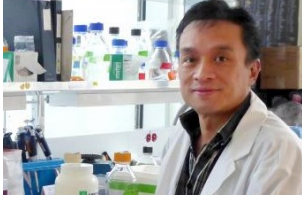


Publications of the Week

CXCR4-LASP1-G9a-Snail Axis Drives NEPC Transdifferentiation via Induction of EMT and Downregulation of REST

First Authors: Liangliang Liu, Itzel Astiazarán Rascón, and Dong Lin | Senior Authors: Francois Bénéard, Yuzhuo Wang, and Christopher Ong (*pictured*)
Cell Genomics | Vancouver Prostate Centre, BC Cancer Research Centre, and UBC



Phenotypic switching is an emerging driver of cancer treatment resistance, yet early signals regulating this process remain unclear. Here, using longitudinal single-cell RNA sequencing, researchers mapped differentiation trajectories in the LTL331 prostate adenocarcinoma patient-derived xenograft model undergoing neuroendocrine prostate cancer transformation post castration. [Abstract](#)

[View All Publications](#)

Awards

UBC Medicine Researchers Awarded Federal Funding for 35 Projects Addressing Key Health Priorities

UBC Faculty of Medicine



UBC Faculty of Medicine researchers are leading 35 projects awarded new funding from the Government of Canada through the three federal research granting agencies. The awards are part of a major \$1.3 billion federal investment in Canadian research announced July 9. Among the many researchers who were awarded new grants is Dr. Peter Crompton (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

Master’s Students Awarded Canada Graduate Scholarships for 2025

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH)



DMCBH congratulates their current students who have received awards through the Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master’s program from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. This year’s cohort of eight students includes Saina Nemati (*pictured*) who is supervised by Dr. Wolfram Tetzlaff. [Read More](#)

Congratulations to Our Award-Winning Trainees!

The Centre for Heart Lung Innovation (HLI)



HLI congratulates Hacin Gill (*pictured, left*), a fifth-year PhD candidate, and Alexandra Schmidt (*right*), a second-year Master’s student, for receiving presentation awards at the 2025 UBC Department of Medicine Research Expo. Gill was awarded Best Oral Presentation in the Biomedical Theme and Schmidt won Best Poster Presentation in the Clinical Focus Theme for her project. [Read More](#)

SBME Researchers Are Leading Nine Projects Awarded New Funding from the Government of Canada

UBC School of Biomedical Engineering (SBME)



New projects that have recieved Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council funding at SBME will advance new knowledge and scientific breakthroughs in AI-powered disease diagnosis and precision medicine, cancer diagnosis, and organ on a chip systems. Nine projects have been funded, including a project led by Dr. Pamela Hoodless (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

SFU to Pioneer Two Groundbreaking National Training Programs with \$3.3 Million in Funding

SFU News



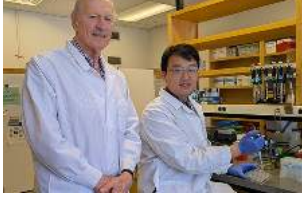
The BEST program will use its \$1.65 million in new NSERC CREATE funding to train more sensor scientists and engineers to research and develop new technologies to detect, manage, and mitigate rapidly evolving dangers stemming from climate change, infectious diseases, and biodiversity loss. The program is led by SFU’s Dr. Peter Unrau (*pictured*), Professor of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry. [Read More](#)

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Local News

How Research on Newborns in West Africa Led to the Development of a Tool in Canada That Predicts a Deadly Condition in Babies Worldwide

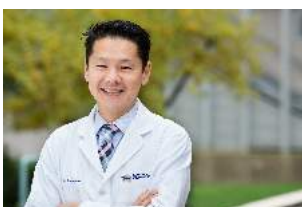
Canadian Institutes of Health Research



Sepsis is one of the leading causes of death in newborns in The Gambia. Microbiologist Dr. Bob Hancock (*pictured*) and his lab at UBC extracted RNA from blood cells collected from 700 babies in the West African country to find out why neonatal sepsis rates were so elevated. They sequenced the RNA to look for changes in gene expression linked to sepsis. Out of the 700 babies, they detected that fifteen had sepsis in the first week of life. [Read More](#)

Early Access to Breakthrough, Convenient Kidney Stone Treatment

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



Dr. Ben Chew (*pictured*) is the Director of Clinical Research at the Stone Centre, Co-Director of the Centre for Kidney Stones and Minimally Invasive Surgery at the M. H. Mohseni Institute of Urologic Sciences, and Associate Professor at UBC. Dr. Chew recently led the first ever clinical trial of a novel technology called Break Wave Lithotripsy, a low-hassle alternative for kidney stones. [Read More](#)

Interbreeding with Neanderthals May Be Responsible for Modern-Day Brain Condition, SFU Study Finds

SFU News



A new SFU-led study reveals interbreeding between humans and their ancient cousins, Neanderthals, as the likely origin of a neurological condition estimated to impact up to 1% of people today. The study, led by Dr. Kimberly Plomp (*pictured*), suggests that Chiari Malformation Type 1, a serious and sometimes fatal neurological condition, may be linked to Neanderthal genes that entered the human gene pool through interbreeding tens of thousands of years ago. [Read More](#)

Mitacs Showcases BC’s Innovation Ecosystem

Mitacs



In a powerful demonstration of BC’s leadership in innovation, Mitacs brought together around 120 leaders from government, businesses, post-secondary institutions, and the not-for-profit sector for an evening of insightful discussions and connections in Vancouver. The Mitacs Connect: Talent for Tomorrow event spotlighted the scope and impact of innovation across the province. [Read More](#)

Variational AI Named “Emerging Company of the Year—Biotech” by Life Sciences BC

T-Net



Variational AI announced that it has been named Emerging Company of the Year—Biotech by Life Sciences BC. The recognition is part of the 27th Annual Life Sciences BC Awards, which celebrate outstanding achievements in British Columbia’s vibrant life sciences sector. The award highlights Variation AI’s innovation in developing Enki, a generative AI foundation model that delivers novel and selective lead compounds to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. [Read More](#)

30 Years of Sparking Discovery

UBC Engineering



Geering Up Engineering Outreach had no shortage of accomplishments to celebrate at their 30th birthday party on May 29. Through summer camps and educational programs, Geering Up has long provided a way for youth across BC to investigate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in a fun and educational environment. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

August 14 12:00 PM	CBR – LSI Research Day 2025 UBC Life Sciences Centre
August 14 6:00 PM	After Dark: Sparks and Rec — Summer Party Edition Science World
August 21 5:00 PM	Beaty Nocturnal Beaty Biodiversity Museum