

OPTIMIZING LIFE-LONG HEALTH

Strategic Plan 2011 - 2021



VISION

The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry will be a global leader in optimizing life-long health through innovations in research, education and active engagement with our communities.

We will lead in:

- Creating knowledge in healthy development and aging across the life span from pre-conception to end-of-life, examining the underlying mechanisms of development and aging and how it is influenced by genetics and environment
- Translating knowledge across the research domains of basic, clinical, health services, policy, and population health and in partnership with the communities of Southwestern Ontario, to benefit global health
- Embedding the science of healthy and successful development and aging into the education curriculum

MISSION

The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry provides outstanding education within a research-intensive, distributed learning environment where tomorrow's physicians, dentists, health researchers and other scholars learn to be socially responsible leaders in the advancement of human health locally, regionally and globally.

VALUES

We embrace the following core values:

- Social responsibility and accountability
- Innovation and scientific excellence in all that we do
- Learning experiences which foster academic leadership, critical inquiry and a passion for life-long learning
- Compassionate, patient- and family-centred care
- Diversity
- Collaboration and partnership

Strategic Directions & Goals

1. Create knowledge in the science of health across the life span, and foster a strong culture of research

- Improve the School's research ranking for medical/dental schools in Canada and internationally
- Ensure core research facilities are operating to sound financial principles and meeting the needs of the School's researchers
- Enrich the focus on research across all levels including faculty, graduate students, postdoctoral trainees, and undergraduate and postgraduate medical and dental trainees working in interprofessional environments in the University and hospitals

2. Strengthen research knowledge translation and implementation to achieve health benefits for individuals and populations

- Promote and facilitate interdisciplinary and interprofessional research across the four pillars as defined by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Develop capacity and resources for knowledge translation
- Facilitate connections with affiliated hospital partners and the private sector to translate research findings into improved health products and technologies

3. Excel as a destination of choice for exceptional education and learning

- With our University and hospital partners, promote and provide a learning experience rooted in continuous program improvement
- Develop world-class, socially-responsible undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate and postdoctoral learners who will become global leaders in health-related fields
- Enhance the School's global impact on under-served populations
- Attract top-ranked graduate and undergraduate non-medical and dental students

4. Strengthen and develop sustainable regional and international partnerships and networks

- Enhance our global impact through meaningful and sustainable international partnerships
- Foster an exceptional student experience through intercultural and international learning opportunities to build cultural safety and cultural humility
- Attract and retain global talent
- Leverage existing local and regional partnerships, including with affiliated hospitals, through networks such as the SouthWestern Academic Health Network

5. Foster the growth and success of faculty and staff

- Advance faculty and staff programs with particular focus on developing leadership capacity in health-related fields
- Establish faculty and staff programs designed to recruit, retain, develop and recognize individuals for their valuable contributions
- Enhance the processes and support for adjunct and community faculty
- Foster a culture that actively promotes diversity and well-being

6. Enhance communications, marketing and engagement for greater impact

- Protect, promote and position the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University brand as one of Canada's pre-eminent medical and dental schools with a commitment to academic excellence and a passion for scientific discovery
- Strengthen, diversify and grow School engagement with alumni, community members, stakeholders and strategic partners
- Establish and grow the School's reputation for global excellence with a focus on national and international audiences
- Support the School's strategic directions through an integrated approach to internal communications, as well as through affiliated hospitals

7. Be fiscally responsible, supporting the Vision and Mission of the School

- Ensure the continued financial health of the School in the context of the University's financial plan
- Align funding with the strategic priorities and goals of the School
- Expand revenue generating opportunities to support growth and development
- Mobilize philanthropy to fuel the strategic priorities and goals of the School