



Physiology
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

PhysioLINK

April 3, 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

This issue contains a multitude of awards and celebrations. Our trainees, staff and faculty are simply the best! I hope you enjoy catching up with all the news and celebrating all the accomplishments.

Scott P. Heximer, PhD

Ernest B. and Leonard B. Smith Chair,
Department of Physiology
Temerty Faculty of Medicine

PHYSIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES

~ Eligible for PSL1000H/PSL2000H/PSL4000Y Course Seminar Attendance ~

“Regulation of genomic imprinting within the *Mest* cluster”

When: Thursday, April 27, 2023 04:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Speaker: Dr. Louis Lefebvre

Associate Professor
Department of Medical Genetics
Life Sciences Institute
University of British Columbia

Bio

Louis Lefebvre obtained a BSc in Biochemistry from the Université Laval in Québec City (1987) before moving to the University of British Columbia to complete a PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (1994) under the supervision of the Nobel Laureate Michael Smith, studying transcription regulation in yeast. He then completed two post-doctoral fellowships studying genomic imprinting in the mouse, first with Azim Surani at the Gurdon Institute, Cambridge (1998), then with Andras Nagy at the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute in Toronto (2003). He was recruited back at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, where he is an Associate Professor in the Department of Medical Genetics at the Life Sciences Institute. He held a Canada Research Chair in Genomic Imprinting from 2003 to 2013. In his research, he is interested in developmental epigenetics in mouse models, with a focus on the function and regulation of genes controlled by genomic imprinting.

Join Zoom Webinar:

TBA

Hosted by the Jurisicova Lab

Visit [Physiology's Home Page](#) to see the Full Seminar Series

HONOURS & AWARDS

Recipient of the 2023 CIHR-ICRH/CSS Distinguished Lecturer Award in Sleep Sciences

Congratulations to Dr. Richard Horner!



The CIHR- Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health and the Canadian Sleep Society have established the inaugural and biennial Distinguished Lecturer Award in Sleep Sciences in recognition of an individual's outstanding contribution to the advancement of sleep sciences in Canada. The award will be presented to Dr. Horner at the Canadian Sleep Society meeting in April, where the recipient will give a keynote lecture as part of the scientific program.



Congratulations to **Dr. Michelle French** who is the **2023 recipient of the Sustained Excellence and Innovation in Life Sciences Education Award**. This award recognizes Michelle's sustained excellence as a teacher, mentor, and educational innovator, as well as her considerable leadership contributions in the Temerty Faculty of Medicine. Michelle has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the success of students and Physiology's programs throughout her career through extensive mentorship, ongoing curriculum development, and outstanding pedagogical innovations.

SRI Meeting 2023

Physiology was well represented at the 70th Annual Meeting of the **Society for Reproductive Investigation (SRI)**, held from March 21 – 25, 2023 in Brisbane, QLD, Australia.

Congratulations to **Dr. Stephen Matthews** who was installed as the next President of SRI!



The gavel has been passed! Looking forward to #SRI2024 in Vancouver, BC!

Congratulations to **Dr. Sophie Petropoulos** (Alumni 2011, Matthews lab) on receiving the Early Career Investigator Award!



Former Physiology trainees meeting up in Brisbane!



L-R: Dr. Shathiyah Kulandavelu (Alumni 2010, Adamson lab), Dr. Sophie Petropoulos (Alumni 2011, Matthews lab), Dr. Kristin Connor (Alumni 2009, Challis lab)



L-R: Dr. Shathiyah Kulandavelu, Dr. Oksana Shnylova, Dr. Lubna Nadeem, Tam Phetcharawan, Dr. Sophie Petropoulos, Dr. Steve Lye

Finding the perfect venue for PANS2024

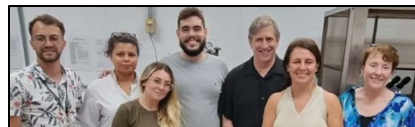
Our own **Dr Denise Belsham**, the incoming President for the International Federation of Neuroendocrinology, the governing body for the global neuroendocrine community and immediate past President of the Pan American Neuroendocrine Society (PANS), went on a site visit to Sao Paulo Brazil and Santiago Chile from March 17-22, 2023. Her and Mike Lehman, the current President of PANS, visited their wonderful colleagues in South America to scout for the optimal location to hold the first

in-person PANS meeting since 2019 to make their society more inclusive and equitable in terms of opportunities and locations to hold scientific meetings.

The trip was such a success with visits to the University of Sao Paulo and the coastal town of Santos on the Atlantic side, followed by some networking that included some samba dancing and, of course, what I call "the meat feast" or churrasco. The weather was just perfect as they were finishing their summer – a great time of year to go south for a meeting next year. They then took a flight across the continent to Santiago to meet with their colleagues who immediately whisked them off to Concon on the Pacific coast. They then went on a lovely tour, including to a fabulous winery on the way back to Santiago. They managed to present two

seminars that evening at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, and after the talks they headed out to an engaging and energetic networking evening with a group of trainees.

The next morning, they visited with colleagues at the University of San Sebastian. To make things even more exciting, a 5.6 magnitude earthquake hit Santiago making their visit quite memorable without a doubt... Denise then presented another seminar at the University of Chile. It was a whirlwind of activities that really gave them a feel for their meeting options. No matter which venue they choose, we know that PANS2024 will be in great hands - mark your calendars for March 2024!



Thanks Pan American Neuroendocrine Society for such a nice experience!



Physiology's Annual Research Day (FIP) – May 26, 2023

FIP is fast approaching!

Please join us on Friday May 26th for our annual FIP Symposium.

Dr. Karin Bornfeldt, Director, Diabetes Complications Program, University of Washington, will be joining us for the day and is this year's **2023 Macallum/FIP Keynote Speaker**.



Keynote Lecture: *"Diabetes-associated cardiovascular disease: Bridging the gap between basic and translational research"*

Location/Time: TBA.

More details will be announced shortly!

Do you have a news item for the next PhysioLINK?
Please send it to Jenny in the Chair's Office
e.katsoulakos@utoronto.ca