SUMMER NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

Happy Summer!

The ACHRI newsletter will be moving to a monthly schedule over the months of July and August 2023.

ACHRI MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINE UPDATE
We have recently updated our membership guidelines to better reflect:
(1) The diversity of Child Health and Wellness scholars
(2) The role of our institute in advancing the careers and research of our members
(3) Expectations of Membership

The new ‘Collaborator’ sub-category is for those who contribute to research in roles beyond academic faculty.
There is also a new ‘Child Health and Wellness Community Member’ category for partners.

This update was approved by ACHRI Program Directors June 2023. 
Revisions do not affect the membership status of current ACHRI members.

UCALGARY RESEARCH EXCELLENCE CHAIRS

Congratulations to ACHRI members, Dr. Marie-Claire Arrieta, Dr. Gina Dimitropoulos and Dr. Nicole Letourneau have been appointed as chairs of the prestigious new UCalgary Research Excellence Chairs (UCREC) program. These appointments highlight the university's commitment to fostering cutting-edge research and innovation across various disciplines.

The new program, funded through the President’s Strategic Initiatives Fund and overseen by the Office of the Vice-President (Research), provides significant funding to support top-tier researchers who advance knowledge, address critical societal challenges, and enhance the university's research reputation on a global scale. The program draws inspiration from the esteemed Canada Research Chairs program and aims to champion scholars of comparable calibre.

Read more.
FAMILY INTEGRATED CARE

Congratulations to Dr. Karen Benzies and team on receiving a Health Quality Council of Alberta 2023 Patient Experience Award for their province wide family integrated care initiative.

Family integrated care increases the support and participation of parents in the care of their preterm babies. Implemented in neonatal intensive care units across Alberta, this model of care has improved the experience of parents in feeling informed and included in their baby’s care. Co-developed with parents, healthcare professionals, and researchers, Alberta Family Integrated Care integrates parents into their baby’s care team when they are ready and willing. With practical tools and strategies, neonatal care providers educate and support parents as they gain skills and confidence in the care of their baby. The model of care has reduced maternal stress and anxiety and increased parenting confidence. Preterm babies are discharged home an average of 2.5 days sooner, without increasing emergency department visits or readmissions. Read more.

INCLUSIVE RESEARCH EXCELLENCE PRIZE

Congratulations to all eight ACHRI postdoctoral scholars who are among the 16 UCalgary postdocs to receive prestigious 2023 CIHR Postdoctoral Fellowships.

- **Dr. Zahra Clayborne**, PhD; CSM: “From Languishing to Flourishing: A Mixed-Methods Approach to Operationalizing Maternal and Child Complete Mental Health and Associated Risk and Resiliency Factors” (Dr. Suzanne Tough, PhD and Dr. Sheila McDonald, PhD)
- **Dr. Craig Jacobs**, PhD; CSM: “A Microevolutionary Model to Uncover the Developmental Basis Behind Phenotypic Variation in Structural Birth Defects” (Dr. Benedikt Hallgrimsson, PhD)
- **Dr. Kathryn Y. Manning**, PhD; CSM: “Treated and Untreated Prenatal Depression and the Relationship with Developing Infant Behaviour, Brain
Structure, and Functional Connectivity Throughout the First Year of Life” (Dr. Catherine Lebel, PhD)

- **Dr. Marina Rincon Sartori**, PhD; CSM: “Investigating a Mechanistic Role for Mitochondria in Novel Cardiorespiratory Spinal Oxygen Sensor (SOS)” (Dr. Richard Wilson, PhD)

- **Dr. Li Shu**, PhD; CSM: “Unravelling the Complex Genetic Mechanisms of Rare Diseases Using High-Throughput Sequencing Methods” (Dr. Maja Tarailo-Graovac, PhD)

- **Dr. Perri Tutelman**, PhD; CSM: “A Transdiagnostic eHealth Intervention to Address Late Effects in AYA Survivors of Childhood Cancer” (Dr. Fiona Schulte, PhD)

- **Dr. Elnaz Vaghef Mehrabani**, PhD; CSM: “The Impact of Maternal Diet Pre-Pregnancy and During Gestation on Early Childhood Behavioral Problems” (Dr. Gerald Giesbrecht, PhD)

- **Dr. Guosong Wu**, PhD, MD; CSM: “The Development of Machine Learning Algorithms to Identify Perioperative Adverse Events Using Real-World Data” (Dr. Tyler Williamson, PhD)

Read more.

**INCLUSIVE RESEARCH EXCELLENCE PRIZE**

Congratulations to **Dr. Katie Birnie** and team on receiving the **CIHR-IMHA Research Excellence Prize** in two categories: Research Impact and Patient Engagement for the project **Partnering For Pain: Shaping research, care, and policy for pain in youth, together**.

Dr. Birnie leads the team including 4 youth partners, 4 parent partners, and 8 multidisciplinary health professionals from across Canada - engaging hundreds of youth with chronic pain, their family members, and health professionals to identify
the Top 10 priorities they have to improve research and care for youth with chronic pain.

The team has done a variety of activities to increase awareness and action about the Top 10 priorities among youth with chronic pain, families, the public, health professionals, policymakers, researchers, and health research funders. The priorities are included in national and international reports, and more and more researchers are conducting new studies to address these priorities every year.

CANScreen T1D: Screening Research Consortium

Congratulations to Dr. Ash Marwaha and colleagues on receiving a CIHR-JDRF Team Grant that will develop a nationally coordinated research network to explore the feasibility and acceptability of general population screening for early-stage Type 1 Diabetes (T1D).

Dr. Marwaha will be developing the genetic counselling strategy for parents with newborns who screen positive for T1D in the research pilot. It will be the first effort to screen for T1D in Canada and the first use of polygenic risk scores in newborn screening. He will also have a central role in the consortium including leading a research theme on developing a new autoantibody lab based in Edmonton and a genetic risk score project run out of Montréal. Dr. Marwaha will also lead the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion cross-cutting theme - ensuring all voices are represented in designing the program.

IQ and Concussion Publication

A new publication in Pediatrics led by Dr. Keith Yeates, shows that IQ and intelligence is not affected in a clinically meaningful way by paediatric concussions.

The study compares 566 children (8-16 years) diagnosed with concussion to 300 with orthopedic injuries. The children were recruited from two cohort studies. The Canadian cohort encompasses data collected from five children’s hospital emergency rooms, including Alberta Children’s Hospital. In the Canadian hospitals, patients completed IQ tests three months post-injury. The U.S. cohort was conducted at two children’s hospitals in Ohio, where patients completed IQ tests three to 18 days post-injury.

The children with concussion were compared to children with orthopedic injuries other than concussion to control for other factors that might affect IQ, such as demographic background and the experience of trauma and pain. This allowed the researchers to determine whether the children’s IQs were different than what would be expected minus the concussion. Read more.

Updated UCalgary Territorial Land Acknowledgement
The University of Calgary has updated our Territorial Land Acknowledgement to reflect a recent community decision to change the name of Wesley First Nation to Goodstoney First Nation. At UCalgary, and within ACHRI, it is important we honour the land we live and work on as part of our commitment and responsibility for truth and reconciliation.

“Our laws come from the land, and our practices of granting rights and privileges is a process we were born with, that ties us to this land.”

- Piikani Elder Dr. Reg Crowshoe, Hon. LLD’01, Cultural Advisor at UCalgary

Learn more about Territorial Land Acknowledgement and Cultural Protocol.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY

Community Engagement is seeking STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) researchers across campus that are interested in collaborating for this year’s Beakerhead festival.

Learn more and access the presenter proposal.

SAVE THE DATE - WCHRI ANNUAL RESEARCH DAY
The **Women and Children's Health Research Institute** (WCHRI) will host its annual **Research Day on Wednesday, October 18, 2023**. This year, the format returns to an in-person event. **Registration is now open.**

Dr. Bernard Thébaud will be the keynote speaker. Thébaud is a senior scientist of the Regenerative Medicine Program at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, a clinician-scientist in the field of stem-cell/regenerative medicine and a practicing neonatologist.

**ACHRI TRAINEES & POSTDOCS**

**ACHRI/OWERKO CENTRE SUMMER STUDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**

Calling all summer students to showcase their research!

**Tuesday, August 22, 2023**  
**9 am – 4 pm**, Reception and awards to follow symposium  
**Health Sciences Centre, Foothills Campus**

Abstract Submission Deadline: August 5  
Registration Deadline: August 10  
**Register and submit an abstract**  
*Students interested in presenting AND also attending please complete both links on the event webpage*

CSM institutes ask that students present their work in ONE summer student research event. ACHRI and Owerko members and research staff are welcome to attend.

Questions? Email **mohammad.ghasoub@ucalgary.ca** or **rumika.mascarenhas@ucalgary.ca**

**CSM SUMMER STUDENT PROGRAM**

**CSM Institutes** are pleased to offer a compelling Summer Student Program with a **series of workshops**, a mentorship program and a journal club.

Regardless your funding source, all students are welcome to participate online until August 2023.

**ACHRI Supervisors**: Please ask your students to register here: **Summer Student Registration**  
Questions or suggestions? Email **summer.research@ucalgary.ca**

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada**  
**Undergraduate Student Research Competition**  
Deadline: Saturday, September 30, 2023
ACHRITA WORKSHOP SERIES

ACHRITA is holding workshops monthly on topics relevant to ACHRI trainees and postdocs. Any topics you’d like to see covered? Email ACHRITA@ucalgary.ca

TRAINEE REGISTRATION

ACHRI supervisors: Please encourage your trainees to register in order to receive the newsletter, updates and access to funding and workshops.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Alberta Innovates LevMax-Health: Tri-agency Spring 2023 Competition
This opportunity seeks to advance Digital Health in Alberta. The four thematic areas for consideration are: talent; research; commercialization; and health system transformation. Applicants must have received results (competition score and peer review comments) from a Tri-agency competition from February 1, 2023, to July 31, 2023, but were not funded.
Deadline: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 (RSO Internal)
Details

CIHR Project Grant Fall 2023
This program supports advances in fundamental or applied health-related knowledge, health care, health systems, and/or health outcomes by supporting projects of research proposed and conducted by individual researchers or groups of researchers in all areas of health.
Deadline: Thursday, August 17, 2023
Details

2023 Peter Lougheed Research Award Competition
This opportunity provides salary and research support to young researchers encouraging them to continue their career in the province. This competition is open to all junior investigators with primary appointments (or to be recruited to a primary appointment) in the CSM at UCalgary.
Deadline: Friday, September 1, 2023
Details

Operating Grant: Data Analysis Using Existing Databases and Cohorts (2023)
This opportunity supports projects that use data from existing Canadian-based cohorts, databases, cohort catalogues, and data platforms, and are relevant to human development, child and/or youth health with the goal to inform improved patient, population, and system outcomes.
Deadline: Thursday, September 7, 2023
Details
Healthy Youth Catalyst Grants
This catalyst grant aims to help identify and develop emerging research relevant to at least one of the six priority areas of Canada's Youth Policy, foster networking and collaboration, and build capacity for youth engagement in health research. This opportunity is led by IHDCYH in partnership with the CIHR Institute of Population and Public Health (IPPH), and Indigenous Services Canada – First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (ISC-FNIHB).

Deadline: Thursday, October 12, 2023 (Registration)

EVENTS AND SEMINARS

Advanced Imaging Special Seminar
Creating and Breaking Connectome-Based Predictive Models
Wednesday, August 16, 2023
Dr. Dustin Scheinost
9 - 10 am
HSC, G500 Foothills Campus

Department of Pediatrics
Sam Darwish Memorial Lecture
Migraine in Children and Adolescents: How to use Pathophysiology to Understand a Multidisciplinary Treatment Plan
Wednesday, September 6, 2023
Dr. Andrew Hershey
8:30 - 9:30 am
Register

Department of Pediatrics
Darwish Symposium: Pediatric Headache
Wednesday, September 6, 2023
Kinsmen Learning Centre Auditorium
9:40 am - 4:15 pm
Register

2023 Sport Injury Prevention Research Centre
Research and Community Engagement Symposium
Friday, September 15, 2023
9 am - 4 pm
MacEwan Conference Centre Ballroom, Online Option
Registration Details to Follow

Using Discrete Choice Experiments in Health Economics: An Introduction to Theory and Practical Application
Monday, February 19 - Friday, February 23, 2024
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity
Register
For all events visit the ACHRI calendar.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Please send research discoveries, publications, and partnerships to r4k@ucalgary.ca

Visit us: research4kids.ucalgary.ca

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