2014 DECEMBER

Schulich Dentistry IRG (Internal Research Grant Program) Competition Results

Congratulations to the following Clinician Scientists who were awarded a Schulich Dentistry IRG of $10,000 each:

Dr. Ali Tassi (Assistant Professor, Graduate Orthodontics), along with his co-investigator, Dr. Yara Hosein. Research will begin in the new year on their project entitled ‘Development and Validation of a Method for Assessing Miniscrew Stability using the Osstell® Resonance Frequency System’.

Dr. Hasan Alkumru (Assistant Professor, Restorative Dentistry) will begin his research project entitled ‘Factors Affecting the Fracture Strength and Fatigue Resistance of Zirconia-based Implant Supported Posterior Crowns’.

2014 NOVEMBER

Presentations

Dr. Graeme Hunter presented in Perth, Australia at the Dept. of Chemistry, Curtin University (“Inhibition of calcium oxalate crystal growth by osteopontin”) and the Depts. of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Western Australia (“Two crystal-binding motifs of biomineral-modulating proteins”).

2014–2015 CADR–NCOHR Student Research Award

Congratulations to Kendal Creber for receiving second place in the Senior (Basic Science) Category - 2014–2015 CADR-NCOHR Student Research Awards. Kendal’s work “Design of an Electrospun Collagen/Periostin Scaffold for Periodontal Regeneration” was supervised by Dr. Douglas Hamilton, Oral Biology, Schulich Dentistry. Kendal Creber qualifies to present her research at the CADR Annual General Meeting which will be held in conjunction with the General Session of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) in Boston, MA in March 2015. Two of the winners will represent Canada at the Unilever/Hatton competition.

The CADR Student Research Awards are sponsored by the Canadian Association for Dental Research (CADR) and by the Network for Canadian Oral Health Research (NCOHR).

2014 OCTOBER

Dentistry’s Research Day Poster Presentations

Congratulations to the following students who received awards for their Poster Presentations at Dentistry’s Research Day.

JUNIOR CATEGORY - Travel Awards

CDA/Dentsply Travel Award - Greg Luvison, DDS 2017

Hinman Student Research Travel Award - Kimberly Williams, DDS 2017

ADA Foundation Travel Award - Vida Lam, DDS 2017
Awarded for poster: “Role of bone sialoprotein in stabilizing tendon insertion into bone.” Supervised by Dr. Harvey Goldberg. Will represent Schulich Dentistry at the 2015 Dental Student Research Conference in Maryland.
SENIOR CATEGORY - Merit Awards
First - Erik Holm, DCS/DDS 2018 - Supervised by Dr. Harvey Goldberg
Awarded for poster: “Osteopontin mediates mineralization and not osteogenic cell development in vitro.”

Second - Carine Bourassa, Graduate Orthodontics 2015 - Supervised by Dr. Ali Tassi

Third - Shawna Kim, DCS Student - Supervised by Dr. Douglas Hamilton
Awarded for poster: “Effect of nifedipine and phenytoin on gingival tissue remodelling.”

Schulich Dentistry Annual Research Day
The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry hosted Schulich Dentistry Annual Research Day, featuring presentations of student posters and the 13th John T. Hamilton Lecture, delivered by Martha J. Somerman, DDS, PhD.

Dr. Somerman is the Director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) at NIH in Bethesda, Maryland. Previously, Dr. Somerman was the Dean of Dentistry at the University of Washington. Her research focuses on defining the key regulators controlling development and maintenance and regeneration of tissues that form the dental-oral-craniofacial complex. Dr. Somerman’s presentation is entitled: “Advances in defining the factors and mechanisms controlling development and regeneration of periodontal tissues.”

2014 SEPTEMBER
NCOHR September Symposium
Drs. T. Ari, N. Ari & L. Kalman will attend a NCOHR and McGill Dentistry Symposium re: interdisciplinarity in oral health research on Sep 17-19 in Montreal. This symposium seeks to address the challenges of siloed research and facilitate innovative/interdisciplinary collaboration among dental faculties, schools and other disciplines.

2014 AUGUST
Dentistry Summer Research Students
Final presentations (including results/conclusions of projects) were made by our Summer Research Students on Aug 20 to Dentistry Faculty, Staff and students.

Presenters include DDS Students who have been awarded summer studenships through Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry and also DDS Students who are funded from external Sources.

2014 JULY
CIHR Successes
Congratulations to Drs. Doug Hamilton and Andrew Leask for obtaining major operating research funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). Their success is even more remarkable given the historically low level (~12-13%) of successful applications for funding in this recent competition.

- Dr. Leask’s project titled ‘CCN2 Action in Fibrosis: Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms’ will be funded for 5 years at $156,940 per year, for a total of $784,700.
- Dr. Hamilton’s project titled ‘Development of Matricellular Protein-Containing Granulation Tissue Biomimetic Scaffolds to Enhance Skin Regeneration’ will also be funded for 5 years at $144,708 per year, for a total of $723,540.

Dentistry Postdoc attended NCOHR Summer Institute Workshop in BC
Dr. Yara Hosein, PhD, attended the NCOHR Summer Institute workshop in July, at the Centre for High-Throughput Phenogenomics, University of BC, entitled “Advanced Imaging Methods in Craniofacial and Oral Health Research”.
Request for applications for Schulich Dentistry 2014/15 Internal Research Grants Competition

Eligibility: The principal applicant must be a regular, full-time faculty member of Schulich Dentistry. Applicants who currently hold research grants, contracts or internal funds (including start-up funds) totaling more than $15,000 a year are ineligible to apply. Deadline: November 5, 2014.

Appointments
Dr. Harinder Sandhu is pleased to announce the following faculty appointments, effective July 1, 2014:
- Dr. Tom Mara has been appointed Assistant Director, Clinics (three-year term)
- Dr. Najeeb Saad has been appointed Chair, Admissions Committee (three-year term)
- Harvey Goldberg has been reappointed Assistant Director, Research (three-year term)
- Dr. Graeme Hunter has been appointed Assistant Director, Faculty Development
- Dr. Douglas Hamilton has been appointed Chair, Oral Biology (three-year term)

2014 JUNE
Dr. Douglas Hamilton Awarded NSERC Discovery Grant
Schulich Medicine & Dentistry researchers will receive more than $3.5 million in funding during the next five years through the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada’s (NSERC) Discovery Grants program. Dr. Douglas Hamilton (Associate Professor, Dentistry), was one of almost 30 researchers at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry who were funded in this round.

Minister of Science and Technology, Ed Holder, was at Western University to announce the more than $340 million in funding across Canada, including more than $15 million for Western University researchers and trainees. “By supporting 3,500 researchers and students in Canada, our Government is providing the right kind of help to push the frontiers of knowledge in science and engineering,” said Holder. “In so doing, we are developing, attracting and retaining the world’s most talented researchers who carry out the scientific research that creates jobs and prosperity and improves the quality of life of Canadians.”

Dentistry Quintessence Research Award
Jason Zimmerman (DDS 2014) - The Quintessence Research Award is awarded on the recommendation of the Research Committee, following nomination by the faculty supervisors, to a graduating dental student who has been exemplary in research in the undergraduate dental program.

Dentistry Summer Research Students
The first of two presentations were made by our Summer Research Students on Jun 18th to Dentistry Faculty, Staff and students. Presenters included DDS Students who have been awarded summer studentships through Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry and also DDS Students who are funded from external Sources.

DCS Students attend NCOHR Workshop - Jun 16-17
Four of our Dental Clinician-Scientist (DCS) students attended the 2nd Annual Student Workshop held by The Network for Canadian Oral Health Research (NCOHR) entitled: “Enhancing Student Involvement in Oral Health Research” at the School of Dentistry, University of Alberta. Attendees: Karen Ann Bridge, MSc (DDS 2015), Kim Beaucage, PhD (DDS 2018), Erik Holm, PhD (DDS 2018), Shawna Kim, PhD Candidate (DDS 2019).

2014 MAY
May 8 – Seventh Annual Susanne Bernier Memorial Lecture in Skeletal Biology
Maurizio Pacifici, PhD, Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Pennsylvania and Director of Orthopaedic Research, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. “Synovial Joint Development and Postnatal Function: Molecular Regulators and Therapeutic Targets”. Dr. Pacifici’s research has contributed to our basic understanding of how joints, and articular cartilage in particular, acquire their structural and functional features during embryogenesis and early postnatal life and how molecular regulators of these processes can be targeted for the treatment of joint disease. Dr. Pacifici currently holds the Bong S. Lee Endowed Chair in Pediatric Orthopaedics.

This lecture series and award honors Dr. Suzanne Bernier (Schulich faculty member in the Dept. of Anatomy and Cell Biology), colleague, collaborator and mentor, who passed away in 2007 at the age of 42, after battling breast cancer for several years. These yearly events celebrate the memory of Dr. Bernier who was a passionate arthritis researcher. She was a founding member of Western’s CIHR Group in Skeletal Development and Remodelling and dedicated her research career to understanding the pathways that regulate cartilage destruction in inflammatory arthritis. Through both her research program and involvement with The Arthritis Society, Suzanne was a wonderful role model who encouraged both her colleagues and students to give back to the community that supports them.
2014 APRIL
April 11 - Dentistry Seminar Series
Dr. T. Michael Underhill, Professor, Dept. of Cellular and Physiological Sciences, Biomedical Research Centre, University of British Columbia. “Mesenchymal cells in health and disease”

2014 FEBRUARY
Feb 5 - Dentistry Seminar Series Presentation & Workshop
Schulich Dentistry will be presenting a Faculty Seminar & Workshop on Feb 5th with talks from Dr. Christian Caron, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies and Professor, Faculty of Dentistry, Université Laval.

9:00 am “The long and winding road: implementing geriatric teaching in a dental faculty”
9:45 am Round Table Discussion
10:45 am “What are the critical considerations to maintain optimal oral health in the compromised geriatric patient”

2014 JANUARY
2014 Summer Student Research Program
Dentistry’s Summer Student Research Program provides an opportunity for students enrolled in the DDS program to contribute to clinical and basic science research being performed in Schulich Dentistry. Each year, there are a limited number of Studentships awarded by competition. Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded a 2014 summer studentship.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Graduating Year</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Archibald</td>
<td>DDS 2017</td>
<td>Dr. G. Hunter</td>
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<td>Christopher Chan</td>
<td>DDS 2016</td>
<td>Dr. A. Rizkalla</td>
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<td>Mohammad Garshasb</td>
<td>DDS 2016</td>
<td>Dr. J. Santos</td>
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<td>Joel Keshwah</td>
<td>DDS 2015</td>
<td>Dr. D. Hamilton</td>
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<td>Vida Lam</td>
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<td>Carol Lui</td>
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<td>Greg Luvison</td>
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<td>Bilal Paracha</td>
<td>DDS 2016</td>
<td>Dr. L. Kalman</td>
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<td>Michael Tiedemann</td>
<td>DDS 2017</td>
<td>Dr. D. Hamilton</td>
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<td>Kimberly Williams</td>
<td>DDS 2017</td>
<td>Dr. A. Leask</td>
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