



CAME Voice/Voix

Laval University takes a step further in promoting health sciences education **Danielle Saucier, MD, Université Laval, danielle.saucier@mfa.ulaval.ca**

In January 2017 Laval University Faculty of Medicine established the QMA-CMA-MDM Chair of Educational Leadership in Health Sciences Education, in partnership with the Québec Medical Association (QMA), the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), and MD Financial Management.

This Chair will be shared by Drs. Miriam Lacasse (associate professor within the Department of Family Medicine and Emergency Medicine) and Alexandre Lafleur (clinical professor within the Department of Medicine). These two clinician educators have completed graduate studies in Health Professions Education, at the University of Toronto and Maastricht University respectively. They are active researchers and innovators in clinical training, within their own department, across the faculty, and at the national level. Dr. Lacasse was the 2012 recipient of the Meredith-Marks New Educator Award.

This Chair has been established to support training programs in their adoption of an educational scholarship approach by:

- Defining challenges and opportunities for educational innovation in health sciences.
- Developing, implementing and assessing a variety of practices, with an evidence-based approach, in order to optimize learners' learning and assessment.
- Disseminating results obtained in order to contribute to the advancement of health sciences education both locally and internationally.
- Promoting reflection and networking within and between academic institutions, to encourage communication and conjoint development of innovative educational practices.

The chair is also intended to contribute to the teaching of health sciences education through implementing innovative educational practices in collaboration with faculty and preceptor colleagues.

The co-holders will use existing health sciences education data to identify, develop, and implement innovative educational practices in health professions training programs at Laval University with a view to optimizing faculty development, improving learning strategies, and enhancing teaching and learning for learners from all levels. Collaboration with health sciences educators and researchers at local, national and international levels will be key to this endeavour.

This initiative is part of Laval University's renewed commitment to an educational mission, also exemplified by its graduate program in health profession education (the Diploma course is starting in 2017). Laval's Dean of Medicine, Dr. Rénaud Bergeron, emphasized that "this Chair confirms our educational expertise, that supports both faculty and teaching programs, and stresses our determination to share our health sciences knowledge for the benefit of the general population".

<https://www.ulaval.ca/les-etudes/chaieres-de-leadership-en-enseignement-cle/les-chaieres-de-leadership-en-enseignement/pedagogie-des-sciences-de-la-sante.html>

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/YFLgELIwx6k>