

UBC Department of Medicine

year in review

2023



department of medicine

YEAR IN REVIEW

january 1, 2023 - december 31, 2023

ADMINISTRATION

- The Department Head met with the majority of full-time faculty members (over 100 faculty members).
- In June 2023, the UBC DOM Annual Faculty & Staff Awards Presentation was held virtually on Zoom, to recognize our many outstanding faculty and staff.
- In June 2023, the department participated in UBC UniForum.
- An external review of the Division of Respiratory Medicine was completed in October 2023. Dr. Carlsten has been reappointed as Division Head for a second five-year term.
- An external review of the Division of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation was completed in November 2023.
- In November 2023, for the fourth year in a row, the UBC DOM Holiday Donation Drive for the United Way of BC was launched to raise funds for BC communities in need.

Administration Office Updates:

- Nehal Gupta joined the Admin team as Project Coordinator for Strategic Planning (June 2023)

The UBC DOM Equity Committee continued work on a number of initiatives including:

- Success in Academia: leadership and professional development course for women faculty.
- Upstander Engagement training sessions for DOM faculty (in partnership with the FOM REDI Office).
- In November, the Equity Committee hosted a talk by Dr. Terri Aldred "Creating a culturally safe environment for Indigenous patients and Indigenous learners in clinical care and teaching settings"
- In the fall of 2023, a proposal for [UBC StEAR](#) (Strategic Equity & Anti-Racism) funding for a new speaker series was submitted.

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

The DOM Admin Office continued work on the development of the [Strategic Plan](#).

- Site Visit, Kelowna: June 16, 2023
- Site Visit, Victoria: September 8, 2023
- Site Visit, Prince George: September 28, 2023
- Site Visit, Royal Columbian Hospital: October 18, 2023

EDUCATION

- Resident Retreat, Whistler, BC: May 17-19, 2023
- 39th Annual Internal Medicine Resident Research Day: June 7, 2023
- Internal Medicine Welcome BBQ & Baseball Game: July 26, 2023

Education Office Updates:

- Alex Dang left the DoM to pursue further opportunities
- Natalie Cheng returned from maternity leave
- Ros Wisenthal joined the PGME team as PGME IM Project Coordinator

The annual Resident Retreat took place on May 17-19 in Whistler. It featured several different didactic topics and panel discussions, with highlights including a featured talk on reflections of 'Elder Statesmen' by Dr. Jake Onrot.

On June 7, the 39th Annual Resident Research Day occurred in-person at the Paetzold Auditorium at VGH and featured residents' podium and poster presentations.

The PGY1 CaRMS Match was a great success, and the core program filled all its IMG, CMG, and Vancouver Island positions in the first iteration. The first Competency by Design (CBD) cohort of PGY4 residents completed

the program in June 2023 and was the first core year to complete the Transition to Practice phase of training within CBME.

The Global Health Program, led by Dr. Marla McKnight, continued its collaboration with the University of Rwanda through virtual means to provide collaborative educational opportunities. The Global Health elective for PGY2-5s was relaunched in person after being on hold since 2020. Thirteen residents completed the elective in Butare, Rwanda, in partnership with the University of Rwanda between January and June of 2023.

The Year 3 Undergraduate CTU and Ambulatory rotations continued in their traditional six-week and two-week formats, respectively. Hybrid academic sessions continued to be offered, with in-person attendance encouraged at host sites.

Out-of-Province Year 4 Electives for UBC students resumed in July 2023.

A CTU redesign working group was formed to address undergraduate student concerns regarding workload, work hours, and the provision of adequate study time.

The integration of Planetary Health and Geriatrics curriculum content is underway within the CTU and IM Ambulatory rotations, respectively.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Office Updates

- Flavia Oliveira left the HR team to pursue further opportunities
- Brian Choi joined the HR team as HR Assistant
- Jojo Lee and Hades Ong joined the HR team as HR Assistants
- Brian Choi left the HR team to pursue further opportunities
- Lyndsie Plowman joined the HR team as Faculty HR Assistant

Division Head Searches and Appointments

- Dr. Denise Jaworsky, Division Head (Community Internal Medicine)
- Dr. Euseok Kim, Associate Division Head (Community Internal Medicine)
- Dr. Jasmine Grewal, Division Head (Cardiology)
- Dr. Martin McKeown, Division Head (Neurology)
- Dr. Kenneth Madden, Division Head (Geriatric Medicine)

Chairs and Professorships

- Dr. Erik Pioro, ALS Society of BC Professorship in ALS Research (Neurology)
- Dr. Sarah Purcell, Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Nutrition and Energy Metabolism in Chronic Disease (Endocrinology & Metabolism)

New Faculty Appointments

- Clinical Instructors: 61
- Clinical Assistant Professors: 25
- Clinical Associate Professors: 3
- Affiliate Associate Professors: 1
- Affiliate Professors: 2
- Assistant Professors: 6

Faculty Promotions

- Clinical Assistant Professors: 13
- Clinical Associate Professors: 10
- Clinical Professors: 1
- Associate Professors: 3
- Professors: 1

Academic Gowns

- Dr. James Johnston, Clinical Professor (Respiratory Medicine)
- Dr. Sean Keenan, Clinical Professor (Critical Care Medicine)

Emeriti

- Dr. Neil Cashman, Professor Emeritus (Neurology)
- Dr. Pearce Wilcox, Professor Emeritus (Respiratory Medicine)
- Dr. Stephanus Van Eeden, Professor Emeritus (Respiratory Medicine)
- Dr. Iain Mackie, Clinical Professor Emeritus (General Internal Medicine)

Retirements

- Dr. Hector Baillie (Community Internal Medicine)
- Dr. Doris Doudet (Neurology)
- Dr. Richard Harrigan (Infectious Diseases)
- Dr. Neora Pick (Infectious Diseases)
- Dr. Jeremy Road (Respiratory Medicine)

RESEARCH

Department of Medicine faculty secured \$70,909,329 in research funding for 1,003 projects in FY2022/3, and published 1,395 peer-reviewed papers.

The Research Office team for 2023 included Dr. Teresa Tsang, Dr. Anna Meredith, Diane Kim, Sharon Xu, and Yusuf Shodeko who joined the team in September 2023. Sophia Gu and Nicole Yeung joined the team as work-learn students in summer 2023.

The 2023 **Experimental Medicine Research Expo** was held on Friday June 2 at the Paetzold Health Education Centre at Vancouver General Hospital. This was the program's first complete in-person event since the pandemic, and was a huge success in bringing together faculty and students to remind us of the significance of personal interactions in academia and research. The exceptional presentations showcased the remarkable talent and dedication that our students bring to the program. We thoroughly enjoyed the engaging panel discussion and greatly appreciate the insights of our 4 invited panelists, Drs. Chisholm, Griffith, Heinze and Singh. And last, but not least, we are extremely grateful to our fantastic faculty speakers, Drs. Robillard, Görges, Conway and Krebs, who generously shared their research, experience, and time with us at Expo this year. Over 120 students, staff and faculty attended Expo, and 4 trainee oral and 44 trainee poster presentations were featured. Awards were presented to Jamie Kwon (Top Oral Presentation), Iryna Kayla (Honorable Mention Oral Presentation), Liam Mullins (Best Poster - Biomedical), Jialin Han (Best Poster - Clinical), Nance Cunningham (Best Poster - Health Systems), Kelvin Wu (Best Poster - Public and Population Health).

In 2023 the Research Office was successful in securing funding to support the Data Science and Health Research Excellence Cluster further develop its strategic projects in data literacy and health data analytics:

- Grants Catalyzing Research Clusters 2023: Established Cluster funding for Data Science and Health Cluster (2023-2025).
- Ministry of Post-secondary and Future Skills: Microcredential funding for development of the Health Data Analytics microcredential program (launching January 23, 2024).
- CIHR Cafe Scientifique to explore public opinion about using public health data to develop and deploy Artificial Intelligence, this public event will be held on April 25, 2024.
- 2023 Seminar Series Fund for the Joint Clinical-Analytic Rounds Series

(launched November 25, 2023).

- DASH-DSI-PHSA Data Science training agreement to develop and deliver targeted educational programming tailored to the needs of BC health authorities.

DASH and the Research office developed seminars and workshops addressing key aspects of health data science:

- **AI Meets Ethics** seminar series commenced this year and featured 4 speakers so far to explore ethical considerations of AI development and deployment for health care applications (April - Dr. Charlene Ronquillo, September - Dr. Madeline Ransom, October - Dr. Wendy Wong). The series will continue in February 2024.
- **DASH Joint Clinical-Analytics Rounds** was launched in partnership with the UBC Department of Pathology in November 2023. This series aims to create a place for new dialogues and collaboration between the clinical and analytic communities, where clinical experts bring relevant research questions and data, and analytic experts provide ways to derive innovative solutions. The inaugural session featured DASH colleagues from T-CAIREM, Drs. Muhammad Mamdani and Amol Verma share Toronto's experience implementing data analytics and machine learning algorithms in the clinical setting.
- **Data Science and Health 2023 - AI in Medicine: Rise of the Machines** (November 14, 2023) DASH annual conference was hosted in partnership with the UBC Vision Cluster and dove into the fundamental questions of AI in medicine as well as the state-of-the-art applications of AI in medical research. The event featured world-leading guest speakers and cluster members to unpack the ethical, legal, and existential implications of AI, and how it can be leveraged to open new horizons in AI-human interactions.
- **All About Privacy** was a special workshop featuring BC's regional health authorities to explore each of their research privacy review processes and processes for to access their health data. Featuring in-depth discussions around the current privacy review systems across jurisdictions, common misunderstandings, plans for future improvement, as well as an open Q&A session. Over 200 attendees participated demonstrating the importance of this topic.

DASH expanded its communications activities to highlight the work of our faculty and cluster members by developing a new DASH Spotlight Series and Interview Series featuring DASH trainees.

Conferences and sponsorships:

- DASH participated in the 2023 T-CAIREM AI in Medicine conference and The Data Effect Vancouver - Our Health Data Opportunity Conference.
- DASH sponsored the 2023 MICCAI (International Conference on Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention). The 26th International Conference on Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention, MICCAI 2023, was held from October 8th to 12nd 2023 in Vancouver Convention Centre Canada. MICCAI attracts the world's leading biomedical scientists, engineers, and clinicians from a wide range of disciplines associated with medical imaging and computer assisted intervention.

Education and data literacy were key areas on focus in 2023:

- **MEDI504A/B**, developed by the Department of Medicine and DASH was delivered in the 2022-3 and 2023-4 academic years, providing training in machine learning approaches for health research.
- Development of the new **Health Data Analytics Microcredential** began in the Spring of 2023, with a course launch date of January 23, 2024. The UBC Micro-certificate in Health Data Analytics: Opportunities and Applications is a new program developed by the UBC DASH Cluster and the Data Science Institute for health care professionals and researchers in the health sector with exposure to health data, either clinical or operational. Designed by industry and academic experts, the micro-certificate consists of three four-week online courses, combining self-paced independent study with weekly live online sessions.
- DASH supported the rollout of the **T-CAIREM Health Data Nexus** for UBC faculty, staff and students. This platform is a repository of freely-available medical research data, managed by the Temerty Centre for AI Research and Education in Medicine. This safe, scalable and secure data environment provides a foundation for innovative AI applications of the future.

DASH continued to expand its partnerships in 2023, beginning collaborative projects with Popdata BC to improve researcher access to health data in BC, and with Genome BC and the Health Data Platform BC to explore new ways of linking multidimensional data sets to support AI. Our team has also developed a new partnership with the Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health to better understand the Department of Medicine's existing partnerships with Indigenous communities in BC, and develop new ways to better support this work. The DASH team was involved in the Health Research BC ESHORI

Advisory Committee and the BC Ministry of Health RAPP (Research Approvals Processes Project) initiative, as well as participating as a member of the T-CAIREM Education Committee, UBC-PHSA Health Data Science Working Group, and the T-CAIREM Collaborative Catalyst Grant (with the University of Toronto and University of Manitoba).

AWARDS & SIGNIFICANT HONOURS

UBC DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE FACULTY AWARDS

Fay R. Dirks Award for Excellence in Teaching

SPH: Dr. Anthony Gador (General Internal Medicine)

VGH: Dr. Katie Wiskar (General Internal Medicine)

Master Teacher Award

SPH: Dr. Nadia Khan (General Internal Medicine)

VGH: Dr. Luke Chen (Hematology)

Donald M. Whitelaw Award for Outstanding Grand Rounds Presentation

SPH: Dr. Adeera Levin (Nephrology), *"Of Kidneys, Care, and COVID-19: 2022 and Beyond"*

VGH: Dr. Thalia Field (Neurology), *"Mechanisms of brain injury in congenital heart disease - what we know, what we need to learn, and implications for care in acquired cardiovascular disease"*

Martin M. Hoffman Award for Excellence in Research

SPH: Dr. Stephanie Sellers (Cardiology)

VGH: Dr. Andrei Krassioukov (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

Graydon S. Meneilly Award for Excellence in Mentoring

Dr. Teresa Tsang (Cardiology)

Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching

Dr. Sarah Broder (Community Internal Medicine)

Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety

Dr. David Forrest (Critical Care Medicine)

PHC DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE FACULTY AWARDS

Graeme Copland Clinician Teacher Award

Dr. Matthew Brooks (Community Internal Medicine)

Howard B. Stein Master Teacher Award

Dr. Myriam Farah (Nephrology)

St. Paul's Hospital Faculty Research Award

Dr. Zachary Laksman (Cardiology)

UBC DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE STAFF AWARDS

Staff Award of Excellence - CUPE2950

Ana Palomino (Critical Care Medicine)

Staff Award of Excellence - M&P

Marilyn Robertson (Cardiology)

Mayesha Khan (General Internal Medicine)

Staff Award of Excellence - Non-Union/Technical

Feng Zhu (Neurology)

Staff Award for Early Career Excellence

Diane Kim (Department of Medicine Research Office)

Staff Award for Career Excellence

Agnes Kwok (Neurology)

Staff Award for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advancement

Anna Carson (Social Medicine)

UBC FACULTY OF MEDICINE AWARDS

FOM Distinguished Achievement Award for Overall Excellence Mid Career

Dr. Thalia Field (Neurology)

PGME Program Administrator Award

Andrea Toker (General Internal Medicine)

UBC CSCI / CIHR Resident Research Manuscript Prize

Dr. Andrea Jones (Neurology)

UBC Killam Teaching Prize

Dr. Silke Appel-Cresswell (Neurology)

VFMP Roche Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching

Dr. Stephanie Ensworth (Rheumatology)

EXTERNAL AWARDS

Canadian Association for Medical Education (CAME) Certificate of Merit

Dr. Harpinder Nagi (General Internal Medicine)

Canadian Association for Medical Education (CAME) Early Career Medical Educators (ECME) Mentor Award

Dr. Kevin Eva (General Internal Medicine)

Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS) Dr. Harold N Segall Award of Merit

Dr. Jacqueline Saw (Cardiology)

Canadian Critical Care Society Frank S Rutledge Award for Excellence in Critical Care Teaching

Dr. Adam Peets (Critical Care Medicine)

Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF)

Dr. Teresa Tsang (Cardiology)

Canadian Medical Association (CMA) Award for Young Leaders (Resident)

Dr. Miles Marchand (Cardiology)

CIHR Spring 2023 Project Grant Competition (Full Project Grant)

Dr. Brittany Bingham (Social Medicine)

Dr. Emily Brigham (Respiratory Medicine)

Dr. Jonathan Loree (Medical Oncology)

Dr. Theodore Steiner (Infectious Diseases)

Dr. Karen Tran (General Internal Medicine)

Dr. Yu Tian Wang (Neurology)

CIHR Spring 2023 Project Grant Competition (Priority Announcement)

Dr. Fawziah Lalji (Infectious Diseases)
Dr. Janice Leung (Respiratory Medicine)

CIHR-ICRH / CCS Mid-Career Lecturer Award in Cardiovascular Sciences

Dr. Jason Andrade (Cardiology)

CIHR-IPPH Trailblazer Award (Senior Career Researcher)

Dr. Julio Montaner (Infectious Diseases)

Canadian Society of Echocardiography Annual Achievement Award

Dr. Teresa Tsang (Cardiology)

Health Innovation Investment Funding (HIFI) Awards

Dr. Najib Ayas (Critical Care Medicine / Respiratory Medicine)
Dr. Scott Tebbutt (Respiratory Medicine)

Michael Smith Health Research BC (MSHRBC) C2 Program Award

Dr. Rachel Carter (Palliative Care)
Dr. Gil Kimel (Palliative Care)

Michael Smith Health Research BC (MSHRBC) Reach Awards

Dr. Eman Hassan (Palliative Care)
Dr. Agnes Lee (Hematology)
Dr. AJ Lowik (Social Medicine)
Dr. Mypinder Sekhon (Critical Care Medicine)
Dr. Kate Shannon (Social Medicine)
Dr. Sonny Thiara (Critical Care Medicine)

Michael Smith Health Research BC (MSHRBC) Scholar Award

Dr. Neal Shahidi (Gastroenterology)

NSERC Discovery Research Program Grant

Dr. Ilker Hacihaliloglu (Neurology)
Dr. Julie Robillard (Neurology)

Order of Canada

Dr. Allen Eaves (Hematology)
Dr. John Fleetham (Respiratory Medicine)
Dr. Keith Walley (Critical Care Medicine)

Royal Society of Canada Fellow

Dr. Kathleen Martin Ginis (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

Stem Cell Network Impact Award

Dr. Zachary Laksman (Cardiology)

Terry Fox Research Institute New Frontiers Program Project Grant

Dr. Stephen Lam (Respiratory Medicine)

VCHRI Innovation and Translational Research Award

Dr. William Connors (Infectious Diseases)

VCHRI Investigator Award

Dr. Nathaniel Moulson (Cardiology)
Dr. Lily Zhou (Neurology)

VCHRI Team Grant Award

Dr. Sarvee Moosavi (Gastroenterology)
Dr. Jacqueline Purtzki (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

Vancouver Medical, Dental and Allied Staff (VMDAS) Larry Collins Award for Committee Service

Dr. Nadia Zalunardo (Nephrology)

Vancouver Medical, Dental and Allied Staff (VMDAS) Scientific Achievement Award

Dr. Jason Andrade (Cardiology)

Vancouver Medical, Dental and Allied Staff (VMDAS) Special Service Award

Dr. Jan Hajek (Infectious Diseases)

Vancouver Medical, Dental and Allied Staff (VMDAS) VGH Medical Staff Hall of Honour

Dr. John Marcus FitzGerald 1955-2022 (Respiratory Medicine)
Dr. Jerilynn Prior (Endocrinology & Metabolism)