

Publications of the Week

Higher-Order Epistasis Shapes the Fitness Landscape of a Xenobiotic-Degrading Enzyme

First Author: Gloria Yang | Senior Author: Nobuhiko Tokuriki *(pictured)*
Nature Chemical Biology | Michael Smith Laboratories



The authors combined ancestral protein reconstruction with biochemical, structural and mutational analyses to characterize the functional evolution of methylparathion hydrolase (MPH), an organophosphate-degrading enzyme. They identified five mutations that are necessary and sufficient for the evolution of MPH from an ancestral dihydrocoumarin hydrolase. [Abstract](#)

Class I HDAC Inhibitors Enhance YB-1 Acetylation and Oxidative Stress to Block Sarcoma Metastasis

First Author: Amal M El-Naggar | Senior Author: Paul Sorensen *(pictured)*
EMBO reports | Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre, BC Cancer, Vancouver Prostate Centre and UBC



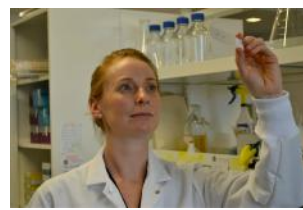
Oxidative stress attenuates melanoma metastasis, and melanoma cells must reduce oxidative stress to metastasize. The authors explored this in sarcomas by screening for oxidative stress sensitizers, which identified the class I HDAC inhibitor MS-275 as enhancing vulnerability to reactive oxygen species in sarcoma cells. [Abstract](#)

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Local News

UBC Expert Immobilizes Tiny Structures Linked to Metastatic Breast Cancer

UBC News



Dr. Karla Williams *(pictured)*, a Professor in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at UBC and the Canada Research Chair in Oncology, is researching potential treatments for metastatic breast cancer (MBC) by studying invadopodia—structures in cancer cells that are thought to play a key role in the spread of the disease. UBC news asked her about her early findings and what they could mean for women with MBC. [Read More](#)

Dr. Sophia Frangou, New to UBC, Finds Consistencies in Abnormal Brain Function across Mood, Anxiety Disorders

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



An analysis of more than 9,000 brain scans has shown that abnormalities in brain function in mood and anxiety disorders are localized to the same areas of the brain, offering promise for future prevention and treatment. The research, led by Dr. Sophia Frangou *(pictured)* of UBC, has identified brain regions showing either abnormally increased or abnormally decreased activation in people with mood and anxiety disorders compared with healthy individuals. [Read More](#)

Science World Event Encourages Girls to Explore, Expand Ambitions

Vancouver Sun



Science World's Girls and STEAM event, which recently took place, is designed to encourage girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, art and design, and math through hands-on workshops and spending time with female role models. But while the end goal is to see more women represented in a field that has traditionally been dominated by men, the event simply encourages girls to dig into whatever they're interested in. [Read More](#)

Vienna Lam, Lab Manager at SFU, Featured on Best of the WWEST Podcast

Westcoast Women in Engineering, Science and Technology (WWEST)



The latest episode of the *Best of the WWEST* podcast episode features Vienna Lam *(pictured)*, a graduate researcher and the lab manager at the SFU Centre for Forensic Research and School of Criminology. She talks about her love for learning, her passion for the whole research cycle as well as strategic planning, what it was like for her to find her first human remains while on an excavation in Fiji, and much more. [Read More](#)

'Sounds and Science' Unites Music with Scientific Research from Vienna to Vancouver

UBC Life Sciences Institute



UBC will host the first Canadian concert bringing leading musical talents of Vienna together with dramatic narratives from science and medicine. "We are bringing science out of the ivory tower, using the music of great composers [...] to transport stories of discovery and insight into the major diseases that affected the composers themselves, and continue to have a significant impact on our society," says Dr. Josef Penninger, Director of UBC's Life Sciences Institute. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Why Don't More Scientists Run for Office?

The Globe and Mail



Another election has come and, mercifully, gone. During the recent federal campaign, the subject of climate change was front and centre, yet it seems that most politicians in Canada (aspiring or elected) lack any kind of scientific background. Why are scientists working from the sidelines instead of on the front lines? [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- November 14 8:00 AM **Vancouver Diabetes Research Day**
AMS Student Nest
- November 19 12:00 PM **Brown Bags @UBC**
Chan Gunn Pavilion
- November 21 8:30 AM **Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre 20th Anniversary**
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre
- November 21 4:00 PM **D.R.I.N.K.S. (Discussions Relevant to Inspiring New Knowledge and Science)**
Mahony and Sons
- November 21 - 23 8:00 AM **BC Cancer Summit**
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre

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STEMCELL Technologies
- Scientist, Hematopoietic Stem and Progenitor Cell Biology**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Scientist, Cell Line Development**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Scientific Inside Sales Representative**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Flow Cytometry Specialist**
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Other Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Canada Research Chairs in Stem Cell Biology**
SFU Faculty of Science
- Scientist I/II, Assay Development**
Notch Therapeutics
- Scientist, Conjugation Chemistry**
Zymeworks
- Bioinformatics Staff Scientist**
BC Children's Hospital Research Institute, Lange Lab
- Scientific Specialist**
Precision Nanosystems

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