

Good afternoon,

As we approach the end of 2025, I wanted to personally reach out to thank you for your support of the University of Toronto's Temerty Faculty of Medicine and to share some news highlights from the past few months.

One of the most exciting milestones was the appointment and installation of renowned neuroscientist and former dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science, **Melanie Woodin**, as U of T's 17th president. In her installation address, President Woodin urged our university community to *rise to meet the moment*: to bring creativity, courage and compassion to the multitude of pressing issues facing our world.

This spirit rings true across Temerty Medicine. Each and every day, our learners, faculty and staff lead innovative health research, education and patient care initiatives that are helping meaningfully improve the wellbeing of people and communities everywhere.

None of this would be possible, however, without generous donors like you. You and your fellow supporters fuel every aspect of our work — enabling us to harness our unmatched reach to advance health and health care on a global scale.

Today, Temerty Medicine's work moves forward with unwavering purpose and renewed urgency. In the spirit of President Woodin's challenge, we are cultivating tomorrow's health leaders, driving discovery across fields, and upholding health science rooted in evidence. And we are doing it all with generous partners, like you.

Thank you again for standing with Temerty Medicine and for helping us *meet this moment*. It truly means so much to us.

Wishing you and your loved ones a happy, healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

Lisa Robinson, MD, FRCPC
Dean, Temerty Faculty of Medicine
Vice-Provost, Relations with Health Care Institutions
University of Toronto

DONOR IMPACT

5 years of Impact

Five years of Temerty Medicine, five years of impact

On September 24, 2020, [a landmark \\$250-million gift from James and Louise Temerty and the Temerty Foundation launched a new era for medicine at U of T](#) — empowering what is now known as the Temerty Faculty of Medicine to expand its impact and global health leadership.



20 years of discovery: the Donnelly Centre celebrates a two-decade milestone

Over 100 community members gathered to raise a glass to [two decades of interdisciplinary and collaborative research at the Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research](#), including the centre's lead benefactor **Terrence Donnelly**.



New Hold 'em for Life Early-Career Professors in Cancer Research to accelerate discovery city-wide

The **Hold 'em for Life Charity Challenge** is once again doubling down on its goal of advancing cancer care, [funding six new Hold 'em for Life Early Career Professorships in Cancer Research and building on a landmark gift](#) that launched the program and supported 12 early-career clinician-scientists in 2024.



Family medicine opens new Indigenous Health Space and announces Chair in Indigenous Health

On the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the Department of Family & Community Medicine [held a special event to open its new Indigenous Health Space and announced a gift to create an endowed Chair in Indigenous Health](#).



Lunch for Limbs: A family's journey created support for research into rare limb conditions

After **Maryse Bouchard** (pictured centre) treated their son's musculoskeletal disorder, **Daniel and Lisa Giannini** [launched the inaugural Lunch for Limbs community fundraising event in support of Bouchard's paediatric orthopaedic surgery research at Temerty Medicine](#).



Arda Minocherhomjee on adopting and adapting along the path to success

U of T pharmacology & toxicology alum and private equity firm partner **Arda Minocherhomjee** discusses [how he pivoted from researcher to investment manager, and why he gives back to the institutions that helped shape him and his career](#).



Fueling big ideas: How donor support helped a veteran pursue family medicine with a purpose

Canadian Armed Forces veteran **Ali Butt** discusses how he's been encouraged to think big, lead with purpose and work toward [building a more inclusive and effective health care system for all through donor support](#).



Maya Biderman on allyship and building a life of learning

Whether through her advocacy in Indigenous health education or her clinical work in obstetrics and gynaecology, MD alumna **Maya Biderman** approaches medicine as a lifelong learner and ally. We chatted with Biderman, who received the Bernard Lau Memorial Scholarship as a student, to find out [what fuels her passion for education and allyship](#).



Jason Shack on 25 years in northern medicine and the importance of giving back

Temerty Medicine alum **Jason Shack** discusses the challenges and rewards of becoming a rural general practitioner, the relationships doctors in remote communities build with their communities and [the importance of supporting new generations of medical learners in multiple ways](#).

NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS



Dean's Report 2025

This year's report celebrates the fifth anniversary of the Temerty family's gift and [explores how this record-setting philanthropic investment is enabling health discovery, collaboration, innovation, equity and learner well-being on an unprecedented scale](#).



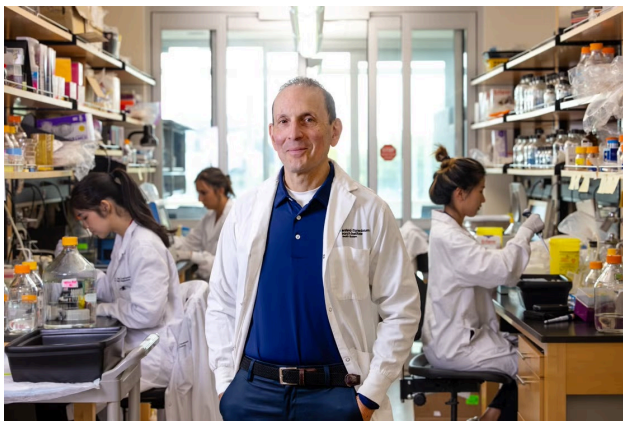
Temerty Medicine student selected as Rhodes Scholar

Adham Elsherbini, a second-year U of T MD student, is one of 11 Canadian students recently selected for a Rhodes Scholarship. [He plans to focus his studies at Oxford on exploring how digital tools like machine learning and artificial intelligence can improve cardiac care](#).



U of T launches \$24-million program to create 100 new postdoctoral positions, accelerate independent research

U of T is launching a \$24-million initiative to create 100 new postdoctoral fellowships, with the aim [to attract promising early-career researchers from Canada and around the world and provide additional support for current U of T postdocs](#).



**A setback, a lizard and decades of work:
The impact of Daniel Drucker’s research
extends far beyond Ozempic**

Temerty Medicine alum and professor of medicine **Daniel Drucker** says it’s rewarding to see how [his curiosity-driven research — which aided in the discovery of glucagon-like peptide-1 \(GLP-1\), ultimately paving the way for blockbuster drugs such as Ozempic — is helping millions of people](#) struggling with diabetes and weight loss.



**U of T launches emergency research fund
to support faculty hit by U.S. cuts**

U of T is taking steps to safeguard critical research threatened by unexpected U.S. funding cuts — [creating an emergency research fund that provides up to one year of bridge support to faculty most affected by the changes](#).



**A series of ‘firsts’: How Barry Rosen
helped establish gynaecologic oncology
training in Kenya**

A former professor and head of the gynaecologic oncology division at Temerty Medicine, **Barry Rosen** [launched East Africa’s first gyn-onc fellowship program through the U of T–AMPATH partnership with Moi University in 2012](#) — which today has trained 18 specialists practicing in Africa.



**Future physicians: Meet the incoming MD
Class of 2T9**

For future doctors, unique moments shape their paths to medicine. [For the incoming MD class of 2T9, their journeys are fueled by experiences with access to care, scientific curiosity and a desire to improve the health care system](#), among other passions and issues.

[VIEW ALL NEWS](#)

The Temerty Faculty of Medicine’s Office of Advancement connects our community of learners, faculty, alumni, volunteers and donors to meaningful and transformative initiatives advancing health and health care.

As the research and educational hub within Toronto’s robust health sciences network, the University of Toronto’s Temerty Faculty of Medicine is uniquely positioned for impact.



Temerty Faculty of Medicine Advancement Office
6 Queen's Park Crescent West / Toronto, ON Canada M5S 3H2

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