



# DREAM

Diabetes Research Envisioned and Accomplished in Manitoba

## Trainees

# Newsletter

## Successful 1st DREAM Trainees Lectureship



Dr. Dale Abel (centre) with DREAM Trainees during trainees session.

1

The DREAM Trainees would like to thank everyone for attending the 1<sup>st</sup> annual DREAM Trainees Lectureship.

Trainees, faculty and researchers from DREAM, CHRIM and the University of Manitoba community enjoyed Dr. E. Dale Abel's lecture on "Mitochondrial Dynamics and Cardiometabolic Disease".

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- DREAM Trainee Lectureship **1**
- 7th DREAM Diabetes Research Symposium **2**
- DREAM Symposium Trainee Day **3**
- Orange Shirt Day Walk **4**
- In The Spotlight **5**
- Trainee News: Vanier Scholar (Taylor Morriveau) **6**

Thank you DREAM and CHRIM who provided funding and support for this lectureship, in addition to our other student initiatives. Please stay tuned for upcoming events, including Trainee Day on Wednesday November 7<sup>th</sup> (as part of the 7<sup>th</sup> annual DREAM Diabetes Research Symposium).

The DREAM Trainees Lectureship aims to connect diabetes researchers from around the world with the DREAM team, CHRIM, and the University of Manitoba. Exemplifying scientific innovation, a track record of scientific excellence, and an investment in trainee career development are the criteria used by student researchers to select the DREAM Trainees Lecturer.

If you have suggestions for next year’s guest lecturer please contact Matthew Martens at [marten22@myumanitoba.ca](mailto:marten22@myumanitoba.ca).



DREAM Trainee Chair, Stephanie Kereliuk, welcoming Dr. Abel in the 1st DREAM Trainee Lectureship.



Full house of trainees, faculty and researchers from DREAM, CHRIM and University of Manitoba attending Dr. Dale Abel’s talk.



2

## Upcoming event

# DREAM

Diabetes Research Envisioned and Accomplished in Manitoba

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Diabetes Research Symposium

**November 7-8, 2018**

University of Manitoba  
Basic Medical Sciences Building  
745 Bannatyne Avenue

**Dr. Louise Maple-Brown**, *Charles Darwin University, Australia*

**Dr. Jill Hamilton**, *Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto*

**Dr. Elaine Urbina**, *Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Ohio*

**Dr. Tim Kieffer**, *University of British Columbia, Vancouver*

**Dr. Joseph Bass**, *Northwestern University, Chicago*

### Now Accepting Abstracts!

**Abstract Deadline: September 21<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Submit abstract to [dream@umanitoba.ca](mailto:dream@umanitoba.ca)

**Registration is FREE!** [Click here](#)

Visit [www.dreamdiabetesresearch.com](http://www.dreamdiabetesresearch.com) to register  
and view the preliminary program

**Registration deadline: October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Thank you to our sponsors:





3

# Upcoming event



Register For this Event At:  
<https://bit.ly/2oYmRix>

## DREAM Symposium Trainee Day

As part of the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual DREAM Diabetes Research Symposium November 7-8<sup>th</sup>

Location: Frederic Gaspard Theatre and the Joe Doupe Concourse

### Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> Schedule

9:45-11:30am

#### *Transferable Skills – Interactive Workshop*

Dr.'s Jennifer Polk & Maren Wood,  
Beyond the Professoriate

*“Learn to talk about what you do  
instead of what you know”*

2:00pm-3:00pm

#### *Developing Your CV*

Dr. Satchin Katyal, Assistant Professor,  
Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics

3:00pm-3:30pm

#### *Networking Coffee Break*

3:30pm-4:30pm

#### *Turning Your CV into a Resume for Non-Academic Careers*

Kate Yee, Career Consultant, Career Services

4:30pm-5:00pm

#### *Writing a Strong Cover Letter*

Dr. Afshin Raouf, Associate Professor,  
Department of Immunology



Supported By:



UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Rady Faculty of Health Sciences



DEVOTION

Developmental Origins of Chronic Diseases in Children Network



4

## Upcoming event

# ORANGE SHIRT DAY WALK

HOSTED BY THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF MANITOBA



### ABOUT THE EVENT

Join us for a walk around the Bannatyne Campus, in support of the children who survived residential schools and to remember those who did not. Orange Shirt Day recognizes our commitment to reconciliation, anti-racism and anti-bullying, because **every child matters**.

## SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

**Meet in the Brodie Atrium at 12:00.**

The walk will begin at **12:15**.

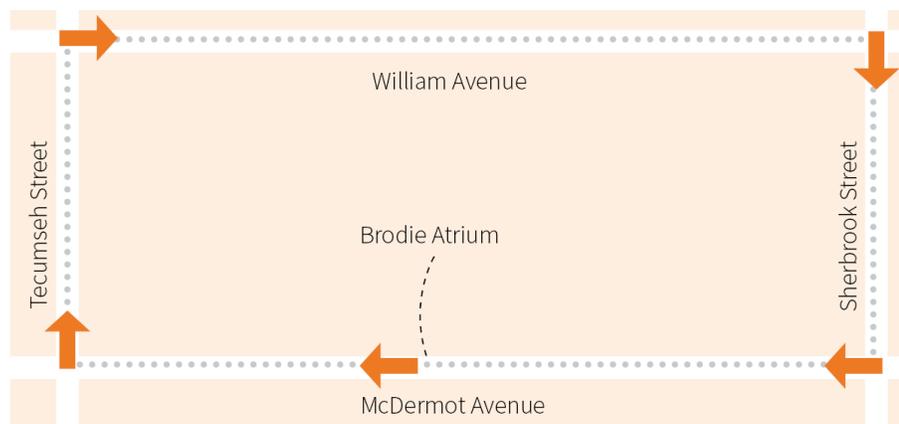
### SHIRTS PROVIDED

CHRIM will supply orange shirts on a first come, first serve basis. Shirts will be available for pick up two days before the walk (September 26-27).



### WALK ROUTE

The walk will be a 20 minute loop around the Bannatyne Campus, starting and ending at the Brodie entrance on McDermot Avenue.

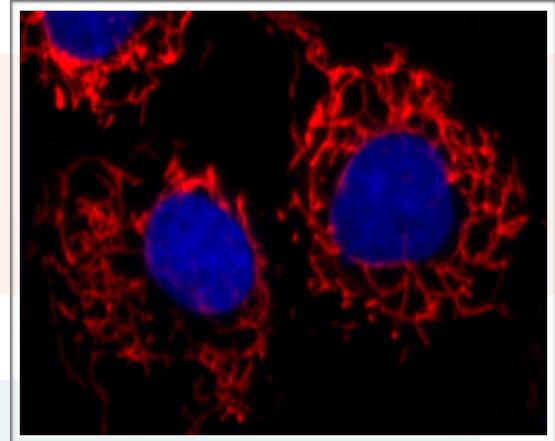


5

# In the Spotlight

## Gordon Lab

Congratulations to trainees from Dr. Gordon's Lab who recently had their paper on *molecular mechanism of Bnip3 regulation of calcium homeostasis during hypoxia* accepted for publication at CDD.



### Paper Publication

Jared Field & Matthew Martens, Wajihah Mughal, Yan Hai, Donald Chapman, Grant Hatch, Tammy Ivanco, William Diehl-Jones, Joseph Gordon (2018). **Misoprostol regulates Bnip3 repression and alternative splicing to control cellular calcium homeostasis during hypoxic stress.** *Cell Death Discovery (In Press)*. Accepted: August, 2018

## Nivedita Seshadri

Congratulations to Nivedita Seshadri, DREAM Trainee, for publishing her masters work from India and for receiving Research Manitoba Scholarship (\$17.850) & Endocrinology and Metabolic disease Travel Award (\$750).



### Paper Publication

Nivedita Seshadri, Sumit Sandhu, Wenjun Liu, Xiaoli Wu and Hao Ding. **Generation of an Rtel1-CreERT2 knock-in mouse model for lineage tracing RTEL1+ stem cells during development.** *Transgenic Research*, 8 September 2018. [Click here](#).



# In the Spotlight



## Laura Cole

Congratulations to Laura Cole, Post Doctoral Fellow at DREAM for her recent publication at BBA and for been invited to give a talk at the Barth Syndrome Conference held in Clearwater Florida, July 2018.



Talk title: "Altered islet function may promote a lean phenotype in tafazzin deficient mice"



## Paper Publication

Laura Cole, Jin Hee Kim, Andrew A. Amoscato, Yulia Tyurina, Hulya Bayr, Benjamin Karimi, Tabrez Siddiqui, Valerian Kagan, Grant Hatch, Tiina Kauppinen. **Aberrant cardiolipin metabolism is associated with cognitive deficiency and hippocampal alteration in tafazzin knockdown mice.** *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta (BBA) - Molecular Basis of Disease*. July 2018. [Click here.](#)



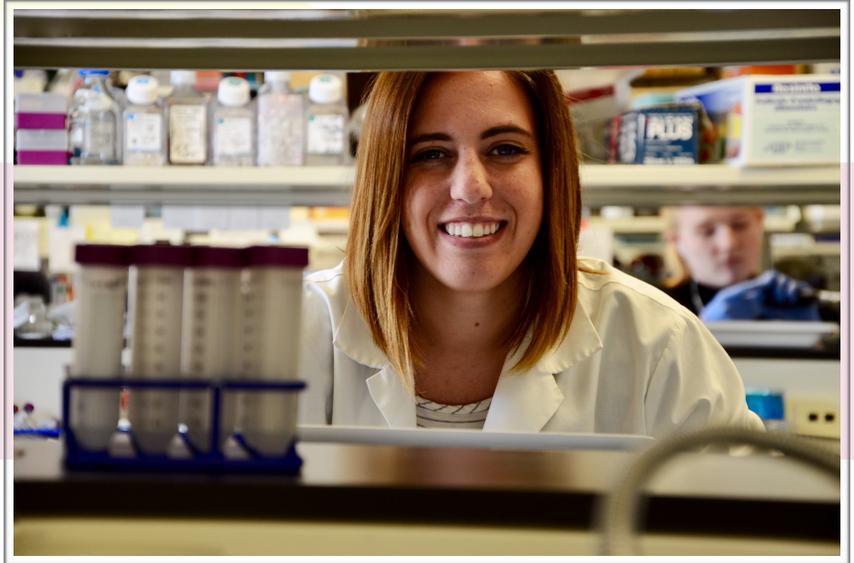
# In the Spotlight

6



Bourses d'études  
supérieures du Canada  
**Vanier**  
Canada Graduate  
Scholarships

## Taylor Morriseau Vanier Scholar



**Congratulations,  
Taylor!**

DREAM and CHRIM are very proud of Taylor Morriseau for recently being named recipient of the 2018 CIHR Vanier Scholarship. Taylor is a DREAM Trainee and a PhD student in pharmacology and therapeutics co-supervised by Drs Dolinsky and Doucette. Her project focuses on investigating how traditional Oji-Cree diet could play a role in the onset of diabetes.

*“Food security is a huge issue in northern communities and I’m hopeful to use this research to support community-led efforts to access culturally-safe, nutritional food,” Morriseau says. “I’m currently looking at how this genetic variant effects the onset of diabetes and as I now hold the Vanier, I want to look at how diet can be the influencer and can protect someone from developing type 2 diabetes. My hope is to move into how traditional diets can attenuate the risk.” (UMToday story, Taylor Morriseau). [Click here](#) for the full interview.*

**Check out next page for tips and tricks from Taylor on how to submit a successful application to Vanier Scholarship!**

# Applying to the Vanier Scholarship?

Trainee Tips by Taylor Morriseau, PhD Student and 2018 Vanier Scholar (Co-supervised by Drs. Christine Doucette and Vern Dolinsky)

My name is Taylor and I am very fortunate to be a recipient of a 2018 CIHR Vanier Scholarship. I've been asked to share my experiences in hopes of making someone else's application a little easier. Please note that these opinions are based on my own experiences and/or tips that were shared with me along the way. Best of luck!

## 1. What is the Vanier CGS program?

The Vanier CGS is a federal scholarship for PhD studies supported by one of three major granting agencies (CIHR, NSERC, or SSHRC). The scholarship is open to all Canadians, permanent residents, and international students. Valued at \$150,000 over three years, the Vanier considers three **equally-weighted** selection criteria: academic excellence, research potential, and leadership. Note that the Vanier hopes to recruit students to Canada, meaning international students are not only eligible to apply, they are encouraged. In 10 years, 26 UofM students have received the scholarship.

## 2. What in an “ideal” Vanier candidate?

An application should ideally rank high in all three categories listed below. However, the scores from each category are averaged to generate a final overall score. Even if you feel confident in two of three categories, this evaluation method will ensure your strengths shine through.

A. Academic Excellence: Assessed by academic results (transcripts) and awards/distinctions (CCV). The applicant likely has a history of high grades or a story to explain how their grades have improved over time.

B. Research Potential: Assessed by the proposed research, research contributions, history of awards (CCV), and the training environment. It is my understanding that a lot of publications are **not** needed (for example, I had one co-authored review at the time).

C. Leadership: Assessed by your leadership description, the two leadership reference letters, and the CCV (showing past/current leadership roles).

# Applying to the Vanier Scholarship?

Trainee Tips by Taylor Morriseau, PhD Student and 2018 Vanier Scholar (Co-supervised by Drs. Christine Doucette and Vern Dolinsky)

Note that leadership over time, rather than leading a single event, is considered a stronger story.

### 3. What have I learned from applying to the Vanier?

In the words of the author Thomas King, “the truth about stories is, that’s all we are.” The Vanier provides a unique and unfettered opportunity to tell your story. Remember, there is equal emphasis on your leadership potential as on your research ability. For myself, drafting that leadership story did **not** begin a few weeks prior to the deadline. In fact, the exercise of soul searching takes time (a lot of time).

This is a fantastic, albeit sometimes dismal and open-ended, opportunity to reflect on *why* you chose to dedicate an indeterminate length of your young adulthood pursuing higher education. E.g. Why did you decide to email that supervisor? Why did you volunteer at a particular organization? How have experiential learning experiences shaped

your research perspective?

### 4. Free advice for the leadership statement (use at your own caution).

I often hear that students despise writing about themselves. I am no exception. To bypass that nagging, modest conscience, the best practice I have found is to first define a single narrative that connects each item on your CCV.

Is there a personal motivation that ties together your previous studies, volunteering engagements, research interests, and so on? When/if you can define that narrative, perhaps jot down an experience that truly exemplifies that connection. For myself, my seemingly inconspicuous story formed the first half-page of my two-page statement.

From there, begin to weave in your various volunteer/sport/art/research/academic engagements to demonstrate a continued dedication to that passion. In this way, you are not simply listing those experiences.

Remember that volunteerism and

# Applying to the Vanier Scholarship?

Trainee Tips by Taylor Morriveau, PhD Student and 2018 Vanier Scholar (Co-supervised by Drs. Christine Doucette and Vern Dolinsky)

work are not leadership roles *per se*. Instead, use this space to elaborate on how those opportunities have effected positive change and/or provide context to how those contributions went beyond expectations. Finally, I prefer to make it personal. A heartfelt and well-articulated story is far more memorable than a listing of your past achievements.

#### 4. Application tips:

1. The CCV takes longer than you think.
2. Do not wait until the due date to submit your application (speaking from experience, there can be system maintenance/technical problems at the time of submission)
3. Choose your leadership referees carefully. Remember that your application must demonstrate a commitment to leadership above and beyond research. your referees should reflect that. For example, I selected two past mentors who were very much involved in my extracurricular activities over several years.

4. As a CIHR applicant, do not be afraid to incorporate social science/humanities research into your proposal (if appropriate and if possible). I believe demonstrating your breadth of knowledge on your topic is a strength. Perhaps you will also find critical literature that challenges your current concept. Use this as an opportunity to discuss how your research will incorporate those perspectives (again, only if possible).

**Closing notes:** Regardless whether you are a successful recipient of the Vanier scholarship, I truly believe the application process is a beneficial exercise in shaping your short- and long-term academic/career goals. One year since applying, I still find it useful to return to my application as a source of motivation or to keep my research goals on-track. Remember that the Vanier, let alone any scholarship, does not define your success or self-worth. Pursue the research you're passionate about, and good things will follow.

## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE & NEWSLETTER EDITOR - CONTACT

### Simone da Silva Rosa, PhD student

Human Anatomy and Cell Science Dep.  
Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba  
John Buhler Research Centre #641  
715 McDermot Avenue, R3E 3P4  
Winnipeg, MB - Canada  
Phone: +1 (204) 480-1343  
PI: Dr. Joe Gordon  
Social Media: [LinkedIn](#), [Research Gate](#) & [Twitter](#)  
e-mail: [dreamtrainees@chrим.ca](mailto:dreamtrainees@chrим.ca)



*If you would like to share anything in the next issue of this Newsletter, please don't hesitate to email me at [dreamtrainees@chrим.ca](mailto:dreamtrainees@chrим.ca)*

## DREAM Trainee Executive Committee

- \* Co-Chairs: [Stephanie Kereliuk](#) & [Wajihah Mughal](#)
- \* Journal Club Coordinator: [Brittany Moyce](#)
- \* Student Representative & Newsletter Editor: [Simone da Silva Rosa](#)
- \* Trainee Development Coordinator: [Matthew Martens](#)
- \* Cultural Coordinator: [Taylor Morriseau](#)
- \* General Support: [Nivedita Seshadri](#)



Connect with us on Twitter [@DREAM\\_trainees](#) & [#DREAMwpg](#)

