



Contact Us **y f** in Volume 5.02: January 25, 2021

Publications of the Week

Female-Biased Upregulation of Insulin Pathway Activity Mediates the Sex Difference in *Drosophila* Body Size Plasticity

First Author: Jason Millington (pictured, left) | Senior Author: Elizabeth Rideout (right) eLife | UBC



Previous work in *Drosophila* showed that body size plasticity was higher in females, yet the mechanisms underlying increased female body size plasticity remain unclear. The authors have discovered that a protein-rich diet augments body size in females and not males because of a female-biased increase in activity of the conserved insulin/insulin-like growth factor signalling pathway. Abstract

Biogeography of the Relationship between the Child Gut Microbiome and **Innate Immune System** 

First Author: Nelly Amenyogbe (pictured) | Senior Author: William Mohn mBio | UBC



The authors applied 16S amplicon sequencing to profile the stool microbiome and, in parallel, measured whole-blood innate immune cytokine responses to several pattern recognition receptor agonists among two-year-old children across biogeographically diverse settings. Microbiomes differed mainly between high- and low-resource environments and were not strongly associated with other demographic factors. Abstract

Nanoscale Flow Cytometry for Immunophenotyping and Quantitating **Extracellular Vesicles in Blood Plasma** 

First Author: Nikki Salmond | Senior Author: Karla Williams (pictured)



Nanoscale | UBC

Extracellular vesicles (EVs) are desirable candidates for blood-based biopsy diagnosis of cancer. EVs can be time consuming to isolate, therefore a technology that can analyze EVs in complex biological samples in a high throughput manner is in demand. Here, nanoscale flow cytometry was used to analyze EVs in whole, unpurified, plasma samples from healthy individuals and breast cancer patients. **Abstract** 

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Awards

Faculty of Health Sciences Adjunct Professor, John Challis, Named to the **Order of Canada** 

SFU Faculty of Health Sciences



Dr. John Challis (pictured), Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at SFU, was named to the Order of Canada for his foundational contributions to health sciences research. During his storied career he has illuminated the role of fetal development in onset of disease, advocated for enhanced collaboration and funding in health sciences research, championed the rapid mobilization of innovative research to clinicians and patients, and mentored generations of researchers and contributors. Read More

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Local News

Vancouver Nanomedicine Firm Using New Technology to Develop COVID-19 Vaccine

Vancouver Sun



A Vancouver nanomedicine company is part of a team using new genetic technology to develop a COVID-19 vaccine. Precision NanoSystems Incorporated (PNI) is working on a vaccine in the same class as the ones made by Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, the only two COVID-19 vaccines approved by Health Canada. PNI's vaccine, which the company is developing with other collaborators, is still at an early, pre-clinical stage. Read More

**Genomic Tools Offer Insight for a Stronger Economic Future in a Changing** Climate

Genome BC



Genome BC is investing in a proactive research project to maintain and improve physiological adaptation of the ponderosa pine (Py). Using novel genomic methods, scientists will identify genes and gene variants that increase survival and enhance growth in a drier and warmer climate. These genomic tools will help jumpstart a breeding program for Py, which is an important part of BC's climate change adaptation strategy. Read More

Abdera to Accelerate the Development of Targeted Radiotherapies to Fight **Hard-to-Treat Cancer** 

AbCellera



adMare BioInnovations, Canada's global life sciences venture, has announced the launch of Abdera Therapeutics Inc. with founding partner, AbCellera. Abdera is a precision oncology company developing novel next-generation targeted alpha therapies (TATs) for patients with relapsed, refractory and metastatic cancers. Abdera will leverage AbCellera's antibody discovery platform to develop antibodybased TATs against nine clinically-validated oncology targets. Read More

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Interesting Articles

MSFHR's 2021 Suite of Funding Opportunities Will Enable Innovative Health Research across BC

Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR)



The COVID-19 pandemic has further reinforced the importance of funding research to improve health and strengthen health care, support British Columbians through the pandemic, and contribute to economic recovery. As BC's health research funding agency, MSFHR's 2021 funding competition lineup provides opportunities for BC health researchers across all regions of the province. Read More

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**Upcoming Events in Vancouver** 

January 27 12:00 PM January 27

**Brown Bag Series: Mapping Your Career Journey** 

12:00 PM January 28

**Biomedical Imaging and AI Cluster Research Exchange** Shaping our Health: Microbiome in Immunity and Inflammation

3:00 PM February 3 Women and Diversity in STEM: A Personal Journey

12:00 PM

**Bio+ech Connec+ with Gilead Sciences Canada Inc.** February 9 10:00 AM

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**Senior Quality Assurance Specialist** STEMCELL Technologies

**Senior Quality Control Analyst, CELLCore** 

Scientific Marketing Manager, Asia STEMCELL Technologies

STEMCELL Technologies

**Product Manager, Immunology** STEMCELL Technologies

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Other Science Jobs in Vancouver

Scientist, Preclinical/Immunology Acuitas Therapeutics

Research Scientist, Sequencing & Molecular Biology AbCellera

**Assistant Professor, Tenure Track in Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics** Research UBC Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology and Therapeutics

**Vice President, Quality Assurance** 

Chinook Therapeutics Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Vaccine Evaluation Centre

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