

The Quest (John Ruedy Award)

The Quest (John Ruedy Award) was created to honour Dr. John Ruedy, an outstanding example of leadership in health and health research in Nova Scotia. The award is presented annually to the graduate student researcher who demonstrates the greatest promise and potential for excellence in health research. The recipient is selected from among the Master's and PhD Scotia Scholars^{OM} Awards applicants with the highest standings.

Eligibility

To be considered for this award, applicants must meet all eligibility requirements of the Scotia Scholars Award (Master's or PhD level).

Application Requirements

There are no additional application requirements for this award. Each institution may nominate one candidate from those Master's and Doctoral applicants recommended for the Scotia Scholars Award.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications are assessed by the Quest Award Review Committee using the following criteria:

- The relevance and potential unique impact of the applicant's research activities on the field of health research
- The relevance and potential impact of the applicant's long-term goals and career expectations on the field of health research
- Strength of the applicant's academic record and quality of academic abilities
- Quality and potential impact of the applicant's leadership abilities
- The significance of the applicant's volunteerism and engagement in the community
- Overall quality of the application

Funding Details

In addition to receiving this prestigious recognition, the Nova Scotia Health Authority contributes an annual award of \$5,000 to assist the recipient with furthering his/ her research.

About John Ruedy

Dr. John Ruedy is a man of many accomplishments. He founded the first academic Division of Clinical Pharmacology in Canada and conducted one of the first studies in Canada exploring the adverse effects of hospitalization. Dr. Ruedy helped transform St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver into the preeminent clinical care centre in Canada for patients with HIV/AIDS. As Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University, he launched the first campaign in eight decades to support endowed chairs.

Dr. Ruedy's greatest accomplishment cannot be measured or itemized on a résumé. It can, however, be seen in the dedication and skill of physicians he has nurtured and inspired as students and colleagues, and felt among researchers whose innovative ideas he encouraged and whose studies are funded by organizations and programs Dr. Ruedy helped to develop.

About the Quest Award Artwork



In his honour, the NSHRF and Capital Health (now the Nova Scotia Health Authority Central Zone) commissioned a painting which attempts to capture the essence and spirit of Dr. John Ruedy. In the painting *The Quest*, artist Renée Forrestall brought together elements that define excellence in health research and that exemplify Dr. Ruedy's quest for excellence.

The tree, a symbol of strength and flexibility, is rooted in deep, rich soil that sustains and fosters growth. The richness of that soil is akin to the support and mentorship of senior researchers and educators, such as Dr. Ruedy, who foster the growth of a new generation of health researchers.

The light in the painting reflects the characteristics of illumination, discovery, spirit, and continuity, symbolizing great capacity and great potential that is within reach. This potential will be realized through connections to one another, much as growth and evolution is attained through the branches of a tree feeding back to the roots and reaching ever higher through the offshoots and capillaries that are sustained by those roots.

The strength of the health research community in Nova Scotia emanates from leaders like Dr. Ruedy, who has been, and remains, a guiding light. The NSHRF believes his character is reflected in this artwork.

About the Artist

Renée Forrestall received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in 1987. As part of her evolution as an artist, Renée travelled the path often taken by artists of other centuries, particularly the Masters. She studied medieval icon painting and took courses in anatomy and biology to understand and replicate the human form. In 2000, Renée was Artist-in-Residence at the Camp Hill Center for Health Care for the Elderly where she explored themes related to aging and Alzheimer's Disease, among others.