

Publications of the Week

Identification of Key MicroRNAs As Predictive Biomarkers of Nilotinib Response in Chronic Myeloid Leukemia: A Sub-Analysis of the ENESTxtnd Clinical Trial

First Author: Ryan Yen | Senior Author: Xiaoyan Jiang (pictured) Leukemia | BC Cancer, Michael Smith Laboratories, and UBC



The authors analyzed differentially expressed microRNAs in CD34⁺ chronic myeloid leukemia cells pre- and post-nilotinib (NL) therapy from 58 patients enrolled in the Canadian sub-analysis of the ENESTxtnd Phase IIIb clinical trial which correlated with sensitivity of CD34⁺ cells to NL treatment in *in vitro* colony-forming cell assays. [Abstract](#)

A Gut-Centric View of Aging: Do Intestinal Epithelial Cells Contribute to Age-Associated Microbiota Changes, Inflammaging, and Immunosenescence?

First Author: Leah Hohman (pictured) | Senior Author: Lisa Osborne Aging Cell | Life Sciences Institute and UBC



Intestinal epithelial cells (IECs) serve as both a physical and an antimicrobial barrier against the microbiota, as well as a conduit for signaling between the microbiota and systemic host immunity. The authors discuss emerging data related to age-associated loss of intestinal barrier integrity and posit that IEC dysfunction may play a central role in propagating age-associated alterations in microbiota composition and immune homeostasis. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

DMCBH Researcher Receives Northwest Association for Biomedical Research Award

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Congratulations to Dr. Judy Illes (pictured) on recently receiving the Alvin J. Thompson Award from the Board of the Northwest Association for Biomedical Research! This honour was awarded in recognition of the way Dr. Illes and her team at Neuroethics Canada came together to form a research partnership on early onset Alzheimer's disease with the Tahltan First Nation that "met the highest ideals of ethical research and the advancement of trust." [Read More](#)

Business in Vancouver Biotech and Life Sciences Leaders

Business in Vancouver



BC500 features business leaders who have a notable impact on BC's communities, industries, and economy. Awardees include Tom Frohlich (pictured), who co-founded and joined Chinook Therapeutics in January 2019 in order to develop new therapies for kidney disease. Previously, he served as entrepreneur-in-residence at Versant Ventures. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Math as a Window into the Natural World

SFU Research



Mapping the epidemiology and evolution of a pathogen like COVID-19 and its evolutionary history takes the unique skills of a mathematician. SFU Mathematics Professor Dr. Allene MacPherson (pictured) uses mathematical and statistical tools to address questions at the intersection of evolution, ecology, and epidemiology. With advanced degrees in both zoology and mathematics, she has expertise in both biological diversity and applied mathematics. [Read More](#)

The Podcast *Nice Genes!* Explores the Infamous 'Babes in the Woods' Cold Case

Genome BC



An iconic Vancouver attraction, Stanley Park, is the backdrop to a 70-year-old cold case that is one of North America's most scintillating unsolved crimes, known as the "Babes in the Woods" mystery. The latest episode of the *Nice Genes!* podcast, sponsored by Genome BC, peers at this local puzzle through a scientific lens of forensic genomics and sheds light on the fascinating discoveries that genomics can uncover. [Read More](#)

SFU Researchers Developing New Methods for Controlling Deadly Honeybee Parasites

SFU News



At her apiary in South Surrey, SFU Chemistry Professor Dr. Erika Plettner (pictured) is in the third year of field trials of a new treatment for managing varroa mites, which have become a serious problem for beekeepers around the world. When left untreated, varroa infestations can cause bee colonies to collapse. Dr. Plettner originally developed the compound, 3c36, to deter moths from feeding on food crops. However, through lab trials she discovered that it can also paralyze mites, causing them to fall off of bees. [Read More](#)

Genomic Gumshoes Aim to Solve Blueberry Mystery

Genome BC



A mysterious new problem is threatening BC's blueberry industry — visibly sick plants are testing negative for unknown causes. More and more blueberry bushes are being affected each season. Researchers on a two-year project funded by Genome BC are playing the role of plant detectives to solve this mystery. The research team uses genomic tools like genome sequencing to identify the viruses causing disease in blueberry plants. [Read More](#)

UBC Scientist Is Sending Yeast and Algae to Space on Artemis 1

UBC News



When NASA's Artemis 1 lunar mission takes off, on board will be four science experiments — including one from Canada. UBC Pharmaceutical Sciences Professor Dr. Corey Nislow (pictured) is sending yeast and algae cultures into space, in a pod not much bigger than a shoebox, to study the effects of cosmic rays and near zero gravity on living organisms. [Read More](#)

Bioprocess Development and Tissue Engineering of Stem Cells to Study Heart Disease

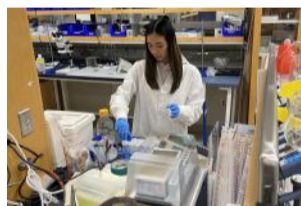
Centre for Heart Lung Innovation (HLI)



In collaboration with bioengineers at the University of Calgary and with support from Stem Cell Network of Canada, Drs. Michael Kallos, Derrick Rancourt, Breanna Borys, and Leili Rohani (pictured), a postdoctoral research scientist in Dr. Zachary Laksman's lab at the HLI, developed a system for bioprocess bioengineering and cell manufacturing of human pluripotent stem cells (hPSCs) in a bioreactor to produce clinically viable hPSCs. [Read More](#)

Synergy Program Student Profile: Jessica Jung

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Jessica Jung (pictured) is a fourth-year UBC School of Biomedical Engineering (SBME) student who is working with Dr. Manu Madhav as part of the SBME Synergy Undergraduate Summer Research Program. Her research project entails optimizing the current AdipoClear+ and CLARITY tissue clearing protocols to optically clear whole or partial rat brain tissue, allowing for refractive-index-matching and volumetric imaging of the cleared tissue using light-sheet microscopy. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- September 4 12:00 PM **Sci Comm Picnic** Kitsilano Beach
- September 7-8 9:00 AM **Dynamic Neuroscience Workshop** SFU Harbour Centre & Online
- September 7 12:00 PM **WHRI's World Sexual Health Day 2022** Online
- September 9 11:00 AM **Metabolic MRI at Ultra-High Fields — From Systems Architecture to Application** Rudy North Lecture Theatre, Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health & Online
- September 15 8:00 AM **Life Sciences BC Annual General Meeting 2022** Fasken Vancouver Office & Online

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