

Publications of the Week

Coding and Non-Coding Drivers of Mantle Cell Lymphoma Identified through Exome and Genome Sequencing

First Author: Prasath Pararajalingam (pictured) | Senior Author: Ryan Morin
Blood | BC Genome Sciences Centre, SFU, and BC Cancer



To extend their understanding of the biological pathways involved in mantle cell lymphoma (MCL), the authors performed a large-scale genomic analysis of MCL using data from 51 exomes and 34 genomes alongside previously published exome cohorts. Their sequencing revealed novel recurrent non-coding mutations surrounding a single exon of the *HNRNP1* gene. [Abstract](#)

Distinct Features of Stress Granule Proteins Predict Localization in Membraneless Organelle

First Author: Erich Kuechler | Senior Author: Thibault Mayor (pictured)
Journal of Molecular Biology | Michael Smith Laboratories



Stress granules are stress-induced biological assemblies that are of keen interest due to being linked to both long-term cell viability and a variety of protein aggregation-based diseases. The authors compiled recently published stress granule composition data, formed specifically through heat and oxidative stress, for both mammalian (*Homo sapiens*) and yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) cells. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

UBC Researchers Get Federal Funding to Help with Global COVID-19 Response

UBC News



UBC researchers, including Dr. Srinivas Murthy (pictured), are collectively receiving more than \$2.8 million in grants from the federal government to study COVID-19. The funding is focused on accelerating the development, testing, and implementation of measures to deal with the COVID-19 outbreak. The research findings and data produced will be shared rapidly and openly to inform the global public health response and to help save lives. [Read More](#)

LSI Researchers and Colleagues Funded in CIHR's COVID-19 Rapid Research Funding Competition

UBC Life Sciences Institute



Dr. Josef Penninger (pictured), Director of the UBC Life Sciences Institute (LSI), and Principal Investigator Dr. François Jean have received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) as part of Canada's emergency efforts to accelerate the development, testing and implementation of medical and social countermeasures to mitigate the rapid spread of the COVID-19 and its negative consequences on people and communities. [Read More](#)

UBC Science Excellence in Service Awards Recognize Three Outstanding Members of the Michael Smith Laboratories

Michael Smith Laboratories



Every year, UBC Science presents Excellence in Service Awards to recognize staff, students and faculty whose service contributions have had a significant positive impact in achieving the faculty's mission. This year, Operations Manager Karen Reid (pictured) and two students from the Michael Smith Laboratories have received this honour and were presented with their awards by Dean Meigan Aronson. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Using 'Humanized Yeast' to Find Potential Anti-Cancer Drugs

Michael Smith Laboratories



Science has taught us that species are genetically more similar than they are different, and what we know about one species will likely teach us about others. UBC researchers, led by Dr. Philip Hieter (pictured), have expressed a human cancer drug target protein in yeast cells by swapping in the human gene to replace the corresponding yeast gene, establishing a 'humanized yeast' platform that can be used to test candidate anti-cancer drugs. [Read More](#)

Genetic Variants Place Asians at Higher Risk of Side Effects to Common Medications

UBC News



From commonly prescribed drugs for gout through to depression, there's growing evidence that Asians are at a higher risk of side effects from many medications due to their genetic makeup. In this interview, UBC medical student Cody Lo (pictured) discusses his research into the seriousness of the side effects, the risks of a one-size-fits-all approach to prescribing medications, and how a growing interest and demand for genetic testing is changing the face of medicine. [Read More](#)

Dr. Shernaz Bamji Appointed Associate Director, Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Dr. Shernaz Bamji (pictured) has been appointed to the role of Associate Director at the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health. As a Professor in the Department of Cellular & Physiological Sciences at UBC, and a founding member of the School of Biomedical Engineering, Dr. Bamji brings unique expertise that will enable her to strengthen ties with the neuroscience and biomedical engineering communities at UBC and across the province of British Columbia. [Read More](#)

New Automation Facility (B1) Opens in LSI

Centre for Blood Research



The Biofactorial (B1) automation and screening facility opened for business at UBC in September 2019. Located on the second floor of the Life Sciences Institute (LSI), the facility aims to assist UBC researchers in automation and high-throughput biology applications to help reduce experimental costs and enhance the speed of research. [Read More](#)

Viruses: Ancient, Tiny, Amazing

Medical Xpress



As the novel coronavirus outbreak disrupts global markets and prompts unprecedented containment measures, it is worth asking a very basic question: what, precisely, is a virus? What are they made of? Where did they come from? According to Curtis Suttle, a virologist at UBC, the physical properties of viruses make them hard for us to comprehend. [Read More](#)

AbCellera Named to Fast Company's Annual List of the World's Most Innovative Companies for 2020

AbCellera



AbCellera has been named to Fast Company's prestigious annual list of the World's Most Innovative Companies for 2020 for its drug discovery platform that can search and analyze natural immune systems to deliver best-in-class antibody drugs. By innovating at every step of the discovery process, AbCellera's team has repeatedly proven its ability to unlock novel targets. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Trudeau Announces \$1B Package to Respond to COVID-19

CBC News



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau (pictured) has announced a \$1-billion package to help Canadians cope with the COVID-19 outbreak, with half of the money going to the provinces and territories. The package includes \$275 million for additional research, such as vaccine development, and \$200 million for federal medical supplies, support for Indigenous communities and education efforts. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

July 11 8:00 AM	Soapbox Science West End Farmers' Market
May 19-20 8:00 AM	2020 BCRegMed Symposium AMS Student Nest
September 1-4 8:00 AM	23rd Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Developmental Neuroscience Vancouver Convention Centre
October 26-28 8:00 AM	Till & McCulloch Meeting Hyatt Regency Vancouver
November 19-21 8:00 AM	Association for Molecular Pathology Annual Meeting & Expo Vancouver Convention Centre

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