

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Dr. Harry Karlinsky has received an award for the most outstanding continuing education activity in psychiatry in Canada from the Canadian Psychiatric Association. Dr. Karlinsky's innovative program, *Frames of Mind*, brings together the public, psychiatrists, community mental health professionals, and cinema experts to view films related to mental health themes. A panel of experts makes a presentation following the film and the audience has an opportunity to discuss the issue.

Dr. Karlinsky's research interests include geriatric psychiatry, as well as how information technology can improve care and education in mental health.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN



The university and its partners announced a \$1-million, five-year schizophrenia research program that could lead to earlier diagnosis and improved treatment for people with the serious brain disorder. In addition to basic research, the goal of the new program at the university's Neuropsychiatry Research Unit is to develop, apply, and evaluate a range of interventions, services, and products for people with schizophrenia.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY



Dr. J. Curtis Nickel, professor of urology at Queen's university and urologist at Kingston General Hospital, has been awarded an unprecedented four research grants from the U.S. National Institute of Health, totaling almost \$8 million. For the first time in North America, Dr. Curtis and his Kingston genito-urinary research group will examine alternative, complementary, and novel therapies for prostate and bladder disease, in both laboratory research and clinical trials.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



A new long-term study by researchers at the university and Toronto Western Hospital indicates that deep brain stimulation via electrodes implanted on both sides of the brain markedly improves the motor skills of patients with advanced Parkinson's disease. A persistent benefit throughout the course of the long-term followup was a 48% average decrease in motor scores associated with the disease, such as tremors, stiffness, and slowness. Younger patients experienced sustained improvement in motor function for an average of two years after the procedure, as well as a reduced need for medication.

UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL



A team of scientists, led by Dr. Michel Desjardins of the Université de Montréal, has made important discoveries that could advance the development of vaccines for infectious diseases and cancer. Infected and cancerous cells are detected and eliminated by the immune system when white blood cells (cytotoxic "killer" T-cells) are activated to detect aberrant cells. Findings describe a newly-identified cellular mechanism for "killer" T-cell activation.

UNIVERSITÉ DE SHERBROOKE



Dr. Pierre Larivée, professor of medicine at Université de Sherbrooke, is the recipient of a research chair in asthma immunopharmacology created by the Quebec Lung Association. The chair's objectives are to improve the state of respiratory health for the 700,000 Quebecers who suffer from asthma, and, in the long term, to understand the mechanisms that generate incidences of asthma in order to develop new therapeutic options for treatment.