



WELCOME

From the Chair's Desk

Dear MIMM members,

The Fall term of the Academic Year is one of my favorite times because of the excitement it generates: new students, new courses, new grants, etc.

This year, an additional source of excitement and inspiration is the upcoming Cyclical External Review for our Department, scheduled for the week of April 13-17, 2015. To prepare for this important exercise, we used our 2014 State of the Union Retreat to assess who we are as a department and where we want to be in the next 5 years. At the retreat, we refined the vision for our department and confirmed our commitment to be a research-intensive, student-centered department with a public purpose and accountable to the highest international standards of excellence.

In line with this vision, I would like to nurture our commitment to research excellence, a commitment driven by our enthusiasm for transformative discoveries. Yes, there are challenges ahead of us: funding, infrastructure, logistics, collaborations, etc. But there is one thing that we have plenty of: creativity. All around us, students and faculty, generate new ideas about the many current, global issues that relate to our work, from the Ebola epidemic to the increasing cost of inflammatory diseases. And generating lots of ideas is the first step to have good ideas!

With this in mind, let me ask you to explore these new ideas that will take us to the edge of knowledge and to generate new knowledge. My challenge to us all is to come out of our comfort zone to pursue that transformative ideas you have.

Yours in service,

Quim





RESEARCH

Publications

Gasmi N, P.E. Jacques, N. Klimova, X. Guo, A. Ricciardi, F. Robert F and **B. Turcotte (2014)** The switch from fermentation to respiration in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* is regulated by the Ert1 transcriptional activator/repressor. **Genetics** [Epub ahead of print Aug. 13]

Stojkovic, K., Wing, S.S., Cermakian, N. (2014) A central role for ubiquitination within a circadian clock protein modification code. *Frontiers in Molecular Neuroscience*, 7:69

Wen Wei Zhang, Gowthaman Ramasamy, Laura-Isobel McCall, Andrew Haydock, Shalindra Ranasinghe, Priyanka Abeygunasekara, Ganga Sirimanna, Renu Wickremasinghe, Peter Myler, Greg Matlashewski, Genetic Analysis of Leishmania donovani Tropism Using a Naturally Attenuated Cutaneous Strain, *PLOS Pathogens*, 2014, Vol. 10, 11 p.

[Recent advances in clinical parasitology diagnostics.](#) Yansouni CP, Merckx J, Libman MD, **Ndao M.** *Curr Infect Dis Rep.* 2014 Nov;16(11):434. doi: 10.1007/s11908-014-0434-9.

[Diagnosis of Parasitic Infections: What's Going On?](#) Ricciardi A, **Ndao M.** *J Biomol Screen.* 2014 Aug 28. pii: 1087057114548065. [Epub ahead of print] Review. PMID: 25170017

FACES OF EXCELLENCE

David Wu, Student

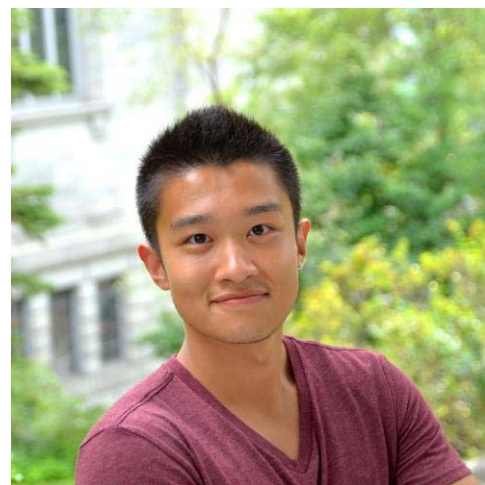
How long have you been with the Department?

I am a new member of the Department! Started working with Dr Madrenas' Team since September 2014.

What is your job description (short biography)?

Learn, experiment, discover and be creative!

Majoring in Cell Biology at McGill, I became interested in Immunology during a research internship at the University of Montreal working on a cytokine's intracellular trafficking mechanism. Currently, I am looking at how bacterial commensalism can affect that cytokine's production by APCs under Dr. Madrenas' supervision.



What do you look forward to when you come to work every day?

Learning from and interacting with an amazing team of researchers who are passionate, dedicated and willing to guide an undergraduate student!

