



CHAIR'S CORNER



A word from the MIMM Chair

Dear MIMMers,

April is the last month of the Winter term and of the 2016-2017 academic year meaning that the final exam period is fast approaching. While we hope for the arrival of Spring, I wish everybody a very successful end of term and final exam period.

On March 15th, the Department of Microbiology & Immunology participated for the first time in a one-day fundraising

ACHIEVEMENTS



Bravo Gala

14th March, 2017 saw the cream of McGill researchers celebrate their achievements together with their families, friends and colleagues. The gala was hosted by Rosie Goldstein, Vice Principal of Research and Innovation. The winners of major provincial, national and international prizes and scholarships spanning different fields from Mathematics to Anthropology were honoured for their unparalleled dedication to their profession and insatiable quest of exploring the unanswerable.

Award Recipients

We would like to congratulate the following MIMM members for their

campaign called *McGill24*. This McGill-wide initiative consisted of soliciting potential donors to directly support our Department primarily through email messages and social media. Preliminary calculations indicate that MIMM was supported to the level of \$2,645. I would like to thank very much the MIMM organizers and everybody that specifically chose to support our Department. We already received interesting ideas for next year's campaign and are open to any suggestions you may have to build on our first *McGill24* participation.

In March, two important changes happened at the CIHR. The replacement of the President Dr. Alain Beaudet by a basic scientist from our McGill Community, Dr. Roderick McInnes (Director of the LDI) and the retirement of Dr. Jane Aubin as Chief Scientific Officer and Vice-President, Research, Knowledge Translation and Ethics. We all deeply hope that these important changes in the CIHR leadership will lead to significant transformations where the CIHR will finally listen to the Canadian research community that it serves and take our recommendations into consideration in implementing these long requested and needed changes.

The past two weeks were quite difficult for our MIMM Community. The passing of Jessica Yudcovitch, one of our U3 honours students, was a shock to us all. Jessica was a brilliant student and a kind hearted individual. Among her friends and peers, she will be remembered for her contagious laugh, peaceful smile, and unparalleled determination to pursue her dreams. She will forever be in our hearts and will forever be a part of the MIMM Family. I am pleased to share with you that Jessica will receive her degree alongside her peers. Indeed, McGill

achievements. (To view the full list of awardees, [click here.](#))

- **Dr. Corinne Maurice:**
CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar
Canadian Institute for Advanced Research
- **Dr. Martin Olivier:**
Wardle Medal
Canadian Society for Zoology
- **Dr. Donald Vinh:**
Canada Young Investigator Award
Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
- **Dr. Mark Wainberg:**
Canadian Medical Hall of Fame Member;
Gertrude Elion Distinguished Lecturer Award International Society for Antiviral
Research Lifetime Achievement Award Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (AMMI) Canada

Wares Award

The Department of Microbiology and Immunology is pleased to announce the successful recipients of the **2017-2018 Wares Family Postdoctoral Award.**

- Marit Orav
- Mohammadali Khan Mirzaei
- Yue Li

Congratulations to all the winners!

UPCOMING EVENTS

University graciously accepted to award Jessica her B.Sc. Honours degree and she will be a member of the 2017 graduating class. The MIMM Community sends its deepest condolences to the Yudcovitch Family and to all of Jessica's friends.

The 6th MIMM Annual Gala held on Friday March 31st at the CABARET LION D'OR was an amazing success where the MIMM Community gathered to celebrate another successful academic year. The attendance was doubled compared to last year, with a record of 201 attendees reaching the limit capacity of the venue. We have to acknowledge the hard work of MISA and the MIMM Gala Committee to have organized such a wonderful event in particular Olivia Ganescu (MISA President) and Lana Kobeici (MIMM Senior Administrative Coordinator) that carried most of the organization on their shoulders. Thanks a lot for your remarkable effort and commitment, it is highly appreciated. I am already looking forward to next year!

Last but not least, we have to congratulate and wish all the best to the 2017 MIMM graduating class. Be proud of your accomplishment and please remember that you will always be part of the MIMM Family at McGill University. Stay in touch with your *Alma Mater*, we love hearing back from our graduates.

All the best,

Ben

STUDENT ASSOCIATION UPDATES



MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY
**GRADUATE STUDENT
RESEARCH DAY**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Stephen C. Jameson, Ph.D.
Professor, Laboratory Medicine and Pathology
University of Minnesota Medical School

DATE: JUNE 08th, 2017

McIntyre Medical Building 6th Floor/Amphitheater 522

PRIZES FOR BEST PRESENTATION & POSTER

MIMM Graduate Student Research Day

The Annual Graduate Student Research Day will be taking place on Thursday June 8 2017. Registration will open on **April 7th, 2017**. An email including registration details will be distributed on this date.



Infection and Immunity Seminar Series

Scheduled seminars for the month of April:

- **April 6:** Dr. Rachel Carmody- *Food and its form: diet-based manipulation of the gut microbiome.*
- **April 20:** Dr. William Gause- *Helminths, Wound Healing and Worm Expulsion.*

For a list of the winter semester seminars, click [here](#).



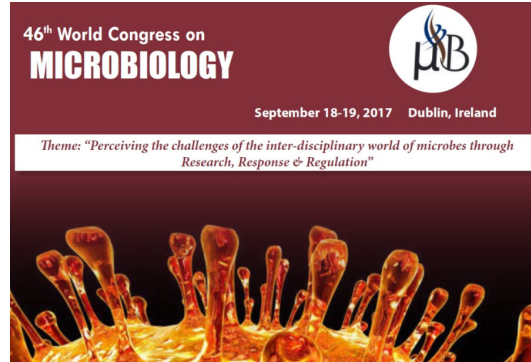
MISA's Corner

We hope you all enjoyed Gala very much! Good luck on finals, papers and projects! From all of us, it's been a pleasure to serve as your council this year. Good luck to next year's council; they'll accomplish great things. Till next time!

-MISA Council 2016-17



The [Vaccine Innovation Conference](#) is a snapshot of the best of Canada's vaccine research and aims to improve knowledge of Canadian vaccine accomplishments while supporting investments for vaccine research and development. It will be held May 10, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency Montreal. To register, [click here](#).



6th World Congress on Microbiology

The 46th World Congress on Microbiology will be held on September 18-19th, 2017 in Dublin, Ireland.

Microbiology 2017 is a specially designed cluster conference, with the theme, "Perceiving the challenges of the inter-disciplinary world of microbes through Research, Response & Regulation", covering critical sessions in the inter-disciplinary field of Microbiology, by laying a common platform for interactions between Global frontiers



MISA Wine and Cheese

MISA would like to thank each and everyone who came out to the Alumni Wine and Cheese. The event was a tremendous success, with over 175 people attending, 14 alumni's present, and a pianist from the McGill Music department as entertainment. This was our biggest Wine and Cheese yet, and MISA is so excited to have been able to share this with the department. We look forward to next year, and we will be sending out a survey to get your feedback soon.

in Microbiology aiming to accelerate scientific discoveries.

For more information, [click here](#).

FACE OF THE MONTH



Face of the Month: Aghdas Zamani

You are.... I am the laboratory course coordinator since July 15, 1996 in this department. I have been working in different departments at McGill university since 1984.

What do you like about the department?

I definitely like the program and working with young hard workers and smart students. I am glad to be a member of the support staff to help with the learning and understanding of the science program.

PUBLICATIONS

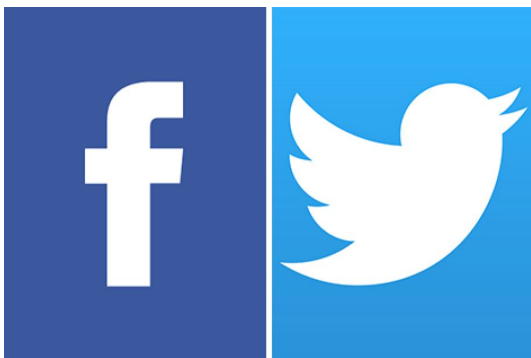
Valerie Le Sage, Alessandro Cinti, Stephen McCarthy, Raquel Amorim, Shringar Rao, Gian Luca Daino, Enzo Tramontano, Donald R. Branch, **Andrew J. Mouland**

Ebola virus VP35 blocks stress granule assembly *Virology*, [read here](#)



Jobs Available!

Still looking for a job? Visit the postings available [online](#) or have a look at the job binder located in Room 511 of the [Duff Medical Building](#).



Connect with us!

Like our official [Facebook](#) page and follow us on [Twitter](#) for regular updates!

How are you involved in the department?

I am in charge of the undergraduate teaching laboratories. I am involved in three level of laboratory exercises in three years program. This responsibility is involved in 4 laboratory courses.

What is your passion?

My personal life my passion is nature in general and in my professional life I enjoy helping young students and contributing to their learning.

SERVICES



Duff Biobar Updates

The Biobar stocks useful lab supplies including Kleenex, bleach, gloves, and paper towels at competitive prices. BioBar operating hours are from Monday to Friday: 8:00 -12:00 & 1:00 -3:30.

[More information.](#)



Want to contribute an item to the MIMM Bites? Here's where to send it: office.microimm@mcgill.ca
Check out the latest updates on our website: www.mcgill.ca/microimm

[View previous editions of MIMM Newsletters](#)