

Physiology and Pharmacology Newsletter

November 2018

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...

Thank you to all who have helped organize a successful Stevenson Lecture and Departmental Research Day on November 6. Feedback was generally very positive (for example on the new format), but if you have any more comments, please let me know.

I want to point out two events in the upcoming months. The Social Committee has decided to try something new for the holidays and has organized a Festive Lunch (turkey and vegan options) for December 12 from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm in DSB2005. Please buy your tickets in the departmental office (students \$10; staff, postdocs, and faculty \$15). Lunch will be served at noon, and you are encouraged to wear festive attire.

On Tuesday February 12 our Acting Dean, Dr. Davy Cheng, will give a presentation on Schulich activities to our department (3:00 pm MSB212A/B). Please come out to listen and ask questions.

Thank you to Dr. Lisa Saksida who has agreed to chair our taskforce on EDI (equity, diversity, inclusion), and to co-chair Dr. Rob Gros. Stay tuned for updates and requests from the task force.

A reminder to follow our twitter account @westernuPandP. We love to tweet about your news so let us know.

As always, any feedback and comments are welcome!

Frank

Congratulations to:

- Successful MSc defenses:
 - Shabna Mohideen – supervisor Mandar Jog
 - Jay Fang - supervisor Brad Urquhart
- Fabiana Crowley for winning the 2018 UME Scholars of Merit Award

Welcome

- Hailey Hunter, Research Tech with Dean Betts
- Andrea Di Sebastiano, Research Associate with Tim Regnault

Undergraduate Studies Updates

Hard to believe the term is almost over and exams are around the corner. December 8 & 9 are study days and the exam period runs December 10-21. Phys/Pharm makeup exams will occur following the holiday break on January 8 at 6 PM. Please do not schedule a makeup for your exam at another time, you may create a conflict with other makeup exams from other departments.

A reminder to instructors and students of our device policy during exams. It is our departments policy that students should not have any devices (e.g. phones, tablets) or watches (even analog watches are not allowed) with them at their exam desk for any reason. Students caught with these devices will receive a grade of zero on the exam, regardless of whether they are using them. Instructors, please remind students of this policy by an announcement on OWL and verbally before the start of your classes exam.

Instructor and course evaluations have begun. Please be sure to give

your students 15 minutes of class time to complete their evaluations. Response rates are higher when this time is given. In addition, remind students of the importance of their evaluations and how it helps us make our classes and teaching better.

Graduate Studies Update

SGPS has opened the site to prepare your OGS applications:
https://grad.uwo.ca/finances/external_funding/ogs.html

Our own graduate student website
(<https://www.schulich.uwo.ca/physpharm/graduate/index.html>)
has added a link to SGPS' Life and Community site
(https://grad.uwo.ca/life_community/index.html) which provides a
number of resources on this topic.

Research Committee News

1. James Stevenson and Department Research Day

The November 6, 2018 Stevenson Lecture and Department Research Day was a huge success. The new format was liked by all. Thanks to all (speakers, office staff, poster judges, attendees and members of the Research Committee) for helping making it successful.

The number of posters presented by graduate students was lower than last year. Attendance at the talks by internal speakers was also low. A short survey will be sent out to get everyone's feedback. This will help us to plan for the Department Research Day next year. Your response to this survey is appreciated.

2. Selection of 2019 Charles Gowdey Lecture Speaker

A big thank you to faculty members who submitted their nominations for 2019 Charles Gowdey lectureship. The Research Committee ranked the nominees and selected the top two candidates. Invitations were extended to both candidates. We are pleased that Dr. David Nutt at Imperial College, London, UK has accepted our invitation to deliver the 2019 Charles Gowdey Distinguished Lecture. Dr. Nutt is the Edmond J. Safra Professor of Neuropsychopharmacology and Director of the

Neuropsychopharmacology Unit in the Division of Brain Sciences, Imperial College, UK. Dr. Nutt broadcasts widely to the general public both on radio and television, including BBC science and public affairs programs on therapeutic as well as illicit drugs, their harms and their classification. He also lectures widely to the public as well as to the scientific and medical communities. (Host: Dr. Peter Chidiac)

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/people/d.nutt>

3. Lunch and Learn Workshops for 2019

Thanks to the outstanding presentations by all speakers (Doug Jones, Ben Rubin, Jamie Kramer, Rithwik Ramachandran, Jessica Esseltine, Greg Gloor, Anita Woods, Joanne Paterson and Liz Hill), the Lunch and Learn workshops were a big success in 2018. This workshop series will continue to be offered in 2019. Presentation topics and speakers have been confirmed. A full schedule of 2019 Lunch and Learn Workshops will be posted on the department web site next month.

Calendar

- December 12, 2018 - Festive Lunch (11:30am to 2:00pm, DSB2005)
- December 24th to January 2nd – Western Holiday Closure
- January 29, 2019 – Department Meeting (3:00 pm, MSB212A/B)
- February 12, 2019 – Special Department Meeting with Acting Dean Dr. Cheng (3:00 pm, MSB212A/B)
- The full list of seminars and events can be found here:

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