

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.

In this issue....

- Save the Date – FoM Career Day for Graduate Students and Post-docs
- Trainee Kudos
- Upcoming Educational Opportunities

Save the Date – FoM Career Day for Graduate Students and Post-docs

Event: [Faculty of Medicine Career Day 2009](#)

Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Time: 8:15am – 4:00pm

Location: Chan Auditorium, Child & Family Research Institute

Registration deadline: email reseduc@cw.bc.ca by Mon Sept 28th

[Back to top](#)

Trainee Kudos

May 2009 Winner: Ajaib (Jab) and Nirmal (Munni) Sidhoo Charities Fund Trainee Travel Grant



Congratulations to Anna Levin, the May 2009 winner of the Ajaib (Jab) and Nirmal (Munni) Sidhoo Charities Fund Trainee Travel Grant, which began in the fall of 2008. Anna Levin is a PhD trainee with Dr. Joyce Davison in the VGH Prostate Centre. The grant supported Anna's presentation at the Canadian Psychological Association conference in Montreal in June 2009. Her presentation was titled "Information preferences and quality of life of men newly diagnosed with prostate 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

[Back to top](#)

Awards and Scholarships

The following trainees have won **Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master's Awards**:

- **Samir Alkabile**, (Dr. Peter Rieckmann, Brain Research Centre)
- **Mohammad Anwar**, (Dr. Peter Rieckmann, Brain Research Centre)
- **Peggy Assinck**, (Dr. Wolfram Tetzlaff, ICORD)
- **Oliver Ayling**, (Dr. Timothy Murphy, Brain Research Centre)
- **Kimberly Girling**, (Dr. Yu Tian Wang, Brain Research Centre)

- **Gary Golds**, (Dr. Alice Mui, Immunity & Infection Research Centre)
- **Sandra Hale**, (Dr. Catherine Backman, Arthritis Research Centre)
- **Eric Pesarchuk**, (Dr. Vince Duronio, Immunity & Infection Research Centre)
- **Valerie Poirier**, (Dr. Yossef Av-Gay, Immunity & Infection Research Centre)
- **Brodie Sakakibara**, (Dr. Bill Miller, ICORD and GF Strong Centre)
- **James Stevenson**, (Dr. Martin McKeown, Brain Research Centre and Pacific Parkinson's Research Centre)
- **Morag Yule**, (Dr. Lori Brotto and Dr. Boris Gorzalka, UBC Sexual Health Lab and VGH)

The following trainee has won an **Allied Health Professional Fellowship**:

- **Ada Tang**, post-doctoral fellow, (Dr. Janice Eng, Rehab Research Lab, GF Strong and ICORD)

The following trainees have won **NSERC Canada Graduate Scholarships**:

- **Adina Houldin**, Masters candidate, (Dr. Tania Lam, ICORD)
- **Philip Ly**, PhD candidate, (Dr. Weihong Song, Brain Research Centre)
- **Ravi Rungta**, PhD candidate, (Dr. Brian MacVicar, Brain Research Centre)

[Back to top](#)

Recent VCHRI Trainee Graduates

Rodgoun Attarian defended her masters thesis, "*Detoxification of Glutathione and Nitrosoglutathione by Thioredoxin system of Mycobacterium tuberculosis*". Her research project was supervised by Dr. Yossef Av-Gay. Rodgoun goes on to her PhD under Dr. James Kronstab in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at UBC.

Opiyemi ("Yemi") Banjo defended a masters thesis in Neuroscience in June. Yemi was supervised by Dr. Christopher Shaw in the Ophthalmology Research Laboratory.

Stefan Caney completed research in Parkinson's Disease for his master degree in Neuroscience. He was supervised by Dr. Jon Stoessl. Stefan starts the dentistry program at UBC in the fall.

Stephanie Cheah defended her masters thesis in Experimental Medicine, entitled, "*Investigating the mechanisms of bronchiolitis obliterans in a murine tracheal transplant model*". Her research project was supervised by Dr. Vincent Duronio in the Centre for Respiratory & Critical Care Medicine.

Aobo Guo completed his masters degree in Neuroscience. He continues on with his PhD under the supervision of Dr. Max Cynader, director of the Brain Research Centre.

Jennifer Locke completed her PhD in the field of Experimental Medicine under the supervision of Drs. Emma Guns and Colleen Nelson. In September Jennifer enters medical school at the University of Toronto.

Vanessa Noonan defended her PhD in the field of Health Care & Epidemiology under the supervision of Drs. Marcel Dvorak and Jacek Kopec. She has been awarded a post-doctoral fellowship from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research and begins work at the University of Washington in September.

Upcoming Educational Opportunities

Understanding Statistics in Medicine: A series of workshops

Module 1: Basic Statistical Concepts – Fri Sept 11

Module 2: Randomized trials: comparing two groups – Fri Oct 2

Module 3: Observational Studies – Fri Nov 6

Module 4: Meta-analysis of RCTs – Fri Dec 4

You can sign up for one or more of the workshops. However, Module 1 is a pre-requisite for all other modules. The series instructor is Dr. Penny Brasher.

Fee: \$100; per workshop. Graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, clinical residents and clinical fellows are eligible for a reduced fee of \$50.00 per workshop.

Location: room 700, VGH Research Pavilion, 828 West 10th Ave.

Time: 8:30am – 4:00pm

Registration: online only. Click on workshop title(s): <http://www.vchri.ca/s/Workshops.asp>

Seating is limited, please register early

Manuscript Writing Workshop: So! It's Time to Publish a Paper

A series of three workshops on preparing research proposals and papers for publication.

Workshop 1: Abstracts and the Ethics of Publishing – Tue Sept 29th

Workshop 2: Piecing together the Paper – Thurs Oct 22nd

Workshop 3: The Practice of Peer Review – Tue Nov 10th

Location: Gourlay Conference Room, iCAPTURE Centre, St. Paul's Hospital

Time: 9:30 – 11:30am

Refundable registration fee: \$10/workshop

For more information or to register, please contact Jacqui Brinkman at jbrinkman@mrl.ubc.ca

[Back to top](#)