

Publications of the Week

Listeria monocytogenes Exploits Host Caveolin for Cell-to-Cell Spreading

First Author: Aaron Dhanda | Senior Author: Julian Guttman *(pictured)*
mBio | Simon Fraser University and the UBC Life Sciences Institute



Listeria monocytogenes moves from one cell to another using actin-rich membrane protrusions that propel the bacterium toward neighbouring cells. Despite cholesterol being required for this transfer process, the precise host internalization mechanism remains elusive. The authors showed that caveolin endocytosis is key to this event, as bacterial cell-to-cell transfer is severely impaired when cells are depleted of caveolin-1. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

PAM Haploinsufficiency Does Not Accelerate the Development of Diet- and Human IAPP-Induced Diabetes in Mice

First Author: Yi-Chun Chen *(pictured)* | Senior Author: Bruce Verchere
Diabetologia | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute and UBC



Large-scale genome-wide studies have suggested that two coding variants of the amidating enzyme, peptidylglycine α-amidating monooxygenase (PAM), are associated with impaired insulin secretion and increased type 2 diabetes risk. The authors elucidated the role of PAM in modulating beta cell peptide amidation, beta cell function and the development of diabetes. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Protist Expert Awarded Top UBC Research Prize

UBC Science



Dr. Patrick Keeling *(pictured)*, a botanist who studies protists, single-celled organisms with a complex evolutionary history, has been awarded UBC's top research accolade, the Jacob Biely Faculty Research Prize. Keeling's work has uncovered clues into the evolution of the parasites that cause diseases such as malaria, as well as provided a better understanding of coral biology. [Read More](#)

Twelve BC Cancer Researchers Receive More than \$4.6 Million in Grants from CIHR

Terry Fox Laboratory



Twelve outstanding BC Cancer researchers, including Dr. Xiaoyan Jiang *(pictured)*, have received significant grants totalling over \$4.6 million from the federal government. The funding provided by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) will allow them and their teams to pursue research breakthroughs in cancer, leading to a better understanding of cancer and improved outcomes. [Read More](#)

CIHR Project Grant Recipients at BC Children's and BC Women's

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



Congratulations to the BC Children's and BC Women's investigators who have been awarded funding through the highly competitive Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Project Grant Fall 2019 competition. The recipients, including Dr. Wendy Robinson *(pictured)*, have received more than \$8 million in new research and bridge grants. [Read More](#)

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Local News

How the Power of T-Cells May Lead to an HIV Cure

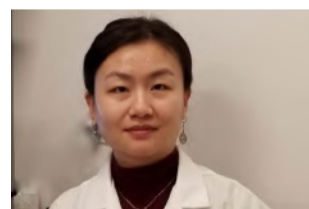
BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS



Dr. Mark Brockman *(pictured)*, a BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS (BC-CIE) Scientific Associate, recently presented at St. Paul's Hospital as part of the BC-CIE's Forefront Lecture series. Dr. Brockman explained that a huge focus of his laboratory's research is the use of host immune response to eliminate viral reservoirs following the use of latency reversal agents - specifically, by exploiting CD8 killer T cells. [Read More](#)

New Paper Highlights Short Comings in Well-Established Genetic System to Aid Researchers Globally

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Dr. Lin Luo *(pictured)* had been using the Cre-loxP system to study functions of the Calsyntenin-3 protein. After months of troubleshooting, she realized the gene wasn't just being knocked out in specific brain tissues as she had hoped. Instead, every tissue in the mouse—from head to tail—was losing the gene. Dr. Luo has since scoured over thousands of papers, as well as her own results, to put together evidence of the challenges in using the Cre-loxP system. [Read More](#)

UBC Women in Science 2020

UBC Science



International Day of Women and Girls in Science takes place every year to promote full and equal access to participation in science, technology, and innovation for women and girls. The UBC Faculty of Science supported this day by featuring ten inspiring women researchers who are making their mark at UBC and beyond, like Microbiology and Immunology PHD student Isobel Mouat *(pictured)*. [Read More](#)

An Interview with Bari Zahedi, Process Development, STEMCELL Technologies

BCREGMED



This month's BCREGMEED Career Column features Bari Zahedi *(pictured)*, a Senior Manager in the Process Development department at STEMCELL Technologies. Bari explains how she got to her role, a typical day on the job, and the similarities and differences between industry and academia. She ends with some words of advice for trainees who are interested in working in a similar position. [Read More](#)

#LabLifeLessons: A Brief History of Discovery – How Applied Science Relies on Basic Research

Michael Smith Laboratories



While every research project is built with the goal of one day making the transition from basic research to applied science, most scientific discoveries will not make an immediate impact beyond the lab. This #LabLifeLessons blog tells the stories of some of the basic research studies that formed the blueprint for the applied science work being done at the Michael Smith Laboratories. [Read More](#)

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 **Upcoming Events in Vancouver**

- February 20
6:00 PM **VanBUG: Learning about Evolutionary Dynamics from Molecular Phylogenies**
BC Cancer Research Centre
- February 25
12:00 PM **Brown Bags @UBC**
Chan Gunn Pavilion
- February 26
7:30 PM **Nerd Nite v.50 Space Poop, Movie Making, and Our Drinking Water**
Fox Cabaret
- February 27
4:00 PM **D.R.I.N.K.S. (Discussions Relevant to Inspiring New Knowledge and Science)**
Mahony and Sons, Stamps Landing
- February 29
7:30 PM **Science Slam and Beaty Museum Present: An Extra Day of Science**
Fox Cabaret

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 **STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver**

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STEMCELL Technologies
- Associate Product Manager, Mesenchymal & Myogenic**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Scientific Recruiter**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Scientific Marketing Specialist**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Program Associate, Product Management**
STEMCELL Technologies

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 **Other Science Jobs in Vancouver**

- Formulation Scientist, R&D**
Precision NanoSystems
- Scientist, Assay Development & High-Throughput Screening**
AbCellera
- Lecturer, Genetics and Microbiology**
Simon Fraser University
- Postdoctoral Fellowships, Pharmacogenomics, Bioinformatics, and Clinical Pharmacology**
UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Bioinformatician**
Terry Fox Laboratory

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