

Publications of the Week

STING Pathway Expression in Low-Grade Serous Carcinoma of the Ovary: An Unexpected Therapeutic Opportunity?

First Author: Jutta Huvila | Senior Author: David Huntsman (pictured)
The Journal of Clinical Pathology | BC Cancer, Vancouver General Hospital, and UBC



The stimulator of interferon genes (STING) signalling pathway is suppressed by several mechanisms in a variety of malignant diseases and, in some cancers that may be a requirement for cellular transformation. The aim of this study was to use immunohistochemistry to evaluate STING protein expression across normal tissue, paratubal and ovarian cysts, and ovarian tumour histotypes including ovarian carcinomas. [Abstract](#)

Context-Aware Synthetic Biology by Controller Design: Engineering the Mammalian Cell

First Authors: Nika Shakiba (pictured) and Ross Jones | Senior Author: Domitilla Del Vecchio
Cell Systems | UBC



The rise of systems biology has ushered a new paradigm: the view of the cell as a system that processes environmental inputs to drive phenotypic outputs. Synthetic biology provides a complementary approach, allowing us to program cell behaviour through the addition of synthetic genetic devices into the cellular processor. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

NSERC Funding Awarded to New Projects Led by Faculty of Medicine Researchers

UBC Faculty of Medicine



New projects led by Faculty of Medicine researchers were awarded funding through the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council's (NSERC) Discovery Grants and Discovery Accelerator Supplements programs. Dr. Seth Parker's (pictured) project will focus on interrogating amino acid transport and organelle exchange. [Read More](#)

Three LSI Researchers Awarded NSERC Discovery Grants in Latest Round

UBC Life Sciences Institute (LSI)



As part of an unprecedented funding cycle, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) released results of the Discovery Grant competition, naming three LSI researchers as recipients. Dr. Kota Mizumoto (pictured) plans to elucidate the mechanisms of gradient dependent and independent Wnt signalling in neuronal development. [Read More](#)

Passion for Scientific Discovery Leads to Dean's Convocation Medal for BSc Graduat

SFU Faculty of Health Sciences



With a fascination for scientific discovery, Faculty of Health Sciences Bachelor of Science (BSc) graduand Signe MacLennan (pictured) has tackled her undergraduate career with the desire to learn and generate new knowledge. She is the 2021 recipient of the Dean's Convocation Medal, an annual award that recognizes graduating students that have accomplished outstanding academic achievements. [Read More](#)

Dr. Carolina Tropini Team Wins Funding in 1st Year of Scialog: Microbiome, Neurobiology and Disease Competition

UBC Life Sciences Institute



The Research Corporation for Science Advancement, the Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group, and the Frederick Gardner Cottrell Foundation have announced awards totalling \$770,000 in the inaugural year of Scialog: Microbiome, Neurobiology and Disease. The initiative drew more than 50 scientists from a variety of disciplines, including Dr. Carolina Tropini (pictured) from UBC and co-investigator Dr. JP Yu from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. [Read More](#)

2021/22 Killam Doctoral Scholarship Recipients Announced

UBC Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies



Nineteen UBC doctoral candidates have received a Killam Doctoral Scholarship for the 2021-2022 academic year. These awards are available to students in all disciplines, and this year's winners are researching areas across the intellectual spectrum, from Mathematics to Reproductive and Developmental Science. Winners include Calem Kenward (pictured), who is studying the structure of SARS-CoV-2 proteins in Dr. Natalie Strynadka's lab. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Scientists Obtain Real-Time Look at How Cancers Evolve

BC Cancer



A new study co-led by researchers at BC Cancer and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center suggests that one day it might be possible to predict how triple negative breast cancer tumours evolve over time. The study, led by Dr. Samuel Aparicio (pictured) at BC Cancer and Dr. Sohrab Shah at Memorial Sloan Kettering, showed that a machine learning approach, built using principles from population genetics theory, could accurately predict how breast cancer tumours will evolve. [Read More](#)

Liisa Galea and Lisa Saksida: Fund Science for a Healthier and Safer Future

Vancouver Sun



We see many examples of how evidence stemming from research is the key to solving major problems. Canada has an outstanding community of scientists to provide such evidence. In fact, Canadian researchers punch above their weight in the impact of their research globally. Drs. Liisa Galea (pictured) and Lisa Saksida explain how investment in research and innovation has huge implications for who will be most prepared for global crises. [Read More](#)

UBC-Grown Biotech Companies Lead Pandemic Efforts

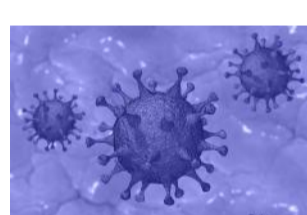
UBC Beyond



UBC researchers are creating biotech companies that are helping to drive health innovation and fuel British Columbia's economy. Acuitas is among a growing number of UBC spin-off companies that are developing cutting-edge treatments and potential cures for human diseases. Others include AbCellera and Precision NanoSystems. [Read More](#)

Qu Biologics Receives Additional Funding to Accelerate Clinical Development of Qu's First-in-Class Immunotherapeutic for COVID-19 Prevention and Treatment

Qu Biologics



Qu Biologics has announced it is receiving advisory services and additional research and development funding of up to \$1,971,195 funding from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program to quickly move forward the application of its lung-directed site specific immunomodulator, QBKPN, to prevent and treat COVID-19. [Read More](#)

BC Tech Unveils Finalists for 2021 Technology Impact Awards

BC Tech Association



With British Columbia's tech sector powering the province's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, the BC Tech Association (BC Tech) is proud to announce the finalists for the 2021 Technology Impact Awards. "BC Tech companies built the resilience of British Columbia this year and the stories are inspiring," said Jill Tipping, BC Tech President and CEO. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

June 29 9:00 AM	Patients as Partners in Research Online
June 29 3:00 PM	MSL Virtual Poster Session Online
June 30 12:00 PM	TI Methods Speaker Series: How to Improve Clinical Trial Reporting Online
July 6 10:00 AM	Metadata Basics: Describing Research Data Online
July 14 11:00 AM	Translating Discovery to Transform Health: Untold Stories from Medical Research Online

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UBC
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Precision NanoSystems
- Postdoctoral Fellow, Gastrointestinal Cancers**
Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre
- Research Scientist, Electrophysiology**
Xenon Pharmaceuticals

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