

**2011 CSCC Award for Education Excellence**  
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## **Stephen Hill**



Dr. Stephen Hill is currently Clinical Biochemist at the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine program and Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine at McMaster University where he is also since 2006 the Director of the Post-Doctoral Training program in Clinical Biochemistry. Born in Ontario, Dr. Hill began his laboratory career as a Medical Laboratory Technologist, a job that he maintained part-time while completing his B.Sc. studies in the Department of Biochemistry at University of Western Ontario. He obtained a PhD in Biochemistry in the same Department before completing two years as post-doctoral Research Fellow at the London Regional Cancer Centre. Dr Hill then completed the post-doctoral training program in Clinical Biochemistry at McMaster University and obtained a

certificate of Specialist of the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry before being hired in 1990 as Clinical biochemist in the Department of Laboratory Medicine at Hamilton General Hospital. On the Academic side, Dr. Hill first completed two years with an Academic Enrichment Fund Fellowship before obtaining in 1992 his first appointment as Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology and Molecular medicine. In 1998 he was promoted to Associate Professor, a continuing appointment without annual review.

During the last 20 years, Dr. Hill has shown interest in both Education and Research. His research interests concern mainly the laboratory diagnosis of acute coronary syndrome and in the systematic review of evidence for the use of biomarkers in the diagnosis and prognosis of disease. During the last 20 years, he obtained as principal investigator over 50 000\$ and as co-investigator nearly 2 000 000\$ of institutional and industry funding. The results of these research efforts can be found in over 75 peer reviewed formal publications, Journal abstracts and presentations in North America and around the world.

Dr Hill is a member of both CSCC and CACB. He has held different appointments with the Ontario Society of Clinical Chemists: as Treasurer (1997-2001), vice-president and president (2005-2009) and as past-president, he is still Chair of Post-doctoral training. Between 1999 and 2005 he has also been active on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry and was the acting chair from 2002 to 2005. He is also currently member of the Clinical Laboratory Management Association, Secretary of the Clinical Doctoral Laboratory Scientists Association of Ontario and Chair of the Chemistry of the Quality Management Program-Laboratory Services of the Province of Ontario. In 2006, the Academy has recognized the numerous and great contributions of Dr. Hill by giving him the CACB Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Profession of Clinical Biochemistry.

This year, CSCC would like to highlight more specifically Dr Hill's achievement in Education. Since the very beginning of his career, Steve has always enjoyed teaching and placed a great deal of importance to education. Even before succeeding to Gillian Luxton in 2006 as Director of the post-doctoral training program, Steve already devoted tremendous amount of time and energy with and for the students. Not surprisingly, his former students describe him as always available, extremely patient, welcoming and encouraging. Steve is currently course coordinator

and lecturer for a 3<sup>rd</sup> year undergraduate biochemistry course in Clinical Biochemistry and Tutor in the undergraduate medicine program. As program director for the post-doctoral training program in Clinical Biochemistry, Steve I devotes a lot of energy reviewing applications, securing funding, advising at weekly tutorials and supervising clinical as well as medical and general pathology residents. The training program at McMaster is run conjointly with the Medical Biochemistry residency program. Scientists and physicians learn and work together, building on the strengths of both groups. As a good teacher and great role model, Steve is always open to the possibility that he does not have all the answers –he also likes to add that one may be a good clinical biochemist by knowing the entire syllabus. But to be a great clinical biochemist you need more! No surprise that with such a combination of great philosophy and dedicated individuals so many good clinical biochemists have been and will continue to be trained at McMaster.