

This past month, we received validation of the amazing instructors we have in the department. Congratulations to **Dr. Lisa Robertson** who has been selected as the recipient of the **2017 UGFA Distinguished Professor Award for Excellence in Teaching in the Ontario Veterinary College**. All winners will be announced in an upcoming News & Views. Congratulations Lisa! This is a testament to the innovative techniques and teaching standard as well as her compassion for student learning, that Lisa brings to her classroom. Lisa was nominated for this award, in part, by the graduate student TAs that witness first-hand her teaching style and interaction with students.

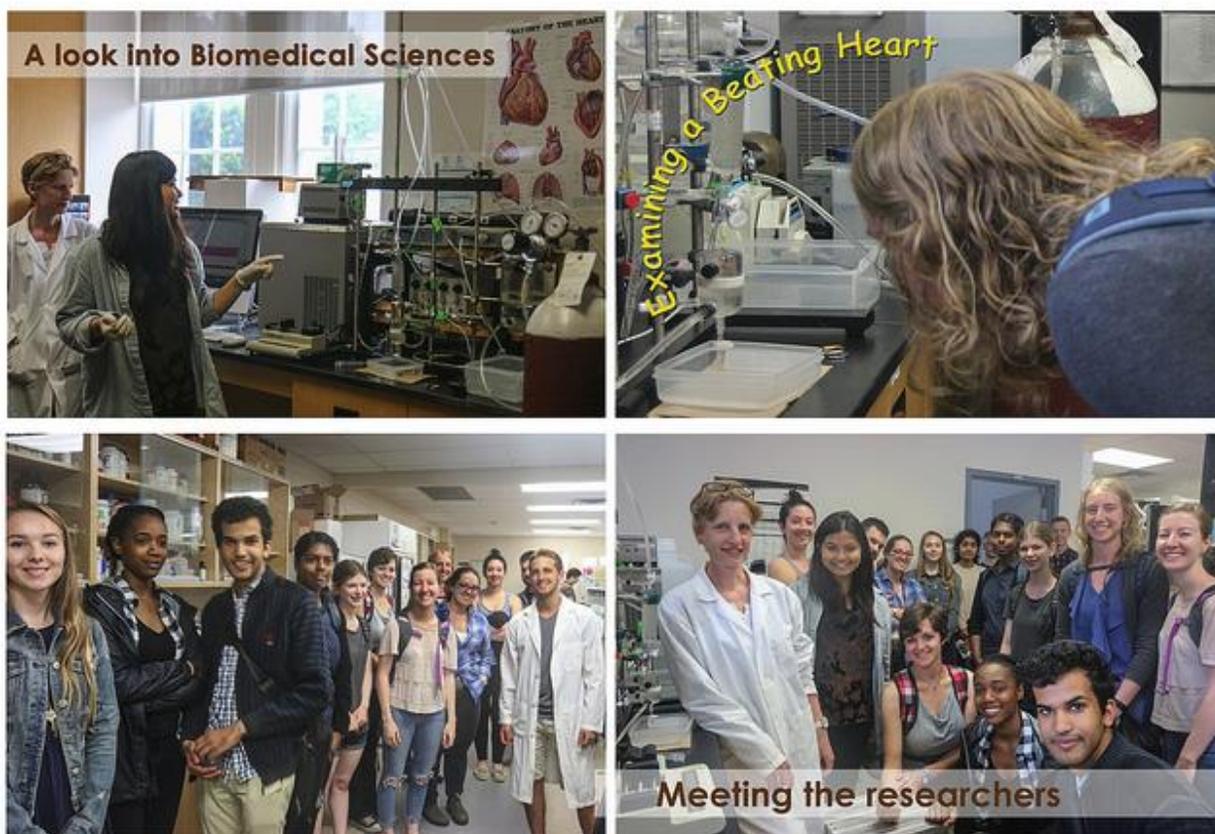
Also, and equally impressive, **Dr. Mathew Vickaryous** is the recipient of the **OVC Undergraduate Teaching (non-DVM) Award**. The OVC Undergraduate Teaching Award is in recognition of exceptional devotion and effectiveness in teaching undergraduate students at the University of Guelph. Matt was also nominated by a combination of undergraduate and graduate students who participated in his teaching, and the nomination package was organized and led by Dr. Pawel Bartlewski. Congratulations Matt!

I think it is a great asset to have enthusiastic, award-winning instructors in our department. This demonstrates our commitment to undergraduate teaching excellence, and that we continue to make a significant impact in both the DVM and Biomedical Sciences Major program. Well done!

## Updates/happenings from around the Department:

1. On June 15<sup>th</sup>, Biomed hosted an Open House for the Summer CORE Program on June 15th. **Drs. Tarek Saleh, Glen Pyle and Thomas Koch** gave an overview of our research programs and provided many valuable insights

to summer BSc and DVM students. Special thanks to our graduate students: **Frances Simbulan, Rishi Sharma, Kathy Matuszewska, Ari Mendell and Del Fernandes** for talking about their research areas and unique experiences as graduate students in Biomed. A lab tour led by **Thomas Koch and Yu Gu** showed our research labs and facilities, and introduced the latest scientific developments in Biomed research to the summer students. **Dr. Ilka Lorenzen-Schmidt, Ari Mendell and Del Fernandes** gave a research demo and showed how fascinating the world of Biomedical Sciences is! (see pictures below)



2. **Karla de Uslar**, OVC Shared Administrative Services, received the **Carlton L. Gyles OVC Support Staff Excellence Award**. The award, created in honor of Dr. Gyles, a professor emeritus of OVC, recognizes a staff person who exemplifies his qualities, including: being an exemplary role model; creating a positive effect on

those around them; being thoughtful and compassionate; having a willingness to accept responsibility that goes beyond their job function; being a mediator; striving always for high quality; striving for everyone to win; and being optimistic. Congrats Amiga Karla!

3. The **OVC BBQ** will be held on **Tuesday July 11, 2017**. Please make every effort to attend. A great meal for five bucks and an opportunity to connect with colleagues from around OVC.

4. **Dr. Thomas Koch** has been awarded a **University Research Award - Research Excellence Award**. As stated by the VPR, Dr. Malcolm Campbell, *“We'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on this richly-deserved recognition of excellence within your discipline. Your nomination by your college is proof-positive of your research excellence and dedication to world-class research, and to collaborative approach to scholarly work”*. Congrats Thomas!

5. **Dr. Glen Pyle** was invited to organize and chair a symposium on the role of sex in cardiovascular ageing for the international meeting of the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences. The invitation was a result of his CIHR Catalyst grant on sex and ageing. Glen presented his lab's work identifying CapZ as a potential target to slow the ageing process in hearts.

6. It was with a heavy heart that the department sent their condolences to **Frances Graziotto** on the passing of her father. The department will be planting a tree in his name at the Arboretum.

7. Congratulations to **Amanda Cordova-Gomez** (postdoc with Dr. Allan King) and Doug on welcoming their beautiful baby girl, Killari!



Amanda Cordova-Gomez and her daughter, Killari...what an appetite!

8. LinkedIn Photoshoot: On **Tuesday, July 18th from 2-4pm**, the Petrik lab will be hosting a **LinkedIn Photoshoot** as a fundraiser for the 2nd Annual Guelph Ovarian Cancer Walk of Hope. For **only \$5**, we will send you a digital, high quality, professional photograph! More details with regards to location will be emailed out in the coming week! For more information and to “register”, please contact Allyssa Hooper ([ahoope01@uoguelph.ca](mailto:ahoope01@uoguelph.ca)).

9. The **2nd Annual Guelph Ovarian Cancer Walk of Hope** will be hosted on **Sunday, September 10th, 2017** in **Centennial Park**.

Registration as a team or an individual is now open at [http://noca.convio.net/site/PageNavigator/WalkofHope\\_splash\\_page.html](http://noca.convio.net/site/PageNavigator/WalkofHope_splash_page.html).

If you are interested in creating a team, participating in the walk, or volunteering at the walk, please contact Allyssa ([ahoope01@uoguelph.ca](mailto:ahoope01@uoguelph.ca)) or Kathy ([kmatusze@uoguelph.ca](mailto:kmatusze@uoguelph.ca)) for more information!

10. Congratulations to **Priya Mistry** (MSc candidate in **Martino** lab) on being awarded one of only 3 CIHR Master's Award: Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarships recipients at the UofG. Priya's project is on heart health and the microbiome. Congrats Priya!

11. I want to thank everyone for their participation in the 2 rounds of faculty hires this summer. Your participation in this important departmental process is very much appreciated!

Remember that my door is always open, so pop in anytime for a chat.

Cheers!

Tarek,

Chair, BMS