

Spring 2005 Volume 4, Issue 2

MICHENER

222

STAYING CONNECTED WITH MICHENER ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



Alumni Demonstrate Teaching Excellence

Radiation Therapy:
Current Preparation
and Future Needs

**Alumni Association
Annual Report**

Debbie Coutts,
(Respiratory Therapy '76)
Clinical Instructor,
Credit Valley Hospital
First Recipient of Michener's
Clinical Teaching Award of
Excellence 2004

What's in this Issue

Michener 222 is The Michener Institute's publication for alumni and friends.

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ON THE COVER: Michener's First Recipient of the Clinical Teaching Award of Excellence 2004 Debbie Coutts, (Respiratory Therapy '76) Clinical Instructor, Credit Valley Hospital with Michener student Sabrina Astrologo, Photo: Dodge Baena



Alumni Give Back!

Welcome to the second issue of the new Michener 222 Magazine for

Alumni & Friends. Following the release of the last issue, we were encouraged by the many positive reactions we received on the new design and content of your magazine. We've incorporated many of your suggestions in this second issue and will continue to add more information and features of interest to alumni and friends in the coming months and years.

In this issue, we explore the great contributions that our graduates are making towards the education and careers of Michener students. As Michener Clinical Coordinators, some of our graduates are helping to educate the next generation of highly skilled applied health care practitioners. Every day, these dedicated alumni provide their valuable time and expertise on the job as they supervise Michener students who are completing their clinical placements.

In recognition of the contributions of our Clinical Coordinators, Michener created the Clinical Teaching Award of Excellence in 2004 and we are proud to feature Debbie Coutts (Respiratory Therapy '76) as the first recipient of this award. Other graduates featured in this issue that

also play a critical role in clinical teaching include Sally Ciona and Ruth Thompson (both Chiroprody '00) as well as Doris Gorthy (Radiography '89).

We are also pleased to bring you a number of other features in this issue including *Radiation Therapy: Current Preparation and Future Needs* from Michener's Research Department; a profile on long time faculty member Susan Dunington (Respiratory Therapy '83 & Anaesthesia Technology '97); a profile on one of Michener's outstanding students Corrine Rixon (Diagnostic Cytology '05) and the 2004 Annual Report from Michener's Alumni Association.

In these pages, you will also find the information to keep you up to date on what your former classmates are up to and let you know about some of the great changes taking place at Michener.

So please stay in touch with us. We welcome your letters, feedback and suggestions for the new Michener 222. Just drop me a line at alumni@michener.ca

Ken Aucoin

Editor, Michener 222

Director, Development & Alumni Affairs

JOIN THE ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

Get involved in your Michener Alumni Association! We are looking for Michener/TIMT graduates that are interested in helping us build our alumni programs and special events as a member of the Michener Alumni Association Board of Directors. Meetings are held six times a year at The Michener Institute and members can participate either in person or by teleconferencing. Play an active role in your association! We are looking for representatives from a variety of years and programs that can devote a few hours a month to our association.

Call 416-596-3101, ext. 3390 for more information

The Michener Alumni Association's mission and purpose can be found on our web site at www.michener.ca/alumni



Letter from the President

It is my pleasure once again to welcome you to this edition of Michener 222. I'm sure you'll enjoy the

news, the insights and the profiles on what is happening here at Michener and what's up with our Alumni. I thought that for my contribution I would try to fill you in on some of the corporate developments in the last few months.

As a number of you may be aware, last year with the direction and leadership of our Board of Governors, Michener adopted a new mission statement which reads as follows:

"The Michener Institute (Michener) enhances the health of individuals and communities in Ontario and beyond through the advancement of applied health sciences and associated professionals.

Michener is a centre of excellence for the advancement of applied health sciences education."

This mission has re-established the path for Michener and has assisted in the revitalization of the organization. But perhaps most telling, it has helped us recognize that there are some very compelling reasons we must be prepared, in the future, to do things differently than we have in the past. Why? Simply stated:

- We require more resources than the government can give us – the funding currently provided restricts us to a training role, which precludes growth to an academic and research institution
- Competition for funding, market share, students, clinical sites and staff is constantly increasing
- Our scope must increasingly be global, but our funding is provincially limited
- Education is lifelong learning, not just entry to practice

The conclusion reached from these realizations is that Michener must have both the agility and ability to respond to change quickly and strategically.

As a first step in that process we have now identified a new brand or "set of marching" orders. Don't be surprised if you start to see the following quite a bit over the coming months:

Michener: Best Experience/Best Education!

To address this challenge we have also developed five new strategic responses which we call:

- The People Strategy
- The Academic Innovation Strategy
- The Knowledge Transfer Strategy
- The Quality Strategy
- The Resource Innovation Strategy

Over the next months we will be aligning all our corporate policies, our administrative policies and our academic policies to reflect the reality of our mission, our "marching orders" and our strategic responses. We truly believe that by doing so we will be in a position to move positively and appropriately into the future.

There will be plenty of opportunity for the Michener Alumni and community to get involved with the transformation that is underway and I not only encourage your individual participation, but in fact truly look forward to it.

In the meantime, please enjoy this issue of Michener 222 and stayed tuned to what's happening at your alma mater! Your continued input and feedback is essential to our success.

Paul A.W. Gamble DrPH
President and CEO

The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences is the only publicly funded post-secondary institution in Canada dedicated to health education. Founded in 1958 and located in downtown Toronto, Michener's unique combination of theory, laboratory instruction and clinical education prepares health professionals to meet the growing demands of Canada's health care system. Michener's expertise in applied health science education is nationally and internationally renowned. We serve over 900 full-time and 4,500 continuing education students with more than 20 academic offerings to meet the changing needs of our health care system.

Michener 222

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The Michener Man

BY MARJO JOHNE

With his personable manner and facility for logical thought, Donald Bartlett has worn many hats at Michener. His latest one – that of Michener’s new Clinical Education Officer – looks made to measure.

After 17 years and several job titles at Michener – and seven years of clinical experience before that – Donald Bartlett hardly needs anyone to show him the ropes around campus. So when he was asked last February to step up to the newly minted position of Clinical Education Officer, Bartlett slipped into the role with perfect ease.

“Over the past 17 years here, I’ve had a number of roles in academic and on the support side,” says Bartlett, who graduated from Michener’s **Respiratory Therapy** program in 1981. “All of this is second nature to me really, so it’s easy for me to walk into this role and pull it together.”

Bartlett’s new position is a crucial component in Michener’s ongoing drive for “Best Experience, Best Education.” As Clinical Education Officer, Bartlett is now the primary link between Michener’s academic sector and the various clinical sites. He is responsible for, among other things, ensuring that signed legal affiliation agreements are in place, tracking placements for students, keeping Administrative Clinical Handbooks up to date, and resolving issues that affect clinical education.

In short, how and what Bartlett does in his job will have a direct impact on the quality of clinical experience Michener students can expect during their placements. This may sound like a huge burden to place on someone’s shoulders – unless of course that someone happens to have Bartlett’s facility for organization, logical thought, and communicating ideas in a way that is both diplomatic and crystal-clear.

Bartlett has been involved in health care for all of his adult life. While earning a degree in biology at Memorial University of

Newfoundland in St. John’s, he found work as an aide at the Janeway Child Health Centre (now the Janeway Children’s Health and Rehabilitation Centre).

“One year, the people at Janeway said ‘would you like to study respiratory therapy in Toronto?’ Bartlett recalls. “I said ‘yes’ and they sponsored me to attend the program at Michener.”

After graduation, Bartlett joined Janeway’s respiratory therapy department, where his role as an RT included working as part of the transport team.

“We would travel around Newfoundland and Labrador – by fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters, ambulances, and even a boat once – to bring critically ill newborns and children from the smaller hospitals in the area to Janeway,” says Bartlett. “There’s no better way to test your decision-making skills and confidence than when you’re in the middle of nowhere and you have a critically ill child to keep alive.”

In 1984, Bartlett left Janeway to work at the respiratory therapy department at St. Joseph’s Health Centre in Toronto. But even then, Bartlett knew the job would be a stepping stone to where he really wanted to go.

“I wanted to end up at Michener so I could teach other people and use my background as a healthcare professional to do that,” he says.

Bartlett got what he wanted. He joined Michener’s Respiratory Therapy faculty in 1988 and from there worked his way up as Program Director and later as a Division Director. His career at Michener has been long and varied; he has also worked as Registrar and in Academic Scheduling.

Bartlett has also been actively involved in the accreditation process for allied health



programs throughout the country. In the last 10 years, he has volunteered as a survey team member with the Canadian Medical Association. He was also the first national chair for the Council on Accreditation for Respiratory Therapy Education.

“I look at where I’m a good fit,” he says, “and where I can get a sense of satisfaction and be challenged by what I do.”

His new role will certainly deliver both. In the face of ongoing labour issues at hospitals throughout the province, nurturing relationships with clinical sites – while keeping the paperwork and logistics all nice and organized – will be both a breeze and a challenge.

And that’s just fine with Bartlett.

“I’m really enjoying my new job,” he says. “I’d like all our clinical coordinators to know that they can look to me for assistance with respect to their role as educators. And from an administrative point of view, they can be assured that there is a direct link between them and Michener.” ■

QUICK FACT

Most of Michener’s academic programs include clinical experience in partnership with at least one of more than 150 clinical partners in Ontario and across Canada.

Source Michener 2003-2004 Annual Report

Clinical Coordinators Demonstrate Teaching EXCELLENCE



The Michener Institute salutes the hundreds of dedicated professionals who contribute daily as clinical coordinators in hospitals and other health care related facilities across Ontario and beyond.

These outstanding individuals teach and supervise Michener students as they complete their clinical placements – the final stage of their diplomas and degrees before they enter the workforce.

Clinical coordinators are a critical part of our students' educational experience. They mentor and inspire Michener students to make a difference in the future of our health care system and improve the health of all citizens. In this issue, we are pleased to highlight just a few of these outstanding individuals who have demonstrated excellence in teaching.

Debbie Coutts (**Respiratory Therapy '76**);
Ruth Thompson and Sally Ciona (both **Chiropody '00**);
Doris Gorthy (**Radiography '89**).

Debbie Coutts Students' pet



Beloved by her students, Debbie Coutts, a clinical coordinator at Credit Valley Hospital, has become the first recipient of Michener's Teaching Award of Excellence.

BY MARJO JOHNE

Debbie Coutts looks 30 years back to her clinical placement in Hamilton, Ontario, and sees her instructors dismantling equipment so she could understand, inside and out, how they worked.

She remembers the constant drilling, and the insistent push to always “think, think, think.” She also remembers one of the first things her instructors said to her: “There is no such thing as a stupid question.”

“I had wonderful instructors who challenged me to think outside the box,” says Coutts, who graduated from Michener's respiratory technology program in 1976. “They were my earliest role models.”

Today, it is Coutts who is the role model for aspiring therapists. As the Clinical Coordinator, Respiratory Therapy for the Credit Valley Hospital in Mississauga just west of Toronto, she mentors the students who come to the hospital each year for their first taste of clinical reality.

Last year, Coutts received a particularly sweet apple from her Michener students: they nominated her for Michener's new Clinical Teaching Award of Excellence. In September 2004, Coutts became the award's first recipient.

“I can honestly say that if I had been placed at any other clinical site, I would not be the RT I am going to become because I would not have been taught by Debbie Coutts,” one student wrote in her letter of nomination. “I can think of no one who deserves this award more than she does.”

Another student wrote: “She is a fantastic teacher and I am extremely lucky to have been able to spend my clinical year at Credit Valley learning from her.”

How does Coutts account for such high praise?

“Oh, I told them to say that,” she quips. But jokes aside, Coutts attributes her success as an educator to a teaching style that encourages students to learn by thinking for themselves, researching problems, and looking beyond their textbooks.

As her instructors at the hospitals in Hamilton did with her, Coutts quizzes her students every step of the way to ensure they truly understand what they are doing. But she also makes it clear that the Q & A sessions are a two-way channel and that her students can ask her anything.

After all, adds Coutts, “there's no such thing as a stupid question.”

While they're heaping praise on her, Coutts' students might also want to thank her younger brother, who struggled with asthma through most of their childhood. As she observed the RTs who took care of him, Coutts began to nurture the idea that she, too, might become an RT one day.

“It's a profession where you can make an immediate impact on patients' lives,” she says. “You walk into a patient's room and see them in severe respiratory distress. You give them oxygen and see them getting relief within 10 minutes – it's instant gratification.”

After graduating from Michener, Coutts worked as a respiratory therapist for a number of hospitals, including the Kitchener-Waterloo Hospital in southern Ontario, the Montreal General Hospital, and the St. Boniface General Hospital in Winnipeg.

In 1983, St. Boniface posted an opening for a Clinical Instructor. Thinking that

it might be “a fun job,” Coutts applied and won the position. Five years later, she accepted the job of Clinical Coordinator at Credit Valley Hospital.

“It was exciting,” Coutts recalls. “The hospital had only been open for three years, so I could really customize the program to how I thought it could work.”

Among other innovations, Coutts introduced a comprehensive orientation program that gives students the lay of the land so they can easily find their way around at Credit Valley. She also ensures that students are given assignments relevant to the scope of their placement.

After more than two decades as an educator, Coutts feels as enthusiastic about her work today as she did when she first got the Clinical Instructor post at St. Boniface. Her passion for helping others spills into her personal life, too; Coutts and her 17-year-old daughter have gone on mission trips to Nicaragua, where they helped refurbish a local church. Coutts has also visited orphanages and a pediatric hospital in the Nicaraguan capital of Managua.

“That really opened my eyes to what we have compared to what they have – which is very little,” she says. “Even monitoring equipment was a total luxury to them.”

While her students may consider themselves lucky to have had her as a mentor, Coutts insists that she is the lucky one – lucky to be doing what she's doing today, and to have had the opportunity to teach “absolutely wonderful students.”

“What is really neat is when the lights go on in their eyes and you see that they've got it,” she says. “That's one of the best rewards of this job.” ■

Ruth Thompson and Sally Ciona

Giving interns a foot in the door

BY: KIRA VERMOND



“**W**e share the same mind,” jokes Sally Ciona about the relationship she has with fellow Michener grad, Ruth Thompson.

And with their love of the profession, a wicked sense of humour and willingness to pass along what they learn, Ciona and Thompson are chiropody interns’ dream mentors

Most people go on vacation to get away from their colleagues. But Sally Ciona and Ruth Thompson, both Michener chiropody graduates from 2000 who work as chiropodists at the Ottawa Hospital’s Total Foot Care clinic, do the unthinkable. They spend their vacations travelling together. A lot.

In fact, the duo says they found it difficult to find a photo for this story, not because they didn’t have them lying around, but none of the shots seemed, well, appropriate.

“We have a lot of photos of us together that we love, but there’s none in the clinic. It’s more like, ‘Hey, this is us whale watching! Or this is us camping!’” says Thompson.

When Thompson isn’t acting as clinical coordinator for Michener chiropody students at the clinic, which is considered a high-risk clinic, managing foot and limb salvage as well as wounds, she and Ciona tour the Maritimes, ski Lake Placid or soak up rays in Cuba. And they can’t seem to stop smiling.

“Oh we have fun all the time. This isn’t just for show,” says Ciona. “We’re constantly laughing.”

And for good reason. The two were

friends at Michener, but when they graduated in 2000, they parted ways. Thompson did a short summer placement at Rouge Valley Centenary in Toronto before being recruited to the Ottawa clinic by Seifali Patel, another 2000 Michener chiropody graduate. Then a year later, Thompson was on the phone herself, recruiting Ciona who was then working in a private practice in Brampton.

“If Ruth was there, of course I had to be there,” says Ciona now.

Ciona also admits that she was also intrigued because there were rumours at the time that Michener students would be interning at the centre and she wanted to be part of that.

Today Michener students intern between 36 and 40 weeks, while Thompson oversees their education, showing them how to deal with everything from peripheral vascular disease, diabetes and severe arthritis, to ingrown toenails and corns. The clinic employs three full-time chiropodists, one biomechanist and one shoe and orthotic technician.

“A lot of times patients will come here as a last stop before amputation. We try to at least prolong the time they’ll have with their legs,” says Thompson, who is also on Michener’s Advisory Committee for Chiropody.

The Total Foot Care Centre is a good place to intern for students who want to jump in and learn quickly.

“This is a fairly busy clinic,” says Thompson before Ciona interjects with, “It’s trial by fire!”

But it’s also a fun experience for Thompson and Ciona to watch the students gain confidence over the year and begin to question what a doctor or nurse has ordered. A student who may have taken an hour to reduce a callus in September, eventually gets

so proficient at the procedure, by the time she leaves, it only takes five minutes.

“Every once in a while we do a high-five victory dance in the office because somebody gave a good answer. We like to celebrate those little things,” Ciona says.

Thompson says teaching students the ins and outs of her trade also helps her learn and develop too.

“It’s kind of cheesy, but you do know more about yourself. It’s that old adage, if you teach you get to know the material a lot better,” she says.

Both grads say The Michener Institute gave them a firm education in what it means to be a top-quality teacher. They say the faculty they studied under made all the difference.

“They were always pushing for continuing education, trying new things and learning more,” says Ciona. “That really inspired us because we seem to be picking up that torch.”

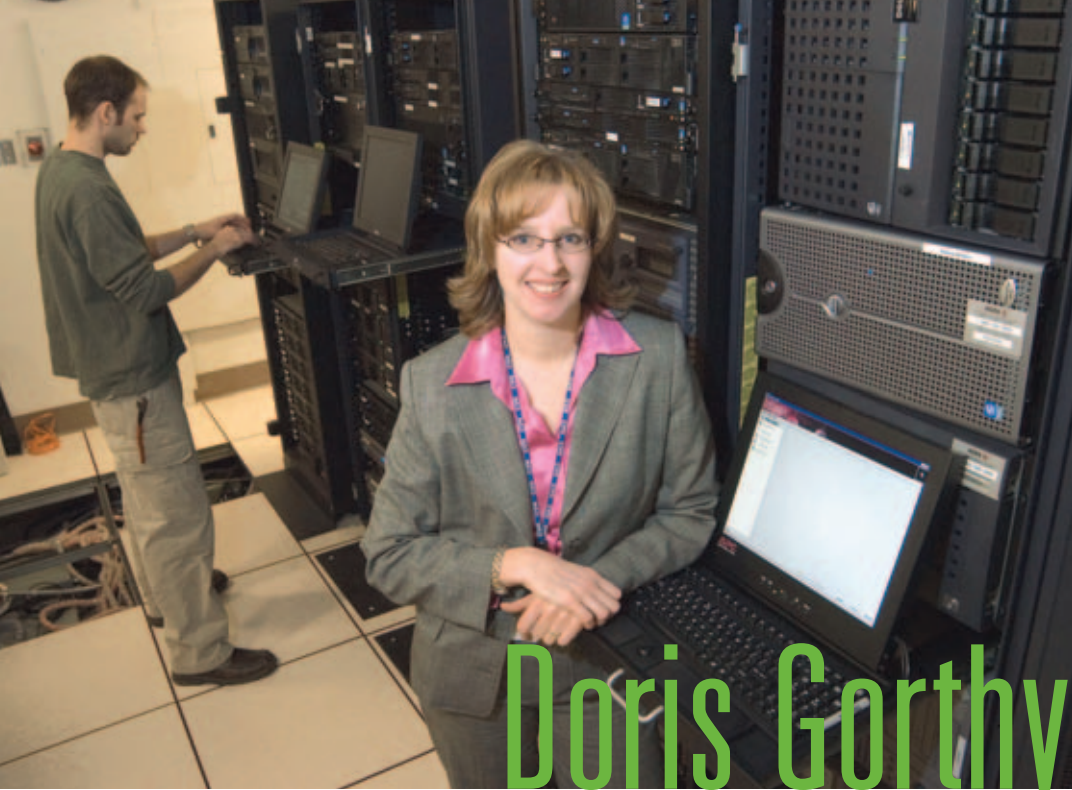
That means ongoing professional development is important to Thompson and Ciona who are both completing the University of Toronto International Interdisciplinary Wound Care course this year. It’s been a long year juggling patients, interns, travel and courses, but they say the hard work is worth it.

“The students benefit from the extra studying we do because what we learn, we’re also teaching. It’s been good all around,” says Ciona. ■

QUICK FACT

100% Percentage of Chiropody Michener grads that were successful in their Provincial and/or National Certification Examinations

Source: Michener Fact Book 2004



Doris Gorthy

Commitment to the next generation

BY: KIRA VERMOND

There was a time when Doris Gorthy couldn't stock enough of her business cards to keep up with the demand for them. When Gorthy first started working for Mississauga's Credit Valley Hospital, it was one of the few hospitals in Canada using a PACS (Picture Archiving and Communications Systems) program, and everyone wanted to know more about how it worked.

Gorthy showed them how to use the computer to manipulate x-rays online so multiple users could view the same image, adjust shading, flip, rotate and even save the data so it could be published later. Compared to a simple piece of x-ray film, the possibilities were endless. It was no wonder why the interest was so high.

"For the longest time, we would have two or three hospitals coming through every week. I could have spent the whole day replying to people's questions," she says.

Now five years – and a couple of boxes of business cards – later, Gorthy says she's as busy as ever. But instead of answering other hospital's queries, she's fielding questions from her students. Gorthy is the clinical coordinator at Credit Valley Hospital for its PACS program, and a 1989 graduate of the Michener's Radiological Technology program.

Because there was so much interest in PACS, and numerous PACS positions were

beginning to spring up in hospitals across the country, The Michener Institute, along with experts such as Gorthy, saw the need for more a formalized education and developed PACS administration certification. Michener students now take three online courses to learn the basics, administration and more advanced skills. At the completion of these courses, the students attend a one-month clinical component where they can put their new set of skills to the test.

"They usually come in scared and wide-eyed," says Gorthy. "And then when they leave they're saying things like, 'Wow, that was actually a lot of fun.' So it's very rewarding in that respect."

Gorthy says being the clinical coordinator also has other perks. She is able to network extensively, add her own unique perspective to the dialogue and continue learning herself. It's a formula that has worked for years. Her own career path has been anything but linear. After graduation, Gorthy worked as a x-ray technician at Toronto's Western Hospital and quickly moved into 3-D reconstruction before becoming Western's radiological technology clinical coordinator. In less than five years, Gorthy went from being a student to teaching students, before leaving downtown Toronto in 1999 to move to Credit Valley Hospital, just west of the city.

Ask Doris Gorthy, clinical coordinator for the PACS program at Credit Valley Hospital, how she juggles three kids, Michener interns and a whirlwind career in management, and she'll tell you what it takes. Problem solving skills. Flexibility. And, oh yes, having fun.

"I like to be involved in the profession. There are so many different avenues you can take once you get your professional designation," she says.

Gorthy cheerfully admits that she hasn't seen a patient in over 10 years, but that doesn't mean she has turned into a computer geek. Gorthy stays busy liaising with the hospital's IT department, trouble shooting for physicians, project planning and overseeing clerical staff.

And if her life isn't already busy enough, at the end of the day she goes home to her three young children and husband, George Gorthy, another 1989 Michener Radiological Technology grad who went into the business side of PACS and works at Siemens, the medical equipment manufacturer.

While they'll sometimes bounce ideas off each other about PACS, Gorthy says they do try to maintain one rule at home.

"We refuse to talk about PACS at dinner. We have enough kids' stuff to talk about," she says. ■

QUICK FACT

52 Total enrollment at June 30, 2004 in Michener's PACS (Picture Archiving & Communications Systems) Program

Source Michener's 2003-2004 Annual Report.

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Radiation Therapy: Current Preparation and Future Needs

BY SHERRYL DIZON, RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Radiation Therapy is both a dynamic and demanding profession with an ongoing need for human resources.

The Michener Institute is the only educational institution that offers a program in Ontario to prepare Radiation Therapists for practice and, in 2004, Michener graduated 64 students from the Radiation Therapy program, representing a retention rate of 90%. The three-year joint program with University of Toronto/Michener is offered as a Degree and Diploma and it is also offered as a Degree in combination with Laurentian University for four years. Through this program, students learn to effectively treat cancer patients using cutting-edge technology. Radiation Therapy is an exceptional career; it offers students an opportunity to interact with patients, providing them with continuous care, and to work closely with doctors and other health care professionals. With new cancer treatment centres opening, there will inevitably be an increase in demand for these professionals. Are we, as an educational institution, meeting these demands for human resources in this field? At this time, when the population is aging, and new technology is being developed, how will the profession manage the inevitable increase in demand? Most importantly, what is ahead for this profession?

Recent research examining health human resource needs has shown significant shortages of staff in various health professions; with Radiation Therapists, this is truly the case. The Research Department at Michener completed a labour market study of Radiation Therapists in the fall of 2004.

The report provided information on the number of funded positions and vacancies dating back over three years (2002-2004) which helped determine longer term trends. Net attrition, gender/age profiles, and projections were also provided in the labour market report. The response rate was 100% with a total of 10 Ontario regional cancer centres participating. The compiled data shows a total of 659 funded positions and, while the numbers of filled positions have been increasing over the past three years there is still a vacancy rate of 9.7%, representing a total of 64 vacant positions. Included within the attrition rate are a number of factors, the highest of which is the number taking maternity/parental leaves of absence (48 staff) and staff moving from one position to another within the province (23 staff). Although they were the highest factors of attrition, and played a significant role in determining the attrition rate, they were not included in the overall net loss of personnel.

How do staff vacancies affect patient care and wait times? Survey respondents indicated that, while the quality of care has not been affected, access to care has been the greatest impact. Equipment had to be taken offline due to staff shortages, resulting in patient wait time increasing and new patients having to wait even longer. It was also reported that there was difficulty in recruiting for term positions, with part time staff having to work full time hours to cover these shortages. In addition, extending operating hours was necessary to meet the demand for routine services. This could pose a problem for staff that have no time to receive training on new equipment and procedures and are unable to rotate to other areas of the department. It is also likely that there will be movement in personnel due in part to three new cancer treatment centres opening, with the result that we will con-

tinue to see an ongoing demand for Radiation Therapists. In light of this development, respondents estimate a mean loss of 6 staff per facility over time.

The report identified that 80% of the workforce are female, potentially the reason maternity/paternal leaves of absence were reported as fairly high (48 staff). The report also identified that the 31-35 age group represented the highest number of staff in any age group within the study population. While the female:male ratio is 4:1 in the overall study population, it is noticeable that the female:male ratio in the 46-50 age range increased to 6.7:1; this increase is primarily due to a large decrease in the number of males when compared to the female population within that age range.

Demand for Radiation Therapists is projected to grow to approximately 135 new positions per annum for the next three years. All position types (full-time, part-time, contract, casual) are accounted for in the calculation, with respect to vacancy levels, net attrition, and the projections from our respondents. The rationale for anticipated growth in the number of available positions have been identified as: an increase in workload in terms of changes in treatment delivery, an increase in the number of patients due to the aging population, and new purchase/use of equipment. The importance of the information presented above cannot be overstated; to ignore this would not do justice to the needs of the patients, nor to the healthcare providers who require the resources to provide necessary services. If the needs of the field are not being recognized and met, this will pose a growing concern, primarily for patients that need treatment, but also for the Radiation Therapists. ■

Radiation Therapists in Ontario: Provincial Labour Market Analysis and Human Resource Study, The Michener Institute, Toronto, 2004.

Research at Michener

The Research Department at The Michener Institute comprises of a small group of individuals enthusiastic about research and with expertise in the following areas of research methodology: quantitative and qualitative data analysis and interpretation, survey research, instrument design and development, and program & individual assessment and evaluation.

Research Projects:

- AQMP (Academic Quality Management Program)
- Key Performance Indicators (Student Satisfaction, Graduate Satisfaction, Employer Satisfaction, and Graduate Placement Rates)
- Student Demographics
- Needs Assessments
- Labour Market and Human Resource Studies on Michener-trained professions
- Educational research projects

Research as a resource

In addition to the above projects, the Research Department provides Michener staff/faculty with relevant data collection and analysis to meet the program needs. For example, the Research Department provided a program with an analysis of student satisfaction by cohort. The Research Department also performed a labour market study needed urgently by one of our programs, and scored a 100% response rate a month earlier than our service standards!

Work in progress:

- Nuclear Medicine Labour Market
- Anesthesia Assistant Needs Assessment
- Several Educational Research Projects in collaboration with Michener staff and faculty, including a Telepathology project, Practice Pattern Analysis of Genetics Technology and other projects examining clinical education.

What's next:

- Radiological Technology Labour Market
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging Labour Market
- Medical Laboratory Technology Labour Market

STAY IN TOUCH!

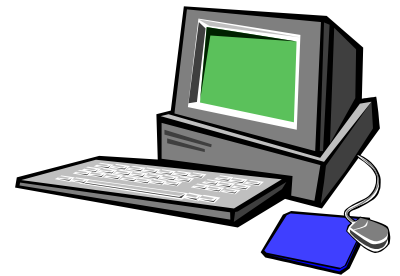
The Research Department conducts labour market studies on your profession! Have your say by keeping us up to date with your current contact information. Email your address/contact changes to research@michener.ca.

Michener Offers New Online Patient Educator Program

Interested in enhancing and expanding your career in patient education? Can't find the time away from family and work? If you are comfortable with email and have access to high speed internet then Michener can assist you in realizing your career goals.

Michener is proud to announce the start of the Online Version of our COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) Educator Graduate Certificate Program. Michener has modified its acclaimed COPD Educator curriculum and reformatted it to provide you with the same interactive learning experience while reducing the number of live workshops to better fit your busy schedule.

As a participant in the Online COPD Educator Program you will communicate and learn with a small group of peers nation-wide through an interactive virtual environment. Michener's expert facilitators have translated existing workshop activities into the online format while maintaining the same degree of learner interaction that is the heart of the current program. As a student you will be required to participate in only one-day skills-based workshop and evaluation session. What better way to demonstrate your effective teaching skills than in a live simulated environment? You will be able to complete the program in only one year!



Michener's current COPD program is also still available for those who prefer to learn in a face-to-face environment. Scholarships are also available for both programs including: the **Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd./Pfizer Canada COPD Patient Educator Scholarship** and the **GlaxoSmithKline Patient Educator Scholarship**.

In addition to the COPD Educator programs, The Michener Institute also offers outstanding patient education certificate programs in Diabetes, Asthma and Lamaze Childbirth. Through these programs, Michener's Centre for Continuing Professional Education has become a centre for excellence in patient education programs in North America.

For information regarding the patient educator programs and scholarships available, please visit our website at www.michener.ca/cc or contact Student Services (416) 596-3117, toll free at 1-800-387-9066, or info@michener.ca. ■

REUNION ALERT

Rad Tech '75 - 30 Year Reunion!

Michener (TIMT) Radiological Technology Class of 1975 is planning a 30 year reunion in September 2005 at The Michener Institute. Anyone from this graduating class/year is encouraged to get in touch with organizers Marie Craven Turner at m_craven@excite.com, Joanne Reinhardt at reinhardtj@rogers.com or Michener's Alumni Affairs Office at alumni@michener.ca. We are trying to locate all graduates from this group to invite them to this event.

Upcoming Continuing Education courses

IMAGING

Mammography: Dealing with Legal Issues, Difficult Views & Obscure Pathology (RA7063-01)	September 10, 2005
Demonstrating Pathology: Image Interpretation Series - Abdomen	September 17, 2005
Nursing in Radiology and the Imaging Department (IG718-01)	October 22, 2005
Musculoskeletal Imaging Symposium (IG900-01)	November 11-13, 2005
Osteoporosis and Where We Stand! - 2005	November 12, 2005

LABORATORY SCIENCES

Introduction to Human Genetics (GE806-01)	Wednesday Evenings: April 6 to June 22, 2005
Introduction to Molecular DNA Techniques (MG501-01)	June 6-10, 2005
Basic ECG Interpretation (EK703-01)	June 18 & 25, 2005
Urinary Cytology Workshop	October 15 & 16, 2005
A Theoretical and Practical Demonstration of the Use of Flow Cytometry in the Diagnosis of Hematologic Malignancies	November 5, 2005
Not Just Anti-K	November 12, 2005
Update on Thin Layer Preparations for Gynecological and Non-Gynecological Samples	November 19, 2005

PRIMARY AND CRITICAL CARE

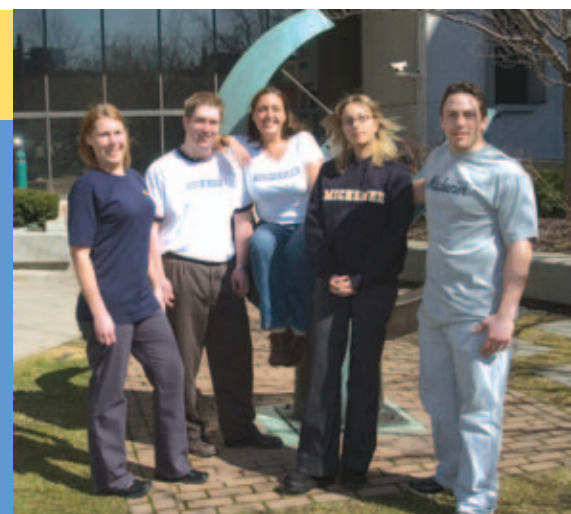
Advanced Cardiac Life Support (RS810-01)	June 18-19, 2005; October 22-23, 2005; & November 12-13, 2005
ACLS Recertification (RS812)	June 18-19, 2005; October 22-23, 2005; & November 12-13, 2005;
Fundamentals of Critical Care Support (RS820-02)	June 4 & 5, 2005
Asthma Educator Program	June 2 – 5, 2005; & October 22 – 25, 2005
COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) Program	June 9 – 12, 2005; & October 22 – 25, 2005
Diabetes Educator Program	June 2 – 5, 2005

NEW MICHENER WEAR



ROOTS

Canada's most recognizable brand is now an exclusive supplier of Michener Wear



HOODIES, BABY-T'S, T-SHIRTS & MORE!

Visit the Michener Alumni website at www.michener.ca/alumni to order great Roots® merchandise available or stop by the Development & Alumni Affairs Office on the 5th floor at Michener or call (416) 596-3101, ext. 3375 to purchase your new Michener Wear items.

Moving Forward

BY RON LEVY

Faculty member and alumnus Susan Dunnington helps students think critically and strive for excellence on their path to becoming dedicated healthcare professionals

“I have never been the kind of person who could stay put. Once I’ve mastered something, my personality is to try on new things, new skills. I always want to move forward.”

That’s how Susan Dunnington accounts for her impressive journey from respiratory technologist to researcher and educator at Michener Institute.

Dunnington graduated with a Diploma in **Respiratory Technology** from Michener in 1982, at a time when, she explains, “The role of a respiratory technologist was very technically focused and hands on — things like setting up equipment for intubating and troubleshooting ventilators.”

However, it was also a time when the profession was being accorded greater responsibilities and decision-making roles. Capitalizing on this development, Dunnington secured a job at Toronto Western where she was one of the first RTs in Ontario to assist anesthesiologists full-time in the OR.

Her responsibilities quickly expanded. Says Dunnington, “Once I earned peoples’ respect, and with my instigation to do more, I found myself controlling a budget, planning and coordinating between the chief of anesthesia, anesthesiologists and sales people. From that, they began giving me teaching and research roles.”

Counting respiratory students, residents of anesthesia and colleagues among those she taught at Toronto Western, Dunnington noted, “The teaching came naturally to me. There are a lot of teachers in my family, going back hundreds of years, so I guess it’s in my genes.”

After four years at Toronto Western, Dunnington moved to the then just-opened Credit Valley hospital, where she was

responsible for setting up their anesthesia department. Soon, she began lecturing at Michener, eventually leaving Credit Valley to become a full-time faculty member at Michener because, says Dunnington, “Once things were up and running, I wanted the next opportunity to evolve.”

More than 16 years later, Dunnington estimates she has taught close to 1,000 — or nearly one in six — of Canada’s practicing Respiratory Therapists (RTs). Asked what she enjoys most about teaching, Dunnington replies, “Seeing those light bulbs go on, when they say, ‘Oh my goodness, now I get it.’”

Despite helping students reach those “ah ha” moments, Dunnington and her colleagues found — once the Respiratory Therapy program was extended to three years in 1994 — that some were nevertheless struggling during their final-year clinicals and dropping out of the program. The reason was that, “To do well in a clinical setting required — but our curriculum was not formally providing — the reflection, anticipation, negotiation and other skills that make up critical thinking.”

While Michener addressed this issue with some success, Dunnington wanted to better understand and help address this issue. Completing a master’s in leadership and training at Royal Roads University in Victoria BC, she researched the level of critical thinking required by the profession and, consequently, the additional competencies Michener needed to emphasize.

“Now,” Dunnington notes, “We are looking for, and encouraging, critical thinking skills from semester one — things like reflection and communication.” Not only is



this helping students complete the program, but adding to their level of professionalism by training them to consider, “How often do I reflect on my daily practice? To what extent does that reflection lead to an improvement in my practice? Did I communicate effectively to, or anticipate a result appropriately for, a patient? Did I negotiate the best plan of care possible?”

Looking back on the unexpected journeys her career has afforded her thus far, says Dunnington, “Among my most awesome was my visit to India in 2000, when Michener sent me to teach at a cardiac hospital.” That experience, along with her visit to Alaska last summer, has brought her closer to a personal goal to visit every continent since, as a person who loves to travel, she believes that: “It’s also an opportunity to meet my commitment to always move forward.” ■

QUICK FACT

100% Percentage of Respiratory Therapy graduates employed within three months of graduation from their program at Michener

Source: Michener Fact Book 2004

Corinne Rixon

A perfect four

BY MARJO JOHNE



Her 4.0 GPA has earned her half a dozen awards, three of which she earned last year at Michener. But Corinne Rixon is more than just an intelligent brain; her philanthropic projects are scoring her high marks too.

Corinne Rixon's childhood was rich with lessons in art, swimming, figure-skating, gymnastics, karate, golf. But the lesson that had the greatest impact on Rixon and her siblings was one taught by her parents.

"They taught us the importance of having a strong work ethic in anything we did," says Rixon, who graduated this year from Michener's advanced diploma program in **Diagnostic Cytology**. "When I got my first job, my dad said 'you have to work hard at this.' And through university, I worked two jobs to put myself through school."

Rixon's hard-working ethic, combined with her innate intelligence and driving curiosity, has not gone unrecognized – or unrewarded. Since 1998, she has received half a dozen awards and scholarships, three of which she earned last year at Michener. Rixon's perfect grade point average of 4.0 won her the Dr. Hugh Curry Diagnostic Cytology scholarship and the Dr. Clarence Redekop Memorial scholarship.

"It was a shock," Rixon says of her awards. "I feel very honoured to have received them."

Michener also gave Rixon its Zonta Club of Toronto Diagnostic Cytology scholarship in recognition of her efforts to advance the health of women. Last year, Rixon took it upon herself to create and

circulate flyers on the human papilloma virus (HPV). The flyers, which Rixon has distributed at her own expense in a number of Ontario universities, informs young women about the risks and prevention of this sexually transmitted disease.

"During my first placement at MDS Laboratories, I noticed that we were diagnosing young girls – some as young as 13 – with HPV," recalls Rixon, who holds an honours degree in biological science from the University of Windsor. "That got me thinking about doing something to educate young women on HPV so they can make informed decisions."

Rixon is quick to point out that Her HPV campaign was not a one-woman show; Eileen McDonald, an instructor at Michener, gave Rixon "a lot of help and guidance."

Rixon was also lucky to get help editing and distributing the flyer from a person who knows her and her work almost as well as she does: her identical twin sister, Victoria.

"She's in the same program as me at Michener and we also took biology together at the University of Windsor," says Rixon. "In fact, our (grade point) averages are very similar."

The HPV flyer was not the first time Rixon has worked to help others; she has been volunteering since 1999 for such organizations as Habitat for Humanity, Canadian Red Cross and the Erie Wildlife Rescue, where she took care of injured raccoons, deer, foxes and even vultures.

Rixon also helped raise funds for Transition to Betterness, an organization in Windsor, Ontario, that works to make hospital stays more bearable for cancer patients by transforming their rooms into cosier, homelier spaces.

Like her academic achievements, Rixon's philanthropic efforts have not gone unnoticed. In 2000, she and Victoria both

received the Government of Canada Volunteer of the Year award. The accolade acknowledged the twins' contribution to Habitat for Humanity.

Rixon intends to sign up again as a volunteer with Habitat once she finishes her studies. But instead of working in the organization's supply store as she has done in the past, she now wants to tackle the much tougher job of building homes for families in need.

"I always maintain that it is better to give than receive," says Rixon, "and have found that life is more fulfilling when I'm helping others."

Rixon is also looking forward to working full-time in the field of cytology. Last October, she began her seven-month-long clinical placement with the London Health Sciences Centre in London, Ontario.

So where does she go from there?

"Wherever I can find a job," says Rixon. "That could be in a hospital or a private lab – anywhere where I can continue to learn. I've always been a very curious person and this field allows me to ask a lot of questions."

Given her record of academic excellence and civic involvement, Rixon would have flourished at any educational institution. But she's glad she found her way to Michener.

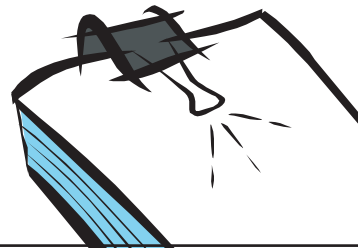
"At Michener, you're placed right from the beginning into such a welcoming learning environment where the teachers are so supportive and totally passionate about what they do," says Rixon. "I think Michener helped to shape me into the person I am today." ■

QUICK FACT

100% Percentage of Diagnostic Cytology Michener grads that were successful in their Provincial and/or National Certification Examinations

Source: Michener Fact Book 2004

Alumni Association Annual Report



BY CAROL D. MARTIN, BSc, MLT, ART, FCSMLS(D)
Chair, Michener Alumni Association Board of Directors (2003-2005)

The Alumni Association is an active group of individuals who serve in an advisory and supportive role and are committed to helping Michener create opportunities for lifelong relationships between graduates and the Michener community. Below are a few of the activities and accomplishments of the Association over the past 16 months:

- The redesign and re-launch of *Michener 222 Magazine for Alumni & Friends* with a greater emphasis on alumni achievements and activities.
- Improved management and tracking of Michener's list of graduates through the purchase of a new software database.
- The new Dr. H. Allen Gardner Memorial Award in Genetics Technology was created with a fundraising campaign lead by Alumni Board Member Lynn Yawney.
- A new Graduation Package was developed and distributed to new graduates to welcome each of them to the Michener Alumni Association. Each package contained information about services and benefits for graduates.
- A new recruitment package was prepared for graduates who are interested in joining the Alumni Association Board of Directors.
- The Alumni Association sponsored a professional development seminar for graduates entitled "Handling Difficult Conversations" as well as sessions for current students on "Interviewing and Resume Writing."
- The Alumni Association sponsored the first **Alumni of Distinction Awards** recognizing one individual in 2003 (Lindsay Campbell, **Medical Laboratory Science '69**) and three individuals in 2004 (Betty Ann Clark, **Medical Laboratory Technology '70**; Rossana Magnotta, **Medical Laboratory Science '73**; and Neena Kanwar, **Nuclear Medicine '81**).
- Members of the Board of Directors raised money for the Alumni Association Scholarship that is available to graduates and/or their children. Two awards of \$500 each were distributed.
- The Michener Alumni Association conducted a successful graduation framing program for new graduates and sold Michener branded clothing and merchandise to support alumni programs and services.
- The **TD Meloche Monnex Student Alumni Award** of \$750 to support students in their final year was created with the support of Michener's long time affinity partner TD Meloche Monnex.

A full copy of the latest Alumni Association Annual Report is available from the Development & Alumni Affairs Office by sending an email to alumni@michener.ca.

Michener Alumni Association Board of Directors

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Nuclear Medicine
Technology '92
Chair

Teresa Salzmann,
Chiropody '90
Vice Chair

Carol Martin
Charles Sturt University '99
Past Chair

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Stephen Chu
Chiropody '06
Student Member

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Medical Laboratory Science '78

Josefina Fisilovici
Histotechnology '77

Jane Hilton
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Karyn Holowaty
Respiratory Therapy '05
Student Member

Michelle Lau
Radiation Therapy '02

Hollin Ng
Radiation Therapy '02

Christine Nielsen
Medical Laboratory Science '97

Tracy Scott,
Respiratory Therapy '97

Andrea Wilson,
Respiratory Therapy '07
Student Member

Jennifer Woodbeck
Respiratory Therapy '02

Lynn Yawney
Medical Laboratory Science '75
Cytogenetics '89

Ex-Officio

Ken Aucoin
Dir., Development & Alumni Affairs

Susan M. Bloxson
Mgr., Annual Fund & Stewardship
Secretary

Michener Alumni Association

Who we are and what we do.

The Alumni Affairs activities of The Michener Institute began in 1997 with the creation of the organization's first Alumni Association of The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences. A constitution was drafted that outlined the role of the association in engaging Michener graduates in the life of the institution.

The Alumni Association's purpose as identified in its constitution is:



- To provide lifelong relationships among members and an ongoing connection to The Michener Institute.
- To assist in the continuous development and growth of The Michener Institute and the Association
- To unite members and students and foster a sense of pride in, and community with, The Michener Institute.
- To build partnerships and act a resource for faculty, administration, students and employers.
- To act as ambassadors advancing the interests of The Michener Institute and enhance its prestige in local, national, and international communities
- To participate in raising funds and encourage alumni financial support through gifts, endowments, scholarships and/or student aid.
- To provide a voice for issues and concerns in the health and education sectors and secure representation where appropriate.
- To develop and promote services and other opportunities for members that will support and benefit them.
- To facilitate opportunities for members to participate in career days, job fairs, reunions, graduations, research and employment opportunities, etc., both locally and internationally.

Alumni Benefits and Services

- A FREE subscription to the Michener 222 Alumni Magazine.
- Free listings in the "Alumni Happenings" section of the Michener 222 Alumni Magazine.
- Send us an email to alumni@michener.ca if you are trying to contact one of your former classmates.
- Preferred group rates on insurance from our alumni affinity partners **Meloche Monnex** (www.melochemonnex.com/michener) or **Canada Life (1-800-387-0649)**.
- Volunteer opportunities! Join the Alumni Association Board.
- Exclusive membership to The Michener Institute's Learning Resource Centre – includes borrowing privileges for books, journals, CD-ROMs, videos, slides and more. Just \$50/year. For more information call (416) 596-3123 or visit www.michener.ca/lrc
- Invitations to Michener events throughout the year such as the Career Fair and Open House
- Trying to hire a Michener student or recent graduate? Send us your job posting and we will circulate them to members of the Michener community.
- Enjoy 24 hour access to Michener's fitness facilities starting from the low price of \$180/year.
- Nominate a Michener graduate for our annual **Alumni of Distinction Awards**....and much more!

Help Us Honour our Graduates!

ALUMNI OF DISTINCTION 2005

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

This is your opportunity to honour the graduates of Michener (and its precursor the Toronto Institute of Medical Technology) who have excelled in their careers and have demonstrated commitment to their communities. We invite you to nominate individuals that you feel are deserving of this special award.

Criteria:

- A graduate of Michener or the Toronto Institute of Medical Technology.
- A graduate who has brought honour to Michener through significant achievement in his/her career and/ or through outstanding service to Michener and/or his/her discipline and/or the healthcare community.
- Is respected by his/her peers and/or is an ambassador for Michener and the community.

Awarded annually in November, the **Alumni of Distinction Awards** offer an exciting opportunity, not only to honour some deserving people, but also to call the public's attention to the vital role Michener/ Toronto Institute of Medical Technology graduates play in Canadian health care.

Deadline for 2005 submission:
JULY 29, 2005

For more information email us at alumni@michener.ca or visit our web site at www.michener.ca/alumni

Remember When?

From the Michener archives



2004 Michener Annual Fund

We Asked and You Gave! Thank You!

Michener's first Annual Fund campaign was a success with over \$40,000 in donations for student scholarships and other initiatives. We are extremely proud of our Alumni and friends for being so generous. Gifts to support the Michener Annual Fund can be made online at www.CanadaHelps.org keywords: "Michener Institute", by phone at 416-596-3101, ext. 3375 or by mailing your cheque to Development Office, 222 St. Patrick Street, Rm 548, Toronto, Ontario, M5T 1V4.

Thank You! To Donors to the 2004 Annual Fund Campaign from April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005

Leaders Circle

(\$1,000 or more)

Ken Aucoin
Lindsay Campbell
Tim Colfe & Cecelia Alfonso
Gwen Dubois-Wing
Edward Street Radiology Associates
Dr. Paul Gamble
Gamma-Dynacare Medical Laboratories
Jonathan & Claudia Gardner & Family
Zita Gardner & Family
Michael Garvey
Michael Hertzman & Joel Ulster & Family
Dr. Winston Isaac
Dr. Renate Krakauer
Dr. Andrew MacRae & Family
Rossana Magnotta
Bill D. Martin
Michener Students
Michener Students Council
Jennifer O'Leary
The Orthotic Group
Dr. Mary Preece
Dr. Diana & Mr. Roy Schatz
Diane & Gary Shiffman
The Zonta Club of Toronto

Chair's Club

(\$500 - \$999)

Catherine Cragg
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Malcolm & Meredith Silver
WWR International

Friends Club

(\$100 - \$499)

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Jeanine Louise Baker
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Gary Cassidy
Cara Chambers
Ellen Charkot
Joyce Clitheroe
Debbie Cohen-Benudiz
Cook (Canada) Inc
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Cameron Craft
Christine Marie Cursio
Stefan Cwikowski
Trent Dark
Raymond Decarie
Susan Dunington
Jeanette Fabris-Brimble
Gloria Fess
Linda Rosanne Flatt
Peter Fong
Kim Suzanne Frederick-Reid
Robert Gardner & Terry Salnick
Anna Georgiou

Rudolf James Gerlach
William Gowman
Wanita Gray
May Louise Griffiths-Turner
Mary Hansell
Cheryl Lyn Harrison
Walter S. Hawrylyshyn
Robert N Heath
Chris Helyar
Ingrid Hoehne
Terrence Hsia
Anthea Mary Hurtubise
Linda Hutchens-Richmond
Pheodora Hutchinson
Maureen Johnstone
Brian F. Kain
James Kerr
Harry Joseph Kleiman
Angela Korwan
Gail Langley
Marie-Claude Larose
Joan Laurie
Rick Leiskau
Daina E. Lougheed
Robert MacKenzie
Lynda Marie Major
Debbie E. Maki
Carolyn Anne Maloney
Carol Diane Martin
Julio Martinez
Vickie A. Mee
Michener Alumni Association
Shaun Milo
Carol Ann Minshall
Christopher Molloy
Brenda Monahan
Carol Morgan
Keith Morley
Sandra Elizabeth Murphy
Chantal Newby

David N. Nykolaychuk
Raymond T. Okamoto
Kathleen Olden-Powell
Anne Margaret Oldham
Jennifer Grace O'Neill
Jennifer Payton
Anne Raby
Patricia Anne Redpath-Plater
Sharon Reid
Monica Anne Reilly
Susan Ritchie
Vernon Robertshaw
Susan Robertson
Margaret Cathy Robinson
Gillian & David Rosenberg & Family
Catherine Mary Rowlands
Anthony Sanfilippo
Kathleen Genita Sayeau
Tracy Scott
J. Bradley Sinclair
Colin Small
Carolyn Smart
Peter Snodgrass
Wendy Sutton
Karim Taher
Moreen Tapper
Judith Thorel
John Traill
Dr. Murray Treloar
Amit H. Trivedi
Peter Vandierendonck
Vivianne Vatavalis (in memory of Basile Vatavalis)
Jessica Walsh
Andrew Wannan
Lai Ling Wat
Diane Williams
David T. Williams
Lynn Yawney



Cynthia Welton (left) receives her 2004 scholarship from Paula Burns, Chair of Therapeutics.

"As a scholarship recipient at Michener, I am truly grateful for the support that helped me to complete my Respiratory Therapy program. I am currently completing my clinical placement and expect to graduate in 2005. I am very excited to begin my professional career in health care and want to thank everyone who gave and continue to give donations to support Michener students like myself."

*Cynthia Welton
Respiratory Therapy '05*

Thank You!



Important Dates to Remember:

- **July 29, 2005**
Deadline for Nominations for 2005 Alumni of Distinction
- **September 20, 2005**
The Michener Institute Annual General Meeting
The Michener Auditorium
- **November 23, 2005**
from 5:00 to 7:00pm
Student Awards and 2005 Alumni of Distinction Ceremony
Schatz Hall, The Michener Institute
- **November 17 (evening) & 18 (day), 2005**
Michener Open House
- **October 1, 2005**
Michener Graduation Ceremony
Metro Toronto Convention Centre
- **April 5, 2006**
Michener's Career Fair

For more information call
416-596-3101 or Toll free 1-800-387-9066

Contest Winner!



The winner of the photo trivia contest in the last issue (Fall 2004) of Michener 222 was Medical Laboratory Sciences faculty member Nancy McBride. An honorary mention to Kim Sutton for "most creative" entry! To read Nancy McBride's winning submission on how one of Toronto's finest found themselves parked on Michener's front stairs one nice sunny day go to www.michener.ca/alumni. Special thanks to our contest judge Eileen Crane from Michener's Centre for Continuing Professional Education!

Michener's Chiropody Program

Michener has announced a one-year suspension of the Chiropody Program intake beginning in Sept. '05. During this time, Michener will work with stakeholder communities, including Chiropody alumni, to redesign the curriculum to better reflect the competency profile for the scope of practice of Chiropodists in Ontario. A one-day consultation is currently being planned by Michener. To receive an invitation, please contact Lori Socket at lsocket@michener.ca or (416) 596-3101, ext. 3062.

In addition, the Ontario Society of Chiropodists is holding an Information Forum to be held on **Friday, June 17, 2005** from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Villa Colombo, 40 Playfair Avenue in Toronto. Speakers include Paula Burns (Michener); Felecia Smith (College of Chiropodists); and Barbara Hall (Ont. Ministry of Health). Info: **905-567-3094** or toll free **1-877-823-1508**.

Michener Program Facilitator Named Educator of the Year

Claire Lightfoot, Michener Diabetes Educator Program facilitator was named Diabetes Educator of the Year by the Canadian Diabetes Association at the CDA Conference in Quebec City in October 2004. **LifeScan Canada Ltd.**, a major corporate partner of Michener's Diabetes Educator Graduate Certificate Program, is the sponsor of this annual CDA award.

Claire facilitates workshops in Vancouver, B.C., is a program tutor and author of one of the Michener program's learning modules. Another facilitator and tutor, Joan Erickson, Naramata, B.C. was awarded the Distinguished Diabetes Educator Section (DES) Volunteer Award for her contributions over the years to the DES of the CDA.

Michener Trivia Contest!

WIN a new
Michener Wear
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Go to www.michener.ca/triviacontest, select your answers to five multiple choice trivia questions and hit the "submit" button. In the case of multiple winners, names will be put into a draw to establish the final winner. Enter now to win! **The five questions are:**



1. In what year did the first graduation of Michener students (formerly known as the Toronto Institute of Medical Technology) take place?
2. What percentage of Michener students have either completed their university degree or have some university or college education before entering into their Michener program?
3. What is the name of the person who was awarded Michener's first Honourary Diploma?
4. How far does human blood travel per day on its journey through the body?
5. What year was the Michener Alumni Association formed?



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Personal Information:

Full Name: _____

Last name at Graduation (if applicable): _____ Year(s) of Graduation: _____

Michener Program(s) you graduated from: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____

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e-mail address(es): _____

Business Address (please complete, or attach your business card):

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Prov./State: _____ Postal/Zip: _____ Phone (work): _____ ext: _____

Work Email address: _____ Fax: _____

Alumni Happenings! in the magazine:

Let your former graduates know what you have been up to. Send us your listing we will publish it in the next issue of Michener 222 Alumni Magazine. Send us your photograph by email and we will print that too!

Give us your photograph and we will print that too! Email to: alumni@michener.ca

Please send me information about:

- Joining the volunteer Alumni Association Board of Directors
- Nominating a fellow Michener graduate for the 2005 Alumni of Achievement Award
- Other (please specify)

Do you know a graduate we should profile in our Alumni Magazine?

Name: _____ Contact Tel. #: _____

Program and Year: _____

We respect your privacy. We do not rent, sell, or trade our mailing lists. From time to time we will send you information to keep you informed of our alumni events, happenings and fundraising opportunities in support of Michener students. Please let us know if you do not wish to receive such information by contacting us at alumni@michener.ca or (416) 596-3101, ext 3229.

Alumni Happenings

Send us your announcements and we'll print them to let the Michener community know what's happening with our graduates. Email to alumni@michener.ca



Patrick Nellis, Respiration Therapy '01

And his wife, Tanya Melykuty, became the very proud parents of a little girl, Nicole, born September 19th, 2003.

Patrick is currently enjoying working as a Respiratory Therapist in the operating room at University Health Network. He has been trained and certified to provide conscious sedation as part of an Anesthesia Assistant role at UHN where he is also a member of the Allied Health Research Committee. Patrick has also completed the Anesthesia Technology program offered by Michener and in the fall of 2004, he co-chaired the UHN United Way Campaign, which raised over \$130,000 for local social and health programs. Since the fall of 2003, Patrick has been teaching on a part-time basis with Michener's Access and Options Program for Internationally Trained Health Care Professionals and recently joined the board of the Respiratory Therapy Society of Ontario as Chair of the Anesthesia Assistants Special Interest Group.

The Perfusion Team at the Montreal Children's Hospital: First in its class!

Its three clinical perfusionists were at the top of their graduating class and received the top mark at their certification exam in 2000, 2003 and 2004.

The Clinical Perfusion Department at the Montreal Children's Hospital (MCH) of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) is proud to announce that its latest addition to the team **Mr. Armindo Fernandes (Cardiovascular Perfusion '03)**, received the Alec Thorpe award at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress in Calgary on October 26th 2004. This award is granted annually to the top result in the national certification examination of the Canadian Society of Clinical Perfusion. Furthermore, Mr. Fernandes received the gold medal in 2003 for academic achievement from the Michener Institute's Cardiovascular Perfusion program. The Perfusion Team's other two perfusionists, **Mr. Eric Laliberté (Cardiovascular Perfusion '99)**, Chief of the Clinical Perfusion Department, and **Mr. Christos Calaritis (Cardiovascular Perfusion '02)**, also received these two awards in 1999-2000 and 2002-2003, respectively. We are also very proud to mention that the MCH perfusion team was named the Canadian Perfusion Team of the year 2002 for their outstanding patient care provided for little miracle, Émile Jutras, first Canadian child to receive a pediatric mechanical heart; The Berlin Heart.

The MCH is a tertiary pediatric cardiovascular center serving the province of Quebec and occasionally receives referrals from other Canadian provinces.

The MCH perfusion team is trained to perform cardiopulmonary bypass on



neonates up to adolescents afflicted with congenital heart disease, necessitating open-heart surgery. In addition, the team is trained and has the equipment to perform and assist with neonatal and pediatric extracorporeal life support, research, mechanical ventricular assist device implantation, cryoablation for arrhythmogenic pathways, platelet gel, peri-operative autotransfusion and neonatal/pediatric heart transplantation. As a matter of fact, last month, the first neonatal heart transplantation in the province of Quebec was conducted at the MCH. The pediatric perfusion team also provides and receives assistance from its colleagues at the adult clinical sites of the MUHC.

The MCH Perfusion Department is proud to be an accredited pediatric training center for the Michener Institute Cardiovascular Perfusion Program. The team is regularly involved in many in-hospital, local, regional, provincial and national committees that promote the cardiovascular perfusion profession in Quebec and in Canada.

On this Centennial celebration of the Montreal Children's Hospital, everyone can be proud of the accomplishment of this exceptional perfusion team.

Submitted by The Perfusion Team of the Montreal Children's Hospital

Congratulations The Michener Institute Alumni Association Scholarship award recipients of 2004,

Kathleen Olden-Powell (Respiratory Therapy '80) & Tracy Scott (Respiratory Therapy '97). The \$500 awards were presented to Kathleen and Tracy at Michener's Student Awards and Alumni of Distinction Ceremony on November 24, 2004. Kathleen also received the \$750 TD Meloche Monnex Alumni Scholarship.

Joseph Perri, Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) Class of 2005,

Was selected to receive a \$500 scholarship from the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS) through their student scholarship program. The award recognizes Joe's academic achievements, his leadership qualities, potential for success in the profession, and his community activities. Joe is currently completing his clinical year at Lakeridge Health Corporation in Oshawa. On behalf of everyone at Michener, congratulations, Joe!



Mika Nonoyama, Respiratory Therapy '97 Married Tim Bishop August 28, 2004 in Toronto. They first met on a blind date on the rear entrance steps of The Michener Institute. Additionally Mika is now working on her PhD at the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of Toronto.

Kim Chrisztopoulos, Genetics Technology '03

Was recently featured in an article published March 15, 2005 in the 'Era Banner', a Metroland Community newspaper in Ontario. The article wrote of Kim's impressive accomplishments including her many fundraising efforts for breast cancer. To read the full article, please visit the website: www.yorkregion.com.

Fay-Meling von Moltke Pao, Jasmine Sufi and Ellice Yang, all Acupuncture '04

Are proud to announce the opening of their new Acupuncture Clinic at Yonge & Eglinton in Toronto, ON. They offer relaxing amenities, natural therapies, attentive service and clinical excellence in promoting health and well-being. Come see us! AcuHealthCentre: 2401 Yonge St, Suite #214, Toronto, ON M4P 3H1 www.acuhealthcentre.com • www.acupao.com contact: info@acuhealthcentre.com and meling@sympatico.ca



Tracey Darlington, Respiratory Therapy 1996 and Rajesh Sharma, Respiratory Therapy 1994

Are delighted to announce that they were married on August 21, 2004.

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[†]Group auto insurance rates are not applicable in Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island. Due to provincial legislation, our auto insurance program is not offered in British Columbia, Manitoba or Saskatchewan. **The home and auto insurance program is underwritten by Security National Insurance Company.**

***No purchase necessary.** The contest is open to residents of Canada who have reached the age of majority where they reside. The approximate value of the prize is \$64,500. The contest runs from January 1 to December 31, 2005. In order to win, the entrant, selected at random, must correctly answer a mathematical skill-testing question. For more details on the contest, see the complete rules at melochemonnex.com/michener.