

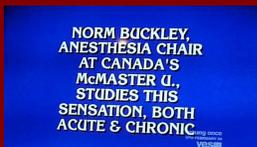
**McMaster's Student Applications and Ranking Numbers on the Rise**

**Seen and Heard...**



[McMaster ranked second greenest university in province](#)

[McMaster community members recognized for contributions to the Hamilton community at Holland Awards](#)



[McMaster Professor and HitchBOT the focus of Jeopardy questions](#)



# McMaster Highlights

## Hamilton Edition

Welcome to the February 2016 edition of *McMaster Highlights: Hamilton Edition*, the monthly e-newsletter keeping you up to date on what's happening at McMaster.

### In This Issue

[McMaster students explore Hamilton: Discover Your City Week 2016](#)

[McMaster students work to eliminate bullying from Hamilton high schools](#)

[Big Ideas, Better Cities: Building Healthy Communities](#)

[National Honors for McMaster Researchers](#)

[McMaster faculty, staff, students among 43 nominated for Women of Distinction Awards](#)

### McMaster students explore Hamilton: Discover Your City Week 2016

McMaster students from the MSU Student Community Support Network (SCSN) hosted *Discover Your City* week, from February 8-12. *Discover Your City* is an annual weeklong event run by the SCSN that gives McMaster students the chance to experience all that Hamilton has to offer.

"Hamilton has a rich and vibrant culture and a lot of great opportunities for students at McMaster," said Daymon Oliveros, SCSN Director. "The Student Community Support Network seeks to highlight this, and connect students to the Hamilton community."

Every day of *Discover Your City* Week featured different events across Hamilton:

- Skating at Pier 8: McMaster students kicked off the week with some winter outdoor recreation on the Hamilton waterfront.
- Serve Ping Pong Night: The SCSN hosted a night at Serve Ping Pong where students had access to free tables and free food. Shuttle buses were provided to and from the venue.
- Taste of James Street: The SCSN partnered with the City of Hamilton to provide a soup and coffee sampling event at the Lister Block. This event led into the start of the monthly James St. Art Crawl.

For more information about *Discover Your City* week, click [here](#).

### McMaster students work to eliminate bullying from Hamilton high schools

Second-year McMaster Health Sciences student, Amr Saleh is helping to make sure local high schoolers have the tools they need to combat bullies. Together with fellow student Cameron Taheri, Saleh is building a network of anti-bullying programming called Building Our Safe Schools (BOSS) that creates a culture where bullying is unacceptable within schools. The team is currently made up of a group of McMaster students, all with personal stories that have motivated them to be involved.

"Our focus is on long-term mentorship and long-term communication," said Taheri who highlighted what sets them apart from other anti-bullying programming.



[Ontario strengthening laws to stop sexual violence, harassment on campus](#)

The pilot program this year will focus on three schools in the Hamilton area. Teams of 3-5 trained facilitators will be responsible for one-on-one mentorship with a student leader in the high school equipping them with the tools to implement anti-bullying into their system. The goal is to create a strong network between high schools that can share ideas and information.

For more information, click [here](#).

## **Big Ideas, Better Cities: Building Healthy Communities**

How can we reduce the stigma of Alzheimer's in our aging populations? How can art and culture help build vibrant cities? How can we care for our most isolated and vulnerable?

These were just some of the many questions raised at *McMaster presents Walrus Talks Healthy Cities*, the most recent set of events in McMaster's [Big Ideas, Better Cities](#) series.

Walrus Talks, held at the David Braley Health Sciences Centre featured a unique line-up of creative, cultural, civic, community and academic leaders who spoke to an audience of more than 200 about some of the critical factors in building healthy cities.

Speakers included McMaster experts Jennifer Heisz, associate director (seniors) of the Physical Activity Centre of Excellence (PACE) who discussed mental health challenges associated with aging, and Gerry Wright, Director of the Michael G. Degroote Institute for Infectious Disease Research who spoke about how infection has shaped, and is shaping, our cities.

Walrus Talks was part of four days of events showcasing how McMaster researchers are helping to build healthy cities in Hamilton and around the world.

Please join us for the fifth and final event in the Big Ideas, Better Cities series, [Climate Change and Environment: Navigating from Risk to Resilience](#), which will take place from April 18-22, 2016.

For more information, click [here](#).

## **National Honors for McMaster Researchers**

Twelve McMaster researchers have been awarded \$11.4M to improve the health and prosperity of people across Canada and around the globe. In addition to the half-dozen new Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) awarded to the University, another six stellar researchers had their Canada Research Chairs renewed to pursue their world-leading research programs.

"Retaining these talented individuals means that Canada can reap the benefits and outcomes of their innovative research programs, which will ensure better health across the lifespan, improved health care in our hospitals, cutting edge drug delivery technologies, and enhanced understanding of materials," says Allison Sekuler, Interim Vice-President Research. Sekuler notes that the process for renewal of a CRC is as rigorous as it is for the initial round and subsequent terms are not automatically renewed.

"The continuity of these Chairs confirms that McMaster identified ideal candidates initially and by doing so enriched the research focus in the strategically important areas of health, aging, neuroscience and advanced materials and manufacturing."

There were a total of 305 new and renewed Canada Research Chairs in the announcement by the Government of Canada. McMaster University currently boasts 68 Canada Research Chairs.

For more information, click [here](#).

## **McMaster faculty, staff, students among 43 nominated for Women of Distinction Awards**



**The students, staff, faculty and alumnae nominated for YWCA Women of Distinction awards.**

**PHOTO BY PAULINA RZECCKZOWSKA**

Members of the McMaster community are among those nominated for the 40th annual YWCA Women of Distinction Awards.

Acting Vice-President Research and psychology professor Allison Sekuler, associate professor of rehabilitation science Brenda Vrkljan and Health Sciences assistant clinical professor Margaret Secord were nominated in the Business, Education and Mentorship category, as were staff member Anushay Khan and alumnae Erin Dunham, Maggie Cockburn, Sarah Lampson and Joanne McCallum.

Shannon Clark, Sylvia Kajiura, Sarah Glen, Catherine Olaveson and Maroussia Hajdukowski-Ahmed were nominated in the Community Leadership category.

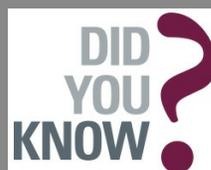
Physical therapist Dianna Moulden and alumna Melissa Sander were nominated in the Health category.

Psychology professor Laurel Trainor was nominated in the Science, Technology or Trades category.

A number of students and alumnae were nominated in the Young Woman of Distinction category, including Jaskiran Shoker, Audrey Tan, Megan MacLeod, Giuliana Guarna, Rebecca Rabcock, Vanessa Raponi and Lisa Bifano.

The awards will be handed out at a ceremony on March 10 at the Hamilton Convention Centre.

The full list of nominees can be found [here](#).



## **McMaster's Student Applications and Ranking Numbers on the Rise**

- McMaster University remains a popular choice among students pursuing postsecondary education in Canada.
- Student application numbers have increased in 2016 at McMaster, despite demographic trends in Canada.
- Almost 36,000 undergraduate applications have been submitted to McMaster from students across Ontario Secondary Schools for Fall 2016.
- McMaster consistently ranks in the top 100 universities in the world due to its

innovative methods of teaching and learning and its commitment to research excellence.

- McMaster ranked 5th in Canada in the Global Employability University Rankings.
- McMaster placed first in Canada in both total corporate income at \$588.7 million and total research income as a percentage of total university income at 35 percent.
- For more information, click [here](#) and [here](#).

---

---

For more information or assistance please contact Jaskiran Shoker, McMaster University at 905-525-9140 x. 26572 or [shokerj@mcmaster.ca](mailto:shokerj@mcmaster.ca)