

VCHRI TRAINEE NEWS

Welcome to **VCHRI Trainee News**, a newsletter brought to you by the Research Education Program of VCHRI. The newsletter is designed to help VCHRI trainees stay connected to each other and to the programs and services of the VCH Research Institute. The newsletter will cover a variety of topics such as celebrating trainee achievements, upcoming funding competitions, and trainee educational opportunities. We welcome information from trainees and supervisors including announcements for the 'kudos' section such as published papers, defended theses, talks given or prizes won at meetings. Please submit items to Kerri Abramson for review at kerri.abramson@vch.ca.

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Student Biotechnology Network (SBN) Career Connect Day

The Student Biotechnology Network invites you to apply to attend: **CAREER CONNECT 2010**, hosted by Cardiome Pharma Corp. This is the SBN's second annual Career Connect event, giving you the chance to go behind the scenes of one of BC's largest biotech companies. Hear from and network with the group of men and women who make their company a success, as they describe the many diverse career paths which provide the structure and function of the company. Applications will be accepted until **April 16th**.

Go to http://www.thesbn.ca/career_connect.htm to download the application form, proposed agenda and more info. Completed application forms can be submitted to: careerconnect@thesbn.ca

Apply early, as this event was extremely competitive last year, and spots are expected to fill up quickly.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and successful applicants should be notified by May 11th.

Date: June 11th 2010

Location: Cardiome Pharma Corp

6190 Agronomy Rd., 6th Floor, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, V6T 1Z3 (UBC CAMPUS)

Time: 8:30-4:30

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CIHR Scientific Forum on Global Health (Maternal & Child Health) & Poster Competition

This event will take place on **May 4, 2010**, between 4:30 – 7:30pm and include an overview and panel discussion of the "Role of Canada's research community in maternal and child global health research".

Please RSVP to the scientific forum by **Friday, April 23, 2010**.

In conjunction with the scientific forum, a poster session will be held on May 4, 2010. Trainees (masters and doctoral students, and postdoctoral fellows) and clinical residents/fellows studying maternal, reproductive, and child health are invited to present their work. Posters will be separated into four categories (master students, doctoral students, postdoctoral fellows, and clinical residents/fellows). Cash awards will be given to the best poster(s) in each category. Interested candidates must submit the title of their poster and a brief summary (maximum 500 words) IHDCYH-IDSEA@cihr-irsc.gc.ca no later than **Friday, April 23, 2010**.

For more information on both the event and poster competition, go to For further information please visit:

<http://www.cfri.ca/documents/cihr-ihdcyhm2010.pdf>

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Immunity & Infection Research Centre (IIRC) Seminar

[Dr. Richard Lester](#) and Judith Silverman from the [Reiner Lab](#) will be presenting their research on **Monday April 26** at 4pm at the Paetzold Health Education Centre.

Dr. Lester's presentation is entitled - "Innate Immune Drivers of HIV Pathogenesis: Kenya to Canada" and Judith Silverman's presentation is entitled - "Leishmania Exosomes Modulate Immune Responses through Monocytes and Dendritic Cells"

For more information about this and other seminars go to <http://www.iirc.ca/Training.htm#Seminars>

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Post-doc Professional Development Series Workshops

The first of the trio of complementary workshops "Service: Why it can give you an edge", took place on Wednesday, March 31st at the Paetzold Auditorium at VGH. Dr Mike Cox, Prostate Centre, Dr Anna Celler, Medical Imaging Research & Dr. Aziz Gharary, Burn & Wound Healing Lab made up the panel who spoke about their service experiences and answered audience questions. Thanks to the panel for offering their expertise and to those who attended.

The next workshop of the series "**Pulling it Together: The Final Application Package**" will take place on **Tuesday, April 27th** from 9:30am – 12:30pm at UBC. See the following link for further information:

http://www.vchri.ca/i/pdf/PostDocSeries_FacultyPosition_Workshop2_27Apr2010.pdf

RSVP to aparisien@medd.med.ubc.ca

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Chile-Canada Leadership Scholarship

The goal of the Canada-Chile Leadership Scholarships Program is to support the development of human capital and a next generation of Leaders in the Americas while strengthening the linkages between Canadian post-secondary institutions and the ones in Chile. For a graduate exchange of 5 to 6 months, a scholarship of \$10,000 is available per student. Applications are now open, the deadline is **May 31st, 2010**.

For details on how to apply and further information, please click on the following link:

http://www.vchri.ca/s/Trainees_Events.asp?ReportID=394653

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UBC Rising Stars of Research Undergraduate Award

If you have conducted a research project in your UG science, engineering or social sciences program, you can apply to be accepted for one of the 120 spots at Rising Stars of Research 2010.

All selected participants will be eligible to receive up to \$500 in travel support. Event registration includes room and board on the beautiful UBC Vancouver campus. For more information, click on the following link: [Rising Stars of Research](#)

Date: August 18–21, 2010

Where: The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC.

RSR is a poster competition and gathering of Canada's top undergraduate researchers. It is a great opportunity to participate in Canada's only national multidisciplinary undergraduate research poster competition, and present your work to an academic audience. Network with like-minded peers and faculty researchers who share your passion for innovation and discovery.

Applications will be accepted from May 10th to June 14th.

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Cardiac Services BC Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Fellowship

The New Investigator Award competition is now open. Cardiac Services BC (CSBC) is offering a Cardiovascular Outcome Research Fellowship. The main objectives of the Fellowship are to support talented researchers conducting cardiovascular outcomes research, and to increase the use of CSBC Registry data. Eligible applicants must have completed a university-based clinical subspecialty training or PhD (or equivalent) program less than three years ago by the Funding Start Date (October 1, 2010). See the following link for specific criteria:

http://www.vchri.ca/i/pdf/Trainees_CardiacServicesBC_NewInvestigatorAward_16July2010.pdf Applications will be accepted until **July 16, 2010** and all eligible applicants are encouraged to apply. If you have any questions feel free to contact Sharon Relova via email at srelova@phsa.ca
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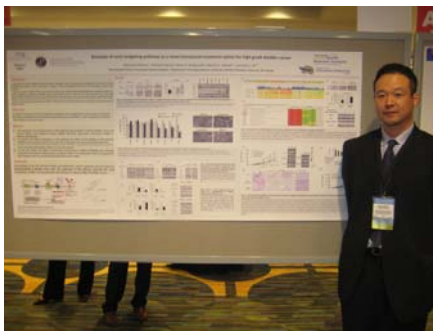
VCHRI Trainee Kudos



Congratulations to Lindsay Nagamatsu, who has been awarded one of the **Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Postgraduate Scholarship** for doctoral students, and has also won the **CIHR October 2009 Age+ Prize**.

Lindsay's research has linked specific deficits in visual-spatial attention with falls in seniors, which means that reduced ability to notice hazards or obstacles in the environment, such as steps or curbs, increases falls risk. In order to test for visual attention differences between fallers and non-fallers, Lindsay used neuro-imaging while seniors performed a simple attention task on a computer. Through measuring electrical signals in the brain, she was able to determine that senior fallers were impaired in their ability to notice stimuli on the left side of visual space as compared with their non-falling counterparts. Lindsay plans to continue along this line of

research and would eventually like to see it applied to clinical populations. She is currently a 1st year PhD student at the University of British Columbia funded by the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research.



Congratulations to Dr. Yoshiyuki Matsui, the January 2010 winner in the Ajaib (Jab) and Nirmal (Munni) **Sidhoo Charities Fund Trainee Travel Grant** competition, which began in the fall of 2008.

He is a Post-Doctoral Fellow with Dr. Alan So, member of the Vancouver Prostate Centre and the UBC Department of Urologic Sciences. The grant supported his presentation at the American Society of Clinical Oncology's 2010 Genitourinary Cancers Symposium in San Francisco, CA, in March 2010. His presentation was titled "Blockage of sonic hedgehog pathway as a novel intravesical treatment option for high-grade bladder cancer."

The Ajaib (Jab) and Nirmal (Munni) Sidhoo Charities Fund is managed through VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation. Its purpose is to support VCHRI research trainees working at VGH and UBC Hospital in the areas of Diabetes or Urology. This travel grant competition provides financial support for a trainee to present at an international conference. There are three deadline dates for receiving requests: January 15, May 15 and September 15. For more information go to http://www.vchri.ca/s/Internal_Grants.asp
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