

2019/2020
EDUCATION REPORT



Teaching and Learning for a Healthier World

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

Normally I would use this space to reflect upon our accomplishments in Education throughout the past fiscal year. However, what happened around the world when the COVID-19 pandemic hit allowed The Michener Institute of Education at UHN to demonstrate every one of our strengths so brilliantly that I want to focus these remarks on those particular accomplishments.

The speed with which the school of applied health sciences faculty and staff mobilized to keep students on track to graduate and enter the workforce still astonishes me. Not only was there virtually no interruption to curriculum delivery, but those learners critical to the pandemic response were fast-tracked to graduation and certification and began working almost immediately. This couldn't have happened without our deep education design expertise, the passion and commitment of our faculty and staff, and our innate agility.

The hands-on part of our learners' experience has been interrupted by the pandemic, of course, as clinical learning placements at hospitals were paused into the summer. However, medical residents – supported by the medical and clinical education teams - have continued to support key clinical programs across UHN and were especially appreciated as they redeployed to key areas such as critical care, general internal medicine, COVID units and the emergency department.

Very early in the pandemic, the provincial Critical Care Table asked Michener to develop a learning platform and materials to support health care providers who would be redeploying to care for COVID-19 patients. It was remarkable how quickly our continuing education and professional development leadership team mobilized and created a community of experts to pull this off – and to continually adapt as the situation evolves. COVIDcarelearning.ca has helped more than 8,000 health care professionals so far and members of Canada's military feel safe and prepared to work on the front lines of this pandemic.

UHN's libraries stepped up during the pandemic to do what they uniquely and expertly do best: curate and present information to help guide research, decision-making, learning and patient care. To direct people to credible scientific evidence as it evolves, the UHN Health Sciences Library and the Michener Learning Resource Centre created and continue to update the Science of COVID-19 Portal. Supporting this work, The Institute of Education Research (TIER) contributed to the portal, and launched a speakers' series related to the science of COVID and best practices in teaching, learning and assessment.



Dr. Brian Hodges

Executive Vice-President,
Education and
Chief Medical Officer

There are so many more examples I could share – from creating space in the student residence for hospital workers who tested positive and couldn't return home to creating a special bursary for learners impacted by the pandemic. I am so proud to work with such a committed and talented team of educators and staff, and I think what we have done together during this trying time is proof of our institution's unique importance to the health care system.

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Partners Step Into Innovative New Program at Michener



L to R: Dr. Michael Baker, Dr. Kevin Smith, Dr. Brian Hodges, Sala and Leo Goldhar, Raj Kothari, Tennyson Hanson

“This specialized foot and wound care clinic will lead the way in foot and wound care diagnosis, intervention and treatment.”

Dr. Brian Hodges

Leo Goldhar remembers his late friend Doug Hanson talking about his visits to the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre’s Vascular Clinic and UHN Chiropract Titi Manning-Atwell. “Doug would tell me that Titi was keeping him alive and on his feet. He was also concerned about what would happen to all of Titi’s knowledge and experience if she ever decided to retire,” Leo recalls.

Doug had been battling foot problems, as do many people who suffer with diabetes. Sadly, this condition often results in amputations. Titi, however, is determined to save as many limbs as she can. A veteran in the field of chiropody for more than 42 years, she handles the most difficult chiropody cases at UHN.

After Doug's passing in 2017, Leo and his wife Sala decided to name a clinic in memory of their friend, and in appreciation of Doug's wife, Tennys Hanson, Chief Executive Officer of the Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation (TGWHF). With Michener offering the only English language chiropody program in Canada, a special opportunity emerged.

In 2019, a partnership was crafted through the leadership of Dr. Brian Hodges to complement the foot and wound clinic in the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre. This partnership created opportunities for a select group of chiropody program graduates to study under Titi and ultimately expand the capacity for specialized foot and wound care.

"Leo and Sala's gift launched this initiative and made it all possible," says Brian. "This specialized foot and wound care clinic will lead the way in foot and wound care diagnosis, intervention and treatment."

Catharine Gray, the Academic Chair of Michener's Chiropody program and Discipline Head of Chiropody at UHN, understands how unique the program is in the Chiropody profession. "It was key that the curriculum for the Advanced Foot and Wound Care Fellowship program aligned with specific learning objectives from Health Quality Ontario Standards for Diabetic Foot Ulcers," Catharine says. "We're thrilled that the first fellow began the program in February."

With expertise from professionals like Titi, and the partnership between UHN and Leo and Sala Goldhar, Michener's Advanced Foot and Wound Care fellowship provides a unique chance for chiropody professionals to receive specialized training and move their career forward. In this sense, the partnership is a key contribution to chiropody education at UHN and the profession in general.



One of Michener's Oldest Bursaries Becomes More Accessible to Students

Ezequiel Ledesma, Michener faculty member, presents Cadence Chia and Diem Vu with the Dr. Fred Heagy Bursary at Michener's 2019 Student Awards Ceremony.

There's a moment from her father's funeral that Muriel Andreae will never forget. Among the people coming to say goodbye to Dr. Fred Heagy was the switchboard operator at the hospital where he had worked. Fifty five years earlier, Dr. Heagy had taken the time to visit her in the hospital when she was unwell. Now, she was returning the favour.

On November 6th, Michener celebrated the Student Awards Ceremony, an annual event to recognize students' achievements

through scholarships and bursaries. The Dr. Fred Heagy Bursary was started in 1997 in memory of Dr. Heagy and recognizes Michener Nuclear Medicine students who have maintained a high academic average.

But over the past year, Michener's Registrar Cathy Carson noticed that there were very few applicants for the bursary, leaving considerable funds available: "I realized that we could encourage more applicants by making the criteria more relatable for students, while honouring the original intent of the bursary."

These changes now award \$1,500 to a third-year Nuclear Medicine student and \$1,000 to a second-year Nuclear Medicine student who have both strong academic accomplishments and a financial need – something that was important to Dr. Heagy and his family.

"Dad would be proud," Muriel says. "He knew you can't focus on your studies when you're distracted by financial stress. He would have wanted to help these students."



Respiratory Therapy Students Graduate Five Weeks Early to Enter the Frontlines

Jaspreet Singh completed Michener's Respiratory Therapy program five weeks early, and now works in the ICU at Toronto Western Hospital.

In a normal year, students graduating from Michener's Respiratory Therapy program would be finishing off their 30-week clinical placement and preparing for the program composite exam.

But 2020 has been anything but normal.

In late March, five weeks before the end of their clinical placement, Respiratory Therapy students in their last year of the program received an email from Michener: they were being accelerated to complete the program early, and would need to apply to the College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario (CRTO) so they could enter the workforce immediately to care for patients with COVID-19.

Jaspreet Singh is one of the Respiratory Therapy students who was contacted. "It was exciting, but also surreal," says Jaspreet. "We went from ending clinical early to becoming a frontline worker

within days. As a new grad, you're usually thinking about getting a job and passing the licencing exam, but instead we're thinking about precautions in a pandemic."

A day after learning that she had graduated early, Jaspreet got a call from the Respiratory Therapy clinical coordinator at Toronto Western Hospital asking when she could start in the Intensive Care Unit. Hospitals needed Respiratory Therapists as quickly as possible to stay ahead of the COVID-19 surge, and new grads were already familiar with hospital policies and had completed most of their clinical rotations. Their skills and knowledge were as current as possible.

Lori Peppler-Beechey is the Academic Chair of Michener's Respiratory Therapy department and played a big role in coordinating the early graduation and bringing Michener students up to speed on the unique situation.

"This was really a collaborative effort," says Lori. "The CRTO reached out to all educational institutions with Respiratory Therapy programs in the province and clearly outlined their support for early graduation. Our students spent the past 25 weeks completing their clinical learning, and along with their experience in clinical simulation throughout the program, we were confident that their knowledge and competencies met the entry-to-practice standards for the profession."

Jaspreet understands the contribution that she and her classmates are making to fighting this pandemic, and she's humbled by the gratitude. "When people are out there cheering for frontline workers, I'm right there with them. But then I realize 'wait, this cheering is also for me.' It's all been life changing."

Enabling Curiosity, Discovery and Applied Research



Dr. Ann Russell introduces members of the TIER Advisory Board (L to R: Chris Stigas, Patient Representative; Dr. Kathryn Nichol, Chair; Dr. Marlene Scardamalia, Education Science Representative; Lisa Di Prospero, Community Health Representative; Dr. Brian Hyndman, Education Science Representative)

In September 2019, members of the Michener and UHN community gathered to celebrate the launch of the seventh UHN institute: The Institute for Education Research (TIER) at UHN.

Through the adoption of a unique research model, TIER welcomes researchers and partners from across the health care continuum, as well as university and college sectors, to provide an extensive

view on health care education. As a hub for experts to come together, incubate ideas and leverage expertise, TIER is shining a light on an under-researched field to develop the future of Canada's health care professionals. Innovation in health care is fueled by curiosity—a desire to translate hands-on experience and knowledge into new technologies, improved practices and ultimately the best care. With our health care system changing at breakneck speeds, our education system must equip health care professionals with new competencies to lead discovery.

TIER and the Michener Institute for Education at UHN are working together to make this goal a reality. Beyond how Michener ensures students have hands-on experience, TIER has created a research hub that will open the door for students to undertake research: an opportunity that previously wasn't accessible for students within the college sector. While it is still early days for TIER, preliminary indicators show unlimited potential for building research capacity.

Yaroslav Sokolsky was a student within Michener's Medical Laboratory Science program. For approximately a year, he was a member of a team that developed a novel method for more effectively screening extended-spectrum β -lactamases (ESBLs) and carbapenemase-producing organisms (CPO). CPOs are antibiotic resistant bacteria that pose a significant threat to the safety of patients and the general population. The results of this work have the

“Being part of research keeps you sharp and ahead of the curve so you can anticipate what is coming.”

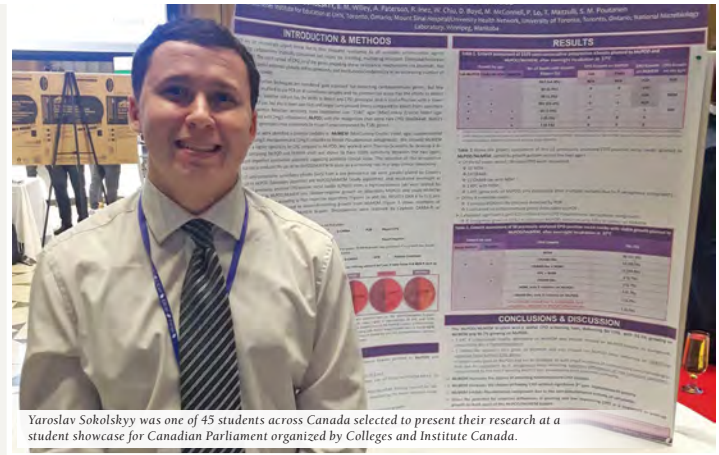
Terenz Escartin

potential to profoundly change how hospital laboratory medicine is practiced.

“Undertaking research has really helped to ignite my interest in the field. Taking a deep dive and moving from the basics allows you to ask the important questions and even make immediate impact on patient care,” said Yaroslav Sokolskyy, Diploma, Clinical laboratory Science/ Medical Technology, 2019.

As the newest research institute at UHN, TIER is striving to redefine traditional research models and is open to all health care professionals at all stages of their careers. With a belief that we are stronger together, TIER is bringing together those with a passion and desire for inquiry and innovation.

When Terenz Escartin graduated from Michener’s Radiological Technology program, his curiosity about the X-ray profession drove his interests in pursuing a Master’s degree at the Robarts Research Institute with



Dr. Ian Cunningham. They collaborated with Michener to investigate the detective quantum efficiency (DQE) of their state-of-the-art digital X-ray detectors. The results from this research will enhance on-going quality assurance practices and the development of evidence-based strategies of X-ray detectors in clinical environments.



Empowering Health Care Providers Through Educational Opportunities

Keynote speaker Dr. Narinder Paul presenting at WAVELENGTHS

In 2019, TIER hosted its first ever WAVELENGTHS conference – a symposium for imaging technologists to build their skills and showcase works-in-progress, quality improvement projects, innovations in practice and completed research. A second Wavelengths is in the works, offering research workshops and a symposium that recognizes the growing interest in cultivating quality improvement and research competencies.

The Big Ideas Lecture Series started in 2017 and features lectures by content experts in technology, innovation and design. In a time of rapid technological and social innovation, it is essential

to connect with “big thinkers” and experts – locally and globally – to analyze, critically appraise and design solutions to the pressing issues facing education and health care today.

The Institute’s new signature annual lecture series, the Dr. Daniel C. Andreae President’s Lecture on the Future of Work, will feature distinguished speakers with unique and important perspectives related to educating for the future of the health professions. In conjunction with the lecture, students at the School of Applied Health Sciences are also invited to apply for a scholarship related to the topic of the

coming year’s lecture, giving them an opportunity to both shine and connect with a thought leader in an area of interest related to how we learn and teach for our lifetime.

Finally, The Third Rail: Electrifying Conversations in Health Care features discussions led by health practitioners, educators, and local activists who’ve worked to improve the political and social determinants of health that affect health care provision in Ontario and beyond. TIER is pleased to deliver this series in partnership with UHN Bioethics, UHN Collaborative Academic Practice, and CACE at The Women’s College Hospital.

Michener Receives First Ever Grant to Refine Virtual Reality Platform for Caregiver Simulation Training

The Michener Institute of Education at UHN, in collaboration with the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute and Baycrest, has been awarded a Spark grant from the Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovation (CABHI) for their project on Virtual Reality Training for Caregivers of Persons with Dementia.

The Spark Program is an initiative that funds innovative grassroots ideas that can help to improve brain health or quality of life for older adults. The organizations will be funded \$50,000 over one year for their work on utilizing virtual reality (VR) to improve training for caregivers.

Providing learning opportunities for caregivers of persons with dementia (PWD) to develop skills that maximize safe, compassionate care is a key priority in health care.

Michener has previously collaborated with clinical educators at University Health Network (UHN) to develop in-person simulation sessions for health care providers who encounter PWD with responsive behaviours. However, in-person simulation has limitations.

“Interactions during the encounter must be limited to ensure that both learners and simulated patients are not physically harmed,” says Kerry Knickle, Director, Simulated Participant Program. “This compromises the authenticity of the simulations and limits the effectiveness of training, as learners are not able to fully experience behaviours that risk progressing to physical threat.”

Michener is collaborating with the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute and Baycrest to develop a VR platform

where simulations are delivered in a risk-free environment that leverages opportunities for de-escalation training, situational awareness and perspective-taking.

This new platform will address the risks of live simulation and add a new opportunity for empathy building. Caregivers will be able to build empathy as an observer by taking either the perspective of the person with dementia or the caregiver during the interaction.

“The project aims to refine and scale a VR platform and simulation curriculum that will maximize opportunities for effective education for caregivers of persons with dementia,” says Jordan Holmes, Interim Director, Centre for Learning, Innovation and Simulation (CLIS). “This VR platform will allow caregivers to practice behavioural strategies with a live simulated patient that reacts in real time, based on the caregivers’ responses.”

New nurses and other health care providers at UHN are required to participate in a new staff orientation which now includes a session on situational awareness and verbal de-escalation. As many of these staff interact with patients with dementia, delirium, under the influence of substances, or individuals that have an underlying mental health condition and may become upset or distressed, it is important for them to practice techniques to assist in de-escalation.



Jordan Holmes, Interim Director, Centre for Learning, Innovation and Simulation demonstrating the use of VR technology to a participant.

Traditionally, this training involves learners participating in a simulation scenario with patient actors in which they must de-escalate a patient who has developed delirium and is becoming increasingly distressed. However, the VR project team has asked to work with clinical educators to use their training scenario in the development of this new tool.

“As part of the project, we’ll have the learners divided into two groups,” says Aideen Carroll, Advanced Practice Nurse Educator in Mental Health at UHN. “One group will be interacting with the actors in-person and the other will interact with them through virtual reality.”

Afterward, the groups will debrief to compare their experiences and the methods of delivery.

“This is all very new and exciting for us. The whole idea of virtual reality will help us expand the possibilities of this training and take the objective to a higher level,” says Aideen.

This is the first grant that Michener has been successful in capturing, with Dr. Nancy McNaughton, Education Scholar, CLIS, as Principle Investigator. It will flow through The Institute for Education Research (TIER), which is one of seven institutes within the UHN Research family.

The Evolution of the School of Continuing Education



The home for
lifelong learning
with world class
programs and
services

The School of Continuing Education (CE) at the Michener Institute of Education at UHN has spent the past year continuing to position itself as one of the most important Canadian centres for continuing education and professional development within health care.

In January 2020, a School of CE Summit was held that brought together various voices in Education across UHN, as well as clinical programs, patient experience, human resources, the Toronto General and Toronto Western Foundation and learners. Key focuses for the Summit included program development,

partnerships, research, advocacy and policy and international considerations such as cultural humility and social responsibility.

At a time when health care is rapidly transformed by new technologies, digitization and the emergence of artificial intelligence and robotics, Michener is leading comprehensive programs to assist health professionals in adjusting to these transformations and incorporating them into daily practice

The School's high-quality programs and services are led by a network of educators that offer flexible learning opportunities for a number of professions, and for those working at intersections of health care as providers, educators, researchers and administrators.

The School of CE, one of four hallmark initiatives that UHN's Education Strategic Plan is centred on, offers a home for lifelong learning with world-class programs and services. Part of its strategy focuses on leveraging the expertise of UHN through partnerships and collaborations with clinical programs.

The School's goals are being realized through engagement with a team led by Michener's School of CE created an online education, which launched in October 2019. It comprises an interprofessional group of individuals and leaders from educational hubs across UHN and represents a diverse population range, including clinical areas, patients and families, and human resources.

As the School of CE evolves, there is tremendous opportunity to create academies for teaching and learning that are population-specific and aligned to UHN's areas of strength.

In the past year, this includes new program innovation like The Rectal Cancer Surgical Education Institute (ReCSEI) and the Artificial Intelligence in Health Care Certificate program.

ReCSEI is the first of a series of Surgical Education Institutes coming to Michener. The nine-month program featured Toronto's collective expertise in the treatment of rectal cancer and insights from international surgeons, with a faculty of more than 30. In addition to enhancing practice and raising awareness on various applications, approaches and techniques, the inaugural program helped form a community of practice that includes residents, fellows and experienced surgeons.

COVID + Critical Care LEARNING

Michener-Led Team Helps Upskill Health Care Workers to Provide COVID-19 Care

With the rapid rise and severity of COVID-19 cases, hospitals and long-term care facilities urgently needed to redeploy health care professionals across the province. To make this happen quickly, a team led by Michener's School of CE created an online education package to ensure health care workers have the information they need to safely care for COVID-19 and other critically ill patients and residents.

The resources on the site are intended for health care providers such as anesthesia assistants, nurses, personal support workers, physicians, physician assistants, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, registered dietitians and respiratory therapists, who are involved in COVID-19 care.

What started as a regional effort became a provincial project at the request of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term

Care, Ontario Health and the Provincial COVID-19 Critical Care Command Table.

"This interprofessional and collaborative team has done a service of immense importance to health care professionals who are now facing the very daunting prospect of working in critical care or in long-term care," said Dr. Brian Hodges, Michener's Executive Vice-President of Education. "What this team has accomplished will directly translate into increased confidence and better peace of mind for very anxious health care professionals and I don't think I am exaggerating when I say it will lead to better care for patients and contribute to lives saved."

Since the site's launch in April, over 8,000 health care professionals so far have accessed the site's resources in order to prepare for possible redeployment. Eden Wright, a registered

nurse working in a cancer unit at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre that had recently transitioned to a COVID-19 unit, was one of the site's early users. "I can tell that working through the course will help my patients tremendously, as well as myself and my colleagues. Thanks again and know that this will have a positive impact over here," said Ms. Wright.

"Curating, developing and launching COVID-19 education for the province has been the most rapid collaboration in health professions education that I've experienced in my career," says Maria Tassone, Michener's Senior Director of the School of Continuing Education and Chair of the Provincial Task Force. "Knowing that we're contributing in a meaningful way to our colleagues directly caring for patients and residents in this unprecedented time fuels our work. We're grateful to play a small part."



Inaugural Education Conference Brings Multiple Portfolios Together

UHN's International Centre for Education's Dalia Al-Mouaswas, Adele Pimentel, and Alaa El Mourad at Convergence 2020.

Converging care, research and education – that was the goal of The Michener Institute of Education at UHN's inaugural health care education conference.

Taking place this past February, Convergence 2020, co-sponsored by the School of Continuing Education and the Clinical Education Portfolio, highlighted the work of various education units across UHN and the Toronto community through a dynamic collection of workshops, sessions, exhibits and debates.

While the concept for such an event had been marinating within the Michener community for some time, it was the alignment and timing of various factors, including the formalization of Michener's Education Strategic Plan, and e-Learning and Curriculum Development Coordinator Jennifer Levine's participation in the UHN Emerging Leaders program, that helped to get the ball rolling.

The 10-month program teaches employees to examine new ways of enhancing their current performance and preparing for possible future leadership opportunities. At the end of the

session, participants use their newly acquired skills to produce a project.

"Educators don't often have many opportunities to talk to other educators and we crave that kind of connection to build off one another, so the idea for Convergence was this marriage of all those pieces," says Jennifer.

The sponsoring portfolios built on their already longstanding and successful collaboration to pull together an interprofessional organizing committee representing the campuses of UHN to organize and facilitate the event in a little over a year.

The unveiling of Michener's Education Strategic Plan during the process was the perfect opportunity for the organizing committee to utilize the plan and its theme, Teaching and Learning for a Healthier World, to streamline the conference themes. Abstracts submitted for various activities had to fit within one of the plan's five Strategic Priorities: champion a culture of teaching and learning; drive the convergence of education, care and research; translate emerging technologies into innovative teaching; push the boundaries of

health care education; be a system incubator and solution hub

The name Convergence was born from the strategic plan, leveraging one of its key priorities, while also referencing the convergence of those at TeamUHN and across the GTA, at a forum where they can learn about, with and from each other.

The conference day included 24 lightning talks (three short presentations followed by group discussion) and 16 workshops (two-hour session on one topic) covering a range of topics relevant to a number of health care professions. It also featured Dr. Kathryn Parker from Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital as the conference's inaugural keynote, who addressed skills for the future of health care.

"I've been to many conferences and I didn't get that same feeling of community that I got at Convergence. We've also heard this from many of the attendees," says Mohammad Salhia, Director of Continuing Education and UHN International Centre for Education. "It was also a wonderful way to showcase the incredible work led by our institute."

Teaching and Learning Week



A group of Teaching and Learning Week volunteers.
L to R: Vesna Sitobad, Ebijus Maher, Tracy Paulenko, Fiona Cherryman,
Audrea McLaughlin, Peter Bridge, Sherry Darling, Jennifer Stanga

“Education affects us in so many positive ways, even in day to day life.”

Jill Krupa

From the moment a lightbulb turns on for a student in class, to the instant a health professional’s explanation clicks for a patient, teaching and learning happens all around us and plays a vital role in improving patient care.

Jill Krupa and Tracy Paulenko from Clinical Education, working within the Teaching and Learning Ecosystem hallmark, know that education can happen when we least expect it. In February, Jill, who is the Education Coordinator, and Tracy, the Educational Development and Interprofessional Education-Care Co-Leader, helped to organize UHN’s first Teaching and Learning Week. Put on in conjunction with a team from Michener’s School of Continuing Education, the event took place across all UHN sites as a way to connect UHN’s education community and showcase the range of teaching and learning resources available.

“This was something we wanted to do for a long time,” says Jill. “It was a chance for TeamUHN to reflect on and celebrate the education work we’re all doing, but also appreciate how teaching and learning is essential to our everyday work.”

The team coordinated booths at each UHN site throughout the week and asked visitors a question that remains the overarching theme for the event: What brings you joy in teaching and learning at UHN?

The booths showcased ways that teachers and learners can enhance skills, find the most useful resources for their needs or become better education leaders, scholars or researchers. More than 500 people visited the booths – a big success for the organizers.

What surprised Jill and Tracy the most about the event were the visitors themselves. And with all of the different education needs and interests across UHN, they were amazed at how quickly visitors' goals and connections came together.

“A patient dropped by a booth and remarked on the incredible care he was receiving from a UHN medical fellow. Searching for her name, the patient turned around and there she was,” Tracy remembers. “As we chatted, the medical fellow mentioned her goal was an education research masters—on the spot we connected her with someone from The Institute for

Education Research. A full circle connection from patient care to education research!”

When it comes to education and patient care, Teaching and Learning Week is one example of how UHN is working to close the gaps and improve patient outcomes long term. Health care education involves more than refining clinical skills and knowledge; it's also about self-management, confidence with new skills and even personal growth. These skills aren't always gained in a conventional learning environment, and that's what makes Teaching and Learning Week, showcasing the many teaching and learning opportunities at UHN, so essential to the entire community – from students to frontline workers to patients and their families.

“Education is so rewarding,” says Jill. “It affects us in so many positive ways, even in day to day life.”

Teaching and Learning Week took place from February 19 to 28 and opened with Michener's one-day education conference Convergence2020.



Accelerating the Adoption of Artificial Intelligence in Health Care

The Michener Institute of Education at UHN and Vector Institute are setting out to transform the skills and capabilities of front-line health care professionals in the application of artificial intelligence (AI) to health services. Thanks to a two-year, \$1.52 million grant from Future Skills Canada, the organizations will partner with other health care and academic groups to empower a workforce with the knowledge, skills, and capabilities to embed AI in patient care with compassion.

The project, called Accelerating the Adoption of Artificial Intelligence in

Health Care, is a unique opportunity that brings together some of the world's top AI minds in Canada to teach health care professionals. This unique partnership combines comprehensive AI and education design expertise with access to real-time clinical practice and patient feedback. The goal is to develop and evaluate new approaches to better equip health care organizations and professions with the skills required to accelerate the adoption of new technologies.

There are three stages to the project. The first stage, called Transforming the Mindset, will develop a basic

AI awareness and literacy training program for clinical staff, aiming to help them embrace the culture of AI. The second, Transforming the Skillset, will involve the development and delivery of advanced AI literacy and training programs. The third, Transforming the Toolset, will develop AI leaders through more intensive training programs. A monitoring and coaching program will also be established to improve the use of AI for our patients and health system.

More details about the project are online at michener.ca/acceleratingAI.



UHN's Libraries are a Critical Link in the Education Chain

Michener's Learning Resource Centre Team. L to R: Jaffer Shaikh Mohammed, Juanita Richardson, Graham Lavender, Yan Yan Selina Zhou, Thomas Blennerhassett, Kristen Geras and Braveenan Nirmalan.

Learning in health care is often tied to a specific place. Most of the time, that means either the classroom or the hospital for a clinical placement. But there are other health care learning spaces that might not seem so obvious.

At UHN, with its diverse range of learners and teachers, libraries are a space where education happens beyond the classroom or the workplace. Learners rely on libraries to give them the most relevant, authentic and authoritative information, without which health care education can't happen.

Tim Tripp, the Director of Library and Information Services at UHN, understands this well. "Every research project starts with a question, and we often help define what that question is," say Tim. "That's what we're good at."

Among the many services they provide to support learners and researchers, UHN's libraries offer classes and workshops on different aspects of information literacy and research skills, such as mining

medical databases and staying current with online health care information.

Tim and his team also help UHN staff and students with literature searches as part of systematic reviews (a summary of health care study or trial results). "We participate in about 150 reviews a year and each one takes months to complete. Our staff are key partners in these projects," says Tim.

While UHN's libraries mainly support clinicians and researchers, The Michener Institute of Education at UHN's Learning Resource Centre (LRC) supports learners with different needs. As a library in an academic institution, Michener's LRC team offers resources for the specific programs at Michener and works with students who are preparing to enter the workforce. In this sense, the LRC's role is to help students fine-tune professional skills like critical thinking and knowledge sharing.

"Our number one role is to enable learning," says Juanita Richardson,

Manager of the LRC. "The students' assignments prepare them for their professional lives and their future responsibilities to their field. The LRC supports that work."

With all of this support behind the scenes, libraries are a critical link in the education chain at UHN. As Tim says, "we curate information resources for the whole organization. It's all online and accessible, but so much work goes into it."



GOVERNANCE



The UHN Education Committee is an advisory committee to both the UHN Board of Trustees and the Michener Board of Governors. Pictured here are Education Committee members Dan Andreae, Cornell Wright and Judith John in the front row; Ann Russell, Brian Hodges, Kevin Smith, Darlene Dasent and Marc Toppings in the back.

Board Update

In June 2019, UHN launched its Five-Year Education Strategic Plan: Teaching and Learning for a Healthier World – an ambitious plan centred around the vision that teaching and learning builds stronger, healthier communities. This is the core value of Michener’s Board of Governors.

The Board has provided oversight and guidance on the implementation planning for the four strategic hallmark initiatives outlined in the Strategic Plan, including the successful launch of TIER in September 2019.

In July 2019, Cliff Nordal retired as the Chair of Michener’s Board of Governors. Cornell Wright, co-head of Mergers and Acquisitions practice at Torys LLP, accepted the role of incoming Chair and is joined by Dr. Kevin Smith, President and CEO of UHN; Dr. Lynn Wilson, Vice Dean of Partnerships and Professor of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Toronto; and Dr. Dan Andreae, Professor of Psychology at Guelph-Humber and Associate Adjunct Professor at the University of Waterloo. The Board is also pleased to welcome Judith John, Vice President of Engagement and Marketing for the Royal Ontario Museum, as its first patient partner.

The Michener Institute of Education at UHN Students by the Numbers



17,482 TOTAL LEARNERS

Thank you to our donors

The Michener Institute of Education at UHN continues to work in close partnership with Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation to raise funds for various educational initiatives across our five campuses. With thanks to the generosity of many dedicated donors, this has been a record-breaking year of philanthropy and support for higher learning.

The Temerty Foundation, Johnson & Johnson Medical Products and Marc Muzzo have been instrumental in helping us come closer to reaching our goal of redeveloping the 12th floor of our St. Patrick campus. They have ensured that we will have state-of-the-art spaces and equipment available for the next generation of students to train on and enhance their surgical and medical skills.

Building on our vision to bring our health care professionals into the future of surgical medicine, Dr. Dan Andreae and Patricia Holt Hornsby have made a generous joint contribution towards the development of a Robotics Academy at The Michener Institute. Their support will enable us to become a training centre of excellence in Canada, as we create a curriculum that evaluates the benefits of robotic-assisted surgery and patient outcomes through simulated, educational programs. Beyond that, the late Helga Schmidt recognized the potential of artificial intelligence, robotics and education, and made a landmark donation towards A.I. and surgery research.

We also wish to thank the Bank of Montreal, Dräger Medical, The Garron Foundation and Medtronic Ltd. for their continuous support of our many academic endeavours that we have expanded this past year through courses, fellowships, conferences and events. Together, you are helping us raise the bar as we strive to become a global leader in health care education.



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