Drs. Richard and Sylvia Cruess, along with their colleagues at McGill University’s Centre for Medical Education, and McGill’s Faculty of Medicine, have received the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society 2017 Edward D. Harris Professionalism Award.

Over the past 20 years, the Cruesses, working with, and within, McGill’s Faculty of Medicine, have stood at the forefront of medicine’s modern day professionalism movement.

Not only have the Cruesses been at the leading edge of medical professionalism, they are distinguished clinicians (Dick is an orthopedic surgeon, and Sylvia is an endocrinologist), and academic leaders (Dick was Chair of Orthopedics and Dean of the Medical School at McGill; and Sylvia is Vice-President (Medical), and Director of Professional Services, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal).

If McGill has been their laboratory, the world has been their classroom. They have delivered keynote addresses and led faculty development workshops on four continents across North America, South America, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and the Pacific Rim countries. They have lectured and instructed at every Canadian medical school, and nearly half of all United States medical schools.

The Cruesses are global ambassadors for the importance of professionalism in medicine.