

Press Release

Several partners join forces to create an innovative Research Chair in Medical Education

Ottawa, June 19, 2018 – Francophone Affairs of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa, the Faculty of Education at the University of Ottawa and the Institut de Savoir Montfort (ISM) – A Knowledge Institute were proud to launch their brand new Research Chair in Medical Education this morning. Its primary goal: to optimize training and contribute to patient wellness through better trained physicians.

The University of Ottawa and the ISM are very well placed to undertake this type of initiative. Both are involved in the development of knowledge through research, and in improving practices through education. “With this new Research Chair, we are approaching things using a new paradigm: improving practices through research,” states Dr. Eric Dionne, professor at the University of Ottawa, a Researcher Member at the ISM and the holder of the new Chair.

The Research Chair will be studying all of the conditions conducive to improving learning and processes for improving skills in order to create learning environments and to better understand them. “We hope that our work will lead to the development of new learning activities, ones that are more effective and better adapted to the needs of learners and supervisors,” he adds.

For the Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Ottawa, Dr. Richard Barwell, this new Chair “is a perfect fit with the raison d’être of the Faculty of Education, which is to be a partner in education in every sense, especially in a minority setting.” And he sees Eric Dionne as the ideal person to meet this challenge. “I look forward to seeing the impact of this Chair in the years to come,” he says.

Dr. André Bilodeau, Chief Executive Officer of the ISM, looks forward to this new Chair elevating the quality of practices. “We need to remember it’s the professionals who make medicine, not medicine that makes the professionals. If we can make extraordinary strides in research, we can do the same when it comes to training professionals. The ISM model, which combines education and research, is based on this idea that advancement in practices must always be in lockstep with advancement in research.”

The new Research Chair in Medical Education is entirely funded by Francophone Affairs of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa, through the Consortium national de formation en santé (CNFS) — University of Ottawa, the Faculty of Education at the University of Ottawa and the Institut du Savoir Montfort – A Knowledge Institute.

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Photo, in front: Dr. Eric Dionne, Professor at the University of Ottawa, Researcher Member at the ISM and Chair Holder Behind, left to right: Dr. Richard Barwell, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Dr. Jean Roy, Director of the Centre d'appui pédagogique en santé of Francophone Affairs of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa, Dr. André Bilodeau, Chief Executive Officer of the ISM, Dr. Manon Denis Leblanc, Vice-Dean of Francophone Affairs of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa and Mrs Suzanne Robichaud, vice-president of Montfort Hospital.

About the Research Chair in Medical Education

The goal of the Research Chair in Medical Education will be to evaluate and improve learning activities within the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa, the ISM and the internships at Hôpital Montfort. The new learning activities created will be adapted to the needs of both learners and supervisors. Dr. Eric Dionne, the holder of the new Chair, plans to focus, among other things, on self-learning, active methods, simulation (online and in the classroom) and the development of observation and measurement tools for assessing learning. Ultimately, the projects will seek to improve the training of students, residents and physicians in order to contribute to patient wellness through the offer of better quality healthcare.

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