



Canadian Academy of Health Sciences
Académie canadienne des sciences de la santé

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Welcome to the CAHS Newsletter, your source for updates on activities of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

Visit us on the web at <http://cahs-acss.ca>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year! I hope yours will be a successful and fulfilling year.

I would like to suggest some New Year's resolutions that might resonate with Fellows of CAHS.

- I will commit to fully activate my CAHS Fellowship
- I will attend the 2015 Forum & Annual General Meeting on September 17 & 18
- I will attend a regional meeting of CAHS
- I will nominate an outstanding colleague to Fellowship in the CAHS
- I will volunteer to be a member of a CAHS assessment expert panel
- I will contact **John Cairns** john.cairns@ubc.ca **Jean Gray** jeangray@eastlink.ca **Tom Marrie** tmarrie@dal.ca **Carol Herbert** Carol.Herbert@schulich.uwo.ca **Sally Thorne** Sally.Thorne@nursing.ubc.ca **Kim Raine** kim.raine@ualberta.ca, or any other member of the CAHS Board or **Allison Hardisty** a.hardisty@utoronto.ca to suggest a topic for a major CAHS assessment
- I will encourage my Dean to look for ways to promote CAHS in my Faculty
- I will contact John Cairns john.cairns@ubc.ca with my ideas as to how CAHS can celebrate its 10th Anniversary during 2015

We are marking our 10th Anniversary this year and have now grown to an impressive 550 Fellows. The Board is working hard to increase the engagement of CAHS Fellows. I hope you will help to close the loop on these efforts by engaging more fully with CAHS.

Sincerely,
John Cairns MD, FRCPC, FRCP (Lond), FCAHS, FACC

SPOTLIGHT – BOARD UPDATES

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

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SECRETARY'S NOTE



This is the time of year to be thinking about nominating suitable

colleagues for induction in to Fellowship in 2015. You will find a revised process for this year, expanding the involvement of CAHS Fellows in a more active manner. We are especially hoping that Fellows in the major centres will give some thought to your colleagues in less central parts of Canada, including those who may not yet have a cadre of local Fellows ready to facilitate their nominations

Here you will also find updates on the upcoming Forum and Annual General Meeting to be held in Ottawa **SEPTEMBER 17 & 18, 2015**. You won't want to miss it, so mark your calendars now and plan to join us.

Ideas about making this Newsletter as informative and relevant as possible are always welcome!

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Sally Thorne

Sally.Thorne@ubc.ca

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The annual call for nominations for Fellowship in the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences is now open. This year, the nomination process has been changed to actively engage CAHS Fellows in the nomination of new Fellows. As a CAHS Fellow, **YOU** are asked to lead the nomination of colleagues, working with leaders in your institution to generate supporting letters and solicit the external letters essential to making the case for each nominee. We urge you to give some careful thought to who among your colleagues should be honored by Fellowship in the CAHS for their exceptional scholarly achievements and leadership. Please consider those with unique competencies who will enhance our capacity to address questions of importance to the health of Canadians - and importantly - are willing to serve the Canadian public in this way. A guideline has been developed to assist you in this task and is available on our website at <http://www.cahs-acss.ca/nominations/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact John Cairns at john.cairns@ubc.ca

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING

This Committee, affectionately known as SCAMP, has been meeting regularly by teleconference to ensure all aspects of planning for the Forum and annual meeting are well in hand. Following a call for expressions of interest, the Committee has welcomed two new members, **CHRISTIAN NAUS** and **GLORIA GUTMAN**. We are currently investigating alternatives for future meeting sites, initially Vancouver and Montreal. While we have enjoyed great meetings at the Chateau in Ottawa, we also want to respond to member requests to hold events in alternative locations from time to time.

ANNUAL DUES

You should all have received notification of annual dues payable. The 2015 annual dues for full members is an approximate 5% increase over last year. While registration fees cover the cost of the annual meeting and sponsor contributions cover the costs of our assessments, the operating costs of the CAHS are covered entirely by the dues paid by Fellows. This year's modest increase in dues completes the Board's 2-year plan of modest increases to ensure that operating costs are fully covered by our dues. In addition to renewing your Fellowship, you might consider making a donation to CAHS. A number of CAHS fellows have made one-time or annual donations, recognized by provision of an appropriate tax receipt, for special projects. If you have not received your annual dues notice, please contact Tom Bursey, Executive Director of the CCA, at tom.bursey@scienceadvice.ca

CANADIAN COUNCIL OF ACADEMIES

The CAHS is one of the member Academies (along with the Royal Society of Canada and the Canadian Academy of Engineering) of the Council of Canadian Academies (CCA). Since 2005, the CCA has been an independent, not-for-profit, organization that supports independent, science-based, authoritative expert assessments to inform public policy development in Canada www.scienceadvice.ca. The CCA has been funded during its first 10 years by a sizeable grant from the federal government and has conducted almost 40 assessments on topics ranging from "*Environmental Impacts of Shale Gas Extraction in Canada*" to "*The Future of Canadian Policing Models*". A significant proportion of these assessments have been of direct relevance to us in the Health Sciences, including such topics as "*Improving Medicines for Children in Canada*" and "*The Health Effects of Conducted Energy Weapons*". The reports have had significant impacts upon government policy development and have garnered widespread interest. The CCA has also provided valuable administrative expertise and contracted services to CAHS.

CCA and its Board have made a strong case to the Federal Government for renewal of its funding for the fiscal year 2015-16 and onward. Although there have been positive signals from several federal government ministries about a renewal, there will be nothing definite until the 2015-16 budget is released. This reality has required CCA to curtail its operations in a variety of ways, to ensure it would have no uncovered liabilities should there be no funding extension. CAHS has two members of the CCA Board (John Cairns and Carol Herbert), and along with the other Academies and Board members we have been working hard to support the case for renewal of funding. We

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hope that CAHS Fellows will do what they can through their academic and political contacts, to support the case for the renewal of funding. The CCA provides "Science Advice in the Public Interest". This investment of the federal government yields very high value for money spent and renewal is in the public interest of all Canadians.



Our thoughts are with CCA as it also copes with the sudden and unexpected death of **Tracey McKinlay** on January 19th. Tracey, mother of two, was Executive Assistant to the President, Corporate Secretary for the Board of Governors and Scientific Advisory Committee and a close collaborator with CAHS staff and executive members. She managed and coordinated activities of the Council as well as liaison with its partner Academies. Her loss will be deeply felt by the Council of Academies community.

FORUM AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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The topic for the 2015 CAHS Forum, to be held September 17th in Ottawa will be "Meeting the Dementia Challenge". With WHO's recent declaration of dementia as a public health priority, there is increasing recognition that dementia is a global disease, with a rapidly increasing prevalence and a staggering health, social, personal and financial impact. Although most industrialized countries have a national dementia strategy, at present Canada does not. Such a strategy would not only include accelerated and vigorous efforts in neuroscience and clinical trials, but also a coordinated approach involving technology, health care, community and long term services and supports, public health, housing and community services, and work within the justice and legal domains. Ultimately, coordinated cooperation among science, policy and political constituencies will be required to manage this public health priority in Canada.

The 2015 Forum on the Dementia Challenge will allow CAHS members to consider what it will take to meet the major dementia challenges facing the country - not only in advancing biological science efforts to find an effective treatment, but also how to equip ourselves if there is no effective treatment by 2025. The Forum will elaborate on the broad societal implications of dementia for Canada, including its epidemiology, demographic patterns, direct and indirect costs, community challenges, and opportunities for intervention across the full trajectory of dementia from onset to death. **CAROLE ESTABROOKS** and **HOWARD FELDMAN** are Co-Chairing the Forum and coordinating a full slate of topics and speakers toward what will undoubtedly constitute one of CAHS's most strategic and dynamic events.

Registration fees for the September 2015 event will be maintained at the 2014 rate. Fellows are encouraged to book accommodation at the Chateau Laurier early to enable us to sustain competitive pricing for this event.

DISTINGUISHED FELLOW

Distinguished Fellow is the highest honour awarded by the Academy. It is open to individuals who must meet the usual criteria for Fellowship, but whose accomplishments are considered of such high distinction that only a select few are worthy of this designation. Please submit recommendations to John Cairns john.cairns@ubc.ca

ARMSTRONG LECTURE

This prestigious award recognizes leadership & commitment to advance academic health sciences through academic service and innovation at local, national and international levels and achievements that are truly extraordinary. Please submit recommendations for future recipients of the Armstrong Lecture to Tom Marrie tmarrie@dal.ca or John Cairns john.cairns@ubc.ca

SHOWCASING FELLOW RESEARCH

A highlight of the annual meeting for many is the chance to hear a brief synopsis of the research of a selection of our Fellows. Feel free to send suggestions to Tom Marrie tmarrie@dal.ca or Carol Herbert Carol.Herbert@schulich.uwo.ca

REGIONAL MEETING UPDATES

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Coordinating a gathering need not involve much by way of time or resources - since getting together with fascinating colleagues is a reward in itself! We welcome the opportunity to feature reports from local meetings in our communications. If you are interested in helping to build a regional meeting please contact Allison Hardisty in the CAHS Secretariat for contact information for Fellows in your area:
a.hardisty@utoronto.ca

HALIFAX At a regional meeting of Fellows held at Dalhousie University this past fall, **TOM MARRIE**, Past President of CAHS, discussed the role of the Academy and the assessment process for the report “*Optimizing Scopes of Practice: New models of care for a new health care system*” to which he provided leadership during his Presidency. **INGRID SKETRIS**, who served as a member of the Expert Panel for that assessment, provided remarks on the Report and introduced Professor Ivy Bourgeault, University of Ottawa and project team lead, to present the report and its recommendations. Dr. Kathleen MacMillan, Director of the School of Nursing, at Dalhousie University led discussion and engaged with an audience of academics, students, Government decision makers, health care professionals and health professional regulators.

TORONTO The Toronto Chapter of the CAHS held its inaugural meeting in the U of T Department of Medicine on January 21st. Hosted by **LINDA RABENECK** and **WAYNE HINDMARSH**, with about 25 Fellows in attendance, the event featured conversations about preparing U of T responses to assessment questions in the Academy’s Standing Committee on Assessments pipeline and proactive responses cast in the Canadian context to new and emerging reports from other institutions. A multidisciplinary Toronto Chapter steering committee, including **DOROTHY PRINGLE**, **ROSS BAKER**, **HELEN POLATAJKO**, **BARRY SESSLE**, **THOMAS PARKER**, **MUHAMMAD MAMDANI** and **DENIS DANEMAN**, as well as co-Chairs RABENECK and HINDMARSH, has been formed to coordinate Chapter activities.

WINNIPEG **ALLAN RONALD** and **PETER NICKERSON** are in the beginning stages of planning a regional breakfast meeting in Manitoba, tentatively in April.

VANCOUVER A regional meeting is planned for British Columbia on February 16, 2015, at Vancouver General Hospital hosted by **GAVIN STUART**. Among the topics on the agenda, is the development of leadership capacity within the BC health care system, an exploration of suitable regional initiatives by BC Fellows, and the emerging Academic Health Sciences Network in B.C.

ASSESSMENT NEWS

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON ASSESSMENT UPDATE

An assessment proposal entitled “*Academic Recognition for Team Science: How to Optimize the Canadian Academic System*” has recently been approved by the Board, and a process is underway to launch this initiative. Early discussions are also underway to develop an assessment on *Community-Based Health Professional Practice Education*. Committee Chair **Jean Gray** is leading a process of SCA renewal, and coordinating work on an assessment procedures manual in partnership with Anne Gravel, the new half-time program director, and Judy Hall to expand upon the policy manual approved by the Board in 2013. Look forward to future updates.



December 26, 2014: The Governor General announced new **Order of Canada Appointments**.
OFFICERS OF THE ORDER OF CANADA



SHAF KESHAVJEE Shaf was recognized for his innovative contributions to thoracic surgery, notably in the development of a process that has improved lung transplantation worldwide



WENDY LEVINSON was recognized for her contributions to promoting effective communication between physicians and patients, as well as for her sustained leadership in academic medicine.

MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF CANADA



L-R: Alba DiCenso, John Kelton, Tom Marrie, Robyn Tamblyn, Jean-Claude Tardif

ALBA DICENSO, for her research in evidence-based nursing and her contributions to the development of nurse practitioners; **JOHN KELTON**, for his research into blood cell disorders and for his contributions to making Hamilton a hub for health science research; **TOM MARRIE**, for his contributions as an expert in infectious diseases, as a medical educator, and as Dean of medicine for both Dalhousie University and the University of Alberta; **ROBYN TAMBLYN**, for her contributions to patient safety, notably through her research on physician training, health system monitoring and prescription drug management; and **JEAN-CLAUDE TARDIF**, for his contributions to health care and to the advancement of cardiology research. Investiture will take place at a future date.



In September, 2014, **JOHN MCNEILL** was presented with a *Lifetime Achievement Award* by the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences. That same month, he was also presented with the first *Outstanding Pharmacy Alumni Award* by the University of Alberta's Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Left: John McNeill being presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by Academy President Bohuslav Ostadal.

Sincere congratulations to **CELESTE JOHNSTON** on being awarded the *Jeffrey Lawson Award for Advocacy in Pain in Children* from the American Pain Society.

Congratulations to **VIVEK GOEL** on his new appointment as *Vice-President, Research and Innovation* at the University of Toronto.

IN MEMORIAM



PATRICIA MARTENS The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences was saddened to learn of the death on January 10, 2015, of PATRICIA MARTENS. Pat was a Distinguished Professor in the University of Manitoba College of Medicine and a Senior Scientist as well as Past Director of the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy, an internationally-acclaimed centre using administrative data to study population health, health and social services and public health. She received the 2005 CIHR KT Award for Regional Impact for *The Need To Know Team*, a collaboration of regional health authorities, Manitoba Health and academics.

Her research focused on the health status inequities, including those experienced by Metis and First Nations populations. She was co-principal investigator in the groundbreaking pan-Canadian CIHR CNODES (Canadian Network for Observational Drug Effect Studies), and PI of the CIHR Programmatic grant, "PATHS Equity for Children." Pat was recognized for her research excellence by numerous awards, including the 2010 Manitoba YM/YWCA Woman of Distinction for Health & Wellness. She held a CIHR/PHAC Applied Public Health Chair (2008-2013), and was a Fellow (FILCA) of the International Lactation Consultants' Association. In 2013 she received the R.D. Defries Award (highest award of the Canadian Public Health Association for outstanding contributions in public health) and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. She became a Member of the Order of Canada (CM) in 2013. In 2014, Pat received the Justice Emmett Hall Laureate award for contributions to health services research and was elected to the CAHS Fellowship.

Feel free to send your news, including any inadvertently missed major recognitions, to Allison Hardisty at: a.hardisty@utoronto.ca

IMPORTANT DATES

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- **March 13, 2015:** NOMINATIONS FOR NEW FELLOWS
- **September 17 & 18, 2015:** CAHS FORUM AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, OTTAWA