

# DCNS Neuro News

The Department of Clinical Neurosciences

September 2018

## SUMMER AWARDS ROUNDUP

### It was an exceptionally busy summer for DCNS members!

As we all get back into our fall routines, here's a look back at some worthy recipients of awards, grants and publication success...

**Dr. Colin Josephson** received the Junior Investigator Award from the Canadian League Against Epilepsy (CLAE). The award honours a CLAE member within five years of their first academic appointment for outstanding research contributions in epilepsy.



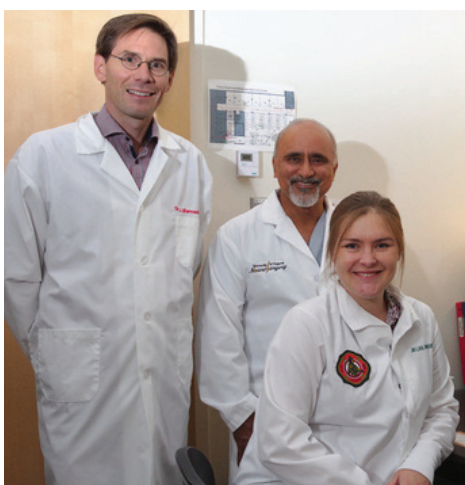
Congratulations to the following DCNS faculty who received academic promotions this summer:

- **Dr. Paolo Federico**  
to Full Professor
- **Dr. Chantel Debert**  
to Clinical Associate Professor
- **Dr. Jodie Burton**  
to Clinical Associate Professor
- **Dr. Suresh Subramaniam**  
to Clinical Associate Professor
- **Dr. Steven Peters**  
to Clinical Assistant Professor
- **Dr. Ronak Kapadia**  
to Clinical Assistant Professor



**Sharon Peters**, RN, BN, MSCN, was awarded the 2018 June Halper Award for Excellence in MS Nursing from the International Organization of Multiple Sclerosis Nurses.

"Congratulations to one of our exceptional MS clinic nurses," says **Dr. Luanne Metz**.



**Dr. Rajiv Midha's** lab — in collaboration with researchers from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine — identified neurochemicals emitted by immune cells that help Schwann cells to regenerate myelin, the fatty sheath that wraps around nerve fibres.



Stroke neurologists Dr. Bijoy Menon and Dr. Andrew Demchuk.

### Stroke study helps identify best treatment for clots

The Calgary stroke team has published another important study into ischemic stroke treatment — this time in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA).

The Calgary-led study found that, depending on the composition of the clot and where it is located in the brain, administering tPA can be almost as effective as

thrombectomy, given sufficient time.

The team collaborated with 11 other centres in five countries and included 575 patients.

Their findings will help inform physicians which treatment will work best for patients.

*Read the full UToday story here, which includes a link to the JAMA paper.*



### REMINDER: Fall Retreat is Sept. 29 at Hotel Arts

The research — published in *Cell Reports* in September — could lead to more effective treatments for people who have suffered peripheral nerve damage. *Read the UToday story here.*

And earlier in the summer, Dr. Midha received the **2018 Professional of the Year** award from the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce. The award was presented at a group's annual gala in Ontario.



**Dr. Dan McGowan** will be receiving a 2018 FMC MSA Service Recognition Award. The award will be presented in the physician's lounge on Sept. 25.



**Dr. Mark Hamilton** was elected to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Neurosurgery.



**Dr. Jay Riva-Cambrin** was elected to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Neurosurgery: Pediatrics.

The Music Therapy Program — a passion of **Dr. Stephanie Plamondon** — expanded from a successful pilot program to now include sessions on Unit 101, Unit 112 and Unit 58.

The sessions are run by specialists from JB Music Therapy and been extremely well received by patients and staff on the units.



A warm welcome to the two newest members of DCNS!

**Dr. Mohammed Almekhlafi** is an assistant professor of neurology and has joined the Calgary Stroke Program.



**Dr. Karl Martin Klein** is an associate professor of neurology and has joined the Calgary Comprehensive Epilepsy Program.



## Residency Program News



**Dr. Joan Stilling** received the Queen Elizabeth II Graduate scholarship in the spring and a poster award at the Canadian Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation annual scientific meeting in Whitehorse.



**Dr. Lauren Capozzi** has published four papers this summer, including an August 2018 study in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinics of North America titled "Physical Rehabilitation and Occupational Therapy".



**Dr. Candice Poon's** has been selected for one of the 2018 Adult Basic Research Abstract Awards at the Society for Neuro-Oncology in New Orleans, LA.

Her abstract "Single-cell level comparison of histopathology and single-cell RNA-seq databases between IDH-MUT and -WT glioblastomas reveals distinct innate immune microenvironments that can be exploited for therapeutic gain" will be featured at the conference.



**Dr. Stefan Lang** will receive a 2018 Junior Award at the International Congress of Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders in October for his abstract "Distinct networks contribute to the dysexecutive and posterior cortical cognitive syndromes of cognitive impairment in Parkinson's Disease".



Congratulations to **Dr. Magalie Cadieux**, who has been accepted into Harvard Medical School to complete a Master's Degree in Medical Education.



**Dr. Michael Yang** received an Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute trainee grant for his project "Does the Calgary shunt protocol reduce cerebral shunt infections in children?"