

Collaborative Program in Neuroscience (CPIN)

University of Toronto

Newsletter – Vol. 36, No. 7 – March 2020

Featured In This Issue

Announcement: 2020 Jonathan Dostrovsky Award in Neuroscience Applications are now accepted for the 2020 Jonathan Dostrovsky Award in Neuroscience. Please see page 3 for details.

News – CPIN Trainees Congratulations to CPIN student member **Sally Abudiab** on recently completing the CPIN requirements and graduating from her MSc program. Please see page 2 for details.

News – CPIN Trainees Congratulations to CPIN student member **Stephanie Cheung** on recently completing the CPIN requirements and graduating from her PhD program. Please see page 2 for details.

Welcome New CPIN Trainees and Postdoctoral Members Please see pages 2 and 3 for details.

Congratulations CPIN Graduating Students Please see page 3 for details.

News – CPIN Faculty Members We would like to welcome **Dr. Maged Goubran** and **Dr. Naomi Visanji** as new faculty members to the CPIN community. Please see page 4 for details.

Neuroscience Opportunities Please see page 4 for details.

COVID-19 Measures Affecting CPIN Activities

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/events/lectureship.htm>

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in order to support Toronto's efforts to stop person to person transfer of the virus, all the CPIN activities involving in-person contact and/or group gathering have either been postponed or cancelled.

Please check the CPIN home page for updates: <http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/>

For information on specific CPIN events please check see:

Research Day: http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/events/CPIN_Research_Day.htm

Distinguished Lectureship Series:

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/events/lectureship.htm>

Toronto Brain Bee: <http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/events/brainbee.htm>

For updates on the university's COVID-19 response, measures and resources, please see:

<https://www.utoronto.ca/message-from-the-university-regarding-the-coronavirus>

School of Graduate Studies: <https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/covid19/>

Please also see the City of Toronto's COVID-19 information page:

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/>

We encourage CPIN members to contact us at p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca with any questions about the CPIN program or requirements. We hope everyone is staying safe, following guidelines for social distancing, and staying connected to their communities online.

CPIN Newsletter

Zhong-Ping Feng
Director
CPIN
Graduate Studies

Iulia Park
Administrator
CPIN Office

CPIN Office
p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca
Tel.: 416 978 8637

Lead Faculty
Faculty of Medicine

CPIN Participating Units

Applied Psychology &
Human Development
Biochemistry
Biomaterials & Biomedical
Engineering
Cell & Systems Biology
Computer Science
Dentistry
Laboratory Medicine &
Pathobiology
Medical Biophysics
Medical Science
Music
Pharmaceutical Sciences
Pharmacology & Toxicology
Physiology
Psychology
Public Health
Rehabilitation Science

Contributors:

Heart & Stroke/Richard
Lewar Centre of Excellence in
Cardiovascular Research

Human Biology Program

Krembil Research Institute

St. Michael's Neuroscience
Research Program

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News – CPIN Trainees

http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/news_cpिन_students.htm



Congratulations to CPIN student member **Sally Abudiab** (Rehabilitation Sciences Institute, Dr. Robin Green) on recently completing the CPIN requirements and graduating from her MSc program.

Sally's MSc project investigated the longitudinal patterns of change in reaction time measures following moderate-to-severe traumatic brain injury. Her work involved technical computing in MATLAB. Seeing her work encourage new ways of thinking is fulfilling. Outside of her work, she co-authored [a commentary on the missing conversations of racialization and racism in rehabilitation sciences and research](#), which has created an ongoing conversation at the University. The article is being honored on the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 2020, a conference at UofT that advances anti-racism throughout the University community.

For Sally, CPIN was more than a way to learn about neuroscience. It was a community that allowed her to connect with other trainees with exceptional talent. She served for different CPIN initiatives, such as the Neurosciences 101 high school outreach program and the Brain Bee high school competition. She presented her research in 2019 for the annual CPIN research day, where she received an Excellence in Poster Presentation Award.

Since graduating, she has been applying herself in neurotrauma research projects. She continues to learn and be inspired by people she meets in these spaces.



Congratulations to CPIN student member **Stephanie Cheung** (Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, Dr. Deryk Beal) on recently completing the CPIN requirements and graduating from her PhD program.

Stephanie's doctoral work was conducted at Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital, and investigated the development of auditory feedback integration in the speech of typically developing children.

While a doctoral candidate, Stephanie received several scholarships for her academic achievements and leadership contributions, including two Wildcat Graduate scholarships (Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering), the Kimel Family Graduate Student Scholarship in Pediatric Rehabilitation (Holland Bloorview), and the Eleanor Cate Allen Fellowship (University of Toronto). An avid science communicator, Stephanie was awarded 2nd Place for her podium presentation at the 2018 Conference on Motor Speech. In 2017, Stephanie was highlighted in a national hErVOLUTION campaign as a Featured Canadian Woman in STEM.

During the course of her PhD program, Stephanie held leadership roles with the Bloorview Research Institute Trainee Executive, including two terms as Co-Chair. In this capacity, Stephanie was extensively involved in the development of capacity-building and professional enrichment activities for research trainees. Stephanie was a founding member of the CPIN Mentorship Program and served as Co-Director in its inaugural year.

Welcome New Postdoctoral CPIN Members

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/students/currentstudents.htm>

Last Name	First Name	Home Unit	Supervisor
Guet-McCreight	Alexandre	Centre for Addiction & Mental Health; Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics	Dr. Etay Hay

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/newsletter.htm>

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2020 Jonathan Dostrovsky Award in Neuroscience

http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/award_opportunities/jonathan_dostrovsky_award.htm



Established by the generosity of Dr. Jonathan Dostrovsky, these annual awards recognize and support excellence amongst graduate students enrolled in the Collaborative Program in Neuroscience and will be selected based on academic merit.

In 2020 CPIN will award two Jonathan Dostrovsky Awards in Neuroscience for outstanding achievement in graduate neuroscience research towards a Ph.D. degree: one Junior Award for outstanding achievement in initial graduate neuroscience research (<2 years in Ph.D. program), and one Senior Award for outstanding achievement in graduate neuroscience research towards a Ph.D. degree (< 4 years in Ph.D. program).

The recipients of the awards will be selected by a committee appointed by the Collaborative Program in Neuroscience for this purpose. The committee will make their decision based on, but not limited to, the following criteria: intellect, originality and judgement, research skills, independent research potential, motivation, and progress in research towards their graduate degrees.

The student application deadline for the 2020 award is April 30, 2020. All applicants must complete the official application form on the CPIN website (http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/award_opportunities/jonathan_dostrovsky_award.htm) Further details, application guidelines and eligibility, are also available on our website (link above).

Congratulations CPIN Graduating Students

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/students/currentstudents.htm>



Name: Kairavi Shah

Program: MSc

Department: Institute of Medical Science

Supervisor: Dr. Mark Erwin

Thesis Title: Neuronal Differentiation of Cartilage-Derived Stem Cells In Vitro and their Delivery to the Spinal Cord in a Mouse Model of ALS Using MRI-guided Focused Ultrasound

Reminder: CPIN Student Completion Form CPIN graduate students who have completed both their home department and CPIN trainee requirements must fill in the online completion form located at the link below:

http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/students/cpin_student_completion_form.htm

Welcome New CPIN Students

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/students/currentstudents.htm>

CPIN extends a warm welcome to the following new CPIN Trainee:

Last Name	First Name	Home Unit	Degree	Supervisor
Yang	Chengye	PSL	MSc	Dr. Lu-Yang Wang

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/newsletter.htm>

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News – CPIN Faculty Members

http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/news_cpin_faculty_members.htm



We would like to welcome **Dr. Maged Goubran** (Scientist, Hurvitz Brain Sciences Research Program & Physical Sciences Platform, Sunnybrook Research Institute; Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Biophysics, University of Toronto) as a new faculty member to the CPIN community.

He earned his PhD in Biomedical Engineering with a specialization in Medical Imaging at the Robarts Research Institute at Western University. He then went on to pursue his postdoctoral training at the Department of Radiology and the Neuroscience Program at Stanford University. His work combines translational and basic science research, with the overarching aim of developing novel computational and imaging tools to probe and predict circuit alterations in neurological disorders, including Alzheimer's disease, stroke and traumatic brain injury.



We would like to welcome **Dr. Naomi Visanji** (Scientific Associate, Edmund J Safra Program in Parkinson's Disease and Rossy Program in Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, Toronto Western Hospital; Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology, University of Toronto) as a new faculty member to the CPIN community.

Dr Visanji completed her PhD in Pharmacology at Kings College London (UK) in 2004 and following that relocated to Canada where she holds an appointment at both the University of Toronto department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology and Edmond J. Safra program in Parkinson's disease and Rossy Program in Progressive Supranuclear Palsy at Toronto Western

Hospital. Dr Visanji's research focuses on the use animal models and postmortem human tissues to probe the pathobiology of neurodegenerative disease associated proteins. In addition, Dr Visanji has an interest in the detection of peripherally expressed aberrant proteins as biomarkers for neurodegenerative diseases. Dr Visanji has published over 50 peer reviewed publications in the field of neurodegenerative disease research and drug development. She is also a Senior Scientist at Rosetta Therapeutics, a University of Toronto/MaRS Innovation UTEST startup developing new molecular matter as leads for the cure of neurodegenerative diseases.

Neuroscience Opportunities

http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/Positions_Available.htm

Assistant Professor - Pharmacology or Toxicology

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Faculty of Medicine
University of Toronto

Description: The Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology at the University of Toronto is accepting applications for a full-time tenure-stream faculty appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor in the area of Pharmacology or Toxicology. The appointment will begin September 1, 2020 or shortly thereafter. The closing date for applications is April 13, 2020.

For details, please see the full posting on our website:

<https://utoronto.taleo.net/careersection/10050/jobdetail.ftl?job=2000122&tz=GMT-05%3A00&tzname=America%2FToronto>