



New Face in Medical Education

By Dr. Glen Bandiera, Director of Postgraduate Medical Education

There is a new manager of clinical education at St. Michael's Hospital! **Rebecca Zakoor** has taken on this role in addition to her duties as manager of the Health Sciences Library. Rebecca brings energy and enthusiasm to the job and is looking forward to providing leadership as education at SMH expands. Rebecca is responsible for overseeing the operations of all medical education programs at the hospital including the simulation program in collaboration with Drs. Bandiera and Chien, directors of postgraduate and undergraduate medical education, and Dr. Naik, director of simulation. She can be reached at x 6022



IPC Mentorship Program Provides New Learning Perspectives *By the IPC project management team*

Jacinda Frazer, a Registered Social Worker at St. Michael's Hospital, is enjoying the benefits of having a mentor this summer. The fact that her mentor is from a different discipline (Occupational Therapy) and a different hospital (Bridgepoint Health) has been an added-value exercise in demonstrating how interprofessional collaboration truly works.

"It's been extraordinary to see the evolution of interprofessional collaboration through this mentorship," says Frazer, who has six years experience as a social worker but is fairly new to a healthcare setting. "With my mentor's healthcare experience, she's been where I want to be and has shared a wealth of knowledge in administration, professional development and communication approaches."

The program, Interprofessional Collaboration Mentorship, is a pilot project spearheaded by St. Michael's Hospital in collaboration with Bridgepoint Health. The initiative is part of the Catalyzing and Sustaining Communities of Collaboration around Interprofessional Care Research Grant funded by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. The research grant is a partnership with the University of Toronto Office of Interprofessional Education and the Toronto Academic Health Sciences Network.

Over 90 healthcare professionals are participating in the pilot, running from June to September 2007. The program was designed to explore the role of mentorship as a strategy to embed interprofessionalism within the healthcare community. For participant **Stephen Hall**, Allied Health Specialist at Bridgepoint Health with a background in physical therapy, his work as a mentor helping his mentee, a nurse in acute care, attain goals around teaching has been rewarding. "It's been fascinating to go cross-discipline and cross-organization to assist someone with situations that transcend clinical boundaries. The snapshot and experiences of another profession's perspective lets both of us learn from each other's day-to-day realities."

To further the IPC focus, the program has also developed and is piloting LinkHealthPro, a web-based social networking tool that facilitates discussion forums, mentor-mentee matching and knowledge sharing throughout the healthcare community. Says Hall of his experience with the site: "LinkHealthPro has huge potential as a catalyst for encouraging IPC interaction." Executive co-sponsor of the project **Dr. Robert Howard** adds: "The IPC Mentorship Program is a very important benchmarking initiative. As we move to a deeper level of interprofessional collaboration within our system, it is important we have the right resources in place to encourage professionals of different disciplines to leverage their knowledge in an interdependent manner."

The IPC Mentorship Program is under the co-leadership of **Lianne Jeffs**, Director, Nursing/Clinical Research, St. Michael's Hospital and **Jane Merkley**, Chief Nurse Executive & Chief of Professional Affairs, Bridgepoint Health. St. Michael's Hospital's **Dr. Vince Chien** is the IT lead, and **Jacqueline Schleifer Taylor**, Director Health Disciplines Practice and Education, is co-leading the program's evaluation due out later this fall.



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A teaching hospital affiliated with the University of Toronto

Up close and personal in health disciplines education

By Kara Ronald and Kevin Taylor
Managers, Academic Affairs (Health Disciplines)

In 2007, SMH hosted the first **Health Disciplines Education Recognition Event**. The following selected profiles illustrate how talented our educators are:

2007 Distinguished Educator Award recipient **Maureen Riley** has spent over 12 years at St. Michael's Hospital. As the outpatient mobility program occupational therapy clinical specialist, she has expertise in the management of upper extremity injuries. She shares her passion for OT with students from across Canada, including her alma mater McGill University, offering at least two fieldwork placements each year. Maureen has tutored, lectured and instructed in the Department of occupational science & occupational therapy and is appointed as an instructor in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, an honour she has held for 8 years. She embodies the mission, vision and values of education at St. Michael's Hospital and has taken an active role in student coordination and interprofessional education.

Winner of the collaboration in education award, the **nuclear medicine** service started in the early 1970s and began their student program in 1983. Today the program is delivered through a partnership with the Michener Institute of Applied Health Sciences, with an average of 4 students in each clinical year. Student education has become a legacy for this team – most of their staff were students here themselves and have gone on to teach other students in turn. This profession began as a branch of endocrinology where thyroid diseases were diagnosed and treated using radioactive iodine. Since then it has become a specialty in its own right. This team of educators was selected for this award in recognition of their outstanding contribution as a group, with over 85% of their clinicians participating in the education of students and with the largest time contribution per clinician of all the health discipline groups.

Did You Know?

St. Michael's Hospital educates a large variety of health professionals every year. In addition to medicine and nursing education, learners from **23 health professions** receive clinical education at SMH. From April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007 SMH clinicians hosted **680 students** from local, provincial, national and international academic institutions. Over **350** dedicated clinicians provided over **10, 000** days of teaching this past year to this cohort of learners.

New Fellowship in Faculty Development

By Dr. Glen Bandiera, Director of Postgraduate Medical Education

Options for formal training in education increased again this year with the development of a joint fellowship in Faculty Development offered through the Wilson Centre for Research in Education at the University Health Network and the Centre for Faculty Development at St. Michael's Hospital. The two-year program requires participants to obtain a postgraduate degree in education and provides supervision, support, experience and mentorship in faculty development. Fellows will benefit from participation in the core research activities at the Wilson Centre and through involvement in the many programs designed and run by the CFD. The program is co-directed by **Drs. Karen Leslie and Glen Bandiera**. Application is through the WCRE website at <http://cre.med.utoronto.ca>

Questions and suggestions about postgraduate education at SMH are always welcome. They can be directed to Dr. Bandiera at ext. 6948 or Angella Chambers, Administrative Assistant, Clinical Education at Ext. 5475.

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