Welcome to the January 2017 edition of McMaster Highlights: Hamilton Edition, the monthly e-newsletter keeping you up to date on what's happening at McMaster.

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McMaster President Patrick Deane met with Hamilton City Council's General Issues Committee last week to provide an update on the many city-building initiatives that are underway with the University.

Deane highlighted the most recent Hamilton university partnerships including the Biomedical Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing Project Centre (BEAM) at the McMaster Innovation Park, raising the City's profile and McMaster research to international leaders at the Americas Competitiveness Exchange tour in October, and the new CityLab collaboration, which will bring city staff, faculty and students together to lead research in areas of interest and of need to the community.

He also talked about the importance of continuing to find new ways to retain University graduates in Hamilton. Deane discussed the impact of McMaster's downtown facilities city, including the David Braley Health Sciences Centre, One James North and The Forge entrepreneurial centre on James Street.

"The City has done a great job in creating the type of community and lifestyle that attracts young talent," Deane told the committee. "It's fair to say that as more of our students discover everything Hamilton has to offer that their enthusiasm to work and live here increases."

Deane discussed the impact of McMaster's downtown facilities city, including the David Braley Health Sciences Centre, One James North and The Forge entrepreneurial centre on James Street.

"I believe that our relationship continues to grow stronger and that together we're being even more ambitious about what we can accomplish."

Councillors had the chance to ask questions with many focussing on the success of current partnerships and the potential to find new ways for the City and the University to work together to help strengthen Hamilton. Mayor Fred Eisenberger commented that whenever he travels on city business, people know about McMaster and he wants to find ways to build on those connections to help diversify and expand Hamilton's economy.

For more information, click here.
A pilot project approved by Hamilton City Council will foster collaboration by bringing city staff, faculty and students together to lead research in areas of interest and of need to the community. The pilot, aptly named CityLab Hamilton, will be jointly administered by McMaster University, the City of Hamilton, Mohawk College and Redeemer University College.

"The team of people brought together to represent each post-secondary institution and City Hall has congealed fabulously well," says Associate Vice-President (Faculty), Susan Searls Giroux. "We all share a passion for our students and for our city. The sense of common purpose enabled us to stay at the table, stay strong in spirit and work through the challenges that such a complex collaboration invariably entails."

As part of their studies, cross-disciplinary and potentially cross-institutional teams of students would earn credits towards their degree in each of their respective institutions by applying their skills by working alongside city staff on community-building projects.

"We feel that the benefits to students are myriad: they will experience the thrill and the challenge of working on real world problems with real world consequences; they will be able to apply all they’ve learned in the classroom to real-time situations that will further boost their intellectual acumen and their confidence; and they will work in diverse interdisciplinary and inter-institutional teams where they will learn how to collaborate, listen and learn from each other and community members, resolve issues creatively and compassionately and become more mature and more resilient young men and women in the process," Giroux adds.

The pilot will be based within the former Canadian Football Hall of Fame within the City Hall precinct following a retrofit to create academic space and proper accessibility. McMaster’s faculty and students, as well as its postsecondary partners, already do a lot of community-based research - and this initiative will expand our community work in a more coordinated and collaborative way.

**McMaster Three Minute Thesis Competition showcases graduate research**

McMaster’s 2017 Three Minute Thesis Competition (3MT) will be happening on Thursday, February 23. Graduate students will have just 3 minutes to present complex research in an engaging, accessible, and compelling way to a panel of non-specialist judges from campus and the Hamilton community.

The 3MT is an opportunity to let the world know about the important and innovative research contributions made by McMaster’s graduate community. The competition also provides an opportunity for students to refine communication skills that can be transferred to diverse careers, within or beyond academia.

Four preliminary heats run throughout the competition day, with the first beginning at 9 a.m. The top participants from each heat will compete in the final at 4 p.m. All heats take place at the David Braley Health Sciences Centre in downtown Hamilton. The competition is open to the public.

The winner of the final heat will represent McMaster at the Ontario Provincial Final at the University of Waterloo in April, as well as receive the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Communicating Research and a cash prize. Four runners-up also will receive the Dean’s Award and cash prizes.

For more information, click [here](#).
Hamilton physician Bill Walsh was a 'doctor's doctor' and co-founder of McMaster medical school

One of the five "founding fathers" of McMaster's Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine, died on Jan. 7 at age 92.

Leading Hamilton physician William Walsh was both vital to ensuring his medical colleagues in the city embraced the medical school and, as assistant dean, he was a key member of the team that came up with McMaster's pioneering curriculum of small group, problem based learning.

"Dr. Bill Walsh's immense impact on the foundation of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine cannot be overestimated," said Paul O'Byrne, dean and vice-president of the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Peter Dent, professor emeritus of pediatrics, remembered Walsh as a "doctor's doctor". "He was a role model, the kind of doctor that everyone would like to have, as he had a confidence that you could trust," Dent said.

For more information, click here.

McMaster University student named Rhodes Scholar

- The Rhodes Scholarships are postgraduate awards supporting outstanding all-round students and provide the opportunity to study at Oxford University.
- This past year, Matthew Jordan a student in McMaster's interdisciplinary Arts & Science Program was named a Rhodes Scholar.
- He was one of 11 outstanding Canadian students - only two from Ontario - to earn the distinction for 2016.
- Established in 1902, the Rhodes is the oldest and perhaps the most prestigious international scholarship program in the world.
- McMaster has also been home to Rhodes Scholars in the past - Health Sciences student Sheiry Dhillon in 2011 and Medical student Maureen Hogan in 2004.
- Previous Scholars include former US President Bill Clinton and former Premier of Ontario Bob Rae.
- Rhodes' vision was to develop outstanding leaders who would be motivated to "fight the world's fight."
- For more information, click here.
For more information or assistance please contact Jaskiran Shoker, McMaster University at 905-525-9140 x. 26572 or shokerj@mcmaster.ca