

## LETTERS TO THE MJM

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MJM FROM THE PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Dear *MJM*:

On behalf of the *Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada (PMAC)*, I extend warm congratulations to the students in the Faculty of Medicine at McGill for their continuing excellent work in publishing the *McGill Journal of Medicine*.

Our *Association* is aware of the growing well deserved reputation of this important student initiative, which is providing a vital international forum for papers authored by students literally from around the globe. Recognition of the *Journal* by the *New England Journal of Medicine* attests to the high quality of your publication.

As part of the Canadian healthcare community, the *PMAC* is keenly interested in working with other stakeholders, including of course, medicine, and both at the *Association* level and the individual corporate level, our industry has several programs in place to promote understanding and interaction between our two constituencies. We are pleased to be able to add to those programs our support of the *McGill Journal of Medicine*. Again, our congratulations and continued success with the publication.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable J.A. Erola, P.C.  
President  
Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada

### A TRANS-ATLANTIC COOPERATION IN THE MEDICAL SCIENCES

Dear *MJM*:

Now in our second year of collaboration, the *McGill Journal of Medicine (MJM)* and the *European Students Conference (ESC)* are working together to improve the cooperation between medical students and young doctors in North America and Europe. The *ESC* is held annually by the Faculty of Medicine (Charité) of Humbolt University (Berlin, Germany) and is an international conference in the medical sciences for students and young doctors. As part of our joint effort with the *MJM*, they have published several outstanding abstracts that were presented by students at the 1997 *ESC*. They have also encouraged all conference participants to submit their work as full papers — which is a tremendous opportunity for international collaboration at the level of

the student — and I am pleased to report that this call that has been answered by several *ESC* students. In both the *MJM* and the *ESC*, students are working together to bring ideas into reality. We share similar beliefs, and serve as opportunities for students and young doctors to develop their scientific maturity.

I wholeheartedly invite my North American student peers to participate in future *ESC* meetings. Our collaboration with the *MJM* indicates that cooperation between North America and European students can be very productive. Let us transfer both projects — the *MJM* and the *ESC* — over the Atlantic and beyond the year 2000. International cooperation, of which this is a small part, is the only path to solving the universal problems of disease, as well as to ensure a clean and peaceful planet for all to live in and enjoy. We, the students, are the future, and with us lies that responsibility.

Steffen Lueder  
President, 9th European Students Conference  
Medical Student, Dekanat der Charité  
Berlin, Germany; <http://esc.imnetz.de/>

### A FRIENDLY WORD FROM THE EDITOR OF THE MCGILL MEDICAL JOURNAL (1956/1957)

Dear *MJM*:

While reading the March 20, 1997 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, I came across a review of the *McGill Journal of Medicine (MJM)* by Robert Schwarz, MD. As an alumnus of McGill Medical School, I felt proud that Dr. Schwartz gave such a glorious review; especially since the journal is edited and produced entirely by McGill students. Dr. Schwarz, however, made an erroneous statement. The forerunner of the *MJM*, the *McGill Medical Journal*, did not cease publication in 1951, as stated. I know, I was Editor in 1956/57, and had been on the editorial board for a few years prior to that.

Since subscribing to the new *MJM*, I have been impressed by the quality of not only its appearance, but also of its content. I know how hard it is to solicit manuscripts and advertisements. Your efforts are to be commended. Jonathan Lim, MS, MD, the founding editor, must feel proud of the fruits of his “reincarnation”. I congratulate you all on a fine journal, and hope you will keep it alive. You have my best wishes of support. I am looking forward to receiving future issues.

Sincerely,

John H. van de Leuv, MD, CM  
Virginia Beach, Virginia, USA