

# ANATOMY & CELL BIOLOGY

## NEWSLETTER

September 2020

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### UPCOMING SEMINARS

October 9th, 2020  
October 13th, 2020 @ 1pm  
October 16th, 2020  
October 30th, 2020  
November 13th, 2020

### SAVE THE DATES

**Murray Barr Lecture**  
October 23rd, 2020  
**Research Week**  
October 19th-23rd

### STAY IN THE LOOP

Tag us at [#westernuACB](#)



**ACB Events  
Calendar**



**@westernuACB**



**ACB Graduate  
Council**



## WELCOME GRADUATE STUDENTS!

A welcome message from Dr. Allan, to our new and continuing graduate students for the 2020-2021 academic year

On behalf of the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology, I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to all of our talented new and continuing students as you embark upon the 2020-2021 academic year.

This promises to be a year unlike any other we have experienced before. While there is no doubt that the background of the ongoing global pandemic has introduced new stresses and challenges, there are also some amazing opportunities for creative evolution of our academic activities. The Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology is proud of our strong sense of community and our rich history of teaching and research excellence. Over the past several months we have been working hard to ensure that we can continue to deliver the highest-quality education to our students, including providing opportunities for meaningful research experiences and close interactions with faculty.

I encourage you to keep an open mind and positive outlook for this academic year. Collaborate with your peers and teachers; be willing to step out of your comfort zone and challenge yourself; and most of all take care of yourselves and others around you. We look forward to working closely with all of you to support your successful academic journey!

Alison Allan, PhD  
Chair, Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology  
Western University

## SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS & GRANTS

Congratulations to **Sierra Pellizari** (MSc candidate; Parsyan/Allan labs) and **Dr. Vasu Bhat** (PDF; Allan/Palma labs) who were both awarded Translational Breast Cancer Research Unit (TBCRU) Traineeships for the 2020-2021 academic year, funded by the Breast Cancer Society of Canada  
<https://www.lhsc.on.ca/media/8835/download>

Congratulations to the Penuela lab on receiving a new Operating Grant from the Cancer Research Society (CRS) to fund the project entitled: "Targeting PANX1 channels as a new strategy to reduce growth and angiogenesis of aggressive gliomas" Nominated Principal Investigator: **Silvia Penuela**. Co-applicants: Matthew Hebb, John Ronald.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

# We want to feature your new publications here!

submit them to [anatomy@uwo.ca](mailto:anatomy@uwo.ca)

**Amanda M Rampersaud**, Caroline E Dunk, Stephen J Lye, and **Stephen J Renaud**. Palmitic acid induces inflammation in placental trophoblasts and impairs their migration toward smooth muscle cells via plasminogen activator inhibitor-1. Mol Hum Reprod. 2020 Sep 8  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32898274/>

**Chidambra D Halari**, Pinki N Nandi, **Mariyan J Jeyarajah**, **Stephen J Renaud**, **Peeyush K Lala**. Decorin production by the human decidua: role in decidual cell maturation. Mol Hum Reprod. 2020 Aug 31  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32866233/>

**Kaitlin Marshall**, Shiva M. Naier, **Katherine E. Willmore**, **Tyler S. Beveridge**, Nicholas E. Power. Anatomical characterization of the inguinal lymph nodes using microcomputed tomography to inform radical inguinal lymph node dissections in penile cancer. 2020 Sept 10  
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/jso.26199>

Scott KE, Kazazian K, Mann RS, **Möhrle D**, **Schormans AL**, **Schmid S#**, **Allman BL#** (2020)  
#co-senior authorship Loss of Cntnap2 in the rat causes autism-related alterations in social interactions, stereotypic behaviour and sensory processing. Autism Res, Sept. 2020  
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/aur.2364>

Alyssa C. Moore, Jessica Wu, **Elizabeth Jewlal**, Kevin Barr, **Dale W. Laird**, **Katherine E. Willmore**. Effects of Reduced Connexin43 Function on Mandibular Morphology and Osteogenesis in Mutant Mouse Models of Oculodentodigital Dysplasia. Calcified Tissue International: DOI 10.1007/s00223-020-00753-9  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32902679/>

Zachary Timothy Dye, Lauren Virginia Rutledge, **Silvia Penuela**, Paul William Dyce. Pannexin 1 inhibition delays maturation and improves development of Bos taurus oocytes. 2020 Aug 24.  
[ubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32838805/](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32838805/)



## ACB FALL SOCIAL



Graduate student Rafael Sanchez (Penuela Lab) and his son Henry, enjoying the picnic  
Photo taken by: Silvia Penuela



Madilyn enjoying the swings at the park  
Photo taken by: Karyn Bailey



Gavin finding the letter "C" during the ACB Scavenger hunt  
Photo taken by: Karyn Bailey



Strikingly colourful caterpillar found by Rafael Sanchez (Penuela Lab)  
Photo taken by: Garth Finch (Penuela Lab)





## 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 EVENTS

### ACB SEMINAR SERIES- UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS



#### Friday, October 9th

**Speaker:** Leroy Hood, PhD, Chief Strategy Officer,  
Insitute for Systems Biology, U.S

**Title:** *"The Vision of 21st Century Medicine: Big Data, Longitudinal Deep Phenotyping and Scientific Wellness"*

**Host:** Dale Laird



#### Friday, October 16th

**Speaker:** Jared Churko, PhD, Assistant Professor,  
The University of Arizona Health Sciences, U.S

**Title:** TBA

**Host:** Shawn Whitehead



#### Friday, October 30th

**Speaker:** Casey M. Holliday, PhD, Associate Profesoor,  
University of Missouri School of Medicine, U.S

**Title:** *"Sensational skulls: biomechanics and evolution of feeding in reptiles"*

**Host:** Elizabeth Jewlal



#### Friday, November 13th

**Speaker:** Lisa Cameron, PhD, Associate Profesor,  
Pathology, Western University

**Title:** TBA

**Host:** Silvia Penuela



## ANATOMY & CELL BIOLOGY VIRTUAL RESEARCH DAY 2020

The week of October 19th - 23rd

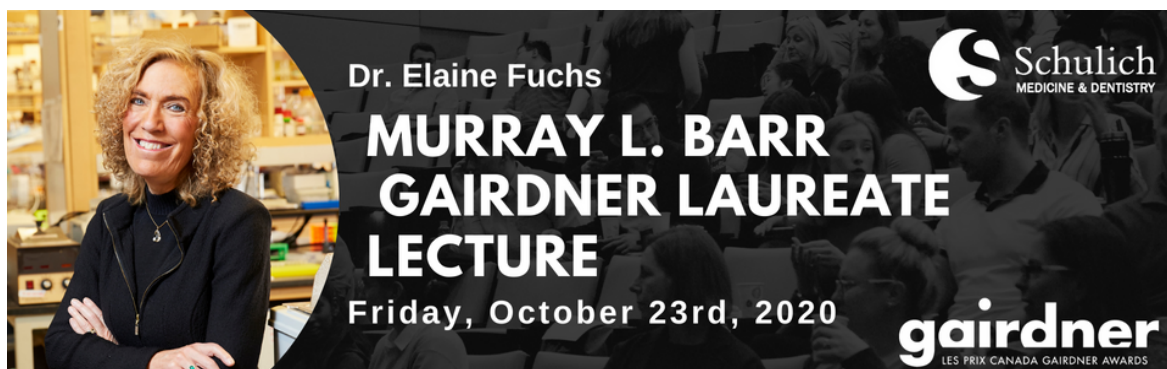
Details here: <https://bit.ly/36lYlyM>

### ACB VIRTUAL RESEARCH DAY 2020

The Anatomy and Cell Biology Research Day will be held virtually this year with events taking place both synchronously via Zoom on **Friday, October 23rd** and asynchronously through OWL during the week of October 19th - 23rd.

We are still looking for Graduate and Post Doc participants to present either a poster or 3MT. An Owl site ([ACB Research Day 2020](#)) has been set up with information on this year's events and instructions for presenters. We ask that you please review this information and complete the [presentation sign-up form](#). All presenting participants will receive a \$10 Western hospitality gift card.

Further details will be posted on the OWL site (linked above) as we get closer to the event.



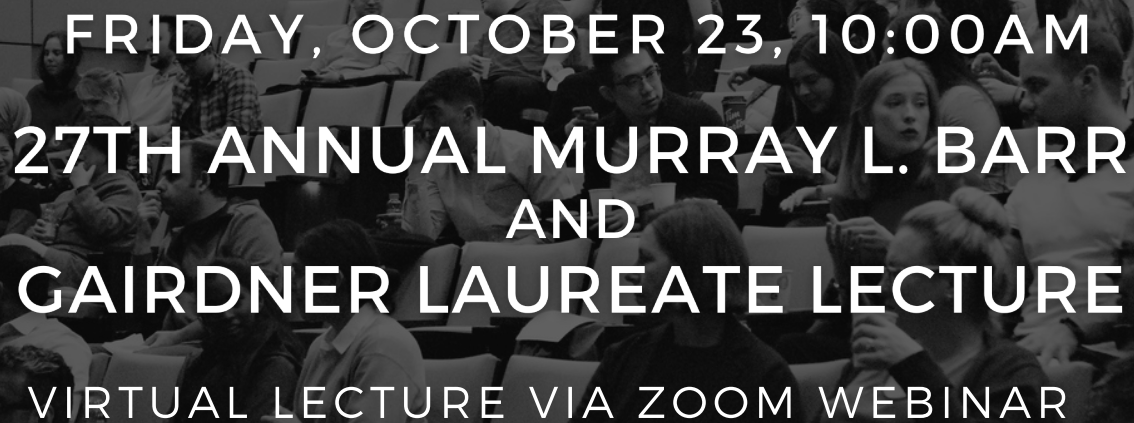
### MURRAY L. BARR & GAIRDNER LAUREATE LECTURE

We are less than one month away from our annual Murray L. Barr Lecture, which will be held virtually on **Friday, October 23rd, 2020 at 10:00am**.

This year we have the honour of hosting Dr. Elaine Fuchs, a 2020 Gairdner Award Recipient. This has given us the unique opportunity to create a joint lecture between Western University and The Gairdner Foundation.

Elaine Fuchs, PhD will be joining us virtually via Zoom Webinar from The Rockefeller University, New York, NY where she is a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator and Rebecca C. Lancefield Professor, as well as Head of the Robin Chemers Neustein Laboratory of Mammalian Cell Biology and Cell Biology. Dr. Fuchs will be presenting her lecture entitled "Tissue Stem Cells: Coping with Stress and Climate Change" followed by an Interactive Trainee Session, where Graduate Students and Post Docs will have the opportunity to meet with Dr. Fuchs in an open discussion via a separate Zoom meeting.

Please stay tuned for more details, an RSVP for the Lecture and Interactive Trainee Session will open on **October 5th, 2020**.



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 10:00AM  
**27TH ANNUAL MURRAY L. BARR  
AND  
GAIRDNER LAUREATE LECTURE**  
VIRTUAL LECTURE VIA ZOOM WEBINAR

## **TISSUE STEM CELLS: COPING WITH STRESS AND CLIMATE CHANGE**



**DR. ELAINE FUCHS, PHD**

2020 CANADA GAIRDNER  
INTERNATIONAL AWARD LAUREATE

Howard Hughes Medical Institute  
Investigator and Rebecca C.  
Lancefield Professor and Head of the  
Robin Chemers Neustein Laboratory  
of Mammalian Cell Biology and Cell  
Biology; The Rockefeller University,  
New York, NY, USA

**THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY**

Registration for this **FREE** event  
opens **Monday, October 5th, 2020**