

Health Telematics Unit



Global e-Health Research and Training Program

Academic Annual Report 2004

Researching Today's Issues – Training Tomorrow's Leaders



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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Health Telematics Unit (HTU) has been key to the development of telehealth in the province, which included four parallel phases of development. It has been key in terms of raising money, making it happen, and contributing to the intellectual knowledge of telehealth/e-health.

Phase I looked at health reform and restructuring, as telehealth rolled into health regions, and the need to include e-health technologies into the delivery of care. Today, the Provincial Telehealth Program has rolled out with more than 235 sites, with every health region now using e-health technologies, and a Provincial Telehealth Steering Committee in place. Phase II, the operational phase, helped to get the Calgary Health Region up and running. Phase III was the development of an academic telehealth program, including the best telehealth researchers in the country, and a training program (Masters, PhD). A business plan has been developed for the academic arm, and will be revisited as the Program evolves. The funding for the Program was initially provided through the Partners in Health campaign. As well, Shaw Communications and the Canada Foundation for Innovation provided needed infrastructure money to build the state-of-the-art HTU facility.

The current phase, **Phase IV**, the service arm, includes the private sector showcase and incubator space. The HTU held information forums this year with the government, Calgary Health Region, Faculty, and private sector to gather their input on the Business Lines and core service competencies of the Program. It was successful in acquiring 600K from Alberta Innovation and Science to “Enable e-Health Industry Development”. This exciting Project will link e-health industry with the health sector.

In 2004, the Program experienced an increase in Graduate Students, was successful in acquiring \$7,676,803 in research funding, had 40 publications, and gave 62 presentations (40 invited).

<i>Full Time Faculty</i>	3
<i>Research Assoc.</i>	1
<i>Research Assistants</i>	3 to 5
<i>Support Staff</i>	2
<i>Research Funding</i>	\$7,676,803
<i>Publications</i>	40
<i>Presentations</i>	62
<i>PhD/Masters Students</i>	7
<i>Exchange Student/Summer Student</i>	1

This Report represents activities from January 1 to December 31, 2004

PROGRAM MANDATE

- To provide sound evidence, through high quality research, about the utility, effectiveness, and sustainability of telehealth applications in improving health, health care, and health systems.
- To create and train a critical mass of world-class investigators to conduct applied, partnered telehealth studies.
- To disseminate related knowledge and foster telehealth research in provincial, national and international jurisdictions, through leadership, partnership and consultation.
- To provide a state-of-the art collaboratory for the use of other researchers and groups.

PEOPLE

Detailed Description of FTEs for each position:		
RESOURCE	2003	2004
Head	1	1
Researchers (75% protected)	2	2
Telehealth Program Coordinator	1	1
Program Secretary and Researchers Secretary	1	1
Sabbatical Fellows / Apprenticeships	1	1
Post-doctoral Fellows		
Research Associates	1	1
Graduate Students	5	7
Research Assistants (Part-time)	3 to 5	3 to 5
Summer Research Students	1	
Exchange Student/Visiting Scholar	1	1

Current Members of the Telehealth Program

Head

Penny Jennett Health Researcher, Educator

Researchers

Marilynne Hebert Evaluation, e-Learning

Richard Scott Policy, Evaluation, Outcome Measures, Globalization

Other Researchers

Jeff Caird Psychology; Human Interfaces

Ann Casebeer Health Policy

Trevor Craddock Alberta Research Council

Paul Dick Policy and Social Benefits; Outcomes

Steven Edworthy Chronic Diseases

Rod Elford Family Physician

Roger Girard Information Communications Technology

David Hailey Health Economics

Francis Lau Technology; Social Benefits

Tom Noseworthy Policy and Social Benefits

Tom Rosenal Critical Care; Informatics

Peter Sargious Internist

David Strong Aboriginal Telehealth

John Toews Continuing Learning

Doug Urness Telepsychiatry

Mo Watanabe Professor Emeritus

Janet Wayne Nursing

John Parboosingh Workplace Learning; Communities of Practice

Jose Pereira Palliative Care Distance Learning

Affiliates

Mike Chiasson Information Systems

Cheri Nijssen-Jordan Telehealth Director, CHR

Graduate Students

Basia Siedlecki (PhD)

Andora Jackson (PhD)

Maria Palacios (Masters)

Pin Cai (Masters)

Shariq Khoja (Masters)

Radwan Baroud (PhD)

Isabelle Chouinard (Masters)

Visiting Scholar

Dr. Ping Yu, Woolongong, Australia

Research Associates/Assistants

Maryann Yeo Research Associate

Winston Teo Research Assistant

Heidi Brandstadt Research Assistant

JJ Jansen Project Manager

Support and Technical Staff

Judy Hunter Telehealth Program Coordinator

Maryann Fraser Program Secretary

TMurphy;NHeaton;MReed Technical Support

PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS

ACADEMIC

BCIT
Dalhousie University
Laurentian University
McGill University
NETERA
Sapporo Medical University, Japan

University of Alberta
University of British Columbia
University of Calgary
University of Missouri, USA
University of Northern B.C.
University of Ottawa Heart Institute

University of Queensland, Australia
University of Sherbrooke
University of Toronto
University of Victoria
University of Waterloo

PRIVATE

Alberta Research Council
ALLECTRA
CAREO
Empirica GmbH
March Networks
Rights Market Inc.
Shirwin Systems
Systems Farm
We Care Home Health Services

PROFESSIONAL

Canadian Society of Telehealth
COACH
Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons
Nurses Association of Quebec

PUBLIC

Advisory Council on Rural Health
Atlantic Health Sciences Corp.
Calgary Health Region
CANARIE Inc.
EU-Commission
First Nations & Inuit Health Branch
German Government
Health Canada
Industry Canada
Alberta Innovation & Science

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Research Domains

- e-Health Policy and Social Benefits
- e-Health Impact and Outcomes
- e-Health Technology Applications
- e-Health Technology Innovation

Current Research Projects

E-Health Policy and Social Benefits

- A Telesante: En Strategie for Soutenir la Pratique des Professionnels Del la Sante (Canadian Health Services Research Foundation)
- Costing Framework for Telehealth
- Women's Participation in Domestic Violence Health Policy
- Seniors & Resilience Study

E-Health Impact and Outcomes

- A Canadian Consensus Approach to Identification and Definition of Outcome Indicators for Evaluation of Telehealth
- Yukon Telehealth Evaluation Project (Health Canada - CHIPP)
- Alberta SuperNet Research Alliance – Health Component (SSHRC – INE)
- Stakeholder Readiness for Telehomecare Diabetic Support
- CHR Telehealth Project Evaluations
- An e-Health Specific Business Case Framework
- E-Enhanced Long Term Care Project
- Future Impact of Telehealth on Practice & Professions of Lab Medicine

E-Health Technology Applications

- Video-visits in Palliative Home-care (CIHR)
- Neuroarm Project (CFI)
- Can Home Telehealth Technology Support Disease Management in Teens with Asthma?
- Enabling e-Health Industry Development

E-Health Technology Innovation

- Mainstreaming Telemedicine in Eyecare
- Harnessing the web-interaction cycle for Canadian Competitiveness - SuperNet

E-Learning Focus

- Building Capacity in Health Informatics for Professionals in Health Settings
- A Collaborative Health Informatics Research Training Program (CIHR Strategic Training Program)

Publications

Book Chapters and Contributions: 1
 Peer-reviewed Publications: 18
 Non-Peer reviewed Publications: 11
 Abstracts: 10
TOTAL: 40 Publications

Presentations:

Oral Presentations: 44 (40 invited)
 Poster: 4
 Research Reports: 14

Research Funding

Summary of Research Funding and Service Contract Sources

International	\$40,778
National	\$6,905,019
Provincial/Local	\$691,006
Service Contracts.....	\$40,000
Total.....	\$7,676,803

<i>Research Funding Details</i>	Amount
International	
EU-Canada Initiative	19,778
CIHR Intern'l Dev Planning Grant – Cameroon	10,000
CIHR Intern'l Dev Planning Grant – Mexico	5,000
International Resident Fellowships – Ping Yu	6,000
National	
CIHR – Seniors & Resilience	50,000
CFI – Neuroarm (Co-investigator)	6,500,000
SSHRC – SuperNet	16,750
Richard Ivey Foundation – Outcome Indicators	35,000
CIHR – Video Visits	73,973
CIHR - Characteristics of Women's Domestic Violence (co-investigator)	100,000
CIHR – Women's Participation in Dom Violence Health Policy (co-inv.)	74,695
Office of Learning Technologies / NPLT	17,163
CANARIE – Pan Canadian Health (Co-investigator)	37,438
Provincial/Local	
Alberta Innovation & Science – E-Health Industry	600,000
Albert Heritage Foundation for Medical Research – M. P. Gagnon	39,000
Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation – Asthma in Teens	\$24,006
CIHR – Health Informatics PhD/Post Doc	\$28,000
Research Service Contracts	
Alberta Health and Wellness – Costing Tool & Framework	\$40,000
TOTAL	\$7,676,803

GLOBAL OUTREACH

- Investigating Alternate e-Health Solutions for Mexico
- Low Cost e-Health Solutions for Cameroon
- Harkness Associateship: Describing the spectrum of 'glocal' e-health policy issues and promoting interest in inter-jurisdictional e-health policy development.
- EU-Canada e-Health Initiative
- Germany-Canada Health Telematics Partnership
- National/International Visitors:
 - Russian Psychiatrists, Telemental Health, January 21, 2004
 - Dr. Kiroyuki Matsumoto, Sapporo Medical University, March 2004
 - Mr. John Burgridge, Trade and Investment, Japan Division, DFAIT, March 11, 2004
 - Dr. Asif Zafar Malik, March 15, 2004, Rawaipindi, Pakistan
 - Alice Zhai, Commercial Assistant at the Alberta China Office, Beijing, March 22, 2004
 - Kevin Smith – National Research Council, and Sebastien Ourselin – Australia; April 20, 2004
 - Thailand Delegation: Boonyarat Warachit M.D. – Director of Medical Education Centre, Kiatsak Rajborirug M.D. – Assistant Director, Staff Development Section, Medical Education Centre, Prapa Ratanachai M.D. – Deputy Director, Medical Education Centre, Thavorn Pitaksiri M.D. – Director of Medical Education Centre – Lampang Hospital/Chiangmai University; May 18, 2004
 - Dr. Alejandro (Alex) R. Jadad – Director, Centre for Global eHealth Innovation, Professor, Department of Anaesthesia, and Health Policy, Management and Evaluation; Special Seminar for the Health Telematics Unit, June 3, 2004
 - Dr. Raymond Pong – Laurentian University; June 7, 2004
 - Dr. Moreno, Director Basic Science Research, University of Monteray; and Emilio Flores, Neoris, San Pedro, Mexico – International Trade and Technology Summit Guests. June 22, 2004
 - Claudia Trejo, Commercial Systems Specialist (Alberta), Alberta Economic Development, Mexico City, Mexico. Host and Consultant.
 - Dr. Alvarez, New South Wales – August 11, 2004.
 - Dr. Park and Dr. Yu – Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology, Suwon, Korea – September 10, 2004

TRAINING PROGRAM

- 3 PhD Students: Andora Jackson, Basia Siedlecki, Radwan Baroud
- 4 MSc Students: Mone Palacios, Pin Cai, Shariq Khoja, Isabelle Chouinard
- Online Graduate Courses for Professionals in Health Settings: 1) Introduction to Telehealth and Telehealth Research; 2) Evaluation in e-Health; 3) E-Health Sustainability from business case to Policy
- Research Exchange – Australia
- HTU Seminar Series (see below)

HTU Seminar Series

Date	Scholar	Presentation Topic
January 29 th	Isabelle Chouinard	Promoting Best Practices in Northern Contaminants Education, Communication & Coordination – Utilizing e-Health Networks
March 11 th	Dr. Steve Edworthy	Lessons Learned: Self-publishing a Guidebook for Canadian Physicians on Office Automation
March 25 th	Drs. Parboosingh, Jennett, Toews	e-Learning in the Health Professions
April 8 th	Pin Cai	Can Home Telehealth Technology Support Disease Management in Teens with Asthma
April 29 th	Drs. Parboosingh, Jennett, Hogan; C. Duncan	Learning & Enhancement of Care Through Team Centered Reflection: A Pilot Study – Canmore General Hospital
May 27 th	Dr. Steve Edworthy	The Realities of Going Paperless – Experience from a Solo & Group Practice
September 9 th	Basia Siedlecki	Rural & Remote Telehealth: Yukon Case Studies
October 22 nd	Dr. John Finley	Telemedicine in Pediatric Cardiology
October 28 th	Dr. Elizabeth Henderson	A Proposal for a Collaborative Training Program for Infection Control Professionals
November 3 rd	Dr. Tony Norris	Privacy & Security for e-Health
November 15 th	Dr. Wayne Evans	Design of a learning object to facilitate provider training in the measurement of dermal perfusion.
November 25 th	Janet Tworek	The evidence for and against technology mediated learning.

Program Financial Report

The Program Financial Report is prepared using the University fiscal year end of March 31. The Report details operational revenue and expenses and is available upon request.

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