Welcome to the March 2016 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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Change Camp 2016: Taking action on "big issues" facing Hamilton

Supporting newcomers and refugees, economic prosperity and growth, healthy, safe communities, culture, diversity and regional transit. These are just some of the many issues discussed at Change Camp Hamilton, a public dialogue held recently that focused on ways to take action on some of the key challenges facing Hamilton.

About 200 members of the McMaster and Hamilton communities gathered for the event, which took place at the David Braley Health Sciences Centre and was organized in partnership with McMaster University, Mohawk College, Redeemer University College, the City of Hamilton, the McMaster Students Union (MSU), the Mohawk Students' Association and the Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton.

McMaster President Patrick Deane participated in Change Camp and says events like this provide a meaningful opportunity for Hamilton's postsecondary institutions to collaborate with the City and with the community.

"It was absolutely electrifying to see a room this full and this ready to take on some of the big issues facing our city," says Deane. "Our postsecondary institutions have an enormous amount to contribute to the city and, of course, we benefit from this wonderful community in which we're located. Thank
Spencer Nesico-Semianiw, Vice-President (Education) of the MSU, and one of the organizers of Change Camp, says increasingly students are looking for ways to get involved in the community. Change Camp organizers will follow-up with participants in the coming weeks to invite further discussion, develop projects and to find concrete ways to implement ideas into curricular and co-curricular activities.

For more information, click here.

McMaster ranked among top universities for graduate employability

McMaster has been ranked among Canada’s top universities when it comes to graduate employability. Times Higher Education’s Global Employability Ranking surveyed thousands of international recruiters and managing directors across 20 countries and ranked the top 150 post-secondary institutions.

The survey ranked McMaster fifth in Canada and 86th in the world. Only six Canadian universities were ranked among the top 150.

For more information, click here.

Rob Baker appointed McMaster’s new Vice-President Research

McMaster’s Dean of Science Rob Baker has been appointed the new Vice-President Research effective July 1st. Baker has served as Dean of Science since July 2013.

"The Selection Committee made an excellent recommendation following its international search," says University President Patrick Deane. "Rob brings a wealth of experience to the position, as well as an acute understanding of what it will take to maintain McMaster’s international standing as a leading research-intensive institution."

In his new role, Baker will be responsible for supporting, promoting and advancing research at McMaster. He’ll oversee a research enterprise consistently ranked among Canada’s best, with a research intensity level nearly double the national average.

"McMaster has a great reputation," says Baker. "It's a powerful research institution, and has a culture that facilitates and encourages interdisciplinary teamwork."

For more information, click here.

How research can help build cleaner, greener cities

The Hamilton community is invited to attend Climate Change and Environment: Navigating from Risk to Resilience, the final event in McMaster’s Big Ideas, Better Cities series. Big Ideas, Better Cities is a year-long series of public and community-based events featuring renowned McMaster and international experts from a wide range of disciplines coming together to explore ways to build smart, healthy, creative cities.

From April 18-22, 2016, join McMaster, local and international experts for a range of conferences and activities that explore how research can help cities respond to the threat of climate change and help build greener, more sustainable communities locally and around the world.

Events include talks on a range of climate-related issues by McMaster researchers and leading experts, an Environmental Crawl featuring tours and demonstrations in labs across campus, a bike tour with community leaders and researchers that explores some of the environmentally significant sites across Hamilton, and a discussion on the future of Hamilton’s waterfront.

Learn more or register for events.
Conferences:

**Spring Water Forum**: Monday April 18, 2016 @ 12:00 p.m.

**Low Carbon, Climate Resilient Cities**: Tuesday April 19, 2016

**The Critical Role for Electric Mobility**: Wednesday April 20, 2016

**Big Ideas, Better Waterfront**: Friday, April 22, 2016

Activities:

**Hamilton Bike Tour- The Rolling Green Seminar**: Tuesday, April 19, 2016

**McMaster Environmental Crawl**: Thursday, April 21, 2016

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

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**McMaster’s Women of Distinction**

March 10, 2016 marked the 40th anniversary of the YWCA Women of Distinction Awards. Six of the eight award recipients share a connection with McMaster University.

**Brenda Vrkljan** (Business, Education & Mentorship), is an associate professor in the School of Rehabilitation Science at McMaster where she researches aging, driving safety and community mobility - including a Candrive study tracking more than 1000 older drivers across Canada. She has mentored more than 25 students.

**Sarah Glen** (Community Leadership), manager of community initiatives at the Hamilton Community Foundation, and teaches a course at McMaster where community groups needing research are connected with students. Glen has inspired many of her students to take up social justice issues and community initiatives in Hamilton. In 2014, Glen was also the recipient of an MSU Community Engagement and Teaching Award.

**Alba Guarne** (Science, Technology or Trades), Associate professor in bio-chemistry and bio-medicinal sciences at McMaster, has made discoveries in DNA mismatch repair and replication that have helped scientists better understand molecules and pathways which contribute to biological processes, including cancer. She has mentored and advised many female scientists and encourages female scientific engagement in her field.

**Rebecca Babcock** (Young Women of Distinction), dedicated her young career to helping at-risk children and women with cancer. She is the co-founder of the McMaster Athletes Care Program and the Steel City Amazing Race, intended to help at-risk youth. She also worked at the not-for-profit Nanny Angel Network which provides free nanny service for mothers with breast cancer.

**Maroussia Hajdukowski-Ahmed** (Lifetime Achievement), board member of the Immigrant Women's Centre for Newcomer Health, the Immigrant Culture and Art Association, and the India-Canada Women's Committee. She also helped kick start the women's studies program at McMaster.

**Rachael Finnerty** (Health), works with youth, promoting self-worth, personal insight and problem solving as program manager of Fletcher and Associates. She has also served as president for the Music Therapy Association of Ontario where she piloted new music therapy programs including one at the McMaster Children's Hospital. She also initiated a music therapy course at McMaster University and volunteers her time to research initiatives such as the LIVELab.

For more information, click [here](#).
McMaster receives provincial funding to create Advanced Manufacturing Consortium

- McMaster's multidisciplinary research in advanced manufacturing is at the leading edge of university-industry collaboration that is driving progress and change.

- The Government of Ontario is investing $35M towards a unique $50M Advanced Manufacturing Consortium involving McMaster.
  - The Consortium also includes University of Waterloo and Western University.

- Manufacturing isn't disappearing but it is being reshaped in revolutionary ways.

- McMaster has a strong history of working with industry and university partners to create new products and processes to give companies a competitive advantage. Our researchers create new materials to improve cars and detect harmful bacteria. We invent new medical devices, improve energy efficiency and are helping to build a future of opportunity.

- Ontario's support for this partnership recognizes McMaster's great strengths in advanced manufacturing, research, training and commercialization.

- By leveraging existing research strengths, infrastructure and research capacity, the Consortium will serve as a centre for the development of new technologies, creating new products and production methods and generating new highly-skilled jobs.

- For more information, click here.

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