THE ACTIVE SITE DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY NEWSLETTER

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PEOPLE (AND OTHER) STUFF

Dr. David Haniford has reached a career milestone: he has worked 25 years at Western. Congratulations!

Dr. Rob Hegele and his lab hosted 2 high-school students who took part in Gene Researcher for a Week, a program sponsored by the Canadian Gene Cure Foundation (Western News).

Lauren Seidl, a new graduate student, will start in Dr. Ilka Heinemann's lab in July. The first publication from Dr. Heinemann's lab (including her current graduate student Christina Chung as an author) will be appearing in *RNA Journal*.

Dr. Peter Rogan and his lab were featured on <u>CTV News</u> and in <u>The London Free Press</u> for research on variants in breast and ovarian cancer genes (published in <u>BMC Medical Genomics</u> and <u>Human Mutation</u>).

Dr. Peter Rogan gave a research talk at The Third International Molecular
Pathological Epidemiology (MPE) Meeting at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, MA: "Cisplatin response prediction in recurrent bladder cancer using biochemically inspired machine-learning". His lab also presented a poster at this meeting.

PUBLICATIONS from the labs and collaborators of . . .

Drs. Arts/Hegele/Rupar/Siu (ICK mutation)

Dr. Brandl (Tti2 regulates PIKKs)

Dr. Choy (STIP1, amyloid-beta oligomers)

Drs. Choy/Konermann (Chibby conformation)

Dr. Gloor (displaying variation in large datasets) (analyzing microbiome data - review)

Drs. Hegele/Pickering (atherosclerotic risk prevention in elderly)

Dr. Hegele (2016 Canadian Hypertension Education Program Guidelines) (rare genetic variants and HDL) (using cardiovascular genetic data) (GWAS loci, plasma lipids distribution)

Dr. Huff (citrus flavonoids - review)

Dr. Junop (mechanism of DNA annealing by DdrB)

Dr. Konermann (FPOP - Fast Photochemical Oxidation of Proteins) (protein supercharging) (electrosprayed protein complexes)

Dr. Li (CIS in tumor immunity)

Dr. Ling (error-free replication by DNA pol kappa)

Dr. Litchfield (mTORC1, CK2, eIF4F link)

Drs. O'Donoghue/Shaw (phospho-ubiquitin variants)

Dr. Penner (use of aptamers in HER2+ cancer)

Dr. Pickering (cellular senescence, vascular disease)

Dr. Rogan (prioritizing variants in breast/ovarian cancer)

Dr. Rupar (gene transfer to mesenchymal stromal cells)

Dr. Siqueira (biofilms of dentures) (Moebius syndrome)

Dr. Siu (NRXN1 deletions)

Dr. Turley (carcinoma cell hyaluronan - review)

See recent publication details.

CONGRATS TO...

- Alexandra Carrier and Aliakbar Khalili-Yazdi for successful PhDs; Sharon Leung for her successful MSc
- Amy Burke for receiving the 2016 Junior Investigator Award for Women at the Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology meeting of the American Heart Association in Nashville, TN
- Natasha Caminsky (MSc from Dr.
 Peter Rogan's lab) for being featured in a <u>video</u> for hiring Western students
- Christina Chung for receiving OGS
- Biochemistry awardees at the 2016 London Health Research Day:
- * Nileeka Balasuriya
- Award to present at <u>Canadian Student</u> <u>Health Research Forum</u> 2016 in Winnipeg, MN (for top 5% of PhD students training at Canada's medical schools)
- * Amy Burke
- Award for Top-Written Abstract in Endocrinology & Metabolism category
- * Safee Mian
- Feature Platform Presentation Award
- * Megan Rowland
- Award for Top-Written Abstract in Fetal, Family, & Development category
- Drs. Lars Konermann and Stan Dunn for being featured by <u>Western's Faculty</u> of <u>Science website</u> for their recent publication in <u>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</u>
- Drs. David Haniford and Madhu Gupta for each receiving NSERC Discovery Grants for 5 years
- Dr. Shawn Li for receiving the 2016 Dean's Award of Excellence for Faculty in Research (see <u>Schulich News</u>)
- Dr. Hong Ling: promotion to Professor
- Dr. Geoff Pickering for receiving the 2016 Alumni of Distinction Award for Excellence in Basic Science Research (see Alumni e-Newsletter)



