On the home stretch for the Fall semester!

There are no words left to use that express how much I appreciate the hard work and endurance you have all put into another successful Fall semester under such exceptional circumstances. We are all at risk of burn out and we need to keep our focus on recharging and reinvigorating ourselves over the holidays.

If all goes well over the holiday season, it is my hope that we will return to in person seminars where we will provide FREE coffee and cookies (and hopefully pizza!) during the presentations.

Something else to look forward to in the New Year! Stay safe Biomed!
Janan Shoja Doost (PhD candidate, Martino lab) gave a talk at the Canadian Society for Chronobiology (CSC) Trainee Club.

Congrats Janan!
Hayley Thorpe, Bryan Jenkins, Dr. Richard Amissah and Dr. Jibran Khokhar attended the Cannabioid GRC in Ventura, California from Nov 7-12. Jibran gave a talk titled “Cannabinoid Modulation Across Neurodevelopment: From Reward to Schizophrenia.” The trainees all presented posters and Hayley also won the “Best Questions Award”.

Jibran has been selected to chair the GRC in 2025 (Vice Chair in 2023).

Also, Richard and Jibran were successful in receiving a MITACS Accelerate Fellowship titled: Neural and behavioral correlates of accidental cannabis poisoning and potential treatments using cannabis-based drugs worth $120,000 over the next two years with Avicanna Inc.

Congrats to all in the Khokhar lab!
The Principles of Pharmacology class (BIOM3090DE) hosted members of the Peer Advisory Committee from the Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy for a panel discussion on drug/alcohol use and recovery. Panel members shared stories about their experiences with addiction and recovery, including the role health care professionals played in their journeys, problems with the justice system, and how they are helping others work through their addictions.

It was an incredibly eye-opening and emotional evening. I think we all came away from the event with a major intrinsic bias check; that many of our preconceived notions about folks who live with addiction are developed from long-standing stigmas and policies that are harmful to these vulnerable individuals.

*I hope we have inspired some students to help build programs and shape policies that properly support these folks throughout their addiction and recovery journeys.*

Special shoutout to Biomed undergraduate students **Hannah Traynor, Madeleine Zanin, and Devya Krishnarajah** for their help in getting the word out and coordinating the event, and to BIOM3090DE TA **Ashley Geremia** for her support as well!

**Congrats to Dr. Sarah LePage and class!**
On Friday, Nov 26th, the Honorable Deputy Minister Shelley Tapp from the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) visited the OVC, with special attention to our Comparative Anatomy lab on the first floor. The theme of her visit was the “Old and the New” in order to showcase the level of technical and pedagogical sophistication that is required to graduate world-class DVM and comparative anatomy students, but just as importantly, to highlight key areas in need of investment and renovation.

A HUGE thanks to Drs. Matt Vickaryous, Pavneesh Madan and to Sarah Donoto and Roman Potersky for setting up and running a smooth lab tour!
Department Publications

Aline Fernanda de Souza; Fabiana Fernandes Bressan; Naira Caroline Godoy Pieri; Ramon Cesar Botigelli; Tamas Revay; Simone Kashima Haddad; Dimas Tadeu Covas; Ester Silveira Ramos; Willian Allan King; Flavio Vieira Meirelles. Generation of Primordial Germ Cell-like Cells from iPSCs Derived from Turner Syndrome Patients. Cells, 10:3099-3110, 2021.


Please do not hesitate to knock on my door (with your mask!) or contact me by email if you have ANY questions/concerns at tsaleh@uoguelph.ca

Stay safe, stay well

#biomedstrong