

Publications of the Week

Defining Enteric Bacterial Pathogenesis Using Organoids: *Citrobacter rodentium* Uses EspC, an Atypical Mucinolytic Protease, to Penetrate Mouse Colonic Mucus

First Author: Yan Chen | Senior Authors: Hong Yu and Bruce Vallance (pictured)
Gut Microbes | UBC



For the attaching and effacing bacterial family member and murine pathogen *Citrobacter rodentium*, its virulence strategy appears to involve penetration of the colonic mucus barrier to reach the underlying epithelium. To better define these interactions, researchers grew colonoids under air-liquid interface conditions, producing a thick mucus layer that mimicked in vivo mucus composition and glycosylation. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

FHS Students Secure National Research Awards

SFU Faculty of Health Sciences



Several members of the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) learning community received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research this year in support of their research projects. FHS congratulates Evan Barad, Sarah (Yu seon) Chae, Noah Katsuno, Anika Shahid, Puneet Sidhu, and Milad Vahedi (pictured, left to right, top to bottom). [Read More](#)

Dr. Ly Vu Receives Journey Award Celebrating Canada's Outstanding Immigrant Women in STEM

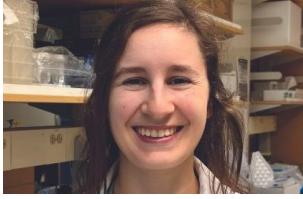
BC Cancer



Dr. Ly Vu (pictured) has received a Journey Award from the Canada Centre for Immigrant Women in STEM. The Journey Awards recognize and honour the journeys of immigrant women in STEM who exemplify leadership, innovation, and community service. Dr. Vu is a Scientist at BC Cancer, Professor at UBC, and a Canada Research Chair in RNA biology in hematological malignancies. [Read More](#)

UBC Medicine Trainees Receive Federal Support to Shape Future of Canadian Research

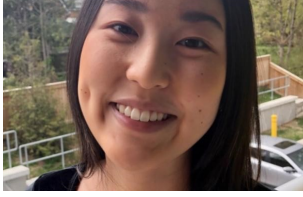
UBC Faculty of Medicine



More than 30 UBC Faculty of Medicine graduate students and postdoctoral fellows have been recognized for research excellence with new federal funding that will empower them to continue advancing impactful health research for all Canadians. Among this year's cohort is Gillian Savage (pictured) who received the Canada Graduate Doctoral Scholarship. [Read More](#)

BFRC Trainee Awarded Mitacs Grant in Partnership with Lululemon

UBC Balance and Falls Research Centre (BFRC)



The BFRC announced that Keara Sutherland (pictured), PhD student in Dr. Mark Carpenter's Lab at UBC, was awarded an 18-month Mitacs Accelerate Grant in partnership with Lululemon. She will investigate 'The effects of vibratory stimulation on static and dynamic balance control: interactions between stimulation type, location, and balance ability'. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Helping the BC Wine Industry Beat the Heat: Scientists Seek Genomic Solutions to Grapevine Heat Stress

Genome BC



Climate change is challenging BC wine producers. Genome BC has funded researchers are using genomic techniques to explore the impacts on heat stress on grapevines and to find solutions for the industry. Dr. Simone Castellarin (pictured) from UBC's Wine Research Centre is the study's lead researcher and will investigate biostimulants and plant defences. [Read More](#)

Bringing Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Ceremony to Child Health Research

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute (BCCHR)



Indigenous children are the fastest-growing population in Canada but still experience disproportionately negative health outcomes. To enact BCCHR's commitment to grow and invest in Indigenous child health research and adapt its research practices through Indigenous partnerships, the Institute has created a network of researchers, clinicians, and Indigenous advisors called the Indigenous Child Health Knowledge Super Hub. [Read More](#)

Building Better Storage for Genomics Data

Genome BC



Genomics research is advancing science, helping doctors match patients with appropriate treatments, tracking the spread of disease and uncovering the secrets of biodiversity. But all this progress depends on a critical factor: large volumes of data. "The power of sequencing data lies in the amount of information it contains. Individual files can hold the clues to what's causing a disease, for example," said Dr. Steven Jones. [Read More](#)

MS May Begin Far Earlier Than Previously Thought

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



The earliest warning signs of multiple sclerosis (MS) may emerge more than a decade before the first classical neurological symptoms occur, according to new research from UBC. "Our findings dramatically shift the timeline for when [the] early warning signs are thought to begin, potentially opening the door to opportunities for earlier detection and intervention," said senior author Dr. Helen Tremlett (pictured). [Read More](#)

Past, Present and Future: Academic Life from the Lens of Dr. Freda Miller

UBC Michael Smith Laboratories



Behind every success and research breakthrough lies a story of curiosity, persistence, setbacks, and moments of discovery. In today's academic science, success is often portrayed through publications and presentations. However, the personal journeys that shape those achievements are just as important. Dr. Freda Miller (pictured) speaks about her journey in the first installment of the 'Past, Present and Future' article series. [Read More](#)

'Disease Detectives' Discover Cause of Sea Star Wasting Disease That Wiped Out Billions of Sea Stars

UBC News



UBC researchers have identified the bacterial culprit behind sea star wasting disease, solving a decade-long mystery and opening the door to recovery efforts for devastated marine ecosystems. "Now that we've identified the disease-causing agent, we can start looking at how to mitigate the impacts of this epidemic," said first author of the study Dr. Melanie Prentice (pictured). [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
October 2 5:00 PM	27th Annual Life Sciences BC Awards Vancouver Convention Centre West
October 28 - 29 6:30 AM	LSBC's 10th Annual Invest in BC Presented by Lumira Ventures Vancouver Convention Centre West

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Decision-Making Tips



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