

# University briefs



## UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

A new chair to study the history of medicine has been endowed at the University of Ottawa. The Hannah Chair of the History of Medicine will be held by Dr. Toby Gelfand, a medical history expert. The chair has been funded with a \$2 million donation from Associated Medical Services and a pledge to match the donation from the Faculty of Medicine and the university. For more information, contact Bob LeDrew at 613-562-5800, ext. 3154.



## UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

A new project led by UBC human kinetics associate professor Dr. Heather McKay is aimed at getting children moving. The goal of this initiative is to reduce chronic disease outcomes, such as obesity, osteoporosis and cardiovascular disease. Action Schools! BC is an 18-month project involving Grade 4 and 5 students from 11 schools in Vancouver and Richmond. Programs include classroom activities, scheduled physical education, family and community initiatives, extracurricular opportunities, and school environment/spirit projects. For more information, visit [www.actionschoolsbc.ca](http://www.actionschoolsbc.ca).



## UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

A network of 25 multidisciplinary researchers led by Robarts Research Institute, in partnership with Lawson Health Research Institute and the University of Western Ontario, has earned a prestigious "international centre" designation. The goal of this centre is to accelerate the discovery of new treatments for immune-mediated disorders, from diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis to cardiovascular disease and organ rejection. London is the only centre in Canada to be awarded the designation by the Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies. For more information, contact Kris Dundas at 519-636-6100, ext. 64680.



## QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

Pre-eclampsia (PE), a common pregnancy disorder that may carry long-term health risks for mothers and babies, is the focus of a new multi-disciplinary study by Dr. Graeme Smith, an expert in high-risk obstetrics. The team has received a five-year, \$1.8 million New Emerging Team grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health, and the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. For further information, contact Lorinda Peterson at 613-533-6000, ext. 77559.



## UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTREAL

The winner of the first Pfizer Canada Award of Excellence in Information Sciences has been named by l'École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information (EBSI) of the Université de Montréal, in collaboration with Pfizer Canada. The winner was Dominique Charbonneau, a graduate of EBSI's Master's program. The first of its kind between the university and the pharmaceutical sector, the award is an annual grant of \$25,000 towards an eight-month training program at Pfizer Canada's corporate library. For more information, call Isabelle Bourgey of EBSI at 514-343-2243.



## UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Researchers at the University of Alberta have discovered a genetic flaw in a family with schizophrenia that may help to explain an important biochemical process in the onset of the disease. Research, conducted by PhD student Deepak Kamnasaran, involved a British mother and daughter. Mr. Kamnasaran discovered both had a break in a large gene human chromosome 14 due to a rearranged chromosome. The gene is believed to have all the features expected of a gene contributing to mental illness in the family.