



MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

Welcome to Spring! Southern Alberta receiving much needed precipitation ahead of the spring planting season gives me renewed hope that we too will get through these challenging times within the healthcare system. Through continued collaboration and by keeping focused on patient-centered care delivery, we will collectively continue to improve the health of Albertans and Canadians. Thank you for your ongoing contributions towards realizing both the DOM and CSM strategic priorities – your endeavours are noticed and appreciated.

Please review the spring newsletter for some departmental highlights and important announcements.



*Dr. Jayna Holroyd-Leduc
Zone Clinical and
Academic Department Head*

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Department Head	1
Unsung Hero's Recap	2
Welcome to the Department	2
Awards & Accomplishments	3
Message from the HAQ Committee	7
Resident Research Day - Invite & Sign Ups	7
Connect Care Monthly Drop In Sessions	7
CSM Grant Development Office	8

WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT

Team members who have joined us over the past few months



QUALITY & PROCESS IMPROVEMENT CONSULTANT- DIVYA TYAGI

The Department of Medicine is pleased to announce that **Divya Tyagi** took on the new role of **Quality and Process Improvement Consultant** as of **January 17, 2024**. Divya joins the Health Analytics & Quality Improvement Team within the Department of Medicine. Divya will support the Department's mission and vision through developing, coordinating, and executing quality & process improvement initiatives, as well as supporting the needs of the Department's education and research programs.

Divya is an MBA graduate from the University of Manitoba, Asper School of Business, with career experience in tech engineering, bioinformatics, and healthcare consulting. She joins us from her previous role with MNP Consulting Canada, where she worked on impactful projects with Indigenous Health and Shared Health Manitoba. Divya's professional journey also includes work with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority where she contributed to clinical data management processes and strategic planning. Her education and years of experience in the IT and healthcare consulting sectors sparked a profound passion for healthcare. She is eager to support the quality & process improvement initiatives of the Department, strengthening our clinical & education programs, and the health system overall.



IMRP RESIDENT SCHEDULER – MEGHAN PERRY

The Department of Medicine is pleased to announce that **Meghan Perry** took on the role of **IMRP Resident Scheduler** as of **February 12, 2024**.

Meghan has recently relocated from Vancouver Island, BC, where she was working for Island Health as a Scheduler/Clerk as well as Payroll Manager for a non-profit supporting individuals with intellectual disability. She holds a certificate as a Nursing

Unit Coordinator and started her career with Providence Health Care in Vancouver, BC, working in the Renal department, Provincial Home Hemodialysis program and Kidney Transplant/National Paired Exchange program.



PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED UNSUNG HERO'S

- **January:** Dr. Wendy Wang, Jacqueline McMillan, Dr. Paul Davis,
- **February:** IM Residents, Dr. Shannon Ruzycki, Dr. Marcy Mintz,
- **March:** Dr. Cody Sider, Dr. Fiona Dunne, Dr. Bob Hilsden and Dr. Chris Oleynick

NOMINATE AN UNSUNG HERO

Please continue to nominate your colleagues who make your life a little easier in the Department of Medicine. We want to recognize all the unsung hero's in our department and they will be announced during Medical Grand Rounds on Tuesday mornings. **Please email Dr. Chandra Thomas Chandra.thomas@ahs.ca your nominations** and a few words about why you're nominating that person.

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements over the past few months

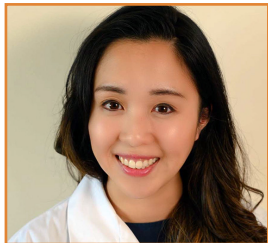


TRIANGLE EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER AWARD

Congratulations Dr. Henry H Nguyen on receiving the TRIANGLE (TRaining A New generation in Gastroenterology and LivEr) Early Career Researcher Award recently in the Fall of 2023.

EASL & AASLD MASTERCLASS

Dr. Henry H Nguyen was also selected for the 2023 EASL (European Association for the Study of the Liver) - AASLD (American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases) Masterclass. 10 early career researchers are selected from North America and 15 from Europe to attend this scientific and professional workshop



STARS CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD - ARTHRITIS SOCIETY CANADA

Congratulations to Dr. May Choi on receiving the STAR Award from the Arthritis Society of Canada awarded to the best, most scientifically meritorious research proposals that offer the greatest hope for improvements of the ability to diagnose, prevent, treat, repair and lead to a cure for arthritis. This award is supporting CLIMB: Complement Activation Levels and Interferon activity as novel Myositis Biomarkers.



2023 CIHR PROJECT GRANT FALL COMPETITION

Dr. Zahra Goodarzi on a successful CIHR Fall Competition Project Grant for the research titled “Restraining Restraint Use for Older Adults in Alberta Emergency Services”

Dr. Gilaad Kaplan on a successful CIHR Fall Competition Project Grant - Priority Area Award, for the research titled “Inflammatory Bowel Disease in 2035: A National Study of the Canadian Gastro-Intestinal Epidemiology Consortium (CanGIEC)”

Dr. Leslie Skeith on a successful CIHR Fall Competition Project Grant - Bridge Funding Award, for the research titled “The PARTUM (Postpartum Aspirin to Reduce Thromboembolism Undue Morbidity) Trial”

Dr. Karen Tang on a successful CIHR Fall Competition Project Grant - Priority Area Award - for the research titled “Enhancing sociodemographic data in a province-wide electronic health record”

Dr. Marcello Tonelli on a successful CIHR Fall Competition Project Grant for the research titled “Using patient-provider communication tools to improve hospital care and outcomes for patients with hearing loss”



CIHR INSTITUTE OF AGING PRIZE: YVES JOANETTE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH IN AGING.

Dr. Zahra Goodarzi was also awarded the Yves Joannette Award of Excellence in Research in Aging. The Yves Joannette Award is awarded to the highest-ranking funded projects in the Fall 2023 Project Grant Competition that are relevant to one of the Institute on Aging’s areas as outlined in the CIHR IA Strat Plan.

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements over the past few months



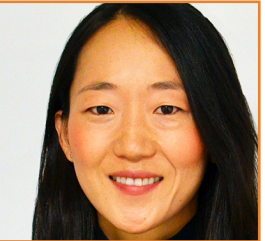
PGME AWARD OF EXCELLENCE - OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO RESIDENCY EDUCATION

Congratulations to Dr. Melanie Stapleton, Gastroenterology, for being awarded the PGME Award for Excellence - Outstanding Commitment to Residency Education which recognizes outstanding contributions made by an individual to residency education through teaching, administration, program development and/or contributions to research that benefit residency education.



PGME AWARD OF EXCELLENCE - RESIDENT MENTORSHIP

Congratulations to Dr. Kelle Hurd for being awarded the PGME Award for Excellence - Resident Mentorship which recognizes the outstanding contributions of a faculty member who serves as a mentor, role model and/or advocate for residents.



TEACHING AND LEARNING GRANTS ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Drs. Lea Harper, Kevin McLaughlin and Allison Brown on successful applications of the 2024 University of Calgary Teaching and Learning Grants program.

Funded by the Provost's Office, the University of Calgary's Teaching & Learning Grants program is designed to enhance student learning experiences through the integration of teaching, learning and scholarship, and to support faculty as they develop educational leadership capacity. Grant awardees integrate scholarship into teaching practices, innovate in classrooms and co-curricular activities, generate new knowledge about teaching and learning, disseminate the results of their findings, and develop their educational leadership identity.



Dr. Lea Harper: Educational Leadership Grant for the application titled "Adapting the CIPP Framework to Promote Scholarly Program Evaluation in Medical Education: The ACME Tool"

Dr. Kevin McLaughlin: Scholarship of Teaching and Learning for the application titled "Mentorship in Medicine: A Complex Opportunity"



Dr. Allison Brown: Scholarship of Teaching and Learning for the application titled "Optimizing assessment of learning with assessment for learning: a developmental evaluation of programmatic assessment in a new Physician Assistant program"

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements over the past few months



CANADIAN HEMOPHILIA SOCIETY BAYER ADVANCE RESEARCH GRANT

Congratulations to Dr. Kelsey Uminski as the recipient of the Canadian Hemophilia Society Bayer ADVANCE Research Grant. The program was created to engage Canadian hemophilia treaters in activities to identify and research key issues in the aging hemophilia population.



CSM ALUMNI OF DISTINCTION AWARDS 2024

Congratulations to Dr. Hanan Bassyouni on your Alumnus of Distinction Award - Service, from the CSM Alumni of Distinction awards 2024 awarded in January. These awards recognize distinguished alumni. [Read more here.](#)



ALBERTA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION SECTION OF RHEUMATOLOGY - FUTURE LEADER

Congratulations to Megan Barber on receiving the Alberta Medical Association Section of Rheumatology Future Leader award at the end of December 2023.



AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY (ASGE) RESEARCH AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Nauzer Forbes as the recipient of the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Research Award.



2023 CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION DISTINGUISHED INVESTIGATOR AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Ann Clarke on receiving recognition of a distinguished investigator who has made an outstanding contribution to rheumatology internationally. [More info here.](#)

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements over the past few months



WOMEN'S CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH INITIATIVE

Congratulations to Dr. Leslie Skeith on receiving funds from the inaugural Women's Cardiovascular Health Initiative - Research Priorities Catalyst Grant Competition for the project "Prevention and management of venous thromboembolism in transgender and gender diverse individuals: A retrospective cohort study evaluating current practice patterns"



AFMC MENTORSHIP AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Braden Manns on the AFMC Mentorship Award, which recognizes a faculty member who demonstrates an exemplary and sustained commitment to providing outstanding mentorship, guidance, and inspiration to colleagues within Canadian faculties of medicine. This award acknowledges the time mentors dedicate to providing guidance for career development in clinical work, teaching, education, research, leadership, and advocacy.

[Find out more here:](#)

2024 PGME EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL TEACHING AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following Department of Medicine members who received a PGME Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award. This annual award recognizes outstanding resident teaching in all clinical disciplines at the CSM. Recipients are identified using anonymous resident feedback submitted using the PGME Teaching Assessment Form from the prior calendar year.

- Dr. Alex Aspinall
- Dr. Sylvain Coderre
- Dr. Christopher Ma
- Dr. Rachid Mohamed
- Dr. Laura Stinton
- Dr. Puneeta Tandon
- Dr. Kate Colizza
- Dr. Erin Kennah
- Dr. Parabhdeep Lail
- Dr. Aaron Low
- Dr. Chris Oleynick
- Dr. Anita Dey
- Dr. John Fralick
- Dr. Julia Tien
- Dr. Karen Fruetel
- Dr. Zahra Goodarzi
- Dr. Michelle Persaud
- Dr. Monika Oliver
- Dr. Sarah Perry
- Dr. Jason Tay
- Dr. Mark Gillrie
- Dr. Joseph Kim
- Dr. Abhilash Sailendra
- Dr. Adam Bass
- Dr. Kim Cheema
- Dr. Sophia Chou
- Dr. Matthew James
- Dr. Nairne Scott-Douglas
- Dr. Elaine Dumoulin
- Dr. Andrea Loewen
- Dr. Paul MacEachern
- Dr. Sachin Pendharkar
- Dr. Michael Roman
- Dr. Kate Skolnik
- Dr. Christina Thornton
- Dr. Dianne Mosher

HELIOS AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following recipients of the 2024 Helios approved funding. The award provides bridging salary support for clinical fellowship trainees who have successfully completed postgraduate medical training and who now plan to pursue advanced clinical or academic training in a recognized centre of excellence.

- Dr. Na'ama Avitzur
- Dr. Brandon Budhram
- Dr. Daman Goondi
- Dr. Brandon Christensen
- Dr. Alexandra Kobza
- Dr. Eugene Krustev
- Dr. Sharanya Ramesh
- Dr. James Kiberd
- Dr. Waleed Rahmani

FROM THE DOM HEALTH ANALYTICS & QUALITY COMMITTEE

If you or anyone in your division are currently or have future plans to work with ConnectCare's in-system reporting tools (e.g Reporting Workbench, Slicer Dicer) - would you be interested in validating those tools for exploring patient cohorts and metrics? If so, the DOM Health Analytics & Quality committee has resources available to support your efforts and would see this as an opportunity improve our collective understanding of the abilities and limitations of these new tools.

If you or someone you know would be interested, please email (Shez at Shezmin.rashed@alberta-healthservices.ca), in the next three weeks.

RESIDENT RESEARCH DAY - APRIL 24, 2024

The IMRP would like to invite all DoM members to attend/participate in the **2024 Internal Medicine Resident Research Day** - coming up on Wednesday, April 24th in the O'Brien Centre Theatre 4.

We are also still looking for a few people to be Poster and Oral presentation judges, and to help facilitate a Small Group presentation. If available and interested, [please sign up using this link](#):

Thank you all for your (ongoing) support of the IMRP!

Paul Gibson, Internal Medicine Residency Program Director & Ngan Lam, Internal Medicine Residency Program APD-Resident Research

CONNECT CARE UPDATES

CONNECT CARE DROP IN SESSIONS

Department of Medicine Connect Care Drop In Sessions have now changed to monthly. The next session dates are: **April 4, May 9 and June 6 at 12:15pm on Zoom**. Each session will review tips and workflows relevant to DOM Members (Medical Staff and Residents) followed by Connect Care Q & A. If you have a tip/workflow that you would like presented or a question answered please email Dr. Chandra Thomas Chandra.thomas@ahs.ca. Similarly, if you are interested in facilitating a session for your colleagues please also reach out to Dr. Thomas.

Joining instructions:

Zoom Link: <https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/66239923329?pwd=NmpvemJqN-0FKR2wyKzc4U24yVnhqQT09>

Meeting ID: 662 3992 3329 | **Passcode:** 236872

Dial in for audio only: +1 587 328 1099 Canada | Meeting ID: 662 3992 3329

[You can also check out the archive here](#)

ARTHRITIS SOCIETY CANADA IGNITE INNOVATION GRANT

The goal of the Ignite Innovation program is to support the development and testing of transformative, paradigm-shifting, concepts and approaches to address critical barriers to progress in arthritis research, challenge our understanding of arthritis and its management, and generate novel approaches to confront the challenges we face in defeating arthritis and delivering the best evidence-informed care possible.

The program intends to foster novel, high-potential projects and ideas that could be expanded in the future through additional funding sources.

- Agency Deadline for Registration: May 14, 2024 - 3 p.m.
- RSO Internal Deadline (Full Application): June 20, 2024 - Noon
- [Full Details](#)

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL JUNE PARTNERSHIP ENGAGE GRANTS REVISED DEADLINE

Partnership Engage Grants provide short-term and timely support for partnered research activities that will inform decision making at a single partner organization from the public, private or not-for-profit sector. The small-scale, stakeholder-driven partnerships supported through Partnership Engage Grants are meant to respond to immediate needs and time constraints facing organizations in non-academic sectors. In addressing an organization-specific need, challenge and/or opportunity, these partnerships let non-academic organizations and postsecondary researchers access each other's unique knowledge, expertise and capabilities on topics of mutual interest.

- ****Revised**** RSO Internal Deadline: May 16, 2024 - Noon
- [Full Details](#)

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL AUGUST CONNECTION GRANTS REVISED DEADLINE

Connection grants support events and outreach activities geared toward short-term, targeted knowledge mobilization initiatives. These events and activities represent opportunities to exchange knowledge and to engage with participants on research issues of value to them. Events and outreach activities funded by a Connection Grant can often serve as a first step toward more comprehensive and longer-term projects.

- ****Revised**** RSO Internal Deadline: June 17, 2024 - Noon
- [Full Details](#)

ALBERTA INNOVATES ACCELERATING INNOVATIONS INTO CARE (AICE) — CONCEPTS PROGRAM

[The Accelerating Innovations into CarE \(AICE\) – Concepts Program](#) serves to accelerate early-stage health research and innovation that demonstrates high commercial potential. AICE-Concepts enables innovators to advance their client journey across four commercialization domains for health innovation: product development; business readiness; product-market fit; and regulatory compliance. The AICE-Concepts Program supports activities within the ideating and conceptualizing stages of Alberta Innovates client journey across the four commercialization domains for health innovation (please refer to the [Client Journey and Health Innovation Checklist](#)).

The 2024/2025 call seeks to apply computational technologies or techniques [e.g., artificial intelligence, in silico modelling, Design of Experiments, regression statistics] to realize personalized health benefits in the following priority areas:

- Prevention
 - Address selective prevention (e.g., social determinants of health) or indicated prevention (i.e., at-risk) populations.
- Diagnosis
 - E.g., medical imaging; omics-based informatics; epigenetics; microbiome; brain; or mental health; predictive, companion, or prognostic biosensors; wearables
- Digital Therapeutics
 - Clinical evaluation of software to treat, manage, or prevent a disease or medical disorder.
 - E.g., cognitive therapies
- **Register Intent to Apply:** May 10, 2024 - 4 p.m. (registration windows will open in early April).
- **RSO Internal Deadline (Full Application):** July 9, 2024 - Noon

ARTHRITIS SOCIETY 2024 STARS CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

The Stars Career Development award helps establish the career of early career investigators. This salary award and research funding represents a three year commitment by Arthritis Society Canada, together with an additional three year commitment by the applicant's Host Institution.

The program provides funding to support research programs aligned with Arthritis Society Canada's 2020-2025 Research Strategy.

Consult your department and/or Faculty early to ensure they can support your application, as this award requires significant confirmed resources and their eligibility requirements for supporting your application may differ from a standard research grant.

- Abstract Registration (Required Submission): May 15, 2024 through the Arthritis Society's online research grant portal
- RSO Internal Deadline (Full Application): June 21, 2024 - Noon
- [Full Details](#)

CIHR OPERATING GRANT: KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION IN DIABETES PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

The goal of the CIHR Operating Grants: Knowledge Mobilization in Diabetes Prevention and Treatment is to enhance knowledge mobilization in the field of diabetes, focusing on evidence integration into health services, programs, and policies.

This funding opportunity will also provide researchers and knowledge users, including people with lived/living experience (PWLLE), an opportunity to work collaboratively to improve prevention and care of people at risk of, or living with, diabetes in Canada.

Projects may include generation and mobilization of data required to advance an intervention already proven to be efficacious into health services, programs or policies – including, but not limited to, analyses of existing datasets (e.g., cost-effectiveness studies), acceptability studies, and collection of patient-reported outcomes.

Projects may also focus on the screening and prevention of diabetes complications or supporting the gathering of evidence for a health technology assessment.

Grants are \$125,000 for one year with up to 16 awards available.

RSO Internal Deadline: April 26, 2024-Noon

[Full Details](#)

HUMAN ORGANOID INNOVATION HUB

The Human Organoid Innovation Hub (HOIH) is a Snyder Institute core facility with a vision to utilize organoid systems to drive cutting edge research. Their mission is to use patient tissue to grow organoids that can be used to advance precision medicine. To do this they offer guidance in designing and executing experiments using this model system and provide assistance by testing and development of novel organoid protocols while striving to deliver the most current innovations and technologies to support the CSM research community.

Services offered by the HOIH to the research community:

- Consultation on organoid projects/experiments and protocol sharing.
- Training support for organoid isolation, maintenance, Immunofluorescence preparation and RNA/DNA/protein isolation.
- Culturing two-dimensional (2D) and three-dimensional (3D) organoids.
- Generation and maintenance of mouse organoids.
- Generation and maintenance of healthy and diseased human intestinal organoids.
- Organ-on-a-chip organoids in isolation or co-culture.
- Bioassay or custom culture development.

To find out more, view their [website](#) for more information on their equipment and services.