

2014/15 Career Investigator awards announced

Congratulations to **Drs. Mansoor Husain**, University of Toronto, and **Mark Crowther**, McMaster University who were successful in the Heart and Stroke Foundation (HSF) Ontario's 2014/15 Career Investigator (CI) award competition. The awards start July 1st.

In this final CI competition, award terms are two years. The CI program is being replaced by the Mid-Career Investigator program.

20 applicants vie for Ontario funding

The second round of competition for Ontario **Mid-Career Investigator** and **Clinician-Scientist** awards closed at the end of January, with 20 investigators from across Ontario submitting applications.

The distribution of applicants amongst the 3 awards is similar to last year: *Clinician-Scientist Phase I*, 30%; *Clinician-Scientist Phase II*, 15%; *Mid-Career Investigator*, 55%.

Funding offers will be made in mid-June, following peer review. Awards will start July 1, 2014.

The primary goal of these provincially funded HSF personnel awards is to build research capacity in cardio-vascular/cerebrovascular (CCVD) health in Ontario.

Nutrition research RFA announced

HSF issued a [national request for applications](#) (RFA) this month for research proposals focused on generating evidence about the impact on nutrition of population-level policy and/or program interventions.

In total, \$1.5 million is available for this strategic funding initiative and HSF anticipates funding about five projects. The RFA is an initial component of the Foundation's long term (5-10 year) strategic

research agenda in nutrition.

This RFA is intended to stimulate and support impact-oriented projects designed deliberately to generate evidence needed to guide active policy and program agendas and inform related advocacy initiatives – led by HSF and others – that will advance these agendas in support of HSF health impact goals.

The deadline for Letters of Intent to apply is March 31st.

CIHR/partners launch research networks

Three new [Emerging Network](#) grants were announced this month by CIHR and multiple funding partners, representing a total investment of over \$22 million.

More than twenty partners from health charities, academic institutions and industry are providing support to these networks, which are focusing on the areas of **respiratory health**, **stroke** and **vascular health**.

The pan-Canadian networks bring together Canada's best minds in these fields of research. The networks aim to move research evidence into practice and create health care innovations, thereby improving health outcomes for Canadians. They also have an important training and career development mandate to ensure a strong pipeline of young, diverse and skilled researchers across these fields.

Dr. Shawn Aaron is the director of the *Canadian Respiratory Research Network*; **Dr. Duncan Stewart** is leading the *Canadian Vascular Network*; **Dr. Jeff Healey** is the principal investigator and chair of the *Canadian Stroke Prevention Intervention Network (C-Spin)*. Dr. Healey is a recent recipient of an HSF Ontario Mid-Career Investigator award.

C-Spin is co-funded by the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Researcher riders aim to build support for *Ride for Heart*

Hamilton and London area HSF-supported researchers have teamed up to urge fellow investigators to join them on the Gardiner Expressway this **June 1st**... for the 27th annual [Becel Heart&Stroke Ride for Heart](#), of course!

Long-time **Ride for Heart** supporters, **Drs. Mark Crowther***, **Sonia Anand***, and **Geoffrey Pickering***, recently reached out to researchers at institutions around Ontario inviting them to create a team - or join theirs - and help Canadians live longer, fuller lives.

Helping give back to the Foundation is a way to ensure that the future of heart disease and stroke research in Canada remains bright. Keenly aware of the crucial role fundraising plays in generating funds for HSF research, Mark, Sonia and Geoff are part of a researcher team that raised over \$19,000 in last year's event - contributing to an overall **Ride for Heart** fundraising total of \$5.5 million.

Starting this year, and beyond, they are encouraging their research colleagues to be part of the tremendous experience that is **Ride for Heart**, Canada's largest charity cycling event in support of heart disease and stroke research. New researcher teams have already begun to take up the challenge and sign up.

Want to get involved? HSF's Dan Penfold, Senior Associate Manager, **Ride for Heart**, is ready to make it easy for you. Contact Dan at dpenfold@hsf.on.ca, or 647-943-3118 (direct line). **Together we ride.**

**Drs. Anand and Pickering hold endowed chairs supported by HSF Ontario; Dr. Crowther holds an HSF Career Investigator award.*

Resuscitation event round-up

Two key events focusing on resuscitation are coming up in April – one in Toronto and one in Banff.

[RiM 2014/Resuscitation in Motion - April 28/29](#)

The University of Toronto Collaborative Program in Resuscitation Sciences is inviting participants to be part of developing networks of excellence to advance resuscitation science research and practice at this spring event. It takes place at St. Michael's hospital in Toronto.

[Heart&Stroke Resuscitation Summit – April 30](#)

Banff is the backdrop to this unique opportunity to learn the latest in the resuscitation field from Canadian and international experts. Participants will discover what's new in resuscitation science, practice and training.

Primary care professionals gather for 44th Heart&Stroke Clinical Update event

Navigating the New and Emerging in Prevention and Practice was the theme for last December's annual Clinical Update conference in Toronto, which attracted more than 630 participants - a new attendance record.

Clinical Update provides an excellent opportunity for primary care professionals from many disciplines to come together to learn and share the latest knowledge on the prevention and management of cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases with their peers. Content includes practice guideline updates, information on new and emerging therapies, and case-based discussions.

The December 2013 program sold out weeks in advance and featured several HSF-supported researchers, including **Dr. Jack Tu**. Dr. Tu delivered a provocative and compelling keynote address focused on whether we can eliminate heart disease and stroke in 20 years. He demonstrated the impressive progress that has been made, as well as the trends that put future advances at risk. Dr. Tu holds an HSF Ontario Career Investigator award.

Planning is underway for the 45th Clinical Update event which takes place at the Hilton Downtown Toronto Hotel on December 5th and 6th, 2014. The [Clinical Update website](#) will have all the details as they are confirmed, and also features several presentations from the 2013 event.