

ANATOMY & CELL BIOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2019

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JOURNAL CLUB MEETINGS

Journal Club will recommence in
September, 2019

SAVE THE DATES

See the Line 2019

Register by Thursday, August 8th,
2019. Event takes place Thursday,
August 15th, 2019

ACB Golf Day

July 11th, 2019

Research Western Conference

August 28th - 29th, 2019

Murray Barr Lecture and ACB

Research Day

October 25th, 2019

STAY IN THE LOOP

Tag us at [#westernuACB](https://twitter.com/westernuACB)



@westernuACB



ACB Graduate
Council

CONVOCAATION



Congratulations to all the graduates of the class of 2019! Please take a moment to read some words of encouragement and advice from the Anatomy & Cell Biology Chair, Dr. Alison Allan:

https://www.schulich.uwo.ca/research/about_us/monthly_enewsletter/2019/june/congratulations_to_the_graduate_postdoctoral_studies_class_of_2019.html

CONGRATULATIONS

The Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology would like to congratulate [Jeremi Laski](#) ("AMPK Signalling as a Regulator of Autophagy in a Model of Ovarian Tumour Dormancy"), [Jamie Lee Fritz](#) ("Elucidating the mechanism of NUA1 function in ovarian cancer metastasis"), and [Daniel Nouri Nejad](#) ("Biochemical and functional analyses of PANX1 Variants") on the successful defense of their MSc theses.

Congratulations to [Dr. Marco Prado](#) on being named among Western's nine new Canada Research Chairs (CRCs).



Join fellow alumni for a weekend of events, and reminiscence. To RSVP please visit <https://www.schulich.uwo.ca/homecoming/index.html>.

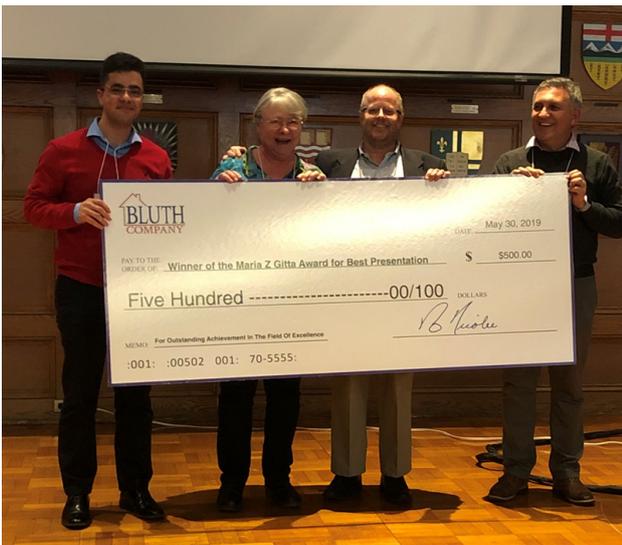
AWARDS & GRANTS

Congratulations to the Schmid lab's [Andrew Deweyert](#) who won a CIHR gold award for his poster presentation at the Canada Student Health Research Forum in Winnipeg.

Congratulations to the Laird lab's [Julia Abitbol](#), who won the ACB publication award this year.

Coolen post-doctoral publication award (2018) of the Dept of Anatomy and Cell Biology to Dr Pinki Nandi, for the publication entitled " Human trophoblast stem cell self-renewal and differentiation: Role of decorin", Scientific Reports (2018) 8:8977 | DOI:10.1038/s41598-018-27119-4 (Lala)

[Chidambra Halari](#) (Lala lab), a PhD student has received a trainee award of the Children's Health Research Institute for the 2019-20 academic year



[Faraj Haddad](#) (above, left) from the Schmid lab won the Maria Z. Gitta award for best presentation at the Developmental Disability Research Day at Western.

[Moulik Patel](#) MSc, and now confirmed returning DDS student for the class of 2023, won a prestigious prize recently. In early June, Moulik attended the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons in Calgary. Presenting his MSc project entitled, "**Incremental Maxillomandibular Advancement: Airway Volume Changes**" Moulik expanded beyond his competitors, fixating on a 2nd place award in the Resident Competition. This is a wonderful crown on the end of his MSc experience as he had to compete against maxillofacial surgical residents from across Canada. Congratulations to him on his award winning research and his next steps. Moulik was supported by a great team of people while working under [Dr. Wilson's](#) supervision in CRIPT, in no particular order [Drs. Shimizu](#) , [Beveridge](#), [Tassi](#), and [Galil](#) all influenced his important progress, trajectory, and success. He was assisted by [Jenna Yuen](#) (undergraduate Kinesiology) and [Lily Wolak](#) (Clinical Anatomy MSc) as they continue this important collaborative sleep apnea research. Moulik is pictured (above, right) with [Dr. Shimizu](#) (right), and other awardees, at the meeting's award banquet.

Congratulations to Dr. Michelle Mottola's students; [Karishma Hosien](#) (PhD) and [Mollie Manley](#) (Masters) on receiving OGS awards.

ACB!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Keep us up to date with all of your accolades, events, and research happening within the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology! Please email [Lisa Michienzi \(lmichie3@uwo.ca\)](mailto:lmichie3@uwo.ca) to include your, or your team's accomplishments in future newsletters.

ACB AWARDS 2019

Congratulations to our 2019 ACB Award winners. From left to right: Pinki Patel, Julia Abitbol, Dale Fournier, Elise Costa, Susanne Schmid, Kevin Santiago, Marjorie Johnson, William Pinsky, Adam Groh, Ashley Scholmann, and Moulik Patel.



PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCES

PhD student **Chidambra Halari** (Lala Lab) presented a poster at the Southwestern Ontario Reproductive Biology Meeting: "Role of decorin in decidualization in human pregnancy."

Dr. **Michelle Mottola** Chaired a session called "Most recent guidelines on exercise and pregnancy: The science and its application" at the American College of Sports Medicine conference in Orlando, Florida. Michelle started a three year term as Chair of the Special Interest Group for Pregnancy and Postpartum, American College of Sports Medicine on June 1st.



Poster at Robarts Research Retreat

The Robarts Research Retreat, held at Kings College, brought together the Robarts community to discuss and collaborate on novel research spanning theoretical and experimental fields in imaging and molecular medicine disciplines. **Ornela Kljakic's** presented a poster at this conference entitled "Using chemogenetics to investigate acetylcholine-glutamate co-transmission by cholinergic interneurons."

New frontiers in cognitive testing using touchscreen technology

Students and Faculty from the department of Anatomy & Cell Biology attended the 1st International Touchscreen Symposium held from June 5th-6th, 2019. The two-day symposium; New frontiers in cognitive testing using touchscreen technology, brought together leaders in the field of developing touchscreen cognitive testing and neurochemical manipulation of mouse models. PhD candidate, **Ornela Kljakic** (above) did a data blitz talk on "Investigating the role of acetylcholine-glutamate co-transmission in cognition."

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Ahmed, K., Cater, DE., and Lajoie, P. (2019) Hyperactive TORC1 sensitizes yeast cells to endoplasmic reticulum stress by compromising cell wall integrity. DOI: 10.1002/1873-3468.13463 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31144305>

Shum, MG., Shao, Q., Lajoie, P., and Laird, DW. Destination and consequences of Panx1 and mutant expression in polarized MDCK cells. DOI:10.1016/j.yexcr.2019.05.016 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31102595>

Tordjman, J., Majumder, M., Amiri, M., Hasan, A., Hess, D., Lala, P.K. Tumor Suppressor role of Cytoplasmic Polyadenylation Element Binding Protein 2 (CPEB2) in human mammary epithelial cells. BMC Cancer (2019) 19:561. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12885-019-5771-5>

Janickova, H*, Kljakic, O*, Rosborough, K., Raulic, S., Matovic, S., Gros, R., Saksida, L.M., Bussey, T.J., Inoue, W., Prado, V.F., Prado, M.A.M. (2019). Selective decrease of cholinergic signaling from pedunculo pontine and laterodorsal tegmental nuclei has little impact on cognition but markedly increases susceptibility to stress. FASEB J. 2019 June. doi: 10.1096/fj.201802108R.

*co-authors

Dr. **Galil** has published a new research article entitled Buccal Injection of Articaine to Anesthesia the palatal Mucosa authored by M, Abu Sharkh., A, Khalil., C, Ong., T, Wilson., and K.Hadry and **A.Galil** in General Dentistry May /June 2019 ,Volume 67 number 3.

ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT 2019



The 2019 Achievements Report from the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry is now available. This year's Report includes 6 different stories and features: Drs. Javeed Sukhera, Nicole Campbell, Michelle Mottola, Ken Leslie, David Steven and Jorge Burneo. It also features several students and residents including Trystan Nault, Bojana Radan and Adrina Zhong and highlights several achievements and milestones from across the School. To read the full report, please visit the online edition: <https://www.schulich.uwo.ca/communications/publications/AchievementsReport2019/research.html>

SUMMER SURGERY SCHOOL

Summer Surgery School took place from June 25th - 28th, 2019. The camp brought together student and faculty facilitators from Western University, Fanshawe College, and Fanshawe College's Respiratory Therapy program who instructed students from each institutions nursing program, and Medical students from the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry to hone their surgery skills and get a feel for working in and operating room. Thank you to all off the student and faculty facilitators who made this camp a huge success.



CAMPUS NOTICE



Smoke Free Campus

Effective July 1st, 2019, Western is officially smoke-free.

Please check out the University's Human Resources page (https://www.uwo.ca/hr/safety/wellness/clear_the_air/index.html) if you are looking for more information on this new campus wide initiative.

SPECIAL EVENTS

ACB Golf Day

July 11th, 2019



Join your colleagues as we hit the links for some fun, and some friendly rivalry at Llyndinshire Golf & Country Club.

The first tee-off time has been booked for 2:00 p.m., with groups of 4 will tee-off every 8 minutes. We are playing 9 holes of golf, followed by a BBQ dinner, refreshments, and a draw for prizes!

Prizes include: Best overall score - four-some, Best overall score - individual, Best group outfit, and more!

Please RSVP to lmichie3@uwo.ca by **Thursday July 4th**, and include: (a) if you have a foursome in mind and the names of the people; and (b) would you prefer steak, chicken or a vegetarian option (veggie burger, or Mediterranean sandwich), (c) if you are in need of clubs, and what hand. Payment can be either in cash or by cheque made payable to "The University of Western Ontario".

Research Western Conference

August 28th - 29th, 2019

Western's third biennial Research Western Conference for staff and faculty will be held the August 28th - 29th, 2019.

In the past, this conference has focused on such important topics as Tri-Agency granting information, compliance, knowledge exchange and impact, research data management, open access, and persuasive grant writing. We are proud to offer this opportunity for faculty and staff to engage with our service units; and to learn more about supports available to successfully navigate through the complexities of the granting world. If you would like to suggest topics for sessions or workshops, please forward them to [Natalie Wu \(nwu28@uwo.ca\)](mailto:nwu28@uwo.ca). More details and conference program will follow.

Medical Mission to Haiti

As you may know, Dr. Marjorie Johnson was part of a spine surgery team that went on a volunteer mission to Haiti last fall. Their work in Haiti was very successful and so they are planning another spine surgery volunteer week this October. All funds collected will offset their travel costs but more importantly go to help support patients in Haiti and provide needed imaging and medicine they cannot afford. If you would like to sponsor Dr. Johnson and her team this year please use the following link:

<https://www.gifttool.com/athon/MyFundraisingPage?ID=2250&AID=3524&PID=689740>

A tax receipt should be automatically issued for your donation.

ACB GIVES BACK

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY



ACB ICE CREAM FUNDRAISER

Ring...Ring...Ring...Do you hear that, out in the hallway? It's the ACB Ice Cream trolley, making its way through the halls. The ACB Ice Cream trolley will be making stops on each floor of MSB every Thursday afternoon from 1pm - 3pm for the entire summer, with all proceeds going to support the following local charities:



Salthaven Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Centre
Salthaven is committed to the care and rehabilitation of sick, injured, orphaned or otherwise compromised wildlife, with the goal of returning animals to their natural habitat.

LIFE*SPIN

is a grassroots organization enhancing the lives of low-income families through education, advocacy, & community building.



Womens Community House
provides a safe place, shelter, support, counselling, and resources for abused women, their children, and all oppressed individuals to find a new start.



MEALS FROM THE HEART

Do you like to cook or bake? How about cooking or baking with 10 of your closet friends and colleagues? The Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology is looking to host either a dinner or baking day at the Ronald McDonald House of Southwestern Ontario. If you are interested in participating in either of these activities, please reach out to Lisa Michienzi (lmichie3@uwo.ca) with your interest. All are welcome to participate.



COMMUNITY DINNER

Hosted every Saturday, St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church hosts community dinner for people and families in need. Join other students, staff and faculty members as they volunteer on a monthly basis to prepare, serve, and engage with members of the London community.

If you are interested in participating in an upcoming community dinner, please register by contacting **Jennifer Devlin** (jennifer.devlin@schulich.uwo.ca) to add your name to the volunteer sign up sheet.

St. John's the Evangelist has been serving the London community for over 150 years, acting as a hub for outreach programming. St. John's the Evangelist Anglican Church is located at 280 St James St, London, ON N6A 1X3



SOCK DRIVE AT ST. JOHN'S

They are a simple luxury, but socks can provide simple, yet effective comfort. For those in need, socks are a point of pride. Not only do they provide warmth, but cushioning preventing painful and potentially debilitating foot deformities such as bunions and hammertoes.

To help with the collection of socks as part of the garment program at St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church, a sock collection box will be available for donation year round in the ACB main office (MSB). Please feel free to drop by new socks for the program.