# THE ACTIVE SITE DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY NEWSLETTER

# THE SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY

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# PEOPLE (AND OTHER) STUFF

It's a small world, particularly in science. Dr. Miljan Kuljanin (PhD from Lajoie lab) and colleagues published in <u>Nature Biotechnology</u>. They referenced an <u>ACS Chem Biol</u> publication by Dr. Adam Rabalski (PhD from Litchfield lab) and colleagues at AbbVie Inc. Also, Dr. Ben Cravatt (Scripps Research, California), an author on the publication, was a Menten Lecturer in Biochemistry in 2014.

Yanxin Li, Jin Liu, and Dr. Peter Rogan received US patent number 10,929,641 for the patent application of a Smart Microscope System for Radiation Biodosimetry (US16/057,710). This invention underlies their ADCI radiation biodosimetry system. Jin Liu, an Honors Biochemistry BMSc student, and Yanxin Li, an MSc student, worked in the Rogan lab.

## PUBLICATIONS from the labs and collaborators of...

Drs. Balci, Siu (<u>DNA methylation analysis for diagnosis of Mendelian disorders</u>) (<u>DNA methylation signature for intellectual developmental disorder, X</u>-Linked, syndromic, Armfield type)

Drs. Boffa, Koschinsky (LC-MS/MS to measure lipoprotein(a))

Dr. Gloor (Compositional data analysis and genomics)

Drs. Gloor, Litchfield (Pannexin 1 mutation in melanoma)

Dr. Gupta (<u>mTORC1 transcriptional regulation</u>)

Dr. Hegele (Variant of Scavenger Receptor BI: impaired cholesterol transport) (Cardiac ryanodine receptor calcium release deficiency syndrome) (Genetic predictor for high lipoprotein(a)) (Common genetic variation in lone atrial fibrillation) (Genetic pathways in risk of hypertrophic and dilated cardiomyopathies) (Genes influencing LDL-cholesterol levels) (Mendelian randomization) (Apolipoprotein genetic variants, hereditary amyloidosis) (Genetic determinants of severe hypertriglyceridemia) (Combined vs. isolated hypertriglyceridemia) (Remnant cholesterol and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease risk)

Dr. Heinemann (MicroRNA quantification and visualization in live cells)

Dr. Konermann (Supercharging of electrosprayed salt clusters)

Dr. Koschinsky (Care of adults and youth with elevated lipoprotein(a))

Dr. Lajoie (Islet regenerative stimuli)

Dr. Litchfield (Chemical probe for CK2)

Dr. O'Gorman (Transcriptional profiling in COVID19 patients)

Dr. Penner (Aptamarker prediction and Alzheimer's disease)

Dr. Pickering (Putative autoantigen Leiomodin-1)

Dr. Rogan (Predictions of patient responses to kinase inhibitors)

(Pathogenesis of severe RNA-viral pulmonary infections)

Dr. Rupar (Carbonic anhydrase VA deficiency) (Panel for nuclear-mitochondrial NGS and copy-number variant analysis)

Dr. Shaw (Calcium and dysferlin)

Dr. Siqueira (<u>Facebook and student engagement</u>) (<u>Viruses and materials science</u>) (<u>Saliva and hemodialysis</u>)

Dr. Torchia (DREAM repressor, apolipoprotein, amyloidosis)

Dr. Yeung (Root rot disease virulence: American ginseng)(Lipid expression abnormalities, brain hyperintensities) (Lectins in Colorado Potato Beetle)

**CONGRATS TO...** 

Matt Berg and Jacqueline Dron for successful thesis defenses

Tasnim Reza for being featured by the Breast Cancer Society of Canada

Dr. Lazar Bozic for an inspiring and informative talk at our annual Dr. Harold B. Stewart Memorial Lecture. He relayed lessons learned during his journey from PhD student in the Huff lab to Senior Director of Corporate Development at enGene, a biotechnology company. His efforts allow current graduate students to find the information, resources, and networking needed to pursue nonacademic careers in the biotechnology sector.

Dr. Dervla Connaughton (crossappointment in Biochemistry) for being featured in a <u>YouTube video</u> about personalized medicine for patients with kidney disease

Dr. Marlys Koschinsky for being appointed to the Order of Ontario (Schulich News)

Dr. Shawn Li for developing a rapid COVID-19 antibody test (WORLDiscoveries)

Dr. Geoff Pickering for being appointed as the inaugural Neil McKenzie Chair in Cardiac Care (Schulich News)

### **UPCOMING AWARDS**

Nominate faculty and staff for Schulich's 2021 <u>Awards of Excellence</u>. The deadline is 24 March.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The Dept. of Biochemistry was established in 1924 with Dr. Bruce Macallum as Chair.

See publication details.



