



Image designed by Dr. Sanna Abassi

Dept. of Biochemistry Newsletter

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PEOPLE AND OTHER STUFF

- Congratulations to Dr. Gloor for being re-appointed as Chair of Biochemistry ([Schulich News](#))
- Complete the WIDE (Western Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity) Survey to ensure your voice is heard and contributes to the development of a more equitable and inclusive Western. Information collected through this survey is voluntary and confidential. For more info about the survey and how to fill it out, see the [WIDE Survey webpage](#).
- Biochemistry's EDID Committee is being re-populated as some members have completed their terms and are stepping down. The Committee has created a toolkit to orient incoming members and completed a terms of reference for its future membership and operations. The plan for decolonizing teaching in the Dept. will move forward this fall.

CONGRATS TO...

- ★ Lianghong Chen (Hu lab) for receiving the Translational Breast Cancer Research Traineeship from Breast Cancer Canada
- ★ Beth Connelly (Shaw lab) for being first author on a [publication](#) about the structure of parkin/ubiquitin interactions (PDB code: [9C5E](#))

- ★ Kaitlyn Wade (Hu lab) for receiving a CIHR Strategic Master's Award in Computational Biology and Health Data Sciences and a CIHR Travel Award to attend The Artificial Intelligence for Public Health (AI4PH) Summer Institute
- ★ Dr. Jenny Zhong (Li lab) for receiving a Western Postdoctoral Fellowship
- ★ Drs. Edgell, Gloor, and Karas; their labs; and their collaborators for their [publication](#) on a conjugative system for targeted delivery of Cas9 antimicrobials (ACS Synthetic Biology). It was selected by [ACS publications](#) as one of the top 25 papers to celebrate World Microbiome Day in 2024.
- ★ Dr. Hu for his cross-appointment as an Associate Professor in the Dept. of Statistical and Actuarial Sciences at Western University
- ★ Dr. Junop and his lab for their [publication](#) on the repair protein DrdC (Nucleic Acids Research) and for being featured by [PHYS.ORG](#). The feature includes an interview with Rob Szabla, who is the lead author and a graduate student in the Junop lab.
- ★ Drs. Lu and Zhou for receiving a CIHR Project Grant
- ★ Dr. O'Donoghue for receiving an NSERC Alliance Grant
- ★ Dr. Schild-Poulter, her lab, and colleagues for their [publication](#) on the CTLH complex (Nature Chemical Biology) and for being featured in [Schulich News](#)

PUBLICATIONS

- Dr. Andrews ([Interpretable single-cell factor decomposition using sciRED](#)) ([Liver sinusoidal endothelial cells support Kupffer cells](#)) ([Elongation factor 1A1 in MASLD liver](#))
- Dr. Balci ([DNA methylation epismutation for RCEM](#)) ([Alpha-thalassemia trait and NPRL3-related epilepsy](#)) ([Bryant-Li-Bhoj syndrome](#))
- Dr. Boffa ([Heparin interaction sites on TAFI](#))
Dr. Brandl ([tRNA-induced pro-to-ser mistranslation in Drosophila](#)) ([Mistranslating tRNA variants in Drosophila](#))
- Dr. Choy ([Interaction of Nrf2 and CBP/p300 in oxidative stress response](#))
- Drs. Connaughton, Hegele ([Vascular calcification, chronic kidney disease, ABCC6 variants](#))
- Dr. Hegele ([Evolocumab, LDL cholesterol, atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease](#)) ([Combined lipid disturbances](#)) ([Perivascular spaces, plasma GFAP, speeded executive function in neurodegenerative diseases](#)) ([Computational variant effect predictors and human traits](#)) ([Life and legacy of Dr. David A. Dichek](#))
- Dr. Hu ([Cell segmentation for imaging-based spatial transcriptomics](#)) ([Socioeconomic factors in dental plaque microbiome in early childhood caries](#))

(Cross-cohort analysis of dental plaque microbiome in early childhood caries)
(Alignment-free machine learning methods for HIV-1 subtype classification)

- Dr. Junop (Mechanism of action of DdrC from D. radiodurans)
- Dr. Lajoie (MUC1 as combinatorial biomarker for early detection of ovarian cancer)
- Dr. Li (Peptide blockers of PD-1-PD-L1 interaction)
- Dr. Schild-Poulter (Interaction of Ku70 with LigIV-XRCC4 in NHEJ)
- Dr. Shaw (Catalytic intermediates of parkin ubiquitination)
- Dr. Siqueira (Metabolomics for dental caries diagnosis)