# THE ACTIVE SITE DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY NEWSLETTER

## THE SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY



**SEASON'S GREETINGS!** 

Happy holidays to everyone and all the best for 2014.

# PEOPLE (AND OTHER) STUFF

Stephanie Dorman, a graduate student in Dr. Peter Rogan's lab, has been featured by <u>The Breast Cancer Society of Canada</u>.

Dr. David Litchfield has been highlighted in International Innovation (p.19).

Dr. Shawn Li has been featured by <a href="CCSRI">CCSRI</a> for his Innovation Grant.

Dr. Peter Rogan presented the following talks:

- 1) Department of Biotechnology, Molecular Medicine Program, University of Milan, Italy on 11 Nov; "Deciphering non-coding variants of uncertain significance in inherited and somatic breast cancer."
- 2) European Institute of Oncology (IEO) Education Masterclass on 28 Nov in Milan, Italy; "Overview of bioinformatics tools for identification of new determinants of cancer risk."

## **BIOCHEMISTRY HOLIDAY PARTY**

The Biochemistry 2013 Holiday Party at The Wave was a testament to the dedication of our Biochemistry Social Committee. This team of students, led by Tom McMurrough, deserves our gratitude for making it all happen. Guests especially enjoyed the band 'Buttonfly,' whose entertaining performance, excellent vocals, awesome sax and dynamite guitar/drum rhythms took the whole experience to a new level. We had a GREAT time, and sharing it with everyone made it a memorable occasion. Thanks again to everyone involved. Some of the funds from the 50/50 draw were donated to the London Women's Shelter in memory of William Green (Barb Green's father and former employee in the Dept.).

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

Dr. Ainsworth (BRCA1/2 mutation carriers)

Dr. Choy (conformations of linear motifs)

Drs. Goldberg and Hunter (matrix gla protein and crystal formation)

Dr. Hegele (<u>LDL cholesterol treatment</u>) (<u>abetalipoproteinemia</u>, <u>homozygous hypobetalipoproteinemia</u>) (<u>statin adverse effects</u>) (<u>ADH mutations</u>)

Dr. Heinemann (reverse nucleotide polymerization)

Dr. Konermann (mass spectrometry methods)

Dr. O'Donoghue (genetic recoding with selenocysteine)

Dr. Rupar (transcobalamin deficiency)

See recent publication details.

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#### **CONGRATS TO...**

Lance DaSilva, Russ Dickson, and Jean Macklaim for successful PhD defenses

Brendan Innes for his successful MSc defense

Stephanie Dorman (graduate student in Dr. Peter Rogan's lab) for receiving a travel award from the CIHR Institute Community Support program. She will present at the AACR 2014 meeting in San Diego

Tara Condos (Dr. Gary Shaw's lab) and Nancy Friedrich (Dr. Dave Edgell's lab) for their creations in our annual Pumpkin Carving Contest. Nancy won 1st place and scariest pumpkin.







Dr. Shawn Li and colleague for a CIHR China-Canada Joint Health Research Initiative Grant (see **School News**)

Dr. Patrick O'Donoghue for his publication in *Angewandte Chemie* (genetic recoding with selenocysteine) - chosen as a "Very Important Paper" (VIP), placing it in the top 5% of published articles in this journal

Dr. Peter Rogan for his patent, issued on 10 Dec (<u>US Pat 8,605,981</u>) for "Centromere Detector and Method for Determining Radiation Exposure From Chromosome Abnormalities"





