

Canadian Family Physician Editorial Fellow, 2021

Nicholas Pimlott MD PhD CCFP FCFP, SCIENTIFIC EDITOR



We have to be continually jumping off cliffs and developing our wings on the way down.

Kurt Vonnegut

In 2010, when *Canadian Family Physician (CFP)* had its first, and until now only, Editorial Fellow,¹ few family medicine journals offered editorial fellowships.

Back then I noted that only 6 medical editing fellowships existed that had a medical degree as a prerequisite. Those were sponsored by *JAMA*, the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *CMAJ*, *American Family Physician*, *Annals of Emergency Medicine*, and the Radiological Society of North America. *American Family Physician* was the only family medicine journal that offered that kind of training and experience. I suggested it was time that changed.¹

Since then things have changed substantially. Many family medicine journals now offer year-long, part-time editorial fellowships, including *Annals of Family Medicine*,² *Family Medicine*,³ and *BJGP Open*.⁴ The *Australian Journal of General Practice*⁵ and *American Family Physician*,⁶ the earliest family medicine journals to provide editorial fellowships, continue to do so.

Family medicine continues to grow and prosper as a discipline. Among the most important developments have been the tremendous growth of family medicine research, education scholarship, and quality improvement in Canada. *Canadian Family Physician* must strive to match these developments and keep pace with our sister publications in family medicine. One critical way, as I wrote in 2010, is to begin to train future editors, not just for our national journal, but to provide medical editing, reviewing, and writing experiences that will allow family physicians to develop the knowledge, skills, and confidence to write for and reach many different audiences.

Thanks to the generous support of the Foundation for Advancing Family Medicine at the College of Family Physicians of Canada, *CFP* is pleased to be able to support an Editorial Fellow for 2021. In this month's issue we offer a warm welcome to the 2021 *CFP* Editorial Fellow, Dr Sarah Fraser.

Dr Fraser is originally from Merigomish, NS. She is a graduate of the Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University in Halifax, NS, and she trained in family medicine at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. Dr Fraser also has a master's degree in environmental sciences from McGill

University in Montreal, Que, and is enrolled in a master's program in journalism.

Since 2017, Dr Fraser has been an Assistant Professor at Dalhousie University, where she has taught medical students and residents in various clinical settings. Most recently, as of January 2021, Dr Fraser is also Co-Director of the Medical Humanities Program at Dalhousie University, where she works closely with medical students and faculty on the integration of the humanities into medical training and faculty development.

Dr Fraser's editing and writing roots run deep and reach back to her earliest days as a medical student, when she won numerous prizes for writing and photography. Readers will be familiar with Dr Fraser's excellent work as the section editor for and a regular contributor to the *Art of Family Medicine*,^{7,8} as the section editor for the *Third Rail*⁹ series, and as a contributor to our podcast.¹⁰

Readers will be less familiar with her extensive writing on medical issues and controversies for a general audience on topics as diverse as being a reflective practitioner, for *The Medical Post*,¹¹ and the purposes and problems with medical jargon, for *The Chronicle Herald*.¹² She has also published a book of poetry.¹³

During the year, Dr Fraser will continue to edit the *Art of Family Medicine* and *Third Rail*, but will learn about all aspects of the journal, from reviewing and editing manuscripts to production. Please join us at *CFP* in welcoming Dr Fraser.

References

1. Pimlott N. *Canadian Family Physician* editorial fellowship. *Can Fam Physician* 2010;56:849 (Eng), 851 (Fr).
2. *Editorial fellowship—call for applications*. Leawood, KS: *Annals of Family Medicine*; 2021. Available from: <https://www.annfammed.org/content/editorial-fellowship-call-applications>. Accessed 2021 Feb 16.
3. *STFM medical editing fellowship*. Leawood, KS: Society of Teachers of Family Medicine; 2021. Available from: <https://www.stfm.org/facultydevelopment/fellowships/medicaleditingfellowship/overview>. Accessed 2021 Feb 16.
4. *Editorial fellowships*. London, Engl: *British Journal of General Practice Open*; 2021. Available from: <https://bjgpopen.org/page/editorial-fellowships>. Accessed 2021 Feb 16.
5. *Australian Journal of General Practice* [website]. East Melbourne, Aust: Royal Australian College of General Practitioners; 2021. Available from: <https://www1.racgp.org.au/ajgp/home>. Accessed 2021 Feb 16.
6. *Jay Siwek Medical Editing Fellowship*. Leawood, KS: *American Family Physician*; 2018. Available from: <https://www.aafp.org/dam/AAFP/documents/journals/afp/AAFPFellowship.pdf>. Accessed 2021 Feb 16.
7. Fraser S. Art for the sake of medicine. *Can Fam Physician* 2018;64:760.
8. Fraser S. From writing to bloodletting. A conversation with Dr Lawrence Hill. *Can Fam Physician* 2019;65:910-2.
9. Fraser S. The Third Rail. *Can Fam Physician* 2020;66:389 (Eng), 391 (Fr).
10. Fraser S. *Disability and COVID-19*. Interview with Dr Shane Neilson [CFP podcast]. Mississauga, ON: *Canadian Family Physician*; 2020. Available from: <https://cfppodcast.libsyn.com/disability-and-covid-19>. Accessed 2021 Feb 16.
11. Fraser S. The gift of reflection. *Med Post* 2020 April 21.
12. Fraser S. The purpose of and problem with medical jargon. *Chronicle Herald* 2019 Sep 17.
13. Fraser S. *Humanity emergency: poetry of a medical student*. CreateSpace; 2014.

Cet article se trouve aussi en français à la page 156.

Can Fam Physician 2021;67:155 (Eng), 156 (Fr). DOI: 10.46747/cfp.6703155