

PhysioLINK

May 24, 2019

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kind words of support and encouragement as I begin my time as Interim Chair in the department. I look forward to working with all of you to help sculpt our path forward.

It was really wonderful to see so many people at last month's events (Graham's Send-Off Party, Macallum, FIP). Our sincere thanks again to Dr. Richard Palmiter for visiting us and delivering two superb lectures. His visit was the highlight of our academic year!

Scott P. Heximer, PhD
Interim Chair,
Department of Physiology

HONOURS & AWARDS



Congratulations to **Dr. Denise Belsham** on receipt a *Sustained Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentorship Award* at the Faculty of Medicine's Education Achievement Celebration held on May 15th.



Congratulations to **Dr. Barry Sessle** who was recognized by the American Academy of Orofacial Pain at their annual meeting in San Diego for Service to the Academy, in recognition of his orofacial pain research over the past 50 years (supported by both CIHR and NIH) and of his 20 years as Editor-in- Chief of its journal, the Journal of Oral & Facial Pain and Headache.

PHYSIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES

~ Eligible for PSL1000H/PSL2000H Course Seminar Attendance ~

Etay Hay, PhD

Independent Scientist
Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics
CAMH
Assistant Professor
Department of Psychiatry
University of Toronto

Title: TBA

Date: Thursday June 6, 2019

Time: 4-5pm

Location: Medical Sciences Building, Room 2170

FIP 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Message from the FIP Co-Chairs

Hello Faculty, Students & Staff,

Thank you to all of those who attended Frontiers in Physiology (FIP) 2019! This year, FIP was held on May 2nd, 2019 at Mount Sinai. The event was a great success, due in no small part to all of you. Congratulations to all of the oral and poster presenters, who gave exciting and interesting presentations. The work showcased by our department highlighted the diverse and high caliber research that Physiology has to offer.

Poster winners:

Shahin Khodaei (Orser Lab), Collin Wilson (Tweed Lab), Haisam Shah (Heximer Lab), Winston Li (Orser Lab), Alexandre Martchenko (Brubaker Lab), Amin Kamaledin (Prescott Lab), Lu Wang (Belsham Lab), Sridevi Venkatesan (Lambe Lab), Rasa Volianskis (Collingridge Lab), Megan Drupals (Salter Lab), Ryungrae Kim (Zhang Lab), Yasaman Badakhshi (Jin Lab)

Oral winners:

Farwah Iqbal (Librach Lab), Jhenielle Campbell (Brubaker Lab), Neemat Mahmud (Miller Lab)

Thank you to Dr. Palmiter for sharing his research, engaging with students and ... with Research Radio. Thank you to all of our sponsors for their support of this event. Last but certainly not least, we would like to thank everyone involved in the planning and setup of FIP, without whom this day would not have been possible. The FIP Committee is made up of graduate students within the department, who volunteer their time to acquire sponsorship, develop the conference schedule and organize everything from registration to catering.

FIP Committee 2018-2019:

Yasaman Badakhshi
Sara Bober
Shelly Chauhan
Megan Drupals
Niloofar Ganji
Manroop Khroud
Yasaman Mostafaie
Tina Nguyen
Peter Park
Sydney Rivers
Haisam Shah
Vivian Szeto
Theresa Tam
Andy Tran
Sridevi Venkatesan

A special thank you to Frankie Poon for taking photos throughout the day (**photos can be found at <https://uoftfip.wordpress.com/photos/>**). Also, thank you to Marc Manzo for creating the FIP 2019 website (<https://uoftfip.wordpress.com>)

Thank you all again for attending, we hope that everyone was able to gain from the experience of FIP 2019, through networking, collaboration or simply learning something new from your colleagues in the Department of Physiology.

Cheers,

Scott Frendo-Cumbo, Bona Kim & Elizabeth Eng
FIP 2019 Co-Chairs & GASP Co-Vice Presidents

Message from the GASP President

I would like to thank GASP's VPs, Bona Kim, Liz Eng and Scott Frendo-Cumbo, for their hard work in planning and running FIP 2019. Leading their committee, they procured sponsorships, found a venue, reviewed student abstracts, recruited judges, and organized all of the logistics. Although the FIP committee played a pivotal role in planning FIP, without the great leadership from the VPs, the day would not have been as successful as it was. Due to their hard work and dedication, FIP 2019 was phenomenal. Thank you again Liz, Bona and Scott, and congratulations for organizing such a great event.

I would also like to thank the members of the GASP council for all their help in the set-up, cleanup and day-of support for FIP 2019.

Sammy Cai
GASP President

Carin Wittnich Award of Excellence for Teaching Assistants

Congratulations to **Ankur Bodalia** (PhD trainee, Wang lab) on receiving the TA Award which was presented by Dr. Michelle French



PSL 379H – Comparative Marine Mammal in the Field

With what has become a tradition in the department, Dr Wittnich recently led the largest class ever (24 undergraduate students) on their unique field course experience getting hands on applied comparative physiology exposure in Puerto Aventuras Mexico. The students not only got to see and interact with dolphins, manatees and sea lions they learned the intricacies of field physiology data collection, how to analyse the data they collected and prepare a manuscript on their chosen topic. Days were spent in water with these magnificent mammals, learning how they are so adapted to their aquatic environment and appreciate their unique physiology first hand. Each year this popular course fills earlier and not surprisingly students are already booking their spot for 2020!



Send-Off Party for Graham Collingridge

Thank you to everyone who came out to Graham Collingridge's "send-off" party on April 30th. It was a great event!

Our best wishes again to Graham as he begins his new role as Director of the Tanz Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases (CRND).



CPS Update

I was delighted by the fantastic turnout at the CPS symposium that was held at Hart house on Tuesday. The purpose of the meeting was to recognize the outstanding contributions that two Canadian physiologists have made through the award of the Sarrazin and Stevenson lectures, to promote interdisciplinary, cross-platform physiological research and, to give trainees the opportunity to present talks and discuss their work at a poster session. It was wonderful see such a good turn out from the Department's faculty and to listen to a wide range of expertly delivered talks.

Congratulations to Pat Brubaker for the award of the prestigious Sarrazin lecture.

A particular thank you to Zhong-Ping Feng, who together with Harley Kurata (University of Alberta) and Francesca Fabry (Mount Sinai Hospital) were the principal organizers of the event. Thank you also to the sun, that decided to shine for about the first time this year.

Graham Collingridge
President of the Canadian Physiological Society





We want to hear about the great things happening in Physiology!

Please share your accomplishments, awards...
Send news items to the Chair's Office c/o
e.katsoulakos@utoronto.ca