THE BRAINS OF THE OPERATION
• One-fifth of Einstein’s brain is floating in a jar of alcohol in a McMaster science lab.

CAN ROBOTS TRUST HUMANS?
• Canada’s favourite hitchhiking robot, hitchBOT, arrived safely in Victoria, B.C. on August 16, 2014, three weeks after setting off from Halifax. A joint McMaster-Ryerson research initiative, the project relied on the kindness of humans to transport hitchBOT from one stop to another.
• Media coverage was extensive, from the Wall Street Journal to the Globe and Mail to National Public Radio — and hitchBOT’s Twitter account surpassed 34,000 followers.

WALTER WHITE, JR. COMES TO TOWN
• Actor R.J. Mitte, who played Walter White, Jr. on Breaking Bad for five seasons, gave the 2014-15 “Last Lecture” on April 8, 2015, as part of the inaugural “Light Up The Night” year-end celebration.
• Like his character, Mitte suffers from mild cerebral palsy. The Screen Actors Guild spokesperson for actors with disabilities, he speaks out on disabilities and bullying.

IT’S ALIVE! FRANKENSTEIN SPOTTED IN LIBRARY ARCHIVES
• Martin Short, Eugene Levy and Dave Thomas all graduated from McMaster University in the 1970s — but not before they collaborated in 1971 on an original musical about Frankenstein. The script and score were resurrected for Hallowe’en 2014.

A ROCK STAR OF PHYSICS
• Kathryn Grandfield, a 28-year-old professor in McMaster’s School of Biomedical Engineering, found herself on the cover of the April 2015 issue of Physics Today, the influential physics magazine.
• Grandfield’s article covered a range of topics, from the history of bone implants to why devices such as hip replacements or dental implants fail in the body.

THE GREENING OF CAMPUS
• In February 2015, the GreenMetric World University Ranking ranked McMaster second in the province and fourth in the country for our campus sustainability and environmentally friendly university management.
• McMaster has reduced 45 per cent of its annual waste since 2009, through composting and other waste reduction initiatives.

THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY
• McMaster played a lead role in the creation of the City of Hamilton’s Climate Change Action Charter and was among the first to sign in October 2011. It was the first such charter in Ontario.

A STROLL THROUGH CAMPUS...
• The McMaster Museum of Art houses five galleries and more than 7,000 pieces, as well as the Paper Centre, a storage vault and consultation space with more than 4,000 prints, drawings and watercolours. Learn more at museum.mcmaster.ca

• More than five million patrons visit McMaster’s four libraries each year. The combined collections total more than 1.7 million titles and 88,000 print and electronic journals. The library’s archives are home to rare maps, medieval manuscripts and collections from icons such as Farley Mowat, Bruce Cockburn and Bertrand Russell.

• The W.J. McCallion Planetarium was the first of its kind in Ontario to offer public shows. Its original dome was a war-surplus parachute suspended from the ceiling. Now located in the Burke Science Building, it offers family-friendly public shows, with seats for 35 and one wheelchair space: www.physics.mcmaster.ca/planetarium

• Opened in 1959, the McMaster Nuclear Reactor was the first university-based research reactor in the British Commonwealth. Today, it is one of the world’s largest suppliers of the medical radioisotope iodine-125, used for the treatment of prostate cancer. The MNR supplies enough I-125 to treat “100 Dads a day.”