

TRAINEE NEWS from the Desjardins Centre for Advanced Training of the RI-MUHC

NEWSLETTER JULY 2016

events, announcements and news for graduate students and postdocs at the RI-MUHC



NEWS



What's next?

The RI-MUHC wants to learn more about your career interests and needs for professional and career development. Your responses have the power to shape the activities for trainees that the RI-MUHC and the Desjardins Centre for Advanced Training of the RI-MUHC will offer in the next year. In order to match our activities (i.e., workshops, career panels, seminars) to your needs, we are collecting information about your future career plans, and what help you want to achieve your career goals.

Based on past experience this survey will take 3 minutes.

Click the link below to start the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/rimuhccareergoals>

Thank you for providing your feedback. We appreciate the time you have taken and will actively use it to improve our services for you.



EVENTS

[Career Half-Day for RI-MUHC trainees](#)

Friday, September 9, 2016

9:00am – 1:30pm

ES1.1129 (Amphitheatre/Atrium), Glen site

Join us for an interactive workshop in the morning given by Dr. Colin White (Boston, MA), a specialist in career consulting for the life sciences and former postdoctoral fellow. Dr. White will cover the three fundamental skills for finding work with an advanced life sciences degree, including preparing your documents (CV and cover letter) and learning how to network. Full registration to this half-day includes a two-hour networking lunch session and roundtable attended by representatives from academia, industry, government agencies, and research agencies who are there to talk with trainees about career preparation.

- **LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE, REGISTER NOW!**
- **TAILORED FOR MID-/LATE-STAGE PHDs OR POSTDOCS**

Registration open now at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/career-half-day-for-ri-muhc-trainees-registration-26054828694>

For more information please contact: emily.bell@mcgill.ca

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EVENTS

RI-MUHC Trainee Orientation Event and Cocktail

Brought to you by the RI Trainee Council and the Desjardins Centre for Advanced Training of the RI-MUHC

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, September 9, 2016

12:30pm – 6:00pm

ES1.1129 (Amphitheatre/Atrium), Glen site

Are you a new trainee at the RI-MUHC? Do you want more information about the RI-MUHC and its divisions and research programs? Don't know your way around or who to ask for help? Join us for this orientation session where you will be informed about:

- How to find your way around the RI
- What formal safety training you require
- How to negotiate the administration process
- Who to go to for help
- Strategies for success (funding and training courses)

This will be a great opportunity for you to get to know the organizational structure of the RI, to learn what equipment and facilities are available to you and to hear advice from past and present trainees. You will also get the chance to meet your brand new RI Trainee Council as well as free cocktails!!!

For more information contact ri.muhc.trainees@gmail.com



TRAINEE KUDOS

Congratulations to FRQS award winners 2016-2017:

Master's Research Awards

Mehdi Aloosh
Zsombor Balassy
Meaghan Boileau
Alexia De Simone
Faegheh Ghanbari Divshali
George Kefalas
Jackie Lam *
Camille Legault-Denis *
Mirela Maier
Simon Milette
Romina Pace
Philippe Paci
Etienne St-Louis
Bahar Torabi
Lianne Trigiani
Yasmine Yousef

Postdoctoral Research Awards

Mahmoud Aarabi
Andréanne Michaud *

Doctoral Research Awards

Meghmik Aghourian-Namagerdy *
Renata Bahous
Heather Duncan
Manyan Fung
Kimberley Gauthier
Sonia Grandi
Beamish Ian *
Jean-Philippe Leduc-Gaudet
Jeremy Moreau *
Philip Novosad *
Sahar Saeed
David Salem
Ayat Salman
Behrang Sharif *
Mikael Simard
Simon Vallières
Shu Xing
Armin Yazdani
Shufeng Zhou

* Montreal Neurological Institute affiliation

** It is possible due to the information available on public award lists that you may have received an award and your name is missing here. If that is the case, please feel free to contact me and your name will be included in a future issue of our newsletter.

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FURTHER READING

[From student to bioscience entrepreneur](#) (Biotechnology Focus)

[How junior researchers can write effectively and simply](#) (University Affairs)

[How to win the 3 minute thesis](#) (Dr. Inger Mewburn)

TRAINEE KUDOS

Anouar Hafiane, Doctoral student

[Cardiovascular Health Across the Lifespan Program](#)

Anouar Hafiane is a true "Super Student" according to his supervisor, [Dr. Jacques Genest](#). With an FRQS studentship to pursue his degree in lipoprotein biochemistry, Anouar is investigating the effect of two novel peptides in modulating high-density lipoprotein biogenesis and function for the treatment of atherosclerosis. Anouar's motivation and strong commitment have led to 16 papers, including 10 first-author publications to date, and he presents his work orally at multiple international meetings each year. His assay for HDL-mediated cholesterol efflux affords a standard procedure for research.

Di Xue , Doctoral student

[Translational Research in Respiratory Diseases Program](#)

A senior doctoral student from China, Di Xue brings tremendous energy, creativity and humour to her work and is a dynamic presence in the lab. At the RI-MUHC since 2011, she has been working on a novel molecule, Semaphorin 4C, which she has determined to be crucial for regulatory B-cell function. Her supervisor, [Dr. Bruce Mazer](#), says that she has developed into one of the finest teachers in advanced cytometry at the Meakins Christie and is a key collaborator on projects with Drs. [Christine McCusker](#), [Jörg Fritz](#), [Maziar Divangahi](#) and [Don Sheppard](#).

FEATURE: RECOMMENDED WEBINARS AND VIDEOS

[How to do great presentations: what they don't teach you in grad school!](#) (Hosted by NeuroDevNet at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1oT_Ej4Kw5M)

The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in collaboration with the NIH's Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training presents career webinars: All are welcome to these webinars specifically designed around the career development of graduate students in the sciences, but registration is necessary and spots are limited.

[Charting a course to career success](#)

Wednesday, July 20, 2016 | 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

[Building professional relationships: pragmatic advice for the human scientist](#)

Wednesday, Aug. 17 | 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

TRAINEE KUDOS

Guillaume Mullie, Medical student with research project [Translational Research in Respiratory Diseases Program](#), RI-MUHC Respiratory Epidemiology and Clinical Research Unit, Centre for Outcomes Research and Evaluation, RI-MUHC and [McGill International Tuberculosis Centre](#)
Guillaume Mullie is completing his second year of medical school at McGill University. His project, evaluating the cost-effectiveness of screening North American health care workers for tuberculosis, began under the 2015 McGill summer research bursary program with [Dr. Kevin Schwartzman](#)'s supervision. Guillaume quickly mastered computer simulation software for his research and won a travel grant from the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease to present in Denver, Colorado. With the help of team members, notably Dr. Dieynaba N'Diaye (postdoctoral fellow), he has submitted a manuscript as first author.

Karina Gasbarrino, Doctoral student[Cardiovascular Health Across the Lifespan Program](#)

"Karina Gasbarrino is a genuine superstar," says her supervisor, [Dr. Stella Daskalopoulou](#). With a CIHR studentship to pursue her degree in Experimental Medicine, Karina is investigating the role of adiponectin (an adipose tissue secreted protein) in carotid atherosclerotic plaque instability. Her motivation has led to two first-author publications and several first-author manuscripts now under revision or in preparation. She presented her work orally this year and in poster format in previous years at one of the largest international gatherings in the field of cardiovascular medicine: *Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology*.

James Renaud, Doctoral student[Cancer Research Program](#)

James Renaud is the 2016 [McGill Dobson Cup](#) first-place award winner in the Health Sciences Track. This start-up competition gives aspiring entrepreneurs the opportunity to pitch their business ideas to a panel of world-class professionals. James won this award for his development of a patented radiation detector, [caldose](#), which promises to revolutionize the way dose is measured in radiation therapy clinics worldwide. He is a student in the [McGill University Medical Physics Unit](#) under the supervision of [Dr. Jan Seuntjens](#).

Rebecca Burne**Doctoral student**[Cardiovascular Health Across the Lifespan Program](#)

and Centre for Outcomes Research and Evaluation

Rebecca Burne will be travelling to Dublin, Ireland, for the most important Pharmacoepi conference in the world: the 32nd annual International Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology & Therapeutic Risk Management (ICPE) 2016. Better still, she has been selected to receive the Edlavitch Award for the most highly rated student abstract submitted for presentation at this meeting. As her supervisor, [Dr. Michal Abrahamowicz](#), states, the student of biostatistics at McGill University competed for this distinction with hundreds of student abstracts from all over the world, including dozens from top universities like Harvard.

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YOUR RI TRAINEE COUNCIL

The **RI Trainee Council** leads the organization of social and orientation activities for trainees across the RI-MUHC. The following are some of the members of the **RI-Trainee Council** for 2016 with other members to be featured in later newsletters.

Constantina (Tina) Boikos, Infectious Diseases and Immunity in Global Health Program, PhD Candidate in Epidemiology

A person whose career I admire is my supervisor's, Dr. Caroline Quach, because she does it all (successfully!): mom, infectious disease pediatrician, epidemiologist, and professor.

My science-related dream job is as an infectious disease epidemiologist, helping Canadians one influenza pandemic at a time!

Patrick Park, Cancer Research Program, M.Sc. Candidate in Experimental Medicine

In five years, I hope that I will be pursuing my passion and be surrounded with great people.

My science-related dream job is a clinician-scientist, with focuses on a translational research program and surgical oncology.

Amanda Rossi, PhD, Cardiovascular Health Across the Lifespan Program, Post-doctoral Fellow

In five years, I hope that I'll be running my own lab.

My science-related dream job is teaching and mentoring the next generation of scientists.

Send us your trainee kudos

Have you recently published a paper? Are you involved in neat extra-curricular activities? Have you recently received a scholarship or award?

We want to hear from you any kudos or congratulations that we can communicate to the RI-MUHC community as a whole.

Don't miss this opportunity to see your hard work and accomplishments acknowledged! Send short descriptions of kudos to ritraineenews@muhc.mcgill.ca

For more information contact:

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