

PEOPLE (AND OTHER) STUFF

Barb Green, Graduate Program Assistant in Biochemistry, retired after 40 years of service. We thank her for her hard work, loyalty, and commitment to the department, and we wish her all the best during her retirement.

Drs. Huff and Brandl also retired this year. Their many contributions and service to Biochemistry and Western are much appreciated. Best wishes for your retirements.

Welcome to Rachel Garcia, our new Administrative Assistant in the Dept. of Biochemistry's main office.

Drs. Edgell, Gloor, and Karas, along with Sam Slattery and Daniel Giguere, were featured in [Schulich News](#) for the development of a COVID-19 test kit. Dr. Edgell also talked on the [CTV News Network](#) about creating an antibody test for COVID-19.

Dr. Li was interviewed on [CBC Radio's London Morning](#). He talked about progress made in rapid testing for COVID-19 (click on segment for Aug 19, 2020 - Getting closer to a rapid COVID-19 test).

Dr. O'Gorman is part of the Lawson COVID-19 study team who has been researching biomarkers for the prognosis and diagnosis of COVID-19 ([Western News](#)). The team has published their findings as a series of 4 papers in *Critical Care Explorations* (see publication listings below).

Dr. Rogan presented his research virtually for the RiboClub: RNA Biology and Technology – The Current Pandemic and Beyond (Sept), American Society of Human Genetics Annual Meeting (Oct), Conference on Nuclear Analytical Techniques (Nov), and Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and IC/ES (Nov). He was also interviewed on [Scientific Sense](#) and featured in [Schulich News](#) for modelling COVID-19 transmission through the lens of geostatistical sampling.

PUBLICATIONS from the labs and collaborators of...

Drs. Boffa, Koschinsky ([Autotaxin, lipoprotein\(a\), aortic valve stenosis](#))
Dr. Brandl ([Interactions with proline analog in yeast](#)) ([tRNAs](#))
Drs. Balci, Siu ([MedExome vs. NGS panels for genetic disorders](#))
Dr. Choy ([ST11 in Alzheimer's disease](#))
Dr. DiMattia ([Human ovarian clear cell carcinoma cell line](#))
Drs. Edgell, Gloor, Karas ([Cloning of mitochondrial genome from alga](#))
Drs. Edgell, Karas ([Complementation of deletions in algal genes](#))
Dr. Garnham ([Amine oxidase detoxifies fumonisins](#))
Dr. Gloor ([Ureteral stent microbiota](#))
Dr. Gupta ([IGFBP-1 phosphorylation and fetal growth](#))
Dr. Han ([Placental microRNAs, complications of pregnancy](#)) ([Ventricular taps in infants](#))
Dr. Hegele ([Ketogenic diets](#)) ([Monogenic familial hypercholesterolemia](#)) ([Copy-number variations in diabetes](#)) ([DNA in dyslipidemia](#)) ([Genetics of hypertriglyceridemia](#))
Dr. Hudson ([Fluorescent probe to examine nucleotide flipping](#))
Dr. Konermann ([Examining hemoglobin by MS](#)) ([Oxidation in Cytochrome c](#))
Dr. Lajoie ([Breast cancer stem-like cells, T cell immunotherapy](#)) ([Intervertebral disc tissues](#))
Dr. O'Gorman ([Metabolomics biomarkers for COVID-19](#)) ([Plasma biomarkers for COVID-19](#)) ([Platelet aggregation in COVID-19](#)) ([Inflammation profiling of COVID-19 patients](#))
Dr. Pickering ([Angiogenesis in ischemic limb](#))
Dr. Rogan ([Predictions of patient responses to kinase inhibitors](#)) ([Severe RNA-viral pulmonary infections](#)) ([Estimating partial-body ionizing radiation exposure](#))
Dr. Siquiera ([Anesthetics for pain control in extraction surgeries](#)) ([Antibody responses to SARS-CoV-2 spike antigens in COVID-19](#)) ([Restoration-tooth interface](#)) ([Protein binding of titanium](#)) ([Salivary proteomic profile in dogs](#))
Dr. Siu ([X-linked MSL3-related disorder](#))
Dr. Turley ([RHAMM peptides in systemic sclerosis](#))
[See publication details.](#)

CONGRATS TO...

Shapnil Bhuiyan, Chris Leichthammer, Johnny Luo, McShane McKenna, Teresa Nunez de Villavicencio Diaz, Gursimran Parmar, Megan Rowland, Sam Slattery, Harrison Taylor, Matthew Walker, Yuning Wang, Yanrui Zhu for successful thesis defenses

Drs. Balasuriya (PhD from O'Donoghue lab), Li, and O'Donoghue, as well as colleagues for their JBC publication about [phosphorylation of AKT1](#) (accolades include JBC Editor's Pick - top 2%; on front cover; and viewed 1044 times on the journal's website, placing this publication among the top 50 most-viewed papers for May to June)

Benjamin Joris for receiving a Dean's Research Scholarship

Jeremy Lant for winning a CIHR Silver Award at the Canadian Student Health Research Forum ([Schulich News](#)) and the Dr. Bishnu D. Sanwal Graduate Performance Award (Biochemistry)

Julieta Lazarte for participating in the Canadian Student Health Research Forum ([Schulich News](#)) and receiving Schulich's Cobban Student Award in Heart and Stroke Research

Rebecca Meaney for founding "Explorers of Fantastic Life Forms" ([Schulich News](#))

Tasnim Reza, Britney Messam, Shanshan (Jenny) Zhong for receiving Translational Breast Cancer Research Unit Traineeships for 2020-21

Barb Green for receiving Schulich's Staff Award of Excellence (Spirit Award)

Dr. Brandl for receiving Schulich's Faculty Award of Excellence (Lifetime Achievement Award)

Dr. Hegele for being featured on the [YouTube](#) video about using DNA technology to combat strokes and heart attacks

Dr. Heinemann for receiving a Rare Diseases Network Catalyst Grant, the Ontario Government's Early Researcher Award, and tenure

Dr. Huff for being featured in [Schulich News](#) and for receiving The Mentor of Women Award for 2020 from the American Heart Association

Dr. Koschinsky for being named a Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellow ([Schulich News](#))

Dr. Lajoie and colleagues for a CFI JELF award

Dr. Li for receiving a CCS Innovation Grant and COVID-19 funding from the Ontario Government

Dr. Shaw for being awarded a Heart and Stroke Foundation Grant-in-Aid of Research

Dr. Turley and collaborator for receiving a [Collaborative Research Seed Grant](#) from Schulich