

University briefs

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA



Dr. Howard Alper, renowned chemist and vice-rector, research, at the University of Ottawa, has been appointed Officer of the National Order of Merit by the French government.

Dr. Alper received the appointment at a ceremony held at the French Embassy, where ambassador Philippe Guelluy remarked on Dr. Alper's important role in the creation of the France-Canada Research Funds. The research group encourages and develops a level of excellence in exchanges in research and higher education between France and Canada.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Researchers at the University of Toronto and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health have published an article in the journal, *Cell*, that reveals a communication link between proteins in the brain.

The research group, led by Fang Liu, assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry, discovered that two parts of the D1 receptor interact directly with two subunits of the NMDA receptor.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA



Dr. Hanif Chatur, a graduate from the University of Alberta, has been elected the 2002-2003 president of The Professional Association of Residents of British Columbia.

Dr. Chatur is currently a second-year family practice resident in Prince George, B.C.

The Professional Association of Residents of British Columbia represents 610 physicians-in-training, otherwise known as "around-the-clock-doctors," throughout the province.

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY



Dr. William Molloy has been appointed to the St. Peter's/McMaster Chair in Aging in the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University.

Dr. Molloy will be working at the new St. Peter's Centre for Studies in Aging at St. Peter's Hospital in Hamilton, where he will develop academic programs related to aging. He will also work with organizations responsible for the care of older adults.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY



Dr. Sanjay Sharma, founding director of The Queen's University Cost-Effective Ocular Health Policy Unit, has found that high doses of vitamin supplements should be prescribed to aging baby boomers suffering vision loss due to macular degeneration.

Dr. Sharma presented his findings at the annual American Academy of Ophthalmology meeting in Orlando, Florida, and noted that these prescriptions could save the North American health care system more than \$1.5 billion in the next 10 years.

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY



Dr. Jeremy Andrew Yethon from McMaster University has won the 2002 Polanyi Prize in the physiology/medicine category.

Dr. Yethon's work explores the possible manipulation of certain proteins that might restore apoptosis in tumours, making these cancers more susceptible to chemotherapy treatment.

The \$15,000 Polanyi Prizes are awarded annually to scholars and researchers planning to continue post-doctoral studies at an Ontario university.