technology in the fields of health and education. Live transmission of a 18-minute video program presented by Dr. House was received live in Vienna, Austria, for a United Nations conference. Of particular interest in the presentation was a live medical consultation of an electro encephalogram (EEG or brain wave test) from a patient at the Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital in western Labrador transmitted to the HSC via ANIK B.

In April 1984, Memorial officially opened the Labrador division of the Faculty of Medicine's teleconference system. On Jan. 13, 1986, a teleconference link was officially established between the Health Sciences Centre and the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Nairobi in Kenya, East Africa. A news conference featured transmission of an EEG from Nairobi to St. John's, which traveled a total of 44,000 miles in a quarter of a second.

In September 1987 the Teleconference Centre received financial support from the Canadian International Development Agency to develop a teleconference system in Jamaica. The project was jointly carried out by Memorial and the University of the West Indies, which had a teleconference system linking six island countries in the Caribbean.

In 1988 distance education projects began to be delivered to 50 students in 13 rural schools, allowing them to take specialized courses in advanced math and physics. The use of a telewriter turned the traditional classroom blackboard into an instant image-maker that transmitted drawings while they were being produced by an instructor.

In February 1989 the Telemedicine Centre moved to a new location in the HSC. About 10,000 square feet over two levels were added to the southeast corner of the building, giving the centre badly-needed extra space including two more studios and another control room.

The 2000 President's Award for the Advancement of Telemedicine from the American Telemedicine Association went to Memorial's Telemedicine Centre. A panel of distinguished experts in the field of medicine and technology selected Memorial's Telemedicine program from an extensive list of programs operating throughout North America.

To celebrate 25 years of service and to provide a blueprint for the coming years, TETRA held a conference in October 2002, titled, The Way Forward: Telemedicine to e-Health. Featuring plenary speakers and working breakout sessions, conference participants worked together to lay the groundwork for TETRA's future.

On Jan. 25, 2007, TETRA and the Office of Professional Development merged, forming Professional Development & Conferencing Services (PDCS).

On leaving Government House in 2002, Dr. House returned to the university as honorary research professor and once again became involved in telemedicine. He was the principal investigator of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teleoncology Program, launched in January 2005. The program recently successfully concluded, having met its objectives to demonstrate the effective development, integration and sustainability of telehealth into cancer services delivery between the Newfoundland Cancer Research Foundation and participating health boards.



*Dr. House preparing for Unispace '82, held in Vienna, Austria. Memorial University demonstrated Canadian satellite technology in the fields of health and education through a live transmission from St. John's to the Hofburg Palace, Vienna.*



Dr. Albert Cox was appointed dean of medicine in 1974 and served in this position until 1987. He was then appointed vice-president (health sciences and professional schools), and acting vice-president academic for Memorial University from 1988-1990, then vice-president academic until his retirement in 1992.

## Dr. Albert Cox

Albert Reginald Cox was born in Victoria, British Columbia, on April 18, 1928, and educated at Victoria High School and Victoria College. He earned a BA in 1950 and a MD in 1954 from the University of British Columbia. Both Dr. Cox and his wife, Margaret, were in the first class (1950) of medical studies at the newly opened Faculty of Medicine, UBC.

After graduating from medical school, Dr. Cox served his internship at the Vancouver General Hospital from 1954-1955 and did a residency there from 1955-1959. During this time he also served as flight lieutenant (medical officer), Royal Canadian Air Force (auxiliary). He was a British Council Scholar at the London Postgraduate Medical Program (Hammersmith Hospital), National Heart Hospital, from September 1956 to June 1957, then pursued fellowship training in pharmacology and cardiology at the University of Washington, Seattle, from 1959-1961.

Dr. Cox was recruited to Memorial's new Faculty of Medicine in 1969 as professor and chair of medicine. From 1972-1974 he served as associate dean for clinical affairs before becoming dean. Immediately following his appointment as dean in 1974, Dr. Cox began sending out *Information Memoranda*. These were a recognition and record of new appointments, promotions, resignations and events in the Faculty of Medicine and provided the first regular documentation of activities in the faculty.

Dr. Cox received many awards and distinctions throughout his career, including the Horner Prize and Gold Medal for highest standing in subject of medicine (1954); Mead Johnson Fellowship of American College of Physicians (1955); General Lifeco Hawthorne K. Dent Fellowship in Cardiology (1959-1961); Canadian Life Insurance Medical Fellowship (1966-1970); Dr. Wallace Wilson Leadership Award, Medical Alumni Association, UBC (1986); honorary membership, College of Family Physicians of Canada (1987); member, Order of Canada (1989); and 75th Anniversary Alumnus Award, University of British Columbia (Membership), (1954-1990).

Dr. Cox served on many Memorial University committees and also played an active role on committees and boards in Newfoundland, including the board of International Grenfell Association (1973-1983); member of the St. John's Hospital Council (1984-1991); board of directors for the General Hospital, St. John's (1984-1987); Medical Advisory Committee, Newfoundland Division, Canadian Heart Foundation (1987); Medical Advisory Committee, Newfoundland Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation (1987); and Board of Management, Agnes Pratt Home (1989-1991). Throughout his career he was also on several committees in other provinces as well as on a national level.

Dr. Cox retired in October 1991. In his spare time, he is interested in horticulture, specifically organic farming of vegetables and major crops of garlic. He pursues photography and is involved with the Sylvan Pastoral Charge, United Church of Canada. Drs. Albert and Margaret Cox presently reside in British Columbia, Canada.

## Reflections by Dr. Al Cox

*The dean alone can achieve some objectives, but I am sure that much, much more can be achieved by participation of the dean with teams and groups working toward well-defined goals. The dean, I found, needs to be readily available to discuss issues or problems with faculty, staff and students; a wonderful opportunity to learn of the intricacies of a complex organization and to get to know so many fine people.*

Being a part of a newly-established medical school is an exciting adventure. My wife Margaret (Peg) and I were in the first class of medical students at the University of British Columbia in 1950. In 1969, to come to Memorial University's new medical school as professor and chair of medicine was an irresistible opportunity. We arrived a month before the first students assembled in the temporary wooden buildings.

Looking back at our 22 years at Memorial University, and now nearly 16 years of retirement on Vancouver Island, I would like to touch on what I believe to be critical elements in the successful establishment and subsequent progress of our medical school.

The process of laying the groundwork of the new medical school was undertaken by Dr. Ian Rusted both prior to, and immediately after, his appointment as the first dean of medicine 40 years ago. He successfully negotiated complex issues with federal and provincial governments, hospital and medical associations and the university.

Second, in my view, was the vital process of recruitment of truly excellent faculty, staff and students. Full-time faculty were drawn from Newfoundland and the rest of Canada, the U.S.A., the U.K. and elsewhere. Part-time and voluntary clinical faculty were critically important to the function of the school. Similarly, excellent staff provided essential administrative, technical and supportive roles. Our medical students, graduate students and postgraduate clinical trainees were of very high caliber and rapidly bonded as coherent and constructive members of the school.

The curriculum is the framework of teaching and learning. I had the privilege of chairing the Curriculum Committee (a rowdy group!) and we were rarely more than a few months ahead of the students. Interdisciplinary education and problem-based learning were emphasized, as was early clinical contact.

Shortly after my appointment as dean in 1974 I visited President Moses Morgan to inquire if there was a "job description" for deans. "No," he said. "I don't like job descriptions; they limit people. A dean does what a dean should do, and if he doesn't I'll tell him!"

I enjoyed being dean of medicine – a wonderful opportunity to be involved in the growth and changes in the medical school. Much time was spent in the process of planning a Health Sciences Centre to accommodate the Faculty of Medicine, School of Nursing and School of Pharmacy, together with our major partner, the St. John's General Hospital. Close relations with hospitals in the city and across the province were vital.

The dean alone can achieve some objectives, but I am sure that much, much more can be achieved by participation of the dean with teams and groups working toward well-defined goals. The dean, I found, needs to be readily available to discuss issues or problems with faculty, staff and students; a wonderful opportunity to learn of the intricacies of a complex organization and to get to know so many fine people.

A cardinal objective of our medical school is the graduation of physicians for Newfoundland and Labrador and for Canada. Our graduates are highly regarded by other medical schools. The fact that Memorial's medical graduates ranked first place among Canadian medical schools in the 2006 Medical Council Qualifying Exam Part II (for the second time) is further confirmation of their excellence.

I would be remiss if I did not note the remarkable tolerance of my wife, Peg, for my unreasonable hours and preoccupations. She provided counsel, tours and homemade meals to a multitude of visiting recruitment candidates and their spouses – a resource to the dean!

The years 1969 to 1991 in Newfoundland were amongst the most stimulating and satisfying of a lifetime.

## Reflections by Dr. Peg Cox



*The continuing medical education activities of teleconferences, seminars and workshops on pediatric developmental disabilities provided contact with physicians around the province.*

For me, our 22 years in St. John's were full of new opportunities – the challenges of combining family responsibilities with an increasing commitment to pediatric practice, research and teaching, and the ongoing receiving and giving of hospitality. The warmth of welcome by Ian and Ellen Rusted and other long-time residents remains a special memory as we learned to present the local scene to numerous potential faculty members and other visitors.

The years from 1970 to 1985 were a transition from being a part-time physician in the Communication/Development Clinic of the Janeway Child Health Centre to becoming a full-time medical faculty member.

One of the highlights of 1977 was taking part in an early telemedicine project for which audiovisual presentations were made to medical centres around the province by means of a communications technology satellite. This led to permanent teleconferencing and also to a research project using distance education for parents of pre-school children with severe hearing impairment.

From 1980 on, participation in the new provincial Perinatal High Risk Program involved research in the Newborn Intensive Care Nursery at the Janeway and follow-up through local and traveling clinical throughout the province. It was always exciting to fly north on small craft to St. Anthony, and Goose Bay and Nain in Labrador.

From 1985 on, full-time work in pediatric ambulatory education led to intensive contact with students and faculty involved at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The teaching of interview and clinical skills, supervision of elective and special topics, and co-ordination with and development section of teaching provided occasions to stimulate and be stimulated by questioning, innovative students. Post-graduate interns and resident taught us too – the maxim that “a teacher learns twice” is apt. Preparing presentations and papers with both students and others was particularly significant.

The contribution of patients should be mentioned, from the gazing response of an alert newborn, to the sage comment of a four-year old who requested that a medical student examining her please lie down on the bed so she could listen to him with his stethoscope!

The continuing medical education activities of teleconferences, seminars and workshops on pediatric developmental disabilities provided contact with physicians around the province. Committees in the Faculty of Medicine gave experience in teamwork and opened new contacts. At the time, the Janeway was separated geographically from the Health Sciences Centre, so bridging that gap between pediatrics and the university had to be accomplished both physically and mentally. The subsequent transfer of the high risk maternity unit, pediatrics facilities and neonatal intensive care unit to the HSC site is a great advantage.

The yearly cycle of events presented the highlights of newly arrived first-year students, mentorship and the successful fall Monte Carlo night, followed by the 12 days of Newfoundland Christmas entertaining, the celebration of New Year's Day at our place with AI's administrative staff and the reception for graduating students in May – we even had this in the garden one year when the weather permitted!

As AI has pointed out, the best memories of our time at Memorial attach to the people we met and the visitors who came. Convocation was always colourful and never dull – the public orators excelled (Vera Lynn's introductions and reply were in song!) and the featured speakers inevitably memorable. In her 1990 address, Ursula Franklin asked graduates to go “with both heart and mind prepared.”

Being at Memorial's medical school rewarded us in both heartfelt and mindful memories.

## The structure of the Faculty of Medicine

From the beginning, the Faculty of Medicine was designed to operate on a non-departmental system, with faculty members divided into three broad areas. In the 1969 *University Calendar* these were listed as Cell Studies, Clinical Sciences and Community Medicine. Today the three divisions are known as the Division of BioMedical Sciences, the Division of Clinical Disciplines, and the Division of Community Health and Humanities.

### Division of BioMedical Sciences

The Division of BioMedical Sciences includes anatomy, biochemistry, molecular biology, cell sciences, genetics, electron microscopy, immunology, endocrinology, oncology, pharmacology, physiology, neuroscience and psychology. Dr. Jim Orr, associate dean from 1973-74, described Dr. Ken Roberts (first associate dean for the Faculty of Medicine and first associate dean of Basic Medical Sciences) as "a man of great intelligence and vision whom I really liked and admired. Bill Marshall, "Tommy" Tomlinson and Ken were the original Basic Medical Sciences' triumvirate."

#### *Associate deans for Basic Medical Sciences*



Dr. Ken Roberts  
1973–1974



Dr. James Orr  
1975–1978



Dr. Bruce Sells  
1979–1983



Dr. Christopher Triggle  
1979–1983



Dr. Alf Burness  
1990–1991



Dr. Richard Neuman  
1991–2000



Dr. Bodil Larsen  
2001–2003



Dr. Karen Mearow  
2003–present

### Division of Community Health and Humanities

The Division of Community Health and Humanities covers behavioral sciences, community medicine, epidemiology and biostatistics, genetics, health care delivery and occupational health, ethics and medical history. Areas of research expertise at the Faculty of Medicine include specific areas of clinical specialties, community health, epidemiology, applied health and services research and basic medical sciences including neurosciences, immunology, cardiovascular and renal physiology and human genetic research. The Ethics and Humanities Group has expertise in medical history, medical anthropology, ethics and medicine, and law and medicine.

Dr. Henry Keward was appointed the first associate professor of social medicine and director of the community medical course. In an article published in the *Evening Telegram*, Dec. 12, 1969, he said, "community medicine means you are thinking of medical services for the whole community. We try to get across to the students... that the period of hospital treatment is very brief. We should be more interested in preventive rather than curative medicine."

*Associate deans for Community Medicine (and Behavioural Sciences until 1991),  
then Community Health and Humanities*



Dr. Robert Mowbray  
1971–1991



Dr. Boyd Suttie  
1973–1974



Dr. George Fodor  
1981–1991



Dr. Jorge Segovia  
1991–1996



Dr. Roy West  
1996–2001, 2004–05



Dr. Michael Murray  
2001–2004



Dr. J.T.H. Connor  
2005–2007



Dr. Catherine Donovan  
2007–present

## Division of Clinical Disciplines

In the Division of Clinical Disciplines faculty members specialize in anesthesia, family medicine, genetics, medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology, pathology, pediatrics, psychiatry, radiology and surgery.

### Discipline of Anesthesia

The Discipline of Anesthesia provides a full range of anesthesia services – primary and tertiary care for adult, pediatric, obstetrics, critical care, trauma, and internal medicine. These services are provided in two adult and one pediatric hospital within the city of St. John's. Community experiences are provided in Corner Brook and Grand Falls-Windsor. The Hyperbaric Medicine Program is also under the umbrella of the Discipline of Anesthesia.

There are seven geographic full-time anesthesiologists and 24 staff anesthesiologists affiliated with the university program. The program has 19 residents ranging from PGY1 to PGY5.

### *Chairs of Discipline of Anesthesia*



Dr. Clويد Green  
1969–1976



Dr. R.A. Miller  
1976–1978



Dr. C.U. Henderson  
1979–1988



Dr. Henry Manson  
1988–1993



Dr. Frank King  
1994–2005



Dr. Ken LeDez  
2005–present

## Discipline of Family Medicine

The Discipline of Family Medicine has a large involvement in the teaching of medical students at Memorial University. Teachers include both full- and part-time family physicians who practice in a variety of settings.

In the first year of undergraduate medical studies there is a two-week course in community medicine during which all students spend two weeks in a rural community, focusing on the clinical objectives of advancing basic clinical skills, enhancing communication skills, and recognizing the unique characteristics of community-based family medicine with its integrated use of resources in meeting the health needs of the population.

A two-week course in Family Medicine/Community Medicine is included at the end of year two in medical school. This course includes clinical skills, developing relationships with patients, developing life-long learning skills and seeing patients from a larger community/population health perspective.

The Discipline of Family Medicine is also responsible for the one-month core rotation in rural family medicine in the clerkship. The discipline has developed the clinical sites, planned the curriculum, developed and implemented faculty development for the rural preceptors, and does the ongoing evaluation of the sites, preceptors and ultimately the students.

The postgraduate program in family medicine at Memorial University has been approved and accredited by the College of Family Physicians of Canada. This comprehensive two-year program has been developed, using the unique medical and geographic characteristics of the province, to train physicians for rural practice. The second-year 16-week rural family medicine rotation is particularly valuable in gaining experience in rural or semi-rural practice settings. Electives are available in isolated areas.

Since 1993 there has been an option to do a seven-month rural practice rotation in Goose Bay as part of the program. This is known as the NorFam (Northern Family Medicine Program) and was developed by Drs. Michael Jong and Carl Robbins.

The CCFP Emergency Medicine was granted new approval in May 2003 and ongoing certification in 2007. Successful completion of this 12-month program will lead to eligibility to sit the CCFP EM Certification Examination in Emergency Medicine.

### *Chairs of the Discipline of Family Medicine*



Dr. John Ross  
1971–1973



Dr. K.G. Hodgkin  
1973–1978



Dr. A.T. (Gus) Rowe  
1978–1983



Dr. J.M. Forster  
1984–1986



Dr. Carl Robbins  
1987–1992



Dr. Paul Patey  
1992–1997



Dr. Roger Thomas  
1998–2001



Dr. Bob Miller  
2001–present

## Discipline of Genetics

Genetic research at the Faculty of Medicine began with the appointment in 1975 of cytogeneticist Dr. Penny Allderdice. Her legacy during 24 years of service includes identifying and naming Allderdice Syndrome, which results from a re-arranged chromosome 3. Her work was not confined to the laboratory, and she developed the Ask Your Family Tree project to address the human context of technology associated with prenatal services. Her group developed workshops to make genetic and reproductive information more accessible to lay people.

Pioneering work in genetics was also undertaken by Dr. Elizabeth Ives, who was in charge of Newfoundland's provincial genetics program from 1988-1998. She mapped out hereditary deafness in a family along

Newfoundland's south coast; working from blood samples collected by Dr. Ives, molecular geneticist Dr. Terry-Lynn Young was later to identify the responsible gene.

In 1999 the Board of Regents approved the new Discipline of Genetics in the Faculty Medicine. The discipline has continued to develop a strong record of excellence in research through research in the characterization of hereditary diseases and the identification of the genes (mutations) which are involved in Mendelian conditions. More recently, faculty members have developed additional areas of research in complex diseases, facilitated by the history and structure of the founder population which make our province a special place to do genetic research.

The discipline offers an undergraduate medical student genetics course and a graduate student program leading to the degrees of M.Sc. and PhD.

### *Chair of the Discipline of Genetics*



Dr. Ban Younghusband  
1999–present

### *Pioneers in genetics*



Dr. Penny Allderdice



Dr. Elizabeth Ives

## Discipline of Medicine

The Discipline of Medicine is the largest clinical discipline in the Faculty of Medicine, with 44 geographic full-time members, 35 clinical part-time stipendiary members, 17 clinical part-time members, and 33 New Brunswick clinical part-time members. It encompasses areas of internal medicine including cardiology, dermatology, endocrinology, hematology, gastroenterology, geriatrics, medical oncology, nephrology, neurology, radiation oncology, respiratory medicine, rheumatology, and physical medicine and rehabilitation.

### *Chairs of the Discipline of Medicine*



Dr. Albert Cox  
1969–1974



Dr. W.D. MacDiarmid  
1975–1979



Dr. David Hawkins  
1980–1987



Dr. Ian Bowmer  
1988–1995



Dr. John Harnett  
1996–2002



Dr. Anne Sclater  
2002–present



## Discipline of Obstetrics and Gynecology

The mission of the Discipline of Obstetrics and Gynecology is to provide optimal health care for the province of Newfoundland and Labrador in obstetrics and gynecology through the highest quality patient care, with the focus being women throughout their lifespan, and the fetus and newborn. The education mission of the discipline is to appropriately educate physicians and health scientists who work within the social context of the province and Atlantic region, conducting clinical and basic science studies to ensure effective approaches to health care, maintaining ourselves, and promoting the skills and attitudes of life long learning.

### *Chairs of the Discipline of Obstetrics & Gynecology*



Dr. G.H. Flight  
1968–1974



Dr. D. Charles  
1974–1979



Dr. J. Dunne  
1981–1988



Dr. D. Young  
1989–1997



Dr. Donald Tennent  
1998–2006



Dr. Terry O'Grady  
2006–present

*No photo available:* Dr. P. Ghatage 1997–1998

## Discipline of Pathology (now Laboratory Medicine)

Memorial University offers a residency program in anatomical pathology accredited by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Responsibility and involvement in decision making increase throughout the five years of training, as skills and knowledge are applied to clinical problems, and professional attitudes are further developed. Generally, 10 funded positions are available.

### *Chairs of the Discipline of Pathology (now Laboratory Medicine)*



Dr. M.G. Lewis  
1971–1973



Dr. J.S. Campbell  
1974–1979



Dr. G. Mathieson  
1985–1990



Dr. David Haegert  
1991–2002



Dr. Des Robb  
2002–2004



Dr. Dzintra Fernandez  
2004–2006



Dr. Simon Avis  
2006–present

*No photo available:* Dr. S. Huang 1980–1984

## Discipline of Pediatrics

One of the many important roles of the Discipline of Pediatrics is the training of undergraduate and post-graduate students in the care of the healthy and sick newborn. The undergraduate pediatric core rotation is an eight-week block with a four-week ward rotation, including a week (or equivalent) of several clinic experiences at the Dr. Charles A. Janeway Child Health Centre. There is an option to do the equivalent of the four week ward rotation in two peripheral community hospitals (Corner Brook and Grand Falls-Windsor) depending on the availability of time slots and factors at the discretion of the discipline or to do the entire eight weeks in Saint John, New Brunswick.

The four-year pediatric residency program is designed to produce a physician competent to function as a consultant pediatrician with essential roles and competencies as outlined in the document *Objectives of Training and Training Requirement in Pediatrics*.

In addition to training medical residents and students, there are a number of neonatal research interests and initiatives. Obstetric and anesthesiology residents also receive training in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

### *Chairs of the Discipline of Pediatrics*



Dr. John Darte  
1969–1975



Dr. D.A. Hillman  
1976–1982



Dr. R.L. Ozere  
1983–1987



Dr. Bert Davis  
1987–1996



Dr. Rick Cooper  
1996–present

## Discipline of Psychiatry

The mission of the Discipline of Psychiatry is to provide training for physicians and medical students in the medical specialty of psychiatry that facilitates achievement of a bio-psycho-social-spiritual understanding of the person in health and illness within a context of excellence in clinical service to the population of the province, teaching and research.

### *Chairs of the Discipline of Psychiatry*



Dr. J. Hoenig  
1969–1980



Dr. C. Mellor  
1980–1990



Dr. Howard Strong  
1994–2000



Dr. T.S. Callanan  
2000–present

*No photo available:* Dr. S. Jain 1990–1994

## Discipline of Radiology

The Diagnostic Radiology Program is split among three teaching hospitals: The General Hospital, St. Clare's Mercy Hospital, and the Janeway Child Health Centre.

The residency training program consists of five years, and residents rotate through all three teaching hospitals during their training. The program enrolment is between 11 and 13 residents with three to four in each year at any one time. There are 23 teaching faculty located throughout our three teaching hospitals and other faculty in centres throughout Newfoundland. Rotations include GI radiology, GU radiology, chest

radiology, skeletal radiology, neuroradiology, interventional radiology, nuclear medicine, CT Scanning, MR imaging, ultrasound, pediatric radiology, mammography, emergency, and four months elective time in the third and fourth years.

The Discipline of Radiology also provides excellent learning opportunities at the clerkship level. Clinical clerks can receive exposure to GI radiology, GU radiology, chest radiology, skeletal radiology, neuroradiology, interventional radiology, nuclear medicine, CT Scanning, MR imaging, ultrasound, pediatric radiology, and mammography.

### *Chairs of the Discipline of Radiology*



Dr. J. Hodson  
1970–1975



Dr. Aidan MacLaughlin  
1976–1989



Dr. Patrick McManamon  
1989–2001



Dr. Benvon Cramer  
2001–present

## The Discipline of Surgery

The Discipline of Surgery has strengths in cardiac surgery, ENT (ear, nose and throat), general surgery, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, orthopedics, pediatrics, plastic surgery, thoracic surgery, urology and vascular surgery.

The roots of the orthopedic program at Memorial University of Newfoundland began over 30 years ago. Prior to 1971, orthopedic residents from Montreal’s Royal Victoria Hospital would rotate through the General Hospital in St. John’s. There was also an affiliation between the Mayo Clinic in the U. S. and the present pediatric hospital, the Dr. Charles A. Janeway Child Health Centre. American orthopedic residents would come and spend some time in a “rural” setting.

In 1971 Dr. Oliver Vaughan-Jackson was recruited as professor of orthopedic surgery to initiate the development of a local orthopedic program. The medical undergraduate program was just getting up and running at this time with the first class starting in 1969.

In 1978 efforts were made to recruit a program director to lead the small program. Only provisional approval was granted from the Royal College as the search continued. A progress report in April 1983 recommended that in view of the failure to recruit a director, despite an intensive search, the option to affiliate with a mainland program should be considered. Dalhousie University was an obvious choice and a partnership ensued that would last 12 years. Residents would spend their first two years at Memorial and the last two training at Dalhousie.

Dr. David Peddle was appointed as director of orthopedic residency training in 1988 and the group of orthopedic staff in St. John’s began to grow. With the curriculum maturing, more time has been spent recently on research pursuits. A biomechanical laboratory has been established with the Faculty of Engineering at Memorial. Orthopedic residents, undergraduate medical students, and engineering work term students have collaborated on many excellent projects.

### *Chairs of the Discipline of Surgery*



Dr. J. Littlefield  
1968–1973



Dr. C.M. Couves  
1974–1979



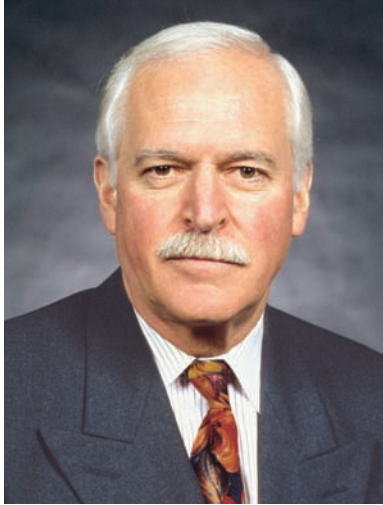
Dr. E.S. Wright  
1979–1989



Dr. F.B. Maroun  
1989–1999



Dr. William Pollett  
1999–present



In 1987 Dr. David Hawkins was appointed dean of medicine and served in this position until August 1995. From 1995 to 2005 he was executive director of the Ottawa-based Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC). Since 2006 he has been interim vice-president for Medical and Scientific Affairs of The Arthritis Society of Canada and in 2007 he became chair of the board of the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

## Dr. David Hawkins

David Hawkins was born in St. John's, NL, and was awarded his MD by Dalhousie University. Following residency in internal medicine at Dalhousie and McGill University and a fellowship at Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla CA, he returned to McGill as a Medical Research Council (MRC) Scholar, professor of medicine and director of the Division of Rheumatology at the Montreal General Hospital.

Dr. Hawkins has extensive experience in the accreditation of programs of medical education at all levels: undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing professional development. He was permanent secretary of the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools and a member of The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (U.S.A.) from 1995 to 2006. Currently he serves on the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Medicine and the Advisory Committee, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, the United Arab Emirates University. His accreditation activities have taken him to Argentina, Chile, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Ireland, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Montserrat, many medical schools in the United States and all Canadian medical schools.

In 1991 Dr. Hawkins was appointed vice-president of the Medical Research Council and filled the role of president on an interim basis. He has been president of the Canadian Society for Clinical Investigation, the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC), the Canadian Association of Professors of Medicine (CAPM), a governor of the American College of Physicians (ACP), and senior editor of the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*. He has served on the boards of the National Council on Bioethics in Human Research and the National Cancer Institute of Canada. In 1993 the MRC and Memorial University jointly endowed The Annual David Hawkins Lectureship in Health Sciences Research. He was Alumnus of the Year of the Dalhousie Medical Alumni Association in 1995 and in 2002 he received the Ronald V. Christie Award of the CAPM. In 2005, the Canadian Rheumatology Association named Dr. Hawkins Distinguished Rheumatologist of the Year and he was elected to fellowship in the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

The author of more than 100 scientific publications, Dr. Hawkins is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the American College of Rheumatology, an adjunct professor of Pediatrics at the University of Ottawa, and consultant rheumatologist at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario.

## Moving forward

When Dr. David Hawkins began his term as dean of medicine in 1987, he was determined to cultivate Memorial's own medical graduates by encouraging them to take additional training at other Canadian or international centres and then return to a guaranteed faculty position.

"I didn't push students in any particular direction but rather encouraged them to take the appropriate steps which would lead them to careers in academic medicine – at Memorial, of course," he said. "My goal was to build a core of faculty who knew the school from the ground up.

He was successful in doing this, and over the last 20 years many of the new faculty hired were initially trained at Memorial. Of our 197 full-time faculty as of June (2007), 73 did their undergraduate or post-graduate training at Memorial, and seven have PhDs from Memorial.

Dr. Hawkins is proud of the relationship he had with students, joking that the juxtaposition of the Dean's Office and the Medical Student Lounge was fortuitous. "I wanted to see our students involved internationally and nationally, and they were, particularly through the Canadian Federation of Medical Students."

Another goal was to increase the applicant pool of students from rural areas. "When I became dean there were far fewer applicants from rural areas, based on the high school attended," said Dr. Hawkins. "We knew the success rate of students from rural and urban areas was equal, so to address that problem I hired Fran Kirby, who had run a summer science camp for undergraduate students. We came up with a way to get rural students interested in all health sciences fields through MedQuest which was open to high schools students all over the province. It offered them a one-week experience in which they explored a variety of health sciences careers with first-year medical students acting as counselors."

Dr. Hawkins also paid attention to the Faculty of Medicine's research enterprise, which at the time was receiving less national research funding than other medical schools. He supported Dr. Verna Skanes, then-assistant dean of graduate studies and research, to successfully lead the effort to put together a prospectus showing the potential economic spin-offs from research. On a personal level he turned over his own laboratory on the third floor of the Health Sciences Centre to be renovated to become the new open-space Terry Fox Cancer Research Laboratory. "I then followed my belief that the best thing to do for this new research laboratory was to hire bright young newly-minted researchers and let them work together."

Dr. Hawkins also did not hesitate to go against the tradition of appointing only medically-trained faculty to head up committees and offices. Two PhD trained faculty members, Dr. Penny Hansen and Dr. Ban Younghusband, were appointed respectively as assistant dean for undergraduate medical education and assistant dean for admissions.

In order to develop better linkages with alumni, Dr. Hawkins was responsible for having a faculty newsletter developed, and since February 1989 *MUNMED* has been published regularly and distributed to alumni, faculty and staff.

In the Dean's Office, Dr. Hawkins appointed Dr. Carl Robbins as the first vice-dean for finance and administration. "They were tough times economically but we did improve our finance and administration procedures considerably. At the time there was a single budget number for all Faculty of Medicine expenditures, so we had Gary Gorman and two other faculty members from the Faculty of Business Administration to do a comprehensive review and as a result of that we decentralized the budget. It was an important shift in the evolution of the faculty."

## Terry Fox lab opening

Mrs. Betty Fox, honorary chair of the Terry Fox Run, was on hand for the official opening of the Terry Fox Cancer Research Laboratories at Memorial's medical school on Aug. 15, 1989. Dean David Hawkins turned over his research space for the new facility.



## MedQuest: encouraging rural students to pursue health sciences career

A major initiative by the Faculty of Medicine in rural medicine is the MedQuest program which brings rural high schools to St. John's each summer to explore careers in the health sciences. Since the program started in 1990, 2,115 students have gone through the program. To date (including the Class of 2010) 104 of those students have entered medical school.

Aiden Brazil is a second-year medical student from Spaniard's Bay who attended MedQuest just after Grade 11. "I didn't have much idea of what was involved in becoming a doctor. That week we were shown all about health sciences careers, including ones like physiotherapy and occupational therapy. MedQuest really helped me to set my sights on medicine."

Kathryn Sparrow, now in her second year of medical school, is from Corner Brook and she attended MedQuest after Grade 10. "I remember I was really excited, it was a chance to meet other people who were excited about health careers and see what options there were. MedQuest really helped me to decide to pursue medicine."

Kathryn said even for students who pursue other careers, the MedQuest experience is of value. "I see students around from my MedQuest group in pharmacy and nursing, but also in arts. It just helps let you know what sort of careers there are."

Mike Hickey, a third-year medical student from Torbay, attended MedQuest in 2001 after Grade 12. "I was considering medicine as a career but didn't have my mind set. The good thing was we were exposed to a lot of different disciplines, not just medicine. It was a wonderful experience, the best part of that summer."

Medical students help spread the word about the possibilities of careers in medicine and other health professions when they are in community health placements at the end of their first year of studies. Mike Hickey went to Labrador City in 2006 and visited a local high school to talk about the MedQuest program and career opportunities.

MedQuest holds six one-week sessions during July and August, with a total of about 120 participants each year from all regions of the province. During each MedQuest session, students are introduced to many health professions such as medicine, nursing, pharmacy, occupational therapy, and physiotherapy. Information on these careers and selected special topics are presented through lectures, demonstrations, experiments, guest speakers, research projects, job shadowing, role playing, small group sessions, and tours of health facilities.

Each year since its inception the MedQuest participants are surveyed before and after participating about the impact of the program on their career choices. A large majority of the participants enjoyed MedQuest and found it to be a valuable experience that influenced their choice of career path towards the health professions.



*In August 2004 high school students (from left) Megan Power from Chapel Arm and Loni Slade and Erin Goudie of Deer Lake learned about anatomy by examining plasticized body parts during a MedQuest session.*

*During MedQuest 2006 at a workshop in the Pharmacy Lab, students learned how to compound lip balm. Jessica LeDrew (front) and Melissa Hart, both from Lewisporte Collegiate, are shown here mixing their balm with mortar and pestle.*





Dr Carl Robbins served as vice-dean of the Faculty of Medicine in two different roles. In 1993 he was appointed vice-dean for administration by Dean David Hawkins. In 1996, under Dean Ian Bowmer, he became vice-dean for professional development, with a quite different set of responsibilities. From 1997-2005 he was also chair of the Telehealth and Educational Technology Resource Agency (TETRA).

## Dr. Carl Robbins

Dr. Robbins is a medical graduate of Dalhousie University, a fellow of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and holds an MBA from Memorial University. He completed the certification process of the Canadian College of Health Service Executives.

His early medical practice was at the Grand Bank Cottage Hospital from 1970-1972, followed by eight years in private practice in Labrador City. During this period in Labrador City he was a clinical associate in family medicine with Memorial. From 1980-1987 he was based in St. John's and associated with the Faculty of Medicine as clinical assistant professor of family medicine. From 1987 to the present he has been a professor of family medicine, serving as chair of the Discipline of Family Medicine from 1987-1992.

Consistent with his interest and professional involvement in health informatics and rural health, Dr. Robbins has been a board member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information. He was a member of the national Ministerial Advisory Council for Health Information and a member of the Ministerial Advisory Council on Rural Health. His professional work includes clinical practice in family medicine, collaborative primary health care and teaching.

Dr. Robbins also has extensive experience in health administration and health care consulting. From 1980-1987 he was medical director of the General Hospital at the Health Sciences Centre, and from 1987-1992 served as executive director of Memorial University Medical Clinics Association. His health care consulting includes serving as a systems surveyor for the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation from 1992 to the present.

## Professional development

The Office of Professional Development (OPD) developed as a recognized leader in the delivery of accredited continuing medical education and clinical skills assessment and training. A major strength of the office was its history of serving the information and continuing education needs of health professionals who work in rural areas. OPD developed a significant level of expertise in the design, development, evaluation and management of continuing health professional education programs at a distance using audio teleconferencing, videoconferencing, internet and web-based distributed learning modalities.

MDCme.ca was developed by OPD in collaboration with many pan-Canadian partners (including 10 Canadian medical schools). MDCme.ca provides university-based accredited online continuing medical education courses and resources to family physicians throughout Canada.

OPD and TETRA merged during 2006 under director Fran Kirby. The official launch of the new division, Professional Development Conferencing Services (PDCS), was held Jan. 25, 2007. As a branch of the Faculty of Medicine, PDCS provides internal and external clients with a host of unique education and conferencing services.

## Assistant deans for Professional Development



Dr. Ean Parsons  
2000-2003



Dr. Ford Bursley  
2004-present

## Admissions

In the early days of the medical school, the admissions committee was administered through the Office of Student Affairs, and Dr. Robert Mowbray served as chair of the admissions committee. That changed in 1988 when Dr. Ban Younghusband was appointed by Dean David Hawkins as assistant dean for admissions, and given the task of setting up a separate office and updating the admissions process.

"First we had to find a new office," said Dr. Younghusband. "Then we started looking at the admissions procedures in various other medical schools and putting together a new committee style and a new way of evaluating applications."

The application form was modified somewhat, but the biggest change was that all applicants deemed admissible were given a personal interview. "We also introduced standardized universal interviews and I spent a long time working with Dr. Gale Burford from the School of Social Work, who was an expert in interviewing," explained Dr. Younghusband. "He designed a standardized interview and gave sessions on administering it for all the interview committee, plus some volunteers later on."

Applicants were originally scored on their written application, grade point average, an essay, references and their score on the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT), along with other information like volunteer work. "We would do as many as 200 interviews, which meant about one in four applicants got an interview. We evaluated the interview based on a structured scoring system Dr. Burford developed, which made the whole process more reproducible and fair."

Dr. Younghusband noted that Dean Hawkins also asked the admissions committee to examine the low number of rural students admitted to the medical school. "It turned out that these students did just as well on the admissions process, but they just weren't applying. It was at that time that the dean started up MedQuest for rural students."

A major change in the basic admissions requirement was introduced for the fall of 1995 when the minimum academic prerequisite became a bachelor's degree or equivalent, including two courses in English at a recognized university or college. Prior to this, students were admitted with as little as two years of university study.

In September 1995, last minute admissions raised the first-year class size to 60. Problems arose in the spring when New Brunswick withdrew funding for seats for new medical students at Memorial. Traditionally 10 seats per year, out of a total entering class of 56, had been reserved for New Brunswick residents. That left 10 positions up in the air, so to make up the shortfall five American students were recruited. In late August the provincial Department of Health funded seven new entry-level positions to residents of Newfoundland and Labrador who agreed to provide a commitment to work in an approved underserved area.

In 1996 Janet McHugh, who had worked with the office for 15 years, was appointed admissions officer. Her new job came with responsibility for recruiting all students, including Americans. She was also charged with putting a special effort into recruiting rural students. The composition of the entering class for 1996 was set at 60, with 40 seats for Newfoundland residents, five for non-Newfoundlanders and 15 for non-Canadians.

In the spring of 2000, the provincial government approved a memorandum of understanding that allowed Memorial's Faculty of Medicine to once again accept New Brunswick students. Under this agreement, up to 10 places were made available out of the total entering class which includes 40 seats for

Newfoundland residents and a minimum of six for other Canadians and two from Prince Edward Island. American students continue to be accepted, but at a greatly reduced level.

## Assistant deans for Admissions



Dr. Ban Younghusband  
1988–1994



Dr. Wanda Parsons  
1994–2000,  
2006



Dr. Jill Barter  
2000–2006,  
2007–present



*Janet McHugh*  
*Winner of a 2005 President's Award  
for Exemplary Service*



## Office of Student Affairs and Services

The Office of Student Affairs under Gordon Mercer was established in 1972. As a Newfoundlander, Mr. Mercer understood the charm (and disadvantages) of rural life. He took special care to make the medical school accessible to all, and the Gordon Mercer Rural Medicine Bursary was established by his wife, Elizabeth Mercer, following his death Feb. 23, 2007. It is the first entrance award in the Faculty of Medicine to a medical student from a rural community in Newfoundland and Labrador and who is in financial need.

The purpose of the Office of Student Affairs and Services is to ensure that medical students meet their educational goals. Students are provided with the opportunity and encouragement to develop professionally, personally and socially. A student survival guide, *The Anchor*, provides an overview of information needed by students.

Student Affairs has an open door policy, inviting students from the very beginning to come to this office as soon as they are aware that there may be a problem. It is the belief of Memorial's medical school that humane medicine begins with humane medical schools and that if medical students are not cared for they may not learn to care.

The medical school at Memorial boasts a very active Medical Students' Society and student representation on most committees including the Faculty Council. All student activities promoted by the Medical Students' Society are administered in co-operation with Student Affairs.



*Gordon Mercer and two students in the Office of Student Affairs in 1973.*

## Assistant dean for Administration and Student Affairs



Dr. Robert Mowbray  
1981-1987

## Assistant deans for Student Affairs



Dr. Sharon Peters  
1992-1999



Dr. Sheila Lynch  
1999-2001



Dr. Connie Hull  
2001-2002



Dr. Cathy Popadiuk  
2002-2004



Dr. June Harris  
2004-present

## Vera Griffin



*During the 2007 Medical Graduates' Society Reunion, outgoing president Dr. Wayne Gulliver presented Vera Griffin with a flower bouquet in appreciation for her work with students over more than three decades.*

Vera Griffin started working at the Faculty of Medicine in October 1974 when the Office of Admissions and Students Affairs was located in T-3 where the QEII Library is now. In January 1975 the office moved to the Health Sciences Centre.

"At that time most of the building was only a shell," she recalls. "Wes Drodge, who was project manager, would take us on tours of the building, wearing hard hats of course. Also if I recall correctly the Office of Undergraduate Medical Studies did not exist and now it is an integral part of the medical school. The growth in terms of space and personnel has been phenomenal."

Vera started as a secretary in the Office of Student Affairs working along side Gordon Mercer, student affairs officer. When the office separated in the mid 1980s, she stayed with Student Affairs and progressed from secretary to officer to manager.

"It's been a challenging and rewarding career working with Student Affairs," she said on her retirement in 2007. "Students are from diverse backgrounds and from all over the world. If I was able to help a few along the way then I'm happy about that but I also learned a lot from the students. I have been fortunate in my career to work with many good people. There are some faculty who put a lot of time and effort into the well-being of students both academically and psychologically. Each new class is made up of students who are used to being in the top 10-15 per cent of their classes. However, once in medicine some have to be in the bottom 10-15 per cent of the class and that's a new reality for them."

## Memorial planting



The Class of 2004 celebrated the life of their late classmate Gina Blundon on May 17, 2002, about a year after her sudden death. Her memory was honoured with a morning tree planting ceremony outside the medical school, attended also by Gina's parents. A Red Splendour Blossoming Crabapple was planted between the south side of the Health Sciences Centre and the river, and a granite remembrance plaque was embedded beside it.

The plaque reads: "We will remember Gina D. Blundon 1975-2001. Daughter, fiancée, sister, friend, medical student, occupational therapist. We plant this tree to celebrate the beauty Gina brought into the lives she touched."

## Monte Carlo Charity Gala

The tradition of Monte Carlo began in 1977 by the Class of 1980 to raise money to support an injured classmate. It started as an event with pie-throwing contests and has expanded into an entire evening of entertainment dedicated to fundraising that attracts up to 1,000 people annually. It has become a medical student tradition that has raised over half a million dollars for various charities over the last 30 years.

Until 2002 Monte Carlo was held at the medical school, with students devoting untold hours to decorating. In an effort to lessen the burden, the venue was changed to a hotel. The 26th annual Monte Carlo Charity Gala broke with tradition and moved from the medical school to the Delta Hotel Ballroom and has since been held successfully in local hotels.



*At the end of his first year of medical studies in the summer of 1977, Connor Maguire (C) was paralyzed and left quadriplegic following a diving accident. He and his wife, Caroline, currently reside in Edmonton, Alberta, where he is enjoying a successful career in radiology and nuclear medicine. Dr. and Mrs. Maguire attended the 2003 Monte Carlo Charity Gala with their daughter, Colleen, who began her medical studies at Memorial with the Class of 2006. It was the first time they have been to Monte Carlo since 1981.*



*Roulette was one of the popular gambling attractions at the annual Monte Carlo Charity Gala held the evening of Nov. 28, 2003, at the Delta Hotel Ballroom. Organized by first and second-year medical students, the annual event is always a big draw and participants dress in their finest for a fun-filled evening of live local entertainment, a casino, a dessert café and a charity auction.*



*Horace Collins (R), president of the Vera Perlin Society, and board member Thelma Williams, accepted their cheque from medical students Jadon Harding (L) and Jane Seviour. Seven charities in the province received \$6,500 each thanks to the fundraising efforts of Memorial's medical students through the 2006 Monte Carlo Gala.*

*Before 2002, Monte Carlo Night was held at the medical school with students devoting hundreds of hours to decorating. Although not as sophisticated as the events now held at hotels, it always drew a good crowd.*

## The evolution of the undergraduate medical curriculum

Dr. Ian Rusted's vision for the medical school's undergraduate curriculum emphasized community medicine and early contact with patients. Memorial University was the first medical school in Canada to make it mandatory to visit various types of health care settings in first-year studies and the first to have a Family Practice Unit on campus. The innovative medical curriculum developed by the founders of the Faculty of Medicine was sustained by the teaching excellence and dedication of the early faculty.



*Dr. Penny Hansen*

Dr. Penny Hansen, who served as assistant dean for undergraduate medical education (UGME) from 1988–1994, observed that as the faculty grew the curriculum evolved away from the vision of the school's founders. "Someone needed to get a grip on it and that was my charge from Dean David Hawkins."

Dr. Hansen decided to close her physiology lab and devote herself full-time to teaching and the work of the Undergraduate Medical Education Office (UGME). With support from the dean of medicine, she started a program of faculty development and curriculum renewal. In her second term as assistant dean she began working closely with Dr. Alan Goodridge, who subsequently became assistant dean for UGME from 1994–1998.

"We did try to make a major change in the curriculum but ultimately it was voted down by Faculty Council," said Dr. Hansen. "We then re-grouped and under Dr. Goodridge's leadership some of the changes happened."

The new curriculum, implemented in the fall of 1996, included more clinical experience earlier in the program and more basic education later on. The main division became the pre-clerkship and clinical clerkship phases of training, with about two years devoted to each.

The pre-clerkship curriculum comprises four courses: basic science of medicine, the integrated study of disease, community health and clinical skills. The clerkship phase consists of core rotations and electives, with all core rotations taking place in the 12 months preceding the CaRMS match.

Medical students approved of the changes, particularly the opportunity for exposure to all core areas of medicine prior to applying for postgraduate training. The curriculum changes meant that about 10 per cent less time was spent on the pre-clerkship phase; some of that regained by a back-to-basics course during the clerkship and more efficiency in the pre-clerkship phase. The new curriculum also had a stronger emphasis on community medicine.

Dr. Mary Wells, who served as assistant dean for UGME from 2003-07, said current changes in the curriculum involve the introduction of distributed learning, which is based on the premise that learning is flexible and the curriculum can be delivered in different and multiple educational settings and in different formats.

Dr. Hansen noted that following the most recent accreditation of the undergraduate curriculum in May 2005, the medical school is now headed into another look at curriculum development. "A lot has changed but I think we're now in a position, having met all the accreditation standards, of moving from a position of strength to make some fine-tuning. I will be working with vice-dean Dr. Sharon Peters and Dr. Mary Wells on planning and needs assessment as a preliminary step to curriculum revision and looking at what sort of structure we need for faculty members who want to focus on teaching."

### Assistant deans for Undergraduate Medical Education



Dr. Harry Edstrom  
1977–1988



Dr. Penny Hansen  
1988–1994



Dr. Alan Goodridge  
1994–1998



Dr. Tom Scott  
1998–2003



Dr. Mary Wells  
2003–2007



Dr. Gerard Farrell  
2007–present

## Postgraduate Medical Education

The Faculty of Medicine offers postgraduate training programs in anesthesia, internal medicine (and subspecialty in nephrology), neurology, obstetrics/gynecology, orthopedics, anatomical pathology, pediatrics, psychiatry, radiology, general surgery, and family medicine.

The Office of Postgraduate Medical Education at Memorial University provides training leading to certification either through the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

Dr. William Marshall was appointed the first director of Postgraduate Medical Education in 1969. May Peters worked for 19 years in the Faculty of Medicine, starting in 1967 as the first secretary in the university's personnel office and moving in 1970 to the new medical school. Until her retirement in 1989 she worked closely with three large committees, responsible for postgraduate study, residents and interns.



May Peters

## Assistant deans for Postgraduate Medical Education



Dr. Earle Wright  
1977–1980, 1983–1985



Dr. Aidan MacLaughlin  
1980–1983



Dr. Ian Bowmer  
1985–1988



Dr. William Pollett  
1988–1994



Dr. Cindy Whitman  
1994–1998



Drs. Kim St. John & Cathy Vardy,  
co-assistant deans, 1998–2005



Dr. Asoka Samarasena  
2005–present

## Awards and recognition ceremony

The inaugural Postgraduate Medical Studies Awards and Recognition Ceremony took place June 12, 2006. It was an opportunity for Dean James Rourke and Dr. Asoka Samarasena, assistant dean for postgraduate medical studies, to recognize publicly residents who have won awards during the past year, and thank the residency directors and clinical chairs who have organized events such as resident research forums.

Dr. Rourke thanked faculty members involved in residency training for their dedication to service; he also made special note of the tremendous support provided by the office staff of the Postgraduate Medical Studies Office.

*These residents were able to take time out from their busy schedules to attend the first Postgraduate Medical Studies Awards and Recognition Ceremony. Back (from left): Dr. Keegan Au, Orthopedic Surgery; Dr. Jerome Doucet, Psychiatry; Dr. Nikita Makretsov, Anatomical Pathology. Front (from left): Dean James Rourke; Dr. George Yousef, Anatomical Pathology; Dr. Anjana Chawla, Psychiatry; Dr. Chhaya Acharya, Anatomical Pathology; Dr. Pamela Hebbard, General Surgery; Dr. Chantelle Reid, Psychiatry; Dr. Asoka Samarasena, assistant dean, Postgraduate Medical Studies.*



## Established lectureships in the Faculty of Medicine

### The Dr. John Hoenig Annual Lectureship

In commemoration of the distinguished career of Dr. John Hoenig, first professor and chair of psychiatry (1969-1980), an annual lectureship was established in October 1983. The subject normally will reflect one of Dr. Hoenig's areas of special interest: philosophy in relation to medicine, phenomenology, descriptive psychopathology, or clinical psychiatry.

### Dr. Nigel Rusted Lectureship for the History of Surgery

The first Nigel Rusted Lectureship for the History of Surgery was held in June 1986 and has been sponsored 17 times since through the Discipline of Surgery.

### The Dr. John G. Williams Lectureship in the Neurosciences

This distinguished lectureship series was established in April 1990 to honour the contributions of Dr. John G. Williams in the Faculty of Medicine and to the practice of medicine in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. This endowed lectureship was made possible through a generous donation from the Williams family.

### The Albert and Margaret Cox Annual Lectureship in Medical Education

In recognition of their outstanding contributions to the Faculty of Medicine at Memorial University for more than two decades, the Albert and Margaret Cox Annual Lectureship in Medical Education was established in October 1991. The 2001 lecture on interprofessional education, by Dr. Marilyn Hammick of Oxford Brooks University, was sponsored by the Faculty of Medicine's Centre for Collaborative Health Professional Education.

### The David Hawkins Lectureship in Health Sciences Research

An endowment fund was established in January, 1994, under the responsibility of the vice-president (research) to support the David Hawkins Lectureship in Health Sciences Research. Dr. Hawkins was visiting Memorial in May 2006 and attended the 2006 lecture featuring Dr. John E. Morley, Dammert Professor of Gerontology at St. Louis University Medical School, speaking on The Confused Patient.

### Dr. Nigel Rusted Lectureship in the Humanities

This lectureship was established in 2002 through a generous donation from Dr. Nigel Rusted. The Dr. Nigel Rusted Trust was founded to promote the study of the humanities in health through invited lectureships and scholarly work. The Inaugural Dr. Nigel Rusted Lectureship in the Humanities was held Nov. 30, 2004.

*Dr. Jock Murray (L), former dean of medicine at Dalhousie University, gave the inaugural Dr. Nigel Rusted (R) Lecture in the Humanities on Nov. 20, 2003.*

*Dr. Rusted celebrated his 100th birthday on July 1, 2007.*



## Awards of appreciation from students

Each year the graduating class of medical students presents the Killick Award to a member of the Faculty of Medicine who has made an outstanding contribution to a graduating class, and the Silver Orator Award to the professor who has provided the finest lectures with respect to content, style, humour and aptness. The Killick Award was built by Dr. Ed Hunt, president of the Class of 1976.

### Winners of the Killick Award

Dr. Jan Snellen (1976), Dr. Rick Cooper (1977), Dr. John Tomlinson (1978), Dr. Ian Bowmer (1979), Dr. Kenneth Roberts (1980), Vera Griffin (1981), Gordon Mercer (1982), Dr. Lloyd Mussells (1983 and 1985), Dr. S.N. Huang (1984), Helen Ryan (1986, 1989 and 1993), Mary Dray and Janet McHugh (1987), Dr. A.R. Cox (1988), Dr. Penny Hansen (1990), Mary Dray (1991, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2003 and 2005), Dr. Sharon Peters (1995), Ruth Alivio (1997), Marilyn Neal (1999), Dr. Carolyn Morris-Larkin (2001), Evelyn Skinner (2002 and 2006), Dr. June Harris (2004), and Patrick Webber (2007).

*Dr. June Harris received the 2004 Killick Award, presented by the graduating class to the person they feel has most helped them in their medical school career. Vera Griffin (L), manager of Student Affairs, helped Dr. Harris place the Killick properly on her head.*



### Winners of the Silver Orator Award

Dr. John Tomlinson (1977), Dr. Martin Tweeddale (1978), Dr. R.L.M. Honore (1979), Dr. Richard Huntsman (1980, 1985 and 1988), Dr. Dzintra Fernandez (1981), Dr. David Crosby (1982), Dr. R.G. Huntsman and Dr. B. Griffiths (1983), Dr. Mark Sadler (1986), Dr. Richard Neuman (1987), Dr. Bruce Fraser (1989), Dr. H. Clarke (1990), Dr. Rick Cooper (1991, 1996, 2001 and 2005), Dr. Wayne Gulliver (1992), Dr. William Pryse-Phillips (1993), Dr. Tom Scott (1994), Dr. J.M. Vardy (1995, 1997 and 1998), Dr. John Smeda (2000), Dr. Jim Hutchinson (2002, 2004 and 2006), Dr. Alan Goodridge (2003), and Dr. Daniel Fontaine (2007).

*The 2004 Silver Orator Award went to Dr. Jim Hutchinson, Infectious Diseases. It was presented by graduating student Dr. Tamara Spaic.*





In the midst of her busy career with research and graduate studies in the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Verna Skanes also had the unforgettable experience of serving as acting dean between the retirement of Dr. David Hawkins and the appointment of Dr. Ian Bowmer for the period of Sept. 1 to Dec. 31 1995.

## Dr. Verna Skanes

"It was a very busy time and certainly gave me an understanding of how few hours there are in a day. In this faculty so many people deal directly with the dean, it means a lot of meetings. It was also at the time when there was a proposal by the Department of Health to hike tuition grants – which were raised, but not to the level originally proposed – and the time when we were accepting our first American students."

Until her retirement in 1999, Memorial was home to Dr. Skanes. In 1970 she was one of about 50 high school teachers brought in for a junior studies program to help high school students in the transition to the academic demands of university life. Originally hired by the Department of Biology, she decided to upgrade her qualifications by enrolling as a doctoral student in immunology in the Faculty of Medicine. She remained in medicine, running a research laboratory for 10 years where she studied systemic lupus erythematosus and the complement protein known as C4.

Although her interest in basic research never waned, Dr. Skanes decided she could make a wider contribution to the field by taking on the administrative position of assistant dean for research and graduate studies in 1993. Over the next six years she was able to lead and support initiatives for increased funding from industry and help the Faculty of Medicine's research funding stay stable during a period of decreased funding from the Medical Research Council.

## Office of Research and Graduate Studies

The Faculty of Medicine was organized from the beginning with a non-departmentalized structure aimed at facilitating collaboration across clinical, basic sciences and community health. The benefits of this are apparent in virtually all of the faculty's research and graduate programs which involve students, staff and faculty from a broad range of disciplines with expertise spanning all four pillars of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research – biomedical, clinical sciences, health systems and services, and social and cultural factors.

Dr. James Barrowman, who was recruited to Memorial in 1975 as associate professor of gastroenterology and gastrointestinal physiology, was promoted to professor in 1979 and in 1981 he took on the role of the first assistant dean for Research and Graduate Studies (Medicine). As graduate student enrolment and research have increased over the years, so too the office has taken on increasing responsibilities in these areas.

### Assistant deans for Research and Graduate Studies (associate dean since 2006)



Dr. James Barrowman  
1981–1987



Dr. Chet Michalski  
1987–1993



Dr. Verna Skanes  
1993–1999



Dr. Penny Moody-Corbett  
1999–2007



Dr. Don McKay  
(acting)  
September 2007–  
present



## Graduate studies

In 1971 the spectrum of medical education in the Faculty of Medicine was completed with the initiation of a program of graduate studies leading to the degrees of M.Sc. and PhD. From 1973-2006 there have been 356 graduate degrees and diplomas awarded, including 88 PhDs, 233 master of science degrees and 35 diplomas. Graduate enrolment in the faculty has steadily increased, and there are now more than 200 graduate students pursuing studies in medicine.

The Faculty of Medicine offers M.Sc., PhD and MD-PhD degrees in eight program areas: applied health services, cancer, cardiovascular and renal science, clinical epidemiology, community health, human genetics, immunology and neuroscience.

Together with the University of New Brunswick, Dalhousie University and the University of Prince Edward Island we offer the M.Sc. in Applied Health Services Research. In addition, graduate diplomas are offered in clinical epidemiology and community health.

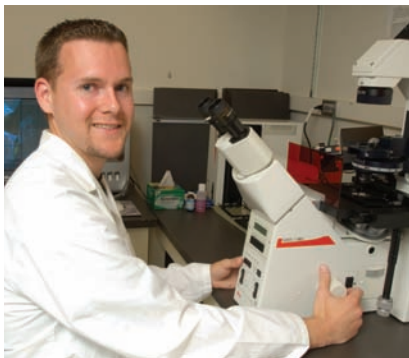
The first recognition luncheon for graduate student achievements in the Faculty of Medicine was held March 22, 2007. The luncheon recognized those students who received awards during the year 2006. There are about 200 graduate students in eight areas of concentration in the Faculty of Medicine, and Dean James Rourke noted that growth is only hampered by lack of space.



*Sherri Rankin (L) received the 2007 Colman PhD award from Dean James Rourke and Dr. Penny Moody-Corbett (C).*



*Mrs. Alfred Burness (L) presented the 2007 Burness M.Sc. award to Brandon Cross. The award was established in memory of her late husband, Dr. Alfred Burness.*



*Darryl Martin is a PhD student working with the research team of Drs. Robert Gendron and H el ene Paradis. He uses this image analysis system to quantify the amount of protein in tumours. The team recently discovered a new marker with a potential application for grading neuroblastoma, a devastating form of childhood cancer.*



*Erin Mayo was the first graduate from Memorial of the master's in Applied Health Services, a program offered through the Atlantic Regional Training Centre. The centre was established in 2002 as a joint venture between Memorial, Dalhousie University, the University of New Brunswick and the University of PEI. Ms. Mayo did the research for her thesis on the Burin Peninsula, on spousal perspectives on factors influencing recruitment and retention of rural family physicians.*

## Research

The first record of research funding for the Faculty of Medicine was in an article published July 30, 1970, in the *Evening Telegram*. At a news conference, associate dean Dr. Ken Roberts said that nearly \$500,000 in medical research grants had been awarded during the past year and a further \$281,000 from the Medical Research Council of Canada (MRC) had been approved for two grants. Dr. Peter Gahan, professor of cell science, was awarded \$212,000 to enable him to set up laboratories for research. A second grant of \$69,000 was awarded to Dr. C.J. Hodson, professor of radiology, to carry out studies on the effects of the kidney when the flow of urine is stopped.

## Medical Research Foundation

When the medical school was just 10 years old in 1977, a dream was born: Establish a research endowment fund and prove that Newfoundland and Labrador could be a centre of excellence in medical research. Under the chairmanship of Dr. George Fodor, the Faculty of Medicine Research Endowment Fund was established in 1983 and a fundraising campaign undertaken. By 1991, \$500,000 had been raised, allowing about \$50,000 per year for disbursement. In 1992, under the new name the Memorial University of Newfoundland Medical Research Foundation, and under the chairmanship of Dr. Max House, the first competition was held. From 1992 to 2006, grants ranging in value from \$12,500 to \$25,000 were awarded to 33 research projects.



*Dr. Bruce Van Vliet was one of two recipients of 2002 grants from the MRF in the amount of \$25,000. These tiny telemeters shown on his palm are surgically inserted into mice in order to transmit blood pressure readings 24 hours a day. Dr. Van Vliet said the MRF funding came at a critical time, allowing him to use the funding as a springboard to get going on projects for which he subsequently received over a quarter of a million dollars in funding from the Medical Research Council of Canada, the Heart and Stroke foundation and two pharmaceutical companies.*

## Funding from national agencies

Early external research funding in the Faculty of Medicine was largely through grants from the Medical Research Council (MRC) to individual researchers. When Dr. Verna Skanes became assistant dean for research and graduate studies in 1993, MRC funding was decreasing all over Canada. To offset this she spearheaded an effort to actively increase industry-sponsored research.

Largely through the efforts of the Patient Research Centre, led by Dr. Patrick Parfrey, industry funding increased and research support stayed stable during a period of decreased MRC funding. The first industry-sponsored professor in the area of neuropsychiatry, Dr. Xihua Chen, was appointed in 1999. Dr. Guang Sun was appointed in 2001 as the first recipient of the Novartis Professorship in Pediatric Genetics, sponsored by Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc. for three years with a donation of \$150,000 matched by the provincial government through the Opportunity Fund.

Special funding also began to be provided through MRC's regional partnerships program, and Memorial was initially allocated \$2.5 million dollars over five years subject to finding five million from other sources. Dr. Skanes was successful in identifying one million from two sources – the Department of Health and the Department of Industry, Trade and Technology – to start the program, with another two million dollars from a federal/provincial agreement to keep the program going.

In June 2000, the MRC was replaced by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), offering new research funding with an emphasis on interdisciplinary team grants. Today researchers in the faculty are supported by all the major granting councils including the CIHR, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). The Faculty of Medicine's research enterprise has grown steadily and in 2006-07 accounted for more than \$13 million dollars, representing almost 15 per cent of research funding awarded to the university.

## SafetyNet

One of the first large CIHR grants at Memorial was to the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research (NLCAHR) in the amount of \$2.1 million for a five-year multidisciplinary research program to study and identify ways to promote marine and coastal workplace health and safety. Researchers from many areas of the Faculty of Medicine participate in this program. For example, researchers in the Discipline of Anesthesia are involved in the development of new methods of measuring toxic volatile compounds and gases in body fluids.

*Co-directors of the SafetyNet Program are Dr. Stephen Bornstein (R), a professor in the Department of Political Science and director of the NLCAHR and Dr. Barbara Neis, associate professor in the Department of Sociology.*



## Colorectal Cancer Interdisciplinary Health Research Project

In May 2001, CIHR granted \$5 million over five years for an interdisciplinary, multi-site study of the causes and impact of colorectal cancer, involving researchers at Memorial University and the University of Toronto. The Newfoundland share of the funding, which was over \$2 million, included an allocation to enhance the ability of the cancer registry at the Newfoundland Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation to rapidly collect information about newly diagnosed cancer. During the first five years of the project a provincial familial cancer registry was created and 31 scientific papers published. The project was funded for a further five years and Elizabeth Dicks, who had served as nurse co-ordinator for the project and completed a PhD, was appointed managing director for the whole team in both provinces.



*From left: Drs. Pat Parfrey, Ban Younghusband and Elizabeth Dicks.*

## Diabetes research

Diabetes researchers at the Faculty of Medicine are part of a global network of experts and specialized laboratories dedicated to understand – and hopefully prevent – Type 1 diabetes, also known as juvenile diabetes. Newfoundland and Labrador has one of the highest incidence of Type 1 diabetes in the world, making it a particularly valuable population to study.

Dr. Leigh Ann Newhook is the principal investigator at Memorial for participation in the TrialNet consortium, made up of 18 diabetes research centres in the world. TrialNet has already initiated a number of studies and the Newfoundland team is participating by recruiting relatives of people with Type 1 diabetes to determine if they have a high risk of developing the disease.

*From left: Dr. Joseph Curtis, Marie Grant, Dr. Tracey Bridger and Dr. Leigh Anne Newhook are all working on finding solutions to Type 1 diabetes. Research nurse co-ordinator Marie Grant is an invaluable member of the team, working with diabetes educators and physicians throughout the province to recruit families. Endocrinologist Dr. Vikram Chandurkar (unavailable for photo) has recently added his expertise in adult diabetes to the group.*



## Atlantic Medical Genetics and Genome Initiative

A research team at Memorial University, headed by molecular geneticist Dr. Terry-Lynn Young, is collaborating with Dalhousie University in a gene discovery project for Atlantic Canada. The project integrates the potential impacts of genetic discovery on the provision of health care services, including assessing the well-being of patients and families who are affected by genetic conditions. The Atlantic Medical Genetics and Genome Initiative (AMGGI), funded in 2005, is a \$9.2 million project, with \$3.28 million coming from Genome Canada and the remainder of the funding contributed by a range of regional innovation and health research partners, including Memorial University and the Janeway Foundation.

Co-investigator Dr. Patrick Parfrey is head of clinical ascertainment and collections in the province. Dr. Daryl Pullman, Medical Ethics, is the lead investigator of the GE<sup>3</sup>LS (Genomics, Ethics, Environment, Economic, Legal and Social Issues) component. Dr. Fern Brunger, a medical anthropologist in the Faculty of Medicine will lead in the design and implementation of the qualitative GE<sup>3</sup>LS studies.

Dr. Jane Green, a pioneer of genetics research in the province, is a co-investigator on the AMGGI project. Dr. Bridget Fernandez, a clinical geneticist and medical director of the Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Genetics program, is also an AMGGI co-investigator.



*The AMGGI team at Memorial is led by Dr. Terry-Lynn Young (sitting). Co-investigators include (from left) Drs. Patrick Parfrey, Daryl Pullman, Fern Brunger and Jane Green. This photo was taken in front of the DNA sequencer in Dr. Young's lab.*

## Ingrid Pardoe



The backbone of any research lab is the quality of the research technicians. Perhaps no one illustrates this quite as well as Ingrid Pardoe, who worked at the Faculty of Medicine for over 30 years.

Trained in England in biochemistry, she was invited to come to Memorial with Dr. Alf Burness, who was hired in 1976. She worked in his laboratory until his death in 1991, at which point she moved to the laboratory of Dr. Thomas Michalak. After five years and some funding changes she moved to work with Drs. Michael Grant and Sheila Drover, only to return to Dr. Michalak's lab three years later. Two years later she was asked to move to Dr. Alan Pater's lab, and worked with him until he took early retirement.

In the last four years of her career in the Faculty of Medicine, she worked with Dr. Terry-Lynn Young's new genetics lab. She describes that period as a "really exciting time, getting a well-funded new lab up and running."

Ingrid said that new technology has completely changed research, with automated sequencing and software that rapidly analyzes results. But the biggest change she has seen is in the graduate students. "When I first came a lot of the graduate students were international and there were very few local or Canadian students. It's a nice change to see our own bright students doing well here and then going off for further training and also doing well."

## Research units in the Faculty of Medicine

### Health Research Unit

One of the important ways that the Faculty of Medicine meets the health needs of the community is through the Health Research Unit (HRU). The HRU makes available the professional skills and expertise in the Division of Community Health to communities, organizations, government and industry, to design and conduct research in the field of population health, health promotion, health protection, health status, health studies, health services, health programs and disease prevention.

### MEDICOR

The Centre for Offshore and Remote Medicine (MEDICOR) was established in 1982 to carry out research and development projects related to all health aspects of offshore oil, marine, diving and space industries, as well as other industries involved with remote operations, environmental stresses or hazards.

MEDICOR's areas of expertise include: remote medicine, marine medicine, environmental medicine, the offshore oil industry, occupational medicine, diving, environmental gas analysis and related education and training.



*Hyperbaric chambers*

### The Population Therapeutics Research Group

The Population Therapeutics Research Group (PTRG) is a non-profit research team led by Dr. Proton Rahman to carry out drug research in the population of Newfoundland and Labrador. Pharmacogenetic research is a relatively new area of medicine that can lead to more effective prescribing based on individual profiles – the right drug for the right patient at the right dose. Population-based pharmacogenetic research allows researchers to study a group of people on the same medication who may share a similar genetic background. This can make it easier to pinpoint genetic similarities that can influence the effectiveness of a drug.

The PTRG is involved in two major projects: the Pharmacy Research Database and the Heritability Database Project. The work of the PTRG is enhancing the research capability in Newfoundland and Labrador by developing information technology infrastructure for shared health research services.

### Primary Healthcare Research Unit

Dr. Marshall Godwin returned to the Faculty of Medicine in November 2005 as director of the new Primary Healthcare Research Unit (PHRU). The priority for the unit is to establish a practice-based research network for primary health care. Initial research areas for the PHRU were in the areas of hypertension and cardiovascular health, with a multi-centre study of the use of the BpTRU blood pressure device in doctors' offices.

Funding was received in August 2006 for the ElderCare project to maximize the quality of care of patients aged 80 years and older. A third study, titled Lost in Translation: the Gap between Evidence and Practice, is looking at how well the key recommendations for patients with Type 2 diabetes are being met.



Dr. M. Ian Bowmer joined the Faculty of Medicine in 1975 and served in various capacities, including an eight-year term as dean of medicine from 1996 to December 2003. He retired from the faculty in 2006 and was appointed executive director of the Medical Council of Canada effective Jan. 1, 2007.

## Dr. Ian Bowmer

Dr. Bowmer is a graduate of McGill University (B.Sc. 1965; MD 1969), and completed residencies in internal medicine and infectious diseases at the Royal Victoria Hospital and McGill University. From 1973 to 1975 he was a Medical Research Council of Canada Fellow in McGill's Department of Microbiology and Immunology. At Memorial he served as internal medicine program director and assistant dean for Postgraduate Medical Education from 1985–1988, chair of the Discipline of Medicine from 1988–1996 and dean of medicine from 1996–2003.

Dr. Bowmer has received a number of prominent awards for his work in medical education. In 2003 he was elected and inducted to the Royal College of Physicians of London; he was proposed for election because of his contribution to medicine and medical education. In the fall of 2003 the Medical Council of Canada awarded him the Dr. Louis Levasseur Award for outstanding contributions towards the vision and mission of the MCC. In 2004 he received the Canadian Professors of Medicine Christie Award, awarded to a former chair of medicine who has made an outstanding contribution to academic medicine in Canada. In 2004 he was appointed to the new federal Health Council and is one of 13 non-governmental expert representatives on the 26-member council. He is vice-chair of the council and chairs the working committee on health outcomes.

Dr. Bowmer's other professional activities have included serving as the first chair of the Board of Community Health – St. John's Region. Nationally, he has been president of the Medical Council of Canada and was a member of the council and chair of the accreditation and credential committees of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

His research expertise is concentrated in the area of AIDS and HIV disease. In 1993–1994 he was chair of College of Family Physicians of Canada's National Working Group for Comprehensive Care for Persons with HIV. He also chaired the college's National Working Group on HIV Therapies for Infants, Youth and Children. He is co-editor of the college's publication *A Comprehensive Guide for the Care of Persons with HIV Disease, Adult and Pediatric Module*. In collaboration with Dr. Michael Grant and the Health Care Corporation HIV team, Dr. Bowmer continued to be co-author of many papers during his deanship.

## Growth and development

*“The student experience in community settings has been a long-standing philosophy of our medical school. In proposing a move to greater distributed learning we are talking about an evolution in which the curriculum and learning follows the student wherever they go.”*

Dr. Ian Bowmer guided the Faculty of Medicine from a 10-year low of funding through a time of significant growth and development, particularly in the areas of attracting major research funding and growth in new faculty. He is particularly proud of the collaborations that developed between the Faculty of Medicine and the province’s health care boards and the Department of Health and Community Services. These enabled the increase in core funding and the establishment of ongoing provincial funding for the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research.

Another accomplishment during his tenure was the determined effort in 2002 to establish funded centres of education research and clinical care outside of St. John’s. Three communities were chosen. Two were already teaching centres for the faculty: at Happy Valley/Goose Bay, where a strong northern family medicine residency training was already established; and at Twillingate, where the student and resident elective program was fully developed. A new centre was developed at Port-aux-Basque.

At the November 2002 Faculty Retreat, a commitment was made to integrate distributed learning into all aspects of the undergraduate medical curriculum. “Distributed learning is based on the premise that learning is flexible and the curriculum can be delivered in different and multiple educational settings and in different formats,” explained Dr. Bowmer. “The student experience in community settings has been a long-standing philosophy of our medical school. In proposing a move to greater distributed learning we are talking about an evolution in which the curriculum and learning follows the student wherever they go.”

Among the outstanding performances of areas of the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Bowmer points to the success of the Office of Professional Development in becoming a national leader in continuing medical education and the recognition from the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada, which twice awarded Memorial the prestigious Keith Award for the best rural family practice residency training in the country.

As an example of growth in research funding, Dr. Bowmer said that during 2002–2003 external funding almost doubled to \$9.6 million with over \$5 million from peer reviewed sources and the remainder coming from industry. Overall the Faculty of Medicine’s external funding at this time represented one-fifth of the external funding for the entire university.

Dr. Bowmer worked closely with Sister Elizabeth Davis, then CEO of the St. John’s Health Care Corporation and Joan Dawe, former deputy minister of Health and Community Services and now chair of the Eastern Regional Integrated Health Authority, to establish the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research. “The funding to establish this came from the provincial government and this was the first time the province had funded health research.”

Prior to Dr. Bowmer’s becoming dean, the loss of 10 seats for New Brunswick students led to recruitment for American students to fill the vacant positions. “We gradually increased the class size to 60 students and negotiated the New Brunswick students back. By the end of my tenure we had increased the total Canadian class size by 30 per cent, a fact that wasn’t fully recognized because we didn’t change the class size but rather recruited Canadian students for seats previously occupied by U.S. students.”

It was a time of tight budgets for the Faculty of Medicine while Dr. Bowmer was dean, coupled with a high turnover of six ministers of health and five deputy ministers. “Our medical school has a unique situation in that we are funded directly by the Department of Health and this means that the dean has a huge role in negotiating the budget. I think our relationship with the Department of Health is very collaborative and we were able to build on this and on our community relationships to work in a true partnership.”

When he retired as dean at the end of 2003, among those acknowledging Dr. Bowmer’s work was the Medical Graduate Student Society, whose numbers grew from 56 to 190 during his tenure. “Thank you for your inspiration and guidance that have pushed the Medical Graduate Student Society forward so that we may in turn make our mark on the world,” said the society in a farewell message.

## Centre for Collaborative Health Professional Education

The Centre for Collaborative Health Professional Education (CCHPE) was established in September 1999 by the directors of the schools of Nursing, Pharmacy, Social Work and the deans of the faculties of Education and Medicine. The deans and directors comprise the centre's governing council.

In 2004, under the direction of Dr. Vernon Curran, six case studies were selected by a team of faculty from medicine, nursing, pharmacy and social work. With students from first-year medicine, second-year pharmacy, fourth year social work and third-year nursing (at both the School of Nursing and Centre for Nursing Studies), 33 teams of seven to eight students came up with strategies to deal with the issues raised by the cases.

In September 2005 the federal government contributed \$1.25 million to CCHPE to develop an interprofessional education curriculum with activities that span the health professional education continuum. The centre is recognized internationally for its expertise in the design, development and evaluation of educational programs that build interprofessional teamwork competencies and foster collaborative practice.

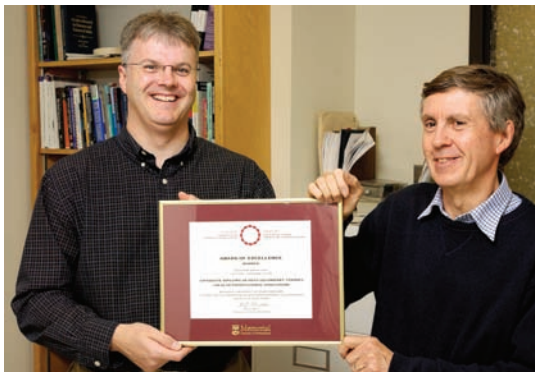
The Standardized Patient Program is part of CCHPE. Standardized or simulated patients are healthy lay people who have been carefully coached to portray an actual patient. Ranging in age from 10 to 80, these "patients" can represent an unending variety of patients to learners at any level of training, to practice and evaluate the art and science of therapeutic communication, history taking and physical examination.

CCHPE also runs a Mini Medical and Health Sciences School for members of the community with an interest in medical matters.



*Dr. Shakti Chandra (R) demonstrates a hip joint replacement to Bob Glynn, who attended the Mini Med School and co-ordinator Diana Deacon. The first Mini Med School in 2004 offered six evening presentations and attracted more than 90 participants.*

Memorial's Graduate Diploma in Post-secondary Studies (Health Professional Education) was named the Award of Excellence Winner, National Program Award 2004, by the Canadian Association for University Continuing Education/ Association pour L'éducation Permanente dans les Universités du Canada (CAUCE/AEPUC). The new program began accepting students in winter 2003. Courses are offered on the Web, allowing health professional participants to continue working and pursue courses at their convenience.



*From left: Drs. Vernon Curran and Dennis Sharpe, co-directors of the CCHPE*



## Dr. Shakti Chandra



Since 1974, Dr. Shakti Chandra has taught anatomy to medical students and she never tires of the enthusiasm students have for her specialty. "At first anatomy was taught in a six-week block and students did nothing but anatomy all day for the entire time. They basically lived in the laboratory and many would come back at night to examine specimens."

Dr. Chandra recalls that Dr. June Harris, now also a professor of anatomy, was in the first class that she taught. "I remember most of the students that I taught and some of their children have come through medical school too – so I taught the parents and then the children."

Although the timing of the anatomy block was changed several times, it wasn't until Dr. John Tomlinson retired in 1991 that it was changed to a semester course. "From September 1991 I taught anatomy at the beginning of the first year, spread from September to December."

One of the aspects of her work that Dr. Chandra particularly loves is outreach work. "I've gone to every grade, even kindergarten. I firmly believe that if people know what their body looks like they will take better care of it."

Her outreach work has involved traveling to different parts of the island. She has visited most of the schools in Clarendville and, along with Dr. Jim Orr, schools in Conne River.

The biggest change Dr. Chandra has seen over the years is in technology. "When I first started teaching I used to draw with coloured chalk on the board. Then I moved to overheads and now there's power-point and WebCT. Now I can show a specimen and an MRI side by side."

What Dr. Chandra would like to see in the Faculty of Medicine is a proper anatomy museum to keep specimens on display.

## Human Investigation Committee

The research ethics board for the Faculty of Medicine was first called the Human Experimentation Committee, and changed to its present name in the mid 1970s by chair Dr. Jan Snellen. The Human Investigation Committee (HIC) makes independent determinations to approve, not approve, suspend or terminate any human subject research protocol based on whether or not subjects are adequately protected.

The HIC existed simultaneously with hospital ethics boards until August 1998 when the Tri-Council Policy Statement for Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans, was adopted by Canada's three major research funding agencies.

The HIC is now in the process of becoming part of the Health Research Ethics Authority, a corporation with three partners: Eastern Health, the provincial government and Memorial University.

## Dr. Jan Snellen

Dr. Jan Snellen (1925-2000), a professor of applied physiology in the Faculty of Medicine from 1970 to 1997, was a world-recognized authority in the area of human thermo dynamics and supervised one of the very few specialized total body calorimeters in the world. In 1977, following his retirement, the calorimeter, a cylindrical room with an adjustable inside temperature, was moved to the Defence and Civil Institute of Environmental Medicine in North York, Ontario. Much of Dr. Snellen's research, supported by the Department of Defence, was on the study of whole body heat exchange with the environment.



*Up, up and away! It took a large crane and the removal of several windows from the cafeteria of the Health Sciences Centre to move a large piece of research equipment known as the human whole body calorimeter.*

## The Medical Graduates' Society

The Medical Graduates' Society (MGS) began with the first graduating class in 1973 and the first reunion for all graduates was held in May 1983. This reunion was organized by Dr. Donald Morrison. It was a week long event held from May 24– 28, 1983. The medical school had a special convocation of its own on May 27 to mark the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the founding of the medical school.

One of the decisions that came out of the reunion was to raise funds to aid development of our medical school, promote research in Newfoundland and Labrador and to contribute to the Dean's Fund. Following the reunion, in 1985 the MGS initiated bursaries for undergraduate medical students. In 1985 one \$1,000 and four \$500 bursaries were given to medical students. In 1986 six \$500 bursaries were awarded.

In 1988 another reunion for all graduates was organized Dr. Robert Bartlett. The time of the reunion was moved to July rather than May to accommodate graduates with young children who were still in school.

In 1991, under the direction of Dr. Sharon Peters, a ski weekend was held in Corner Brook in mid-February and in February 1992 another ski weekend was held in Corner Brook. Both events were well-attended and enjoyed by all.

From July 8-11, 1993, under the direction of Dr. Howard Strong, there was a 20-year reunion for all graduates. In 1998 there was another reunion from June 24– 26, planned by a committee consisting of MGS President Dr. Strong along with Dr. Bill Eaton (Class of 1974) and Dr. Tom Noseworthy (Class of 1973). This was part of the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the medical school.

In 1999 under the direction of Dr. David Keegan, president and Dean Ian Bowmer the format of the reunions was changed. It was decided that the society would have a reunion every summer, normally the last weekend in July, and it would be for five graduating classes starting with 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988 and 1993 and working its way through all classes.

Dr. Keegan was president of the MGS from 1999–2001 when Dr. Paul Jackman took over until 2003. In 2003 Dr. Wayne Gulliver took the helm and devoted a great deal of energy to fundraising, starting with a challenge to his own Class of 1982 to donate funds in memory of their classmate Dr. Marlayne Clarke. They class raised over \$11,000 for the Medical Students' Contingency Fund, and encouraged other classes to issue fundraising challenges.

Dr. Gulliver also initiated fundraising for the Dr. Wallace Ingram Award for New Faculty and the "Thousand Thousands" challenge which encourages alumni in established practice to donate \$1,000 per year.

At the 2007 reunion Dr. Bridget Picco (Class of 1983) took on the job of president of the MGS. One of her goals is to further instill pride in Memorial's medical school among its alumni.



*Dr. Leslie Rourke (L), Family Medicine, was the 2006 recipient of the third annual Dr. Wallace J. Ingram Award for new faculty. Dr. Ingram (C) was on hand to present the award, in the amount of \$23,000, at the opening reception of the 2006 Medical Graduates Society Reunion. The Dr. Wallace Ingram Award for new faculty was established in 2004 by the Medical Graduates Society under the leadership of President Dr. Wayne Gulliver, in honour of internist Dr. Wallace Ingram, who joined the medical school in 1971 and has served in many capacities – in particular as a wonderful tutor, lecturer and mentor to many.*



*The Class of 1982 raised over \$10,000 to help the Medical Students' Contingency Fund. The donation was presented in 2001. From left: Mary Dray, Student Affairs; Dr. Wayne Gulliver, Class of '82; Dean Ian Bowmer and Dr. Ford Bursery, president, Class of '82. In the background is the painting donated to the medical school by the Class of '82 on graduation.*

## The Health Sciences Library

The Health Sciences Library was created in 1969 in the old temporary buildings and moved into the Health Sciences Centre in 1975. June Huntley, the first librarian, and Dr. Ken Roberts, the first John Clinch Professor of the History of Medicine at Memorial University, were instrumental in establishing the Health Sciences Library. Dr. Roberts' particular interest in the history of medicine led to the establishment of a collection of historical books, which were collected from various locations in the library and housed in a special room, The K. B. Roberts Historical Collection, where it remains to this day.

Through the 1970s and 1980s the library grew rapidly as programs grew and support for the new School of Nursing and School of Pharmacy were added. From 1988–1989 the library went through a year of notable change, including renovations to allow for another decade of growth and computerization of the catalogue. On March 20, 1989, the library officially went on-line allowing holdings for the entire university library to be easily searched at micro workstations in the library.

The Health Sciences Library collection includes material on medicine, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry and allied health. In the health and allied disciplines, there are approximately 40,000 books (paper format); 20,000 electronic texts; 8,000 electronic journals; 350 current journals (paper format); and 1,800 audio-visual material. In addition, the library provides access to approximately 30,000 non-health electronic journals and 220,000 electronic texts that are accessible through general Memorial University agreements.

In addition to students and faculty in the health sciences, the Health Sciences Library also acts as a resource centre for all health practitioners in the province, with electronic resources provided through the Newfoundland and Labrador Health Knowledge Information Network. The library is now preparing for a major change as the majority of its information resources are converted from paper to electronic format.

## The Founders' Archive

The groundwork leading to the establishment of the Faculty of Medicine Founders' Archive began in 1985 when discussions between interested faculty members, the university librarian and archival advisors led to the formation of a Faculty of Medicine Archive Committee which began investigating the possibility of forming an archival repository for the medical school. This initial interest came to the forefront again almost 15 years later with the formation of a new Archive Advisory Committee, which actively pursued the development of a repository for the Faculty of Medicine within the Health Sciences Library. The archive became a reality, when on July 13, 1999, a contractual archivist was hired to begin collecting and caring for archival material related to the history of the Faculty of Medicine at Memorial. Today there is a full-time archivist for the Founders Archive, Stephanie Harlick.



*Dean emeritus Dr. Ian Rusted cut the ribbon at the official opening of the Faculty of Medicine Founders' Archive on April 5, 2000. Since July 1999 the Founders' Archive has been gathering archival materials and its doors are now open to the public. In addition, work continues collecting, arranging and describing archival materials and providing archival/records management services. The reading room of the Founders' Archive is located in Room 1633 in the Health Sciences Library.*

## The Dr. John Ross legacy

The Ross Family Medicine Centre officially opened Jan. 27, 2006, at the L.A. Miller Centre on Forest Road in St. John's. This academic teaching site of Memorial University has moved to the 6th floor of Southcott Hall in the Miller Centre and was formally named in memory of the late Dr. John Ross, a well-respected physician, educator and humanitarian.

Dr. John Ross took on many challenges during his lifetime. His medical work in the province began in 1957 at the Channel Cottage Hospital. From 1971–1988 he held various appointments at Memorial, including chair of Family Practice. From 1988–1994 he was seconded to Makerere University, Uganda, as professor of community practice involved in setting up a postgraduate training program for primary care physicians in remote hospitals in Uganda.



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In an article in the July 1994 edition of *MUNMED*, Dr. Ross talked about the success of the Ugandan project in graduating medical residents with the skills to work in remote areas. As well as the actual education involved, his work in Uganda helped establish a self-funding system for the Tororo Hospital, which is about 240 miles from Uganda's capital city, Kampala.

*Mrs. Doreen Ross cut the ribbon at the official opening of the Ross Family Medicine Centre under the watchful and admiring eyes of daughter Wendy Ross, Dr. Roger Butler (Discipline of Family Medicine), and John and Doreen's youngest son George Ross.*

## Letter from Uganda

In the early 1990s, medical books were collected and shipped to Tororo, Uganda, by Dr. Penny Hansen and Dr. Ken Roberts. Dr. Ross reported on their use in a letter published in the April 1991 issue of *MUNMED*.

"At the Tororo Hospital Library, we now have the best library of any small hospital in Uganda. The students and other members of the staff are truly grateful, believe me!

Books also went to the postgraduate students in the training program I am running. They got first pick of what they needed and I told them they could have one book in each of the major disciplines – so they are very well-off compared with any other doctor in the whole of Uganda.

And books went to the Nsambya Hospital, a mission hospital which Dr. John Lewis knows well because when he was in Uganda he was in charge of the place as the medical superintendent.

Finally the Makerere Hospital University Library got the lion's share of the books, and were absolutely delighted."

Through the determined effort of Dr. Brian Payton, the *Ugandan Diary* of the late Dr. John Ross, a long-time faculty member at Memorial and previous chair of the Discipline of Family Medicine was published in limited quantities for libraries and is available through the Faculty of Medicine's web page at [www.med.mun.ca/MED/docs/ugandan\\_diary.pdf](http://www.med.mun.ca/MED/docs/ugandan_diary.pdf)



*Ugandan Diary*



Dr. Sharon Peters was appointed vice-dean of the Faculty of Medicine on Sept. 1, 1999. From Jan. 1 to April 4, 2004 she served as acting dean between the time Dr. Ian Bowmer stepped down and Dr. James Rourke was appointed dean.

Dr. Peters has a long association with Memorial's medical school. She received her medical degree in 1974 from MUN and went on to postgraduate studies in internal medicine at the University of Western Ontario, followed by postdoctoral studies at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. While at Johns Hopkins, she developed expertise in respiratory illness and allergies, then returned to the University of Western Ontario as assistant professor.

## Dr. Sharon Peters

In 1983 Dr. Peters came back to Newfoundland as a member of the Division of Respiriology and the Department of Intensive Care at the Health Sciences Centre, and clinical associate with the Faculty of Medicine. In 1987 she was promoted to associate professor of medicine and appointed chair of the Department of Intensive Care at the General Hospital.

From 1985 to 1991 she served as the residency program director for internal medicine in the Faculty of Medicine, and in 1992 she took on the major administrative responsibility of assistant dean of Student Affairs. Under her leadership, the Student Affairs Office was restructured and the Admissions Office moved to new quarters. In 1999 she was promoted to professor and vice-dean.

Dr. Peters has responsibility for professional development and educational administration in the Faculty of Medicine. She acts as liaison with the Medical Research Foundation and works with health care regional boards on issues related to physician availability in the province. She has been involved in a number of national organizations, serving as president of the Canadian Thoracic Society in 1996 and was elected to Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for the Atlantic region.

## John Clinch Professor of the History of Medicine

In 1978 the Memorial University medical school established the John Clinch Professor of the History of Medicine, the first named professorship in the Faculty of Medicine. Named after Dr. John Clinch (1749-1819), a physician and minister who administered the first smallpox vaccine in North America in Trinity, Newfoundland, around 1800, this professorship was first held by Dr. K.B. Roberts.

Dr. Roberts, the medical school's second faculty appointee, held the chair from 1978 to 1988. Before this formal establishment, Dr. W.D. Parsons was appointed as a part-time clinical assistant professor of Medicine and History of Medicine. Following Dr. Roberts, Dr. J.K. Crellin held the chair from 1988 until his retirement in 2002, and remained for an additional year on contract. In 2004 the title of the chair was changed to the John Clinch Professor of Medical Humanities and History of Medicine. Dr. J.T.H. Connor, the third and current Clinch professor, has held this position since 2004.



Dr. K.B. Roberts



Dr. J.K. Crellin



Dr. J.T.H. Connor

## Notable alumni



**Dr. Bruce Aylward** (class of 1985) was the first winner of the Memorial University Alumni Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement in 2002. He was selected in recognition of his professional excellence and distinction in community health and preventative medicine. His work as the co-ordinator of the Global Polio Eradication Program of the World Health Organization (WHO) has helped to all but eliminate polio from the planet. The model of polio vaccination that he helped to develop is now being adapted by health agencies to deliver other forms of preventative medicine to remote and disadvantaged areas around the globe. In 2004 he was awarded an honorary degree by Memorial.



**Dr. Dawn Howse**, center, (class of 1978) was the 2003 recipient of the Outstanding Volunteer Service Award of by the Alumni Association of Memorial University in recognition of her 17 years of work in Zimbabwe. She is chief medical officer at the 101-bed Salvation Army Tshelanyemba Hospital in a sparsely populated semi-arid region.



**Dr. Wayne Gulliver** (Class of 1982) received the 2007 J. D. Eaton Alumni Award in recognition of his exceptional leadership and outstanding service to Memorial University. For Dr. Gulliver this means giving back to a community that gave him so much. He served as president of the Medical Graduates Society from 2003-2007 and took on a major leadership role in fundraising for the Faculty of Medicine, including establishing the Dr. Wallace Ingram Award for New Clinical Faculty.



**Dr. David Jewer** (Class of 1980) was selected as Memorial's Alumnus of the Year in 1993 in recognition of the province-wise contributions he has made with his reconstructive skills as a plastic surgeon.



**Dr. Nick Withers** (Class of 1996) received the 2006 Alumni Horizon Award from Memorial University in recognition of his lead role in national emergency response efforts to bring injured Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan home safely. The Horizon Award is for achievement under the age of 35. Nick's dedication and the support of his wife and young children have enabled this remarkable young man to already make a significant impact on the world.

## Canada Research Chairs

Memorial's Faculty of Medicine is home to two senior Canada Research Chairs.

**Dr. Dale Corbett** holds the Canada Research Chair in Stroke and Neuroplasticity. He is actively involved in the Canadian Stroke Network as an investigator and member of the board of directors. He was the first winner of the Paul Morley Mentorship Award from the Canadian Stroke Foundation. The award recognizes significant contributions to the training of the next generation of Canadian stroke researchers.

**Dr. Thomas Michalak** holds the Canada Research Chair in Viral Hepatitis and Immunology. He has worked in the field of viral hepatitis for more than 25 years, and has completed much groundbreaking work, including the establishment of a large colony of Eastern American woodchucks for the study of the woodchuck hepatitis virus, closely related to HBV.

## Faculty honours

**Dr. Sharon Buehler**, honorary research professor in the division of Community Health and Humanities, won an award from the Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health in 2000 for her dedication to improving women's health.

**Dr. Ann Colbourne**, Discipline of Medicine, serves in a senior voluntary leadership positions with the Canadian Diabetes Association as a councilor with the association's clinical and scientific section. She received a 2006 Certificate of Merit from the Canadian Association of Medical Education.

**Dr. Rick Cooper**, chair of the Discipline of Pediatrics was awarded the Royal College Atlantic region Prix D'Excellence for 2005. This award is given annually by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada to specialists in five regions of the country who have provided outstanding service.

**Dr. Joan Crane** (Class of 1989), Obstetrics and Gynecology, received a 2004 President's Award for Outstanding Research in. Her research interests include induction of labour, preterm birth prediction and prevention and the use of randomized clinical trials.

**Dr. Alan Goodridge**, Neurology, received a 1998 President's Award for Distinguished Teaching.

**Dr. Sean Hamilton** received a 2005 Certificate of Merit from the Canadian Association of Medical Education.

**Dr. Penny Hansen**, BioMedical Sciences, received a 1990 President's Award for Distinguished Teacher and she was also honoured in that year with a prestigious 3M Teaching Fellowship, a national award that recognizes teaching excellence as well as educational leadership.

**Dr. Michael Jong**, a full-time faculty member in the Discipline of Family Medicine based at the Labrador Health Centre in Goose Bay, is president of the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC). He was honoured by the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) as Newfoundland and Labrador Family Physician of the Year in 2005.

**Dr. Christopher Kovacs** received a 2003 President's Award for Outstanding Research. As an endocrinologist in the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Kovacs has established his own laboratory and independent research career in the areas of calcium and bone metabolism.

**Dr. John H. McLean**, professor of anatomy and neuroscience was the is the first person to receive the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Synapse Award – Individual Researcher, presented in 2007. The award, which is worth \$5,000, recognizes the efforts of a health researcher who has made exceptional efforts to promote health research among Canada's high school students.

**Dr. Patrick Palfrey**, associate dean of clinical research (Faculty of Medicine), received the Kidney Foundation of Canada Medal for Research Excellence in 2002 and was made an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2004.

**Dr. Proton Rahman**, Rheumatology, received a 2004 President's Award for Outstanding Research. He also received the Nate Biotechnology Leadership Award for 2004. Nate, the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Technology Industries, is the voice of the technology sector for the province.

**Dr. Mohamed Ravalia**, senior physician at the Twillingate Health Centre, received the 2006 Donald I. Rice Award from the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) in recognition of his contribution to teaching, vision and leadership in family medicine. In 2004 he was named Newfoundland and Labrador Family Physician of the Year. He is a popular teacher and has twice been selected by graduating classes as Community Physician of the Year.

**Dr. Sudesh Vasdev**, BioMedical Sciences, received the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists' (CSCC) Research Excellence Award for 2005. This award is presented in recognition of an individual's contribution to research directly or indirectly related to clinical chemistry.



Dr. James Rourke has served as dean of medicine and professor of family medicine at Memorial University since his appointment April 5, 2004. He previously served as the assistant dean of rural regional medicine at the University of Western Ontario, where he was a professor in the Department of Family Medicine.

## Dr. James Rourke

Dr. Rourke grew up on a farm and attended a one room rural public school. He graduated with his MD from University of Western Ontario in 1976, where he completed his family medicine training in 1978 and his master's of clinical science (family medicine) in 1993. He is certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada in family medicine (1978) and emergency medicine (1985) and was awarded Fellowship in 1990.

Since moving to Newfoundland and Labrador, Dr. Rourke has traveled extensively throughout the province and in New Brunswick to visit teaching sites. This has included several visits to Labrador and medical clinics in Nain and St. Anthony.

Dr. Rourke was an active rural family physician (including obstetrics and emergency work) in Goderich, Ontario for 25 years with his wife and partner Dr. Leslie Rourke. Their practice was one of the primary UWO Rural Family Medicine teaching sites. He was the founding director of the Southwestern Ontario Rural Regional Medical Education, Research, and Development Unit, founded in 1997 and funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health to develop, integrate and co-ordinate rural medicine at the University of Western Ontario.

Dr. Rourke has a long-standing interest in rural medicine, and is a recognized leader at provincial, national and international levels. As project director, Medical Education Design Team (2000-2001), for the Northern Ontario (Rural) Medical School Project proposal, Dr. Rourke was very involved in the initial development work that led to approval to build the Northern Ontario Medical School. He was chair of the WONCA (World Organization of Family Doctors) Working Party in Rural Practice that has organized seven world rural health conferences and was involved in developing a joint WONCA/WHO project "Health for All Rural People."

Dr. Rourke has received many honours and awards, including the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario Council Award College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario Council Award (2004) "to honour outstanding Ontario physicians who have demonstrated excellence and come closest to meeting society's vision of an 'ideal physician'"; the D.I Rice Merit Award from the College of Family Physicians of Canada; the UWO Award of Excellence in Teaching by Part-time Faculty; the UWO Martin J. Bass Recognition Award for Exceptional Contribution to Family Medicine; and the Community and the Community Teacher of the Year from the Ontario College of Family Physicians. He has had more than 60 journal articles published.



## The Faculty of Medicine

An invaluable asset in more ways than one

By Dr. James Rourke

*For physicians with specialized training, the importance of an academic appointment is a critical aspect in recruitment and retention. The opportunities for teaching, research and the accompanying academic stimulus are all important factors in attracting the highly-trained specialists who offer so much to the health care needs and medical education in Newfoundland and Labrador. We have been enormously successful in encouraging our own medical graduates to pursue specialty training and recruiting them back to Memorial.*

Forty years ago Memorial University, in an act of courage and faith, appointed Dr. Ian Rusted as dean of medicine. This was the culmination of several years of discussion and reports with the province and outside consultants on the feasibility of establishing a medical school. It marked the defining step in establishing what was to become the Faculty of Medicine with the promise of a Health Sciences Centre that would deliver top-quality tertiary health services for the entire province.

In 1965, around the time these discussions were taking place, there were only 330 doctors in the province. Today there are 873 fully licensed doctors in Newfoundland and Labrador – 250 family doctors are graduates of Memorial's medical school and another 220 specialists are MUN medical graduates. Overall doctors trained at Memorial make up more than half of all doctors in the province, with about one-fifth of those working in the province's rural areas.

For physicians with specialized training, the importance of an academic appointment is a critical aspect in recruitment and retention. The opportunities for teaching, research and the accompanying academic stimulus are all important factors in attracting the highly-trained specialists who offer so much to the health care needs and medical education in Newfoundland and Labrador. We have been enormously successful in encouraging our own medical graduates to pursue specialty training and recruiting them back to Memorial.

Our Faculty of Medicine has three major functions. In addition to education and research, our faculty, residents and students, in their clinical roles with our health care partners, are involved in the provision of health care. We manage our resources and co-operate with health care policymakers. For example, our Division of Community Health and Humanities makes its expertise available to government and public groups for research in areas such as autism, primary health care needs, public health capacity and eating disorders.

The Faculty of Medicine's research enterprise has grown steadily and in 2006–2007 accounted for more than \$13 million dollars, representing almost 15 per cent of research funding awarded to the university. This has been accompanied by a steady growth in our graduate studies programs, with about 230 graduate students now enrolled in the faculty.

Much of our research responds directly to health concerns in Newfoundland and Labrador, particularly our world-leading genetics research which encompasses the full spectrum from molecular to clinical to ethics to applied health systems research. For example, major projects in hereditary colon cancer and juvenile diabetes are making progress in identifying who is at risk for these diseases.

From the beginning, research that focused on the needs of rural areas was a top priority of the Faculty of Medicine and the prime example of that is the extraordinary accomplishment of Dr. Max House in distance education technology and establishing the Telemedicine Centre.

We are intensely aware of the need to train doctors who will go into rural practice, and are addressing this in a number of ways. Our research shows that medical graduates who have a rural background, are

originally from the province, or do some or all of their postgraduate training at Memorial are more likely to work in Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2004, 55 per cent of MUN graduates with a rural background who did some or all of their residency training at Memorial were working in the province.

Right now, over 40 per cent of medical students at MUN come from rural areas, compared to a Canadian average of 11 per cent. Our long-standing summer MedQuest program offers rural high school students as opportunity to explore careers in the health sciences, and many have gone on to pursue careers in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and other allied health professions.

In their undergraduate training, our students are given maximum exposure to rural practice through rotations in communities throughout the province. In Happy Valley/Goose Bay we have a long-standing successful Northern Family Medicine Training Program which offers family medicine residents the opportunity to do nine or more months of their 24 month training in Labrador.

For physicians who choose rural practice, a key concern is continuing medical education. To address this, the Faculty of Medicine's Professional Development and Conferencing Services has become the Canadian leader in delivering accredited continuing medical education programs that play a major role in meeting the professional development needs of health care professionals throughout this province and across Canada. These programs are offered through a variety of formats, including teleconferencing, video-conferencing, online and onsite.

The trademark of Memorial's Faculty of Medicine is, "Building a Healthy Tomorrow." Our 2007 Strategic Vision is that we be known around the world for our methods and our outcomes of our leading high quality medical education programs, educating excellent physicians with knowledge, skills and attitudes to work in communities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador and also who can be world leaders and enhance medical care and research wherever they work.

Building on the vision of the late Dr. Ian Rusted, Memorial's Faculty of Medicine has expanded and become integral to the provision of health care in the province. As the current dean of medicine, I see opportunities for growth – both in education and research. Increasing the class size for undergraduate medical education and residency training programs will enable us to educate more medical students from our province, in our province, to become doctors for our province. We are also building a strong business case to expand our research enterprise to do more research that will have a direct impact on the health of the people of Newfoundland and Labrador and will have national and international significance. This growth will require a new building for expanded faculty and up-to-date facilities. By building on our existing strengths we will continue to be a "value added" part of the university and the provincial health care system.



*During the 2007 Graduation Dinner and Dance, Dean James Rourke posed with the students on the Dean's List for fourth-year medical studies. From left: Drs. Amy Bromley, Megan Hayes, Heidi Carew, Dean Rourke, Drs. Aleisha Murnaghan, Bart Godlewski and Rachel Ouellete.*



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## Deans of the Faculty of Medicine

Photos on back cover (from top clockwise): Dr. Ian Rusted (1967-1974), Dr. Al Cox (1974-1987), Dr. David Hawkins (1987-1995), Dr. Ian Bowmer (1996-2003) and Dr. James Rourke (2004-present).

### Photos:

Courtesy of the Founder's Archives, Health Sciences Library, and Health Sciences Information and Media Service (HSIMS), Faculty of Medicine.

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