



International Health Office

Faculty of Health Sciences

Annual Report | April 2008 – March 2009

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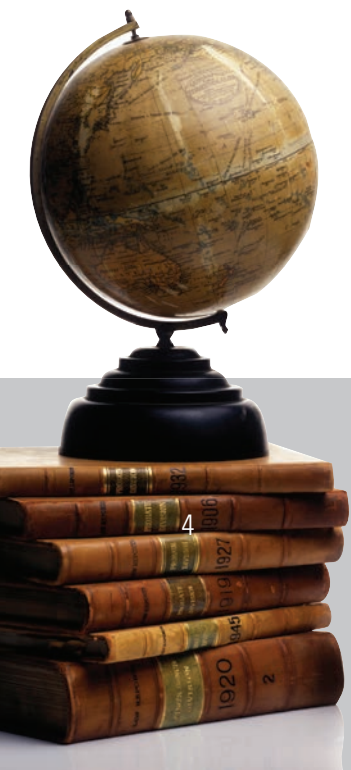
McMASTER UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL HEALTH OFFICE, ANNUAL REPORT

The International Health Office was born out of the realization that McMaster had both the obligation and the privilege to take health education off campus, beyond the borders of Canada and into every corner of the world. Health challenges can vary from country to country, and culture to culture, but the determinants of health are the same and the needs of people differ more in scale than in detail. We have much to teach to health professionals around the world, and even more to learn.

The Office works closely with all departments of the Faculty of Health Sciences — medicine, nursing, rehabilitation sciences and midwifery — to develop activities and achieve our goals. The goals of the International Health Office are broad ones: to increase capacity-building in higher education, host international delegations, create opportunities for visiting scholars from abroad and engage in select international activities and initiatives. They give us the scope we need to pursue our mission “to commit university research and education to the service of people’s health worldwide, for the mutual benefit of science, health, clinical practice, and human development.”

This year’s list of activities demonstrate just how wide-spread our activities in pursuit of our mission are, from our collaboration on traditional Chinese medicine, to our long-standing work in educating nurses with the Aga Khan University, to the development of an oncology nursing program with the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago.

Our activities are developed in accordance with the four perspectives — customer, internal process, learning and growth and financial — developed by the Faculty of Health Sciences International Health Office, Strategic Business Plan in 2005.



- **Customer Perspective:** All of the activities outlined in this report relate directly to the International Health Office’s customers. We match researchers and academics from the faculty, and partner universities with donor and funding agencies interested in International Health.
- **Internal Process Perspective:** We are always working to streamline international research and education in the faculty. We update our website frequently, provide project assistance through consultation development and management services, and seek funding opportunities for international proposals. We are amidst the creation of an international strategic opportunities program to further improve the process.
- **Learning and Growth Perspective:** We are aware of the unceasing efforts necessary to increase the faculty’s capacity for international health research and will continue to provide strong leadership worldwide, building capacity and expanding our network. We make direct links between learning and growing our “Capacity Building in Higher Education” and “Faculty Education” reports.
- **Financial Perspective:** Our goal is to have all operations financially sustainable. Evidently the majority of activities over the past year have involved continued visits, discussions and negotiations to build toward financial sustainability. To increase the overall profile of our work and build support beyond a project-by-project model, we publicize our international activities and projects on the web.



MISSION

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

Please read further for details on how our work in the International Health Office enriched the knowledge and experience of Canadian researchers and academics, while building capacity for better health, knowledge and practice around the globe.




CAPACITY BUILDING IN HIGHER EDUCATION



CHINA: TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE COLLABORATION – A

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) workshop is planned for September, 2009. This is the first meeting of representatives from Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine (China), Hong Kong Polytechnic University and McMaster University with a goal of promoting the integration of traditional Chinese medicine and conventional Western medicine through collaborative research, education, and evidence-based anti-cancer care. The objectives of the meeting are to provide a Canadian-Chinese forum to advance TCM training through development of a collaborative educational framework utilizing problem-based learning strategies, state of the art laboratory training, evidence-based research training and bio-informatic methodologies; additionally to develop a TCM education component in conventional Western medical training; and finally to advance TCM research training. The partnership will be solidified through a Memorandum of Agreement. The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) has awarded \$10,000 for the initial knowledge sharing initiative (R. Wong & A. Baumann).



HAITI: ENTENTE – McMaster University School of Nursing and Midwifery Education Program are partners in a Canadian consortium of health institutions responding to Haiti's priority of strengthening health human resources, which is consistent with the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) development assistance objectives. McMaster's role builds on the current Tier II Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) project for Women's Health, a five-year partnership between the national schools of nursing, midwifery and medicine in Port-au-Prince. The proposal was submitted to CIDA and is currently on hold due to government funding review.

“Education is the most powerful tool you can
use to change the world.”

- *Nelson Mandela*



IMPACT: BUILDING LEADERSHIP IN PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH IN NORTH AMERICA

McMaster University is one of six academic institutions from Canada (2), Mexico (2), and the United States of America (2) that collaboratively created a public mental health curriculum to improve practices and build capacity in mental health professionals in North America. A four year partnership (October 2004- October 2008) enabled the consortium to educate psychiatrists about the North American public health care systems and prepare them for leadership roles in psychiatry. The consortium developed an innovative curriculum including teaching materials, methods and modules to advance training programs in mental health care in each participating country. Two residents from McMaster joined one resident from Dalhousie University and one resident from Mexico at IMPACT 7 in Boston March 14-15, 2008. Overall, feedback was positive. The curriculum will be available on the internet at the Dalhousie Department of Psychiatry website and continuously updated.



JAPAN: ST. LUKE'S UNIVERSITY – McMaster hosted a three-day workshop (December 1-3, 2008) for the School of Health Sciences, St. Luke's University focusing on research and education in midwifery. Four faculty members from St. Luke's met with Dr. Eileen Hutton, Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, McMaster. A collaborative research project has been initialized by St. Luke's College of Nursing (SLCN). Discussions included the direct entry Midwifery Education Program, and competencies for graduate midwives, including active observation of the Objective Structured Clinical Examination.



MASTER OF SCIENCE IN GLOBAL HEALTH – A new innovative graduate program is being developed at McMaster University in partnership with Maastricht University, The Netherlands. The 12 month program is designed to offer students a solid foundation in global health issues including globalization, economics, policy development, management, leadership, infectious and chronic diseases, and epidemiology. The program has been submitted to the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies (OCGS) for approval.



PAN CANADIAN MEDICAL SCHOOL ALLIANCE – McMaster University is strongly involved in the Pan Canadian Medical School Alliance, led by Dr. Mark Walton, Assistant Dean, Post-Graduate Medical Education Program, and has negotiated a new contract and fees for accepting international students into residencies and clinical fellowships.





PAKISTAN: AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING/INSTITUTE PROPOSAL

– Aga Khan University (AKU) and McMaster University have re-explored and established the nature and scope of practice in which their long-standing 25 year relationship will continue. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by AKU President Mr. Firoz Rasul and



McMaster President, Dr. Peter George. His Royal Highness, the Aga Khan, and the Honourable Beverly J. Oda, Minister of International Cooperation, presided over the November 22, 2008 ceremony. A Concept Paper has been drafted in collaboration with the Aga Khan University and the Aga Khan Foundation of Canada (AKFC) proposing a virtual institute. Delegates of McMaster and the AKU met in the spring of 2009 to discuss the Concept Paper and future directions of the partnership.



PORTUGAL: UNIVERSITY OF THE ALGARVE – Dr. Jose Ponte, Dean of Medicine at the University of the Algarve, visited McMaster University November 17-18, 2008. His visit included discussions regarding the transfer of the McMaster medical curriculum, faculty development educational offerings and capacity building for the University of the Algarve. The proposal has been drafted in partnership with Dr. Alan Neville, Assistant Dean, Undergraduate MD Program and sent to Dr. Ponte for review and discussion. Negotiations are ongoing. Dr. Ponte sent his colleague, Dr. Jose Pedro Marvão to attend the 4th Annual International Interdisciplinary Summer Institute held May 25-29, 2009.



SAUDI ARABIA: STUDENTS IN THE BHSC PROGRAM AND ESL/CULTURAL ADAPTATION COURSE

– Nine students are registered in the BHSc (Honours) Program with one student in Level I, four students in Level II and four students in Level III.

SULTANATE OF OMAN: SULTAN QABOOS UNIVERSITY NURSING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

– McMaster University and Hamilton Health Sciences joined as collaborative partners for the first time to provide an eight-week nursing internship program from August 15 – October 16, 2008. Ten BScN graduate students completed the internship, obtaining a minimum of 288 hours of clinical training. The program entailed integrative theory and practice including: clinical/observational learning in the hospital; specialty-based practical training; interprofessional workshops; problem-based learning tutorials; and an overall introduction to the Canadian model of health care. Additional site visits included St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton, St. Peter’s Hospital, Shalom Village, and Dr. Bob Kemp Centre for Hospice and Palliative Care.



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: UNIVERSITY OF WEST INDIES (UWI)

– An Agreement has been signed between McMaster University and the University of the West Indies (UWI) to develop a new oncology nursing program in Trinidad and Tobago. The International Health Office is working with UWI’s School of Nursing to provide support as necessary. Professor Parbatee Siewdass, Dip. Gen/Management BScN, UWI, visited McMaster in January, 2008. McMaster is working closely to deliver its post-diploma BScN-linked oncology nursing program through a blend of on-site and distance modalities. The goal is to foster the development of local capacity and expertise that will enable the university to offer the program independently in autumn 2010.



University of West Indies, St. Augustine Campus



McMASTER UNIVERSITY & THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

25 YEARS OF COLLABORATION

2009 marks the Silver Anniversary of the collaboration between the McMaster University School of Nursing and the Aga Khan University (AKU) Pakistan. The relationship has had a profound impact on both universities and has created bilateral partnerships between the Canadian and Pakistani governments. Through the advancement of nursing education in Pakistan and improvement of the country's health care system, the twenty-five year affiliation has resulted in one of the largest nursing human resource development programs in the world.

In order to continue their longstanding collaboration, President Peter George of McMaster and President Firoz Rasul of the AKU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in Toronto on November 22, 2008. In attendance were the Honourable Beverly J. Oda and the Aga Khan, Imam (spiritual leader) of the Shia Ismaili Muslims. McMaster and AKU are committed to achieving excellence in education and research by building upon their historical relationship of equitable human advancement and social justice. The universities have agreed to strengthen their partnership by enhancing the quality of nursing education and increasing the professional standards of nurses in Pakistan and the surrounding countries.





The history of the partnership dates back to 1979, when the Aga Khan Medical College and Hospital approached the McMaster University School of Nursing to assist in the development of nursing in Pakistan. The initial contract commenced in 1983 and resulted in the creation of educational programs for qualified nurses in primary, secondary and

tertiary health care in Pakistan. The second phase addressed the pre-existing needs of the country by enhancing capacity building of nursing human resources and nursing institutions. In the final phase, the partnership extended into the remote and rural villages of Pakistan through the Development of Women Health Professionals (DWHP) program. The DWHP program prepared nurses for professional roles in leadership and facilitated participation in government service for health planning and policy reform. Since its inception and continuing until the final phase was completed in 2001, the partnership has been financially supported and sustained by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

Not only has the partnership fostered strong connections between two countries, it has addressed the health inequities in one of the poorest countries in the world. The implementation of innovative interventions underpins the successful model of this extraordinary collaboration. Up until the 1980s, gender disparities in health care resonated in Pakistan. Resource distribution and access to education and health



services for women were minimal. The partnership broke down gender barriers and provided access to health services for all individuals. The inclusion of women in the male-dominated area of human resources development was facilitated by increased accessibility of education and health services for women and children.

INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS

JAPAN: NIIGATA UNIVERSITY STUDENT TOUR 2009

– McMaster University and Mohawk College collaboratively hosted Niigata University students for the third consecutive year. The students, translators and professors attended sessions at both Mohawk

and McMaster (March 24-31, 2009), including site visits at various clinics and educational events. The students were billeted with local families. The members of the Tour included: five undergraduate nursing students, five undergraduate medical technology students, two nursing graduate students and two professors.



PAKISTAN: AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY (AKU) – Dr. Yasmin Amarsi, Ms. Farzana Karim-Haji and Ms. Falak Madhani visited McMaster University to advance the planning of the collaborative partnership model between AKU and McMaster. An initial meeting took place on September 12, 2008 with Aga Khan Foundation of Canada delegates Khalil Shariff (CEO) and Jayne Barlow (Senior Program Manager). The meeting addressed the relationship past, present and future, and a plan for future collaborations was devised. A secondary meeting took place at McMaster on September 13, 2008 to enhance the work plan over the next year and finalize details for the MOU and partnership structure.

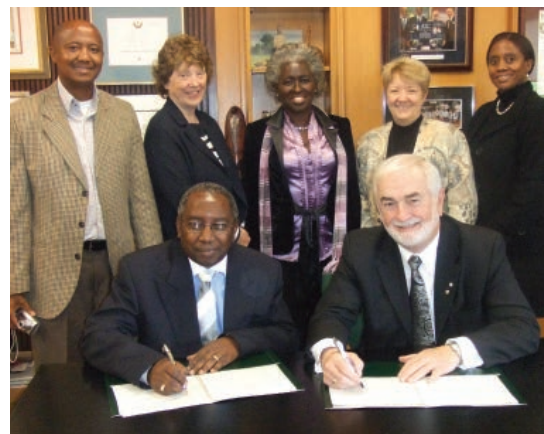
PAKISTAN: FATIMA MEMORIAL SYSTEM (FMS) – Mrs. Shahima Rehman, Chairperson Executive Committee, Ms. Maha Rehman, Communications Consultant & Member Board of Management and Mr. Tariq Rehman visited the International Health Office on October 27, 2008 to discuss faculty and student exchange. The visit was for exploratory purposes to seek Dr. Andrea Baumann's expertise on building capacity and health human resources in the province of Punjab, Pakistan. Preliminary discussions concluded the necessity of a needs based assessment and the possibility of a consulting contract in the near future. At present, FMS will facilitate further communication.



SAUDI ARABIA: KING FAHAD SPECIALIST HOSPITAL – Drs. Khalid Al Shaibani, Zakaria Al Safran, and Mohammed Al Sughair visited McMaster University January 16, 2009 to discuss capacity building in nursing and the allied health professions, ultimately seeking assessment for international accreditation and professional standards. The visit entailed a tour of the McMaster University Medical Centre (MUMC) and discussions with McMaster Faculty Dr. Andrea Baumann, Associate Vice-President, Faculty of Health Sciences, International Health, Dr. Catherine Tompkins, Associate Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences (Nursing), and Dr. Martha Casson, Vice President International, Niagara College. The meeting included discussions on the following: academic degrees in nursing; leadership management programs through modules and distance education; and the interprofessional program for health care leadership management.



SOUTH AFRICA: NORTH WEST UNIVERSITY – McMaster University School of Nursing assisted with the funding proposal to The Atlantic Philanthropies for building nursing capacity at North West University (NWU), South Africa. The successful application granted the Nursing Science Department of NWU five years of funding (approximately \$2 million CAD). NWU will collaborate with McMaster University's School of Nursing to develop capacity in education and research for post-graduate education and faculty development. The partnership between McMaster University and NWU is a successful result from the 3rd Annual International Interdisciplinary Summer Institute (2008). Dr. Mashudu Maselesele, Dean of Agriculture, Science, Technology and the Department of Nursing NWU, attended the Institute to learn more about the innovative problem-based learning model at McMaster and seek out a partnership between the two universities. A year later Dr. Maselesele returned to McMaster with the Vice-Rector, Professor NS Mashego (pictured right) to solidify their relationship through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding. The visit occurred simultaneously with the 4th Annual International Interdisciplinary Summer Institute (May 2009).





SOUTH AFRICA: UNIVERSITY OF VENDA – Mr. Khuliso Nemadzivhanani, University Registrar, visited the School of Nursing to collaborate student/faculty exchange initiatives. A preliminary meeting took place (August 14, 2008) at McMaster University to discuss collaboration initiatives for faculty exchange. A Memorandum of Understanding will be drafted by the University of Venda. Collaboration with University of Venda is in the exploratory stage.



SWITZERLAND: CONSUL GENERAL OF SWITZERLAND – Mr. Bruno Ryff, and Mr. Sebastian Hug from The Consul of Switzerland visited the International Health Office on October 29, 2008 to discuss faculty/ student exchange with Switzerland's universities. There is an interest in generating a mutual reciprocal exchange with the University of Basel and McMaster University for a one week nursing graduate student exchange opportunity. Mr. Hug will provide further details on implementing this collaboration for the summer of 2009.



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN EDUCATION – A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with the Institute for European Education when McMaster delegates- Dr. Mo Elbestawi, Dr. Luke Chan, and Mr. Tony Valeri- visited Dubai in July, 2008. In follow-up to their MOU, a delegation from the United Arab Emirates - Dr. Abbas Abdelkarim Ahmed, Dr. Amir Ali Hassan, Dr. Assim Sagahyoon, and Dr. Abdelmonem S. Hassan - visited McMaster University on October 2, 2008 to meet with the Dean's from Business, Engineering, Humanities, and Science. Preliminary discussions took place with Dr. Andrea Baumann to address building capacity in Nursing in Dubai.

“In the face of today’s global challenges of poverty, inequities, disease and epidemics, there is an increasing demand for dynamic health leaders with sound technical skills.”

- *Dr. Jong-wook Lee,*

former Director-General, World Health Organization

VISITING SCHOLARS

KOREA: DR. CHAUNG SEUNG KYO, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF NURSING, SEMYUNG UNIVERSITY

– Dr. Chaung teaches courses in fundamentals of nursing, health assessment and emergency nursing at Semyung University, Korea. Within the one year she was at McMaster her interests included problem-based learning, clinical simulation, body image (obesity and eating disorders), the Nurse Continence Advisor program and evidence-based research. Dr. Chaung examined the basic ideas for conducting cross-cultural, international and collaborative research projects for future partnerships.



KOREA: DR. YOON SOOKHEE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF NURSING, INJE UNIVERSITY

– Dr. Yoon teaches courses in nursing management, gerontological nursing and nursing policy at Inje University, Korea. Dr. Yoon spent one year at McMaster with interests in problem-based learning, nursing curriculum, healthcare and health promotion for the elderly. She focused on leadership training, advanced teaching methods, and other aspects of nursing education and practice.



PAKISTAN: DR. KHURSHID KHOWAJA, DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL SERVICES, AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

– Dr. Khowaja spent six months at the International Health Office working on the Ontario Safety Association for Community and Health Care Project. She performed her studies while traveling back and forth from Pakistan and Canada.



TURKEY: DR. SEYDA SEREN, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF NURSING MANAGEMENT, DOKUZ EYLUL UNIVERSITY

– Dr. Seren teaches nursing management leadership, patient safety and quality healthcare management at Dokuz Eylul University, Turkey. Dr. Seren's focus of research included nursing workforce planning and patient safety. She was at McMaster University for six months, September 2008 – February 2009.



TARGETED INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

3RD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY SUMMER INSTITUTE –

The International Health Office hosted a two-week workshop (June 9 – 20, 2008) of five nursing faculty from South Africa, United Arab Emirates and Korea. The majority of participants were in the preliminary stages of incorporating problem-based learning (PBL) and attended the Institute to exchange ideas and learn about McMaster's long standing experience with PBL. Participants' evaluations showed high ratings for learning and experiential objectives with the demonstration and interactive learning opportunities considered as the most valuable learning tools.

The International Interdisciplinary Summer Institute is an annual workshop hosted by the International Health Office that provides a unique opportunity for faculty from around the world to exchange ideas, share their experiences, and learn about the educational methodologies used at McMaster. It is interdisciplinary in nature engaging experts in curriculum development, student evaluation, e-learning and faculty development.



24th ANNUAL Q-METHODOLOGY CONFERENCE: A METHOD FOR MODERN RESEARCH –

Nursing Health Services Research Unit in collaboration with the International Society for the Scientific Study of Subjectivity (ISSSS) hosted the 24th annual Q-Methodology conference October 2-4, 2008 at McMaster University. Participants attended from various disciplines around the world. Q-methodology is a methodology used in research to assess a person's viewpoint and is used in both clinical and theoretical settings. The conference is held annually in different locations around the world for the members of the ISSSS.





PROVOST'S INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES AD HOC COMMITTEE (IAAC) –

The International Activities Ad hoc Committee met for a full year from April, 2008 to determine the international activities currently in progress across campus and address the way in which they are being communicated. The Provost and Vice President (Academic) Dr. Ilene Busch-Vishniac requested a report on the findings. The committee decided on a two-stage response, the McMaster University International Compendium and a Recommendations Report. A campus-wide examination of international activities currently in progress at McMaster was performed and all departments, schools and institutes were contacted. The compendium provides a snapshot of the broad and dynamic international activities ongoing within the university, highlighting partnerships established worldwide through various disciplines and program areas. The results depict the truly international nature of McMaster revealing its connection to over 100 countries, with more than 250 research-based activities and over 800 partnerships worldwide. Once the compendium was complete the committee developed their report on recommendations which highlights eight key components to enhance internationalization at McMaster University. Both documents have been submitted to the Provost for review and distribution. The documents will be used as a mechanism for coordinating campus-wide international activities with recommendations for the growth of McMaster internationally.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION COLLABORATING CENTRE (WHOCC) HEALTH HUMAN RESOURCES AND PRIMARY HEALTH CARE, McMASTER

UNIVERSITY – McMaster University School of Nursing has been a WHOCC since 1992; it is one of 44 satellite offices worldwide in the Global Network of WHOCCs for Nursing and Midwifery (GNWHOCC) development. The GNWHOCC works interdependently to strengthen capacity in education and research for nursing and midwifery. McMaster is primarily focused in capacity building for primary health care initiatives and health human resources development. Dr. Andrea Baumann, Centre Director meets annually with colleagues from the WHO and in collaboration with the regional office of the Pan-American Health Office (PAHO). She attended the annual meeting for the Global Network in Bangkok, Thailand June 22-25, 2008.

A discussion paper was submitted to the WHO on Primary Health Care in nursing (Baumann, A., Valaitis, R., & Kaba, A. , March 2009). The submission is entitled Primary Health Care and Nursing Education in the 21st Century: A Discussion Paper. The WHOCC annual progress report (2008) was submitted to the WHO April 23, 2009.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Through the vision of reinforcing McMaster's reputation in international health, our aim is to build on the current successes and create new opportunities for research and educational endeavours. The International Health Office's goals include:

- Enhancing our national and international profile;
- Increasing the Faculty of Health Sciences profile nationally and internationally to a strengthened position;
- Maximizing revenue opportunities that are consistent with the mission and vision of the faculty;
- Maximizing the collaborative nature of the faculty; and
- Maximizing the interdisciplinary nature of the faculty.



Annual Report

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