

SCHULICH SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE & DENTISTRY
WESTERN UNIVERSITY

ISSUE DATE:
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DEAN'S REPORT

ANNUAL REVIEW FOR 2024



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A MESSAGE FROM DEAN JOHN YOO



ADVANCING RESEARCH

In 2024, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry obtained a record-breaking \$175.4 million in research funding. Our community leveraged Artificial Intelligence (AI) and cutting-edge technologies to revolutionize science, clinical care and advanced therapies with real-world impact. We continued to invest in critical research infrastructure, making significant progress on new facilities dedicated to biotherapeutics and infectious diseases research.

FULFILLING OUR REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

While addressing global challenges, we remain steadfast in our commitment to Southwestern Ontario. Through innovative solutions like our new Sarnia clerkship initiative – which will place eight more students in the region for immersive training – we continue to work with our health-care partners to train more doctors in the region, from the region and for the region.

POWERING PEOPLE AND PARTNERSHIPS

People and partnerships remain central to achieving our strategic goals. As just one measure, strong collaborations with our hospital partners, fueled by philanthropy, enabled us to establish five new endowed research chairs last year alone. We also deepened our relationships with key global partners to advance research and training opportunities, including broadening our long-standing relationship with Makerere University in Uganda.

As you read through these pages, I hope you will see and relate to the story of our growth. This report not only illustrates how far we’ve come but also leaves space for new possibilities of where we can go from here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Yoo'.

John Yoo, MD, FRCS(C), FACS
Dean, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry
Western University

2024 at a glance

A record-breaking year for research funding.

\$175.4M
in research funding
\$11 million more than previous year

OUR PEOPLE, OUR STRENGTH



4,043 Learners



3,042 Faculty

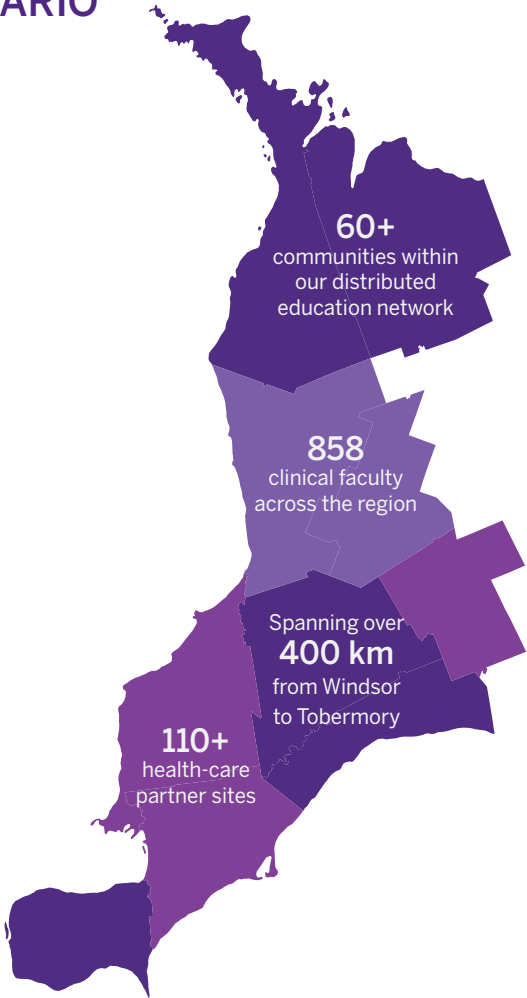


1,290 Staff



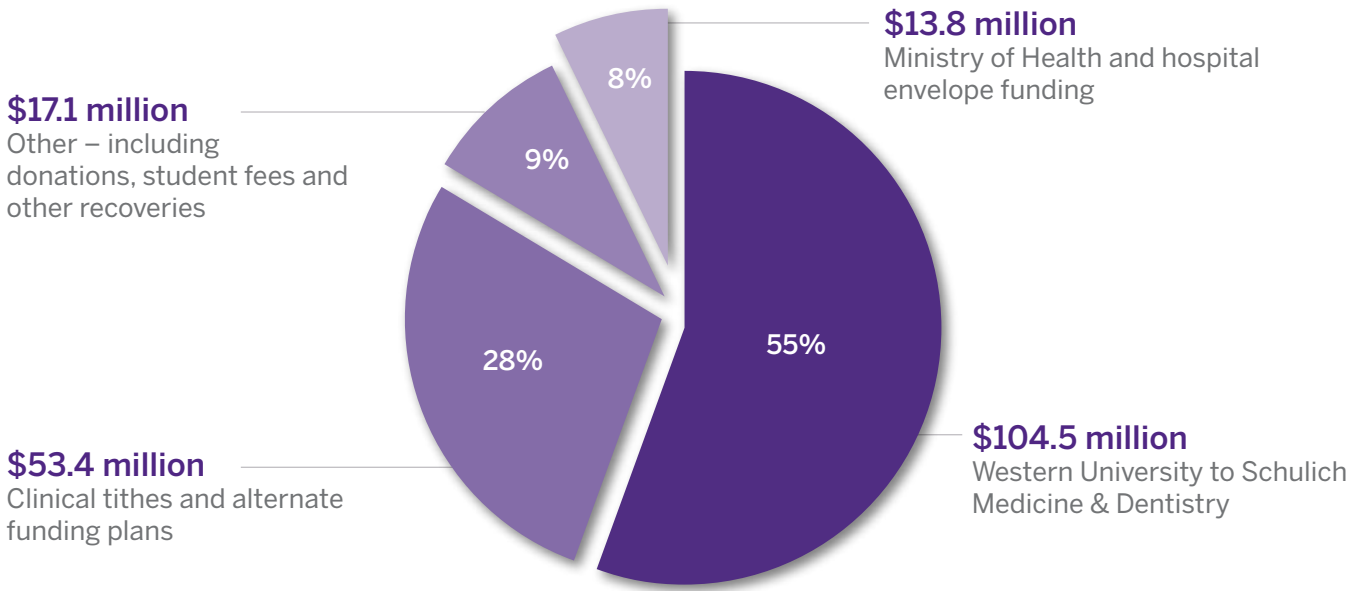
22,000+ Alumni
across the world

SERVING SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO




OPERATING REVENUE

\$188.8M



TWO CAMPUSES, ONE VISION



1,069,260 sq ft
total square footage across London and Windsor campuses

Western University campus 956,859 sq ft

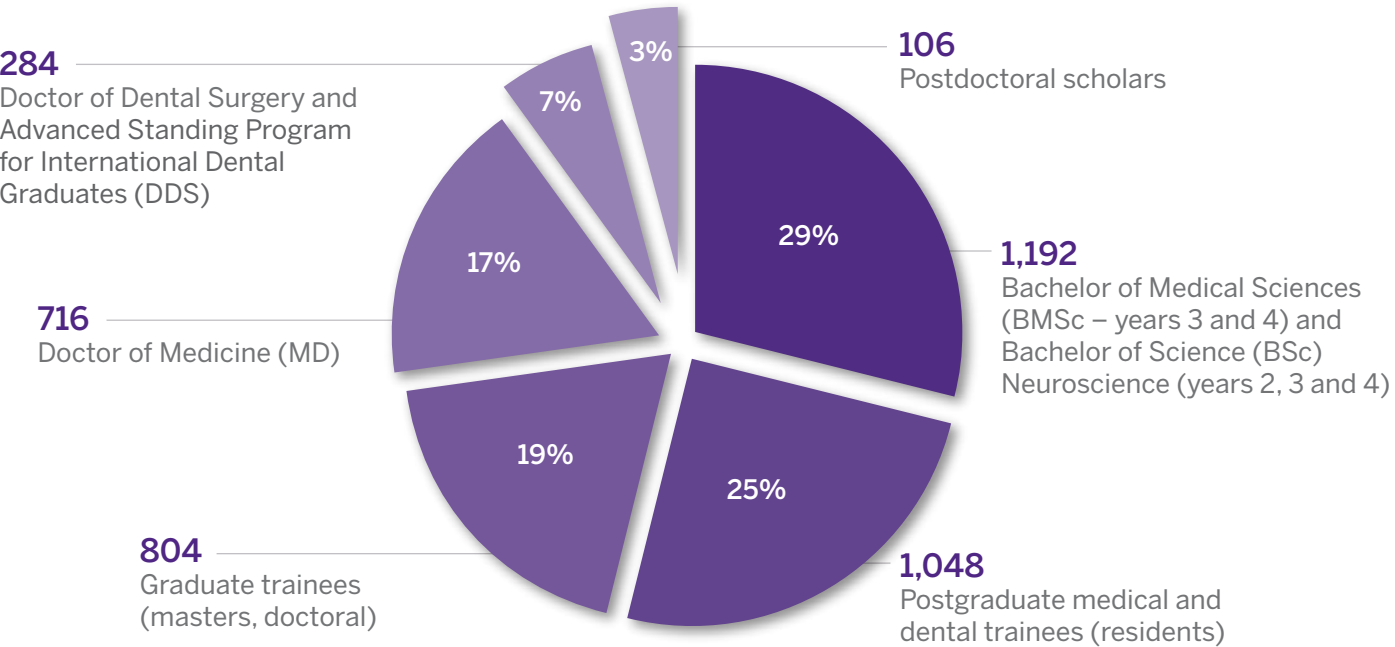
University of Windsor campus 112,401 sq ft

We combine high-impact research with immersive learning experiences in a premier health network to improve human health.

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE



MORE THAN 4,000 LEARNERS ACROSS TWO CAMPUSES



RAISING STANDARDS, ADVANCING EDUCATION

In 2024, the School's Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Doctor of Dentistry (DDS) programs received successful accreditation, reaffirming the School's commitment to educational excellence.

Accreditation – a rigorous, mandatory process required for all medical and dental schools in Canada – assesses key areas such as curriculum, faculty qualifications, research opportunities, student services and facilities.

“These successful outcomes are critical for our School, and they underline our deep commitment to continually improving the quality of education for our learners and the communities we serve,” said Dr. John Yoo, dean Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry.



PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Undergraduate Programs

Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMSc)
Bachelor of Science (BSc) – Neuroscience

Undergraduate Dual Degree Programs

Bachelor of Medical Sciences/Honors Business Administration (BMSc/HBA) (joint with Ivey Business School, Western University)

Professional Programs

Advanced Standing Program for International Dental Graduates** (DDS-ASP)
Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)
Doctor of Medicine (MD)

Thesis-Based Graduate Programs

- Basic Science Departments (support MSc and PhD programs):**
- Anatomy and Cell Biology
 - Biochemistry
 - Epidemiology and Biostatistics
 - Medical Biophysics (including PhD with CAMPEP* certification)
 - Microbiology and Immunology
 - Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
 - Physiology and Pharmacology
- Interdisciplinary Thesis-Based Programs:**
- Biomedical Engineering (support MSc and PhD)
 - Neuroscience (support MSc and PhD)
- Collaborative Specializations (available to graduate students in thesis-based programs):**
- Developmental Biology
 - Machine Learning in Health and Biomedical Sciences
 - Molecular Imaging
 - Musculoskeletal Health Research
 - Music Cognition
 - Scientific Computing

Professional Course-Based Graduate Programs

- MMSc Programs:**
- Clinical Medical Biophysics (CAMPEP* accredited course)
 - Drug Safety and Pharmacovigilance (launched in 2024)
 - Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences
- Other Professional Degrees:**
- Master of Health Science (MHS) in Global Health Systems (joint with Faculty of Health Sciences, Western University)
 - Master of Public Health (MPH)
 - Pathologists’ Assistant Program (MCISc)
 - Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (G.Dip)

Professional Development

Continuing Dental Education
Continuing Medical Education
Faculty Development

Postgraduate and Clinical Graduate Programs

- Medicine (PGME)**
238 Clinical Fellowship offerings
9 Area of Focused Competence programs
50 Clinical Residency programs
- Anesthesiology
 - Cardiac Surgery
 - Cardiology
 - Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
 - Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology
 - Clinical Immunology & Allergy
 - Clinician Investigator Program
 - Critical Care Medicine
 - Diagnostic and Molecular Pathology
 - Diagnostic Radiology
 - Emergency Medicine
 - Endocrinology and Metabolism
 - Family Medicine
 - Family Medicine Enhanced Skills
 - Family Medicine/Emergency Medicine
 - Gastroenterology
 - General Internal Medicine
 - General Surgery
 - Geriatric Medicine
 - Geriatric Psychiatry
 - Gynecologic Reproductive Endocrinology
 - Hematology
 - Infectious Diseases
 - Internal Medicine
 - Interventional Radiology
 - Maternal-Fetal Medicine
 - Medical Oncology
 - Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
 - Nephrology
 - Neurology
 - Neuropathology
 - Neurosurgery
 - Nuclear Medicine
 - Obstetrics and Gynecology
 - Ophthalmology
 - Orthopedic Surgery
 - Otolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery
 - Paediatrics
 - Paediatric Critical Care Medicine
 - Paediatric Emergency Medicine
 - Pain Medicine
 - Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
 - Plastic Surgery
 - Psychiatry
 - Radiation Oncology
 - Respiriology
 - Rheumatology
 - Thoracic Surgery
 - Urology
 - Vascular Surgery

- Dentistry (Graduate and Postgraduate Clinical Education)**
- 3 Program offerings (General Practice residency, Graduate Orthodontics, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery)

- Clinical Thesis-Based Graduate Programs (for clinicians):**
- Master of Science (MSc) in Surgery
 - Master of Clinical Dentistry (MCID) - Orthodontics
 - Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Family Medicine

Dual Degree Programs (for clinicians)

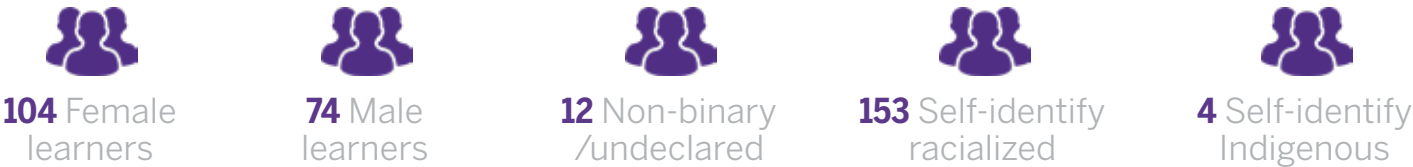
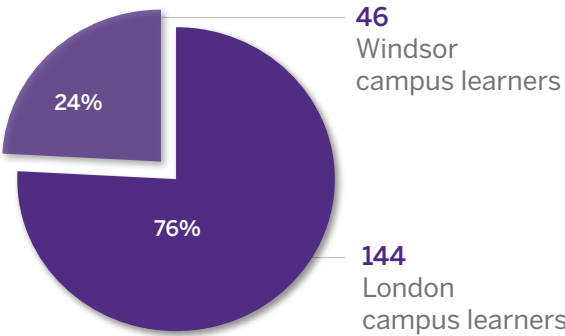
Dental Clinician Scientist (DDS/PhD)
MD/MSc in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
MD/PhD
MD+ track

*CAMPEP (Commission on the Accreditation of Medical Physics Educational Programs)
**Formerly called the Internationally Trained Dentists (ITD) program

Doctor of Medicine (MD)

190
INCOMING MD LEARNERS

All first-year MD seats filled for the academic year



“My goal has always been to increase Indigenous representation in medicine. I have also been inspired to serve Indigenous patients. As an Indigenous woman, I have seen family members suffer from healthcare-related racism, and it is important to me that these injustices no longer occur in the health-care system. My goal is to become a culturally safe provider, and to also teach others how to be the same.”

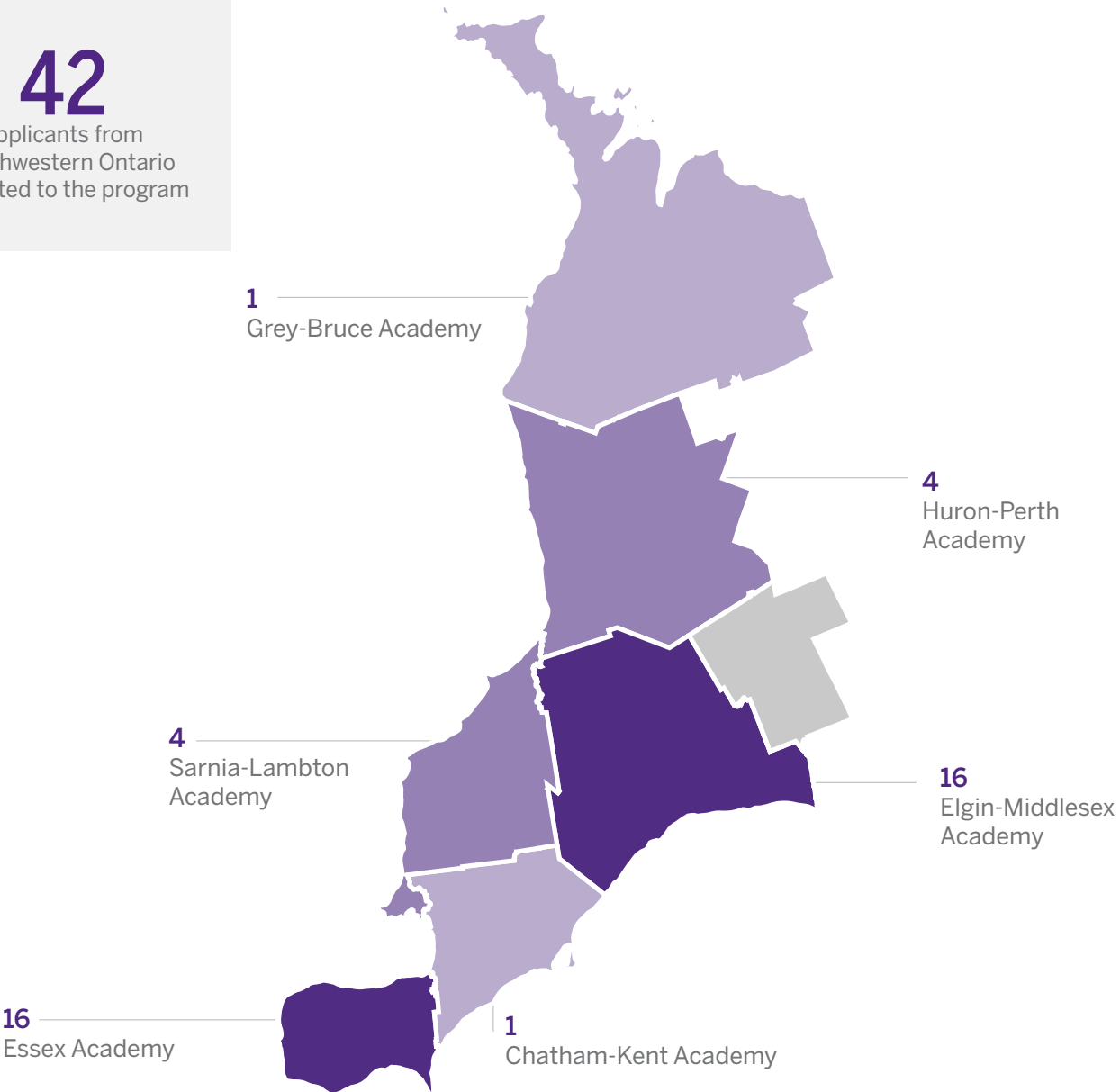
Taylor Dupuis Shalovsky,
co-founder of the School's Indigenous
Medical and Dental Student Association
and a Canadian Association for Medical Education
– 2024 Rising Star awardee



Educating the future physicians of Southwestern Ontario.

22% of the MD Class of 2028 hail from Southwestern Ontario

42
applicants from
Southwestern Ontario
accepted to the program



MD+ Program

MD+ is a one-of-a-kind interdisciplinary track that enables MD program learners to pursue graduate degrees or diplomas in a wide range of fields. Learners can enrol in programs either on campus or abroad alongside their medical degree, providing them with time, financial and academic support. The program was launched in 2021.

MD + program enrolment in 2024

1

learner newly enrolled in fall 2024

3

learners currently enrolled

3

learners who have completed program

“MD+ has taught me to keep an open mind and welcome the off-script adventures that come along the way. Every opportunity can teach you something that will help you become a better physician.

In my case, my understanding of public health fundamentally and positively changed how I navigated interactions with patients and other health-care providers.”

Shaily Brahmabhatt, MD+ graduate in 2024 with MD and Master of Public Health degrees



MD/PhD Program

The combined MD/PhD program offers an exceptional opportunity to integrate clinical practice with research. The program enables MD learners to embark on groundbreaking research, working alongside leading scientists at the School and its affiliated research institutes.

Edward Wang, who is an MD/PhD candidate in medical biophysics, is using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to help doctors choose the best radiation treatment for patients with lung cancer.

Wang has developed an AI computer program that can quickly and accurately predict how radiation will be distributed in the lungs when treating multiple cancer spots.

“Our tool is used to help medical staff estimate and compare potential treatment plans so that they can select the optimal one and create the right prescription for the patient,” said Wang, a 2023-2024 Vanier Scholar.



MD/PhD program enrolment in 2024

26

currently enrolled

37

Total learners who have completed the program since 2007

Postgraduate Medical Education

1,048
TOTAL ENROLMENT

for academic term
July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

A GLOBAL NETWORK ROOTED IN COMMUNITY-DRIVEN HEALTH CARE



In 2024, more than 400 residents and fellows began their postgraduate medical training at Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry.

The incoming and continuing trainees join a global network of medical professionals coming from universities across Canada and abroad.

In 2024, all residency positions across 50 clinical programs were filled, with incoming residents now training and gaining hands-on experience in hospitals and clinics in:



London



Windsor



Regional
Southwestern Ontario

Delivering clinical training through strong partnerships with local and regional health-care providers.

The School's residency programs, delivered in partnership with hospitals and clinics across the region, continue to excel — particularly the family medicine residency, which is addressing community needs. The program has expanded and successfully filled all 84 residency spots.

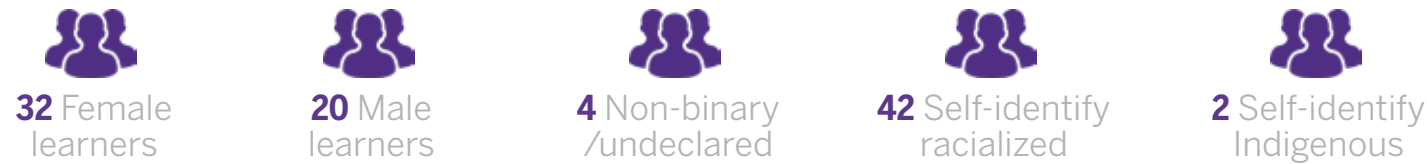
For many medical graduates like Lindsey Wong, family medicine offers a unique and fulfilling career path. "I love the longitudinal relationships in family medicine — you get to be someone's doctor from birth through every stage of life. I also enjoy the breadth of the field, from minor procedures to mental health counseling, diabetes care and treating ear infections," said Wong, who is one of 84 trainees who began their family medicine residency with Schulich Medicine in 2024.



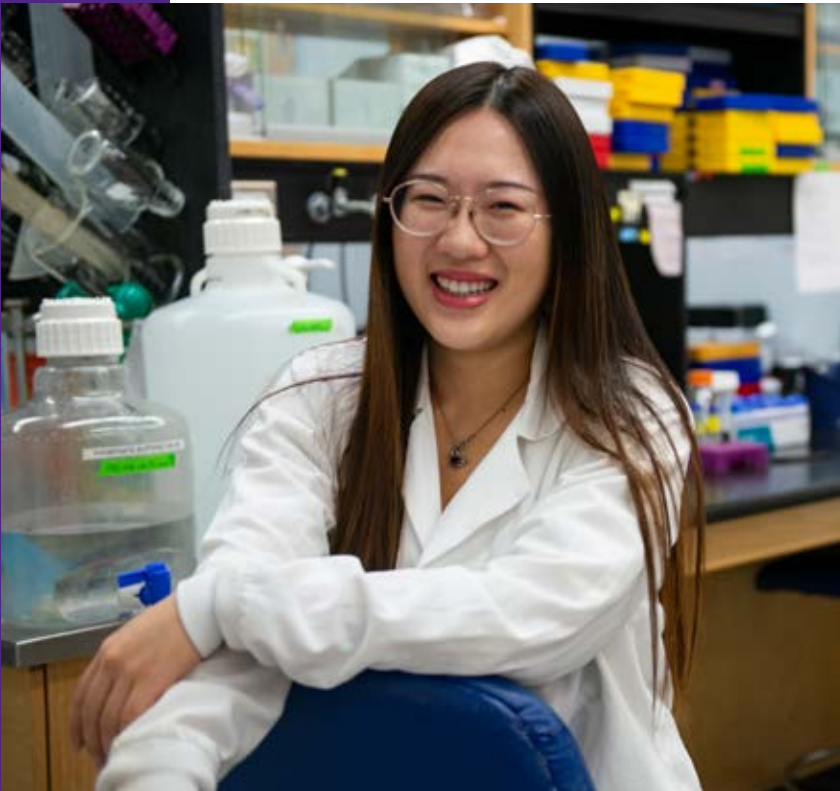
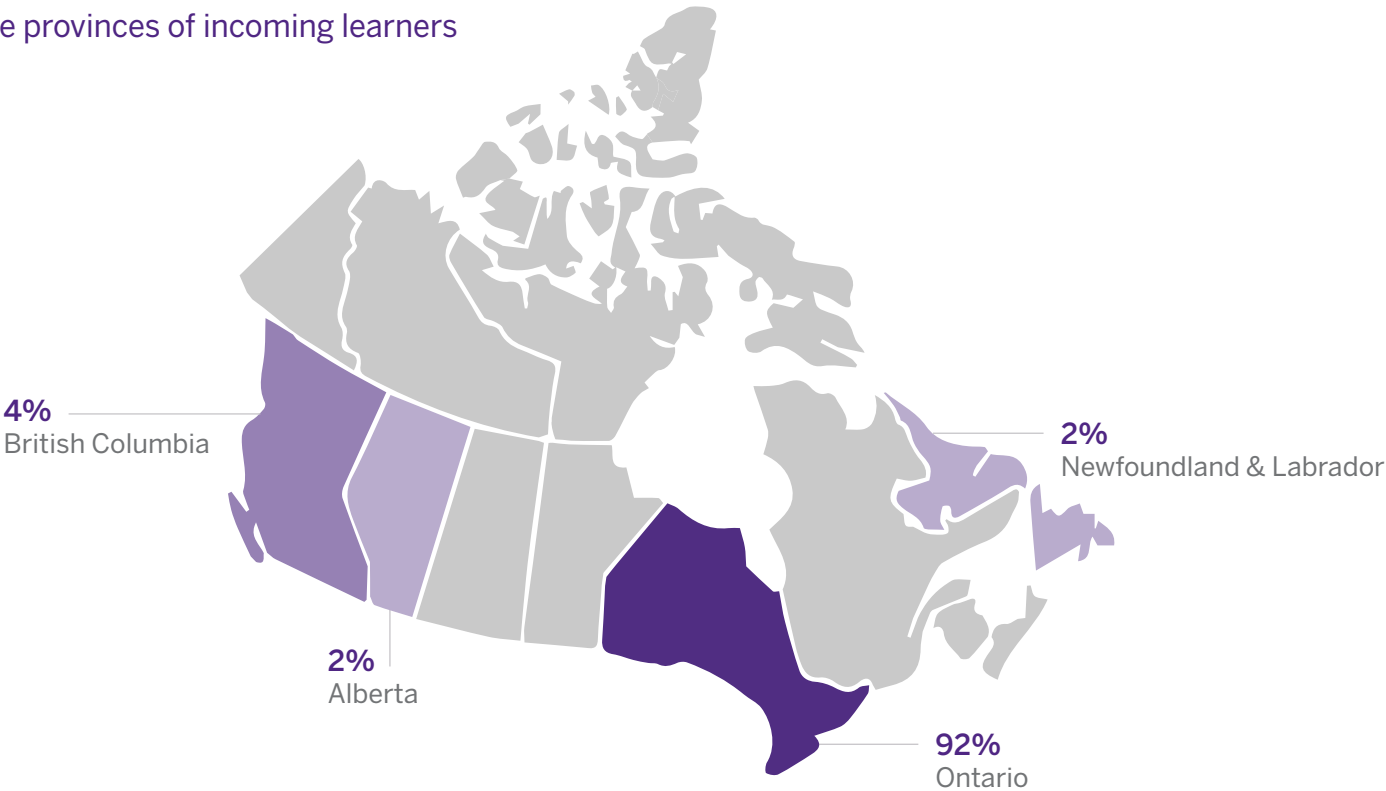
Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)

56
INCOMING DDS LEARNERS

All first-year DDS seats filled for the academic year



Home provinces of incoming learners



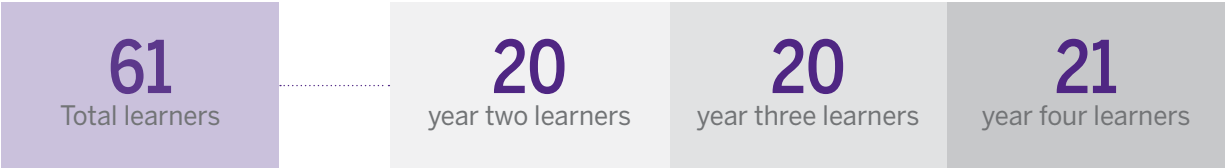
Jennifer Guo, a Naval Warfare Officer in the Royal Canadian Navy in her fourth year in the School's Dental Clinician-Scientist program, is training to become both a dentist and a scientist.

"Clinician-scientists are critical in bridging the gap between clinical practice and laboratory research. They can identify clinical challenges and translate them into research questions, leading to new treatments, technologies and methodologies," said Guo.

Advanced Standing Program FOR INTERNATIONAL DENTAL GRADUATES (DDS)

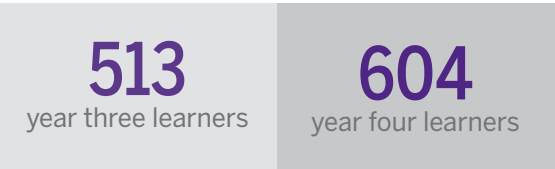
The three-year program is specifically designed for graduates of non-accredited dental programs who wish to practise general dentistry in Canada. Incoming learners join year two of Schulich Dentistry's DDS program.

Advanced Standing Program for International Dental Graduates total enrolment in 2024



Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMSc)

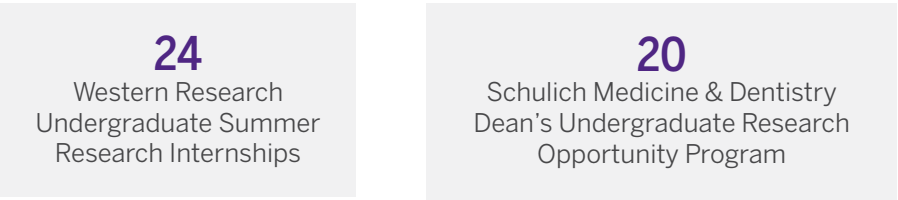
1,117
TOTAL LEARNERS IN YEARS 3 AND 4



This program combines interdisciplinary and immersive learning with world-class research opportunities, providing a strong foundation for a future in medical sciences.

FROM CLASSROOM TO LAB: SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH

Learners in university-supported research placements



Learners in Federal Tri-Council-supported research placements

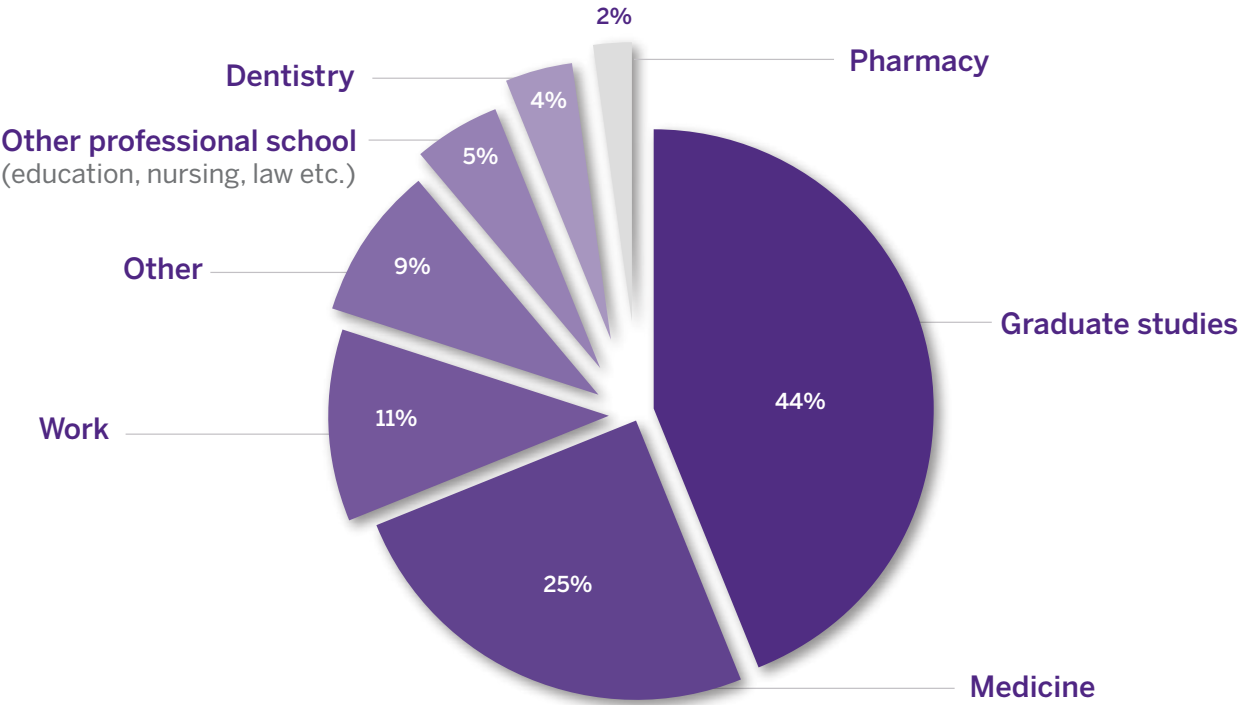


Rose Adibi, BMSc'24, wanted to develop her leadership and interpersonal skills while exploring diverse areas of study.

"The Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences program gave me the chance to broaden my knowledge by taking courses from different fields and enhanced my abilities in leadership and teamwork through a Community Engaged Learning course," said Adibi.



OPENING DOORS: DIVERSE CAREER PATHWAYS FOR BMSC GRADUATES

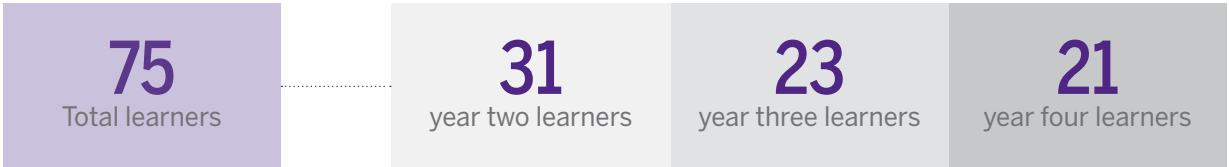


Based on survey of 170 respondents from the Class of 2024

Bachelor of Science Honours (HBSc)

The Honours Specialization in Neuroscience leads to a Bachelor of Science Honours degree. Admission begins in year two, with the majority of students coming from year one Medical Sciences.

Total enrolment in 2024



Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs

910
TOTAL FULL-TIME GRADUATE TRAINEES



Marie Lan, MSc'24, assessed the economic impact of managing hypertension to reduce dementia, a condition which poses a growing burden to health and social systems.

"With limited treatments available, prevention is essential to reducing future burden," said the Epidemiology and Biostatistics grad, who won a 2024 Governor General's Academic Medal, one of Canada's highest graduate student honours.

"Managing dementia risk factors such as hypertension is something we can readily do, and economic analyses can help us determine which intervention pathways to further investigate and which programs to fund."

Hayley Shanks may be a wide receiver for Western's women's football team, but when the third-year Neuroscience PhD student is off the field, she's tackling Alzheimer's disease.

Shanks' research – which garnered global attention in 2024 – focuses on analyzing clinical trial results of a drug that aims to target Alzheimer's disease in its early-to-mild stages.

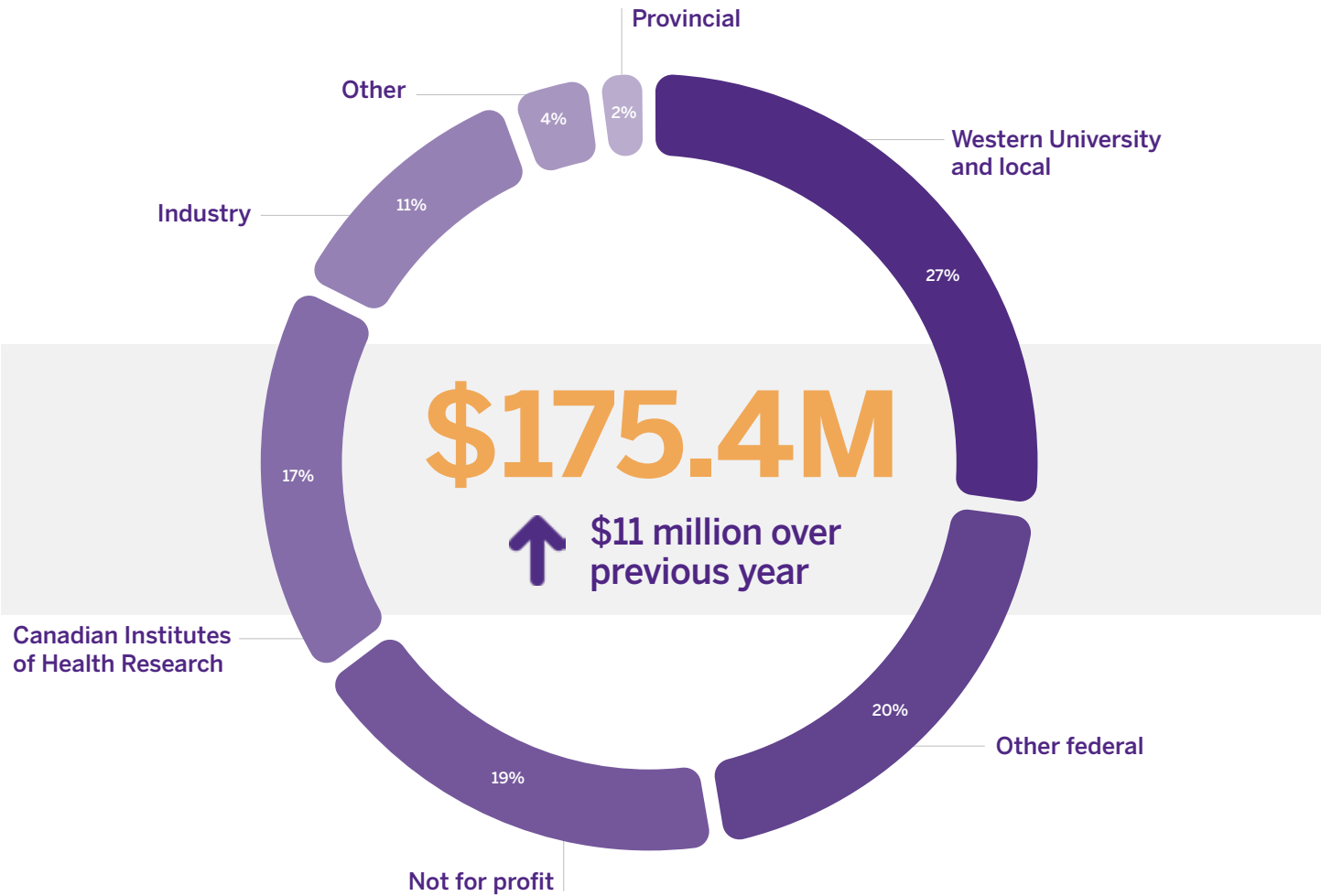
"The best things that have happened in my research career have been things that were kind of by chance... that I didn't ever expect," said Shanks. "I think it's important to understand that good things will come if you take the opportunities that interest you."



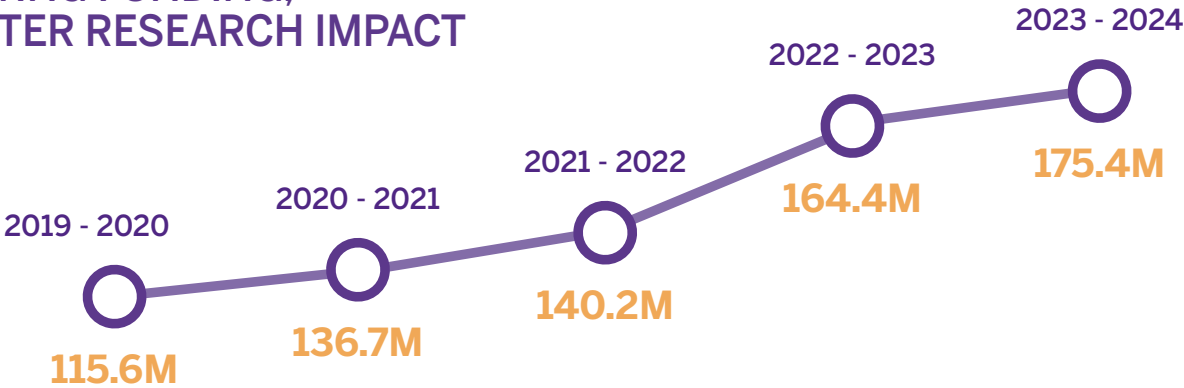
RESEARCH IMPACT



A landmark year for research funding



GROWING FUNDING, GREATER RESEARCH IMPACT



HEALTHY SMILES

Backed by Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) funding, Dr. Noha Gomaa is looking at how access to oral health care impacts the social and mental well-being of older Canadians. The work will help inform public policy as Canada and the world face a growing aging population.

“We are focusing on this age group because we want to make sure that as people live longer, they retain a healthy mouth that enables them to eat, speak, smile and partake in social activities, without pain, discomfort or embarrassment,” said Gomaa, assistant professor and associate director of research at Schulich Dentistry.



THE PATH TO AN ALS CURE

Dr. Michael Strong, Arthur J. Hudson Chair in ALS Research, and his team have made a breakthrough toward curing amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a devastating neurodegenerative disease that is currently incurable.

This discovery is being propelled forward by a \$10-million gift from the Temerty Foundation, which will accelerate research and bring the team closer to launching human clinical trials within the next five years.

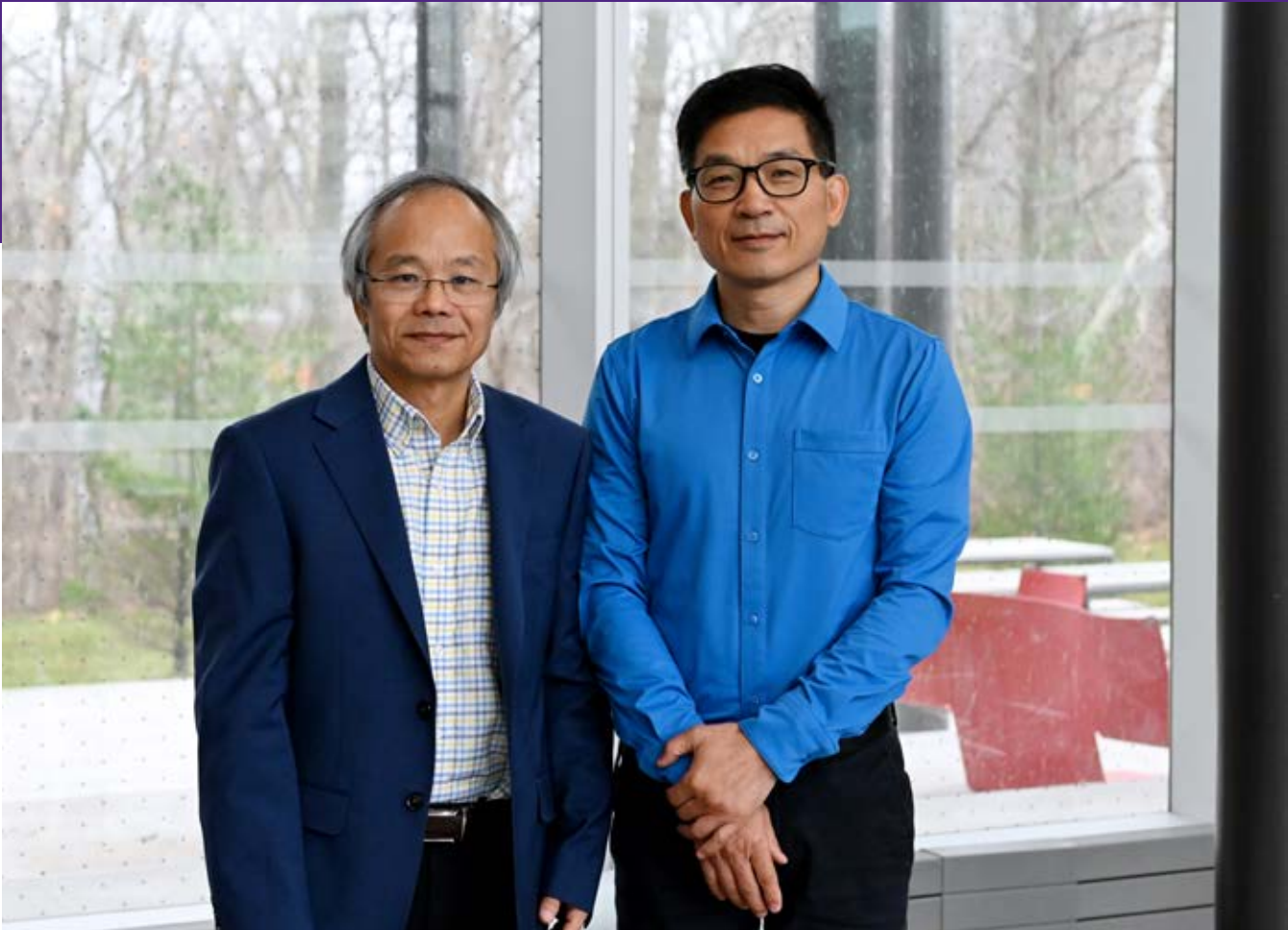
“It’s been 30 years of work to get here — 30 years of looking after families and patients, and their loved ones when all we had was hope. This gives us reason to believe we’ve discovered a path to treatment,” said Strong.



THE BIOTHERAPEUTICS REVOLUTION

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is establishing a new centre for biotherapeutics research led by Dr. Kun Ping Lu and Shawn Li, PhD. Focused on precision medicine, this initiative will revolutionize diagnosing, preventing and treating illness by harnessing the body’s natural ability to combat disease.

“Not only will we be able to help a lot more people live healthier lives, but we can also help Canada become more globally competitive by translating novel biotherapeutics from the lab to the market,” said Li, professor of Biochemistry and Canada Research Chair in Molecular and Epigenetic Basis of Cancer.



Dr. Kun Ping Lu, left, and Shawn Li, PhD



DECODING THE COMATOSE BRAIN

Neuroscientist Adrian Owen, PhD, and his team use advanced neuroimaging, including functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), to decode the thoughts and intentions of brain-injured individuals by analyzing brain activity.

“Using technology developed at Western, we can now detect conscious awareness and even communicate with some intensive care unit patients who appear comatose after severe brain injuries,” said Owen, professor of Cognitive Neuroscience and Psychology.

SAFEGUARDING THE FUTURE

The School’s soon-to-be-built Pathogen Research Centre will be one of the few facilities worldwide specifically designed to study infectious diseases and pathogens in a real-world environment. This facility will enable researchers to safely investigate how viruses spread, evolve and interact with human population and environment, advancing our ability to prevent and respond to future pandemics.

The Centre will include a GMPro manufacturing facility, which will allow for the production of small-batch therapeutics and vaccines — ensuring that researchers can rapidly develop and test new treatments when new threats emerge.

“By building on the world-leading expertise and tools we have at Western, we’re going to improve our country’s ability to respond to emerging health threats and protect the health of Canadians,” said Eric Arts, PhD, professor and Canada Research Chair in HIV Pathogenesis and Viral Control.



ENDOWED RESEARCH CHAIRS

Chair name	Incumbent 2024/2025
Andrew Lazarovits Chair in Immunobiology and Transplantation	Dr. Alp Sener*
Antonios Mamandras Chair in Graduate Orthodontics	Dr. Ali Tassi
Beryl Ivey Chair in One Health	Dr. Francisco Olea-Popelka
Cecil and Linda Rorabeck Chair in Molecular Neuroscience and Vascular Biology	Donald Welsh, PhD
Chair in Orthopaedic Spine & Trauma Biomechanics	Dr. Irene Yang*
Children’s Health Foundation Chair in Paediatrics Research**	Dr. Craig Campbell*
Chin-Hardie Chair in Urologic Oncology	Dr. Brant Inman
Col. J.B. McLean (Fallon) Memorial Chair in Clinical Preventative Medicine	Dr. Saverio Stranges
Diabetes Canada Chair in Diabetes Management	Dr. Kristin Clemens*
Dr. Adam Linton Chair in Kidney Health Analytics	Dr. Matthew Weir*
Dr. Brian W. Gilbert Chair in Primary Health Care	Dr. Sonja Reichert
Dr. John W.D. and Susan McDonald Chair in Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Dr. Vipul Jairath
Dr. Joseph Rea Chair in Mood Disorders	Dr. Elizabeth Osuch
Dr. Robert Lindsay Chair in Dialysis Research and Innovation	Dr. Shih-Han Susan Huang*
Dr. Robert Zhong Research Chair in Translational Transplant Research	Dr. Lakshman Gunaratnam
Dr. Sandy Kirkley Chair in Musculoskeletal Research	David W. Holdsworth, PhD
Earl Russell Chair in Pain Management	Dr. Eldon Loh*
Edith Schulich Vinet Chair in Human Genetics	Dr. Robert A. Hegele
Eugen Drewlo Chair in Kidney Research and Innovation	Dr. Dervla Connaughton
Graham King Research Chair	Dr. James Johnson
GSK Chair in Clinical Pharmacology	In progress
Hannah Chair in the History of Medicine	Shelley P. McKellar, PhD
Harris-Woodman Chair in Psyche & Soma	Dr. Ruth Lanius
Heart & Stroke Foundation Barnett-Ivey Chair	Dr. Mark Chandy
Huntington Society of Canada Research Chair	Patrick O’Donoghue, PhD*

*Newly appointed for 2024
**Newly established for 2024

Chair name	Incumbent 2024/2025
Ian McWhinney Chair of Family Medicine Studies	In progress
J.C. Kennedy Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery	Dr. Abdel-Rahman Lawendy*
Jack Cowin Chair in Epilepsy Research	Dr. Jorge Guillermo Burneo
Jacob J. Wolfe Distinguished Medical Research Chair in Human Gene Function	Dr. Robert A. Hegele
John Denstedt Chair in Surgical Simulation	Dr. Audra Duncan
Kathleen and Dr. Henry Barnett Chair in Stroke Research	Dr. Luciano Sposato
Kay Family Chair in Transformational Kidney Care**	In progress
Marcel and Louise Brunette Research Chair in Ophthalmology	Dr. Cindy Hutnik
Martha G. Blackburn Chair in Cardiovascular Research	Dr. Robert A. Hegele
Neil McKenzie Chair in Cardiac Care	Dr. Geoffrey Pickering
Provincial Endowed Academic Chair in Autism and Behavioural Sciences	Dr. Julio Martinez-Trujillo
Ramsay W. Gunton Chair in Cardiology	Dr. Raymond Yee
Ray and Margaret Elliott Chair in Surgical Innovation	Dr. Michael Chu
Research Chair in Auditory Biophysics and Engineering	Dr. Hanif Ladak
Research Chair in Neurotology and Translational Hearing Innovation	Dr. Sumit Agrawal
Richard and Beryl Ivey Chair in Clinical Neurological Sciences	Dr. David Steven
Richard and Jean Ivey Fund Chair in Molecular Toxicology	Qingping Feng, PhD
Richard Ivey Chair of Medicine	In progress
Richard Ivey Chair of Surgery	Dr. Emil Schemitsch
Sheldon H. Weinstein Chair in Diabetes Research	David Hess, PhD
Tanna Schulich Chair in Neurosciences & Mental Health	Dr. J. Donald Richardson
Ting-Yim Lee Chair in Translational Medical Imaging	Dr. Narinder Paul
Ting-Yim Lee Chair in Medical Biophysics	Jefferson Frisbee, PhD
William F. Clark Chair in Nephrology	Dr. Louise Moist*
Wolfe Chair in Orthopaedic Research and Innovation**	In progress
Wolfe Medical Research Chair in Pharmacogenomics	Dr. Richard Kim

*Newly appointed for 2024
**Newly established for 2024

CANADA RESEARCH CHAIRS

Canada Excellence Research Chair		
Neurovirology and Neuroimmunology	Dr. Robyn Klein	
Canada Research Chair	Current chair holder	Tier
HIV Pathogenesis and Viral Control	Eric Arts, PhD	1
Lung Imaging to Change Patient Outcomes	Grace Parraga, PhD	1
Molecular and Epigenetic Basis of Cancer	Shawn Li, PhD*	1
Musculoskeletal Research	Frank Beier, PhD	1
Neurochemistry of Dementia	Marco Prado, PhD	1
Primary Health Care and Health Equity	Maria Mathews, PhD	1
Translational Cognitive Neuroscience	Lisa Saksida, PhD	1
Chemical Biology	Patrick O'Donoghue, PhD	2
Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging	Dr. Penny MacDonald	2
Computational Approaches to Health Research	Pingzhao Hu, PhD	2
Computational Neuroimaging	Ali Khan, PhD*	2
Diffusion Magnetic Resonance Imaging	Corey Baron, PhD*	2
Genital Immunology and STI Prevention	Jessica Prodger, PhD	2
Injury Prevention and Physical Activity for Health	Dr. Jane Thornton	2
Musculoskeletal Biology and Health	Matthew GroI, PhD	2
Pathogen Genomics and Bioinformatics	Jennifer Guthrie, PhD	2
Public Health Economics	Shehzad Ali, PhD	2
Public Mental Health Research	Kelly Anderson, PhD	2
Sensorimotor Neuroscience	Andrew Pruszyński, PhD	2
Translational Neuropsychopharmacology	Jibran Khokhar, PhD	2

*Renewals for 2024

WESTERN RESEARCH CHAIRS

Leadership Chair	Shawn Whitehead, PhD
Legacy Chair	
Cognitive Neuroscience	Timothy Bussey, PhD
Strategic Focus Chairs	
Bioinformatics	Michael Hallett, PhD
Biotherapeutics	Dr. Kun Ping Lu
Indigenous Planetary Health	Nicole Redvers, ND, MPH
Neurocognition	Stefan Everling, PhD
Viral Pathogenesis	Miguel Quiñones-Mateu, PhD

SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY



SCHULICH DENTISTRY IN ACTION: SERVING COMMUNITIES, ADVANCING CARE

20,000

appointments per year in the main dentistry clinic

8,000

dental clinic patients

1,335

orthodontics patients

530

paediatric clinic patients

From education to care, driving meaningful change.



X-LABS

Walat Saed was one of 22 participants in the second year of X-LABS in 2024. The immersive two-week science program is designed to open doors for talented high school students from diverse backgrounds.

“With X-LABS, students who might not otherwise have the opportunity can engage in university-level scientific research, gaining hands-on experience in labs and building connections with future mentors,” said Jefferson Frisbee, PhD, Chair of Medical Biophysics and creator of the X-LABS program.

IMPROVING PATHWAYS TO MEDICAL SCHOOL

In 2024, the School introduced a Black Applicant Pathway (BAP) to encourage qualified Black students to apply to the MD program. The new pathway complements existing Access and Indigenous pathways that are intended to remove barriers for those who are under-represented in medicine, while ensuring equitable access for all.

“We value contributing to future health-care teams that will reflect the diversity of the Canadian population and the communities within which we serve,” said Dr. George Kim, associate dean of admissions.



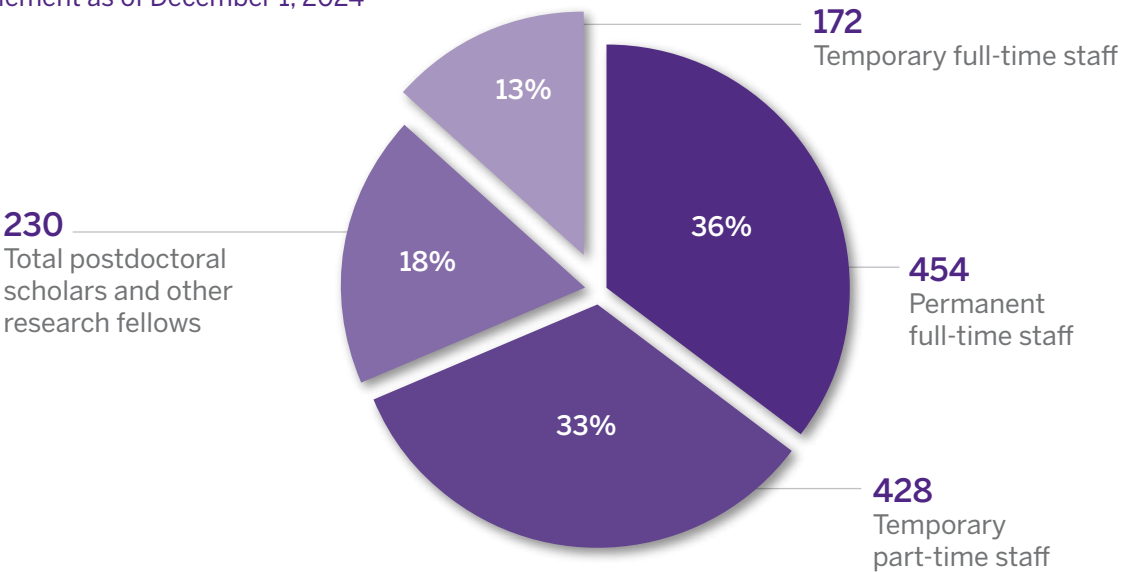
PEOPLE



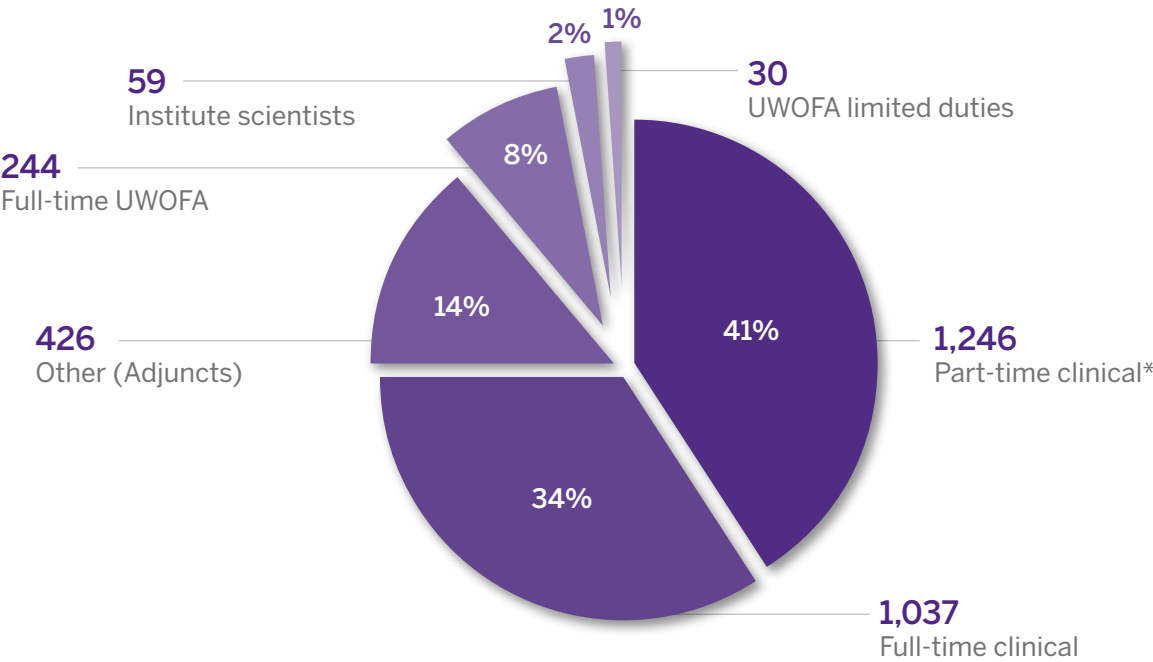
Our people, our strength

Faculty and staff complement as of December 1, 2024

1,284
STAFF



3,042
FACULTY



**Includes MDs who are working at London hospitals part time and MD preceptors in the Distributed Education network, including Windsor Campus*

LEADERSHIP

accurate as of Feb. 1, 2025

DEAN			
	Dr. John Yoo	2nd	Jul. 1 2025 – Jun. 30, 2030
ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP			
Chief Administrative Officer	Rachel Halaney, MBA		N/A
VICE DEANS			
Basic Medical Sciences	Susanne Schmid, PhD	1st	Jul. 1, 2020 – Jun. 30, 2025
Clinical Faculty Affairs	Dr. Andrea Lum	1st	Jan. 1, 2020 – Dec. 31, 2025
Dentistry (Director)	Dr. Carlos Quiñonez	1st	Jun. 1, 2022 – May 31, 2027
Medical Education	Dr. Shannon Venance	1st	Aug. 1, 2021 – Jul. 31, 2026
Research & Innovation	Robert Bartha , PhD	1st	Sep. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2027
ASSOCIATE DEANS			
Admissions	Dr. George Kim	1st	Jul. 1, 2022 – Jun. 30, 2027
Basic Medical Sciences Undergrad. Education	Brad Urquhart, PhD	2nd	Sep. 1, 2025 – Aug. 30, 2029
Basic Medical Sciences Undergrad. Education	Walter Rushlow, PhD	Acting	Sep. 1, 2024 – Aug. 31, 2025
Continuing Professional Development & Faculty Development	Dr. William McCauley	1st	Nov. 1, 2022 – Oct. 31, 2027
Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Decolonization	Dr. Sukhveer Bains	Interim	Sep. 1, 2022 – Dec. 31, 2025
Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies	Thomas Drysdale, PhD	1st	Jul. 1, 2020 – Jun. 30, 2025
Learner Experience	Dr. Robert Stein	1st	Feb. 1, 2024 – Jan. 31, 2029
Postgraduate Medical Education	Dr. Lois Champion	1st	Jan. 1, 2020 – Dec. 31, 2024
Postgraduate Medical Education	Dr. Tamara Van Hooren	1st	Jan. 1, 2025 – Dec. 31, 2029
Clinical Research	Dr. Amit Garg, PhD	1st	Oct. 1, 2021 – Sep. 30, 2026
Undergraduate Medical Education	TBA		
Windsor Campus	Dr. Larry Jacobs	2nd	Sep. 1, 2023 – Aug. 31, 2028
ASSISTANT DEANS			
Awards and Research Chairs	Dale Laird, PhD	2nd	Sep. 1, 2024 – Jun. 30, 2027
Clinical Research Training	Dr. Reena Khanna	1st	Jul. 1, 2023 – Jun. 30, 2028
Distributed Education	Dr. Victor Ng	1st	May 1, 2023 – Apr. 30, 2028
Faculty Wellbeing	Dr. Laura Foxcroft	1st	Oct. 1, 2020 – Sep. 30, 2025

Learner Experience (Dentistry)	Dr. Shawn Steele	1st	Aug 1., 2023 – Jul. 31, 2028
Learner Experience (Postgraduate Medicine)	Dr. Laura Diachun	1st	May 1, 2023 – Apr. 30, 2028
Learner Experience (Undergraduate Medicine)	Dr. Robin Mackin	1st	Aug. 1, 2024 – Jul. 31, 2029
Translational Research	TBA		
Windsor Campus	Dr. Alice Tsui	1st	Apr. 1, 2023 – May 31, 2028
BASIC DEPARTMENT CHAIRS			
Anatomy & Cell Biology	Dale Laird, PhD	Interim	Oct. 1, 2024 – Jun. 30, 2025
Biochemistry	Greg Gloor, PhD	2nd	Jul. 1, 2024 – Jun. 30, 2029
Epidemiology & Biostatistics	Saverio Stranges, PhD	2nd	Oct. 1, 2024 – Sep. 30, 2026
Medical Biophysics	Jefferson Frisbee, PhD	2nd	Jul. 1, 2021 – Jun. 30, 2026
Microbiology & Immunology	Greg Dekaban, PhD	1st	Feb. 1, 2021 – Jan. 31, 2026
Physiology & Pharmacology	Frank Beier, PhD	2nd	Jul. 1, 2024 – Jun. 30, 2029
CLINICAL DEPARTMENT CHAIRS			
Anesthesia & Perioperative Medicine	Dr. John Fuller	Interim	Dec 16, 2021 – Mar. 31, 2025
Clinical Neurological Sciences	Dr. David Steven	2nd	Jan. 1, 2024 – Dec. 31, 2028
Family Medicine	Dr. Scott McKay	1st	Feb. 1, 2022 – Jan. 31, 2027
Medical Imaging	Dr. Narinder Paul	2nd	Jul. 1, 2022 – Jun. 30, 2027
Medicine	Dr. Wael Haddara	Interim	Dec. 1, 2023 – Dec. 31, 2025
Obstetrics and Gynaecology	Dr. Tracey Crumley	1st	Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2025
Oncology	Dr. Michael Ott	1st	Jun. 1, 2023 – May 31, 2028
Ophthalmology	Dr. Cindy Hutnik	1st	Jul. 1, 2022 – Jun. 30, 2027
Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery	Dr. Sumit Agrawal	Interim	Dec. 16, 2022 – Jun. 30, 2025
Paediatrics	Dr. Craig Campbell	1st	Jun 1, 2023 – May 31, 2028
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine	Dr. David Driman	1st	Dec. 1, 2021 – Nov. 30, 2026
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	Dr. Keith Sequiera	1st	Mar. 1, 2024 – Feb. 28, 2029
Psychiatry	Dr. Patricia Hall	Interim	Oct. 15, 2023 – Dec. 31, 2025
Surgery	Dr. Emil Schemitsch	2nd	Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2025



From education to leadership, celebrating excellence in Schulich Dentistry: (L-R) Sherri Moore, Dr. Natalia Melo, Dr. Carlos Quiñonez, vice dean and director, Schulich Dentistry, Dr. Marcela Ibarra, Sylvie Richer and Dr. Keven Hockley at the 2024 Schulich Awards of Excellence.

MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE

Nicole Campbell, PhD, was one of just 10 Canadian faculty members to receive the 2024 3M National Teaching Fellowship Award, widely considered to be Canada's most prestigious recognition of excellence in educational leadership and teaching at the post-secondary level.

As director of undergraduate and master of science programs in Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences, “Her classroom is a space where it is safe to fail, and students are encouraged to learn from their mistakes. Nicole creates a sense of belonging for her students so they feel like they’re part of a community and can truly engage in learning,” said Brad Urquhart, associate dean of basic medical science undergraduate education.



THOUGHT LEADERSHIP AND IDEAS EXCHANGE

Dr. Jane Philpott, MD'84, former dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and director of the School of Medicine at Queen's University and former federal Minister of Health, delivered the 2024 Dean's Distinguished Lecture as part of Homecoming celebrations. The lecture highlighted solutions to address the primary care crisis in Canada, culminating in an invigorating panel discussion on the potential and pitfalls of AI and digital technology in primary care, moderated by Dr. John Yoo, dean, Schulich Medicine & Dentistry.

As part of the panel discussion, Schulich Medicine & Dentistry professors Drs. Saadia Jan, Keith Thompson and Scott McKay shared valuable insights, current AI use cases and patient perspectives on incorporating AI and technology into primary care.



Celebrating 69 faculty promotions in 2023-24: 52 to associate professor and 17 to full professor—a testament to individual excellence and the collective strength of our academic community.

INTERNAL AWARDS

Dean's Awards of Excellence for Faculty	
Researcher of the Year	Saman Maleki, PhD
Community Outreach	Dr. Michelle Barton-Forbes
Distinguished Leader in Research	Frank Prato, PhD
Research & Innovation	Early Career Taylor Schmitz, PhD Dr. Swati Mehta Mid Career Art Poon, PhD Dr. Tom Appleton Senior Career Marlys Koschinsky, PhD
Schulich Awards of Excellence for Staff	
Continuous Excellence Individual Award	Olga Krougly
Innovation Award	Michael Murray
Inspirational Leadership Award	Sylvie Richer
Newcomer Award	Jennifer Chambers
Spirit Award	Sherri Moore
Schulich Awards of Excellence for Faculty	
Schulich Award of Excellence for Faculty in Community/Distributed Sites	Dr. Ken Milne Dr. Larry Jacobs
Schulich Faculty Mentorship Award	Dr. Michael Borrie Dr. Ruth McManus
Continuing Medical Education Award	Dr. Sabe De
Schulich Excellence in Education Awards for Graduate/ Postgraduate	Schulich Leader Award Dr. Anita Florendo-Cumbermack Dr. Hariharan Iyer Schulich Educator Award Dr. Amindeep Sandhu Dr. Marisha McClean Dr. Steven Macaluso

Schulich Excellence in Education Awards for Undergraduate Education	Schulich Leader Award Angela Beye, PhD Charys Martin, PhD Schulich Educator Award Dr. Jessica Howard Dr. Marcela Ibarra Dr. Natalia Melo
Awards of Excellence – Windsor Campus	
Associate Dean’s Award	Dr. Holly Schincariol Mariam Shallal Dr. Vanessa Beaudoin
Educator’s Award	Dr. Andrea Cervi Dr. Kyle Fiorini Dr. Natalie Sirizzotti
Learner Peer Award	Angela Chang Arjuna Srikrishnaraj Umaima Abbas
Dr. Colin Nisbet Award for Excellence in Emergency Medicine	Amandeep (Aman) Sehmbi
Dr. Gordon Vail Resident Award in Emergency Medicine	Dr. Sasha Dowhayko
Dr. Brian Burke Resident Award in Psychiatry	Dr. Tanuj Sharma
Windsor Family Medicine – Faculty of the Year Award	Dr. Matthew DiBartolomeo
Windsor Family Medicine, Subspecialty Rotation – Faculty of the Year Award	Dr. Reema Ray
Family Medicine Post Graduate Award for Academic Leadership	Dr. Julia Petta
City of Windsor – Family Medicine Physician Award	Dr. Alexandra Zygowska
City of Windsor – Psychiatry Physician Award	Dr. Milan Radulj
Windsor Psychiatry – Faculty of the Year Award	Dr. Sabrina Botsford
Alumni of Distinction Awards	
The Dr. Stephen Blizzard Trailblazer Award	Dr. Rebekah Jacques, Resident Alumna - Pathology’14
Professional Achievement Award – Medicine	Muriel Brackstone, MD’99, Resident Alumna, MSc’08, PhD’16

Alumni of Distinction – Dentistry	Dr. Carolyn Mason, DDS'85
Honourary Alumni of Distinction - Dentistry	Dr. Keyvan Abbaszadeh
Community Service Award	Dr. Joel Rosenbloom, DDS'83
Young Alumni Award – Medicine	Dr. Sukhmeet Singh Sachal, MPH'18
Young Alumni – Dentistry	Dr. Nehal Al Tarhuni, DDS'09
Young Alumni – Basic Science	Phaedra Henley, BMSc'07, PhD'14
Excellence in Basic Science Research	James Duncan, PhD'08
Dean's Distinguished Lecture Award	Dr. Jane Philpott, MD'84

Western University Awards

Distinguished University Professor	Frank Beier, PhD
Faculty Scholar	David Hess, PhD Murray Junop, PhD Dr. Naveen Poonai

Western Teaching Awards

The Marilyn Robinson Award for Excellence in Teaching	Tyler Beveridge, PhD
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EXTERNAL AWARDS (ANNOUNCED IN 2024)

3M National Teaching Award	Nicole Campbell, PhD
Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC)	AFMC Young Educators Award Dr. Taryn Taylor
Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellows	Dr. Manuel Montero-Odasso
Canadian Association for Medical Education (CAME)	Certificate of Merit Awards Dr. Aldo Espinosa Tadeo Dr. Yvonne Leong Dr. Shanil Narayan Rising Star Certificate of Excellence Taylore Dupuis Shalovsky, Class of 2026

Canadian Medical Association (CMA)	CMA Award for Young Leaders (student) Dr. Saman Arfaie, Clinical Neurological Sciences Resident Dr. Lotus Alphonsus, MD'24
Canadian Medical Hall of Fame Award	Iman M'Hiri, Class of 2025
Canadian Medical Hall of Fame Inductee 2023	Dr. Carol Herbert

International Awards

Royal Society	Adrian Owen, PhD
Ontario Medical Association (OMA) for 2023	Presidential Award Dr. Mark Awuku Medical Student Achievement Award Zachary Chuang, MD'23 Lifetime Membership Award Dr. Kevin Mardell Dr. Victoria Siu

Provincial/National (Canada)

Royal Society of Canada	Fellows Dr. Richard Kim
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Dr. John Yoo, dean (left) with Dr. Kyle Fiorini and Dr. Natalie Sirizzotti, two recipients of the 2024 Educators' Awards for Windsor Campus at the Schulich Awards of Excellence, and Dr. Larry Jacobs, associate dean, Windsor.

PARTNERSHIPS



Transforming health through powerful partnerships
— locally, nationally and globally.

EXPANDING REGIONAL MEDICAL TRAINING

In 2024, in partnership with Bluewater Health, Schulich Medicine & Dentistry created new opportunities for medical students to gain immersive training in Sarnia-Lambton, helping to address the region’s physician shortage.

Starting this fall, five third-year Schulich Medicine students will complete their full clerkship training at Bluewater Health, gaining hands-on experience while strengthening local health care.

The new program builds on a long-standing partnership between Bluewater Health, Lambton County physicians and Schulich Medicine – and is supported by a \$1-million philanthropic gift by Dr. Don Galbraith, MD’61, former faculty member and expert in child and forensic psychiatry.

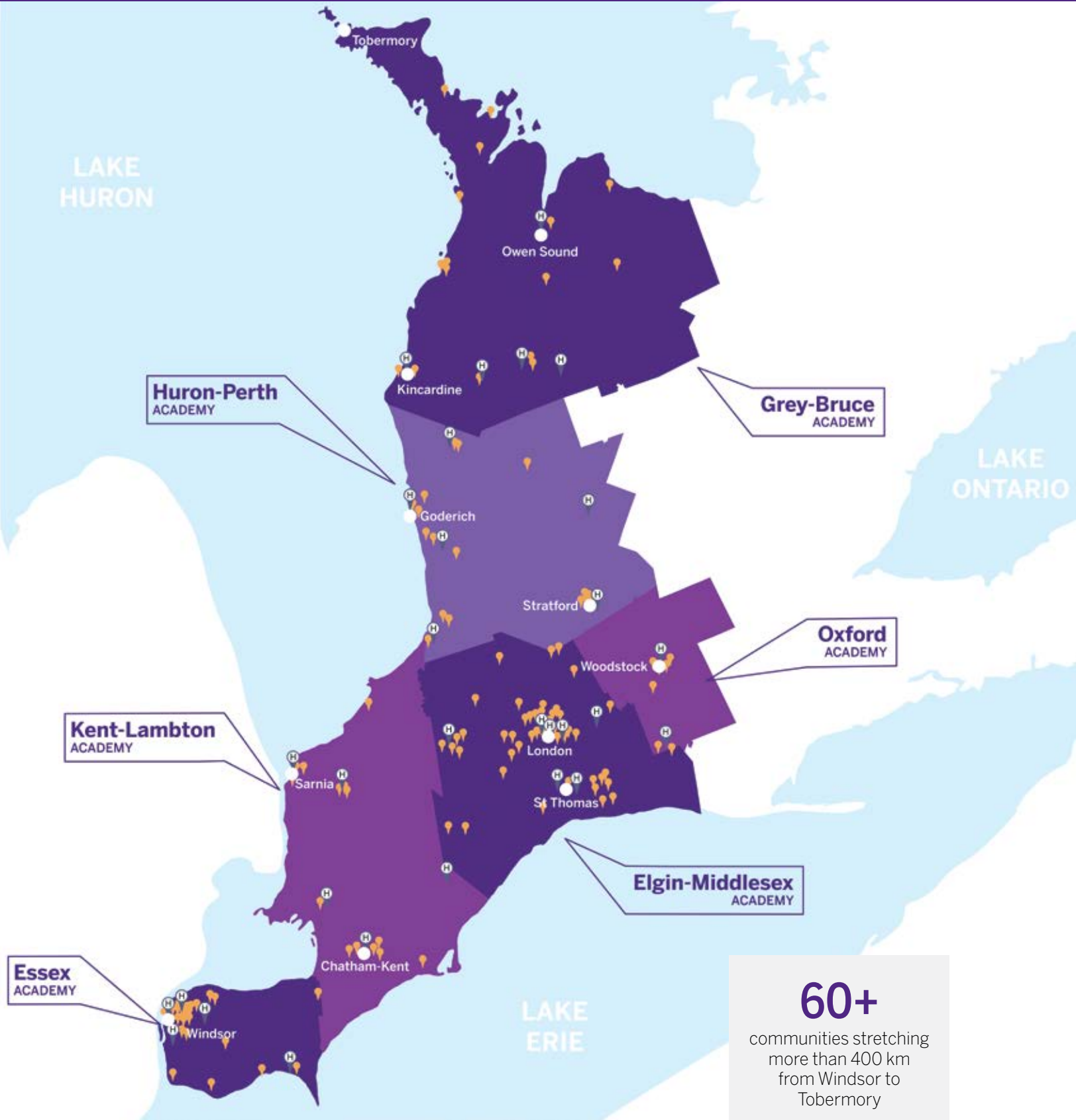
“Working with our community health-care partners, we are finding new ways to address the health-care crisis that’s happening, particularly in rural and regional areas,” said Dr. Victor Ng, assistant dean of distributed education. “Not only is it a wonderful, immersive training experience for the students – it will also ultimately help to build capacity in the region.”



REGIONAL ACADEMIC SUMMIT: LEARNING AND NETWORKING TOGETHER

The School’s Regional Academic Summit brought dozens of community health-care partners, clinical faculty and academic leaders together in Stratford, Ontario, to foster important discussions around rural and regional health care, learn from each other and upgrade professional skills.

Where our medical trainees learn and serve in Southwestern Ontario



ELGIN-MIDDLESEX ACADEMY

- London Health Sciences Centre (major teaching hospital partner)
- St. Joseph’s Health Care London (major teaching hospital partner)
- Middlesex Hospital Alliance
Strathroy, Newbury
- St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital

ESSEX ACADEMY

- Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare
- Windsor Regional Hospital
- Windsor Family Health Centre
- Erie Shores Healthcare

GREY-BRUCE ACADEMY

- Brightshores Health System (formerly Grey Bruce Health Services)
Southampton, Owen Sound, Markdale
- South Bruce Grey Health Centre
Walkerton, Kincardine, Durham, Chesley
- Hanover & District Hospital

HURON-PERTH ACADEMY

- Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance
Clinton, St. Mary’s, Seaforth, Stratford
- Listowel-Wingham Hospital Alliance
Listowel, Wingham
- Alexandra Marine & General Hospital
- South Huron Hospital Association

KENT-LAMBTON ACADEMY

- Bluewater Health
Sarnia, Petrolia
- Chatham-Kent Health Alliance
Chatham, Wallaceburg

OXFORD ACADEMY

- Woodstock General Hospital
- Alexandra Hospital
- Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital

Distributed Education (DE) learners:	Postgraduate Training	Clerkship Training	Undergraduate Elective Training	Discovery Week	Total
Number of learners	413	245	191	182	1,031
Average amount of time a learner spends in DE	1.5 months	3 months	2 months	1 week	

1,748 training months reported to the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care in 2024

Advancing community-driven medical training.

GREATER IMPACT THROUGH INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

President Alan Shepard and Dean John Yoo travelled to Makerere University in Kampala to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) which builds on the School's long-standing relationship with Uganda's largest and oldest institution of higher learning.

The MoU broadens existing relationships with Makerere, including Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry's formal agreement, which was signed in 2006.

The School has partnered with Makerere for decades, most notably on critical HIV research, which has fuelled life-changing research and discoveries and improved health care on both sides of the ocean.

The collaboration has continued to evolve to include international placements for Dentistry, Medicine and Global Health Systems learners, as well as other strategic research and training opportunities.



(L to R) Associate Vice-President of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Opiyo Oloya, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (International) Lily Cho, President Alan Shepard, Makerere Vice Chancellor Barnabas Nawangwe, Makerere Secretary Yusuf Kiranda, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry Dean Dr. John Yoo and Makerere Head of Advancement Awel Uwihanganye. (Awel Uwihanganye photo)



More than 400 learners, faculty and researchers came together for London Health Research Day 2024 — a showcase of cutting-edge health research from across Western University, Lawson Health Research Institute and London Health Sciences Centre Research Institute.



THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

Schulich Medicine & Dentistry's one-of-a-kind Medical Science Community Outreach (MaSCOt) program connects learners with London and Middlesex community organizations for hands-on volunteer experiences.

“These experiences not only open doors to understanding and empathy but also serve as a catalyst for meaningful personal growth and the creation of a brighter future for our communities,” said a student who volunteered with a community organization through the MaSCOt program.

23

community organizations
partnered to host students

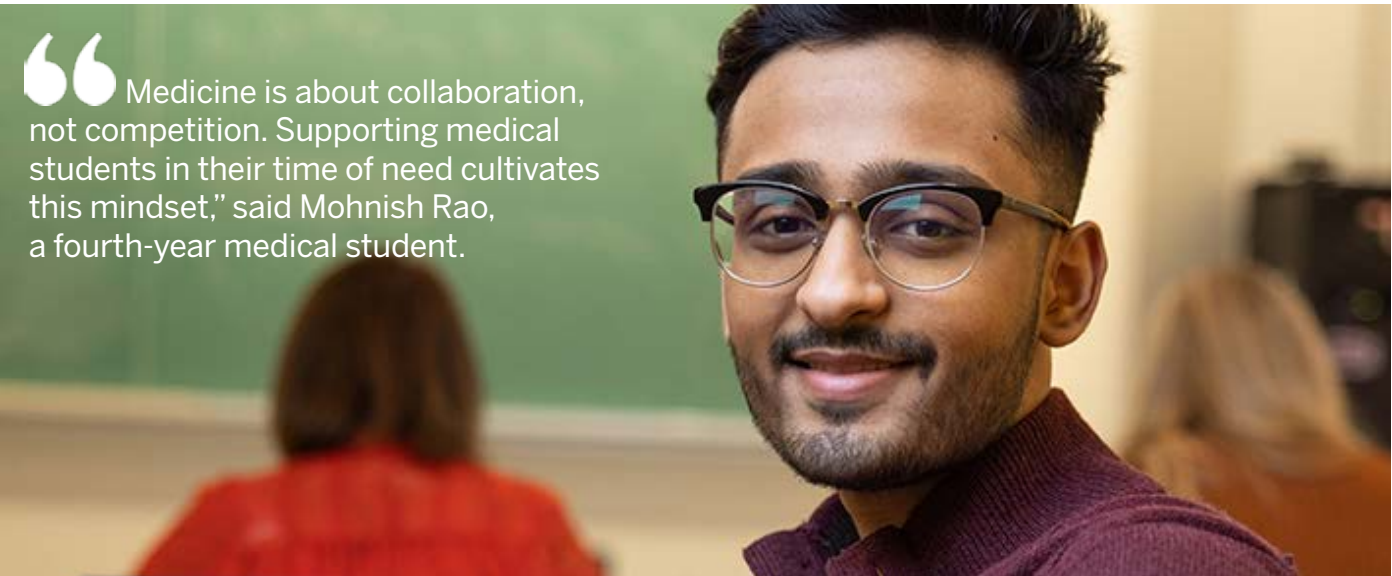
SUPPORTING OUR LEARNERS



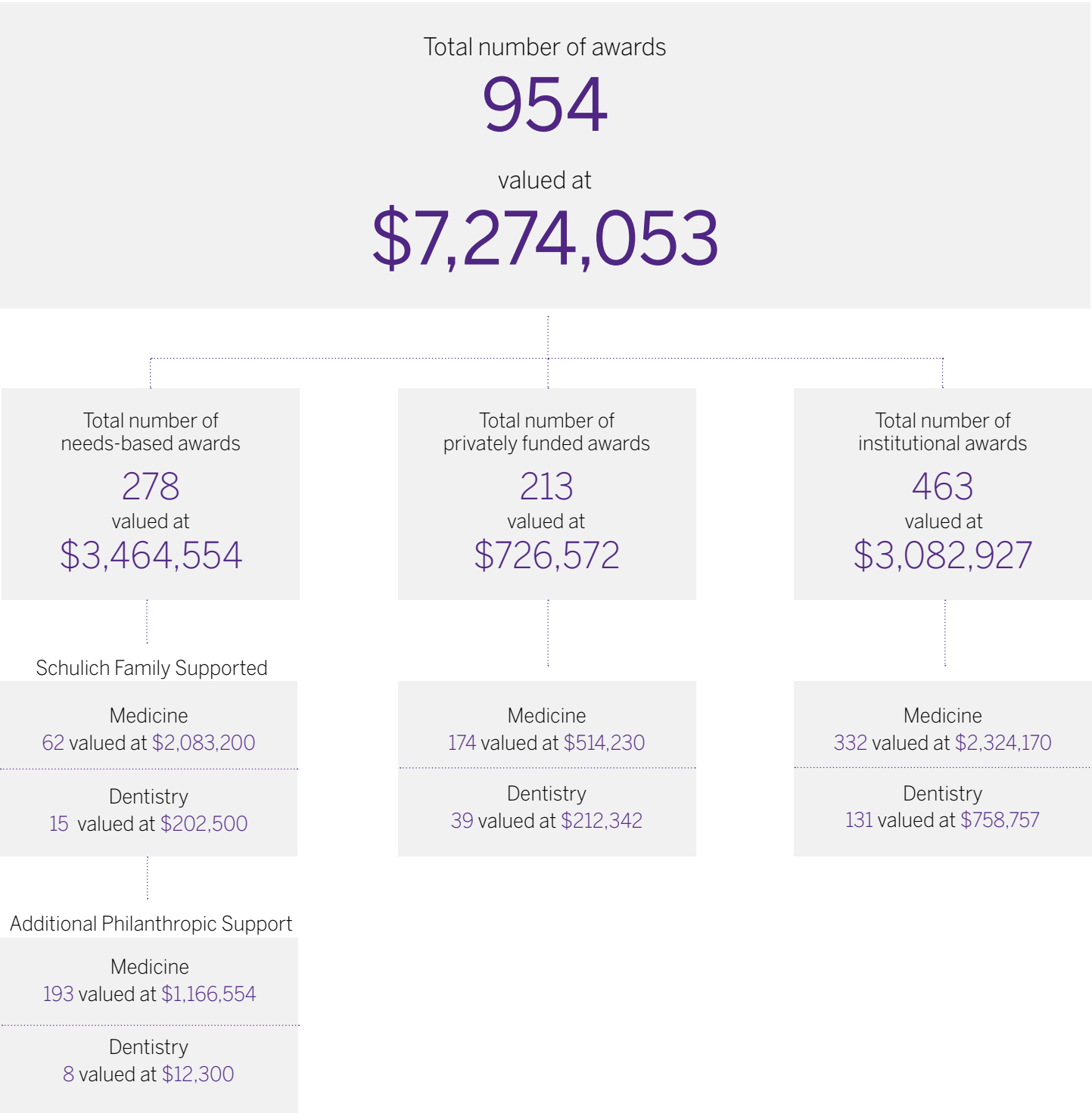
Supporting futures, inspiring leadership.

Monetary breakdown of annual scholarships supported by Mr. Seymour Schulich (May 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024)

MEDICINE	DENTISTRY	GRADUATE STUDIES
\$2,083,200 total value of scholarships for 2023-2024	\$202,500 total value of scholarships for 2023-2024	\$750,000 total value of scholarships for 2023-2024
62 annual recipients	15 annual recipients	50 annual recipients
\$33,600 value per year, per student	\$13,500 value per year, per student	\$15,000 value per year, per student
\$134,400 total value per student over length of program (4 years)	\$54,000 total value per student over length of program (4 years)	N/A total value per student depends on length of program



Financial assistance breakdown for Medicine and Dentistry students supported during the 2023-2024 academic year



Grants and award funding for graduate students (May 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024)

Type of Scholarship	Basic Medical Sciences	Neuroscience	Total funds
Western Graduate Research Scholarships	\$1,432,550	\$942,491	\$2,375,042
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council	\$682,667	\$348,833	\$1,031,500
Other (private organizations, industry)	\$799,519	\$407,504	\$1,207,023
Canadian Institutes of Health Research	\$674,375	\$265,833	\$940,208
Ontario Graduate Scholarships	\$545,000	\$230,000	\$775,000
Dean’s Research Scholarship	\$166,000	\$38,000	\$204,000
Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship	\$100,000	\$83,333	\$183,333
Total Funding	\$4,400,111	\$2,315,996	\$6,716,107



MAKING DREAMS A REALITY

As a Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry student and a Mustangs football defensive back, Jackson Findlay balances a rigorous schedule that includes coaching, training, attending classes and volunteering at the Boys and Girls Club of London.

Findlay’s ambition to become a pediatric oncologist is driven by his dedication to helping children and his commitment to his studies. He was also named one of the U SPORTS Top 8 Academic All-Canadians for 2024-2025.

Donor contributions have been instrumental in providing Findlay with the resources needed to excel in both his academic and athletic pursuits, allowing him to focus on his goals without the added pressure of financial constraints.



SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY
WESTERN UNIVERSITY
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