

Physiology and Pharmacology Newsletter

May - June 2019

Welcome to the newest edition of the Physiology and Pharmacology Newsletter. Over the summer, I will again combine the May-June and July-August issues. If you have items for future newsletters, please let me know – fbeier@uwo.ca. Awards, grants, invited lectures, new lab members...

It will be interesting months ahead, with a new President, a new acting Vice-Provost Research, and with our Dean search underway. Meanwhile, I hope everyone is enjoying the summer and will find the opportunity for some time away from the lab and office.

A few words on our Physiology and Pharmacology 4980 research course. Every year we have requests to accept students that don't make the official cut-off. At this moment, cut-off is based on marks. This is done within the context of the BMSc program and somewhat out of our hands. The only way to get more students from the waiting list is if we, collectively, accept more Honours students into our labs – that number is the limiting factor. So, if you can accept an extra student, please let us know. In addition, our 4980 course is very popular because marks are generally very high – thus, we attract students looking for the highest marks, not necessarily those that are interested in research. Please keep that in mind when marking in the upcoming year and ensure your marks reflect the actual performance.

Enjoy your summer!!

Frank

Welcome

- Dr. Jonathan Michaels postdoctoral associate with Andrew Pruszynski
- Dr. Aze Wilson (Department of Medicine) – new Cross Appointee
- Dr. Baset Elzagallaai (Department of Paediatrics) – new Adjunct Appointee

Congratulations!!!

- Dr. Peter Stathopoulos on winning the *Piafsky Young Investigator Award* from the Canadian Society of Pharmacology and Therapeutics
- Dr. Peter Chidiac on winning the *Senior Investigator Award* from the Canadian Society of Pharmacology and Therapeutics
- Dr. Marco Prado on the announcement of his Tier 1 Canada Research Chair
- Dr. Jane Rylett on being named the Scientific Director of CIHR's Institute of Aging
- Dr. Jeff Dixon on the *2019 Distinguished Service Award* from the International & American Associations for Dental Research (IADR)
- Dr. Cheryle Séguin on the *Best Paper Award* from the Canadian Orthopaedic Research Society
- Drs. Jeff Dixon and Frank Beier on their induction as *Fellows of International Orthopedic Research* (FIOR)
- Shelby Oke (Hardy lab) and Dr. Manuela Miranda (Beier lab) for trainee awards from the Children's Health Research Institute (CHRI)
- Drs. Lina Dagnino, Dean Betts, Andy Watson, and Chris Pin for IRGF Awards from the Children's Health Research Institute (CHRI)
- Anish Engineer (Feng lab) for winning the Publication Award from the Canadian Society for Pharmacology and Therapeutics

Undergraduate Studies

- For most, the summer is time a time away from classroom undergraduate teaching but there is lots going on behind the scenes with adjudication (now complete), Summer Academic Orientation and course registration (both ongoing). Remember that some students without prerequisites or priority for our classes will try and jump the

line and get special permission. A reminder that special permission for these students should not be granted until July 19. When considering special permission for students that don't have the prerequisite, make sure you evaluate their previous courses and performance before granting permission. We will continue to receive updated course enrolment numbers as the summer progresses and these will be forwarded for course managers to track their course.

- For course managers, thanks for sending in your draft course outlines for 2019-2020 including the date of your midterm exam. This is required across Schulich to avoid conflicts and evaluate “heavy” weeks in student’s schedules. If you have not yet submitted this information, please send to Michele ASAP so we can forward to BMSUE. Enjoy the rest of your summer! ~ *Brad*

Graduate Studies

Congratulations to our recently graduated students!

- Ian Tobias, PhD (Dean Betts)
- Kia Peters, MSc (Nica Borradaile)
- Maisoon Yousiff, MSc (Andy Watson/Dean Betts)
- Nawab Azizi, MSc (Chris Pin)
- Justin Clark, MSc (Marlys Koschinsky)
- Tyler Cooper, PhD (David Hess)
- Michael Racanelli, MSc (Andrew Leask)

Research Committee

The Research Committee and Communication Committee Department are now updated on our Department Research Page:

https://www.schulich.uwo.ca/physpharm/research/research_areas.html

Based on the previous survey, your name is listed in the research areas you indicated. If you have any comments or changes, please contact Qingping Feng or Penny Sim. Here are the updated research areas.

- Clinical and Basic Pharmacology

- Bone and Joint
- Cell, Stem Cell and Cancer
- Heart, Blood Vessels and Lungs
- Reproduction, Development and Metabolism
- Neuroscience, Neurodegeneration and Cognition

Internal speakers for 2019 Department Research Day:

We are in the process of selecting internal speakers (a trainee, a junior faculty and a senior faculty) for the Department Research Day, which will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019. If you would like to nominate an internal speaker, please feel free to contact Qingping Feng or Penny Sim.

Date change for 2020 and future Department Research Day:

To accommodate date changes in the fall term reading week and 3rd year lab course, the 2020 and future Department Research Day and Gowdey/Stevenson Lectures will be held on the 2nd Monday of November.

2020 James Stevenson lecture speaker:

We are still seeking an external speaker for the James Stevenson Distinguished Lecture, which will be delivered on Monday, November 9, 2020. All nominations are welcome, especially female speakers.

The Douglas Jones Cardiovascular Symposium in honor of his retirement was successfully held on Friday, June 14, 2019. We thank members of our Department attending the symposium. Special thanks to our Department speakers Dr. Robert Gros and Elizabeth Greco (MSc candidate) for their excellent presentations, and Penny Sim and Olga Krougly for their administrative assistance.

Calendar

- July 8, 2019 - Seminar Series: Melina Bellini, PhD Candidate
- September 5, 2019 – Annual BBQ and Corn Roast
- September 23, 2019 – Department Meeting, 2 p.m. in MSB 212A/B
- September 23, 2019 - Seminar Series: Kevin Nixon, PhD Candidate
- September 30, 2019 – Seminar Series: Geoff Kerr, PhD Candidate
- November 5, 2019 – Gowdey Lecture and Research Day