2nd Annual ACHRI Research Retreat!
The second annual all-members ACHRI retreat takes place Monday, November 30 and Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at the Banff Centre. Please save the dates in your calendar! Last December, more than 300 ACHRI members and trainees across the diverse spectrum of research in child health and wellness came together for our first-ever all members retreat to learn about each other’s work, curiosity and passion. We look forward to gathering with you again in 2020.

Monday, November 30  
Tuesday, December 1  
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity  
Registration opens in September  
The retreat will feature all ACHRI programs and ACHRI trainee presentations.
The Cumming School of Medicine’s Awards and Recognition Committee hosts an annual Celebration of Excellence to honour faculty members and their award-winning achievements in teaching, education and research. Congratulations all the honourees and bravo to our ACHRI recipients!

**Darren Brenner** - Research Rockstar, Alberta Cancer Foundation & William E. Rawls Prize

**Michelle Bailey** - Specialist of the Year Award, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons

**Nicole Culos-Reed** - Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology Award for Research Excellence CIHR

**Deinera Exner-Cortens** - Top 40 Under 40, Avenue Calgary

**Marco Gallo** - Top 40 Under 40, Avenue Calgary

**Myriam Hemberger** - March of Dimes & Richard B. Johnston Prize in Developmental Biology

**Bonnie Kaplan** - Dr. Rogers Prize for Excellence in Complementary and Alternative Medicine

**Catherine Lebel** - Killam Emerging Research Leader

**Jean Mah** - Distinction in Service Delivery, Muscular Dystrophy Canada

**Deborah Marshall** - Jill M. Sanders Award of Excellence in Health Technology Assessment

**Julian Midgley** - Distinction Service, Canadian Society of Nephrology

**Donna Slater** - Killam Undergraduate Mentorship Award

**Naweed Syed** - Kotler Award of Innovation & Award of Excellence

**Keith Yeates** - Fellowship, Canadian Academy of Health Sciences
The committee encourages all faculty to submit their nominations for next year's awards [here](#).

**PROGRAM NOTES**

**Research Services Open House**

You're invited to a Research Services Open House - get to know the teams supporting your research.
Main Campus, 7th Floor, MacKinnie Tower
Monday, Feb. 24
2 pm - 4 pm [Register](#)

**Maternal and Child Health Journal Club**

Wednesday, Feb 26
11:30 am - 1 pm
Room 255, Calgary Women's Health Centre, 1441 29 St NW, Calgary

Join the maternal health journal club featuring Krista Wollny and Malcolm Eaton leading a discussion from basic science and epidemiological perspectives.
Topics: *Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology*, *The association of stillbirth with placental abnormalities*
*Nature*, *Placentation defects are highly prevalent in embryonic lethal mouse mutants*
Please RSVP to Linda Cosway

**The 2020 CCHCSP Certificate Eligible Session**

Partnered with ACHRI, CCHCSP is excited to offer a series of 2020 CCHCSP Certificate eligible sessions in Calgary. All are welcome - trainees of any level, discipline and faculty.

**ACH Room 3, 12 noon - 1:30 pm**
Feb. 25 Paper Writing - Quantitative Research - Susan Samuel
Mar. 10 Navigating Budget - Jenna Slobozian
April 14 Negotiating Your First Faculty Position - Jim Kellner
April 28 Paper Writing Qualitative - Gina Dimitropoulis
May 26 Translational Research - Graham Thompson in Room 8
June 23 Regression Methods - Alberto Nettel-Aguierre

For more information or to register please contact Janet Wu
Visit the ACHRI Weekly Training Post on the ACHRI website to learn about the educational and funding opportunities available for trainees.

GRANTS

**PRECISION SCREENING FOR LUNG CANCER**

Dr. Edwin Wang, PhD, has received an Alberta Innovates grant of $750,000 to improve lung cancer screening in Alberta. Lung cancer is the most common cause of cancer death in Alberta with smoking as the leading cause of the disease. Using machine learning approaches, Wang has developed a set of genomic biomarkers that significantly improves the selection of smokers at high-risk of developing the disease. In this project, Wang will validate these genomic biomarkers by conducting whole-exome sequencing of thousands of smokers. The goal is to set up a lung cancer screening program of this population in Alberta. Wang holds the AIHS Translational Chair in Cancer Genomics. The Chair provides Dr. Wang with an opportunity to advance machine learning approaches to childhood cancers and rare diseases.

LAB SPOTLIGHT
The Childs lab studies blood vessel patterning and stabilization using zebrafish as a model. The photo shows the intricate network of vessels at the tip of the embryonic zebrafish tail and red blood cells flowing within the vessels. “The imaging capacity in this lab is exceptional, with only a few comparable facilities in Canada,” says Dr. Sarah Childs, PhD, Head of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Currently in phase one of its development, this lab will be accessible to all ACHRI researchers by mid-2020.

The facility offers two Zeiss LSM880 microscopes of multiphoton imaging capabilities. These systems comprise an array of components which will allow high resolution and deep imaging of diverse biological samples. A Zeiss Light Sheet microscope will also be available for imaging larger samples.

This lab was made possible through a 2017 Canada Foundation for Innovation and Alberta Innovates infrastructure grant. The microscopy and imaging component of the grant was led by Drs. James Cross, Benedikt Hallgrimsson, Francois Bernier, Sarah Childs, and Deborah Kurrasch. Matching support was provided through the University of Calgary and the ACHF.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN IN SCIENCE

The United Nations recognizes the critical role women play in science and technology every year on Feb. 11. To celebrate this day, we visited our ACHRI labs on the second floor of the Health Sciences Building - a powerhouse group of scientists! (Photo from left to right) Leila Larijani, PhD candidate in the Rancourt lab, Dr. Deepika Dogra, PhD in the Kurrasch lab, Dr. Paola Meza Santoscoy, postdoctoral fellow in the Kurrasch lab, Dr. Karlene Barrett, PhD in the Scantlebury lab, Dr. Rejitha Suraj, postdoctoral fellow in the Yang lab, Dr. Cristie Noshang, postdoctoral fellow in the Kurrasch lab, and Emily Harvey, grad student in the Yang lab.
IN THE NEWS

Dr. Derrick Rancourt, PhD, News 770 Radio - Future of drug costs Listen

Dr. Jeff Biernaskie, PhD, New approaches to burn treatment Watch video

Dr. Adam McCrimmon, PhD New autism spectrum disorder program Watch video

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

ACHRI Internal Funding Awards

The Allied Health Research Award
Application and guidelines

The Shaikh Family Research Award
Application and guidelines
Deadline for submissions: March 6, 2020

CIHR AWARDS

Sick Kids Foundation & CIHR-HDCYH New Investigator Research Grants
Deadline for application: April 17
Contact Jonathan Jucker

CIHR Early Career Investigator Grant in Maternal, Reproductive, Child & Youth Health
Deadline for registration: April 7
Contact Anna LeMarquand

For information on grant opportunities in child health and wellness, view.
Open to all investigators, clinicians, trainees and research staff, these events are supported by generous community donations through the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation.

For additional details, please visit our website.

GRAND ROUNDS & LECTURES

Feb. 27 | Olivia Cullen, MSW, RSW, Doctoral Candidate  
Dr. Gina Dimitropoulos, PhD, MSW, RSW, RMFT  
Brooke Allemang, MSW, RSW  
Child Health Research Rounds  
8:30 - 9:30 am ACH Conference Room 3  
*Patient oriented versus participatory action: Engaging young people in research*

Mar. 5 | Dr. Raylene Reimer, PhD, RD  
Child Health Research Rounds  
8:30 - 9:30 am ACH Conference Room 3  
*The role of early-life gut microbiota and diet in programming chronic disease risk*

Mar. 9 | Dr. Carly McMorris, PhD, R. Psych  
Developmental Neurosciences Grand Rounds  
8:30 - 9:30 am ACH Auditorium  
*Suicidal thoughts and behaviours*

Mar. 9 | Dr. Hilary Critchley, MD, FRCOG, FRSE  
External Speaker - University of Edinburgh  
Precision Medicine & Disease Mechanisms Program  
11 am - 12 pm Theatre 4, Health Sciences Centre  
*Unmet clinical need: Menstrual bleeding, role of the endometrium and potential as a therapeutic target*

Mar. 12 | Dr. Dr. Anna Funk, PhD  
Child Health Research Rounds  
8:30 - 9:30 am ACH Conference Room 3  
*Reconciling initial epidemiological findings on the risk of birth defects following Zikavirus infection during pregnancy*

Mar. 16 | Dr. Suzanne Curtin, PhD  
Developmental Neurosciences Grand Rounds  
8:30 - 9:30 am ACH Auditorium  
*Do early preferences predict later outcomes for infants at elevated risk for Autism Spectrum Disorders?*

Mar. 19 | Dr. Charlene Elliott, PhD  
Child Health Research Rounds
8:30 - 9:30 am ACH Conference Room 4
Tracking kids’ food: On trends, transformations, policy and probing the ‘grey zones’ of children’s packaged foods

**Mar. 23 | Dr. Meredith O’Connor, DEdPsych**
External Speaker - Murdoch Children's Research Institute
Developmental Neurosciences Grand Rounds
8:30 - 9:30 am ACH Auditorium
*Intergenerational effects on social-emotional development: Findings from the Australian Temperament Project*

**CONFERENCES**

**Feb. 26 | IOC World Conference on Prevention of Injury & Illness in Sport**
Preview Part 2 from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
KNB 214A Human Performance Lab, Main Campus

**Mar. 6 | 33rd Annual Sebastian K. Littman Research Day**
Clara Christie Theatre, Health Sciences Centre

**Mar. 15-18 | International Conference Behavioural Science**
Mindfulness for Families, Schools and Communities: From Promotion to Intervention

**Mar. 19-22 | Canadian Developmental Biology Meeting**
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity

**Mar. 23 | APrON 10th Anniversary Research Day**
Alberta Children's Hospital Auditorium

**Apr. 21 | Friesen International Prize Lecture**
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Libin Theatre, Foothills Campus
Dr. Bartha Knoppers, PhD, Ad.E., O.C., O.Q.

**Apr. 22 | All in Creating Synergy in Pediatric complex Care**
The Hotel Arts

**May 5 | Doug Lockhart Memorial Oncology Research Day**
Alberta Children's Hospital Auditorium

**June 4 | 28th Annual Cumming School of Medicine Symposium**
Drs. Deborah Sloboda, Barbel Rohrer, Ami Bhatt, Jie Shen & Jenn Haverfield
Foothills Campus

**June 10 | Owerko Centre Conference**
Drs. Joanne Weinberg, PhD and Michael Kobor, PhD
Theatre Four, Health Sciences Centre