Five hundred and seventy-first 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. Jeremiah Hurley
The Chancellor’s Welcome
Dr. Suzanne B. Labarge

The Conferring of the Degree Doctor of Laws
Honoris causa on Joseph Silvio Mancinelli
Citation: Dr. Patrick Deane

The Convocation Address
Dr. Joseph Mancinelli

The Conferring of Degrees In-Course
Musical Interlude
The Presentation of the Graduates
The Valedictory Address
Tim Daly

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 the Hamilton Convention Centre in Wentworth Rooms B and C.
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. McRimmon
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. Hawkbrig
2007 – 2013 Lynton R. Wilson
2013 – Suzanne B. Labarge

PRESIDENTS

1949 – 1961 George P. Gilmour
1961 – 1972 Henry G. Thode
1972 – 1980 Arthur N. Bours
1980 – 1990 Alvin A. Lee
1995 – 2010 Peter J. George
2010 – 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.
PRESENTERS OF DEGREES, DIPLOMAS, AND CERTIFICATES

Dr. Tony Porter
Professor, and Associate Dean (Graduate Studies and Research),
Faculty of Social Sciences

Dr. George Thomas
Professor Emeritus, Department of
Linguistics & Languages

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

ANTHROPOLOGY

Rebecca Jeanne Gilmour
Thesis: Resilient Romans: Cross-Sectional Evidence for Long-Term Functional Consequences of Extremity Trauma

Robert James Stark
Thesis: Ancient Lives in Motion: A Bioarchaeological Examination of Stable Isotopes, Nonmetric Traits, and Human Mobility in an Imperial Roman Context (1st-3rd c. CE)

Lauren Wallace

Jasopj Lesica

Bradley Brian Minaker
Thesis: Three Essays in Public Economics: Charities and Charitable Giving

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Danielle Blab
Thesis: Muslims of Interest: Practices of Racialization in the Context of the War on Terror

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Taymaz Garadjalou Tabrizi
Thesis: Marriage as a Technology of the Self: Sex, Gender and Juristic Inversion in the Soteriology of Im?m? Law

ECONOMICS

Luc Clair
Thesis: Non-parametric Estimation Methods using Complex Survey Data

Josip Lesica

Bradley Brian Minaker
Thesis: Three Essays in Public Economics: Charities and Charitable Giving

MASTER OF ARTS

ANTHROPOLOGY

Daiana Rivas-Tello

ECONOMIC POLICY

Saadia Hussain
Wynonna Smoke
Miles Andrew Gray White

ECONOMICS

Dania Assi
Antonella Grazietta
Fidanza Betancourt
Nidhi Handa
Keisha Grace Panoff
Juan David Rios

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Chaim Grafstein

WORK AND SOCIETY

Erin Patrick Carr
Lauren Maresa Pucci
Andrew Abdelmalek ......................... Religious Studies
Inayatullah Abid ............................... Economics
Thomass Eric Aguiss ......................... Economics
★ Werdah Aiman ................................. Economics
Marwa Al Hosni ......................... Political Science
Jenna Al-Momani ..................... Political Science & Sociology
★ Azra Alagic .................................. Political Science
(Minor in Sociology)
Ammar Ali .............................. Political Science & Sociology
Sarah Alizaring .......................... Political Science & Sociology
(Minor in Health, Aging & Society)
Megan Alves ............................... Political Science
(Minor in Sociology)
Mark Jason Valerio Andrade .... Political Science & Sociology
★ James Ankers ............................. Political Science
Savinda Eshana Athulugwage .... Economics
★ Samantha Paige Kelly Atkins .... Anthropology
Simon Audisho .......................... Economics & Political Science
★ Natalie Austin ............................ Anthropology
(Minor in Archaeology)
Esther Badejo .............................. Labour Studies
(Minor in Health, Aging & Society)
Mohamed Mutwakil Bakri .......... Economics (Specialist)
Kylie Shaide Banki ....................... Anthropology
(Minor in Psychology)
Sean Mark William Banting ..... Political Science
(Minor in Economics)
Natalie Victoria Barbon ........ Labour Studies
Franklin Battaglia ..................... Economics
(Minor in Finance)
Matthew David Bendia ........ Anthropology
(Minor in Psychology)
★ Milica Bijelic ............................. Political Science
Humza Bilal ............................... Political Science
Connor Neil Blakeborough ........ Political Science
Rohan Bone ................................. Economics
Amy Michele Bonk ....................... Anthropology
Janet Georgia Boullias ........ Political Science
Kenneth Earl Edward Boyce ....... Political Science
★ Anna Maria Bukowiec ............. Economics
Miguel Bulawan ....................... Political Science
Ziao Cao ................................. Economics
Kathryn Sophia Caughhey .... Labour Studies & Geography
Xisi Chen ................................. Economics
★ Tsiz Ting Bonnie Cheng .......... Anthropology
(Minor in Health, Aging & Society)
★ Adam Mitchell Chiavaravale .... Political Science
(Minor in Sustainability)
Jacob Deni Chiavaravale .......... Economics
Leonard Logan Churchill .... Anthropology & Political Science
Waisnnavn Cinkaraja ............. Labour Studies
Julian Matthew Colaprete .... Economics
Jordan Gregory Cole ................................. Political Science
Rebecca Madison Collings ..... Political Science
Brian Donald Connor ................................. Political Science
Jenna Lynn Courage ................................. Political Science
Danielle Marie Crecca ........ Anthropology
(Minor in Archaeology)
Amy Cui ................................. Political Science & Sociology
Timothy Daly ............................... Political Science
Rustom Daroga ............................. Political Science
★ Jamie Brett Day ........................ Anthropology
(Minor in History)
Kelly Rianne Day ......................... Anthropology
(Minor in Health, Aging & Society)
Alessandro de Boyrie ................................. Political Science
Yuvneesh Aumandana Dhaliah .... Economics
Kyle Benjamin MacCreary Di Trani ... Economics
(Minor in Mathematics and Statistics)
Marco Luigi Di Tullio ........ Political Science
Meaghan Kristen Disher-Byles ... Economics
(Minor in Psychology)
Peter Quoc Tien Do ................................. Political Science
Kimberley Mercedes Doornick ... Labour Studies
★ Madeline Rebecca Dorotea ... Political Science & Sociology
Jordan Ashley Dosser ................................. Political Science & Sociology
Kyle Christopher Edwards ........ Political Science
Hana Faidi ................................. Political Science
Mackenzie Fielding ................................. Economics
(Minor in Finance)
★ Alexandra Finstad ...................... Economics (Specialist)
Robert Anthony Flynn ........ Political Science
★ Jackson James Gahagan .......... Economics
(Minor in Business)
Victoria Lynn Galea ................................. Political Science
James Garcia-Hennings ... Economics (Specialist)
Patrisha Nicole Georgakopoulos .... Political Science
★ Martine Ghazouli ................................. Political Science & Sociology
Gabriel Julian Ghigione .... Anthropology
Harmoor Kaur Gill ................................. Political Science
Jogeshwar Gill ................................. Political Science
★ Daryl Gonsalves ................................. Political Science
(Minor in Business)
★ Melanie Ann Gray .... Anthropology & Sociology
Linnea Laura Gremeren ........ Anthropology
(Minor in Sociology)
(Minor in Archaeology)
Jessica Guarnieri .......... Economics
Monique Gujadhur ................. Political Science
Tanya Gulati ................................. Anthropology
★ Elaine Xiaoyu Guo .................... Economics
Tousif Shaian Hafiz ................................. Political Science
Mikael Y Hailu ................................. Economics
(Minor in Business)
Mehar Afshan Hamid .................... Labour Studies
Jack Reilly Harold .................... Economics
★ Christopher Harrison ........ Economics (Specialist)
Haris Hassan ................................. Economics
(Minor in Geography and Earth Sciences)
Katrina Maria Hembruff ........ Labour Studies
(Minor in Health, Aging & Society)
Binar Hemed ............................... Political Science
Renito Renaldo Hinds ........ Political Science
(Minor in Sociology)
(Minor in History)
Flynn Patrick Hobson ........ Economics
★ Jennifer Howarth ................................. Anthropology
Sanja Jan .............................. Anthropology & Geography
Gregory Patrick Adam Jandricic .... Anthropology
Maria Janeckova ................................. Anthropology
Vanessa Joelle Janser ................................. Anthropology
Nicole Sandra Jastremski .... Political Science
Huda Jbarah ............................... Political Science
Emily Barbara Jean Johnston ... Political Science
Andrew Kaasalainen ........ Economics
★ Thulasi Kandiah ................................. Anthropology
Nicole Karabogdan .... Labour Studies
Alexander Karpenko ........ Economics
(Minor in Finance)
Michael Anthony Kashak .... Labour Studies & Political Science
Abbie Kingston ............................ Anthropology
Isabel Krysa ................................. Anthropology
Mahisha Kumaran ................................. Anthropology
(Minor in Biology)
Christian Alexander Kuziora .... Anthropology
(Minor in Anthropology)
Noah Dane Lafleur ................................. Economics
Hyu Koon Lee ................................. Economics
★ Katherine Minji Lee ........ Political Science
Vanessa Marie Liota .............. Labour Studies
Stanley Hok-Yan Liu .... Anthropology & Political Science
Ryan Alexander Lopez ........ Anthropology
(Minor in Religious Studies)
Zhiying Luo ................................. Economics
(Minor in Mathematics)
★ Christian John Lupo ............ Political Science
Kevin Luu ................................. Economics
(Minor in Statistics)

BACHELOR OF ARTS
HONOURS

Wednesday, June 14, 2017: 2:30 p.m., FirstOntario Concert Hall
★ with distinction (achievement of a minimum Grade Point Average of 9.5/12)
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<td>Salim Kharoubi Zanzaana</td>
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<td>Jasmine Zarour</td>
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BACHELOR OF ARTS

Agnes Beata Abraham .......... Labour Studies
Andrew Yeh-Chahn Ahn .......... Religious Studies
Mahmoud Al-Awawdeh .......... Economics
Matthew Alves .......... Economics
Kingsley Amankwaa .......... Political Science
Mary Amanouel .......... Labour Studies
Justus Chi-Yan Au .......... Economics
Di Bai .......... Economics
Aaron Baker .......... Economics
Arnab Barua .......... Economics
Maria Andrea Bernal .......... Political Science
Madison Michelle Biancucci .......... Labour Studies
Emily Boyce .......... Anthropology
Alexander James Brennan .......... Political Science
Emily Kate Brown Sine .......... Anthropology
Justin Ka Ming Chan .......... Economics
Rachael Lindsay Chatterpaul .......... Anthropology
Henry Chau .......... Economics
Alexander Chow .......... Economics
Johnathan Clapperton .......... Labour Studies
Paul Di Saverio .......... Religious Studies
Amy Donaldson .......... Economics
Alysha Dossa .......... Political Science
Olayide Oluwaseun Ebewumi .......... Economics
Jade Amber Eljabri .......... Economics
Sara Faruqui .......... Economics
Caitlin Eileen Finn .......... Economics
Olivia Fleites Sosa .......... Political Science
Anna Szening Fong .......... Economics
Matthew Mark Gambioli .......... Political Science
Samara Danielle Goldberg .......... Anthropology
Connor Andrew Grieve .......... Labour Studies
Siyu Gu .......... Economics
Shamim Aisha Hamid .......... Political Science
Xiao Han .......... Economics
Jannette Abigail Hernandez .......... Political Science
Benjamin Paul Hicks .......... Economics
Krystle Hinton .......... Labour Studies
Yuting Hou .......... Economics
Zhao Yuan Huang .......... Economics
Alison Imrie .......... Religious Studies
Zachary Michael Intzandt .......... Political Science
Sarah Jama .......... General
Tabrez Nasrudin Jeshani .......... Political Science
Andrea Johnstone .......... Economics
Muhammad Sharif Khan .......... Political Science
Agnes Gunhee Ko .......... Economics
Brandon Koppers .......... Economics
Justin James Kresina .......... Political Science
Matthew Kenneth Kumar .......... Political Science
Tszchung Kwok .......... Economics
Matthew Kin-Heng Lam .......... Economics
Yaelle Rebecca Lechem .......... Anthropology
Jong Soo Lee .......... Economics
Junggii Lee .......... Economics
You Li .......... Economics
Yuqin Li .......... Economics
Sherry Yinghe Liu .......... Economics
Yishen Lu .......... Economics
Pak Lun Marco Liu .......... Economics
Spencer Alexander Luis .......... Anthropology
David Macaulay .......... Religious Studies
Minoya Magendrathan .......... Anthropology
Ruth Divya Mathew .......... Political Science
Rylie Kendahl McCulloch-Casarsa .......... Political Science
Trevon Anthony Mcneil .......... Political Science
Salhar Asfaq Memon .......... Economics
Alexander Samuel Miles .......... Economics
Taylor Anne Miller .......... Labour Studies
Dennis Mindrechi .......... Economics
Zishan Mohiuddin .......... Economics
Nicole Anne Molinaro .......... Anthropology
Asem Mosmer .......... Economics
Manzar Munir .......... Political Science
Vijayantie Devi Nagappa .......... Religious Studies
Andy Tien Nguyen .......... Economics
Chermaine A Ocansey .......... Anthropology
Jennifer Joanna Vanderzalm .......... General
Kathryn Tatjana Waite .......... Anthropology
Yu Wang .......... Economics
Dylan Wenzel .......... Anthropology
Xiaolong Xie .......... Economics
Yuchen Xie .......... Economics
Francis You .......... Economics
Yibing Yu .......... Economics
Aidiqa Zahoor .......... Economics
Yanwei Zhang .......... Economics
Chiqiao Zhao .......... Economics
Rukiya Marie Peterkin .......... Labour Studies
Matthew Prosdocimi .......... Economics
Natalie Rose Protulipac .......... Political Science
Mohammad Waleed Rabbani .......... Labour Studies
Rajeeth Raveendrakumar .......... Economics
Angela Elizabeth Rose .......... Anthropology
Michael Said .......... Economics
Babuthiran Saravanabavanathan .......... Economics
Lefteri Savidis-Georgiou .......... Political Science
Keenan Shearing .......... Economics
Harresh Sivamohan .......... Political Science
Stefanija Stameska .......... Anthropology
Matthew Antonio Richard Starai .......... Economics
Dakota Travis Hughes Stevenson .......... Economics
Nicholas Paul Stewart .......... Political Science
Di Sun .......... Economics
Mingze Sun .......... Economics
Fahd Salahuddin Syed .......... Economics
Feng Tan .......... Economics
Leah Chantal Tavares-Finson .......... Anthropology
Aleksii Tekutev .......... Economics
Mayurathan Thavathas .......... Religious Studies
Melissa Anna Tinebra .......... Religious Studies
Victoria Maria Tomassetti .......... Economics
Linda Vu Hanh Tran .......... Economics
Lynda Trudell .......... Economics
Nic Truong .......... Political Science
James Robert John Van Velzer .......... Political Science
Jennifer Joanna Vanderzalm .......... General

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 Vasaghi-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 Toepf  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
Anmolpreet Kaur

THE AUDREY EVELYN MEPHAM AWARD
Keerthana Kirichandran  Sara Pourkhatai
Natalie Meisenburg

THE MIDDLETON/WALKER PRIZE IN SEDIMENTARY GEOLOGY
Erin Gibbons

THE P. L. NEWBIGGING PRIZE
Madison Krofchick
UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS (CONTINUED …)

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 Matinnia

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

VALEDICTORIANS

Health Sciences
Business
Nursing/Medical Radiation Sciences
Humanities/Arts & Science
Social Sciences (Morning Ceremony)
Social Sciences (Afternoon Ceremony)
Science (Morning Ceremony)
Science (Afternoon Ceremony)
Engineering (Morning Ceremony)
Engineering (Afternoon Ceremony)

Zeinab Khawaja
Gabriela Vasileva
Anishka Saldanha
Gali Katznelson
Atia Bashizadah
Tim Daly
Kim Pho
Patricia Kousoulas
Emily Farquharson
Ryan Rogers
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 Osher 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 fifty 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’Études 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.

Cynthia Dale performed on stage and television as a child and rose to prominence with her Gemini-nominated 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.

Peter Mansbridge is the Chief Correspondent of CBC News, Anchor of The National as well as all CBC News specials. He hosts Mansbridge: One on One, a series of in-depth interviews with leading newsmakers, and has interviewed everyone from Margaret Thatcher to Ringo Starr and from Bill Gates to Desmond Tutu. He is the only Canadian journalist to interview President Barack Obama. The author of the bestselling book Peter Mansbridge One on One: Favourite Conversations and the Stories Behind Them, Mansbridge has earned more than a dozen national awards for broadcast journalism. He is serving his second term as Chancellor of Mount Allison University and is an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Sarah Polley is an actor, director, writer, producer and activist who rose to prominence in her Gemini Award-winning role of Sara Stanley in CBC’s Road to Avonlea. She also earned a Gemini Award for her role in the TV movie Lantern Hill and a Genie Award for her role in Isabel Coixet’s My Life Without Me.

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/Netflix 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.
Faculty of Social Sciences (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 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-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.

Faculty of Science (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 (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.
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.
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 Galién 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 (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.

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.
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

**Faculty of Science (Afternoon Ceremony)**

**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.

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.

**Faculty of Engineering (Morning Ceremony)**

**Emily Farquharson**

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.
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 at 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 work place 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.
Dr. Konstantinos Apostolou
Assistant Professor and Chair, W. Booth School of Engineering Practice and Technology

Dr. Apostolou is a teaching-track assistant professor in the W Booth School of Engineering Practice and Technology. He is also the Chair of the Process Automation Technology Program and a MacPherson Institute Research Fellow. A chemical engineer with a Dipl.Eng. from the Aristotle University in Greece and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota, he has been teaching at McMaster for over ten years in a variety of fundamental engineering and process modeling courses. In his courses he strives to help his students reach and increase their potential, while equipping them with the tools necessary to become productive citizens. To achieve that, he uses ample active learning in the classroom, blended learning through on-line quizzes, and practical training through labs. Teaching in an applied field, he always tries to connect theory to practice through everyday examples and by actively pursuing students’ interactions with the industry and the community.

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 helped encourage health education through teaching first aid courses on campus, as a Wellness Outreach volunteer 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 fundraise 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 for students who’ve experienced sexual assault and 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.

Wednesday, June 14, 2017: 2:30 p.m., FirstOntario Concert Hall
For the past two years, Sonia has coordinated the Yonkwahahi:y os 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 focused 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.