Five hundred and seventy-third

Convocation

for conferring degrees

Presiding

Chancellor

Suzanne B. Labarge
B.A., M.B.A., D.Litt. (Hon.)

President and Vice-Chancellor

Patrick Deane
B.A. (Hons.), M.A., Ph.D.

McMaster University recognizes and acknowledges that we meet today on the traditional territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee nations and within the lands protected by the Dish With One Spoon wampum agreement.
ORDER OF EXERCISES

Musical Prelude
The Graduand Procession
The Academic Procession
The Chancellor's Procession

The Dean's Welcome
Dr. Maureen MacDonald

The Chancellor's Welcome
Dr. Suzanne B. Labarge

The Conferring of the Degree Doctor of Science
honoris causa on Bernhard Banaschewski
Citation: Dr. Patrick Deane

The Convocation Address
Dr. Bernhard Banaschewski

The Conferring of Degrees In-Course
Musical Interlude

The Presentation of the Graduates
The Valedictory Address
Patricia Kousoulas

Awards of the 2016-2017 Session
The Alumni Address
McMaster Alumni Association

The President’s Address
Dr. Patrick Deane

Announcements

The National Anthem

Convocation ceremonies will be recorded, broadcasted live and archived at http://registrar.mcmaster.ca/grad
Follow @McMasterConvo on Twitter, tweet with #MacGrad2017 and try our Snapchat filter!

The President's academic regalia is a gift of the McMaster University Alumni Association.

The Convocation Music Supervisor......................... Arlene Wright (Piano)
Convocation Trumpeters............................................. Bob Grim and Valerie Cowie
Piper................................................................. Jamie Connolly
Vocalist............................................................. Emily Rebekah Taub

Immediately following Convocation, graduates and their guests are invited for a reception in Hamilton Convention Centre, Wentworth Room BC.
THE RITUALS OF CONVOCATION

The procession of the graduands in plain black gowns and of faculty and officers of the University in colourful and varied regalia; the blue-robed Bedel with his ornate silver Mace; the conferring of degrees by the Chancellor; these are among the rituals of Convocation that stand in a tradition that has a history of more than 700 years.

The University’s Mace is carried to and from the Convocation platform by the University Bedel and during the ceremony is splendidly displayed on the Mace Table, resting on a velvet cushion. The cushion is maroon with a piping of grey, the McMaster colours. The Mace symbolizes the authority of the University Senate to confer degrees, this authority being exercised by the Chancellor.

Bedels were functionaries and maces were weapons hundreds of years before universities emerged in the 12th and 13th centuries. So it is that McMaster’s Bedel carries the University Mace directly in front of the Chancellor, symbolically to protect her.

The Chancellor sits on a massive oak ceremonial chair that bears a carved representation of an early version of the University Seal. She requests that members of the graduating classes rise from their seats and then admits them to their respective degrees. The graduating classes are then invited to join the Chancellor on stage. Once a graduate’s name is called, they are hooded facing the audience, and then are congratulated and welcomed to the community of scholars by the Chancellor and President.

The academic hood is symbolic of admission to a university degree and carries colours specific to a particular degree. It is derived from clothing worn in medieval times, when a hood was similar to that of a modern parka and served the same purpose of protection in inclement weather. The hood that the Registrar or pro-Registrar deftly puts over a graduand’s head is a link to the dress of students of at least seven centuries ago.

To the left of the main podium stands McMaster’s Coat of Arms. The symbol of the stag and tree, constituting the crest of these Arms, was the personal emblem of Senator William McMaster, whose munificent benefaction made possible the founding of the University in 1887.

The President of the University attends Convocation but it is the Chancellor, the titular head of the University, who presides over this ancient ceremonial. Her seniority is indicated by her robe being more elegant than the President’s. The President relieves the Chancellor of making announcements, may present an honorary graduand for his or her degree and, as Vice-Chancellor, confers degrees when the Chancellor is unable to do so.

A Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Bedel and Registrar share with a seal, mace, colours, robes and coat of arms a history of hundreds of years of association with universities. Each of these traditional inheritances is a part of McMaster University and all of them come together on the platform of its Convocations.

McMASTER UNIVERSITY:

CHANCELLORS
1887 – 1890  Malcolm Mac Vicar
1892 – 1895  Theodore H. Rand
1895 – 1905  Oates C. S. Wallace
1905 – 1911  Alexander C. McKay
1911 – 1922  Abraham L. McCrimmon
1922 – 1941  Howard P. Whidden
1941 – 1950  George P. Gilmour
1950 – 1955  E. Carey Fox
1955 – 1960  Roy L. Kellock
1960 – 1965  Charles P. Fell
1965 – 1971  D. Argue C. Martin
1971 – 1977  Lawrence T. Pennell
1977 – 1986  H. Allan B. Leal
1998 – 2007  Melvin M. Hawkriigg
2007 – 2013  Lynton R. Wilson
2013 – 2017  Suzanne B. Labarge

PRESIDENTS
1949 – 1961  George P. Gilmour
1961 – 1972  Henry G. Thode
1980 – 1990  Alvin A. Lee
1995 – 2010  Peter J. George
2010 – 2017  Patrick Deane
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Convocation is an exciting time in the calendar of any university; a time to celebrate achievement, to reflect on the past, and to anticipate the future and the path that lies ahead. It also represents a time of liberation, the ending of one phase of life and a last, symbolic statement of the discipline to which students have been required to submit themselves throughout their studies.

While it is impossible at such events not to celebrate the infinite promise of individual lives, it is important to be aware of the communal significance of convocation. In the ancient English universities, convocation was the legislative body that oversaw operations of the institution, and to be admitted to a degree was to be admitted to membership. By extension, therefore, convocation was a reaffirmation of not an individual but a joint enterprise.

Students today have learned the importance of collaboration and partnership, and more than ever understand that the future health, prosperity and cultural vitality of our society depends upon our ability to cooperate, to act together, and to learn from one another. My fervent hope is that graduating students will see their convocation not as an end of growing together, but rather as an opportunity for deepening that process. As alumni they will have many opportunities to renew existing partnerships, and they will be well prepared to forge new ones in the greater community beyond our own.

Personal fulfillment through community: this is indeed one of the longstanding paradoxes of university life, but it is surely also a sound principle for us all to pursue in the world at large. In wishing today's graduating students good luck, I feel great confidence in our joint future and great anticipation of everything that, collectively, they will achieve.

Patrick Deane
President and Vice-Chancellor

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION GREETINGS

On behalf of your fellow McMaster alumni, I offer you sincere congratulations for having successfully earned your degree. In addition to growing through the challenges of obtaining your formal education, I hope you have taken full advantage of everything McMaster has to offer outside the walls of the classroom.

As an alumnus or alumna you are entering a new phase in your relationship with McMaster. Graduation is merely a milestone in your life-long association with our University. As alumni, you can play a continuing role as supporters of McMaster's excellence by sharing your time, expertise, and enthusiasm with your alma mater.

As your Alumni Association, we are committed to providing you with many opportunities to maintain and grow your links with McMaster. McMaster's alumni network, events, offerings, experiences, and programs will be great resources in your post-degree endeavours. I welcome you to the next step in a rewarding and dynamic relationship with our world-class university.

Don Bridgman BPE ‘78
President, McMaster Alumni Association
A native of Ottawa, Dr. Labarge holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from McMaster University and a Master of Business Administration from the Harvard Business School.

Dr. Labarge joined Royal Bank in 1971 and held a variety of positions within the bank prior to being appointed an executive officer in 1979. She left the bank in 1985 to join the federal government as assistant auditor-general where she was responsible for a report on Financial Management and Control in the Government of Canada.

She joined the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Canada in 1987 as deputy superintendent, policy responsible for developing regulatory policies for Canadian financial institutions. She was a member of the BIS Committee for Bank Supervision. In her last position as deputy superintendent, deposit-taking institutions, Dr. Labarge was responsible for all matters relating to deposit-taking institutions.

Dr. Labarge returned to the bank as executive vice-president, Corporate Treasury, in April 1995. She assumed the role of chief risk officer in October 1998 and was appointed vice-chairman and chief risk officer in February 1999. She retired from that position in December 2004.

Dr. Labarge is a member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Audit Committee of Coca-Cola Enterprises. She also serves on the Board of Directors, the Audit Committee and the Risk and Finance Committee of XL Group and is trustee for a Canadian family trust and director of associated companies. She has served as a member of the Supervisory Board and Risk Committee of Deutsche Bank, as a director and chair of the audit committee of Novelis Inc and was also a member of the Board of the Bank of China, Beijing.

She served on the Board of Governors for McMaster University for twelve years. She was appointed Chancellor of McMaster University in September 2013. She also serves on the board of the Ontario Brain Institute.

She was granted an honorary Doctor of Letters degree from McMaster University and is a recipient of the Queen’s Jubilee medal.
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

Carmen Carrasquilla
Thesis: Developing Platforms for Solid-Phase Bioaffinity Assays Using Nucleic Acid Aptamers

Adriana Nori de Macedo
Thesis: Robust Capillary Electrophoresis Methods for Biomarker Discovery and Routine Measurements in Clinical and Epidemiological Applications

CHEMISTRY

Nicholas Robert Andreychuk
Thesis: Rigid NON-Donor Pincer Ligands in Organoactinide Chemistry

Tanzina Chowdhury
Thesis: Interactions of Aniline Oligomers with Iron Oxide Surfaces

Rachelle Melanie Kleinberger
Thesis: Physical and Biological Properties of Synthetic Polycations in Alginate Capsules

Allen Daniel Pauric
Thesis: Selected Examples of NMR Spectroscopy Towards the Characterization of Next Generation Lithium Ion Battery Materials

Zoë Reeve
Thesis: Characterization of Reaction Products Formed in Metal-Oxygen Batteries with Multinuclear Solid-State NMR

Abdolreza Yazdani
Thesis: Synthesis and Evaluation of $[2 + 1]$ Re(I) and 99mTc(I) Complexes: New Synthons for the Preparation of Isostructural Optical and Nuclear Probes

Fang Yuan
Thesis: Synthesis and Characterization of Rare Earth-Based Magnetocaloric Phases

Yujie Zhu
Thesis: Micro/Nanostructured Surfaces through Thin Film Stencil Lift-Off: Applications to Patterning and Sensing

MATHEMATICS

Kirill Mayorov
Thesis: Validation and Inferential Methods for Distributional Form and Shape

Quentin Shao
Thesis: Models for Systemic Risk

Hossein Taghinejad
Thesis: Bounding the Decay of $p$-Adic Oscillatory Integrals with a Constructible Amplitude Function and a Subanalytic Phase Function

Yang Tang
Thesis: Dimensionality Reduction with Non-Gaussian Mixtures

Lindsay Alexandra White
Thesis: Alexander Invariants of Periodic Virtual Knots

Monica Wong
Thesis: Topics in One-Way Supervised Biclustering Using Gaussian Mixture Models

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

Benjamin Walter Keller
Thesis: Superbubble Feedback in Galaxy Evolution

Nikola Miladinovic
Thesis: The Abraham-Minkowski Controversy and He-McKellar-Wilkens Phase

RADIATION SCIENCES (MEDICAL PHYSICS)

Zahra Anjomani
Thesis: Development of a Thick Gas Electron Multiplier-Based Multi-Element Microdosimetric Detector

Muhammad Karamat
Thesis: Quantitative SPECT Image Reconstruction using an Accelerated Monte Carlo based Maximum A-Posteriori (MAP) Algorithm
MASTER OF SCIENCE

CHEMISTRY
Arkesh Narayanappa

COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
Michael Xu

MATHEMATICS
Sean Conley
Bingying He
Ramsha Khan
Craig Stanley Kohne

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY
Connor Buhariwalla

RADIATION SCIENCES
(RADIATION BIOLOGY)
Stacy Muise
Laura Christina Dainty Paterson

RADIATION SCIENCES
(MEDICAL PHYSICS)
Nourhan Shalaby

STATISTICS
Eman Mohammed Alamer
Atinderpal Bharaj
Jing Cai
Fei Dai
Michael Patrick Brian Gallaugher
Laxman Ghimire
Xiao Yue Lin
Jingwei Lu
Yan Qiao Wang
Kai Yang
Xu Xuan Zhang
Yiliang Zhou

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

HONOURS

Cristina Laura Abbatangelo .......... Life Sciences
(Associate in Archaeology)
Abdelrahman Abdelrahman......... Life Sciences
★ Allison Abdilla...............................Chemistry
Muhammad Sumair Abid........... Life Sciences
★ Abdel-Shafi Abu-Taleb............. Life Sciences
★ Meena Al Saigh ...............Integrated Science
Noor Al Switi...................... Life Sciences
Rahim Ali.............................. Life Sciences
Richelle Almeida-Knight............ Life Sciences
★ Jacob Amar...............Actuarial & Financial Math
Nicole Marie Amaral.............. Life Sciences
(Associate in Biochemistry)
Areeba Amer ....................... Life Sciences
(Associate in Psychology)
★ Shahriar Ameri Mahabadian........ Life Sciences
★ Bradley Andrade................... Life Sciences
Stefan Andrade.................... Life Sciences
Polina Andrievskaia............. Life Sciences
★ Teresa Maria Antony ....Life Sciences
(Associate in English & Cultural Studies)
Aqsa Arshad...................... Life Sciences
(Associate in Sustainability)
★ Komal Aryal......................... Life Sciences
Kristian Dimitrov Atanasov........ Life Sciences
★ Sara Avid..................Mathematics & Statistics
(Associate in Economics)
★ Rem Omar Aziz ..................Chemical Biology
★ Kamran Badalov................... Life Sciences
★ Kristi Badhan ...................... Life Sciences
★ Pyravi Balakrishnan ..........Life Sciences
Stephanie Anna Bafardo......... Life Sciences
(Associate in Psychology)
★ Guillian Angelo Balisi...Mathematics & Computer Science
Esha Banerjee ................. Life Sciences
Yelena Kristina Banjavlic ....Mathematics & Statistics
★ Ahmad Zubair Banoor ..........Life Sciences
(Associate in Biochemistry)
Bianca Bantoto .................... Integrated Science
(Associate in Health and Society)
★ Alina Jade Barnett .............. Physics
Emily Marissa Barafato ........... Life Sciences
Bismah Basharat .............. Life Sciences
(Associate in Biochemistry)
Patrycja Bauer ............... Life Sciences
★ Christian Joseph Bellissimo ....Life Sciences
(Associate in Biochemistry)
★ Adam Bernardo ..............Chemical Biology
★ Manika Bhandari .......... Life Sciences
★ Grace Zi Ying Bi .............. Actuarial & Financial Math
(Associate in Economics)
★ Dakota Binkley .............. Integrated Science
★ Stephanie Frances Black ....... Integrated Science
Jonathon Anthony Bloomfield ....Chemistry
★ Avesha Chelsea Bodoe .......... Life Sciences
Farazdak Bohra................. Medical Physics
(Associate in Mathematics)
★ Priyanka Santosh Bapardikar .... Life Sciences
(Minor in Psychology)
Margo Nicole Borish ............ Life Sciences
(Minor in Psychology)
★ D. Gray Boyko ..............Mathematics & Statistics
Joshua Sebastian Braganza .... Life Sciences
Taylor Nicole Brenton.......... Life Sciences
(Minor in Business)
(Minor in Psychology)
★ Sylvie Alama Bronsard ....... Mathematics & Physics
★ Andrew Brown .................... Chemistry
★ Dana Buckingham .............. Chemistry
(Minor in Environmental Science)
★ Semir Bulle ....................... Life Sciences
Shayla Mae Burrows .......... Life Sciences
(Minor in Biology)
★ Loryn Byes ...............Integrated Science
David Bysouth .................... Life Sciences
(Minor in Biology)
★ Jae Hyun Byun ..................... Life Sciences
★ Yifei Cai ..............Actuarial & Financial Math
Inah Patrizia Canlapan .......... Actuarial & Financial Math
(Minor in Economics)
★ Anumita Chakraborty .......... Life Sciences
(Minor in Biochemistry)

★ with distinction (achievement of a minimum Grade Point Average of 9.5/12)
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, HONOURS (CONTINUED…)

* Shelby Anne Champion..................... Medical Physics
  (Minor in Economics)
* Crystal Chung Ying Chan.................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
* Wan-Chi Chang.............................. Chemical Biology
  (Minor in Mathematics)
* Kathleen Ilana Charlesworth............. Physics
  (Minor in Mathematics)
  Arushi Chaudhary.................................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
* Bilal Chaudhury.................................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
* Saleh Ahmed Cheema.......................... Actuarial & Financial Math
  (Minor in Economics)
* Jiaxin Chen................................. Actuarial & Financial Math
  (Minor in Biology)
  Li Ming Chen.................................... Integrated Science
  (Minor in Biology)
* Yu-Chen Chen.................................... Life Sciences
* Yu-Yang Chen.................................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in Biology)
* Apoorva Chhura................................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Mathematics)
* Carla Tea Chidu.................................... Life Sciences
* Brandon Chin................................. Chemical Biology
  (Minor in Biology)
* Samantha Tyler Chow............................ Life Sciences
* Adam Anil Christopher .................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Kayonne Christy.................................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in Health, Aging & Society)
  Wenjie Chu................................. Mathematics & Statistics
  Claire Ching Lan Chuang.................... Life Sciences
  Eunice Hyeji Chun............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
* Matthew Costa-Parke............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Biochemistry)
* Christopher Pedro Couto.................. Mathematics & Statistics
  (Minor in Economics)
  Matthew Benjamin Cramp.................. Mathematics & Statistics
  (Minor in Linguistics)
  Devon Joseph Crawford..................... Integrated Science
  (Minor in Linguistics)
  Micayley Jeanne Cromwell.................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Phoebe Cseresnyes............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Environmental Science)
  Joanna Karol Cunanan..................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in Environmental Science)
  Wayne Cyril Cutinha............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in French)
  Ivana Cvoros................................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in French)
* Daniel Paul D’Souza............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
* Patrick John Daley...................... Mathematics & Physics
* Maryam Davari......................... Life Sciences
* Kimia Davoodi............................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in Biology)
  Branden Allwyn de SA............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Biology)
  Amanda DeCosta.............................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Biology)
  Lauren Dennis.............................. Life Sciences
  Rucha Desai.................................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in Biology)
  Alexander Kyle Dhaliwali.................. Integrated Science
  (Minor in Biochemistry)
  (Minor in Mathematics)
* Preanka Dhana.............................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
* Kimberly Maryanne Dias.................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
* Katelyn Dixon.............................. Life Sciences
* Brittany Lena Taylor Donadel.................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
* Defu Du................................. Life Sciences
  Irene Duah-Kessie............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Sustainability)
  (Minor in Psychology)
* Nicole Sandra-Yaffa Dumont.................. Mathematics & Physics
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Lejla El Werfalli.............................. Life Sciences
  Mohamed Ashraf Eldah.................................... Life Sciences
  Chante Nicole Ellis............................ Life Sciences
* Biran Falk-Dotan............................. Integrated Science
  Merrick Shamsodin Fallah............................ Life Sciences
* Henry Fan.................................... Chemical Biology
  Sohana Farhin.............................. Life Sciences
* Saba Farzam.................................... Life Sciences
  Michael Stephen Fecenko............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Biochemistry)
* Timothy Fernandes..................... Integrated Science
  Samantha Fernando............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Alessia Ferrin............................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Sabrina Marianna Fisco............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Samuel Augustine Foran.................. Life Sciences
  Alek Francis.............................. Actuarial & Financial Math
  (Minor in Economics)
  Domenic Francocone............................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Environmental Science)
  Gregory George Fulton............................ Life Sciences
  Vincenzo Fumo.............................. Actuarial & Financial Math
  (Minor in Economics)
  Natalie Galaszewicz..................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in French)
* Cody Brian Gale............................ Chemistry
  Simon Galkin.................................... Life Sciences
* Alon Genkin.................................... Chemistry
* Natalie Rose Gervasi............................ Physics
  Aneesha Ghosh.............................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Physics)
  (Minor in Business)
  (Minor in Music)
* Sufunpreet Ghotra............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Mathematics)
  (Minor in Physics)
  (Minor in Biochemistry)
* Ara Ghukasyan............................. Mathematics & Physics
  (Minor in Mathematics)
  Amanvir Singh Gill..................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Baltej Gill.............................. Life Sciences
  Rosie Gill.............................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Conor Gillespie-Friesen............. Actuarial & Financial Math
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Alysha Dorothy Rose Gillis............. Life Sciences
  Devin Gilm.............................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Michelle Goldsand............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Negar Golmohammadi............................ Life Sciences
* Tristan Michael Goodwill.................. Integrated Science
  (Minor in Mathematics)
  Moreen Gorial.............................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Business)
  Annik Gougeon.............................. Mathematics & Statistics
  (Minor in Business)
  Christopher Nicholas Gubbels........... BioPhysics
  Shaquille Ahmed Gulamhussein.......... Life Sciences
  Hetti Arachchige Dulani Madushika Gunaratne...... Life Sciences
  Aditya Guntoori.......................... Actuarial & Financial Math
  (Minor in Economics)
  Cindy Qiannan Guo............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Mathematics)
  Peter Henry Gysbers.................... Physics
  Amelia Anne Hadath.................. Mathematics & Statistics
  (Minor in Business)
  Damiy Haider.............................. Life Sciences
  Bereket Yonas Haile............................ Chemistry
  (Minor in Mathematics)
  Fadi Hana.............................. Life Sciences
  Aqsa Khanum Hanif............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Mathematics)
  Alexandria Kay Hanly.................. Chemical Biology
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Emily Elizabeth Hartung.................... Life Sciences
  Kashia Hassan............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Derrick Edward Hastings............. Chemistry
  Karla Eva Herrera Quijano.................. Life Sciences
  Madeena Homayoun...................... Integrated Science
  Julia Juri Hong............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Music)
  Rebecca Hudecki..................... Actuarial & Financial Math
  Farih Rusam Hussein.................. Physics
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Saarah Sofia Hussain.................... Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  John Huynh.............................. Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Saroisha Imtiaz............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Psychology)
  Deep Imandar.............................. Integrated Science
  Braeden S. Indewey............. Life Sciences
  Aquino Inigo............................ Life Sciences
  (Minor in Biochemistry)
  Kylee Anne Innes............................ Integrated Science
  Muhammad Iqbal............................ Life Sciences
  Christianah Boluwatifin Isedowo...... Life Sciences

* with distinction (achievement of a minimum Grade Point Average of 9.5/12)
Umna Akhtar Islam ......................... Life Sciences (Minor in Linguistics)
Abdinsak Dahir Issa ...................... Life Sciences
Lauren Christine Jagus ................. Life Sciences
Richard Jalonen .......................... Mathematics & Statistics (Minor in Economics)
Sandeep Jaswal ............................ Life Sciences
Ayesha Javed ................................ Life Sciences (Minor in Biology)
Sheyeri Himali Jayatunga ............... Life Sciences
Sandeep Jaswal ............................ Life Sciences
★ Gina Kim .................................... Life Sciences
Nabeelah Tabassum Khan ............... Life Sciences
Chenlei Juan ...................... Actuarial & Financial Math
Jovana Jovanovic .......................... Life Sciences
Laura Heather Jones ........................ Life Sciences
★ Manisha Jogendra ......................... Life Sciences
Happuka Anna John ...................... Life Sciences
Peter Alan James Johnston .......... Actuarial & Financial Math (Minor in Interdisciplinary in Community Engagement)
Jovana Jovanovic .......................... Life Sciences
Chenlei Juan .............................. Actuarial & Financial Math (Minor in Interdisciplinary in Community Engagement)
Borna Kalantar ............................. Mathematics & Computer Science
Nikita Kalsi .............................. Life Sciences
Senthuoran Karthigesu ................. Life Sciences
Manprit Kaur .............................. Life Sciences (Minor in Interdisciplinary in Community Engagement)
Hannah Kearney ........................... Life Sciences (Minor in Interdisciplinary in Community Engagement)
Alannah Kelly ............................ Life Sciences
Nabeelah Tabassum Khan .............. Life Sciences (Minor in Environmental Science)
★ Manveer Singh Khural ................. Life Sciences
Gina Kim ................................. Life Sciences (Minor in Psychology)
Susannah Kim ............................. Life Sciences
Ye Eun Kim .............................. BioPhysics
Ryan Henry Kippers ...................... Life Sciences
Jonathan Scott Kirby .................... Actuarial & Financial Math
★ Adam Kliber .................. Mathematics & Statistics (Minor in Physics)
Holly Koponen ............................. Mathematics & Computer Science
Danil Kopylov ............................. Life Sciences
Eric Joseph Koritko ........................ Life Sciences
Patricia Kousoulas ........................ Life Sciences
★ Adam Kowalczyk ........................ Chemical Biology
Lucia Maria Krivankova-Smal ........ Integrated Science
Miriam Andrea Krzyzewska ....... Integrated Science
Xiangxin Kuang ......................... Actuarial & Financial Math
Siu Heng John Kwan .............. Chemical Biology
Victor Kwan ................................ Chemistry (Minor in Mathematics)
★ Scott Eric Laengert ...................... Chemistry
★ Catherine Ruth Lambert ............. Chemical Biology
Andre Simoes Laranjeiro .............. Medical Physics (Minor in Mathematics)
★ Samuel Paul Laskey ...................... Chemical Biology
Rachelle Leigh Lassaline ............ Chemistry
Maximilian Peter Lau ch .............. Integrated Science (Minor in Physics)
Domink Leszek Lausks .................. Actuarial & Financial Math (Minor in Economics)
★ Tomas Sperios Lazarou .............. Chemical Biology
Jordan Emily Leader .................... Life Sciences
Bora Lee ................................ Life Sciences
Terisa Jane Legere-Bell .............. Life Sciences (Minor in Psychology)
★ Haley Keanna Leroux ................... Life Sciences (Minor in Psychology)
★ Chujei Li .............................. Actuarial & Financial Math (Minor in Computer Science)
★ Jennifer Li .............................. Chemical Biology
Xiaomeng Li .............................. Chemical Biology
Hang Lian ................................ Life Sciences
Linda Liu ................................. Actuarial & Financial Math
Wen Jing Lin .............................. Chemical Biology
Chen Liu ................................... Actuarial & Financial Math (Minor in Economics)
Yangzi Liu .............................. Actuarial & Financial Math
Sumiya Lodhi ............................. Life Sciences
Steven Lorenzi .......................... Actuarial & Financial Math
★ Haiming Luo .................. Chemical Biology
★ Kristie Luong ......................... Life Sciences
Brenae Nicole Lyons .................. Life Sciences
Melanie Lysenko-Martin .............. Life Sciences (Minor in Psychology)
Siyi Ma ................................... Life Sciences
★ Elise Isabelle Mac Lean .............. Life Sciences
Kyle Patrick MacDonald .............. Mathematics & Statistics
Katharine Anne Elizabeth Mackett .... Life Sciences
Kamya Mahajan ......................... Life Sciences
Vyshnavi Mahendran ................. Life Sciences (Minor in Environmental Science)
Mohamed Mahfouz ...................... Life Sciences
★ Fariha Mahmoud ......................... Chemistry
Yumna Rafigh Makda .................... Life Sciences
★ George Jerome Lico Malawi ......... Life Sciences
★ Samantha Lynn Maloney ............. Life Sciences
Elin Joy Man ............................. Actuarial & Financial Math
Kelsea Susan Mann ...................... Life Sciences (Minor in Psychology)
★ Ramneet Kaur Mann ................. Life Sciences
Shirmin Sethukavalar Manoharan ...... Life Sciences
★ Trisha Manucha ......................... Life Sciences (Minor in Biochemistry)
★ Winiesha Sheri-Ann Marlow ....... Life Sciences (Minor in Psychology)
★ Giulia Sydney Mascarenhas .......... Life Sciences
★ Muhammad Mateen ..................... Life Sciences
★ Hilton Maurer ......................... Mathematics & Statistics (Minor in Psychology)
Caroline Tess McDiarmid ............. Life Sciences (Minor in Biochemistry)
★ Kevan John McDougall .............. Life Sciences (Minor in Psychology)
Meredith Isabel McEwan .............. Life Sciences (Minor in Psychology)
★ Carter Laurence McInnis ............ Chemical Biology
★ Hannah Reid McIsaac ................. Life Sciences
Oliveia Maged Milad Anies Mekhail ...... Life Sciences (Minor in Biology)
★ Huanyu Meng ............................ Physics
★ Diana Merkhai ........................... Life Sciences
Erik Zeljko Mihelic ...................... Life Sciences
★ Moiz Mikail .............................. Chemical Biology
★ Sylvia Isabel Mills ....................... Life Sciences (Minor in Psychology)
Daniel Cornelis Miltenburg .......... Life Sciences
★ Stephen Michael Alan Miltenburg ... Life Sciences
★ Da Ming .............................. Actuarial & Financial Math (Minor in Economics)
★ Rohan Dev Minhas ...................... Life Sciences
Ismael Mohammad ...................... Life Sciences
Ibrahim Mostafa ......................... Life Sciences
Vladislav Motorykin ................. Life Sciences
Marc William Muise ...................... Chemistry
★ Souren Murad ........................... Life Sciences (Minor in Environmental Science)
Teshauk Shaker Murray .......... Actuarial & Financial Math (Minor in Finance)
★ Dasha Mykhaylova ..................... Life Sciences
Monica Naddaf ......................... Life Sciences
★ Rivalia Naidoo ......................... Life Sciences (Minor in Psychology)
Gayatri Nair ............................. Life Sciences
★ Shreya Shalesh Nair ................. Life Sciences (Minor in Biochemistry)
★ Humaira Nakhuda ...................... Life Sciences
Jalees Ahmed Nasir .................... Chemical Biology
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, HONOURS (CONTINUED…)

Cole Pearson Raiskums ....................... Life Sciences
Geetha Ramachandran ....................... Life Sciences
Aditya Rampal .................................. Life Sciences
Hussain Abbas Rassawala ................. Life Sciences
Hasitha Surendra Rathnayake Mudiyanselage .... Life Sciences
Jodie Andrea Rawn ............................. Life Sciences
(Minor in Linguistics)
Parul Razdan ..................................... Life Sciences
(Minor in Art History)
Justin Reinhardus .............................. Life Sciences
Raja Haris Rizwan .............................. Life Sciences
William Stephen Roberts .................... Physics
(Minor in Computer Science)
Kelly Moran Rodrigues ...................... Life Sciences
Daniella Marianna Rodriguez .............. Life Sciences
Patrick Roy-Gayos ............................. Life Sciences
Japneet Sachdeva ............................. Life Sciences
Sana Sagri ....................................... Life Sciences
(Minor in Environmental Science)
Saba Sahami ................................. Life Sciences
Tara Salih ...................................... Life Sciences
Kiersten Salvatore ............................. Actuarial & Financial Math
(Minor in Economics)
Bhavna Samtani .............................. Life Sciences
Emily Sanger .................................. Chemistry
Elizabeth Sangster ............................ Integrated Science
Sara Katelyn Santini ......................... Life Sciences
Cassandra Helen Santoni .................... Life Sciences
Zarwa Saqib ................................ Life Sciences
Praneesh Satish ............................... Mathematics & Computer Science
Kevin Robert Fraser Scates ............... Life Sciences
Garrett Steven Schneider ................. Life Sciences
Juliani Francesca Sebastiani ............... Medical Physics
Suhier Seif ........................................ Medical Physics
Kira Aveline Selby .............................. Mathematics & Physics
Madeleine Serhal ......................... Life Sciences
Kritika Seth ..................................... Life Sciences
Marwan Shahid .............................. Medical Physics
Abir Shamim ................................ Life Sciences
Geetika Sharma ............................... Life Sciences
Manu Sharma .................................. Life Sciences
(Minor in Economics)
Shreesh Sharma .............................. Life Sciences
Qiao Shi ...................................... Actuarial & Financial Math
(Minor in Economics)
Muhammad Muneeb Shoaib ............ Chemical Biology
Healey Shulman ............................. Life Sciences
Rachel Lok-Ting Shum ................. Chemistry
Reda Siddiqui .............................. Life Sciences
Harjot Jesse Sidhu ............................ Life Sciences
(Minor in Economics)
Navan Sidhu .................................... Life Sciences
(Minor in Geography and Earth Sciences)
★ Martyn Siek ................................. Integrated Science
Joshua Teixeira Silva ......................... Life Sciences
(Minor in Biochemistry)
Kyra Lyn Simone ............................ Integrated Science
(Minor in Biology)
Amandeep Singh ............................ Life Sciences
(Minor in Psychology)
Gurteg Inder Singh ......................... Life Sciences
Isha Singh ..................................... Life Sciences
Jasrajbir Singh .............................. Life Sciences
(Minor in Biochemistry)
Paramveer Singh ............................ Life Sciences
(Minor in Business)
Schevene Shiv Satash Singh ................ Life Sciences
(Minor in Psychology)
Supriya Singh ............................... Integrated Science
Mathieu Olivier Siou ....................... Life Sciences
Kavena Sivakumar ......................... Life Sciences
(Minor in Sociology)
Lavan Sivarajah .............................. Life Sciences
(Minor in Economics)
Mallory Sarah Lane Skinner ............. Life Sciences
Harm Jacob Sloots ............................ Life Sciences
Evan Michael Smith ......................... Mathematics & Physics
Nathaniel Jared Smith ..................... Integrated Science
Tyler Victor Soares ......................... Physics
(Minor in Mathematics)
Loshana Sockalingam ..................... Life Sciences
(Minor in Psychology)
Xinyan Song ............................... Actuarial & Financial Math
Vandevi Sangeeta Sookar ................. Life Sciences
Stephanie Anne South ...................... Life Sciences
Lily Southcott .............................. Chemical Biology
Mayurree Sripathy ......................... Life Sciences
Saakethiya Srinivanaswami .......... Life Sciences
James Alexander St Pierre ............... Integrated Science
(Minor in Mathematics)
Marissa Ann Steinberg .............. Life Sciences
(Minor in Health, Aging & Society)
Ana Stosic .................................. Life Sciences
Mathushan Sukumar ...................... Life Sciences
Heather E. Summers ....................... Integrated Science
Yae Ji Sung ................................... Life Sciences
Leela Sai Krishna Suryadevara ....... Life Sciences
Justine Anita Swan ...................... Life Sciences
Vidushi Swarup ............................. Life Sciences
(Minor in Biochemistry)
Parwinder Taan ......................... Mathematics & Statistics
Karan Talwar .............................. Life Sciences
Yuk Shing Tan .............................. Life Sciences
Zunaira Tariq .............................. Life Sciences
(Minor in Biology)
Alana Catherine Tedeschi ............. Life Sciences
(Minor in Psychology)
Edna Linda Tehranzadeh .............. Life Sciences

* with distinction (achievement of a minimum Grade Point Average of 9.5/12)
### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

**Kamran Ali** ........................................ Life Sciences  
**Amara Shanelle Ali** .......................... Life Sciences  
**Andrew Yeh-Chahn Ahn** ................... Life Sciences  
**Alena Tran** ........................................ Life Sciences  
**Aleks Christopher Velic** .................... Life Sciences  
**Carolyn Leigh Twible** ........................ Life Sciences  
**Lesley Yu-Ting Tsui** ........................... Life Sciences  
**Mark Nicholas Triemstra** .................... Actuarial & Financial Math  
**Nathalie Tomaiuolo** .......................... Life Sciences  
**Aaron Christopher Qui Thomas** .......... Life Sciences  
**Eisha Vijay** ..................................Chemical Biology  
**Xiao Min Bai** ...................... Mathematical Science  
**Michael Arvai** ........ Chemical & Physical Sciences  
**Amanda Vrbensky** ............................ Life Sciences  
**Hassaan Mohammad Faruq** ............ Mathematical Science  
**Charandeep Singh Farma** .......... Life Sciences  
**Namita Kalra** .................................... Life Sciences  
**Khyati Walia** ................................. Life Sciences  
**Michael Walters** ...............................Physics  
**Kun Peng Wang** .............................. Mathematical & Computer Science  
**Michael Sheng-Hui Wang** ............ Integrated Science  
**Christine Marie Wardell** .......... Life Sciences  
**Wardha Wardha** ............................. Life Sciences  
**Nooreen Warring** ............................. Life Sciences  
**Madeline Jayne Watkins** .............. Life Sciences  
**Kelsey Watson** ............................... Life Sciences  
**Jacqueline Watt** .............................. Integrated Science  
**Xintong Wei** ............................... Actuarial & Financial Math  
**Maria Carolina Weishaar** .......... Integrated Science  
**Erika Louise Weller** ........................ Life Sciences  
**Kaitlin Marie West** ........................ Chemistry  
**Amy Rose Wheeler** .......................... Life Sciences  
**Edwin Wong** ................................. Life Sciences  
**Rockelle Wong** .............................. Life Sciences  

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### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, HONOURS (CONTINUED...)

**Khyati Walia** ................................. Life Sciences  
**Carolyn Leigh Twible** ........................ Life Sciences  
**Lesley Yu-Ting Tsui** ........................... Life Sciences  
**Mark Nicholas Triemstra** .................... Actuarial & Financial Math  
**Nathalie Tomaiuolo** .......................... Life Sciences  
**Aaron Christopher Qui Thomas** .......... Life Sciences  
**Eisha Vijay** ..................................Chemical Biology  
**Xiao Min Bai** ...................... Mathematical Science  
**Michael Arvai** ........ Chemical & Physical Sciences  
**Amanda Vrbensky** ............................ Life Sciences  
**Hassaan Mohammad Faruq** ............ Mathematical Science  
**Charandeep Singh Farma** .......... Life Sciences  
**Namita Kalra** .................................... Life Sciences  
**Khyati Walia** ................................. Life Sciences  
**Michael Walters** ...............................Physics  
**Kun Peng Wang** .............................. Mathematical & Computer Science  
**Michael Sheng-Hui Wang** ............ Integrated Science  
**Christine Marie Wardell** .......... Life Sciences  
**Wardha Wardha** ............................. Life Sciences  
**Nooreen Warring** ............................. Life Sciences  
**Madeline Jayne Watkins** .............. Life Sciences  
**Kelsey Watson** ............................... Life Sciences  
**Jacqueline Watt** .............................. Integrated Science  
**Xintong Wei** ............................... Actuarial & Financial Math  
**Maria Carolina Weishaar** .......... Integrated Science  
**Erika Louise Weller** ........................ Life Sciences  
**Kaitlin Marie West** ........................ Chemistry  
**Amy Rose Wheeler** .......................... Life Sciences  
**Edwin Wong** ................................. Life Sciences  
**Rockelle Wong** .............................. Life Sciences  

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Names of graduands listed in this program are those recommended to Senate as of June 7, 2017. We regret that late additions to the graduation lists could not be included in this program. Some names of graduands may not be included in this program at the request of these individuals.
UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS
(2016-2017 SESSION)

MEDALS

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL’S ACADEMIC MEDAL
Alexander Dhaliwal  Emily Farquharson

THE E. H. AMBROSE GOLD MEDAL
Cassidy Davis

THE BASU MEDAL
Tyler McEvoy

THE BINKLEY MEDAL
Karl Knopf

THE CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERING MEDAL
Benjamin Miethig

THE DEAN’S MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE HUMANITIES
Erika Ko  Maureen Gustafson
Kelly Sovereign  Konstantinos Zafiридis
Daryl Watson

THE J. E. L. GRAHAM MEDAL
Sandra Makino

THE AMELIA HALL GOLD MEDAL
Troy Abrams

THE HUMANITIES MEDALS FOR SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT
Ryan Dorsman  Jason Lau
Nimra Khan

THE HURD MEDAL
Elaine Guo

THE JENSEN MEDAL
Wei Sheng

THE GERALD L. KEECH MEDAL
Karl Knopf

THE MAPS GOLD MEDAL
Sandra Makino

THE R. C. McIVOR MEDAL
Alison Imrie

THE ONTARIO PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION GOLD MEDAL
Emily Farquharson

TROPHIES AND MERIT AWARDS

THE BURKE MEMORIAL RING
Maryam Vaseghi-Shanjani

THE CSEP/SCPE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARD
Alexander Mannarino

THE IROQUOIS TROPHY
Ying Yu

THE SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY MERIT AWARD
Luke Boivin  Yi Liu
Scott Laengert

SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES

THE ANTHROPOLOGY PRIZE
Jan Plonka

THE WILLIAM AND LIDA BARNES MEMORIAL PRIZE IN HISTORY
Simon Vacca

THE REV. ALLISON M. BARRETT SCHOLARSHIP
Alison Imrie  Shawnee Matinnia

THE MARION BATES BOOK PRIZE
Adam Blackburn

THE ABE BLACK MEMORIAL PRIZES
Heather Oprey  Amanda Venier
Ieta Shams

THE CFUW-HAMILTON MEMORIAL PRIZE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
Gabriela Niemczyk

THE DR. RUDOLF DE BUDA SCHOLARSHIP
Zhuoran Li  Robert Valencia

THE LAURA DODSON PRIZE
Mia Kibel

THE FRANK E. JONES PRIZE
Seo Park

THE KARL KINANEN ALUMNI PRIZE IN GERONTOLOGY
Jenna Gaskin  Hillary Quantrill

THE KINESIOLOGY PRIZES
Stephen Toepm  Mai Wageh

THE RUTH LANDES PRIZE
Maureen Gustafson

THE FELIKS LITKOWSKI PRIZE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
Sneha Moraes

THE BERT MacKINNON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Hannah Roche

THE AGNES AND JOHN MacNEILL MEMORIAL PRIZE
Adam Blackburn

THE CATHERINE MacNEILL PRIZE
Mimi Deng

THE A.G. McKay PRIZE IN CLASSICAL STUDIES
Tina Kocic

THE WALTER SCOTT McLAY SCHOLARSHIP
Daryl Watson

THE McMASTER UNIVERSITY FUTURES FUND GRADUAND SCHOLARSHIP
Kevin Maynard

THE McMASTER NURSING ALUMNI MEMORIAL PRIZE
Amolpreet Kaur

THE AUDREY EVELYN MEPHAM AWARD
Keerthana Kirichandran  Sara Pourkhatai
Natalie Meisenburg

THE MIDDLETON/WALKER PRIZE IN SEDIMENTARY GEOLOGY
Erin Gibbons

THE P. L. NEWBIGGINING PRIZE
Madison Krofchick
THE KIM AND TIM NOLAN SCHOLARSHIP
Meagan Walker

THE ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF
SOCIAL WORKERS PRIZES
Christina Lee  Katelyn Rush

THE HARRY L. PENNY PRIZE
Kartika Mehan

THE PIONEER ENERGY LP
GERONTOLOGY PRIZE
Natalie Charette  Angela Marcin
Jenna Gaskin  Hillary Quantrill
Lucas Keesmaat  Gia Tran

THE PIONEER ENERGY LP PRIZE IN NURSING
Elizabeth Russell  Alyssa Te

THE POLITICAL SCIENCE
HONOURS ESSAY PRIZE
Adam Chiaravalle

THE LLOYD REEDS PRIZE
Natalie Armstrong  Sarah-Marie Hugh
Erin Gibbons

THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES PRIZE
Shawnee Matinna

THE ABRAHAM ISAAC ROSENBERG
MEMORIAL PRIZE
Serena Salvati

THE GRACE SENRA-FONTES MEMORIAL PRIZE
Nandini Nandeesha

THE SHELL CANADA PRIZES IN
ENGINEERING AND MANAGEMENT
Julie Arrey  Benjamin Miethig
Ryan LaRue

THE RICHARD SLOBODIN PRIZE
Jason Lau

THE SOCIOLOGY PRIZE
Sandra Makino  Laura Stothart

THE JOHN H. TRUEMAN PRIZE
Konstantinos Zafridis

MBA MEDALS

D.M. (MIKE) HEDDEN GOLD MEDAL:
Lauren Bentham

THE R.J. SPENCE MEMORIAL MEDAL:
Kevin Burke

THE LITVAK MEDAL IN MARKETING:
Leanne Murray

THE BASU MEDAL:
Lina Ma
HONORARY DEGREES

Faculty of Health Sciences

Peter George, Doctor of Laws

On June 30th, 2010, Peter George’s remarkable 45-year tenure at McMaster University came to a close as he served his 5,464th and final day as the University’s President & Vice-Chancellor. During his three terms at the helm of the University, he created a legacy that continues to have a profound influence on McMaster, its communities, and the learning and research environment in Canada. George unified the University’s research and teaching goals by setting a mission for McMaster that put the student at the centre of the research-intensive university. He set the agenda for the Centre for Leadership in Learning (now the MacPherson Institute) and extended McMaster’s signature learning approach, inquiry, into every faculty.

During George’s presidential terms, McMaster’s total research funding grew more than 530%, from less than $80 million to more than $425 million. The number of endowed research chairs grew from zero to 75 on the strength of George’s personal commitment to building the University’s research infrastructure. The University attracted landmark gifts to research, opened multidisciplinary research institutes and sparked the rise of international-calibre research enterprises in microscopy, nanotechnology, stem cells and manufacturing, to name just four.

The relationships between the University and its surrounding communities, both near and far, were among George’s top priorities. Locally, he led the moves to partner with Mohawk College in the McMaster-Mohawk Institute of Applied Health Sciences and to establish satellite medical schools in Niagara with Brock University and in Waterloo with the University of Waterloo. Internationally, George spearheaded a global vision that produced educational agreements with institutions in 72 different countries. McMaster also became the first North American host site for the United Nations University (UNU), hosting the UNU / International Network on Water, Environment and Health.

In his first week as president, George initiated a strategic planning and visioning process that, through subsequent revisions, guided McMaster University in enhancing its capacity and creating an increasingly positive environment for learning, research and community service. The milestones in that progress range from the physical – such as the opening of the McMaster University Student Centre (MUSC), a project George described as a “moral imperative” when he took office – to the visual with the rebranding of the University in 1998. George’s leadership ushered in an unprecedented construction boom that remade the campus with new residences, an athletic centre and stadium, a new front entrance, expanded and updated facilities in every faculty, and the Michael G. DeGroote Centre for Learning and Discovery – McMaster’s largest building project since the 1960’s.

George’s contributions to learning, research, McMaster and the wider community have been recognized with a diverse range of awards and honours. Inducted into the Hamilton Gallery of Distinction, he received the Hamilton Community Spirit Award, the Negev Dinner honour and honorary professorships from the University of Science and Technology Beijing and the Dongguan University of Technology. He was also member of both the Order of Canada and the Order of Ontario. George was a holder of five honorary degrees from various institutions before the University conferred upon him the degree Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, in a private ceremony earlier this year.

Faculty of Health Sciences

Abraham Verghese, Doctor of Science

Abraham Verghese is a physician, author, educator and patient advocate. He is the Linda R. Meier and Joan F. Lane Provostial Professor and Vice Chair for the Theory and Practice of Medicine at Stanford University. He served as Director of the residency training program in internal medicine and established the Program in Bedside Medicine. Verghese is a Fellow of the Association of American Physicians, an elected member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies and the Royal College of Physicians of Canada. He received the John P. McGovern Medal from the Oster Society, the Nicholas Davies Humanities Award from the American College of Physicians, the National Humanities Medal and numerous teaching awards.

Verghese’s first book, My Own Country: A Doctor’s Story, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award for General Nonfiction. The Tennis Partner, also non-fiction, was a New York Times “Notable Book.” His first novel, Cutting for Stone, was on the New York Times bestseller list for two years. He has published more than five dozen articles in widely read publications including The Atlantic, New York Times Magazine, the Wall Street Journal, the New Yorker, Life Magazine, Forbes and Sports Illustrated. In 2011, Verghese delivered the TED Talk, “A Doctor’s Touch,” making the compelling argument that modern medical technology is not a substitute for traditional physician-patient interaction. The talk has been viewed more than 1.3 million times.
François Bréchignac, Doctor of Science

François Bréchignac is a globally respected radioecologist who is spearheading efforts to develop a conceptual framework for assessing impacts of low-dose radiation exposures on ecosystems. He is Deputy Scientific Director of the Institut de Radioprotection et de Sûreté Nucléaire at the Centre d’Etudes de Cadarache and also a Member of the Scientific Board of the Alliance for the Environment, a Permanent Member of the Scientific Committees of the Doctoral School in Environmental Sciences and a Member of the Research Federation on Natural and Industrial Risk. He is also an expert evaluator on issues related to radioecology and the environment for the European Commission and other institutions.

Bréchignac was Head of the European Research and Technology Program in Space Biotechnology for the European Space Agency and is the President of the International Union of Radioecology and the Chair of that organization’s Ecosystem Approach Task Force. He is a Member of the NEA/OECD-EGIS Expert Group on the Implications of Radiation Protection Science as well as a Member of the NATO Nuclear Expert Group of the Science for Peace Program. The author of approximately 150 publications, including more than 70 peer-reviewed research articles, Bréchignac has received the prestigious support of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and was granted the N.V. Timofeev-Resovsky “biosphere and humanity” medal from the radiology branch of the Russian Academy of sciences. He was a co-founding member of the environment protection committee of ICRP and worked as associate editor of the Journal of Environmental Radioactivity. Bréchignac served as President of the International Congress on Radioecology and Environmental Radioactivity (ICRER) held in 2011 at McMaster University.

Sarah Polley, Doctor of Letters

Sarah Polley is an actor, director, writer, producer and activist who rose to prominence in her Gemini Award-winning role as Olivia Novak in the CBC drama Street Legal. She had previously achieved big-screen success with roles in films including Norman Jewison’s classic Moonstruck. On stage, she won a Dora Mavor Moore Award for Best Actress in a Musical and, at the Stratford Festival, she has brought an impressive list of celebrated roles to life including Maria in the Sound of Music and Maggie in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof. An accomplished musical performer, Dale created the Cynthia Dale Scholarship for the Arts at Mount Allison University and supports a number of not-for-profit organizations and literacy programs.

Polley wrote and directed the feature film Away from Her, for which she received an Academy Award nomination for Best Adapted Screenplay. In total, the film was nominated for more than 100 awards and won more than 60, including the Genie Award for Best Achievement in Directing, making Polley the first woman to win that award. She also wrote and directed the critically acclaimed feature Take This Waltz and the intensely personal documentary Stories We Tell. Among the many awards that film earned were Best Documentary Screenplay from the Writers Guild of America and Best Non-Fiction Film from the New York Film Critics Circle Awards. She is currently the Writer-Producer of the CBC/Netfl ix mini-series Alias Grace.

Polley is active in a number of social issues and was part of David Miller’s Transition Advisory Team when he became Mayor of Toronto. She has worked as a volunteer for the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty and the Canadian Peace Alliance. Polley is both an Officer of the Order of Canada and a recipient of the National Arts Centre Award.
HONORARY DEGREES (CONTINUED…)

Faculty of Social Sciences (Morning Ceremony)

Michael Hayes, Doctor of Laws

Michael Hayes is one of Canada’s most influential scholars and advocates in the field of population health and health geography. He is a three-time McMaster graduate whose first academic post was at Simon Fraser University, where he worked for 22 years. There he served as Associate Dean of Research and led the process of founding and building the Faculty of Health Sciences. In 2010, he moved to the University of Victoria where he has just completed his term as the inaugural Director of Health Research and Education.

Hayes produces research that merges rigorous health scholarship with effective policy engagement and, as a result, he helped create the field of population health in Canada. He has established that social inequalities play a profound role in determining long-term mental and physical health. He is a pioneer who helped bring this perspective into the public policy conversation and his approach is now entrenched through initiatives including the Institute of Population and Public Health. Hayes has served on important health-related panels such as the BC Provincial Medical Health Officer’s Advisory Committee, the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Advisory Committee on Population Health and the Public Health Promotion Expert Advising Group of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Hayes was the inaugural North American Editor of the scholarly journal Health & Place. A Member of the McMaster Alumni Gallery since 2011, he has also been a Distinguished Visitor for the Government of Canada’s Cultural Personalities Exchange Program.

Faculty of Science (Morning Ceremony)

Daphne Maurer, Doctor of Science

Daphne Maurer is one of McMaster’s Distinguished University Professors and has been an Emeritus Professor since 2013.

Throughout her career Maurer has studied how perception develops and matures, concentrating on the visual system and beginning at birth. Her work has reshaped our understanding of the infant’s sensory world and of development, and has improved clinical care for children with eye problems. It has led to more than 200 scientific publications and a book, The World of the Newborn, co-authored with Charles Maurer, which won the Book Award of the American Psychological Association.

Maurer’s research has been so unusual and significant that she has had continuous funding from Canadian granting agencies for more than 40 years, plus 14 years of funding in Canada from the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

Maurer is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and of the Association for Psychological Science. In 2004, the Centre for Excellence for Early Childhood Development named her Researcher of the Year. She has received the McMaster University Faculty Association’s Award for Outstanding Service and the David O. Hebb Distinguished Contribution Award from the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science.

Faculty of Science (Afternoon Ceremony)

Bernhard Banaschewski, Doctor of Science

Bernhard Banaschewski joined McMaster University’s faculty in 1955, becoming the McKay Professor in Mathematics in 1964 and emeritus McKay Professor in 1991. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Banaschewski is acknowledged as a master of the conceptual method of doing and presenting mathematical work and his work has influenced subjects including topology, category theory, order, mathematical logic and foundations and algebra.

Banaschewski has been both Chairman of the Grant Selection Committee for Pure and Applied Mathematics and a Member of the Committee for International Scientific Exchanges for the National Research Council of Canada. He served on the Selection Panel for the Steacie Prize and was Group Chairman for the NSERC Committee on Grants and Scholarships. He also served as Vice-President of the Canadian Mathematical Society. Banaschewski worked for 22 years on the Editorial Board of Topology and Its Applications and continues to serve an ongoing and even longer term on the Board of Quaestiones Mathematicae and of Applied Categorical Structures. He was Associate Editor of the Canadian Journal of Mathematics for a decade. Banaschewski is an Honorary Member of the South African Mathematical Society and he has been recognized by the University of Cape Town with an honorary degree.

Faculty of Social Sciences (Afternoon Ceremony)

Joseph. S. Mancinelli, Doctor of Laws

Joseph Mancinelli is International Vice President and Regional Manager for Central and Eastern Canada for the Laborers’ International Union of North America (LiUNA). He is also Chair of the Labourer’s Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada, President of the LiUNA Ontario District Council and President of both the LiUNA Group Limited, which manages LiUNA entities including Liuna Station and Liuna Gardens and the LiUNA Local 837 Health Property (Hamilton) Corporation which owns long-term care facilities.

Born and raised in Hamilton, Mr. Mancinelli is also a community builder. He has served on the Board of Hamilton Health Sciences, Chaired the Bay Area Health Trust, served on the St. Joseph’s Healthcare Campaign Cabinet, started a scholarship program for children of LiUNA members and served as a Hamilton-Wentworth Separate School Board Trustee. At McMaster, he helped establish the Enrico Mancinelli Professorship in Global Labour Issues and the Chair in Heavy Construction.

Mr. Mancinelli and LiUNA have been trailblazers in renewing downtown Hamilton through award-winning projects like the refurbishment of the James Street North train station and the restoration of the Lister Block. Their most recent initiative is a Student Housing development adjacent to the Lister Block and the revitalization of the north-east corner of King-William.

Mr. Mancinelli, a talented artist, has also been involved with numerous local arts organizations. Named one of the ten most influential people in Hamilton by Urbanicity Magazine, Joe has recently been inducted into the Hamilton Gallery of Distinction, he is the recipient of the Paul Harris Fellow from the Rotary Club and the David Crombie Award from the Canadian Urban Institute, the Business Excellence Award from the Canadian and Italian Business and Professional Association, has a star on the Italian Walk of Fame in Toronto, is the recipient of the Mohawk College Award of Merit, the Italian-Canadian Citizen of the Year award and the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal to name a few.
Michael Pley, Doctor of Science

Michael Pley is a McMaster alumnus who joined the aerospace company COM DEV International shortly after graduating. More than 80 percent of all communications satellites ever launched and many international space science missions have had COM DEV technology on board. Until his retirement in 2016, Pley guided the company from senior positions as Division President, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Executive Officer. Under his leadership, the company earned the Waterloo Junior Achievement Business of the Year Award, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce Large Business Award for Business Excellence, and the Waterloo Area’s Top Employers Award six times in a row.

Pley has been Chair of the Board for exactEarth Ltd and is currently on the Board of Waterloo North Hydro. He is Chair of the Advisory Board to McMaster’s Dean of Engineering and recently became a Camp Warden for the McMaster Engineering Kipling ceremony. Pley is an Executive Member of the Board of the Aerospace Industries Association of Canada and serves as the Chair of its Space Committee. He was appointed in April 2017 to the Government of Canada’s new Space Advisory Board.

Pley earned his Professional Engineer designation in 1987 and, in 2006, was the inaugural recipient of the L.W. Shemilt Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award presented by McMaster’s Faculty of Engineering.

Hamish Robertson, Doctor of Science

Hamish Robertson completed his PhD in Atomic-Beam and Nuclear Structure Physics at McMaster University then became a Professor of Physics at Michigan State University. His research there resulted in the first observation of an isobaric quintet of states in nuclei. He also carried out experiments on parity violation, nuclear astrophysics and nuclear reactions. Robertson moved to the Los Alamos National Laboratory to conduct research on neutrinos and was later appointed a Fellow of the Los Alamos National Laboratory. Robertson initiated the laboratory’s collaboration with the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) and he is now SNO’s US Co-Spokesman. He served as the Observatory’s Scientific Director in 2003-2004.

Robertson joined the faculty at the University of Washington in 1994 and was appointed to the Boeing Distinguished Professorship in 2008. He has chaired the Nuclear Science Advisory Committee and the Division of Nuclear Physics for the American Physical Society (APS). A past Member of the Board of Physics and Astronomy of the National Research Council, he has also served on NRC Nuclear Physics and Neutrino Astrophysics panels, as well as the APS-DNP Executive Committee. Robertson is a Fellow of the Institute of Physics (London), the American Physical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Academy of Sciences. In 1997, he received the APS Tom W. Bonner Prize. In 2015 he shared in the award of the Breakthrough Prize in Physics.

Graduates who have pre-ordered degree frames and gifts from the McMaster Campus Store website may pick up their items in Wentworth Room A when the ceremony is complete and their gowns have been returned. Your degree will be framed in this location.

For those who have purchased a degree frame today before or after the ceremony, please visit the main lobby where the Campus Store offers a wide selection of Official McMaster University degree frames, crested giftware and limited edition Class of 2017 merchandise.

A representative from Jostan’s will be on hand before and after all graduation ceremonies to help size and design the perfect ring for your graduate. Complementary degree framing also takes place in the lobby area.
DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

Faculty of Health Sciences

Dr. John Kelton
Professor, Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine
Executive Director, Michael G. DeGroote Initiative for Innovation in Healthcare

John Kelton is a Professor in the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine and Executive Director of the Michael G. DeGroote Initiative for Innovation in Healthcare. His research in hematology, which has changed clinical practice worldwide, has spawned nearly 300 scholarly articles, including 16 in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Kelton’s three terms as Dean and Vice-President of McMaster’s Faculty of Health Sciences featured historic growth that saw the School of Medicine ranked in the world’s top 15 university health programs. A Member of the Order of Canada, Kelton is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences and the Royal College of Physicians. He has received the Prix Galien Research Award and the Gold Medal in Medicine from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

Faculty of Humanities and Arts & Science Program Ceremony

Dr. Barry Allen
Professor, Department of Philosophy

A member of McMaster’s Department of Philosophy since 1986 and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Barry Allen’s research concentrates on the concept of knowledge, which he studies from interdisciplinary and multi-cultural perspectives in all its dimensions in human civilization, ecology, and evolution. His work is notable for bridging gaps between analytic and continental philosophy and Asian and Western thought, to address a wide audience in contemporary and comparative philosophy and the human sciences.

He has been a visiting professor and invited speaker in seven countries, and is associate editor of the interdisciplinary scholarly journal Common Knowledge. He is the author of five books, including Truth in Philosophy, Knowledge and Civilization, Artifice and Design, and Vanishing Into Things: Knowledge in Chinese Tradition. His most recent book, Striking Beauty: A Philosophical Look at the Asian Martial Arts, was selected as a Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2016.

Faculty of Science (Afternoon Ceremony)

Dr. Michael Brook
Professor, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology

A Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Michael Brook is an expert in organosilicon, silica and silicone chemistry. He has won awards for his research, including the 2016 F. S. Kipping Award for Silicon Chemistry, American Chemical Society, and 2017 Macromolecular Engineering and Science Award, Chemical Institute of Canada; he was a Killam Research Fellow and co-winner of the Synergy Prize for Industrial Collaboration.

Brook is a pioneer in the development of synthetic methods for silicones with tailored properties, with implications for everything from cosmetics to microelectronics and biomaterials. He holds seven patents, and nearly 260 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters. His book Silicon in Organic, Organometallic and Polymer Chemistry is considered the standard in the field.

Brook has twice won the MSU Teaching Award for the Faculty of Science and the President’s Award for Instruction.

Faculty of Science (Morning Ceremony)

Dr. Laurel Trainor
Professor, Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour

Laurel Trainor is a Professor in the Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour; the Director and Founder of the McMaster Institute for Music and the Mind; a Senior Fellow with the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research; and a Research Scientist with the Rotman Research Institute. She pioneered the study of the ways musical experiences influence brain development and founded LIVELab, McMaster’s unique laboratory/concert hall.

Trainor has been named one of the academic experts most frequently consulted by Canadian media and twice had papers listed among the Centre of Excellence for Early Childhood Development’s top ten articles of the year. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and the Association for Psychological Science, Trainor holds Honorary Board Membership with the Suzuki Society of the Americas and received McMaster’s Innovator of Distinction Award.
Dr. Bruce Gaulin
Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy,
Director, Brockhouse Institute for Materials Research

A Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, Bruce Gaulin is the Brockhouse Chair in the Physics of Materials and the Director of the Brockhouse Institute for Materials Research. His work in condensed matter physics has been published in more than 200 articles and placed him in the top one percent of NSERC Discovery Grant (Individual) award recipients.

Gaulin, who is expert at applying neutron scattering to problems in materials physics, also brought the first image furnaces to Canada for the discovery of crystals of new quantum materials. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and the recipient of the Brockhouse Medal. He is also a Senior Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research who has received a Killam Research Fellowship and an Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship. Gaulin is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and the Neutron Scattering Society of America (NSSA). He was NSSA President from 2009 to 2013 and is currently Vice-President of the Canadian Association of Physicists.

GOVERNOR GENERAL’S ACADEMIC MEDAL

Alex Dhaliwal
Faculty of Science (Afternoon Ceremony)

Alex is graduating from the Integrated Science program without Concentration, instead pursuing a triple minor in Physics, Mathematics, and Biochemistry. He recently completed his undergraduate thesis in biophysics alongside Dr. Maikel Rheinstädter, attempting to understand the fundamental interactions between sugars and lipids membranes.

Apart from his studies, Alex prides himself on being an active member of his school community. As outgoing president and co-founder of the McMaster Undergraduate Academic Astronomy Club, he helped to provide students from all faculties a group through which they could learn more about modern astronomy research. He also served as the two-time Senior Editor for The iScientist, McMaster’s first interdisciplinary peer-reviewed undergraduate journal, helping to publish both its first and second volumes. Finally, he served as a neuroscience teaching assistant for two years.

His broad research background and interdisciplinary foundations have motivated Alex to pursue a joint MD/PhD degree at the University of Toronto, conducting his research in the Department of Medical Biophysics. He would like to express deep gratitude to his friends, professors, and family, all of which he sees as the latter, as without their support and care his success would not be possible.

Emily Farquharson
Faculty of Engineering (Morning Ceremony)

Emily Farquharson is graduating from Civil Engineering and Co-op. During her degree, she focused on structural engineering, and for her final-year design project, she worked with her group SCS Consultants Ltd. to design the terminal and runways for the future Pickering International Airport.

Between her third and final year, she completed a sixteen-month internship with the Partnership Ventures department of Dufferin Construction Company, working on bids for large infrastructure projects including the Highway 427 Expansion and the Finch West LRT.

Outside of school, Emily loved playing on the McMaster Field Hockey team for all four years of her degree. She also enjoyed volunteering as a coach for the Halton Field Hockey Club and at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

Following her final year, Emily began working as a Structural Engineer-in-Training at WSP, and has not closed her steel or concrete handbooks since.
PRESIDENT’S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO TEACHING & LEARNING

Faculty of Health Sciences

Dr. Sandeep Raha
Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Raha is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at McMaster University. He obtained his PhD from the University of Toronto, Department of Biochemistry. His post-doctoral training was carried out the Hospital for Sick Children in the area of mitochondrial dysfunction and metabolic disease. He then worked in the biotech sector as the manager of the molecular biology group of FONA Technologies designing and optimizing biosensors to detect single nucleotide polymorphisms. He started his own research program in 2007, in the Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Raha’s research focuses on understanding how stress during pregnancy can affect the future health of the baby. Currently, he focuses on understanding how stress caused by pharmaceuticals and environmental chemicals may disrupt the function of the trophoblast cell, a type of stem cell that is central to the development of the placenta. His research aims to connect poor placental function with fetal health outcomes so that early life medical interventions can be developed. In 2011, Dr. Raha co-founded and is the current director of the McMaster Children and Youth University Program, a campus wide outreach program, which provides engagement opportunities between McMaster faculty, students and community youth and their families.

Faculty of Business

Dr. Anna Danielova
Associate Professor and Area Chair (Finance and Business Economics)

Dr. Anna N. Danielova is an Associate Professor of Finance at the DeGroote School of Business, McMaster University. Dr. Danielova’s leadership in teaching and learning has been evidenced by her involvement in the development and redesign of six courses, including the first year finance curriculum in the MBA program and participation in the Program Development Committee of the Executive MBA in Digital Transformation. Many students attribute their successes in the workplace to Dr. Danielova’s innovative experiential pedagogy that fosters higher level of learning by bridging theory and practice, elevating peer learning, and empowering students to take control of their education. Dr. Danielova is a devoted, approachable and supportive mentor for students, making material impact in their lives. In her current position as Area Chair, Dr. Danielova has further generated an influential impact on the curricula of three of the key programs in the School of Business: MBA, Commerce and Master of Finance.

Faculty of Science (Morning Ceremony)

Dr. Felicia Vulcu
Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences

Felicia Vulcu is a teaching professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences. Felicia is a homegrown McMaster alumna having completed both her B.Sc. and PhD in the same department she now works in. She currently teaches a number of courses in the Biochemistry and BDC (Biomedical Discovery and Commercialization) programs. She is also the undergraduate program advisor and the coordinator for the BHSc Biomedical Sciences Specialization. Felicia’s contributions to McMaster include a number of pedagogical innovations such as inquiry-based labs and an online course. Additionally, Felicia is dedicated to creating a safe, nurturing environment conducive to sharing of ideas. She feels that establishing such an environment is the best way to engage students and harness their curiosity and creativity in biochemistry and biomedical sciences.

Faculty of Science (Afternoon Ceremony)

Dr. Chad Harvey
Assistant Professor, School of Interdisciplinary Sciences

Dr. Chad Harvey is a Teaching Track, Associate Professor, in the Integrated Science Program, School for Interdisciplinary Science and an Associate member of the Dept. of Biology. He received is B. Sc. in Zoology from the University of Guelph, M. Sc. in Entomology from Auburn University, and his Ph. D. in Zoology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His discipline research seeks to better understand foodweb and community level interactions of invasive species in human-dominated environments. As a winner of the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance Award for Teaching Excellence (2018) and twice nominated for a McMaster Student Union Teaching Award (2013, 2015) his true passion lies in interacting with students. He finds nothing more motivating than facilitating the student process of learning, as they journey from the struggle of understanding to the generation of their own new ideas. He actively pursues pedagogical research to find better ways to facilitate the student experience and challenge students to think for themselves. He has achieved fruitful national and international collaborations looking into research-based education and the importance of teaching skills in addition to information delivery. He truly cares about his students, the student experience and how today’s students can become tomorrow’s leaders — the process we call education.
Felicia Vulcu is a teaching professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences. Felicia is dedicated to creating a safe, nurturing environment conducive to sharing of ideas. She feels that inquiry-based labs and an online course. Additionally, Felicia is dedicated to and Commercialization) programs. She is also the undergraduate program advisor which provides engagement opportunities between McMaster faculty, students and community.

Dr. Sandeep Raha
Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences

Dr. Raha is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at McMaster University. He obtained his Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His discipline of research focuses on understanding the role of stress and chemicals in the placenta. His research aims to connect poor outcomes of pregnancy to the function of the placenta, specifically how stress during pregnancy can affect the future health of the baby. Currently, he is involved in the development of a model of preterm birth to study the effects of stress on the placenta. Dr. Raha has received several awards for his research, including the Young Investigator Award from the Neuronal Signaling Society and the Young Investigator Award from the Society for Neuroscience.

Dr. Chad Harvey
Assistant Professor, School of Interdisciplinary Sciences

Dr. Harvey is a Teaching Track, Associate Professor, and Chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy. His research focuses on the use of neutron scattering to study the properties of materials. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2007, in the Department of Physics. Dr. Harvey's research has been recognized with the Young Investigator Award from the Neutron Scattering Society of America (NSSA). He was NSSA President from 2009 to 2013 and is currently Vice-President of the Canadian Association of Physicists. Dr. Harvey is also a strong advocate for diversity and inclusion in science, and has been an active member of the Neutron Scattering Society of America (NSSA) and the Canadian Association of Physicists (CAPP). He is passionate about improving the student experience in physics, and has been recognized with several awards for his teaching, including the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award and the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award for Research.

PRESIDENT’S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Saly Halawa
Faculty of Health Sciences

For two years, Saly worked as a campus emergency medical responder to provide on-call first aid and mental health support to students. During this time, Saly also volunteered through the Student Wellness Centre and as a peer support listener. This year, she led the coordination of a competition for a national conference that brought together 10 university response teams to test their response skills. Additionally, Saly helped first-year students transition into university as a residence community advisor and as a Leadership Developer for the Horizons Leadership Conference. She pursued her passion for advocacy work through conducting pedagogical research through McMaster’s MacPherson Institute and as the sponsorship coordinator for Relay for Life, helping to raise over $74,000 towards cancer research. After graduation, Saly hopes to use her diverse skills and experiences as a clinician.

Elaine Stirling
Faculty of Health Sciences

For three years Elaine has served as a member of the McMaster Student Union’s Women and Gender Equity Network, a service dedicated to educating the student body about issues of gender equity and an intake centre gender-based violence. This year as Coordinator, she helped to revolutionize the way peer support is provided to survivors of sexual assault, creating educational campaigns and programming to educate students on supporting survivors on campus. Throughout her term, Elaine has successfully spearheaded numerous collaborations with Hamilton community partners, such as the Leadership Summit for Women, SACHA and the Anti-Violence Network. Concurrent to her role as WGEN Coordinator, Elaine served as Co-Convener of the Violence Against Women/Gender Based Violence Working Group to advise the President and Provost on issues related to sexual and gender-based violence, and participated as a student consult in the creation of McMaster’s Sexual Violence Response Protocol, which was passed this year. After graduation, she hopes to use her skill set to pursue a career in health care, with a focus on trauma therapy.
For the past two years, Sonia has coordinated the Yonkwahahi:yos mentorship program which bridges the gap between Indigenous students, the greater McMaster community, and surrounding Indigenous communities, while promoting conversations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students as we share in this time of Truth and Reconciliation. Sonia also co-created and co-planned the inaugural Indigenous Students and Studies Welcome Week to create a more inviting space for Indigenous students; easing their transition into the university setting, while increasing Indigenous presence on campus. This year, Sonia brought together a group of Indigenous students in an independent studies course to work towards a research exchange in Aotearoa (New Zealand). Sonia has also participated in the Cooperative of Indigenous Studies Students and Alumni (CISSA), as well as the Indigenous Undergraduate Summer Research Scholars program. Sonia’s research has focussed on the healing of intergenerational survivors of the Residential School system. In graduate school, she will be shifting her focus to the reclamation of Indigenous Knowledge (IK) and culture through youth lead environmental movements.

This year Akeel has served as the co-president of the McMaster Engineering and Management (E&M) Society, and has as well been a member of the Industrial Advisory Committee for the E&M Program. He has also been apart of a group of interdisciplinary McMaster students who worked on creating and improving processes for a new Innovation and Enrichment Centre that supports both gifted and special learners in the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board. Akeel also has acted as a student voice for Cycle Hamilton, a non-for profit member-supported coalition that works to promote a healthy, safe, and sustainable cycling culture in Hamilton.

Akeel would like to dedicate this award to his parents, Abdool and Fazielette, who he admits heavily attribute to the leadership skills he posses.
VALEDICTORIANS

Health Sciences
Zeinab Khawaja

Business
Gabriela Vasileva

Nursing/Medical Radiation Sciences
Anishka Saldanha

Humanities/Arts & Science
Gali Katznelson

Social Sciences (Morning Ceremony)
Atia Bashizadah

Social Sciences (Afternoon Ceremony)
Tim Daly

Science (Morning Ceremony)
Kim Pho

Science (Afternoon Ceremony)
Patricia Kousoulas

Engineering (Morning Ceremony)
Emily Farquharson

Engineering (Afternoon Ceremony)
Ryan Rogers

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