Hello everybody,

Welcome to the new academic year!!! And a particularly warm welcome to our new PhysPharm 4980 and graduate students, and our new staff and faculty! We are all hopeful there will be no major interruptions again. Please follow Western’s recently announced safety guidelines.

Lots of things going on this Fall. The next 2 weeks will feature 3 presentations from candidates for our Tenure Track Position in Drug Safety and Biopharmaceuticals. Please try to attend and send feedback.

Also, please mark November 22 and 23 for the External Review of our Department (virtually). More details will follow when we receive them.

One exciting development is our new PhysPharm 2000 course that has just started – a combined introduction into both of our disciplines, which is very exciting for me since the further integration of Physiology and Pharmacology is at the very core of my vision for the Department. Thank you to our teaching team for making this happen!

On that note, have a great start to the term! I hope I see many of you at the Welcome Reception this Thursday! As always, feel free to get in touch with any questions or comments.

Frank
Welcome

✧ Faraj Haddad – Assistant Professor, Interdisciplinary Medical Science (IMS)
✧ Baurzhan Negmetjanov – Research Technician, PhysPharm Teaching Labs
✧ Zuleika Leung – Research Assistant with Dean Betts
✧ Dalton Liwanpo – Research Technician with Peter Stathopulos
✧ Geneva Herold – Western Science Intern with Frank Beier
✧ Sherry Wang – Research Technician with Rommel Tirona
✧ Geoffrey Ngo – Postdoctoral Associate with Taylor Schmitz

to all our new graduate students:
✧ Joana Ribeiro Pinto (MSc) - Christopher Pin
✧ Anamika Dutta (MSc) – Lina Dagnino
✧ Yuri Kim (MSc) Frank Beier
✧ Yee Wing (Ashling) Kwok (MSc) - John DiGuglielmo
✧ Yanwen Li (MSc) - Qingping Feng
✧ Saiswaran Manorathan (MSc) - Rithwik Ramachandran/Lakshman Gunaratnam
✧ Amr Mousa (PhD) - Rithwik Ramachandran
✧ Gilda Poovan (MSc) - Van Lu
✧ Ajaya Sharma (MSc) - David Hess
✧ Sepideh Taghizadeh (PhD) - Frank Beier/Matthew Grol
✧ Anisha Thomas (MSc) - Matthew Grol
✧ Ryleigh Van Neck (MSc) - Qingping Feng
✧ Fang Chi (Kiki) Wang (MSc) - Cheryle Seguin
✧ Magdalene Zabek (MSc) - Janine Hutson
✧ Zina Zein Abdin (MSc) - Mark Chandy/Grace Parraga

Congratulations

✧ To Charles Trelford (John DiGuglielmo) for the completion of his PhD degree

Graduate Studies Update

Our New Student Orientation will be held on Thursday, September 15, from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM in MSB 212A/B. New supervisors are also welcome to attend all or part of the Orientation, as we will provide a clear overview of program expectations.
Research Committee Update

The James A. F. Stevenson Distinguished Lecture and Physiology and Pharmacology Annual Research Day will be held in-person on Tuesday, November 1st, 2022. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Tak Mak from the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre. Dr. Mak is the director of the Campbell Family Institute for Breast Cancer Research, Senior Scientist at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and a Professor at the University of Toronto in the Departments of Medical Biophysics and Immunology. The title of his talk will be “Future Anti-Cancer Therapeutics: Put the Cart Before the Horses”.

Watch for an email message coming soon requesting help from our Faculty to judge trainee poster presentations associated with our Annual Research Day. Additionally, a call for abstracts email will be sent to all graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology as well as those working with PIs appointed to the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology. New graduate students, who initiated their graduate studies in September 2022, will be encouraged to participate and present an overview of their graduate thesis research plans - no data required!

Stay tuned!

Undergraduate Studies Update

Welcome back to another academic year. For courses that begin in September, thank you to our course managers on providing the information necessary to build your course OWL sites. We would like to thank our department intern, Meghan Frampton, for her excellent work in creating beautiful OWL sites. Meghan will thankfully be staying on for the year, and we will be reaching out soon to second semester courses to start building your OWL sites, when the dust settles on September.

We are happy to welcome 75 honours thesis project students to the department. Our interviews will be virtual again this year due to the positive feedback we have received regarding the seamlessness of the process. We also want to welcome Dr. Zach Easton as our course manager. You can expect communications from him regarding candidate selections, student matches and other course administration throughout the year. We thank you in advance for your flexibility as Dr. Easton will provide the best matches for the most people in this upcoming year.
EDID Committee Updates

The EDID committee met in early July to implement follow-up initiatives based on the report and recommendations following the department survey conducted early in the year. To this end, three EDID groups have been formed, and have been working throughout the summer, focusing on:

✧ EDID committee departmental website construction
✧ Identification and development of resources for information, education and reporting concerning EDID
✧ Identification and development of EDID mechanisms with specific focus on department trainees

Health and Safety Committee Updates

Welcome new students! Please remember to complete all required health and safety training. Information can be found here [https://www.uwo.ca/hr/learning/required/index.html](https://www.uwo.ca/hr/learning/required/index.html)

As per Western’s latest [COVID-19 Update](https://www.uwo.ca/hr/learning/required/index.html), we will return to masking in indoor instructional spaces. All personnel are required to wear an ASTM level 3 mask in lectures, seminars and teaching laboratories. In addition to this, Western Research has updated their [COVID-19 protocols](https://www.uwo.ca/hr/learning/required/index.html), research labs will remain operational at full capacity with ATSM level 3 masks required in research laboratories. Masks can be acquired at Western Libraries with your Western ONEcard or by contacting your pandemic supplies purchaser.

Social Committee Updates

Our Ice Cream Fundraiser in August was a great success! We raised $374.25 for the London Food Bank. Thank you to everyone who came out and generously donated.

Next social event: Welcome Reception, Sept 15th, 3-5PM, Collip Patio (rain or shine). Drop by for some light refreshments and meet new students and faculty to the Department.

If you are interested in joining the Social Committee to help shape future Departmental events, please reach out to one of the committee co-chairs Matt Grol (mgrol2@uwo.ca) or Van Lu (vlu24@uwo.ca).
## Recruitment Seminars

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, September 20</strong></td>
<td>Baset Elzagallaai, PhD Adjunct Research Professor, Physiology and Pharmacology, Western University</td>
<td>“Drug Safety – The Double Edged Sword of Therapeutics”</td>
<td>Western University</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, September 22</strong></td>
<td>Flory Muanda Tsobo, MD, PhD Post Doctoral Fellow, Kidney, Dialysis and Transplantation Program, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Western University</td>
<td>“Using real-world data to reduce medication errors in older adults with low kidney function”</td>
<td>Western University</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, September 27</strong></td>
<td>Keshav Gopal, PhD Research Associate, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta</td>
<td>“Alterations in Energy Metabolism as a Therapeutic Target for Cardiomyopathy in Type 2 Diabetes”</td>
<td>University of Alberta</td>
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Zoom By Request
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, September 19</td>
<td>Xiaolong Yang, PhD</td>
<td>“Roles of the Hippo signaling pathway in cancer biology and therapy”</td>
<td>Wei-Yang Lu</td>
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<td>Monday, September 26</td>
<td>Jan Tuckerman, PhD</td>
<td>“The Glucocorticoid Receptor in BoneImmunoMetabolism”</td>
<td>Frank Beier</td>
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<td>Monday, October 3</td>
<td>Martin Duennwald, PhD</td>
<td>“Chaperoning protein misfolding in neurodegenerative diseases”</td>
<td>Nica Borradaile</td>
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<td>Monday, October 17</td>
<td>David Heinrichs, PhD</td>
<td>“Interactions between MRSA and the host”</td>
<td>Rithwik Ramachandran</td>
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This Seminar Series is Sponsored by the Mogenson Trust.

School of Medicine & Dentistry