



Centre for
Heart Lung Innovation
UBC and St. Paul's Hospital

THE LOBE AND MAIL

EVENTS

February 7-8, 2019
Heart and Lung Health FEST
Scientific Symposium

Fridays | 11:30 am
HLI Friday Seminar Series
Gourlay Conference Room
St. Paul's Hospital

CONGRATULATIONS! *Faculty Achievements*

Dr. Stephan van Eeden
CIHR/GSK Professorship in COPD
| Air Liquide/Spry Health Investi-
gator-initiated Grant

Dr. Jordan Guenette
CSEP New Investigator Award

Dr. Scott Tebbutt
UBC FoM Strategic Investment
Fund | AllerGen Strategic Initia-
tives Fund


Dr. Don Sin
UBC Grants for Catalyzing Re-
search Clusters


CONTACT US


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 @heartlunginnovation

 Centre for Heart Lung
Innovation (HLI)

HLI HEADLINE



Dr. Don Sin Appointed the New Director of HLI

Dr. Don Sin is a Professor of Medicine at UBC, and the Canada Research Chair in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). Dr. Sin is ranked second in the world for COPD expertise (expertscape.com). His research focuses on discovering novel biomarkers to improve the care and diagnosis of patients with COPD, which is currently the third leading cause of death worldwide.

RESEARCH REPORTS

Sputum Microbiome is Associated with 1-Year Mortality Following COPD Hospitalizations

The microbiome refers to the collection of microorganisms in a particular environment – in this case, the sputum, which consists primarily of saliva and mucus from the lungs. This study, led by HLI researchers (Drs. Fernando Studart, Janice Leung, Paul Man, and Don Sin), was the first to identify a relationship between the sputum microbiome and 1-year mortality following hospitalization due to an acute exacerbation from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). In particular, patients who did not survive one year after discharge had less diverse bacterial populations. The presence and absence of certain classes of bacteria were also strongly correlated with mortality, suggesting that the microbiome may be used to identify patients for closer monitoring following discharge from the hospital.

Airway Centre Conference Creates Interdisciplinary Plans for COPD Research Across Canada

COPD is currently the leading cause of hospitalizations in Canada, affecting over 2.5 million Canadians. The conference brought together over 130 faculty, industrial and government partners, and trainees to implement multidisciplinary research strategies to accelerate the discovery of COPD drugs and biomarkers. Visit airwaycentre.ubc.ca or contact Dr. Tony Yang (tony.yang@hli.ubc.ca) for more information.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Tony Yang, PhD

Program Manager, Providence Airway Centre (PAC)
HLI Most Valuable Player 2018

Recent Achievements:

- organized the inaugural PAC conference
- connected new industrial partners to PAC and HLI
- secured funding for multiple collaborative projects

CONGRATULATIONS!

Trainee Achievements

ALS Canada & Brain Canada Doctoral Fellowship
Yasir Mohamud

Australasian Wound & Tissue Repair Society Young Investigator of the Year
Chris Turner

Canadian Cardiovascular Congress: Best Science Poster
Keerit Tauh

CIHR ICS Travel Award
Daniela Castillo-Saldana | Aida Eslami | Andrew Ramsook | Anna Siedlecki | Keerit Tauh | Arash Tehrani | Diana Vikulova

CSEP Student Travel Award
Andrew Ramsook

CLA Breathing as One Allied Health Fellowship
Nafeez Syed

NSERC Doctoral & UBC 4-YF
Reid Mitchell

Rare Disease Foundation & BC-CHF Microgrant
Daniela Castillo-Saldana | Anna Siedlecki

UBC 4-Year Fellowship
Reid Mitchell

UBC Affiliation Bursary Award
Anna Siedlecki

UBC C. L. Wang Memorial Scholarship
Guangze Zhao

UBC FoM Graduate Award
Daniele Castillo-Saldana | Anna Siedlecki | Arash Tehrani | Nancy Yang | Guanze Zhao

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The HLI Trainee Association is Established

The inaugural meeting of the HLI Trainee Association was held on December 6th, 2018. Their vision is to create the next generation of world-leading cardiopulmonary scientists, and to *enhance the academic experience of all trainees by providing an environment to foster enhanced collaboration, education, professional growth and career success*. Stay tuned for upcoming events! To get involved, contact HLI Education Director, Dr. Scott Tebbutt (scott.tebbutt@hli.ubc.ca).

Heart + Lung Health FEST 2019

The Heart + Lung Health FEST Scientific Symposium will be held on February 7-8, 2019 at the Pinnacle Hotel Harbourfront, in Vancouver.

Distinguished presenters include:

- Shawn Aaron (U. Ottawa)
- John Webb (UBC Cardiology)
- Santa Ono (UBC President)
- Richard Leigh (U. Calgary)
- and many more

Registration is now [open](#).

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

HLI Hosts Bi-Annual High School Science Week

Eight grade 11 and 12 students from across the Metro Vancouver area recently joined HLI researchers for a stimulating week. Topics included:

- molecular biology techniques
- heart and lung anatomy
- tissue biobanking
- patient confidentiality

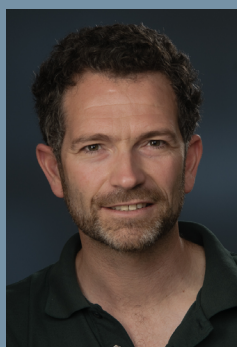
To learn more about the program or to get involved, please contact Dr. Gurpreet Singhera (gurpreet.singhera@hli.ubc.ca).



HLI Achieves a Gold Star for Lights of Hope

The Lights of Hope campaign raises critical funds for St. Paul's Hospital's world-class care, research, and teaching programs. This year, the HLI community raised **\$34,760** for the 21st annual fundraiser and earned a Gold Star!

FACULTY FEATURE



Scott Tebbutt, PhD

Professor | UBC Department of Medicine
HLI Education Director | PROOF Chief Scientific Officer

Research Interests:

- systems biology, molecular signatures, and biomarkers of complex inflammatory diseases and other diseases
- interactions between human airway cells and *A. fumigatus*