

Publications of the Week
The Cardiac Ryanodine Receptor Phosphorylation Hotspot Embraces PKA in a Phosphorylation-Dependent Manner

First Author: Omid Haji-Ghassemi (pictured, second from left) | Senior Author: Filip Van Petegem (third from left) | Molecular Cell | UBC Life Sciences Institute



Ryanodine receptors (RyRs) are intracellular Ca^{2+} release channels controlling essential cellular functions. RyRs are targeted by cyclic AMP-dependent protein kinase A (PKA), a controversial regulation implicated in disorders ranging from heart failure to Alzheimer's. Using crystal structures, the authors showed that the phosphorylation hotspot domain of RyR2 embraces the PKA catalytic subunit, with an extensive interface not seen in PKA complexes with peptides. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Structural Insights into Bacteriophage GIL01 gp7 Inhibition of Host LexA Repressor

First Author: Nathanael Caveney (pictured) | Senior Author: Natalie Strynadka | Structure | Centre for Blood Research and UBC



LexA, a central repressor in the SOS response to DNA damage, has been implicated in the regulation of lysogeny in various temperate bacteriophages. The authors report the crystallographic structure of phage-borne gp7 at 1.7-Å resolution, and characterized the 4:2 stoichiometry and potential interaction with LexA using surface plasmon resonance, static light scattering, and small-angle X-ray scattering. [Abstract](#)

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Awards
Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship and Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship Recipients Announced

UBC Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies



Twenty-three doctoral students at UBC have received a Vanier Canada Graduate Fellowship, including Ryan Huff (pictured) from the Faculty of Medicine, and three Postdoctoral Fellows have received a Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship. These young researchers are working on subjects that span the health sciences, the natural sciences and engineering, and the social sciences and humanities. [Read More](#)

Dr. Suzanne Lewis Receives a 2019 YWCA Women of Distinction Award

YWCA Metro Vancouver



Dr. Suzanne Lewis (pictured) has been awarded the YWCA Women of Distinction Award in Research, the Sciences and Technology. Lewis is Chief Medical Officer & VP Research at the Pacific Autism Family Network, a Clinical Professor in the Department of Medical Genetics & Genomics at UBC and a pediatrician & medical geneticist. [Read More](#)

Twelve Canadian Three Minute Thesis Finalists

Canadian Association for Graduate Studies



The finalists of Canada's Three Minute Thesis (3MT) have been announced. Adam Ranzzy (pictured) from UBC, and Elana Varner from SFU are two of the twelve finalists. The winner of the competition will be selected by a team of judges drawn from academic, media, and industry backgrounds. The video with the most votes cast by the general public from May 10 to May 26 will receive the Canada's 3MT People's Choice Award for 2019. [Read More](#)

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Local News
New MRI Study Assesses Myelin and Iron as Biomarkers in the Brain

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



A new computational tissue model from Dr. Alex Rauscher (pictured) and his team has enabled the researchers to quantify brain myelin and iron from MRI scans, offering new clues as to the role of myelin and iron in tissue damage and disease progression in multiple sclerosis (MS). The research reveals a difference in brain iron between people with MS, their healthy siblings, and unrelated controls. [Read More](#)

Promising Findings in Pancreatic Cancer Study Highlight the Importance of Genetic Sequencing

The Terry Fox Research Institute



New research from the Terry Fox Research Institute's Enhanced Pancreatic Cancer Profiling for Individualized Care research program has found a small group of patients whose pancreatic cancer carried a rare trait that was potentially treatable with a targeted therapy often used to treat lung cancer. After receiving treatment, those patients' health improved. [Read More](#)

A New Way of Diagnosing and Treating Disease — without Cutting Skin

UBC Faculty of Medicine



UBC researchers have developed a specialized microscope that has the potential ability to both diagnose diseases that include skin cancer and perform incredibly precise surgery—all without cutting skin. What sets the researchers' microscope apart from previous technology is that it's capable of not only digitally scanning living tissue, but also treating the tissue by intensifying the heat produced by the laser. [Read More](#)

CBR Member Series – Episode 1: Dr. Erika Siren

The Centre for Blood Research



The UBC Centre for Blood Research has presented a new video series featuring their members and their research. In their first video, meet Dr. Erika Siren (pictured) and learn more about the PhD project that she conducted in Dr. Jay Kizhakkedathu's lab. She is now a Friedman Scholar at Harvard Medical School under the supervision of Dr. Jeffrey Karp. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles
UBC's School of Biomedical Engineering Nears Student Gender Parity

UBC News



UBC's School of Biomedical Engineering (BME) is closing in on a milestone of student gender parity. BME's female enrollment rate is now 45.9 percent, which makes the BME program close to the Faculty of Applied Science's goal of achieving 50:50 parity in men and women enrollment. "Diversity is essential in all facets of our society, and certainly so in engineering," says graduate Annelies Tjebbes (pictured). [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

May 22 - 24 8:00 AM	2019 Microscopical Society of Canada Annual Meeting UBC Life Sciences Centre
May 23 2:00 PM	Women in STEM Job Fair Vancouver Public Library, Central Branch
May 24 4:00 PM	D.R.I.N.K.S. (Discussions Relevant to Inspiring New Knowledge and Science) Mahony and Sons, Stamps Landing
May 26 9:00 AM	STEMCELL Science Fair Fun Run Athletes Village Plaza
May 29 7:30 PM	Moths, Monkeys & Missing Links: Ten Myths about Evolution Telus World of Science

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