

THE BIOMEDER

THE OFFICIAL NEWLETTER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES



Department updates

Coomber and Vilorio-Petit lab
presentations

Bio-Med Grad Bash

Grad student research day

SORB @ UofT

Graduate Student Corner

...and much more!

Truly Amazing Faculty & Staff!

Over the summer, I take the opportunity to meet one-on-one or in a group with faculty and staff in the department. I am constantly reminded of the truly amazing work everyone does in their teaching, research and service commitments to the Department, College, University and broader community. Biomed continues to be a leader in innovative teaching and research, and we continue to exceed expectations in research productivity. Our support staff are second to none! **Thank you ALL for the great work you do!**

Updates from the Coomber and Viloría-Petit lab

The **Coomber and Viloría-Petit** lab represented the department at the 62nd Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Molecular Biosciences, which took place from June 2 to June 5 in Montreal. **Morla Phan's** work on the *potential use of rapamycin for canine mast cell tumour' sensitization to radiation* was selected for oral presentation. **Dr. Viloría-Petit** presented a poster summarizing the data generated to date by the DOGBONE project, a multidisciplinary platform for the discovery of effective predictive/prognostic biomarkers for canine osteosarcoma.



Also, the **Viloría-Petit** lab was the recipient of a Mitacs Globalink Award for the development of collaborative work with the laboratory of Dr. Xaralabos Varleas at Boston University. The study aims to identify targetable mediators of mechanotransduction during metastasis of osteosarcoma and will be developed by **Anita Luu** during a four-month summer internship at Dr. Varelas lab.

Congrats everyone!

Annual Bio-Med Grad Bash a huge success!

Undergraduate Bio-Med Major students were recognized for their outstanding academic success at our annual Bio-Med grad bash. The following Departmental awards were presented:

Dr. Ken Fisher Prize for Embryology & Histology - **Colin Jamieson** (not present)

Pari Basrur Research Prize (4510) - **Nicole Khoury**



Gary Partlow Prize for Leadership & Academic Excellence - **Nicole Doran**



Pari Basrur Research Prize (4521/2) - **Valerie Politis-Barber**



Peter Mann Prize for Embryology - **Jamieson Wark**

Dr. Peter Eyre prize in Pharmacology & Toxicology - **Emma Cain**

Dr. David Porter Memorial Prize in Physiology - **Emma Cain**



Annual Bio-Med Grad Bash a huge success...(cont)!



Graduate Student Research Day

Once again, the department graduate students put on their best display to showcase their research in Biomed.



Kate, Reem and Cristine with Gord Kirby



Biomed winners at this year's event were:

Poster presentations

Masters:

Second place: **Reem Sabry**

Third place **Rebecca Jagroop**

Oral Presentations

Masters:

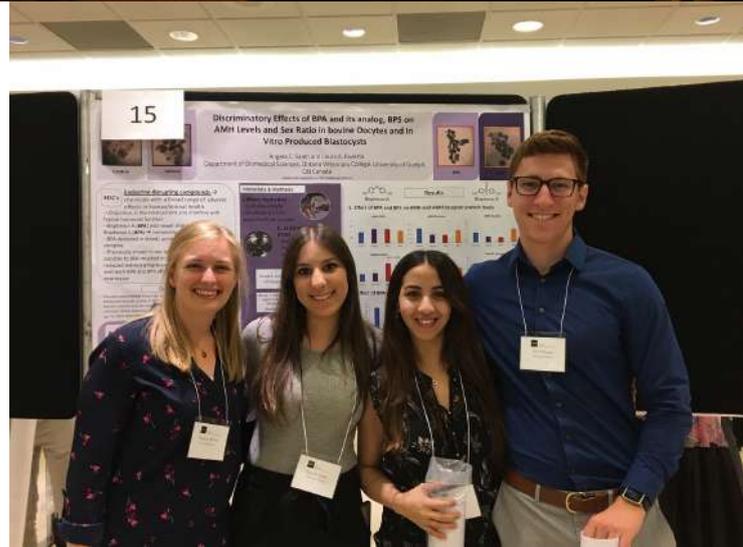
Second place: **Shahnaza Hamudullah,**

Third place: **Kate Nicholson**

PhD & DVSc:

Third place: **Cristine Reitz**

Congrats to these and to all of our graduate students!



SORB @ U of T

The annual **Southern Ontario Reproductive Biology (SORB)** Conference was held at UoT on June 7 and had a huge Guelph participation...an amazing 31 attendees from Guelph!



Laura Favetta, Angela Saleh and Reem Sabry, Jyoti Sharma and Tammi Toorani



Guelph grad students @ SORB

Graduate Student Corner



Graduate student peer helpers are HERE to help you!

We thought we would introduce ourselves to the department to those who are unfamiliar with our roles. We (**Anita Luu** and **Kathy Jacyniak**) are both the graduate student representatives and Peer Helpers for the Department of Biomedical Sciences. *As Peer Helpers, our goal is to provide guidance and resources to promote positive mental health and well being for graduate students. Some of our roles include providing students with peer support, referring students to appropriate services and programs, and to act as a liaison with the OVC counsellor Bruno Mancini.*

We want to acknowledge up front that graduate school is challenging, and there will be times where it is tough and overwhelming. From dealing with failures of not receiving scholarships to endless troubleshooting in the lab, things can happen in the lab that can mess with your mental state. And we're not even talking about each of your individual lives outside of school...The one thing that we do want to stress is that you should not be feeling overwhelmed ALL THE TIME. If you are feeling this way, you are not alone. We understand graduate school can be isolating, but it does not have to be. Please come talk to us! You can also make an appointment to meet with Bruno, or seek advice and guidance from Counselling Services available on main campus.

Please remember, as your Peer Helpers but also as your friends (yes we want to be your friend!) we are here for you. If you would like to reach out to us, please don't hesitate to e-mail either Kathy (kjacynia@uoguelph.ca) and/or Anita (aluu@uoguelph.ca). We are more than happy to exchange emails, or meet in person if you prefer! All discussions are strictly confidential.

Have a great summer semester and please don't forget to take mental health breaks in-between research (hopefully the weather will improve!).

Anita & Kathy

Upcoming events

Biomedical Sciences Guest Seminar

***Metabotropic glutamate receptor modulation of circuits
involved in reinforcement learning***

Kari Johnson, Ph.D.

**Monday, July 22nd
11a - Room 1642, Biomedical Sciences**

~ All Welcome

Kari Johnson, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. Research in the Johnson Laboratory examines physiological adaptations in basal ganglia circuits that occur following chronic alcohol exposure in mice, and how these adaptations relate to cognitive impairments caused by alcohol. Dr. Johnson is particularly interested in roles of G protein-coupled receptors in modulating neurotransmission in the basal ganglia and how these receptors modify behaviors such as reinforcement learning under normal conditions and following alcohol exposure.

As usual, my door is always open...



so pop in for a chat anytime!!

Tarek Saleh
Dept. Chair