

THE BIOMEDER

UNIVERSITY
of GUELPH

The official newsletter of the Department of Biomedical Sciences



IN THIS ISSUE

**RECORDING SETTING
NUMBER OF GRADUATE
STUDENTS!**

**PUBLICATIONS FROM
AROUND THE DEPARTMENT**

**SOCIALLY-DISTANCED
ANATOMY LAB**

ED REYES'S LAST DAY!

CIHR success!!

By far the greatest newsworthy item from this past month has been our **UNPRECEDENTED** success in **CIHR** operating competitions. **Drs. Thomas Koch, Glen Pyle and Jibrán Khokhar** were all recipients in the Spring competition for a grand total of **~\$1.9 million over the next 5 years**.

We cannot be more proud of the accomplishments of these investigators, but also acknowledge the fact that their amazing success could not have been possible without the support from graduate students, research and teaching staff and our administrative team. This brings the total number of CIHR-funded faculty in Biomed to 32%...**WOW!** This proves we are not just surviving during this pandemic, we are **thriving** in it!

CONGRATS Thomas, Jibrán and Glen!

Welcome to our new graduate students!

On behalf of the department of Biomedical Sciences, I want to extend our warmest welcome possible to our new graduate students who join us over the Summer and this Fall. It is truly unfortunate that we were not able to treat you to pizza and pop, as is our custom during your orientation, and I regret not being able to see your faces so I have attached the names that I have read about.

Despite the COVID-related restrictions on our ability to provide a proper welcome celebration, please know that your graduate student experience and your research training will not be compromised at all. Our reputation and acknowledgement in research circles nationally and internationally will only be strengthened by your impending contributions, and for that I thank you!

I wish you all the best and please make a point of stopping in to introduce yourselves. I look forward to getting to know all of you in the upcoming months.

With our latest additions, that brings the total number of graduate students in the department to **92 (24 PhD, 42 MSc and 26 MBS)**. Again, we are experiencing unprecedented growth, expansion and success at every level. **See some student photos below!**

Welcome and we look forward to hearing about your research success!!

Please join me in welcoming.....



Aasritha Thotakura - MBS
Madan



Ann Ram - PhD
Petrik



Bronte Kerrigan - MBS
Villoria-Petit



Cara Pilgrim - MBS
Madan



Cassidee Zettle - MBS
LaMarre



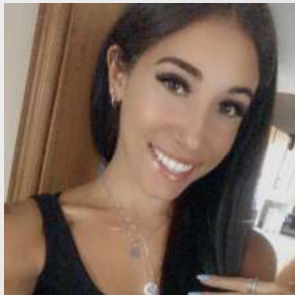
Judy Chen - MBS
Kirby



Janan Shoja Doost- MSc
Martino



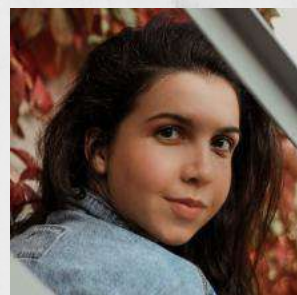
Justin Dufour - MBS
Favetta



Jessica Ruffolo - MSc
Khokhar



Kiera McCahill - MBS
Favetta



Kristine Pohorilyi - MBS
LaMarre



Melanie Williamson -
MBS, **MacLusky**



Narman Mortabgy - MSc
Koch



Ola Davis -PhD
Favetta



Roua Hassan - MBS
Kirby
M.Sc.



Samantha Veltri - MBS
Kirby
MBS



Sydney Dobronyi - MSc
MacLusky



Vivien Truong - MSc
Favetta

- Gabriella Burdette - C. Bailey
- Anna Canella - C. Bailey
- Andrila Collins - B. Kalisch
- Cassandra Collins - C. Bailey
- Natalie Hillis - T. Mutsaers
- Rushi Patel - L. Favetta
- Kaitlin Scherer - G. Descalzi
- James Tang - G. Descalzi
- Jonathon Wong - T. Koch

- Sri Ranjith Alike - G. Kirby
- Benjamin Arceneaux - G. Kirby
- David Bahrami - T. Koch
- Victoria Bali - G. Kirby
- Paige Beettam - Alicia VP
- Ezra Dafota - J. LaMarre
- Stephanie Durfy - G. Kirby
- Sheli Gomberg - G. Kirby
- Katherine Jones - J. Petrik
- Emilia Kourmaeva - L. Favetta
- Lindsay O'Brien - J. LaMarre
- Jenna Rops - J. Petrik

A special "welcome" from our graduate peer helpers...

Hi everyone,

We hope your fall semester is off to a good start. First and foremost, we would like to welcome all new incoming graduate students to the department! Even though the start of your graduate studies may look a little different than what you envisioned, we hope you know that you have joined a great community here in Biomedical Sciences.

Although some of you many have attended the graduate student orientation, and some of you are returning graduate students, we wanted to briefly introduce ourselves to the department. Anita Luu and Kathy Jacyniak are both the Graduate Student Representatives and Peer Helpers for the Department of Biomedical Sciences.



Kathy Jacyniak



Anita Luu

We have also added a new addition to our Graduate Student Representative team, our MBS representative Cara Pilgrim! A little bit about Cara...



Cara Pilgrim

"I completed my undergrad at Guelph in Biomedical Science and I am now back for my MBS in Applied Reproductive Biotechnologies. I want to be able to help people love their experience at Guelph as much as I have!" - Cara

A special "welcome" from our graduate peer helpers...

As the graduate student representatives, our role is to promote a positive graduate experience and act as a liaison to faculty and staff. Part of this role includes planning social events for graduate students in the department. To welcome the incoming graduate students, we will be hosting a virtual graduate student Meet and Greet in the next upcoming weeks! Please be sure to look out for the details of our event in your email inboxes.

Additionally, we are always looking for comments and suggestions for future events! If you have any recommendations, please do not hesitate to reach out to Anita (aluu@uoguelph.ca), Cara (cpilgrim@uoguelph.ca) or Kathy (kjacynia@uoguelph.ca).

Apart from the role as graduate student representative, we are also peer helpers for the department. Our goal is to provide guidance and resources to promote good 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 let you all know that we are here for you! If you would like to meet and chat anytime, please don't hesitate to e-mail either Kathy and/or Anita at any time, all discussions will be strictly confidential.

We hope that everyone is off to a great start to the semester and that we get the chance to meet each of you newcomers sometime soon!

Best,

Anita & Kathy

Publications from around the Dept this month...

Whole genome sequencing analysis of high confidence variants of B-cell lymphoma in Canis familiaris.

Alana Sparks, J. Paul Woods, Dorothee Bienzle, Geoffrey A. Wood, **Brenda Lynn Coomber***. PLOS ONE | <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0238183>
(Alana was an Master of Bioinformatics student!)

Tumour vasculature: Friend or Foe of oncolytic viruses?

Lisa Santry, Jacob van Vloten, Jason Knapp, **Kathy Matuszewska**, Thomas McAusland, Jessica Minott, Robert Mould, Ashley Stegelmeier, Pierre Major, Sarah Wootton, **James Petrik**, Byram Bridle. Cytokine Growth Factor Rev., in press. 2020.

Novel Allosteric Modulator of the Cannabinoid CB1 Receptor Ameliorates Hyperdopaminergia Endophenotypes in Rodent Models.

Catharine A Mielnik, Kim S Sugamori, David B Finlay, **Hayley HA Thorpe**, Matthieu Schapira, Nirunthan Sivananthan, Chun Kit Li, Sean Harrington, Mostafa H Abdelrahman, Laurent A Trembleau, W McIntyre Burnham, **Jibran Y Khokhar**, Ali Salahpour, Amy J Ramsey, Michelle Glass, Iain Greig, Ruth A Ross. Neuropsychopharmacology, in press, 2020.



Hayley Thorpe was also selected and gave a talk last week at the International Behavioral and Neural Genetics Society Trainee Symposium titled: *On baking and getting baked: Cadm2 regulates preference and consumption of THC- and cannabis oil-infused cookie dough in mice*

Bryan Jenkins also gave a talk titled: *Investigating intent: my journey to understand the duality of psychoactive substances* for the Unidad de Investigación Experimental UCB in Bolivia.

Neurotech UCB

Investigaciones Neurofarmacológicas de las Sustancias Psicoactivas

Neurofarmacología de las Sustancias Psicoactivas

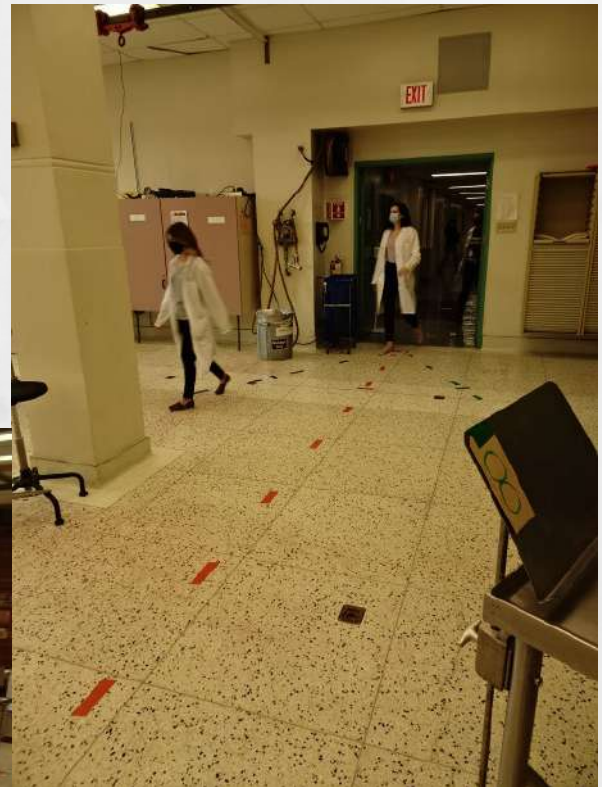
Bryan Jenkins
PHD Candidate in Neurobiology of Dual Disorders Lab
University of Guelph, Canada

Jueves 17 de septiembre a las 11:00 am

Logos for UCB and University of Guelph.

Congrats everyone and keep up the great work!!

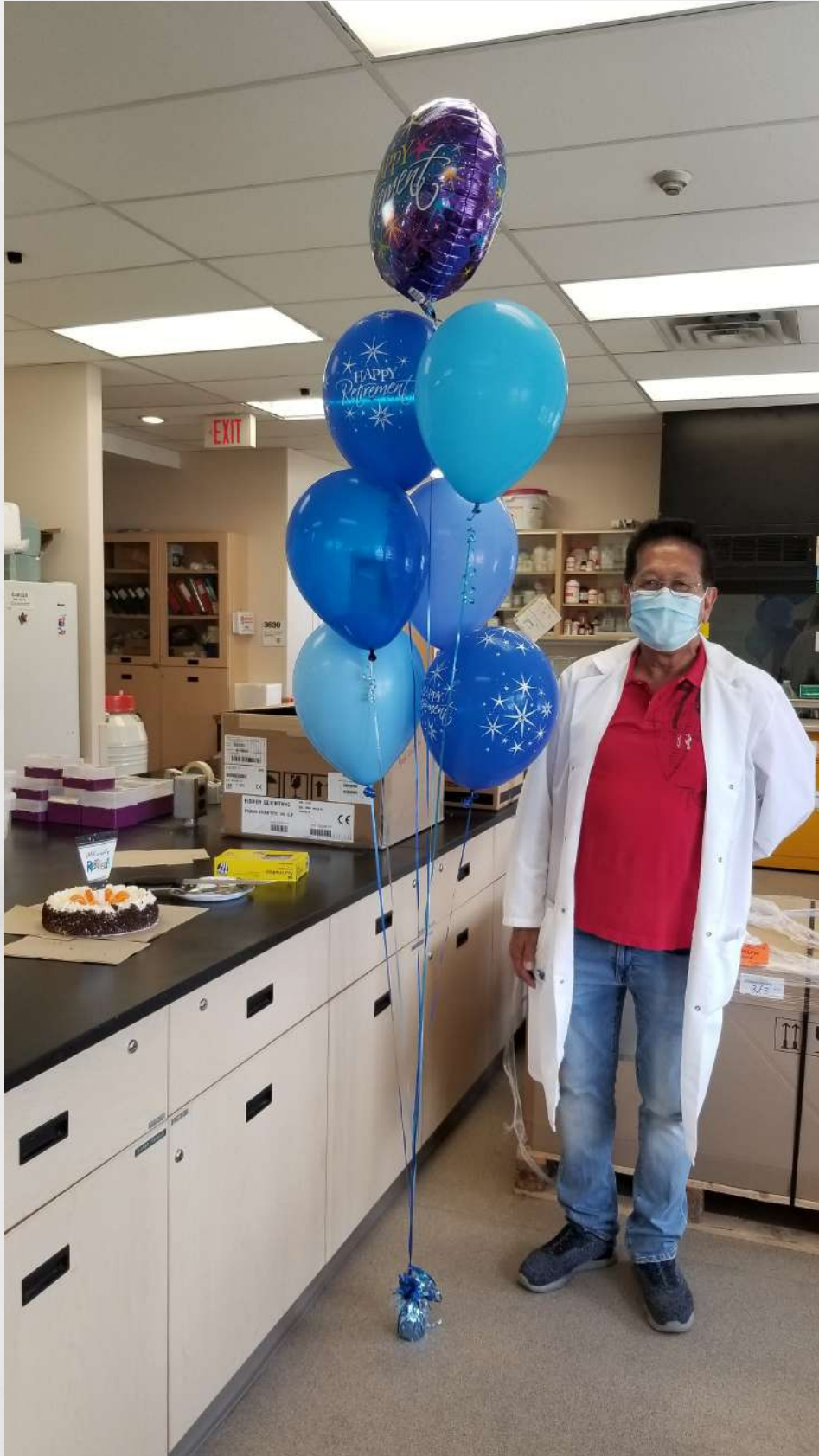
Anatomy lab - COVID Edition!



Roman Poterski, Sarah Donato, Jeff Thomason and the rest of the Anatomy team worked tirelessly over the Summer to ensure our students had both an academic AND safe experience in Anatomy lab this year.

Thank you all for your continued efforts to keep us all safe!

Congratulations (again) Ed!



Although we are planning a celebration for Ed, an outstanding staff member who dedicated almost 50 years of service to Biomed, the RHBL added a personal send-off on his last day. **Congrats again Ed!**

In case you miss 1642 (and the pizza and pop!) as much as I do....



Chalkboard says it all!



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