Wind up to Fall

With September around the corner, I find myself now in "teaching mode" getting ready for lectures in the Fall. As busy as this Fall will be, we will also be interviewing our 3 short-listed candidates for the Comparative Biomedical Sciences Faculty position. Please ensure you make time to attend each applicant's teaching and research seminars. Remember, YOUR OPINION MATTERS as to who our next departmental addition will be!
Charly McKenna, winner of the Biomed logo contest!

Congratulations to Charly McKenna, (CAF staff member and MSc candidates with Dr. Tony Mutsaers), for her inspiring logo for the Department of Biomedical Sciences! The committee agreed Charly did a great job of capturing the major research activities of the department.

A close second was a truly awesome logo by Morla Phan (MSc, Brenda Coomber). Although not chosen for our logo, you will see stickers of Morla’s design throughout the department (Kim’s computer screen for one!).

In appreciation for her efforts and creativity, Charly will receive a T-shirt with her design plus any paraphernalia we decide to imprint with the logo for FREE. Way to go Charly!

T-shirts are available for sale! Today (Aug 31st) is the last day for orders!

Samples are in Kim’s office for you to determine fit. Once shirts are ordered, we will announce the first Wellness competition!
Dr. Leanne Stalker (LaMarre), Allyssa Hooper (Petrik) and Diana Carvajal (Madan) attended the 51st annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR) in New Orleans, Louisiana from July 10th-13th. All three department members presented posters of their recent work:

- **Upregulation of microRNA expression in Bovine Granulosa and Endothelial cells due to recombinant VEGF and TSP-1 Treatment** (Allyssa Hooper and Jim Petrik)

- **Role of Hippo Signalling Pathway during Bovine Oocyte Maturation** (Diana Carvajal, Laura A. Favetta and Pavneesh Madan)
Leanne also presented work from an ongoing collaboration with Dr. Moyses Miranda at the Federal University of Para, Para State Brazil and Dr. Allan W. King: Anti Müllerian Hormone (AMH) as a predictor of the Ovarian Follicular Population in Young Water Buffalo (Rodrigo de Morais, Nathália de Costa, Bruno Monteiro, Sebastião Rolim, Leanne Stalker, Allan W. King, Simone Santos, Octávio Shashi and Moysés Miranda).

All four posters were extremely well received, and as always, the society put on an extremely enjoyable conference, where we were proud to represent the reproductive program from the University of Guelph.

**Well done!**

**Glad to see it was not all work!**
On Aug 16th, graduate students presented their research in the Graduate Student Research Symposium, held in conjunction with the CORE poster sessions. This year, a special award was given to the best MBS poster presenter and was judged by Drs. Favetta, LaMarre, MacLusky, Pyle, Saleh, and Viloria-Petit. The students did a fantastic job presenting their work and answering faculty questions. I am pleased to announce that the winner of the MBS poster competition was "Targeting the PI3K/mTOR pathway in combination with chemotherapy in canine osteosarcoma" presented by Roxanne Hummel from Dr. Tony Mutsaers' lab. Roxanne will receive a $200 gift certificate to acknowledge her win. Well done!

Fabulous group of scientist!
Left to right: Dr. Tami Martino, Priya Mistry, Dr. Mina Rasouli, Jessica Joshua, Cristine Reitz, Samantha Steinberg
Dr. Sarah LePage (postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Thomas Koch) won a travel award from StemCell Technologies for $500USD to present an oral and poster presentation at the North American Veterinary Regenerative Medicine Association meeting in Sacramento, California Sept 6-9.

She was one of 25 recipients chosen out of 500+ applicants, with the following "research statement" application:

"My scientific inspiration is a popular one: the seminal publication on the derivation of pluripotent stem cells from adult cells by Yamanaka's group in 2006. This discovery was taught in my 4th year "Advanced Concepts in Genetics" class, and ultimately inspired me to enroll in graduate school with the intent of studying stem cells. Now, 6 years later, I've not only worked with iPS cells, but have been able to marry my passion for horses and stem cell research in the study of stem cells for equine orthopedic injuries. I'm so grateful my professor thought to include that particular module in my 4th year course."

Her abstract title is: **Equine cord blood MSCs have greater differentiation and similar immunosuppressive potential to donor-matched cord tissue MSCs.**

In addition, Sarah will also be reporting on the conference for STEMCELL Technologies as part of their "Celebration of Science" page: [https://www.stemcell.com/celebrate-science](https://www.stemcell.com/celebrate-science)

Well done Sarah!
David Robinson retires after 39 years!

After 39 years of service, David Robinson has decided to retire from the department. An event was held at the Brass Taps in which over 45 faculty, staff and students came out to congratulate Dave and wish him luck on this new chapter of his life!

All the best Dave...keep in touch and I'm sure we will see you around!

Left to right: Sally Cherry, Dave Robinson, Warren Bignell, Patsy Huether, Winn Halina, John Burger, Derek Lobb, Dr. Yamashiro, Dawn Robinson (Dave's wife). Dr. Bill Harris dropped by, but had to leave before the picture was taken.
Welcome Sarah Donato!

On behalf of the department, please join me in welcoming Sarah Donato to our compliment of staff. Sarah has accepted the permanent, full-time position as Anatomy laboratory Instructor. Sarah will join Roman Poterski and assist primarily in the preparation and delivery of BIOM*3010 and VETM*3070.

Sarah should be familiar to most as she recently obtained her MSc under Dr. Matt Vickaryous's supervision. Sarah has also been assisting in the Anatomy lab over the summer and has already brought her unique style to the role.

Welcome aboard Sarah!
Health, Safety & Wellness in Biomed

It is with great pleasure that I announce the newly formed Health & Safety Advisory committee for Biomed. **Drs. Tarek Saleh and Craig Bailey will co-Chair this committee along with Monica Antenos, Sarah Donato (USW rep) and Andrew Poon (graduate student rep).**

This committee is tasked with the mandate of maintaining a safe working environment for faculty, staff and students. Issues with air quality, trip hazards, protective equipment, can be brought to the attention of any member on the committee. Although we no longer conduct lab inspections, this committee will send reminders to ensure eye wash stations are flushed regularly and fire extinguishers and bio-safety cabinets are certified and dated.

Please see the following site for important Health & Safety information and workshops on campus:

https://www.uoguelph.ca/wellnessatwork/events
Upcoming events

**Sept 10th** - Dr. Jung-Chien Cheng interviews for Comparative Biomedical science faculty position

**Sept 13th** - Dr. Giannina Descalzi interviews for Comparative Biomedical science faculty position

**Sept 20th** - Dr. Amy Reichelt interviews for Comparative Biomedical science faculty position

All U of G faculty and staff are invited to the annual **Community Breakfast** to mark the start of the academic year and celebrate the achievements of employees who make significant contributions to life at the University.

**Tuesday, September 4**
Breakfast served until 10 am – Formal program begins at 9:30 am
– RSVP using the link below
http://www.uoguelph.ca/president/breakfastrsvp/

2018 **Induction of Scholars** (previously the Welcome to New Students) **Wednesday, September 5**
Faculty, staff and student leaders are invited to join the academic procession. Please RSVP using the link below.
9 a.m. – 10 a.m., Guelph Gryphons Athletic Centre
9 a.m. Gowning and lining up in the W.F. Mitchell small gymnasium
9:25 a.m. Procession
Immediately following the ceremony, please join our new students for breakfast in the main gym

To confirm your participation in the academic procession and to reserve a gown, please reply online at http://bit.ly/UGinduction2018
As usual, my door is always open...

so pop in for a chat anytime!!

Tarek Saleh
Dept. Chair