

Physiology and Pharmacology Newsletter

January 2019

Welcome to the newest edition of the Physiology and Pharmacology Newsletter. If you have items for future newsletters, please let me know – fbeier@uwo.ca. Awards, grants, invited lectures, new lab members...

We have settled into the new term. Reading week and mid-term exams are fast approaching, as is the next CIHR deadline. I hope all these activities will keep you warm!

Please remember our department meeting with Acting Dean, Dr. Davy Cheng, on Feb 12th. A great opportunity to learn about his plans for the School and to ask questions. Along the same lines, the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is undergoing external review in February. If you want to provide written input, here is the relevant information:

Written comments are welcome and should focus on matters relating to the strengths, opportunities and challenges facing the School. Submissions received by February 11, will be reviewed and shared, in confidence, with Decanal Committee members and External Reviewers. **Please forward hard copy submissions by end of day, February 11, in envelopes marked “Confidential” to:**

Andrew Hrymak, Provost & Vice-President (Academic)
Chair of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry Decanal Committee Suite 2107,
Stevenson Hall

Submissions may also be emailed in confidence to: provostvpa@uwo.ca

As always, any feedback and comments on this newsletter and on all departmental matters are welcome!

Frank

Congratulations to:

- Department members who were successful in the latest CIHR competition – great news!

Peter Chidiac & Jeff Dixon
Marlys Koschinsky
Julio Martinez & Mike Poulter
Marco Prado
Tim Regnault

Undergraduate Studies Updates

1. We are currently working on 2019-20 teaching assignments. Please contact Brad Urquhart (Brad.Urquhart@schulich.uwo.ca) if you wish to discuss your teaching.
2. Midterm exams can now be scheduled on Sundays from 10 AM – 10 PM. The midterm exam schedule is getting very busy for students with most exams scheduled very close to one another. There may be a change in how midterm tests are booked, largely to avoid conflicts. BMSUE is discussing and I will keep you posted.
3. Important dates: February 19-22 is reading week; March 4, 2019: 15% of grade must be available for students; April 9 is the last day of classes; exams are April 11-30.
4. A policy for support animals being allowed in the classroom is going to Senate. Unclear at this time what the policy will be, but we will keep you posted. If you notice animals in your classroom or have concerns, please let Brad know.

Graduate Studies Update

For graduate students:

Opportunities to Volunteer with Let's Talk Science!

Let's Talk Science pairs volunteers with classrooms in the community to participate in hands-on science activities. They are looking for student volunteers to assist in planning their annual community events. Training takes place at the end of January and early February.

[Learn more](#) or [apply now](#).

Research Committee News

1. Feedback on 2018 Department Research Day

A short survey was sent out to all members of Department early this month to get everyone's feedback on 2018 Department Research Day. A big thank you to those who responded. The survey data and your feedback will help us to plan for the 2019 Gowdey Lecture and Department Research Day.

2. Lunch and Learn Workshops

A total of 7 lunch and learn workshops are scheduled for 2019. Jane Rylett and Emily Truscott (Veterinarian, ACVS) gave the first Lunch and Learn workshop on "ACVS services and the New Animal Facility" on January 17, 2019. Our next workshop will be presented by Dale Laird on "Scientific writing for publications in high impact journals and for lay audiences" on Thursday, February 7, 2019. Please plan to attend. Here is a full list of 2019 Lunch and Learn workshops.

DATE	Time	Room	Speaker	Title
Thursday, January 17, 2019	12:00- 1:30	MSB212	Dr. Jane Rylett Dr. Emily Truscott (ACVS) <i>Host: Qingping Feng</i>	Updates on ACVS Services and the New Biomedical Research Animal Care Facility
Thursday, February 7, 2019	12:00- 1:30	MSB212	Dr. Dale Laird <i>Host: Dr. Peter Stathopoulos</i>	Scientific writing for publications in high impact journals and for lay audiences
Thursday, March 21, 2019	12:00- 1:30	MSB212	Dr. David Litchfield (Biochemistry) <i>Host: Dr. David Hess</i>	Functional proteomic analysis
Thursday, April 11, 2019	12- 00- 1:30	MSB 212	Dr. Frederick Andrew Dick (Biochemistry and Oncology) <i>Host: Wataru Inoue</i>	Generating novel mouse models using CRISPR
Thursday, May 30, 2019	12:00- 1:30	MSB212	Dr. Dean Betts Dr. Lauren Flynn (ACB/CBE) <i>Host: Dr. Rithwik Ramachandran</i>	Stem cell cultures

Thursday, October 17, 2019	12:00- 1:30	MSB212	Dr. Flavio Beraldo (Robarts) Dr. Karen Nygard (Biotron) <i>Host: Dr. Peter Chidiac</i>	Confocal imaging analysis
Thursday, November 14, 2019	12:00- 1:30	MSB212	Dr. Peter Stathopoulos <i>Host: Dr. Stephen Lomber</i>	Molecular graphics

3. Request for nominations for the James Stevenson Distinguished Lecture on November 3, 2020.

The James A.F. Stevenson Distinguished Lecture was established in 1972 to honor the memory of Professor James A.F. Stevenson (1918-1971) who was the Chairman of the Department of Physiology at the University of Western Ontario from 1951 to 1970. We are seeking nominations for an outstanding speaker and an internationally recognized investigator and leader in physiology to deliver the James A.F. Stevenson Distinguished Lecture on November 3, 2020. To nominate, please briefly describe the reasons for your nomination and provide a web link to the nominee's website. Deadline for your nominations is Thursday, February 28, 2019.

Calendar

- February 12, 2019, 3 pm – Meeting with Acting Dean Dr. Cheng, MSB212A/B
- Seminars in February (Monday 3:30 pm in MSB384)
 - Feb 4 – Dr. Eric Arts, Microbiology and Immunology, Western University: “Working towards an HIV cure”
 - Feb 11 – Dr. Andrew Advani, St. Michael’s Hospital, Toronto: “Re-shaping the epigenetic landscape in kidney disease”
 - Feb 25 – Dr. Scott Ryan, University of Guelph: “The role of alpha-synuclein oligomerization in the pathogenesis of PD”
- The full list of seminars and events can be found here:

http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/physpharm/about_us/seminar%20and%20events/index.html