



Weekly Newsletter

12.10.18

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Marinka Twilt appointed ACHRI Scientific Director - Clinical Research

A warm welcome to Dr. Marinka Twilt on accepting this new role. Dr. Twilt is a pediatric rheumatologist (MD-PhD), clinical epidemiologist, and clinician scientist with a research focus on enhancing our knowledge and understanding of autoinflammatory and immune dysregulatory conditions. She completed Clinical Fellowships in rheumatology and vasculitis at The Hospital for Sick Children. After working at Birmingham Children's Hospital, Birmingham UK and Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus Denmark, she was recruited to the University of Calgary and joined ACHRI's Healthy Outcomes Theme. Dr. Twilt is currently co-leading a large interdisciplinary team of researchers working toward the implementation of genomic medicine into care for children with arthritis. Dr. Twilt plans to build partnerships in her new role and foster clinical research through engagement, support and connecting to members. Together with Benedikt Hallgrímsson and Susa Benseler, Marinka is looking forward to moving ACHRI to the next level. Contact marinka.twilt@ahs.ca



Dr. Benedikt Hallgrímsson appointed ACHRI Scientific Director - Basic Science

A warm welcome to Dr. Benedikt Hallgrímsson on accepting this new role. Dr. Hallgrímsson works on the developmental genetics of complex traits. He integrates 3D imaging and

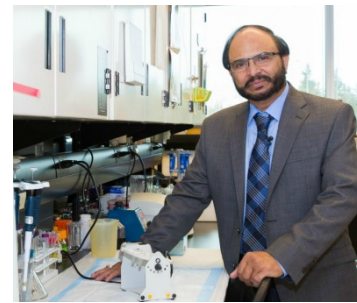


morphometry with genetics and developmental biology. He was awarded the Rohlf Medal for Excellence in Morphometrics in 2015 and elected fellow of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) this year. Funded by CIHR, NIH and NSERC, he has published over 130 journal articles, 31 chapters, three edited volumes, and a textbook. Dr. Hallgrímsson has served as the University of Calgary's deputy provost, senior associate dean (education) and as founding associate dean of undergraduate science education in the Cumming School of Medicine. Currently, he is the head of the Department of Cell Biology & Anatomy. Dr. Hallgrímsson plans to support ACHRI researchers in their many scientific endeavours and optimize research excellence at the institute. Together with Marinka Twilt and the Director, he is looking forward to the many opportunities ahead. Contact

bhallgri@ucalgary.ca

Thank you Dr. Naweed Syed!

We extend our thank you to **Dr. Naweed Syed** who has provided his service, guidance and advice to ACHRI leadership and its members over the last five years. Dr. Syed was a valued partner to Dr. Brent Scott in advancing child health research in our community and across the academy. We thank him for his dedicated service to our institute. Dr. Syed and his lab have developed bionic hybrid neurochips to record brain cell activity in real time. Dr. Syed is a professor in the Department of Cell, Biology and Anatomy and has received multiple awards for his academic and community work, including Pakistan's Medal of Excellence for scientific accomplishments, the Senate Canada 150 Award to recognize leaders making a positive impact on their communities and the Faculty Association Community Service Award. Dr. Syed is currently funded by CIHR and NSERC and has held numerous national and international research awards. He has published several papers in *Science*, *Nature*, *Neuron* and the *Journal of Neuroscience*.



ACHRI College of Reviewers

Important announcement regarding ACHRI College of Reviewers and ACHRI membership guidelines: Effective January 1, 2019 all current ACHRI members (full and associate) will automatically become members of ACHRI's College of Reviewers. This formal committee will unite ACHRI members in a joint effort to boost the success of both ACHRI PIs and trainees in securing external and internal research funding. [Read more](#)

IN THE NEWS

[Dr. Giuseppe Iaria's collaboration with the](#)



Canadian Space Agency

Congratulations Dr. Iaria on this impressive collaboration. Dr.

Iaria is partnered with the Canadian Space Agency to study the impact of weightlessness on the brain. As principal investigator of the Wayfinding project, Dr. Iaria works with astronauts to see how spaceflight affects spatial orientation and navigation skills.

Astronaut David Saint-Jacques joined the crew of the International Space Station last week carrying onboard a series of navigation experiments. Dr. Giuseppe is an associate professor of cognitive neuroscience in the Department of Psychology.

Dr. Charlene Elliott's expertise highlighted by University of Calgary

Congratulations Dr. Charlene Elliott! The University's Explore Series takes a look at the highly-charged controversies around gluten in our food - Should Everyone Avoid Gluten?

Dr. Charlene Elliott is a professor in the Department of Communications, Media and Film in the Faculty of Arts, and Canada Research Chair in Food Marketing, Policy and Children's Health. Her main program of research focuses on obesity and public health, taste and communication, and intellectual property and sensorial communication. [Read more](#)



Grants



Dr. Jacqueline Smith awarded special Health Canada Grant to prevent Substance Use and Addiction

We are very proud of our ACHRI member Dr. Jacqueline Smith. Dr. Jacqueline Smith has been awarded a unique grant from Health Canada for a UCalgary Cannabis Cafe: Education and Discussion Series. The research team is also provided with a Health Canada advisor/mentor and will be participating in Health Canada-led knowledge exchange meetings. Dr. Smith's partnership with the Wellness Centre and the Campus Mental Health Strategy has been key to this success! Great partnerships!

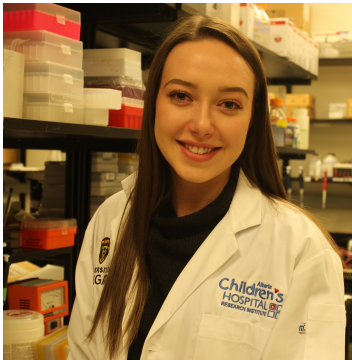
NEW MEMBER

Welcome to new member: Dr. Lois Donovan

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Lois Donovan to ACHRI! Dr. Donovan joins as a full member in the **Healthy Outcomes Theme**. Dr. Donovan has a research focus on diabetes, thyroid function and thyroid disease in pregnancy. She conducts research that ranges from epidemiologic research to multicentre randomized controlled trials. Join us in welcoming Dr. Donovan to the institute. Welcome!



TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT



Alexandra Greenslade wins Cumming School of Medicine Award

Way to go Alexandra! Greenslade is an undergraduate trainee in **Dr. Chad Bousman's** lab. She recently won the Cumming School of Medicine Award for her research presented at the **Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS 2018)**. The title of her project was: A systematic review of antidepressant pharmacogenetics in children and adolescents. Dr. Bousman's research focus is optimizing the selection and dosing of drug therapies used to treat depression and schizophrenia in adolescents. [Read more trainee success stories](#)

TRAINEES

ACHRI Trainee Update

ACHRI STEP and HBI REALISE Trainee Workshops

Resume Writing and Interview Preparation

Dec. 10 9am – 5pm HSC G750

ACHRI Trainee Presentatons

QuickTalks

Dec. 14 10:30am – 12:00pm Foothills Campus HSC G384

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [ACHRI Trainee Weekly Bulletin](#)



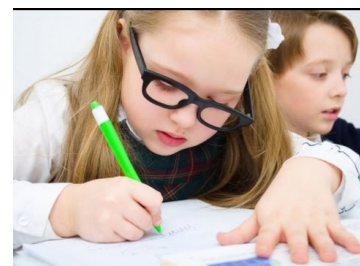
GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Child Health Research Funding Opportunities

NEW funding opportunity for early career researchers!

New Frontiers in Research Fund

If you intend to apply to this opportunity please advise of your intent by emailing both Ryan Gabel rgabel@ucalgary.ca and Jenna Slobozian



j.slobozian@ucalgary.ca so that you can be updated on this competition as information is released.

[Details here](#)

**AHS Respiratory Health Strategic Clinical Network (RHSCN)
Deadline Dec. 21 (letter of intent)**

[Details here](#)

**Dept. of Pediatrics Innovation Competition: Deadline Dec. 21
(letter of intent) Feb. 1 (full submission)**

[Details here](#) (see Dept.of Pediatrics Innovation Award tab)

AHS Calgary Quality Improvement Grants: Deadline Jan. 8

[Details here](#) to access the [Project Charter Research Enhancement program](#). The OADR provides support for principal investigators or lab members to obtain training in new techniques/methodologies.

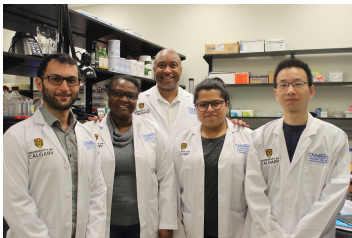
SSHRC – Insight Development Grant: Deadline Jan. 31

[Details here](#)

AMA Section of Pediatrics Grant: Deadline Feb. 15

[Details here](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [Child Health Research Funding](#)



In the Lab: Dr. Morris Scantlebury's lab

Dr. Scantlebury's lab is focused on developing metabolic treatments for infantile spasms, a serious epilepsy syndrome confined to infants. Dr. Scantlebury developed one of the first successful models for studying the illness and is now using this model in the lab. The lab is also investigating the mechanisms underlying febrile seizures which affects five percent of children for which treatments are lacking. Lab photo left to right: Behshad Charkhand, Karlene Barrett, Dr. Morris Scantlebury, Anamika Choudhary and Chunglong Mu.

Conferences, Meetings and Workshops

REGISTRATION FULL Dec. 11

[Medical Imaging & Artificial Intelligence Workshop](#)

8:30 am - 12:00 pm, Foothills Campus, HSC 1405A

Feb. 3

[Pediatric Emergency Research Canada Annual Scientific Meeting](#)

Registration is now open for the PERC Annual Scientific Meeting on Sunday, February 3, 2019 to Thursday, February 7, 2019

Location: Fairmont Banff Springs, Alberta

More details in upcoming newsletters

This week in Lectures

Dec. 11

Child Health Research Rounds - What can we do together? Partnering with families and patients in research

Speaker: Dr. Alicia Hilderley, PhD

12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, ACH Conference Room 3

Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute is supported by generous community donations through the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation. We believe in a healthier and more prosperous future for children through research.

research4kids.ucalgary.ca

This message was sent to deanna.kweens@ucalgary.ca because you are listed as a student, faculty, staff, alumni, donor or partner of the University of Calgary.

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