May–June 2015

**Sampath Loganathan** (Dr. Casey’s lab) successfully defended his PhD. Sam is now a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Daniel Schramek's laboratory (Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto).

**Career Skills Development Series - "Marketing Your Research"** — **Drs. Joe Casey and Marek Michalak**, Department of Biochemistry - **Monday, August 10, 2015 from 12:00 - 12:00-1:30 pm in Katz 4003-4004**. Visit Http://www.membranetraining.ualberta.ca/ (forms cabinet) to see the assignment. Lunch provided.

Visiting Speaker - Dr. Paul Schnetkamp, Professor, Department of Physiology & Pharmacology, University of Calgary

"The SCL24 Gene Family of Na/Ca-K Exchangers: from Sight and Smell to Memory Consolidation, Skin Pigmentation and Bad Teeth"

Thursday, June 25, 2015 at at 9:00 am in Classroom Room F - 2J2.02 WMC. Host: Dr. Joe Casey

Visiting Speaker - Dr. John Baenziger, Department of Biochemistry Microbiology & Immunology, University of Ottawa. [http://s546183587.onlinehome.us/professor/](http://s546183587.onlinehome.us/professor/)

"Structure and function of the nicotinic acetylcholine receptor in its membrane environment"

Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 9:00 am in Classroom F - 2J4.02 WMC. Host: Dr. Joanne Lemieux

**Career Skills Development Series - "Grant Writing 101"** — **Drs. Larry Fliegel and Howard Young**, Department of Biochemistry - **Monday, June 15, 2015 from 12:00-1:30 pm in Katz 4003-4004**. Lunch provided.

The IRTG/CREATE Program has awarded three years awards to **Gareth Armanious** (Howard Young's Lab) and **Swai Mon Khaing** (Nicolas Touret's Lab). Congratulations!

**Friday, May 8, 2015**

Visiting Speaker **Dr. Raymond J. Turner**, Department of Biochemistry & Microbiology, University of Calgary was hosted by Dr. Joel Weiner and presented with the title 'Characterization of a system specific chaperone for complex iron-sulfur molybdenoenzyme maturation.'

**Monday, May 11, 2015**


**Monday, April 13, 2015**

Career Skills Development Series - "Career and Life Balance"

**MPDRG/IRTG SUMMER STUDENT 2015**

**Shuo Chen** (Fliegel Lab) funded by AIHS
**Stephania Irwin** (Lemieux Lab) funded by AIHS
**Tim Kong** funded by NSERC-CREATE IRTG and an Office of the Provost and VP (Academic) Summer Research Award.
**Tae Young (Tim) Lee** (Lemieux Lab) funded by AIHS
**Regan Mah** (Fliegel Lab) funded by AIHS and NSERC
**Bradley Rutherford** (Young Lab) funded by AIHS
**Qadeem Salehmohamed** (Touret Lab) funded by NSERC USRA
**Cristiana Stoian** (Touret Lab) funded by NSERC-CREATE IRTG
**Ali Qadri** (Casey Lab) funded by AIHS
April 2015 - Summer Studentship Competition Results

IRTG/CREATE program will fund 2 summer studentships this year for:
Cristiana Stoian from Dr. Touret's laboratory
Tim Kong from Dr. Chen's laboratory

AIHS Summer Studentship Competition Results:
Congratulations to Shuo Chen & Regan Mah (Dr. Larry Fliegel), Stephania Irwin & Tim Lee (Dr. Joanne Lemieux), Meet Patel & Ali Qadri (Dr. Joe Casey), Bradley Rutherford (Dr. Howard Young)

April 2015 - German Visiting Students
The MPDRG is pleased to welcome three new visiting graduate students from our partner laboratories in Germany. Welcome to:

- **Martin Textor** from Dr. Sandro Keller’s laboratory, University of Kaiserlsautern (hosting laboratory: Dr. Howard Young)
- **Stephanie (Linda) Forero-Quintero** from Dr. Joachim Deitmer’s laboratory, University of Kaiserlsautern (hosting laboratory: Dr. Joe Casey)
- **Hawraa Bzeih** from Dr. Jens Rettig’s laboratory, Saarland University (hosting laboratory: Dr. Emmanuelle Cordat)
- **Manuel Daumann** from Dr. Torsten Möhlmann’s laboratory, University of Kaiserlsautern (hosting laboratory: Dr. Joe Casey)
- **Andrea Blum** from Dr. Manfred Schmitt's laboratory, Saarland University (hosting laboratory: Dr. Joe Casey)
- **Laura Hofmann** from Dr. Veit Flockerzi’s laboratory, Saarland University (hosting laboratory: Dr. Xing-Zhen Chen)
- **Sara Schwartz** from Dr. Manfred Schmitt’s laboratory, Saarland University (hosting laboratory: Dr. Joanne Lemieux)

March 2015 - Graduate Awards
This Spring, we are proud to announce that our trainees received a number of prestigious graduate awards:

- **Darpan Malhotra** (Dr. Joe Casey's lab) received an IRTG Studentship and a 75th Anniversary award,
- **Sampath Loganathan** (Dr. Joe Casey’s lab) received an IRTG graduate Studentship
- **Katie Bador** (Dr. Joe Casey’s lab) received a 75th Anniversary award.
- **Cameron Smithers** (Dr. Joanne Lemieux's lab) received a Fredrick banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarship-Master’s and a Walters H. John Graduate Fellowship

March 2015 - Mem Star Awards
The membrane group has implemented an annual Mem Star Award to recognize trainees who have made excellent contributions in the form of a peer-reviewed publication. This year, the awardees were **Wang Zheng**, a graduate student from Dr. Xing-Zhen Chen’s laboratory for his article entitled “A novel PKD2L1 C-terminal domain critical for trimerization and channel function”, published in Scientific Reports, March 2015, and **Dr. Ray Amith**, PDF with Dr. Larry Fliegel for her article “The Na+/H+ exchanger (NHE1) as a novel co-adjuvant target in paclitaxel therapy of triple-negative breast cancer cells” published in Oncotarget in November 2014.
March 2015 - Dr. Joanne Lemieux becomes MPDRG Associate Director

Dr. Joanne Lemieux has been playing a very active role in helping managing the MPDRG over the past year. In recognition of her increasing involvement, she has agreed to take the role of Associate Director of the MPDRG.

March 2015 - Graduation of Ensaf Almomani

Mrs. Ensaf Almomani has successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis on March 4, 2015. Ensaf was a graduate student in Dr. Cordat’s laboratory since September 2009. Five days later, Ensaf’s family welcomed their new baby, Ryan (picture attached). Well done, Ensaf!

February 2015 - Welcome to Dr. Arutyunov in the Cordat’s Laboratory

Dr. Denis Arutyunov has joined the Cordat’s laboratory as a part-time research assistant.

January 2015 - Welcome to New Graduate Students!

Shahid Ullah has joined the Cordat’s laboratory this January as a Master’s student who intends to obtain a Ph.D. in Physiology. Shahid obtained a Master’s in Public Health at the BRAC University in Bangladesh in 2008 and a Master’s in Science at the University of Alberta with Dr. Reuben Kaufman in 2012.