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Northern Passages

Newsletter of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine

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It may be cold and snowy across the North these days, but no one at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine is hibernating. Plenty has been accomplished, and much more is being planned, as we move through the new year.

NOSM building on success

Post Graduate Planning at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine

Building on the foundations and successes of the Northwestern Ontario Medical Program (NOMP) and the Northeastern Ontario Medical Education Corporation (NOME), planning is well underway for the integration and expansion of the residency programs under the Northern Ontario School of Medicine umbrella.

These changes come as a result of shifts in the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care funding. As of October 1, 2005, all funding provided by the ministry for programs and activities run by NOME and NOMP now flows through NOSM. From that date, NOMP ceased to exist. The change over date for NOME programs and activities is April 1, 2006.

Currently there are 42 training positions in the north – 30 in family medicine and 12 in specialty training. The upcoming CaRMS (Canadian Residency Matching Service) match up early in 2006 will see an addition of five specialty positions for Northern Ontario added to the list.

By 2009, when NOSM has its first MD graduates,

expansion planning will see an additional nine specialty positions added. This will give the School a grand total of 56 postgraduate residency spots. This exactly matches the annual medical school enrollment figures.

Training will be available in general internal medicine, general surgery, anesthesiology, pediatrics, psychiatry, orthopedic surgery, obstetrics and gynecology as well as family medicine, plus special skills in emergency medicine, family practice anesthesia, palliative care and care of the elderly, with opportunities in many other areas.

Residents in postgraduate programs will have access to the best of both worlds with the practical, hands on learner-centered programs of the north and the specialized rotations available in larger centers at our partner universities.

Supported by an excellent and well-established infrastructure, the postgraduate programs will continue to attract new graduates who wish to live, learn and remain in the north.

Ambitious agenda for Aboriginal Reference Group

"Ongoing, meaningful participation and communication with our Aboriginal partners is vital to the success of the Medical School. The voices of Aboriginal people will influence and strengthen us" (From: Our Aboriginal Partners statement)

The spirit and the wisdom of Aboriginal People are central to the Northern Ontario School of Medicine's mission. This living commitment is being carried on at all levels within the School, but is first and foremost with the Aboriginal Reference Group.

The Aboriginal Reference Group is chaired by Rosie Mosquito of the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation. It is comprised of representatives from urban Aboriginal organizations, First Nation Provincial Treaty Organizations, the Métis Nation of Ontario and Aboriginal medical students. The Group acts as a link to Aboriginal communities, and provides guidance and Aboriginal perspectives to the Founding Dean.

The Group has laid out an ambitious plan for the coming year to help ensure this vision remains a real one. The plan includes:

- continued guidance of the April, 2006 Aboriginal community student placements,
- initial planning for the follow up workshop to the 2003 *Follow Your Dreams* event, and
- an overall assessment of how well the School is living up to the recommendations of the 2003 *Follow Your Dreams* workshop.

Orpah McKenzie is NOSM's Director for Aboriginal Affairs. She says the School is doing well in most areas, but like most things in life,



Orpah McKenzie, NOSM's Director for Aboriginal Affairs, signing the Community Partnership Agreements. A total of 31 communities have joined with the School and agreed to host medical students in the Spring.

there is room for improvement. "Living up to our commitment to Aboriginal Peoples is an ongoing task, and one the School is working very hard to do."

One very real example of this commitment is the Aboriginal Community student placement coming up in Spring 2006. A total of 28 communities will be inviting NOSM's undergraduate students to live and learn in their various regions.

"This is going to be an exciting event for the School and for the communities," she said. "We're all as prepared as we can be, but it's going to be a learning experience for everyone, not just the students."

The Aboriginal Reference Group is looking to the Aboriginal organizations for appointment of Elders who will be available to the School to advise and provide guidance in the way of the Aboriginal peoples in a number of areas such as: curriculum development, admissions, student spiritual guidance for example. The Reference Group is also looking for a youth member to sit as a member, bringing ideas and views of the youth.

For further information, visit www.normed.ca or contact Orpah McKenzie, Director of Aboriginal Affairs: 807-766-7311, Orpah.McKenzie@NorMed.ca.

Upcoming NOSM Symposium

Times: 12:00 – 13:30 Eastern, 11:00 – 12:30 Central

The NOSM Symposium Series consists of presentations provided by nationally and internationally recognized experts. Presenters are selected by the Heads of the Clinical Sciences, Medical Sciences and Human Sciences Divisions at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine.

The Division Heads identify presenters that promote the exchange of information on key topical issues, developments and trends in medicine

Thursday, January 19, 2006
Speaker: Dr. Anthony Miller
Topic: Epidemiology

Thursday, February 16, 2006
Speaker: Dr. Bruce Holub
Topic: Nutrition Sciences

Thursday, March 23, 2006
Speaker: Dr. Lindsey Crowshoe
Topic: Aboriginal Issues

Thursday, April 20, 2006
Speaker: Dr. Craig McKinley
Topic: Telerobotic Research Program

and medical education. The Symposia Series enables communities, students, academics and researchers to network and explore opportunities to collaborate.

The NOSM Symposium sessions are presented live, via video conference and as webcasts. For further information go to www.normed.ca or contact Sherry Carlucci at 705-662-7257 or sherry.carlucci@normed.ca

Thursday, May 18, 2006
Speaker: Dr. Alan Shepard
Topic: History of Autopsy

Thursday, June 22, 2006
Speaker: Dr. Roger Strasser
Topic: NOSM Update

Les Affaires francophones à l'EMNO

Le secteur des Affaires francophones EMNO, en place depuis le mois de septembre 2005, réalise des progrès récents en ce qui a trait aux services destinés aux étudiants francophones et aux communautés d'expression française.

En tant que vice-doyen des activités professionnelles de l'EMNO, le Dr Marc Blayney joue un rôle de chef de file au niveau de la direction des programmes en matière de formation médicale post-doctorale, de recherche, de formation communautaire et professionnelle, ainsi qu'au niveau des affaires francophones. Danielle Barbeau-Rodrigue, la nouvelle coordonnatrice responsable des affaires francophones et de l'éducation interprofessionnelle, doit veiller à la coordination, la planification et la mise en œuvre les initiatives francophones et des activités d'éducation interprofessionnelle de l'EMNO. Elle est assistée par Suzanne Lambert-Giroux qui assure aussi la liaison entre l'EMNO et le Groupe témoin francophone (GTF).

Entre autres choses, le secteur des Affaires francophones a pour tâche de sensibiliser tout le personnel administratif et enseignant, ainsi que les étudiants aux particularités de la culture franco-ontarienne. Le secteur des Affaires francophones s'est vite mis à l'œuvre pour coordonner certaines activités au sein de l'École.

À la fin septembre, un historique du drapeau franco-ontarien a été distribué en guise de reconnaissance et de célébration du 30^e anniversaire du drapeau déployé pour la première fois au mât de l'Université de Sudbury en 1975. Le 25 novembre dernier, toute l'École a fêté la Sainte-Catherine en savourant de la bonne tire. Cette initiative a été grandement appréciée! Le bon goût de la mélasse-bonbon évoqua de beaux souvenirs de jeunesse pour tous ceux et celles qui ont vécu cette tradition francophone d'antan. Cette belle occasion a permis de faire découvrir une tradition francophone à des collègues et étudiants qui ne la connaissaient pas.

Afin de faire connaître ce nouveau secteur de l'EMNO dans la région nord-ouest de la province, le Dr Blayney et Danielle ont récemment visité le campus à Thunder Bay. C'était une première étape importante pour la mise en œuvre du projet de préparer les communautés et les services de santé du Nord en vue d'offrir des placements cliniques francophones aux étudiants de l'EMNO. Ils ont

donc pris l'occasion de rencontrer des médecins francophones qui pratiquent dans la région. De plus, ils ont rencontré les étudiants de



Dr. Marc Blayney

Danielle Barbeau-Rodrigue

Suzanne Lambert-Giroux

l'EMNO qui étudient à partir du campus à Thunder Bay et ont discuté des leurs attentes face aux services et à l'aide que le secteur des Affaires francophones peut leur offrir.

Le rôle du Groupe témoin francophone, un comité consultatif de l'EMNO composé de représentants communautaires, est de proposer certaines stratégies pour réaliser des initiatives francophones qui répondent davantage aux besoins des communautés francophones du Nord ainsi qu'aux étudiants eux-mêmes. À la fin novembre, le GTF a organisé une rencontre simultanée par vidéoconférence avec les étudiants de l'Est et de l'Ouest de l'EMNO. Cette rencontre a permis aux étudiants de faire la connaissance des divers membres du GTF qui travaillent dans le domaine des services de santé francophones. De plus, ils ont eu l'occasion d'exprimer leurs attentes et points de vue au sujet de la composante francophone de l'EMNO.

Le secteur des Affaires francophones prévoit coordonner plusieurs initiatives durant la nouvelle année. De plus, avec l'arrivée du module 105 qui traite surtout de questions de soins de santé au sein de la communauté francophone, le secteur des Affaires francophones, avec l'appui de ses partenaires, aura l'occasion d'immerger toutes les communautés de l'EMNO dans la francophonie. Les partenaires de l'EMNO en matière de services aux francophones comprennent les universités Laurentienne et Lakehead, le Consortium national de formation en santé, les Réseaux de santé du Moyen-Nord et du Nord, et le Réseau des intervenants-es francophones en santé et en services sociaux de l'Ontario.



34 years of outstanding achievement

The Northwestern Ontario Medical Programme (NOMP) began with a dream and with a belief that things could be better. From this beginning grew a rural medical training program that is a true Canadian success story.

The program known as NOMP began in 1972 as a partnership between the Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario Medical Societies, and McMaster University of Hamilton. The goals were simple: to improve the rural education of medical students, and to increase the number of physicians in Northern Ontario.

For over three decades NOMP has done just that. It began with one medical student and grew to an annual intake of approximately 125 undergrads per year.



Dr. Bill McCready

results speak for themselves.

"Over 50% of Family Medicine North's graduates are now practicing in rural communities. But even more telling, of the 162 residents who have graduated, 87.7% are still practicing today throughout NWO

communities and nearly 75% are active preceptors."

In 2001 and again in 2003 NOMP's Family Medicine Program won the *Society of Rural Physicians of Canada's* Keith Award for the most effective rural residency program in Canada. Its teachers have garnered all manner of

NOMP's basic approach back then was to be tenaciously regional, and to develop key allies in each of the various communities.

As Dr. Neelands humourously recalls, sometimes the right

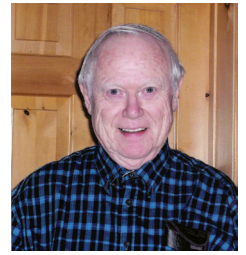
person turned out to be someone other than the obvious choice.

"Sometimes we ended up supporting the wrong guy! But you learn fast, and we always sorted it out quickly," he said. "The key then, and now, is the face-to-face contacts we made. This whole system only works with direct, loose mentoring."

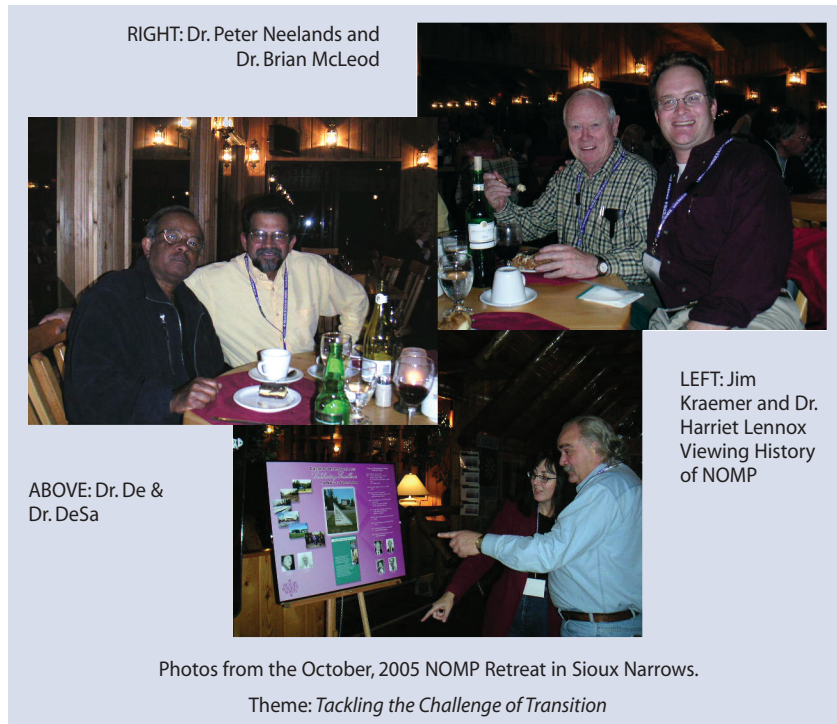
As Dr. McCready sees it this sort of "teacher-friendly, community centered" approach is essential as NOMP and NOSM become one. Dr. McCready recently accepted the position of Associate Dean, Clinical Affairs at NOSM.

"NOMP's strengths have been the integration of Family Medicine and Royal College specialists within the same organization, but with very little top down decision making," he explained.

"The challenge for us is to bring these strengths into a more necessarily structured organization like a medical school."



Dr. Peter Neelands



RIGHT: Dr. Peter Neelands and Dr. Brian McLeod

LEFT: Jim Kraemer and Dr. Harriet Lennox Viewing History of NOMP

ABOVE: Dr. De & Dr. DeSa

Photos from the October, 2005 NOMP Retreat in Sioux Narrows.

Theme: Tackling the Challenge of Transition

accolades, and the program has even produced the nation's top family medicine resident in 1993 and 1996.

Looking back on all these achievements Dr. Peter Neelands, NOMP's second Chairperson from 1974 to 1994, recalls the early days. Back then the mere suggestion of taking students out of the large urban medical schools and placing them in rural communities was a radical idea. And radical ideas sometime demanded new ways of thinking.

"We always had a clear vision of what we were doing," said Neelands, "Sometimes 'how' we accomplished things in those early days were, well, a bit unorthodox."

NOMP Chairpersons

Dr. John Augustine, NOMP's founding Chair, from 1972 to 1974.

Dr. Peter Neelands from 1974 to 1994.

Dr. Paul Humphries from 1994 to 1998

Dr. Bill McCready, NOMP's final Chair, from 1998 to 2005.

Both Drs. McCready and Neelands are confident the experience and skills NOMP has gained over the past 34 years will place NOSM in an excellent position when it comes to postgraduate education.

NOMECE

NOMECE

NOMECE

Things change ... things remain the same. It's a well-worn saying but particularly fitting for the medical education programs of the Northeastern Ontario Medical Education Corporation (NOMECE).



Miriam McDonald

NOMECE's flagship program – the Northeastern Ontario Family Medicine Program (NOFM) – celebrates its 15th anniversary in 2006. It has its roots in the 1970s when an increasing number of Ontario medical school students were looking for community-based learning experiences outside of the traditional academic centres.

Initially some short rotations were arranged in Sudbury, but it wasn't until the early 1980s, that the University of Ottawa offered a year-long residency in Sudbury for two residents.

Dr. John Mulloy, NOFM's first postgraduate Program Director remembers those early days. "In 1989 to 1990, the Sudbury group of clinical teachers, with the support of the Department of Family Medicine approached the Dean of Medicine, Dr. John Seely. The plan was to expand the intake of first-year family medicine residents by twelve residents at the University of Ottawa. The hook was that the expansion was to be based entirely in northeastern Ontario."

The proposals were eventually approved and in 1990, the Northeastern Ontario Family Medicine Program was born.

"I can only compliment the faculty who gave endlessly of themselves to make NOFM work in those early days," said Dr. Mulloy. "We shared the dream that help would come if they could 'train to retain' the residents 'in the north, for the north and by the north.'"



Casting demonstration, 2004/05 residents - Gary Peysar getting cast put on with Ortho Technicians at Sudbury Regional Hospital.

With the vision and support of Dr. Seely, the NOFM academic program was built through the dedicated efforts of Dr. Brian Rowe, Dr. Jane Cox, Dr. Greg Mosdossy and Dr. Bill McMullen. Joining the group in the construction were Dr. Jean Anawati of Sturgeon Falls, Dr. Al McLean of Sault Ste. Marie

and Dr. Eric Paquette of Timmins.

"Every day was an exciting adventure as together we created the innovative NOFM program. The creation of a brand new program where

one hadn't existed before was truly the opportunity of a lifetime" says Dr. Mulloy.

NOFM was initially governed by a steering committee, but in 1995, the committee incorporated into the not-for-profit Northeastern Ontario Medical Education Corporation (NOMECE). This new organization began to direct the operations of medical and health sciences professional training and clinical practice opportunities in northeastern Ontario.

Over the intervening years the breadth and scope of NOMECE's programs have grown. Under the direction of Miriam McDonald, CEO of NOMECE, programs like the Northeastern Electives Program were added to the medical education mandate.

"The feature that attracts our learners is our hands-on learning model offered in the unique environments of our northern communities," says McDonald. "Our founding pioneers believed that training physicians along side practicing clinicians right in northern communities would convince them to stay and practice in these communities – they were right."

Of the 165 NOFM graduates 110 have remained to practice in Northern Ontario. And 40% are now clinical teachers themselves."

McDonald says they always hoped the family medicine programs that were started in Northeastern and Northwestern Ontario would grow into a northern medical school.

Looking back over his 10 years as program director, Dr. Mulloy says there are some fantastic memories.

"Whether it was sitting in a teepee on a First Nations reserve for a Sunrise Ceremony, acting as a patient examiner in a practice exam with a resident, or meeting with the Ontario Ministry of Health to advance the case for a new northern medical school, I wouldn't trade a minute of it!"

"I was truly fortunate to be in the right place and the right time."

Changes for NOFM and NOMECE are on the horizon as all medical education across Northern Ontario comes together under one NOSM roof. And although it is a major change in program management, it is not a change in program concept or philosophy. The same driving principles that built NOMECE are also embedded in NOSM.

Things they are a-changing, even while remaining the same.



2001/02 Resident Academic Rounds Social. Lenka Snajdrova, Charis Kolari, Noel Corser, Randy Montag, Sarah Gower, Tracy Pella, Allison Small, Raj Grover, Michele Lucey.

Faculty profile: Thunder Bay Emergency Physician group

The 24 physicians that make up the Thunder Bay Emergency Physician group believe that teaching and clinical work are completely complementary. This is why every member of the Group is now an active faculty member of NOSM.

The Emergency Physicians of the Thunder Bay Region have come a long way over the last few years. Not long ago they were working in small groups at multiple hospitals with limited interaction. Hospital closures and amalgamations led to a period of complex transition and uncertainty. The opening of the Emergency Medicine Department at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre in February of 2004 finally provided one unified site with excellent facilities suited for providing state-of-the-art medical care, teaching, and research.

Today, the Emergency Physicians of the Thunder Bay Regional Health Science's Centre are a vibrant and dynamic mix of individuals from the Region and also from across the country.

They embrace the professional, recreational and cultural opportunities of Northwest Ontario, and are bringing this philosophy to



The above picture of a few of the members of the Thunder Bay Emergency Physician group (taken recently at the Emergency Department Christmas Party) **Top row** (left): Yevgeny Filanovsky, Andrew Affleck, Arnold Kim, Yen Chow, Troy Tebbenham, Dave Mutrie. **Bottom row** (left): Dave Wood, William MacGregor, Patrick Martel, Yana Simice.

their work at NOSM.

These physicians are setting a role model for NOSM students in how to live, practice and teach in the North – and most importantly how to have a great time doing it.

The Group has grown significantly over the past few years, with a major focus being the attraction of physicians who are looking to incorporate teaching into their everyday practice. They have developed an approach to medical education on a departmental level with individual teaching assignments being formally incorporated into their clinical schedule.

This allows an individual to start the day with a teaching session and then progress seamlessly to a half clinical shift in the afternoon, reflecting the group's belief that teaching and clinical work are complementary core activities of equal value.

Building on their past success, the group is looking forward to significantly expanding their teaching commitment with the addition of the second year curriculum in the fall and are preparing for their involvement in the developing spectrum of NOSM's rural and northern focused residency programs.

Inaugural Year events continue throughout the coming year

The School's Inaugural Year celebrations continue in 2006 and all Northerners are invited to the party!

Winter will see the official opening of the School's research laboratories happen. The state-of-the-art research labs combine offer over 15,000 square feet of modern research space and will be available to NOSM senior faculty, graduate students, Northern Ontario researchers, scientists and technicians.

The "open-concept" labs differ from most research and educational institutions. These will better allow collaboration between those utilizing the facility. Research performed in the labs will focus on areas such as biomedicine, epidemiology, psychology, social sciences, drug discovery (with medicinal chemists), and toxicology amongst many others.

The new year provides NOSM the perfect opportunity to formally introduce some of its Francophone initiatives to the North that came out of NOSM's Francophone Symposium this past May. In addition, the School will also present some of its Aboriginal initiatives planned for the coming year. One significant

event will be orientation sessions at both the West and East campuses for the Aboriginal Community Coordinators.

In February, NOSM will take part in *Heart and Stroke Month* as it partners with the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation. Then in March/April, the School will host a Community Open

House, inviting the public to come out and discover the behind-the-scenes happenings of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine.

For more information on these and other events, click on the Inaugural Year Events section on www.normed.ca, or contact Joey McColeman @ (705) 662-7275.

Collaborative micro-video project launched

Using videos to teach clinical procedures is nothing new, but high production costs have meant there is a scarcity of quality material available for learners.

Now, thanks to some innovative developments brought to NOSM by Dr. David Topps, Director of eLearning, the costs and "time-to-market" can be greatly reduced.

A team of emergency physicians from Sudbury Regional Hospitals, led by Steve Socransky, will be working with Joyce Helmer's faculty development group and the eLearning team at NOSM, to produce some short videos to help with teaching basic medical procedures.

As well as local collaboration efforts, this group is also actively forming bridges with other teams across the country who are working in this area. A collaborative agreement is already in place with Dalhousie University's Common Currency Project, the University of Calgary, and the University of Alberta. Several other organizations have expressed a strong interest.

Anyone interested in finding out more about this project is welcome to contact. Joyce Helmer, Director of Faculty Development, phone: 705-662-7261, email: helmerj@normed.on.ca. Dr. David Topps, Director of eLearning, 705-662-7226, david.topps@normed.ca. Further information is available at: www.pocketprof.org/pocketsnips.

Regional communities show strong support

Bursary Fund update

Sometimes we get more than we ask for. On the best of occasions, we get four times more. So it was with the Town of Espanola.

Like all other communities across the North, Espanola was asked to contribute to the Northern Ontario School of Medicine Bursary Fund Campaign. The suggested contribution was \$5,000 or one dollar per resident.

Mayor Bernie Gagnon and council responded with a \$20,000 commitment!

Strength in numbers was the philosophy behind the donation made by several doctors in Marathon, who chose to combine their resources to create one large bursary for medical students. Similarly,



Espanola Mayor Bernie Gagnon

the psychiatrists of the North Bay Psychiatric Hospital pledged \$10,000, with the intent to give more in the future.

In Atikokan, Dr. Stephen Arif initiated a memorial bursary to honour his colleague, the late Dr. Keith Wilkes. He continues to grow this bursary through promotion to the friends and associates of Dr. Wilkes in Atikokan, Terrace Bay and several other communities touched by Dr. Wilkes.

These examples provide a small glimpse at the donor activity in the regional communities of Northern Ontario. Individuals, businesses and municipalities from Parry Sound to Kenora are investing in medical students with the shared vision of improved healthcare for

Northern Ontario.

The support demonstrated by regional communities is all the more noteworthy because the medical students are not yet visible in them. NOSM students will begin clinical placements in the more rural and remote areas of Northern Ontario in April. Still, these communities have eagerly and generously come forth to demonstrate the conviction that is felt for the School and its students.

Many of the Charter Class students openly and enthusiastically discuss their goals of living and working in Northern Ontario. This is encouraging news for residents affected by a shortage of physicians. The Northern Ontario School of Medicine, with its commitment to graduate physicians with an affinity for practice in the North, is doing its part to solve the physician shortage problem.

Criteria for faculty appointments, promotion, and tenure at NOSM

Faculty appointments, promotions and tenure policies and procedures are essential tools for maintaining high education standards at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. However, while research is traditionally viewed as the most essential form of scholarly activity, NOSM is taking a broader perspective on the achievement of its faculty members.

At NOSM, scholars include those academics who participate in student instruction, institutional administration and professional development activities in addition to conducting research and publishing their results in peer reviewed journals. This is consistent with the School's definition of scholarship, which has been expanded to include the synthesis, application and instructional aspects of discovery.

To help account for this broader range of academic activity the Promotion and Tenure Committee will be taking into account research, teaching, clinical contributions and administrative service as essential components of any recommendations to the Dean.

The first step in achieving this goal is to develop a method for gathering data about faculty contributions from various perspectives and to insure that this process is continuous. A well-designed Portfolio will accomplish this task and is essential if contributions by the faculty are to become an important part of their faculty appointment.

The Portfolio is a collection of materials documenting instructional activity and scholarship—much like an artist's portfolio. Each of

the sections represents a major arena in which faculty members are likely to demonstrate contributions as educators and administrators.

As faculty members have different roles and responsibilities, the picture presented by the portfolio may vary. The common element is that the picture can be viewed, reviewed, updated and valued as evidence of scholarship.

The School is developing tools, including an electronic portfolio, to assist faculty in preparing their material for recognition of scholarly activity. It may be viewed as a guide or checklist, but is not meant to be prescriptive.

Some of the tools will include elements that overlap with typical curriculum vitae (e.g., grants and publications). Where faculty members choose to place this information will vary depending on the individual and what best describes their accomplishments. These tools are meant to include multiple areas of scholarship and provide faculty with

extensive lists of examples. However, it is not expected that faculty will necessarily include all sections in their portfolios.

For more information please contact Dr. Tim Zmijowskyj, Division Head, Clinical Sciences, 705-662-7215 or email: tim.zmijowskyj@normed.ca

The Faculty Member's Portfolio Guide

1. Overview of Your Role as an Educator
2. Scholarship
 - a. Curriculum Development
 - b. Publications
 - c. Conference Presentations
3. Grants and Contracts
4. Educational Activity
 - a. Instructional Activity (including assessment of learners)
 - b. Adviser/Mentor
 - c. Administration: Leadership and Service
 - (1) Administration of Programs and Committees
 - (2) Service and Membership on Committees
5. Effectiveness of Instructional Activity
 - (1) Teaching Activity
 - (2) Adviser/Mentor
 - (3) Administration: Leadership and Service
6. Clinical service, Contributions and Awards
7. Honors and Awards
8. Professional and Faculty Development Activities
9. Additional Activities

Looking back to 2005 - a year of firsts!

JANUARY

- Submission of second accreditation Database to LCME/CACMS.
- NOSM leadership meet with Minister for Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) George Smitherman.
- Faculty Development program begins.

FEBRUARY

- Medical School launches Bursary Fundraising Campaign to support medical students.
- Board of Directors approved the revised Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles.

MARCH/APRIL

- The School receives its second accreditation visit from LCME/CACMS. All reports are positive.
- Interview process for Charter Class begins. Nearly 400 potential students are interviewed from approximately 2,100 applicants.

MAY

- Over 20 members of the NOSM team attend the 2005 Medical Education Conference in Saskatoon. This is the first time NOSM has attended this conference as an accredited medical school.
- More than 160 delegates attend a Symposium in Sudbury entitled, "Francophones and the Northern Ontario School of Medicine."
- First round offers of places in the NOSM Charter Class are sent out to student applicants.
- NOSM signs an affiliation agreement between Sault Area Hospital and the School – the first of many across the North.

JUNE

- The LCME/CACMS confirm ongoing accreditation of NOSM.

- Of the 56 students offered acceptance to NOSM's Charter Class, 60% accept.
- Aboriginal community placement pilot begins.

JULY

- Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) supports the NOSM Bursary Fund. The NOHFC will match the eligible donations received by NOSM through Lakehead and Laurentian Universities to a total of \$5 million.



Dr. Roger Strasser welcomes Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty to the Grand Opening of Canada's newest medical school.

AUGUST

- New buildings near completion, offices move over.
- Staff and faculty numbers continue to grow. NOSM is one of the fast growing employers in the North,
- Dr. Marc Blayney is appointed to the position of Vice Dean, Professional Activities.
- Charter Class selection deemed a success, with

80% of the students having lived 10 years or more in Northern Ontario. Over 11% are Aboriginal students and 17% are Francophone.

- Community Welcome Barbecues at Lakehead University and Laurentian University.

SEPTEMBER

- September 13. **Grand Opening of the School.** "The eyes of Canada and the world will be on us."
- Accreditation Secretariat Visit Team comes to the School. They find that NOSM has satisfactorily addressed every one of the issues identified earlier.
- Dr. Judith Woodsworth, President of Laurentian University takes on the role of Chair, of the NOSM Board of Directors and Dr. Fred Gilbert, President of Lakehead University, becomes Vice Chair following his three year term as Chair.
- NOSM Academic Council holds its first meeting for the new academic year.

OCTOBER

- Funding for the NOMP and NOMECE programs begin to flow through NOSM.
- NOSM takes over from NOMP as the agent of McMaster in Northwestern Ontario.
- NOMP holds a retreat which celebrates 34 years of outstanding achievements.
- Public announcement and ceremonial signing of the affiliation agreement between the Timmins and District Hospital and NOSM.

NOVEMBER

- The report "Creating a Sustainable Health Research Industry in Northern Ontario" is unveiled via a seven-site videoconference media event.

DECEMBER

- The NOSM family takes a well-deserved rest, fully recharging for the coming year of excitement.

Upcoming professional development opportunities at NOSM

Teachers Practice Session (TPS)
January 10, 2006

Tutor Training: Problem Based Learning
January 13, 2006

NORTH Network: Telemedicine Workstation
January 17, 2006

Power Searching with Google for Health Professionals
January 20, 2006

Teachers Practice Session (TPS)
January 24, 2006

Medical Sciences Seminar Series
January 25, 2006

Northern Ontario History of Health and Medicine Group
January 27, 2006

NOSM Module 105 Tutorial
January 27, 2006

Palliative Care Rounds: Aboriginal Rounds
January 31, 2006

Critiquing an Article
February 7, 2006

Searching MEDLINE: Twelve Skills for Busy Health Professionals
February 10, 2006

Teachers Practice Session (TPS)
February 14, 2006

NORTH Network: Medical Peripheral Devices
February 17, 2006

Technology – Circuit Board
February 21, 2006

Structured Clinical Skills Tutorial
February 22, 2006

Medical Sciences Seminar Series
February 22, 2006

Teachers Practice Session (TPS)
February 28, 2006

Palliative Care Rounds: Francophone Rounds
February 28, 2006

Consumer Health Resources: MEDLINEplus and the Canadian Health Network
March 10, 2006

Teachers Practice Session (TPS)
March 14, 2006

NOSM Module 106 Tutorial
March 17, 2006

Northern Ontario History of Health and Medicine Group
March 21, 2006

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