

MNN Annual Report

2019





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Leadership



Executives



President

Chris Anderson, PhD
Director – Neuroscience Research Program
SR452 Kleysen Bldg.
T 204.318.2565
chris.anderson@umanitoba.ca

Treasurer

Paul Fernyhough, PhD
Dept Pharmacology & DND
R4046 SBRC
T 204.235.3692 F 204.237.4092
pfernyhough@sbrc.ca



Leadership



Councillors

Brent Fedirchuk, PhD
Dept of Physiology
410 BMSB
T 204.789.3762
brent@scrc.umanitoba.ca

Tammy Ivanco, PhD
Dept of Psychology
P430 Duff Roblin Bldg
T 204.474.7375
tammy.ivanco@umanitoba.ca

Leadership



Networking




Director

Chris Anderson, PhD
Neuroscience Research Program
SR452 Kleysen Bldg.
T 204.318.2565
chris.anderson@umanitoba.ca

Seminar Series Chair

Tabrez Siddiqui, PhD
Dept. of Physiology & Pathophysiology
Neuroscience Research Program
SR452 Kleysen Bldg.
T 204.318.2564



Leadership



Outreach

Outreach

Sari Hannila, PhD
Dept. of Human Anatomy Cell Science
128 Basic Med Sciences Bldg.
T 204.789.3843
sari.hannila@umanitoba.ca

Social Media

Crystal Acosta, PhD
Neuroscience Research Program
SR4 KIAM
T 204.318.2569
info@manitobaneuroscience.ca

Information Services

Gilles Detillieux
SCRC Systems Analyst
Physiology, 416 BMSB
T 204.789.3576
gilles@scrc.umanitoba.ca

Leadership



Administration

Coordinator (Membership & Operations)

Kelly Jorundson

Division of Neurodegenerative Disorders

R4046 SBRC T 204.235.3939

info@manitobaneuroscience.ca

Chapter Governance

Sharon McCartney

Physiology, 409 BMCB

T 204.789.3770

sharon@scrc.umanitoba.ca

Information Services

Gilles Detillieux

SCRC Systems Analyst


Physiology, 416 BMSB

T 204.789.3576

gilles@scrc.umanitoba.ca



Annual Meeting




The 2019 MNN Scientific Meeting was held on June 7, 2019 at the University of Winnipeg. The meeting was co-Chaired by Drs. Renee Douville and Domenico Di Curzio. The scientific theme of this meeting was: Neuropathology.

The program featured two keynote speakers:

Dr. Daniel Goldowitz from the University of British Columbia, who is an internationally recognized Canadian Research Council Chair in Developmental Neurogenetics.

Dr. Janice Robertson from the University of Toronto, a leading expert in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) neuropathology and therapeutic development.

Trainees participated in a poster session/competition, which was followed by a networking mixer and neuroscience art silent auction fundraiser at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.



Annual Meeting



Program

Friday, June 7, 2019

8:30 **Registration Desk Open**

9:00 **Opening Remarks**

**Dr. Domenico Di Curzio & Dr. Renée
Douville**

Co-chairs - 2019 MNN Scientific Meeting
Departments of Psychology and Biology,
University of Winnipeg

SESSION 1: GENETICS OF NEURODEVELOPMENT

KEYNOTE

9:10 *Big data in service of better research and
care: Tales from the bench*

Dr. Daniel Goldowitz

Professor – Department of Medical
Genetics, University of British Columbia
Member of Centre for Molecular Medicine
and Therapeutics and BC Children's
Hospital Research Institute

Annual Meeting



Program

10:00 *Genetics and Intellectual Disabilities*

SP-1 **Dr. Albert Chudley**
Professor Emeritus, Rady Faculty of
Health Sciences, Max Rady College of
Medicine, University of Manitoba

9:25 *Candrive: a longitudinal, multi-disciplinary
project assessing medical fitness to drive in
older adult*

10:30 **Refreshment & exercise break**

SESSION 2: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES ON NEUROPATHOLOGY

10:45 *Neuropathology, Surgery, and the Discovery
of Intracerebral Vascular Nerves*

SP-2 **Dr. Delia Gavrus**
Associate Professor and Chancellor's
Research Chair
History Department, University of Winnipeg

Annual Meeting



Program

KEYNOTE

11:10 *Neuropathology of Parkinsonism: a clinician's perspective*

Dr. Alex Rajput

Director, Saskatchewan Movement Disorders Program
Division of Neurology, Department of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan

SESSION 2 BREAKOUT: EMOTIONAL & COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE

10:45 *Neuroimaging Investigations of the Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response (ASMR)*

SP-3

Dr. Stephen Smith

Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Winnipeg
Adjunct Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Manitoba

Annual Meeting



Program

11:10 *Exploring the potential of Sharing Dance for people living with dementia and carers*

SP-4 **Dr. Rachel Herron**
Associate Professor, Department of
Geography and Environment, Brandon
University

11:35 *Learning to Read Changes the Dynamics of Spoken Language Processing*

SP-5 **Dr. Amy Desroches**
Associate Professor, Department of
Psychology, University of Winnipeg

12:00 **Taco bar lunch**

1:00 **Welcome address**

Dr. Annette Trimbee
President, University of Winnipeg

Annual Meeting



Program

SESSION 3: NEURO-ONCOLOGY

1:10 *Dissecting cellular heterogeneity in search of new therapeutic targets for medulloblastoma*

SP-6 **Dr. Tamra Werbowetski-Ogilvie**
Associate Professor, Regenerative Medicine
Program, University of Manitoba
Departments of Biochemistry & Medical
Genetics / Physiology & Pathophysiology
Canada Research Chair in Neuro-oncology
and Human Stem Cells

1:35 *Proteomics of adult brain tumors for the discovery of novel biomarkers and treatments*

SP-7 **Dr. Thomas Klonisch**
Department Head, Department of Human
Anatomy and Cell Science
Max Rady College of Medicine, University of
Manitoba

Annual Meeting



Program

2:00 *Brain metastasis – a fatal complication*

SP-8 **Dr. Sabine Hombach-Klonisch**
Associate Professor and Section Head Gross
Anatomy
Department of Human Anatomy and Cell
Science, University of Manitoba

2:25 **Poster session, refreshments & exercise
break**

SESSION 4: FOCUS ON ALS

3:45 *Raltegravir effectively reverses ERVK
integrase-mediated pathology*

SP-9 **Dr. Domenico Di Curzio**
Postdoctoral Fellow, Douville Lab, Department
of Biology, University of Winnipeg
Lecturer/Instructor, Department of
Psychology, University of Winnipeg

Annual Meeting



Program

KEYNOTE

4:05 *Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Frontotemporal Dementia: a Disease Spectrum*

Dr. Janice Robertson

The James Hunter Family Chair in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Research
Professor, Tanz Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases
Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology, University of Toronto

4:50 **Closing remarks**

Dr. Domenico Di Curzio & Dr. Renée Douville
Co-chairs - 2019 MNN Scientific Meeting

WAG EVENT

5:00–7:00 **Winnipeg Art Gallery networking mixer & neuroscience art silent auction**

Seminar & Visiting Speaker Series

Dr. Keith Murai

January 14, 2019

Director for the Centre for Research in Neuroscience
Professor, Neurology & Neurosurgery, Faculty and
Department of Medicine
Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre

Astrocyte diversity and brain circuit microenvironments

Dr. Saeid Ghavami

January 25, 2019

Assistant Professor
Human Anatomy & Cell Science
Rady Faculty of Health Sciences

Glioblastoma and Cholesterol Metabolism Pathway

Seminar & Visiting Speaker Series

Dr. Spencer Gibson

March 29, 2019

Professor, Department of Immunology & Biochemistry and Medical Genetics

Director, Manitoba Institute of Cell Biology

Senior Scientist, Research Institute in Oncology and Hematology

Director, Translational Research

University of Manitoba

Understanding the regulation of cell death in glioblastoma. Context Matters?

Dr. David Amaral

May 6, 2019

Professor, Faculty of Medicine

McGill University

Recent Advances in our Understanding of the Causes and Effects of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Seminar & Visiting Speaker Series

Dr. Tamra Ogilvie

May 31, 2019

Canada Research Chair in Neuro-oncology and Human Stem Cells

Associate Professor, Regenerative Medicine Program
Biochemistry & Medical Genetics and Physiology & Pathophysiology

Max Rady College of Medicine
Rady Faculty of Health Sciences
University of Manitoba

Novel gene networks regulating self-renewal and differentiation in medulloblastoma

Dr. Tiina Kauppinen

September 27, 2019

Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology & Therapeutics, University of Manitoba
Principal Investigator, Kleysen Institute for Advanced Medicine

Microglial modulation rescues cognitive impairment caused by fetal exposure to gestational diabetes

Seminar & Visiting Speaker Series

Dr. Mandana Modirrousta **October 25, 2019**

Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Pathology & Pathophysiology, University of Manitoba
Principal Investigator, Department of Neurodegenerative Disorders, St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre

*Depression in 2020, a multidimensional approach?
Oxolipidomic profiles in major depressive disorder*

Dr. Alyson Fournier **November 13, 2019**

Professor
Faculty of Medicine
McGill University

Small molecule stabilization of protein Interactions to promote axon regeneration

Dr. Jun-Feng Wang **November 29, 2019**

Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology & Therapeutics, University of Manitoba | Principal Investigator, Kleysen Institute for Advanced Medicine

Contribution of thioredoxin-interacting protein to chronic stress-induced cellular damage

BAW Activities



Calendar

WINNIPEG BRAIN BEE

Saturday, March 9

Bannatyne campus, University of Manitoba

VISITING SPEAKER

Dr. Steven Conor

March 11, 2019

Assistant Professor, Department of Biology
York University

*Taming the wild synapse: MDGAs as negative regulators of
synapse development*

Outreach




BAW – Winnipeg Brain Bee

The 5th Annual Winnipeg Brain Bee was organized by Dr. Sari Hannila and had almost 30 high school participants this year.

Activities included:

- Neuroanatomy demonstration using preserved and fresh brain samples with Dr. Sari Hannila, Dr. Sabine Klonish-Hombach and students from Let's Talk Science – University of Manitoba
- MRI lecture from Dr. Melanie Martin
- Pizza lunch

The winners of the 2019 Brain Bee were:



1 st prize	Elayna Paddock Thiessen (Vincent Massey High School)
2 nd prize	Sarah Beel (UW Collegiate)
3 rd prize	Catherine Lin (Vincent Massey High School)

Financial Report



April – December 2019



Opening balance	\$7759.95
Total revenue	\$7514.26
Memberships	
Registrations	
Expenses	\$8810.96
Administration	
Meeting	
Outreach	
Visiting Speaker	

