

ANATOMY & CELL BIOLOGY

RETURN OF THE NEWSLETTER

As another academic year begins, the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology continues to make its mark on the global stage. Our students, faculty, and staff have had many successes to celebrate, and have contributed to an impressive array of grants, awards, grants, publications, presentations, and other scholarly achievements.

The impact of ACB extends far beyond the walls of the Medical Sciences Building, reaching across Western, throughout London, and around the world. With the addition of new faculty and staff, the department continues to build on the strong foundation that makes it such a rewarding and inspiring place to learn, work, conduct research, and grow.

In this edition, we highlight just a small sample of the outstanding accomplishments and milestones from the past 18 months. We'll also explore what's ahead for Anatomy and Cell Biology and showcase some of our department's contributions and impact across campus.

Most importantly, we want to celebrate the people who make ACB exceptional. Our faculty, students, and staff are at the heart of everything we do, and we are excited to share their stories, achievements, and contributions with you.

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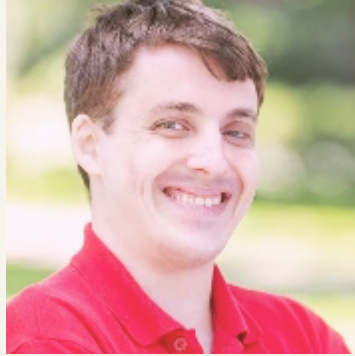
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WELCOME NEW FACULTY AND STAFF



Dr. Kabir Khan



Dr. Graham Read



Daniel Hunter

Dr. Kabir Khan will be joining the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology this September as an Assistant Professor.

Dr. Khan obtained his PhD from the University of Birmingham, where his doctoral research in Dr. Roy Bicknell's group focused on molecular angiogenesis and novel protein interactions in tumors. He subsequently joined Dr. Robert Kerbel's laboratory at the Sunnybrook Research Institute for a Banting postdoctoral fellowship, focusing on preclinical models of metastasis, immunotherapy response, and acquired resistance to PD-1/PD-L1 antibody blockade. Dr. Khan has published in Cancer Research, Science Immunology and Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology, and more recently has worked with a biotech start-up focused on de-risking antibody drug discovery and identifying off-target binding.

Dr. Graham Read joined the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology in June as an Assistant Professor and will contribute to teaching within the Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences (IMS) programs. Dr. Read is a molecular biologist and education researcher whose research has explored radiation-induced changes in cancer cell metabolism, 3D culturing systems, and noncoding RNA dynamics in cancer stress responses. He has taught genetics, cell biology, statistics, and courses focused on evidence-based teaching practices.

Most recently, Dr. Read served as a Visiting Assistant Professor at Macalester College, where he taught Genetics, Cell Biology, and a course on Radiation and Radiotherapy. He completed his PhD in Gene Regulation, Epigenomics and Transcriptomics at UCLA, following research experience at the National Cancer Institute and postdoctoral training at the University of Illinois Chicago, where his work included developing prognostic assays for prostate cancer.

Daniel Hunter joined the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology as our newest Anatomy Lab Technician in early August!

Daniel recently completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Toronto in Kinesiology and Physical Education while working in their division of Anatomy as a technician and prosector.

FAREWELL FROM ACB

A huge thank you to the support given to the anatomy lab by **Michelle Loo** over the last few years with us in this capacity. In the fall, Michelle will instruct the PT program and half of ACB 2200 so don't fret, you will still see her around. An additional thank you to **Nevaeh Piroski** and **Adam Exley** who worked this summer in the lab and ensured our inventory was well taken care of. Nevaeh and Adam both begin their PhD's this fall.

From **Haley Linklater**

Farewell to Karyn Bailey

In August, we said farewell to Karyn Bailey, who has been a valued member of the Anatomy & Cell Biology department for many years. Throughout her time with ACB, Karyn wore many hats, contributing in both Administrative Assistant and Financial Assistant roles and supporting countless aspects of the department along the way.

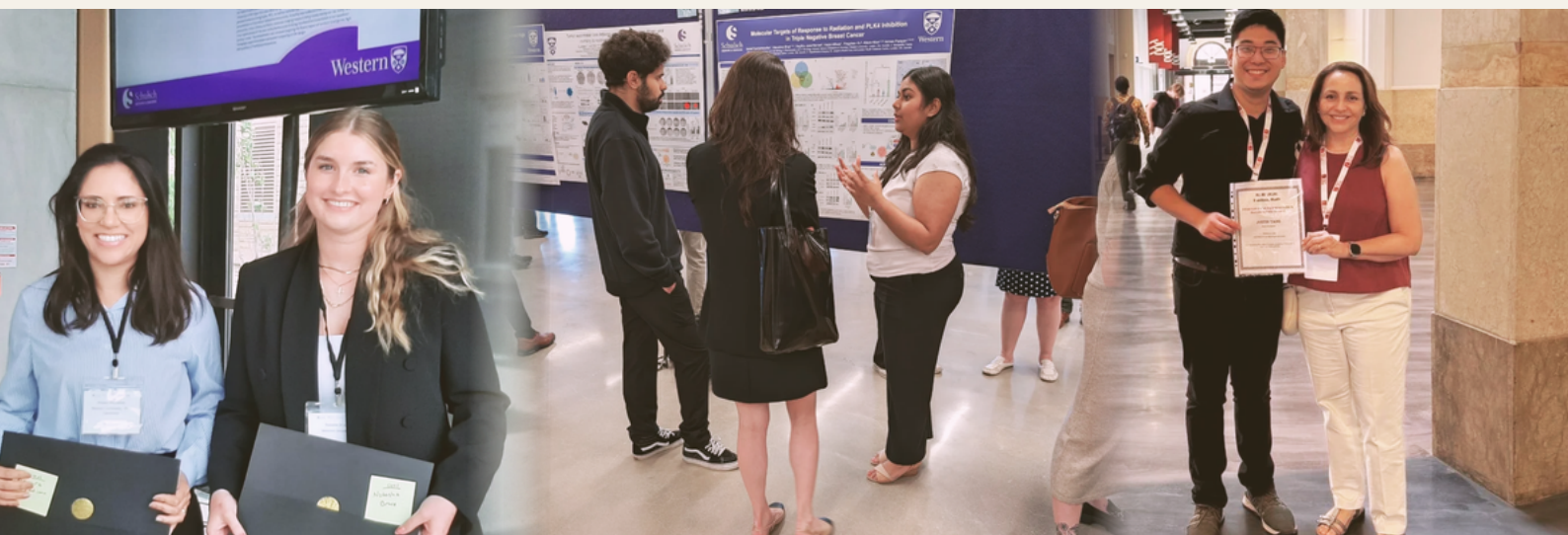
Karyn's knowledge, dedication, and willingness to step in wherever needed have been greatly appreciated, and she will certainly be missed by her colleagues across ACB. We thank Karyn for her many years of service and contributions to the department and wish her all the very best in her next chapter!

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND GRANTS

It has been an outstanding year for recognition across our department, with faculty, staff, and trainees receiving SSHRC, CIHR, NSERC, and Ontario Graduate Scholarships, Verspeeten Family Cancer Centre Catalyst Grant funding, presentation and research awards, and recognition at national and international conferences.

Among these achievements, we are pleased to highlight, **Dr. Lorelei Lingard**, has been elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada; **Dr. Shawn Whitehead**, who secured five years of CIHR Project funding; **Dr. Charys Martin**, recipient of an OCUFA Teaching and Academic Librarianship Award; and **Dr. Sarah McLean**, who will receive an Ontario Volunteer Service Award this September.

Congratulations to all of our award and recognition recipients! We encourage our community to continue celebrating and supporting the accomplishments of colleagues through departmental events, seminars, and collaborative initiatives.



[VIEW FULL LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS,
AWARDS AND GRANTS](#)

Nominations for the next cycle of internal awards are now open. Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit nominations at any time to anatomy@uwo.ca.

PRESENTATIONS

FACULTY & GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE ACTIVITY – 2025/2026 HIGHLIGHTS

Research from Anatomy and Cell Biology continues to reach audiences far beyond our campus. Over the past year, faculty, staff, and trainees have travelled more than **20,000 km** to present their work at conferences and events across Ontario, Canada, and around the world.

To put that into perspective, that's approximately **half the circumference of the Earth**, nearly **5% of the distance to the Moon**, or the equivalent of **25,000 coffee runs** between the 4th floor of the Medical Sciences Building and the UCC.

From **London and Toronto to Chicago, Dallas, Stockholm, Padua, and beyond**, our community continues to share discoveries, build collaborations, and showcase the strength of Anatomy and Cell Biology research on the global stage.

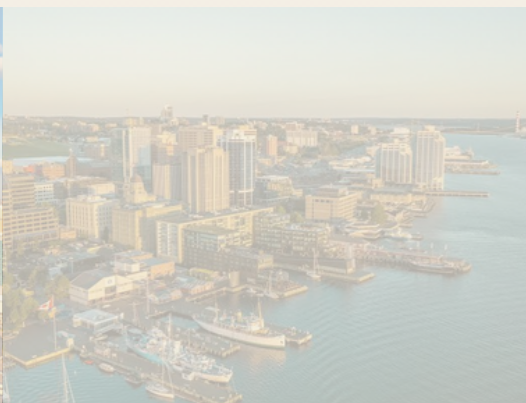
View the complete list of conferences, presentations, and presenters below.



[VIEW THE FULL LIST OF
PRESENTATIONS, PRESENTERS AND
CONFERENCES](#)



DALLAS, TX



HALIFAX, NS



STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

PUBLICATIONS

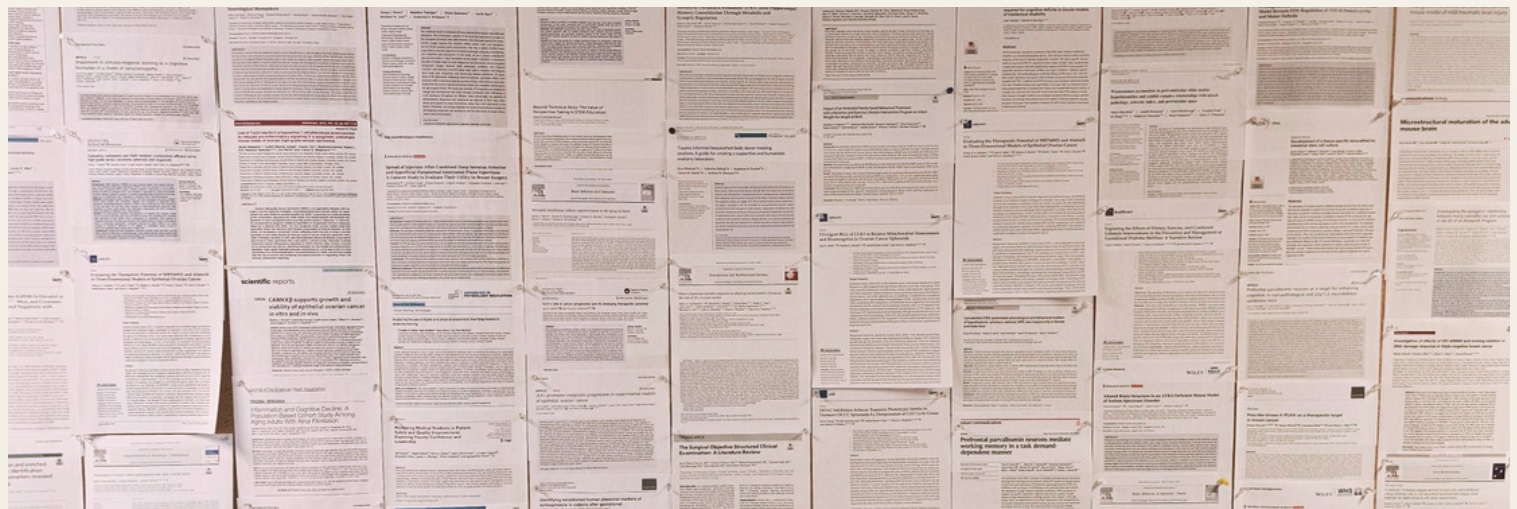
RESEARCH IN PRINT AND WEB

The discoveries shared in our labs, classrooms, and conferences continue to find their way into peer-reviewed journals and publications. This year's collection highlights contributions from faculty, staff, and trainees across a diverse range of research areas, reflecting the depth and breadth of scholarship within Anatomy & Cell Biology.

This year's featured publications showcase research ranging from clinical anatomy and surgical education to cancer biology, genomics, proteomics, and translational medicine. Together, they demonstrate the collaborative efforts of faculty, staff, and trainees working to advance knowledge, improve patient care, and address real-world health challenges.

Featured areas include:

- Triple-negative breast cancer and molecular oncology
- Clinical anatomy and prolapse repair
- Surgical and health professions education
- Osteoarthritis and musculoskeletal disease
- Cancer genomics and proteomics
- DNA damage and radiotherapy response



The publications featured here represent a snapshot of the research activity taking place throughout the department.

[VIEW THE FULL LIST OF PUBLICATIONS](#)

ACB EVENTS & CAMPUS EVENTS

ACB EVENTS

Schulich 2026 Homecoming

September 25-27, 2026

Dr. Raj Rajakumar Retirement Celebration

October 22nd @ The Grad Club

Murray L Barr Lecture

October 23rd @ McKeller

Research Day

October 23rd @ Thames Hall Atrium

CAMPUS EVENTS

Sunrise Ceremony for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 30th 6:30am @ Wampum Learning Lodge

Fall Preview Day

Sunday November 8th

Join us for ACB Research Day, featuring Oral Presentations, Poster Presentations, and Three Minute Thesis (3MT) presentations from ACB trainees showcasing a wide range of innovative research.

The event will also celebrate outstanding trainee achievements through the ACB Research Day Awards, including the **Gabriel G. Altmann Poster Presentation Awards**, the **3MT Presentation Award**, and the **Oral Presentation Award**.

