Message from the Head

Hello PhysPharmers, and welcome to the September issue of our newsletter. I hope everyone had a relaxing and restful summer, and had time to re-connect with family and friends. This is always an exciting time of year with new undergrad and graduate students joining our labs. Please provide a welcoming environment for our new trainees. This can be a stressful time for new students, so be aware of the supports that are available to them. Details can be found at www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services. Finding good mentors among your senior trainees can also be an effective means of support and encouragement for new students.

As we have all been made aware, the University and CSM continue to face increased financial pressures. We can expect changes to all aspects of the CSM’s operations, including the research enterprise. Costs for some core facilities are likely to increase, and we may need to look for outsourcing opportunities for some of the services we require. The upcoming provincial budget may also have implications on the CSM’s budget and operations. Details will be provided to the department as soon as I get them.

In the last academic year, the department got a good start on implementing our strategic plan, with programs developed to assist faculty and postdoc travel to meetings, as well as to support faculty who wish to organize workshops, symposia or conference sessions. We will continue to bring aspects of the strategic plan online during this academic year. This will be the primary activity of the department’s Executive Committee this year, but I would encourage everyone (faculty, staff, trainees) to review the plan and provide their ideas and input.

Our new department website will be online in a few months. Chloe has worked very hard over the summer to do a complete re-build of the website. The new format looks great and I think will provide a better site for people to find out what PhysPharm is all about. The website revamp also provides a good opportunity for faculty to update their profiles. Please send info/photos, or any suggestions you have, to jonec@ucalgary.ca.

Finally, I want to remind all faculty of our first department business meeting of the academic year, to be held Tuesday, September 17th. As always, if you have items to add to the agenda, please forward them to jonec@ucalgary.ca.

CIHR PROJECT GRANT DATES

Project Grant: Fall 2019
- Application deadline: September 11, 2019
- Anticipated Notice of Decision: January 22, 2020
- Funding Start Date: April 1, 2020

Project Grant: Spring 2020
- Registration deadline: February 5, 2020
- Application deadline: March 4, 2020
- Anticipated Notice of Decision: July 8, 2020
- Funding Start Date: October 1, 2020

Trainee Corner

Postdoc Appreciation Week

September 16th
The Office of the Vice-President of Research invites you to participate in a Working with the Media Workshop. Sessions run from 10am to 3:30pm, and you can even get a professional headshot from an onsite photographer!
September 18th
ACHRI Postdoc Appreciation Event
12:30 – 3:45pm
Alberta Children’s Hospital, 4th Floor Auditorium

September 19th
Research Communication and Presentation Skills Workshop
10:00am – 3:00pm
Senate Room, Hotel Alma

Attendees will be eligible to participate in our first Postdoc Research Slam, scheduled for November 1, where selected postdoctoral scholars will make three-minute research presentations and compete for glory and prizes. We’ve got some really great prizes for the Research Slam: travel awards, fitness centre passes, and more!

Register here.

History of Neuroscience Seminars

Curious about the history of Neuroscience? Check out these seminars: https://hbi.ucalgary.ca/members-and-trainees/events

The Beat Goes On Gala

Join you colleagues and fellow Libin members at the Beat Goes on Gala held this year at the Hyatt Downtown on September 21st 2019. Paul Brandt will be performing.

2019 Cy Frank Legacy Lecture

This year’s keynote speaker is Dr. Stefan Lohmander, Professor from the Department of Clinical Sciences at Lund University in Sweden. He will be giving a talk on Changing the narrative: The progress and challenges of improving osteoarthritis care for more than 4 million Canadians.

September 16th
4:00 – 5:30pm
Health Science Centre, Theatre 4

Register at: cyfranklecture2019.eventbrite.ca

Funding Opportunities

HBI internal postdoc fellowships and graduate studentships:
October 1 deadline
Apply: https://hbi.ucalgary.ca/members-and-trainees/funding-support

Snyder internal postdoc fellowships and graduate studentships:
October 1 deadline
Apply: https://snyder.ucalgary.ca/education/scholarships-fellowships

PHYSPHARM ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Dr. Aaron Phillips for the publication of his paper Sleep disordered breathing is associated with brain vascular reactivity in spinal cord injury in Neurology.

Congratulations to Dr. Wayne Chen for the publication of his paper Modulation of cardiac ryanodine receptor 2 by calmodulin in Nature.

Congratulations to Drs. MacNaughton and Dufour for the publication of their paper N-Termi-nomics/TAI LS Profiling of Proteases and Their Substrates in Ulcerative Colitis in ACS Chemical Biology.

Congratulations to Dr. Claire Arrieta et al. for the success of their CIHR-ISF: Joint-Israel Health Research Program grant!

Congratulations to Dr. Morley Hollenberg who received an honorary degree (Doctor of Science) from the University of Manitoba.

Congratulations to Dr. Vaibhav Patel for successfully obtaining a CIHR Project Grant which ranked first in the CSB Committee.

Congratulations to Drs. Vaibhav Patel and Jennifer Thompson for receiving a CFI John R Evans Leaders Fund.

A huge congrats to Taeyeob (Danny) Kim from the Braun lab and Ryan Rosentreter from the Phillips lab who were awarded graduate scholarships from the Libin Institute.

Congratulations to Dr. Ciaran Murphy-Royal from the Gordon and Bains lab who was awarded an NARSAD Fellowship, a prestigious international award for early career scientists in the Brain, Behaviour and Mental Health research area.

Congratulations to Dr. Rayan Khaddaj Mallat from the Braun lab for the publication of their paper in the International Journal of Molecular Sciences.

Congrats to Emily Mercer from the Arrieta lab who received an ACHRI postdoc award.

Congrats to Erik Bernardes from the Arrieta lab who received an Eyes High doctoral scholarship.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Canadian Hypertension Congress
25-28th September 2019
Edmonton, AB
https://www.ion-channelconferences.org/

Physiology & Pharmacology Department Retreat
January 27th 2020
Blue Room, Dining Centre

Kananaskis Inflammation Workshop
January 24 – 26th
Banff Park Lodge, Banff

CDDW
February 28 – March 1st
Montreal, Quebec

Experimental Biology 2020
April 4 – 8th
San Diego, California

Digestive Diseases Week
May 2-5th
Chicago Illinois

Strength

CONCLUSION