

ANATOMY & CELL BIOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

April 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

Congratulations
Awards & Grants
Presentations & Conferences
New Publications
Faculty News
2020 ACB Promotion & Tenure
ACB Gives Back!
ACB Events

UPCOMING SEMINARS

***Discontinued for the remainder of
the school year***

SAVE THE DATES

Virtual Trivia Night

April 30th, 2020

Spring Social

Postponed

Grad Semi-Formal

Postponed

Memorial Service

Postponed

Awards Day

June 8th, 2020

Murray Barr Lecture

October 23rd, 2020

STAY IN THE LOOP

Tag us at [#westernuACB](#)



ACB Events
Calendar



@westernuACB



ACB Graduate
Council



WESTERN ACKNOWLEDGES COMMITMENT OF HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Blue lights light up Alumni Hall and University College daily in recognition of the tremendous commitment from local healthcare teams who continue to care for the people in our community during these trying times.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to [Shariq Najeeb](#) of the Hamilton lab on the safe arrival of baby number two. The proud parents welcomed their daughter, Zaynah Shariq, weighing 7.4 pounds at 6am on Monday, April 13, 2020.



Congratulations and a farewell to [Dendra Hiller](#), The Department Anatomy of and Cell Biology wishes you the best in your new role at BrainsCAN!

Congratulations to [Pascal Morissette Martin](#) and [Sarah Chadiwck](#) who successfully defended their PhD theses on February 21st and April 16th respectively

Congratulations to [Jenna Kitz](#), PhD candidate (Allan lab) for being selected to represent Anatomy & Cell Biology and Western University at the Canada Student Health Research Forum 2020 (CSHRF) in Winnipeg, MB in June 2020. Although this conference has unfortunately been cancelled due to the pandemic, we are still very proud of Jenna for this prestigious nomination.

AWARDS & GRANTS

The Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology would like to congratulate [Tom Chrones](#) and [Dr. Silvia Penula](#) on being 2020 Schulich Awards of Excellence recipients, a full article can be read [here](#).

The Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology would like to congratulate [Dr. P.K. Lala](#) on being elected a Fellow of the American Association for Anatomy (FAAA) this year and again for being awarded the Henry Gray Scientific Achievement Award from the American Association of Anatomy's (AAA.) Do to the current circumstances Dr. Lala was unable to accept his award in person at AAA's annual meeting in San Diego, and instead a virtual meeting was held. A short video of Dr. Lala's talk from the meeting has been broadcasted and can be [viewed here](#).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ONhGUhDDhG8&feature=youtu.be>

Congratulations to the following recipients of Anatomy and Cell Biology's 2020 Travel Awards:

- Sarah Chadwick (Lajoie)
- Jenna Kitz (Allan)
- Chidambra Halari (Lala)
- Marta Defelice (Laviolette)
- Rafael Sanchez Pupo (Penuela)
- Samar Sayedyahosseini (Penuela)
- Gargi Jaju (Renaud)
- Andrew Deweyert (Schmid)
- Matthew Borrelli (Shepherd)
- Ahmed Salem (Duennwald)
- Ornella Kljakic (Prado)
- Paige Eansor (Rogers)

Congratulations to [Roger Hudson](#) who was awarded the 2019 Brain Star Award by The Canadian Association for Neuroscience (CAN) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (CIHR-INMHA) for work conducted involving the recently published manuscript "*Cannabidiol Counteracts the Psychotropic Side-Effects of Δ -9-Tetrahydrocannabinol in the Ventral Hippocampus through Bidirectional Control of ERK1-2 Phosphorylation*" which was viewed as one of the influential Canadian neuroscience papers of the year in 2019.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31570536>

PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCES

[Chidambra Halari](#) (pictured left) presented in Western's 3MT competition final on March 12th at the Wolf Performance Hall, London Public Library in downtown London, where she placed third and was awarded a \$250 cash prize. Chidambra's presentation entitled "Seed of Life" has been featured on the department website and can be [viewed here](#)



PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCES CONT..



Kevin Santiago (pictured left) claimed 3rd prize for his poster presentation at Western's 2nd Annual Neuroscience Research Day entitled "Student Attention Patterns in the Modern Classroom: An Eye-Tracking Field Study."

Dr. Tim Wilson was invited to speak at the Canadian Conference on Medical Education, in Vancouver this month. He was scheduled to speak with 4 co-presenter on the role of Augmented and Virtual environments in our professional teaching and skills training. However, due to Covid19 the conference has been postponed and moved to a virtual setting where Dr. Wilson recorded talk entitled, ""To whom do the pictures say a 1000 words and is everyone on the same page? Learner Spatial Ability and Cognitive Load." will be presented.

ACB FACULTY NEWS

Dr. Alison Allan was featured in a recent London Free Press article about the impact of COVID19 on biomedical research: Layoffs, lost funding and how COVID-19 may permanently hurt London's medical-research sector.

<https://lfp.com/news/local-news/layoffs-lost-funding-and-how-covid-19-may-permanently-hurt-londons-medical-research-sector>

Dr. Tyler Beveridge has put together a code repository for students and faculty to access and share working examples of the code they have developed or modified. It is Dr. Beveridge's hope that this will open the doors for collaboration between labs and with alumni, as well as assist with productivity by providing solutions to problems students encounter that may have already been solved. You can access the repository through the [Anatomy and Cell Biology Website](#), under the "Research" heading or by following the link: https://owl.uwo.ca/access/content/group/df9cf22a-1b4d-4f0b-8fca-d1b6c1020326/code_repository/index.html

A big welcome home to Dr. Paul Walton and his wife Karen who returned home on April 16th from New Zealand. Sadly, Dr. Waltons sabbatical was cut short due to COVID19, but we are very happy to have them back!

2020 ACB PROMOTION & TENURE

PUBLIC SOLICITATION FOR DR. STEPHEN RENAUD NOTICE TO ALL FACULTY AND STUDENTS

Dr. Stephen Renaud is being considered for promotion to Associate Professor and the granting of tenure, which requires a public solicitation for letters. For more details and if you're interested in providing a written submission please [click here](#).

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Jeyarajah MJ, Jaju Bhattad G, Hillier DM, and Renaud SJ. The transcription factor OVOL2 represses ID2 and drives differentiation of trophoblast stem cells and placental development in mice. *Cells* 2020 Mar 31;9(4). pii: E840. doi: 10.3390/cells9040840. PMID: 32244352.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/32244352>

Theresa H. Tam, Kenny L. Chan, Parastoo Boroumand, Zhi Liu, Joseph T. Brozinick, Hai Hoang Bui⁴, Kenneth Roth, C. Brent Wakefield, Silvia Penuela, Philip J. Bilan and Amira Klip. Nucleotides released from palmitate-activated murine macrophages attract neutrophils.
<https://www.jbc.org/content/early/2020/03/03/jbc.RA119.010868.abstract>

Hudson R, Green M, Wright DJ, Renard J, Jobson CEL, Jung T, Rushlow W, Laviolette SR. Adolescent nicotine induces depressive and anxiogenic effects through ERK 1-2 and Akt-GSK-3 pathways and neuronal dysregulation in the nucleus accumbens. *Addict Biol.* 2020 Mar 5:e12891. doi:10.1111/adb.12891.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/32135573>

Faraj Haddad (Schmid lab) and Ramina Adam (Robarts) along with several other volunteers from the Society of Neuroscience Graduate Students (SONGS) published the first issue of *The Dorsal Column*, a quarterly science communication blog that aims to take Western-affiliated research out of the lab and into the London community. The first issue includes a welcome letter by Ramina Adam and 8 articles written for a non-scientific audience, including articles on research done by Dr's. Shawn Whitehead and Marco Prado.

A printed version will be available in coffeshops, bookshops and libraries around London.

The articles can be read on the [SONGS website](#) or you can view what the printed version looks like [here](#). If anyone is interested in receiving a pdf copy to print your own you can contact Faraj or the Admin staff at anatomy@uwo.ca

JANUARY 2020

VOLUME 1 // ISSUE 1

THE DORSAL COLUMN

SHARING NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH WITH OUR BROADER COMMUNITY

WELCOME TO OUR FIRST ISSUE
BY RAMINA ADAM

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the very first issue of *The Dorsal Column* – a quarterly publication that will share stories about brain research with the broader London community. Each issue will feature articles regarding neuroscience research carried out in affiliation with Western University and will be written and reviewed by a team of graduate students. Our mission is to strengthen public engagement and enthusiasm for science by bringing research out of the lab and into the community.

IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome Letter By Ramina Adam	1
"Micro" Cells with Major Functions: Scientists discover new pathway for brain immunity By Vasiliki Tellos	4
Alzheimer's disease: Losing behavioural flexibility By Ariel Frame	5

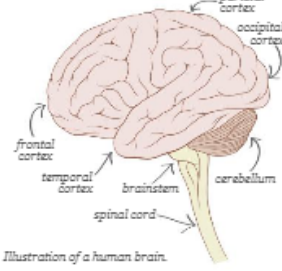


Illustration of a human brain.

The origin behind our name, *The Dorsal Column*, is quite fitting: "the dorsal column" is a pathway in your spinal cord that is made up of a bundle of nerves that bring information from your body to your brain.

Try this: ask someone to trace a number on the palm of your hand using their index finger while you look away or close your eyes. Can you guess what number they traced on you? You can thank your dorsal column for that! Those sensations you felt on your skin were sent to your brain through nerves that travel through

We want to feature your new publications here!

submit them to anatomy@uwo.ca

ACB GIVES BACK



ST. JOHN'S HOSPITALITY DINNER

St. John's is continuing to serve those in need during the Covid-19 pandemic, and requires the ongoing support of Volunteers to help prepare and serve food at the community dinners. Social distancing measures and precautions are in place to ensure the safety of volunteers and patrons. To register, please add your name to the volunteer sign up sheet by [clicking here](#)

ACB.I.N.G.O!

The second round of ACB.I.N.G.O has been placed on hold due to the changes surrounding Covid-19. However, all bingo cards sold in March will remain valid and we will pick up right where we left off when we return to campus. ACB thanks you for your continued support of our fundraising efforts and we look forward to holding many more great events in 2020.



\$1 per Card

PURCHASE MULTIPLES FOR MORE CHANCES TO WIN!

NUMBERS DRAWN DAILY

SUPPORT A GOOD CAUSE

CHECK YOUR NUMBERS HERE

Proceeds will be donated to The Ronald McDonald House London and Lets Talk Science



Keeping families close



The Ronald McDonald House London is a place where out-of town families with seriously ill children can stay for as long as they need and be only 165 steps from Children's Hospital, LHSC.
<https://www.rmhc-swo.ca/about-us/how-we-help>

Lets Talk Science works with over 50 universities including Western, colleges and research institutes, and over 3,500 volunteers, who bring over 55,000 hours of science outreach to Canadian youth
<https://letstalkscience.ca/about-us>

ACB EVENTS



Virtual
Trivia night

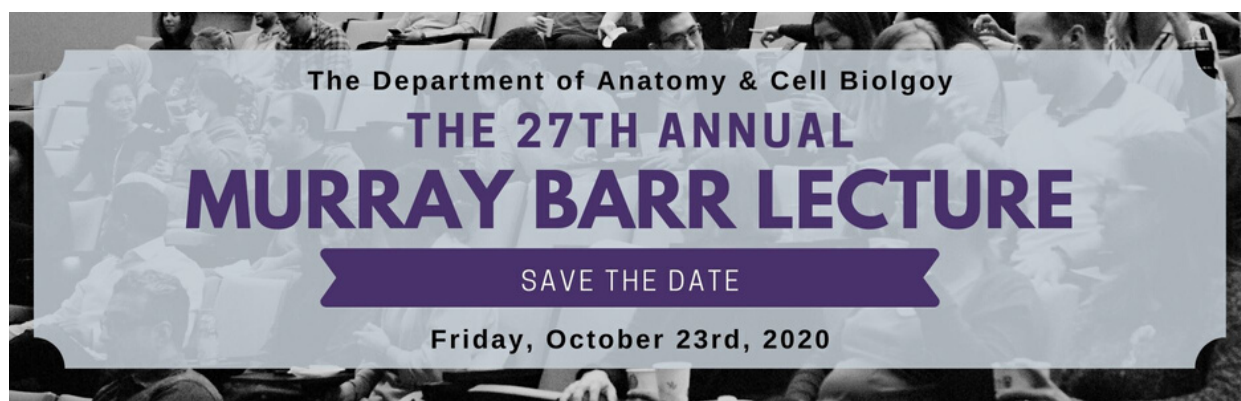
Kahoot!

APRIL 30TH | 7:00PM - 8:30PM

zoom

VIRTUAL TRIVIA NIGHT

Grab a drink and join your fellow ACB staff, students and faculty from the comfort of your living room, as we test your knowledge to see who will be crowned ACB's Trivia Master! Email invites will be sent out with details pertaining to Kahoot and a Zoom invitation.



The Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology
**THE 27TH ANNUAL
MURRAY BARR LECTURE**

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, October 23rd, 2020

MURRAY BARR LECTURE

We are pleased to announce Gairdner Award winner Dr. Elaine Fuchs as our guest speaker for the 27th Annual Murray Barr Lecture. The Lecture will take place on Friday, October 23rd 2020, following Anatomy and Cell Biology's annual Research Day. More details can be found [here](#) as well as on the [Anatomy and Cell Biology Events Calendar](#).

GRAD STUDENT SOCIAL HOUR



**ACB Grad Council
Presents**

Social Hour

Illustration of a coffee cup, a glass of beer, and a cup of iced coffee.

Kelly Baines and Paige Easnor as part of ACB Grad Council will be hosting social hours on Zoom weekly:

Mondays 3:00pm-4:00pm
Thursdays 10:00am-11:00am

These meetings are meant to provide a safe space for ACB Grad Students to express any concerns and to reconnect with peers during this time. Grad students will have received a Zoom meeting ID via email, please reach out to Kelly, Paige or the ACB Admin staff if you need this provided to you again.

Mother's Day Gift Bags

In partnership with local businesses, *The Promise Walk for Preeclampsia London* is running a **Mother's Day Gift Bag Fundraiser!** We have some amazing local products that are sure to pamper the loved ones in your life.

Support local businesses and a charity that is advancing the health of moms!

Featured Products

Potted Gerbera Daisy from Heeman's

Cranberry Scented Handmade Soy Candle from Scents of Humour

Sweet Pea Bath Bomb from Magpie Bath

Secret Body Butter by From the Meadow

Whipped Lime Body Scrub by From the Meadow

Handmade Mother's Day Card from M&M Crafty Cards

\$25

Potted Gerbera Daisy
Scented Soy Candle
Mother's Day Card

\$35

Potted Gerbera Daisy
Bath Bomb
Body Butter
Body Scrub
Mother's Day Card

\$45

Potted Gerbera Daisy
Scented Soy Candle
Bath Bomb
Body Butter
Body Scrub
Mother's Day Card

We are taking precautions to be safe during this time with free **pick-up or delivery!**

Order by April 26th by text (226-224-2342) or
email renaud.helen@gmail.com

