

Publications of the Week

A Sparse, Spatially Biased Subtype of Mature Granule Cell Dominates Recruitment in Hippocampal-Associated Behaviours

First Author: Sarah Erwin (pictured, fourth from right) | Senior Author: Mark Cembrowski (third from left)
Cell Reports | UBC Life Sciences Institute



The authors have found that a range of novel experiences preferentially activates granule cells of the suprapyramidal blade relative to the infrapyramidal blade. Motivated by this, they identified a suprapyramidal-blade-enriched population of granule cells with distinct spatial, morphological, physiological, and developmental properties. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

His-Tagged Peptidiscs Enable Affinity Purification of the Membrane Proteome for Downstream Mass Spectrometry Analysis

First Author: John Young (pictured) | Senior Author: Franck Duong
Journal of Proteome Research | UBC and the Michael Smith Laboratory



As an alternative to detergents, the authors have recently developed the peptidisc membrane mimetic, which allows entrapment of the cell envelope proteome into water-soluble particles, termed a "peptidisc library". Here, they employed a His-tagged version of the peptidisc peptide scaffold to enrich the reconstituted membrane proteome by affinity chromatography. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Towards Stem Cell Therapies for Skeletal Muscle Repair

First Author: Robert Judson (pictured, left) | Senior Author: Fabio Rossi (right)
npj Regenerative Medicine | STEMCELL Technologies and the UBC Biomedical Research Centre



Skeletal muscle is an ideal target for cell therapy. However, the implementation of autologous intramuscular transplantation of skeletal muscle stem cells has been significantly limited by the inability to expand undifferentiated muscle stem cells in culture whilst maintaining transplantation potential. The authors review recent studies that have provided a number of important breakthroughs to tackle this problem. [Abstract](#)

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Local News

New Study Shows Microbiome Is Associated with Gut Function in Parkinson's Disease

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



When it comes to Parkinson's disease (PD), most research has focused on defining the PD microbiome and attempting to link these microorganisms to neurological systems. A team led by Dr. Silke Cresswell from the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health and Dr. Brett Finlay from the Michael Smith Laboratories has taken a new approach by looking at how microbiota composition relates to gastrointestinal function in PD. [Read More](#)

BC Cancer and UBC Researchers Have Identified How Hormones and Aging Affect Breast Cancer in Largest Study of Its Kind

BC Cancer



It is widely known that age affects a person's likelihood of receiving a cancer diagnosis, including breast cancer. A study from researchers at BC Cancer highlights a better understanding of the relationship not only between age and breast cancer but also between age related changes in estrogen in the development of breast cancer. [Read More](#)

Podcast: How Genomics Helped Crack the Code of COVID-19

Genome BC



Genome BC has launched their inaugural podcast. The first episode is *How Genomics Helped Crack the Code of COVID-19*, featuring Drs. Natalie Prystajecy (pictured) and Mel Kraijden from the BC Centre for Disease Control, who are at the forefront of this global race. They are using genomics to look for clues that would normally take months, if not years to find. They are using genomics to track transmissions to stop the pandemic and crack the code of COVID-19. [Read More](#)

COVID-19: Some Men More Susceptible to Severe Illness. Why? It May Be in the Genes

The Province



Men are less likely to get COVID-19 than women, but those men who do get it are far more likely to end up in the hospital. The answer to why that's the case may be on their X chromosome, according to a Vancouver researcher. The novel coronavirus hijacks the ACE2 protein and uses it to hack into our cells, but variations in the shape of the protein appear to make some men more susceptible to its attack, said medical geneticist Dr. William Gibson (pictured). [Read More](#)

SFU Surrey Science Labs Host COVID-19 Hand Sanitizer Production

SFU Faculty of Science



While science labs at SFU's Surrey campus have been devoid of the buzz of student experiments and discovery for nearly two months, they recently came to life for another purpose — the production of hand sanitizer to help the community battle COVID-19. A small group of staff and faculty, donning lab coats and gloves and practicing physical distancing, packaged more than 800 250-ml bottles of the critically needed liquid. [Read More](#)

SFU Change Makers: Peter Unrau on RNA Imaging and COVID-19 Testing

SFU News



SFU Change Makers is a video interview series that explores how the SFU research community is engaging and innovating to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak. In this episode, SFU Faculty of Science Professor Peter Unrau (pictured) joins Dr. Joy Johnson in a discussion about Mango, a state of the art imaging technology that is being used within coronavirus testing kits and the potential uses in detecting other viruses such as the seasonal flu. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- May 20 8:00 AM **COVID-19: The Road Forward Gairdner Global Perspectives Panel**
Online
- May 20 11:30 **Webinar: Tackling COVID-19: Global Collaborations in Therapeutic Drug Trials and Vaccine Development**
Online
- May 22-24 8:00 AM **hackseqRNA: COVID-19 Ultra-Hackathon**
Online
- May 23 8:30 AM **2020 Alzheimer Update**
Online
- May 26 2:00 PM **Careers in Chaos: Discussing the Impact of COVID19 on Science**
Online

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

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Genome BC
- Research Associate, Bioinformatics Lab**
UBC Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics
- Research Associate, Gene Regulation**
UBC School of Biomedical Engineering
- Product Manager**
Precision Nanosystems
- Technician, Sequencing and Molecular Biology**
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