As we prepare to go back to our classrooms (aka kitchen table or office), whether you are teaching synchronously or asynchronously, please remember that all of the same teaching, learning and mental wellness supports are here to assist you. Resources for your teaching needs can be found on the Office of Teaching and Learning, CCS and OpenEd websites. Your mental wellness supports can be found on the Human Resources website and from our graduate peer helpers, Kathy Jacyniak and Anita Luu, who are onsite and happy to lend a compassionate ear.

Finally, welcome to all of our new graduate student cohort. Although your experience will be different in comparison, it will remain just as inspirational and with as much impact!

Keep safe and keep smiling Biomed!
Publications from around the Dept this month...


Congrats everyone and keep up the great work!!
Distinguished Chair in Cardiovascular Research

**Dr. Tami Martino**, has been awarded the Distinguished Chair in Molecular Cardiovascular Research. This honour from the University of Guelph is in recognition of her outstanding contributions to her field.

This opportunity to honour Tami’s contributions by the award of this Chair, effective Sept 1 2020, with a duration of 5 years, has come about though financial support from a generous philanthropic source. This new recognition is a testament to the outstanding fundamental research happening in our department, OVC and at the University of Guelph.

Tami’s efforts as the founding director of U of G’s Centre for Cardiovascular Investigations (CCVI), as well as her application of circadian biology to clinical cardiology, has led to her acknowledgement as a recognized pioneer in the emerging field of circadian medicine.

Her research has helped in understanding how our molecular circadian clock mechanism regulates cardiovascular health and disease and how these interactions translate into clinical applications for treating heart disease.

Her research team investigates how circadian dysregulation drives heart diseases, including myocardial infarction (heart attack), hypertension (high blood pressure), cardiac hypertrophy and heart failure. The group also examines how to use the heart’s circadian biology to help in healing, including slowing or reversing damage.

While focused on new treatments for cardiovascular disease, her findings can also be applied to wide-ranging clinical conditions in humans and companion animals.


**Congrats Tami on this most deserving recognition!**
Biomedical Sciences undergraduate student Gurkiran Dhuga in Dr. Glen Pyle's lab, used her summer student position to combat myths and misinformation about COVID-19.

Working with the national research group COVID-19 Resources Canada, she wrote a series of articles to educate people on a range of topics, from the role of the cardiovascular system in COVID-19 to the myths surrounding hydroxychloroquine, and the impact of racial inequalities on outcomes.

Some articles have been re-published by science websites including Science 2.0 and Lifeomics.

Way to go Gurkiran!
Dr. Giannina Descalzi has been awarded a NARSAD Young Investigator Grant from the Brain and Behaviour Research Foundation. The grant is for 2 years, starting Jan 2021 and a total of $70,000 USD, which is roughly $93,000 CAD.

Briefly, this grant will be used to generate proof of principle data regarding the role of astrocyte-neuronal communication in the chronification of pain (conversion from acute to chronic states). It will provide evidence that "normal" mechanisms used for adaptive learning are also involved in maladaptive changes that drive both painful and emotional symptoms.

The data generated will be used for applications to larger Tri-Council (CIHR) grants.

*Keep up the great work Giannina!*
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
We got this Biomed!!
#biomedstrong