Global Engagement Initiatives: Development of McMaster’s Global Hub

One of the primary goals of *Forward with Integrity* is to enhance the connections between McMaster and the communities we serve, locally, provincially, nationally and around the globe. The *McMaster Model for Global Engagement*, launched in 2016, develops this theme and outlines the key principles and strategic elements, based on the transformational model, that will inform the development of international activities at McMaster. The model recognizes the University’s obligations to develop research and education activities that foster cooperation for peaceful coexistence and mutual benefit, share the University’s expertise in research and education, and promote the civic mission of the institution to engage in education and knowledge generation for the benefit of society.

An important component of this model is to build global engagement into the student experience, both through the development of initiatives that enable international student mobility, as well as the inclusion of global perspectives within the curriculum. Given that the numbers of international students on our campus are growing, ensuring that appropriate infrastructure is in place to support the success of such students and ensure that they find a welcoming home within our diverse student body, is also imperative. This important work has been taken up across the University and is being led by the Office of International Affairs in collaboration with the Student Success Centre, the School of Graduate Studies, the Global Health Office and the President’s Office. A number of the elements being developed are outlined below.

Student Mobility and Global Experiences
In addition to the exchange and study abroad experiences available within specific programs or areas, the University is in the process of creating more opportunities for McMaster students to travel and work abroad. Some recent initiatives include:

• The launch of a new pilot program in partnership with the McCall MacBain Foundation that will give students an opportunity, during the 2019-20 academic year, to develop strong intercultural competencies, learn a new language and study/work abroad. Fellowships of up to $23,500 will be awarded to 10 students; McMaster is one of only two Universities selected to participate in this pilot program.

• The expansion of the Student Success Centre’s career and employment portfolio in partnership with a number of Faculty Careers and Experiential Education offices. This expansion is intended to connect more undergraduate and graduate students with global experiences such as working, volunteering and researching abroad.

• The launch of a new Global Experience Award (GEA), which aims to promote the value of global engagement and the development of intercultural awareness, and is available to both undergraduate and graduate students to support an international experience.

McMaster Global Hub
In the fall of 2018, the first phase of the McMaster Global Hub was launched: [https://global.mcmaster.ca/](https://global.mcmaster.ca/). Led by the Office of International Affairs, with the support of a
number of other campus partners, the hub is a central, virtual gateway to help students, faculty, staff, alumni and community partners navigate and find information about McMaster’s global engagement model, activities, supports, opportunities, news and events. The Hub includes an online International Compendium, a searchable showcase of the University’s international activities, which highlights research and scholarly activities with global involvement and impact. Consultations with the Faculties and other key stakeholder groups across campus are continuing to gather feedback and plan the development of Phase II of the Hub.

**MacGlobal**
In support of McMaster’s vision and mission to make global engagement in education and knowledge generation an integral part of its identity and presence in Canada and the world, the University recently held the inaugural MacGlobal event, a campus-wide showcase of McMaster’s global engagement activities, hosted over 18 days and encompassing International Education Week. More than 40 workshops, seminars, lectures, and events were hosted by participating McMaster Faculties, research centres, departments and student organizations, demonstrating the breadth of our collective commitment to global engagement, addressing global issues and fostering global citizenship.

Highlights of MacGlobal included information sessions hosted by the McMaster Student Success Centre, in partnership with Global Affairs Canada, on work abroad opportunities available in more than 20 countries through the International Experiences Canada program; presentations on the work of international research partnerships; a symposium highlighting the Global Health exchange program with the University of South-Eastern Norway, field practicum opportunities for scholarly papers, as well as faculty and student mobility; film screenings and discussions of international films including ‘Fire at Sea’, the 2016 Italian documentary by Gianfranco Rosi on the European migrant crisis, and ‘I am Rohingya: A Genocide in Four Acts’, directed by Yusuf Zine; and a panel discussion on ‘Water – International Threats’ hosted by the McMaster Water Network and the Office of International Affairs, which provided students with an opportunity to learn about the range of water-related research themes being explored at McMaster, as well as water issues around the world.

**International Students**
Over the last couple of years the University has put in place additional programming to support our growing international student population, focusing both on transition/student life, as well as academic and career supports. New staff have been hired to act as program coordinators for both undergraduate and graduate international students, and the University also now has an intercultural affairs advisor, immigration consultant, and success coach. Additional programming to welcome international students to our campus and prepare them for student life has also been launched and work on this will continue over the coming years.

**Next Steps**
The focus on Global Engagement will continue and intensify over the next few years. The launch of Phase I of the Global Hub is an important milestone and I look forward to the development of Phase II, as well as the growth of McMaster’s international research and exchange partnerships and the opportunities they will yield for the internationalization and engagement of our campus.
CAMPUS UPDATE

Research

McMaster named Canada’s most Research-Intensive University for the Second Year in a Row
For the second consecutive year, McMaster has been named Canada’s most research-intensive university in the annual ranking of the country’s Top 50 Research Universities. McMaster researchers brought in $379.9 million in total sponsored research income – up more than $25 million from last year, according to the 2018 Research Infosource rankings. In research intensity, the University continued to outperform its peers, averaging $434,700 per faculty member, up from last year and more than double the national average.

Seventeen McMaster Researchers included in 2018 Highly Cited Researchers List
Seventeen McMaster researchers have been included on the 2018 list of the world’s most cited researchers — 15 from the Faculty of Health Sciences and two from the Faculty of Science. The Highly Cited Researchers list, compiled by Clarivate Analytics, recognizes science and social science researchers whose papers rank in the top one per cent of citations for field and year in Web of Science, a citation index.

The McMaster researchers are:
- Altaf Arain, School of Geography and Earth Sciences
- Jan Brozek, Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact
- Stuart Connolly, Department of Medicine
- Mark Crowther, Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine
- P. J. Devereaux, Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact
- John Eikelboom, Department of Medicine
- Gordon Guyatt, Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact
- Roman Jaeschke, Department of Medicine
- Flavio Kapczinski, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neuroscience
- Stuart Phillips, Department of Kinesiology
- Walter Reinisch, Department of Medicine
- Holger Schünemann, Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact
- Kristian Thorlund, Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact
- Jeffrey Weitz, Department of Medicine
- Gerard Wright, Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Science
- Salim Yusuf, Department of Medicine

McMaster Researcher named Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science
Daphne Maurer, Professor Emeritus and Distinguished University Professor in McMaster’s Department of Psychology, Neuroscience and Behaviour, has been named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for her ground-breaking research on the development of vision in human infants.
McMaster joins Canadian Nuclear Isotope Council
McMaster has joined a coalition of Canadian science, healthcare, and nuclear sector organizations as part of the Canadian Nuclear Isotope Council (CNIC). The CNIC’s mandate is to ensure that Canada remains a world leader in the production of medical and industrial radioisotopes by raising awareness and supporting long-term policies at the domestic and international levels. Other members include Bruce Power, CPDC, Cameco, OPG, the Canadian Association of Nuclear Medicine, BWXT and SNC Lavalin.

Federal Health Minister announces Research on Gender-Based Violence
Two federal cabinet ministers visited McMaster recently to announce a grant for research evaluating positive parenting initiatives, in a drive to help end gender-based violence.

Federal Health Minister Ginette Petitpas Taylor, along with Minister of Seniors Filomena Tassi, delivered the news that researchers at McMaster’s Offord Centre for Child Studies will lead the $3.4 million study over the next five years.

New Acquisition offers Further Insight into the Legacy of Bertrand Russell
Newly acquired records are providing insight into the International War Crimes Tribunal, and also shedding light on many other aspects of Bertrand Russell’s life, work and legacy. They are part of the latest acquisition of materials to be added to the University Library’s Bertrand Russell Archives, the university’s largest and most heavily used research collection.

Teaching and Learning

Open-Access Textbooks
With support from McMaster and a $15,000 grant from eCampusOntario’s Open Textbook initiative, Catherine Anderson and her colleagues in the MacPherson Institute and the Faculty of Humanities created Essentials of Linguistics, an introductory linguistics textbook available to everyone online.

Urban Placemaking takes Students outside the Classroom and into the Community
Taught by Jackie Brown and Rosalind Pfaff, two McMaster Arts & Science graduates, Urban Placemaking is a one-unit learning module that explores the collaborative process of animating public and private spaces to strengthen the social and cultural fabric of cities. Offered by the Arts & Science and Integrated Science programs, it’s one of a range of interdisciplinary experiential courses that take students outside of a typical classroom setting.

MBA students will take Research to Market at new DeGroote Clinic
Opening in January at DeGroote’s Ron Joyce Centre, the new Clinic will help with the commercialization of McMaster’s vast repository of research.

Participating MBA candidates will search for work that offers social or economic value, and bring their findings to a panel of clinic members to debate and vote on. If approved by the majority, DeGroote MBA students will work to help transform the research into a viable business. This is the first site in what will become an interconnected network in Southern Ontario.
**Employability of McMaster Students**
McMaster is one of the top five Canadian universities — and in the top 100 worldwide — when it comes to producing employable graduates, a new study says. The University jumped more than eight spots to the 93rd position in the QS Graduate Employability Rankings for 2019, published this fall.

**Global and Community Engagement**

**Inaugural Award of the President’s Award for Community-Engaged Scholarship**
Two teams of campus and community partners have been named the inaugural recipients of the President’s Award for Community Engaged Scholarship. The teams are being honoured for their community-based research initiatives; the *Grand River Mohawk at McMaster* project, aimed at preserving a unique dialect of the Mohawk language; and *We are Not the Others*, focused on giving voice to the challenges faced by immigrant women in Hamilton.

The President’s Award for Community-Engaged Scholarship recognizes teams of campus and community representatives who have demonstrated a commitment to initiating and supporting excellence in community-campus research initiatives. The Award honours those projects that value the expert knowledge and passion that members of the community have about their communities and issues affecting them, foster ongoing collaboration between University and community partners on how to better understand and consider the issues identified as priorities by local communities, and involve research, teaching and service with community members and partners for the public good within the local community.

The award is available for teams with a minimum of one faculty member and one community representative engaged in an initiative that has been established and in existence for at least a year.

**New Grant Honours Memory of First Indigenous Woman to Graduate from McMaster**
In 1935 Marjorie Anderson became the first Indigenous woman to graduate from McMaster. Born in Ohsweken, Ontario in 1913, Anderson, one of 10 children, went to university as a French major at a time when very few of her peers were even considering post-secondary education.

A new grant named in her honour is helping Indigenous students pursue post-secondary education at McMaster. Established in 2017 as part of McMaster’s response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s report, the Marjorie Anderson Academic Grant for Indigenous Students awards up to $80,000 ($20,000 per year) to Indigenous students from the Six Nations of the Grand River or the Mississaugas of the New Credit starting their first year at the university.

**Student Prototype to Provide Support to Children with Autism**
As a project sponsor for the Health Leadership Academy’s Innovation by Design course, Dr. Stelios Georgiades has been working with five undergraduate students, Tiffane Anandarajan, Kohilan Selvakumaran, Devin Glim, Theebha Prethipan, and John Vu. With the guidance of Dr. Georgiades and the Health Leadership Academy, the group used design thinking — a user-centred approach to problem solving — to address the lack of services for children with autism.
The students’ prototype of a web portal for parents of children with autism was later used at a global meeting of autism experts as a template for creating an online post-diagnosis resource for parents.

**International Student Team wins Prestigious Automotive Engineering Design Award**

A collaborative team that includes students from McMaster’s Automotive Engineering Technology program recently won a first-place award at the prestigious Partners for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering Education (PACE) Annual Global Forum.

The team won the road test competition with their Personal Urban Mobility Access (PUMA) project, which took two years to design, manufacture, assemble and test.

**McMaster Medical Students hold Teddy Bear Clinics to Teach Children about Health**

McMaster medical students have held four teddy bear clinics at the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara since fall 2017. The students use teddy bears to let children role-play medical scenarios, learning about health in a safe and comfortable environment. The clinic incorporates health promotion, including dental care, physical well-being, mental health, nutrition, hand hygiene, in addition to aspects of routine doctors’ visits and hospital settings.