Career Day for Research Trainees at the RI-MUHC maps known and unknown career paths

An emerging generation of health researchers packed the atrium of the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC) on November 1, with the goal of exploring both long-sought and less obvious career paths.

More than twenty professionals from the Montreal life sciences community shared their insights on shaping a career at the third annual Career Day for Research Trainees organized by the Desjardins Centre for Advanced Training at the RI-MUHC. At a bustling networking lunch, trainees gleaned tips for success from representatives of the private sector, government, research agencies and academia, rounding out a morning of presentations.

Hot topics included new opportunities in artificial intelligence, medicinal cannabis and applied immunology, and many trainees made new contacts in such leading companies as Boston Consulting Group, Mitacs and Pfizer. Thank you to all the guest animators who took time to mentor and inspire young scientists face to face, and special thanks to these guest speakers:

- **Sarah Jenna, PhD**, Co-Founder and CEO, My Intelligent Machines (Mims)
- **Sonia Israel, BSc**, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Scientific Partnership at Aifred Health
- **David Buckeridge, PhD**, Scientist and Director of the Research Data Warehouse at the RI-MUHC
- **Mahzad Sharifahmadian, PhD**, Life Sciences Manager (Entrepreneurship) and Entrepreneur – District 3
- **Rami Batal, PhD**, Chief Operating Officer, Canopy Health Innovations
- **Antonio Vigano, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor, McGill University
- **Irah King, PhD**, Associate Professor, McGill University
- **Scott McComb, PhD**, Research Officer, Cancer Therapeutics Team, Human Health and Therapeutics, Vaccines Division, National Research Council.

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Office Hours!
The Desjardins Centre for Advanced Training will hold office hours at the Glen site in room ES1.5066.7 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. every Wednesday.
Please book your appointment by selecting a time at the following link
https://calendly.com/d-cat/15min.

McGill Career Planning Service (CaPS) at the Glen site!!
Jesse McClintock, career advisor at McGill’s Career Planning Service will be offering individual appointments at the Glen on Wednesdays October 17th, November 14th, and December 5th. Sign up to get: assistance with identifying your career options, personal goals and strengths, job search strategies, help with your application (cv, resume, and cover letter), prepare for job interviews, or discuss anything else related to your career. To book an appointment with Jesse at the Glen site, please call CaPS at 514-398-3304. Please specify that you are a Glen student or postdoc, and that you want to book an appointment at the Glen. Jesse is also available other days to meet at his office downtown (3600 McTavish), if this is more convenient for you.
Neuroscience Lab Skills Beyond the Lab: Effectively Presenting your Skill Set in the Job Search
Presented by HBHL-SKILLSETS and Adoc Talent Management
Tuesday, December 4 from 6-8pm
Bell Room, Montreal Neurological Institute
Description: Your graduate studies or postdoctoral experience is teaching you more than just neuroimaging analysis or cellular neuroscience techniques! You are learning and practising many transferable skills that you can apply in diverse academic and non-academic workplaces. Understanding your skills, and learning how to express them on a CV or at an interview, will help you to succeed in the job market.

Auréliane Pajani, a former cognitive neuroscience researcher turned PhD recruiter at Adoc Talent Management, will introduce the notion of skills and the specific skill set of neuroscience researchers. She will discuss tools to further analyse the skills that you have developed across your work and extra-curricular experiences, and how to present your skills to recruiters. The workshop will be followed by Q&A.

*Please note that portions of this workshop will be targeted towards PhD students and postdocs, however Master’s students are also welcome to attend.
Refreshments will be provided. Please register at the link: https://mcgill.ca/hbhl/beyond-lab

Conflict Management (for Graduate Students and Post Docs)
By McGill’s Campus Life & Engagement
Thursday, December 6 2018 at 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM
MS-74, McLennan Library Building
3459 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec

Description
Through this highly interactive workshop, graduate students and post docs will work across potential disputes to balance their positionality and needs with the potentially conflicting desires of others. Participants will further learn about conflict management styles by reflecting both individually and with peers so they can better understand themselves and how they can collaborate more effectively with other people. This workshop will also include role play situations related to common challenges graduate and post-doctoral students may encounter during their academic career.
We want to get your opinion

**On a logo for the Desjardins Centre for Advanced Training**

Tell us what you think and which you prefer by answering these 3 short questions!

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/dcatlogo](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/dcatlogo)

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**FURTHER READING AND RESOURCES**

- [Graduate Career Compass](#) — Career and Job Search Guide developed by Ryerson University
- [Your Graduate Skills are Always Transferrable](#) — Rebecca Dirnfeld (University Affairs)

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**TRAINEE KUDOS**

Erin Goddard, PhD, Kashif Khan, Julien Mégrouërêche, Catherine Pan, Palina Piankova and Surashi Shinde

Congratulations to six trainees from the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC) who participated in the [Cooperathon](#) open innovation challenge! Forming a team to meet a challenge launched by the [Desjardins Centre for Advanced Training](#) at the RI-MUHC, in only 25 days they created a new organization called **connecXscience** that brings interdisciplinary science outreach to secondary students in Montreal. Of the 104 teams participating in the semi-finals, theirs was one of only four teams to make it to the Education Track of the Cooperathon Finals held on November 1, 2018. Learn more

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**The RI-MUHC is hiring**

Career opportunities are always available on the RI website at [http://rimuhc.ca/apply-today](http://rimuhc.ca/apply-today)

We encourage you to check back often as new opportunities come available regularly. Please take a look at the list below for a sample of positions that are currently available.

- **Training Coordinator, Quality Assurance**
  Under the supervision of the Quality Assurance Manager, the Training Coordinator implements and improves an electronic competency and training management system for the research staff of the RI-MUHC. Furthermore, he contributes to the improvement of the RI-MUHC team’s performance, by creating and presenting the training support in the areas that are identified by the Direction, accordingly with the observed quality trends.

- **Knowledge Translation Coordinator**
  The CHILD-BRIGHT Network is an innovative pan-Canadian network under Canada’s Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) that aims to improve life outcomes for children with brain-based developmental disabilities and their families. Reporting to the Operations Director and under the direction of the Nominated Principal Investigator and the Knowledge Translation leads, the CHILD-BRIGHT Knowledge Translation Information Officer identifies, develops, implements and evaluates knowledge translation (KT) strategies, materials and activities designed to inform stakeholders and researchers of progress, initiatives and outcomes of the CHILD-BRIGHT network.

- **Research Assistant**
  This post is for a Research Assistant (full-time) who will work under the supervision of Dr. Nancy Braverman, Department of Medical Genetics. Our laboratory is focused on therapeutic interventions for patients with peroxisome biogenesis disorders. These are autosomal recessive disorders of peroxisome formation. The successful candidate will investigate the therapeutic efficacy of candidate drugs to treat our mouse models of these disorders. The major part of the project will involve optimizing drug doses and subcutaneous vs oral routes of delivery to clinical improvement of growth, retinal degeneration and liver disease.

**NOTE:** The masculine gender has been used for brevity and includes the feminine gender.