



**Centre for Health Economics
and Policy Analysis**

**2003-2004
ANNUAL REPORT**



- Bernie O'Brien, an outstanding scholar, teacher, and mentor, and associate member of CHEPA passed away suddenly on February 13th, 2004. To honour Bernie and his exceptional contributions as a leader and innovator in the field of health technology assessment, the Bernie J. O'Brien Fellowship Trust has been established. Please see www.chepa.org for details.
- CHEPA Director Brian Hutchison became the McMaster site director of the Ontario Training Centre (OTC) in Health Services and Policy Research, a consortium of six Ontario universities that offers graduate training leading to a Diploma.
- CHEPA News, a quarterly electronic newsletter was launched in 2004. The newsletter includes links to each new CHEPA Working Paper, spotlights on current CHEPA research projects, new publications by CHEPA researchers, information on Canadian conferences and awards and notice of upcoming seminars, lectureships, and workshop reports.
- The Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and CHEPA sponsored the health policy mini-symposium "Public Private For-Profit and Private Not-For Profit Roles in Healthcare" held in December 2003. The mini-symposium included these prominent researchers: Steffie Woolhandler, Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, P.J. Devereaux, Clinical Scholar, Medicine & CE&B, McMaster University and CHEPA's Jerry Hurley.
- CHEPA's new Advisory Council had its inaugural meeting in May 2003, and met again in October 2003 and February 2004.
- Fiona Miller was awarded a 5-year Career Scientist Award from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for her program of research entitled "Evaluation and Organization of New Genetic Technologies."
- Deborah Marshall was appointed an associate member of CHEPA. Dr. Marshall is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and an Associate Member of the Centre for Evaluation of Medicines. Her research interests are: health technology assessment of new medical devices, drugs, and diagnostics, economic evaluation of health care programmes, particularly for screening and diagnostic technologies and methods for the measurement of patient preferences for screening and diagnostic tests.
- Francois-Pierre Gauvin was the recipient of CHEPA's doctoral fellowship for the 2003-2004 academic year.
- Gillian Mulvale and Patricia Collins were CHEPA's studentship recipients for the 2003-2004 academic year.

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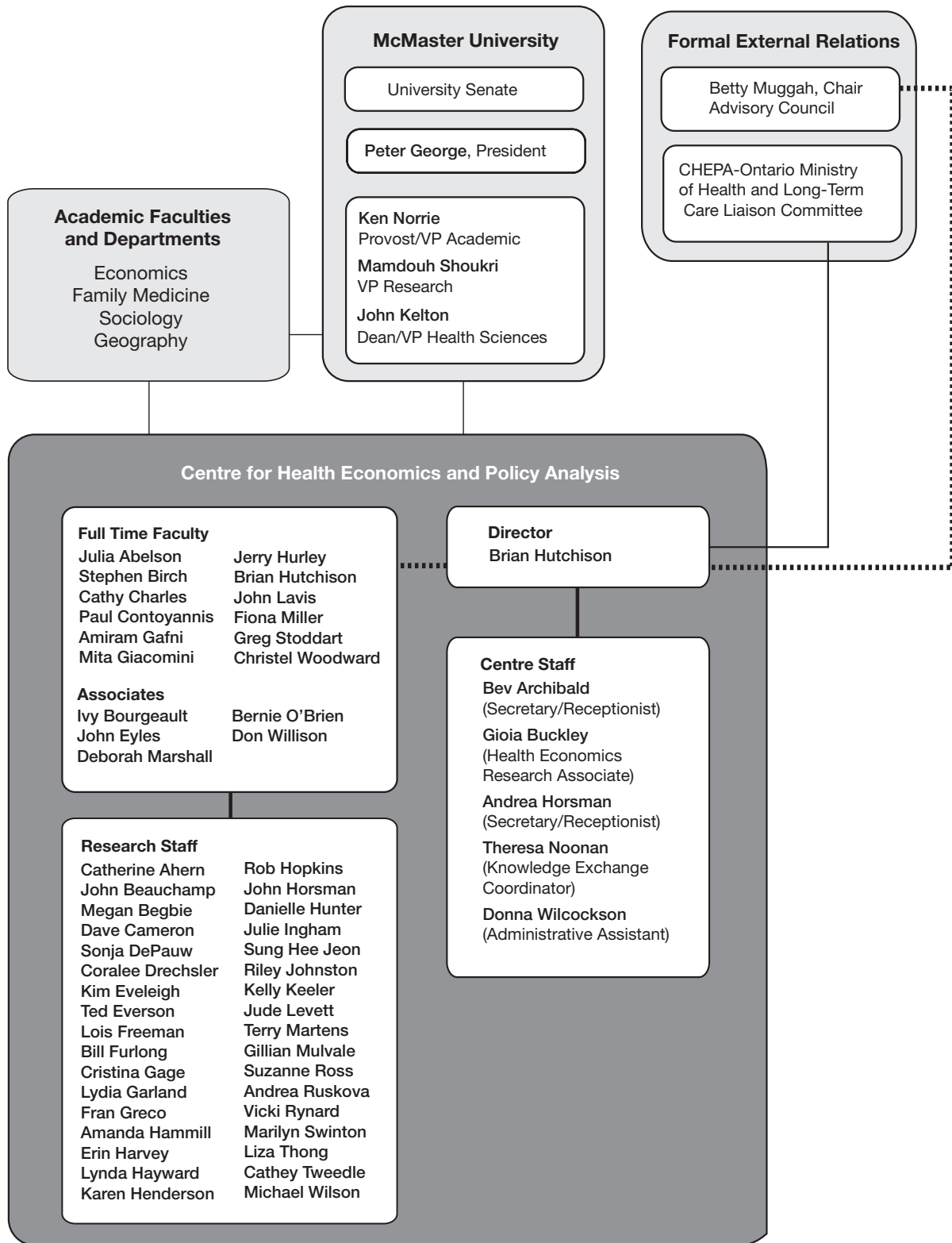
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Who We Are

To promote a collegial and supportive interdisciplinary environment that fosters excellence in acquiring, producing and communicating socially-relevant knowledge in the fields of health economics and health policy analysis.

Organizational Chart



- Reporting Relationship
- Advisory Relationship
- * Special Relationship

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People

Julia Abelson is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Associate Member of the Department of Political Science and a Member of CHEPA at McMaster University. She held an Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Career Scientist Award until March 2004 and was recently awarded a Canadian Institutes of Health Research New Investigator Award. She obtained her M.Sc in Health Policy and Management from the Harvard School of Public Health and her doctorate in Social and Policy Sciences at the University of Bath, U.K. Through her research, education and service activities, Dr. Abelson works closely with decision makers in provincial, regional and local government levels.

Her research interests include:

- Democratic participation in health policy decision making
- Governance, organization and funding of community care
- Health policy analysis

Stephen Birch is a Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and a Member of CHEPA at McMaster University. He is a previous recipient of both the Faculty of Health Sciences Rose Levy Rosenstadt Award and a research scholarship award under Health Canada's National Health Research and Development Program. He received his doctorate in economics at the University of York in the U.K. He is currently Senior Editor in health economics for *Social Science & Medicine*. He also holds Order-in-Council appointments on the Health Professions Regulatory Advisory Council of Ontario and Hamilton District Health Council.

His research interests include:

- Economic evaluation
- Resource allocation
- Population health

Ivy Lynn Bourgeault is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and the Health Studies program. She was awarded the Canada Research Chair

in Comparative Health Labour Policy, which she has taken up as of April 2004, following the early completion of her Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) New Investigator Award. The focus of her CRC – a comparative examination of the migration of health care providers – evolves out of her CIHR study of the impact of gender and location on human resources decision-making in key health care sectors – maternity, primary and mental health care – in Canada and the United States.

Her research interests include:

- Sociology of health and health care
- Health occupations (with a particular focus on medicine, nursing and midwifery)
- Alternative health care
- Health care policy
- Women's health and health care
- Rural health and health care issues

Cathy Charles is an Associate Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics, a Member of CHEPA and an Associate Member of the Department of Sociology at McMaster University. She is also an Investigator in the Supportive Cancer Care Research Unit, which is co-sponsored by the Hamilton Regional Cancer Centre and McMaster University. She is an Honourary Research Associate in the Department of Behavioural Sciences, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia. Cathy received a B.A. and M.A. in Sociology at the University of Toronto and a M.Phil. and Ph.D. in Socio-Medical Sciences from Columbia University.

Her research interests include:

- Shared treatment decision-making
- Physician-patient relationship
- Public participation in health care decision-making
- Research transfer
- Social constructions of health/health care policy

Paul Contoyannis joined McMaster as an Assistant Professor in February 2002. Prior to this he was a Research Fellow at the University of York, U.K. since 1999, working on two Economic and Social Research

Council (ESRC) projects on the analysis of longitudinal health data. He obtained his Ph.D. in Economics, also from the University of York in 2000, which focused on the causes and consequences of inequalities in health, considering both theoretical and empirical issues relating to addiction, wages and income inequality.

His research interests include:

- Health dynamics
 - Determinants of health and health inequalities
 - Simulation-based inference in micro-econometric models
 - Models of addiction
-

John Eyles is a social and policy scientist at McMaster University. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He is Director of the McMaster Institute of Environment and Health. He is also Professor of Geography and cross-appointed in the Departments of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Sociology, and CHEPA. He is author or co-author of some 200 books, peer-reviewed journal articles and technical reports in the health and social sciences fields. He has carried out work for national and provincial organizations and governments in Canada.

His research interests include:

- Environment
 - Health and science policy
-

Amiram Gafni is a Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and a Member of CHEPA. Dr. Gafni has worked on the development of the healthy-years equivalent (HYE) preference-based measure of outcome for programme evaluation and the development of a bedside decision instrument, as well as a method for helping patients to reveal their preferences regarding treatment.

His research interests include:

- Economic evaluation (methods and application)
 - Decision boards
 - Modeling of consumers' and providers' behaviour (e.g. the physician-patient encounter).
-

Mita Giacomini is an Associate Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McMaster University. She currently holds a Canadian Institutes for Health Research / National Health Research and Development Program Scholar Award, as well as graduate degrees from the University of California in health services and policy analysis, the history of health sciences, and public health. She has authored many scholarly articles and reports on topics including health resource allocation and rationing, the politics of technology assessment, clinical uses of qualitative evidence, life support decision-making, demographic and psychosocial biases in health services, and financial incentives in the Canadian health system.

Her research interests include:

- Social dimensions of technology innovation, assessment and rationing
 - Values in health policy and decision-making
 - Health care organization and funding reform models
 - Methodology for policy analysis and case study research
-

Jerry Hurley is a Professor, CHEPA and the Department of Economics, and an Associate Member of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, McMaster University. He served as the Associate Coordinator of CHEPA from 1994-1996, Coordinator from 1996-2000, and Acting Director in 2001-2002. He has published in leading health economic and health services research journals and has acted as a consultant to regional, provincial, national and international agencies. He is currently a member of the Canadian Institute for Health Information's National Health Expenditures Database Expert Group.

His research interests include:

- Health care financing, particularly public and private roles in health care financing
 - Health care funding, particularly needs-based capitation funding models
 - Normative economic analysis in the health sector
 - Resource allocation in the health sector
-

Brian Hutchison is a Professor in the Departments of Family Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McMaster University, Director of CHEPA, Co-Director of the Community Care Research Centre, McMaster Site Director for the Ontario Training Centre in Health Services and Policy Research, and Medical and Research Advisor to the Hamilton Community Care Access Centre. From 1994 to 1999, he held a National Research Scholar award from Health Canada. His principal educational activities are tutoring and thesis supervision in the graduate program in Health Research Methodology.

His research interests include:

- Organization, funding and delivery of primary and community care
- Needs-based health care resource allocation and funding methods
- Provider payment methods
- Preventive care

John N. Lavis is the Canada Research Chair in Knowledge Transfer and Uptake, Associate Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Member of CHEPA and Associate Member of the Department of Political Science at McMaster University. He is also Associate Professor (status only) in the Department of Health Policy, Management Evaluation at the University of Toronto and Honorary Senior Lecturer at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He directs the Program in Policy Decision-Making, a research program affiliated with the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis (www.researchtopolicy.ca). He teaches an undergraduate course on the politics of health-care systems for the Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours) Programme and co-directs (with Greg Stoddart) the Educational Initiative in Health Economics and Health Policy Analysis for Health Professionals in Training at McMaster. He co-supervises (with Julia Abelson) the Knowledge Exchange Programme of the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis. Dr. Lavis holds an M.D. from Queen's University, an M.Sc. from the London School of Economics, and a Ph.D. from Harvard University. He was the Liberty Health Scholar of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research

(1998-2003), inaugural Chair of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Health Policy and Systems Management grants review committee (2000-2003), one of two inaugural Canadian Associates of the Harkness Fellows Program (2001-2), and Visiting Researcher at the Institut de recherche et de documentation en économie de la santé (IRDES) in Paris, France (2003-4).

His research interests include:

- Knowledge transfer and uptake in public policy-making environments
- Politics of health-care systems

Fiona Miller is an Assistant Professor with the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics. She received her Ph.D. in History from York University and spent the 1999-2000 academic year as a Fulbright Visiting Researcher in the History and Sociology of Science Department at the University of Pennsylvania. In the 2000-2001 academic year she was a CHSRF/SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow at CHEPA and the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

Her research interests include:

- Technology assessment
- Health system implications of genetics and biotechnology
- Health system risks and safety
- History and philosophy of health science
- Sociology of ethics
- Women's health

Bernie O'Brien received his Bachelors and Masters degrees in Economics from the University of York (UK) and his PhD (Economics) from Brunel University in London (UK). He was a Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McMaster University, Co-Director of the Centre for Evaluation of Medicines at St. Joseph's Hospital and an Associate of CHEPA at McMaster until his untimely death in February 2003. He served on the editorial boards of Health Economics, Pharmacoeconomics, Clinical Therapeutics, and was an Associate Editor of Medical Decision Making.

In 2001 he was appointed to the National Blood Safety Council.

His research interests included:

- Economic evaluation of health care programmes, particularly new medical technologies and pharmaceuticals in the context of clinical trials
- Methods for the assessment of health-related quality of life
- Clinical decision analysis
- Risk assessment methods for health care interventions
- Pharmaceutical policy evaluation

Greg Stoddart is a Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, a Member of CHEPA and the founding Coordinator of the Centre, and an Associate Member of the Department of Economics. He was one of the founders and a Fellow of the Population Health Program of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research during the program's fifteen year tenure (1988-2003). He has held a variety of visiting research appointments and consultancies at provincial, national and international institutions and agencies. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of British Columbia.

His research interests include:

- Public-private mix in health care financing
- Social and economic determinants of health and health care utilization
- Development and application of conceptual frameworks for studies of health determinants
- Cross-sectoral resource allocation for health
- Knowledge transfer to inform policy-making about health and health care

Don Willison is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and an Associate Member of CHEPA at McMaster University. He combines training in pharmacy (University of Toronto, 1977), Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (M.Sc., McMaster University, 1984), and health services research (Sc.D., Harvard School of Public Health, 1996). He works

out of the Centre for Evaluation of Medicines at St. Joseph's Healthcare.

His research interests include:

- Balancing cost-containment access to prescription pharmaceuticals with the promotion of R&D
- Effects of policies to restrict drug reimbursement on drug utilization, cost shifting to non-drug services and health outcomes
- Privacy and security enhancing technologies
- Public opinion on data privacy and health research
- The role and function of research ethics boards

Christel Woodward is a Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, a Member of CHEPA, Associate Member of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, and a Member of the Program for Educational Development in the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster. Her published work includes book chapters, monographs and articles on medical education, health human resource planning, quality of care assessment, utilization of medical services, survey research methods, the epidemiology of child psychiatric disorders and of school-based injuries, and women in medicine.

Her research interests include:

- Evaluation of health care and education programs
- Work and health
- Survey research methods
- Health human resources
- Primary and community health care

Staff / Advisory Council

Centre Staff

Bev Archibald

Secretary/Receptionist

Gioia Buckley

Health Economics Research Associate

Andrea Horsman

Secretary/Receptionist

Theresa Noonan

Knowledge Exchange Coordinator

Donna Wilcockson

Administrative Assistant

Research Staff

Catherine Ahern, Research

Coordinator

John Beauchamp, Research Assistant
(student)

Megan Begbie, Research Assistant

Dave Cameron, Research Coordinator

Sonja DePauw, Research Coordinator

Coralee Drechsler, Research Assistant

Kim Eveleigh, Research Assistant

Ted Everson, Research Coordinator

Lois Freeman, Research Assistant

Bill Furlong, Research Coordinator

Cristina Gage, Project Manager

Lydia Garland, Research Assistant

Fran Greco, Administrative Secretary

Amanda Hammill, Research

Coordinator

Erin Harvey, Research Assistant

Lynda Hayward, Senior Programme
Coordinator

Karen Henderson, Research Assistant

Rob Hopkins, Research Coordinator

John Horsman, Senior Research
Coordinator

Danielle Hunter, Research Assistant

Julie Ingham, Research

Coordinator/Data Analysis

Sung Hee Jeon, Research Statistician

Riley Johnston, Research Assistant
(student)

Kelly Keeler, Research Coordinator

Jude Levett, Administrative Secretary

Terry Martens, Administrative

Secretary

Gillian Mulvale, PhD Student

Suzanne Ross, Research

Associate/Assistant Professor

Andrea Ruskova, Research Assistant

Vicki Rynard, Research

Coordinator/Statistician

Marilyn Swinton, Research

Coordinator

Liza Thong, Administrative Assistant

Cathey Tweedle, Administrative

Assistant/Editorial Assistant

Michael Wilson, Research Assistant

(student)

ADVISORY COUNCIL

The members of CHEPA's Advisory Council provide CHEPA with strategic advice on research direction and partnerships, facilitate linkages with health decision-makers and stakeholders and inform CHEPA's knowledge exchange activities.

Betty Muggah (Chair)

Vice President Grants and Community
Initiatives

Hamilton Community Foundation

Terry Albert

Director, Policy & Planning

Canadian Medical Association

Bob Baldwin

Director, Social & Economic Policy

Canadian Labour Congress

Charlyn Black

Director, Centre for Health Services
and Policy Research

University of British Columbia

John Capone

Associate Dean, Research

Faculty of Health Sciences

McMaster University

Sheree Davis

Executive Lead, Strategic Directions

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Peter Finkle

Director (Acting) - Finance and

Information Management Branch

Ontario Ministry of Health and
Long-Term Care

Cathy Fooks

Director, Health Network

Canadian Policy Research Network

Brian Hutchison

Director, Centre for Health Economics
& Policy Analysis

McMaster University

Shan Landry

Vice-President, Primary Health

Saskatoon Health Region

Ginette Lemire Rodger

Chief of Nursing

Ottawa Hospital

Mary Catherine Lindberg

Executive Director

Ontario Council of Teaching Hospitals

Marnie Paikin

Alison Pilla

Executive Director, Integrated Policy
and Planning Division

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Maureen A. Quigley

Maureen Quigley and Associates Inc.

John Ronson

Courtyard Group

Noralou P Roos

Director, Manitoba Centre for

Health Policy

University of Manitoba

Ian Shugart

Assistant Deputy Minister, Health

Policy and Communications Branch

Health Canada

Hanita Tiefenbach

Director, Corporate Policy Branch

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

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Research

- To develop and apply methods to evaluate the costs, risks, benefits, and utility of specific health interventions and of alternative allocations of health resources.

- To analyse and evaluate the effectiveness, efficiency and equity of systems of organization, governance, financing, funding, and delivery of health services.

- To develop, apply and evaluate methods for analysing the behaviour of the public, patients, providers, managers and other decision-makers in health systems.

- To develop, apply, and evaluate methods to convey health information to the public, patients, providers, managers, funders, and other decision-makers in health systems.

- To evaluate the role of health and social policy initiatives in addressing the determinants of, and alleviating inequalities in, the population's health.

Funding

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and McMaster University make our research possible. CHEPA faculty also receive salary support and research funding through grants from other organizations including the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

Featuring the research of faculty, associates and staff of the Centre, this series provides a means to circulate polished, but not yet published, reports of compiled research. The aim of these Working Papers is to stimulate discussion on analytical, methodological, and policy issues in health economics and health policy analysis.

03-05: Ploeg J, Feightner J, Hutchison B, Siquin C, Gauld M.
Effectiveness of Preventive Primary Care Outreach Interventions with Older Persons: Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials.

03-04: Abelson J, Tedford S, Woodward C, O'Connor D, Hutchison B.
Managing under managed community care: the experiences of clients, providers and managers in Ontario's competitive home care sector.
(Published in Health Policy, 2004;68(3):359-372)

03-03: Hutchison B, Torrance-Rynard V, Hurley J, Birch S, Eyles JD, Walter SD.
Equity in Health Care Funding: Comparison of Expenditures in Ontario to Allocations Based on Population Need.

03-02: Altmayer C, Hutchison B, Torrance-Rynard V, Hurley J, Birch S, Eyles JD.
Geographic Disparity in Premature Mortality in Ontario, 1992-1996.
(Published in International Journal of Health Geographics 2003,2:7 (25 Sept., 2003))

03-01: Hurley J, Hutchison B, Buckley G, Woodward C.
Needs-based Funding for Home Care and Community Support Services in Ontario: A New Approach Based on Linked Survey and Administrative Data.

Faculty and associates' publications are listed in our searchable literature database on our website www.chepa.org. Our database contains information on publications written by CHEPA faculty and associates from 1999 to 2004. The database can be searched by author or by topic.

Database topics include:

Major Category	Sub-Category
Financing/funding and remuneration	Private/public mix
	User charges/cost sharing
	Physician payment methods
	Population based funding
Organization, delivery & utilization of health care	Governance/organizational structures
	Primary and community care
	Providers of care
	Patient/consumer participation in decision-making
	Access to health care
	Preventive care
Economic methods, evaluation and technology assessment	Utilization
	Methods
Health Policy analysis	Economic evaluation of pharmaceuticals
	Knowledge transfer and uptake
Determinants of health	Public consultation in decision-making
	Frameworks
	Work and health
	Socio-economic status and health

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Knowledge Exchange

Over the last few years, Knowledge Exchange has evolved into an explicit function for many Canadian health research organizations, including CHEPA. CHEPA's John Lavis defines knowledge transfer as:

A process by which relevant research is made available and accessible for application in practice, planning and policy-making – preferably through interactive engagement with decision-makers and supported by both user-friendly materials and a communications strategy that enhances the credibility of the organization and, where relevant, reinforces key messages from the research.

In accordance with CHEPA's continuing to support better decision-making by facilitating the transfer of research findings to decision makers, the KE program strives to develop and apply knowledge transfer strategies that make knowledge accessible and useful to public policy makers, health systems managers, researchers and other stakeholder groups.

For more information on CHEPA's Knowledge Exchange Program, please contact Theresa Noonan, Knowledge Exchange Coordinator, at noonant@mcmaster.ca.

CHEPA News is a quarterly electronic newsletter located on the CHEPA website and by subscription, published by the Knowledge Exchange Program. Highlights of the newsletter include:

- Links to each new CHEPA Working Paper
- Spotlights on current CHEPA research projects
- New publications by CHEPA researchers
- Information on Canadian conferences and awards
- Notice of upcoming seminars, lectureships, and workshop reports

The CHEPA website is located at the url www.chepa.org and serves as a gateway to CHEPA research and activities. What can be found on the web?

- CHEPA News and CHEPA Workshop Reports
- CHEPA Working Papers
- A searchable literature database of CHEPA faculty publications
- Advance notice of upcoming seminar series and lectureships
- Educational information and links to courses taught by CHEPA faculty
- Information and application forms for Student Awards
- Contact information for faculty and support staff
- Links to other related sites

On the third Wednesday of each month during the academic year, CHEPA has an invited speaker present a seminar. The series attracts attention from a large audience, drawn from both the University and the wider community interested in health and health care issues.

During the 2003-2004 academic year, CHEPA hosted seven seminar speakers. Advance notice of presentations are published in CHEPA News and on the CHEPA website.

2003-2004 Academic Year Speakers

Health Care, Entitlement and Citizenship

Candace Johnson, Department of Political Science,
University of Guelph

Does Income Matter: The Interprovincial Migration of Canadian Physicians

Hugh Grant, Department of Economics, University of Winnipeg

The Delicate Art of Dancing With Porcupines: Learning to Appreciate the Finer Points of BC PharmaCare Policy

Steve Morgan, Centre for Health Services and Policy Research,
University of British Columbia

The Political Economy of Underservice

Thomas C. Ricketts III, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

No Such Thing As Government: Public Officials and the Making of Health Policy

Pierre-Gerlier Forest, Political Scientist from Laval University and currently the G.D.W. Cameron Visiting Chair with Health Canada

Ruses, Ploys and Stratagems: When Implementation and Uncertainty Meet

Barbara W. Carroll, Department of Political Science,
McMaster University

Doing Interdisciplinary, Collaborative Research: Preliminary Observations

William Coleman, Department of Political Science,
McMaster University

Roberta Labelle was one of the Centre's founding members. Her death in 1991 was unexpected and occurred when broad recognition for her research in health economics was just starting to emerge. In memory of Roberta, CHEPA and the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics collaborated in establishing the Annual Labelle Lectureship Series. In the third week of October each year a health-services

researcher with emerging recognition and an interdisciplinary approach to research gives a general interest lecture on a topic in the broadly defined areas of health economics and/or health policy. The Labelle Lecturer is also available for consultations with individuals in and outside McMaster University during the period of his or her visit. An endowment was established to ensure the ongoing funding of the Lectureship.

Paying for Quality in Health Care: Poison or Panacea?

2003 Labelle Lecture, October 15, 2003.

Meredith Rosenthal, Assistant Professor of Health Economics and Policy, Harvard School of Public Health

Widespread efforts to measure and report the quality of health care delivery have made it clear to most that there are pervasive quality problems in the U.S. and Canadian health care systems. These include but are not limited to preventable medical errors that occur in the hospital setting, underuse of prevention and screening technologies, and poor management of chronic illness. Neither the recognition of system-wide quality problems nor extensive benchmarking of quality among individual providers, however, has resulted in substantial changes to practice patterns. Some have argued that such change will not materialize as long as physicians and hospitals do not see any financial reward from producing more quality. Opponents of paying for quality believe that use of financial incentives will be demoralizing to providers and run counter to professionalism. Others believe that financial incentives will be weak instruments for motivating providers to change long-standing practice patterns. Despite the lack of consensus, many U.S. health plans and employers have introduced payment incentives that target health care quality measures. This presentation examined the health care quality "problem" and paying for quality as a potential solution. Mechanisms to induce quality in different situations were examined, along with what types of effects we should expect from these initiatives to better target the most pressing quality problems.

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Education

Reflecting the commitment of its members to education and training, the Centre has maintained and strengthened its already substantial contributions to education in health economics and policy analysis at all levels.

Undergraduate

CHEPA faculty participate in undergraduate education in the faculties of social sciences and health sciences, as well as in undergraduate and postgraduate health professional training programs (MD, nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy, occupational therapy).

For more information on undergraduate courses and programs, please visit the McMaster undergraduate website at <http://registrar.mcmaster.ca/external/>

Graduate and Post-Graduate

CHEPA faculty participate as course co-ordinators and instructors, thesis supervisors and academic advisors to masters and doctoral students in the Health Research Methodology, Nursing and other graduate programs and in the MBA program's Health Services Management stream. CHEPA faculty also supervise post-doctoral fellows who have been successful in obtaining external funding from granting agencies such as CIHR, CHSRF and SSHRC.

For more information on graduate courses and programs, please visit the McMaster School of Graduate Studies webpage at www.mcmaster.ca/graduate/

Polinomics

Named after a quirky merging of the terms health policy and economics, Polinomics is a monthly seminar attended by individuals representing a wide range of disciplines from McMaster and from outside universities and organizations. Individuals join for the academic year to present their work (grant proposals, papers ready for submission, etc.) and to provide written feedback to other participants.

For more information on Polinomics, please email Donna Wilcockson at wilcocks@mcmaster.ca.

Educational Initiative in Health Economics and Health Policy Analysis for Health Professionals

As part of CHEPA's goal to develop and implement a major educational initiative for training health professionals at McMaster, the Centre holds a number of seminars each year. The objective of this initiative is to ensure that all students enrolled in a health sciences discipline receive an introduction to basic concepts and tools from health economics and health policy analysis. These skills will assist in decisions about the content of clinical practice (e.g. economic evaluation of clinical services and clinical practice guidelines) and to understand the context within which they will practice.

In addition to student education, the Centre has also implemented a faculty development series in health economics and health policy analysis for Health Sciences faculty. The series has drawn faculty members from the medical, nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy and occupational therapy programs, as well as several postgraduate training programs.

For more information on these educational initiatives, please email John Lavis lavisj@mcmaster.ca.

CHEPA Studentship

The Studentship Award provides McMaster University students who are enrolled in a graduate program and have an interest in health economics and/or health policy analysis with an opportunity to gain research experience and skills in an interdisciplinary environment. Students gain this exposure by either working on their own projects or on other ongoing projects run at the Centre or by its faculty. The amount of the award is \$8,000, consisting of a stipend of \$6,000 and up to \$2,000 for research expenses, books and travel to a conference to present research results, etc.

2003/2004 Academic Year Studentship Recipients

Patricia Collins, a second year Master of Science student in the Health Research Methodology program at McMaster University, was one of the recipients of the Studentship Award. Her thesis explores the relationship between the values and political orientations of active citizens in Hamilton and their actions to address the determinants of health in the community. Her research interests include the determinants of health, health policy analysis, public participation, and mixed methodology research. With the assistance of faculty members in CHEPA, Patricia used the CHEPA Studentship to develop a rigorous survey instrument aimed at measuring values and political orientations of active citizens. Patricia also worked with Julia Abelson on a project in health policy analysis entitled "Values and Health Care Financing".

Gillian Mulvale, a third year PhD. Student in the Health Research Methodology program at McMaster University also received a CHEPA studentship award. Her thesis investigates the importance of attitudinal barriers to care seeking for depression, with a view to developing policy options to improve uptake. The studentship was used to support the qualitative portion of her research, which investigates the influence of attitudes toward care seeking among untreated and treated depressed in Hamilton, Ontario. Gillian's research interests are in health economics and policy analysis, with a special interest in the delivery of mental health services.

2003/2004 Academic Year Doctoral Fellowship

François-Pierre Gauvin, a first year PhD. student in the Health Research Methodology program at McMaster University, was the recipient of the CHEPA doctoral fellowship. François-Pierre completed his undergraduate and graduate studies in Political Science at Laval University where he also worked for the Centre for the Analysis of Public Policies. His research pertains to the field of health policy and health services governance, with a special interest in the Nordic model of governance, public participation, deliberative democracy and health technology assessment. François-Pierre's thesis investigates the social and cultural factors influencing the participation of citizens in health technology assessment.

2002/2004 Visiting Fellow

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