



PhysioLINK

November 8, 2018

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Many congratulations to **Dr. Mladen Vranic** on becoming an honorary member of the [European Association for the Study of Diabetes](#), their highest recognition. As many of you know, Mladen was the Head of Department from 1991-1995 and continues to contribute to the Department as an Emeritus Professor.

We are proud of the many achievements of our professors, researchers, trainees and alumni. Keep reading to learn more about the honours they have received as well as their accomplishments.

Graham L. Collingridge, FRS, FMedSci, FRSB, FBPhS
Ernest B. and Leonard B. Smith Chair
Department of Physiology

HONOURS & AWARDS



Congratulations to **Dr. Mladen Vranic** on becoming an honorary member of the [European Association for the Study of Diabetes](#). He joins research giants such as his former mentor, Dr. Charles Best.



Congratulations to **Dr. Beverley Orser** on her election to the National Academy of Medicine. Dr. Orser, a professor of physiology and chair of the Department of Anesthesia, was chosen for her groundbreaking discoveries around anesthesia and memory impairment.

[Keep reading](#)



Researchers at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) have identified the ion channel known as Kv1.2 as a new target for reducing certain Fragile X syndrome (FXS) symptoms. Congratulations to **Dr. Lu-Yang Wang** and his research team who found that these Kv1.2 channels are receptive to DHA, an omega-3 fatty acid commonly found in fish oils. The interaction between Kv1.2 and DHA has therapeutic potential for patients with FXS. Wang and co-authors, Drs. Yi-Mei Yang and Jason Arsenault published their findings in [Molecular Psychiatry](#). [SickKids News Release](#)



Former Physiology PhD student **Patrick MacDonald** has won the Diabetes Canada Young Investigator Award for 2018. Pat delivered a lecture and accepted this prestigious award at the Diabetes Canada annual conference in Halifax on October 11th. Pat was in Mike Wheeler's lab from 1998-2003 before moving to Sweden to do a post-doctoral fellowship with Patrik Roorsman. Pat established his lab at the University of Alberta in 2006 where he is now a full professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Director of the Islet Core laboratory at the Alberta Diabetes Institute.

NOVEMBER CONVOCATION

Very many congratulations to all of our trainees on the successful completion of their graduate programs!

Student	Supervisor	Program
Ahn, Kyoungheon (Christy)	Scholey J	MSc
Bauer, Paige	Lam T/Wheeler M	PhD U
Cohen, Dalya	Collingridge G / Jia Z	MSc
Farine, Tali	Lye S	MSc
Gohil, Himaben	Wheeler M / Rocheleau J	MSc
Hadipour-Lakmehsari, Sina	Gramolini A	MSc
Harding, Erika	Salter M	PhD U
Leavey, Katherine	Cox B	PhD U
Lertwittayanon, Wanida	Carlen P	PhD
Leung, Chun Yin Bosco	Trimble W / Ran K	MSc
Mah, Henry Ka-Hey	Stanley E	MSc
Mapplebeck, Josiane	Salter M	PhD U
Mouratidis, Alexandros	Matthews S	MSc
Ng, Chloe Ho-Yee	Bolz S / Heximer S	MSc
Rovic, Isidora	Juriscova A	MSc
Salehi, Ashkan	Belsham D	MSc
Sarkar, Susmita	Matthews S	MSc
Szelag, Katherine	Juriscova A	MSc
Tabbarah, Sami	Monnier P / Heon E	MSc
Turlova, Ekaterina	Sun HS	PhD U

Wang, Sheila	O'Brien C	MSc
Wu, Yu-Sheng (Wilson)	Bear C / Moraes T	MSc
Xia, Frances	Frankland P	PHD U
Yeo, Suan Chin	Brown T	MSc
Yu, Ge (Julia)	Josselyn S	MSc

2018 John K and Mary E Davidson Lecture

Prof. Debbie Thurmond

Ruth and Robert Lanman Chair and Professor,
Department of Molecular & Cellular
Endocrinology
Diabetes and Metabolism Research Institute
City of Hope, Duarte, CA

**“Daring to Defy Diabetes and
Metabolic Dysfunction via Multi-
tasking”**

Thursday, November 15, 2018 – 3:00 PM
Medical Sciences Building – Room 2170

Reception to follow in the David Naylor Student
Commons



PHYSIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES

~ Eligible for PSL1000H/PSL2000H Course Seminar Attendance ~

Artur Luczak, PhD

Professor of Neuroscience
Head of Neuronal Data Analytics Lab
Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neuroscience
Department of Neuroscience
University of Lethbridge

November 29, 2018

4:00pm–5:00pm

Title: TBA

Location: Medical Sciences Building, Room 2170

Host: Neuroscience Platform

****Eligible for the PSL1000/2000 Seminars in Physiology Course****

NEWS FROM THE VICE-CHAIR, ACADEMIC (Undergraduate)

PhysioMP: New mentorship program for PSL undergraduate students

Fall 2018 marked the official beginning of the **Physiology Mentorship Program (PhysioMP)**, a student-led initiative currently coordinated by Department of Physiology PhD students, Raymond Wong and Melanie Markovic, and upper-year undergraduate PSL students, Rashi Gupta and Rachel Brunswick. The motivation for the program came from the desire of both graduate students and senior undergraduate students to share their experiences including how to adapt to the academic culture, navigate relevant resources, and seek personal life balance. The program is off to a strong start, with nearly 100 students joining as either mentors or mentees. To further foster a sense of community, PhysioMP is encouraging participants to take part in our student-run departmental events organized by Undergraduate Physiology Students' Association (UPSA) and Graduate Association for Students in Physiology (GASP).

Amgen Scholars Summer Research Program – accepting applications

Amgen Scholars Summer Research Program is accepting applications from undergraduate students to participate in a summer research program hosted by the University of Toronto. The program will run from June 3 to August 9, 2019. Undergraduate students with Canadian citizenship or permanent residency who enrolled in accredited four-year universities in Canada are eligible to apply. The application deadline is February 1, 2019. For additional details see: <http://amgenscholars.com/canada-program>.

Michelle French

GASP News

With committee meetings around the corner, GASP will be hosting the following events to ease our way into November:

Coffee Break

Take a break with Coffee Break! It is a great opportunity to catch up with other members of the department. Coffee break will be hosted on the following dates:

- November 7th: 2-3 PM (Physiology Lunch Room)
- November 21st: 1-2 PM (MSB3227; in conjunction with DoPTSS)

Department of Physiology Trainee Seminar Series (DoPTSS)

DoPTSS provides the perfect opportunity for trainees to practice and receive feedback on work related to their projects. **Join us for free coffee and lunch!**

- November 21st: 1-2 PM (MSB3227)
- Sign up here!: <https://goo.gl/forms/U2hzDkpmkfHv05Er2>

Physiology Research Advisory Program

This program provides graduate students an opportunity to mentor junior undergraduates interested in research opportunities and graduate school.

- Register before **December 7, 2018**: <https://goo.gl/utCdch>
- For more information, Contact Yasaman yasaman.mostafaie@mail.utoronto.ca

Physiology's Annual Holiday Lunch & Raffle

Tickets for the department's s Annual Holiday Luncheon are now on available from **Eva Eng** eva.eng@utoronto.ca. Tickets sell out quickly, so don't delay!

Our thanks to **Denise Belsham** who is spearheading **the Holiday Raffle** again this year. Please support the raffle by making a donation or supporting the graduate students when they come around selling tickets. All donations will be going to the CP24 CHUM Christmas Wish Fund to help make the holidays special for all children (info at: www.thewish.ca). Please contact Denise as soon as you can d.belsham@utoronto.ca to get your name and donation on the flyer. Every little bit helps...

A flyer for the Department of Physiology Annual Holiday Luncheon. The background is a dark blue night sky with white stars and a large, brightly lit Christmas tree on the right side. The text is white and purple. The title is in a purple cursive font. The date is in a white serif font. The location and time are in a white sans-serif font. The ticket information is in a white sans-serif font. The raffle information is in a white sans-serif font. The University of Toronto logo is in the bottom left corner.

Department of Physiology
Annual Holiday Luncheon

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

Tickets available
in MSB, room 3209
eva.eng@utoronto.ca

Faculty Club
41 Willcocks St.
11:30 a.m.

Our Annual Holiday Raffle in support of the
CP24/Chum Christmas Wish will take place at
the party. Please show your support and get
your tickets from one of our graduate students

Physiology Students: \$20.00
Faculty/Staff/Guest: \$25.00

 Physiology
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

DEPARATMENTAL RETREAT – January 17th

A reminder that the date for **Physiology's Annual Retreat** has been changed from December 6, 2018 to **Thursday, January 17th, 2019**. **The venue remains the same (The Old Mill)**.

Further details will be communicated to all faculty very shortly. Stay Tuned!

We want to hear about the great things happening in Physiology.

Please share your accomplishments, awards...

Send news items to the Chair's Office c/o e.katsoulakos@utoronto.ca