

Graduate Student Research Award



Jason Li
University of Toronto

Jason Li received a Master's degree in Mechanical & Biomedical Engineering in 2011 from the University of Toronto and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Toronto. His research experience spans the development of nanomaterials-based diagnostic biosensors, implantable closed-loop drug delivery systems, nano-medicines for drug delivery and imaging applications, and the application of these technologies to both *in vitro* and whole animal models of bone remodeling, diabetes and cancer.

Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy Graduate Student Award for Pharmacy Practice Research



Fahad Alzahrani

*University of Waterloo &
University of Saskatchewan*

Fahad Alzahrani graduated as a pharmacist from King Saud University, Saudi Arabia in 2006. He has practiced as Hospital pharmacist in community hospital, for three years. After that, Mr. Alzahrani worked as a Teaching Assistant (TA) at College of Pharmacy, Taibah University, Saudi Arabia until 2010 when he moved to Canada to pursue his graduate studies. He completed his Master's degree in Pharmacy with a specialization in Pharmacy Practice-based research at University of Saskatchewan. He has joined Collaboration for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (CORE) at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, UBC as Graduate Academic Assistant (GAA) for one year. Mr. Alzahrani started a Ph.D degree at Waterloo's School of Pharmacy working with Ontario Pharmacy Research Collaboration (OPEN) under supervision of Dr. Nancy Waite in 2015.

Merck Postgraduate Pharmacy Fellowship Award



Jessica Virgili
Laval University

Jessica is currently finishing her Doctor of Pharmacy degree (Pharm.D) at Laval University in Quebec. During her studies she made four research internships. She will start a master's degree in the same faculty under the supervision of Dr. Frederic Calon. The laboratory has demonstrated that acute insulin fully reverses the rise in brain soluble β -amyloid levels induced by a high-fat diet in 3xTg-AD, an animal model of AD. Her research interest is centered on the molecular mechanisms of insulin on Alzheimer's disease (AD) neuropathology. Her project also involves the mechanisms involved in the transport of beta-amyloid peptide through the blood-brain barrier.

Pfizer Research Career Award



David Hampson
University of Toronto

Professor, University of Toronto
Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, Department of
Pharmaceutical Sciences
144 College St, Toronto, Ontario M5S 3M2
<http://phm.utoronto.ca/hampson/>

MAJOR PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2009 to 2015, Director, Canadian Institutes of Health
Research Strategic Training Program in Biological
Therapeutics. <http://biotherapeutics.utoronto.ca/>

2008 to 2012, Director, University of Toronto
Collaborative Program in Neuroscience
<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/>

Research in our laboratory is focused on the study of autism spectrum disorders and particularly fragile X syndrome. FXS, a genetic disorder caused by a triplet repeat expansion in the FMR1 gene, is the most common single gene cause of mental retardation and autism. We are developing gene therapy approaches for neurological and neurodevelopmental disorders including FXS. These studies entail investigating the feasibility and efficacy of using viral vectors expressing therapeutic proteins in the brain to reverse biochemical and behavioral abnormalities in animal models of FXS and autism.

New Investigator Research Award



Emmanuel Ho
University of Manitoba

Dr. Emmanuel Ho joined the University of Manitoba, College of Pharmacy as an Assistant Professor in 2010. He is also cross-appointed to the Faculty of Engineering, Department of Biomedical Engineering and the College of Medicine, Department of Immunology. He earned his Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the University of Toronto and was awarded numerous scholarships, most notably, an Industrial Post-Graduate Scholarship from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC). As a post-doctoral fellow at the British Columbia Cancer Research Centre, Dr. Ho was awarded the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Post-Doctoral Fellowship along with the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Post-Doctoral Fellowship (MSFHR). His current research interests include the development and characterization of novel nanomedicines, medical devices, and vaccines for the treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS. He was recently presented the 2013 Rh Award for Outstanding Contributions to Interdisciplinary Scholarship and Research and was the recipient of the 2014 GlaxoSmithKline / Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences Early Career Award. Dr. Ho's research program is supported by grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, CIHR, NSERC, Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), Research Manitoba, Manitoba Medical Service Foundation (MMSF), and the Dr. Paul Thorlakson Foundation Fund.

National Award for Excellence in Education



Sharon Mitchell
University of Alberta

Dr. Sharon Mitchell completed a BSC Pharm at University of Toronto, a Hospital Residency in London, Ontario and worked as a clinical pharmacist in London for 10 years where she developed a training program for appropriate antibiotic use, a certification for specialized drug administration in Intensive Care and asthma and COPD educational programs for patients, families and healthcare professionals. She completed a PharmD at the University of Alberta Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and PhD at the University of Alberta jointly with the Faculties of Medicine and Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences specializing in Infectious Diseases and Pharmacodynamics. Dr. Mitchell is currently a Clinical Associate Professor at the U of A Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences teaching in the areas of Infectious Diseases, Transplant and Interdisciplinary Education. Sharon has contributed extensively to curricular planning and development and served as Chair of Professional Practice. She served as Director and Assistant Dean of PharmD Development from 2003-2010 leading the design of the PharmD curriculum and gaining support from the Faculty, external stakeholders, and approval of the program from University Governance and the Alberta government. Sharon is a founding member of the 'Do Bugs Need Drugs' program, founding board of the Canadian Network for Simulation in Healthcare (CNSH), and the lead for the development of the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness and Prevention program for pharmacists and healthcare professionals that has gained national and international attention. Sharon served on AFPC Council and was the lead organizer and chair of the AFPC Canadian Pharmacy Education and Research Conference, 'Preparing Pharmacists for The Future', in Edmonton in 2006.

Rx&D Student Research Poster Award Winners

Amy Randell, *Memorial University of Newfoundland*

Heather Blundon, *Dalhousie University*

Jacinthe Leclerc, *Laval University*

Stephanie Dumas, *University of Montreal*

Jacqueline Flank, *University of Toronto*

Alanna McEneny, *University of Waterloo*

Yan Lu, *University of Manitoba*

Paul Pown Raj Iyyanar, *University of Saskatchewan*

Gemma Pinchin, *University of British Columbia*

Honored Life Membership

Keith Simons, *University of Manitoba*

David Fielding, *University of British Columbia*

Past President Award

Kerry Mansell, *University of Saskatchewan*