



Dear MIMM Community,

We have made it to March break! In addition to the break, there are several things to look forward to this month, including the official start of spring and the first in-person MIMM Gala in 2 years. The McGill24 day of fundraising is also coming up on March 9th, with two MIMM related initiatives to support: Our department will be raising money for MIMMternships in Infection and



Winter Reading Break

Reading week will be from Feb. 28 to March 4.

Publications

[Allameh, A., Hüttmann, N., Charlebois, E. et al. Hemojuvelin deficiency promotes liver mitochondrial dysfunction and predisposes mice to hepatocellular carcinoma. *Commun Biol* 5, 153 \(2022\). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s42003-022-03108-2>](#)

[Cannon T, Gruenheid S. Microbes and Parkinson's disease: from](#)

Immunity, to fund summer studentships for MIMM students (donate [here](#)). In addition, Mi4 has selected our SEA-PHAGES program to put forward for support (donate [here](#) and select *The Science Education Alliance- Phage Hunters*). When you give on McGill24, your donation is matched by the university, maximizing your impact.

There are a couple of updates with respect to our administrative staff. As promised, starting the week of March 7th, as long as public health conditions allow, there will be at least one staff member present in the MIMM Administrative office from 8am-4pm on weekdays. Drop by and say hi if you are in the vicinity. Additionally, it is with mixed emotions that I am announcing that the fabulous Carmen Paez will be leaving us to take up a new position in Human Resources in our very own AEC. As many of you are aware, Carmen has been a great addition to our department and has made outstanding contributions in her time with us. Carmen's last day in our department is March 11th, and we are already on the hunt for someone to fill the very big shoes she is leaving behind. Best of luck Carmen, and we look forward to working with you in your new position!

Hope to see you at the gala,

[associations to mechanisms. Trends Microbiol. 2022 Feb 7:S0966-842X\(22\)00004-X. doi: 10.1016/j.tim.2022.01.004. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35144890.](#)

[da Silva Lira Filho A, Fajardo EF, Chang KP, Clément P, Olivier M. *Leishmania* Exosomes/Extracellular Vesicles Containing GP63 Are Essential for Enhance Cutaneous Leishmaniasis Development Upon Co-Inoculation of *Leishmania amazonensis* and Its Exosomes. Front Cell Infect Microbiol. 2022 Feb 3;11:709258. doi: 10.3389/fcimb.2021.709258. PMID: 35186777; PMCID: PMC8851419.](#)

[Lypaczewski P, Thakur L, Jain A, Kumari S, Paulini K, Matlashewski G, Jain M. An intraspecies *Leishmania donovani* hybrid from the Indian subcontinent is associated with an atypical phenotype of cutaneous disease. iScience. 2022 Jan 22;25\(2\):103802. doi: 10.1016/j.isci.2022.103802. PMID: 35198868; PMCID: PMC8841885.](#)

[Ramos H, Monette A, Niu M, Barrera A, López-Ulloa B, Fuentes Y, Guizar P, Pino K, DesGroseillers L, Moulard AJ, López-Lastra M. The double-stranded RNA-binding protein, Staufen1, is an IRES-transacting factor regulating HIV-1 cap-independent translation initiation. Nucleic Acids Res. 2022 Jan 11;50\(1\):411-429. doi: 10.1093/nar/gkab1188. Erratum in: Nucleic Acids Res. 2021 Dec 15;: PMID: 34893869; PMCID: PMC8754648.](#)

Infection & Immunity
Seminar Series

Dr. Jo Anne Stratton
Assistant Professor, Montreal
Neurological Institute

Ependymal Cell Function
in Health and Disease

Thursday March 24, 2022
Time: 11:30am - 12:30pm

McGill
Department of Microbiology and Immunology

For information:
info.microimm@mcgill.ca
514-398-7492

Virtual Seminar
presented on
Zoom

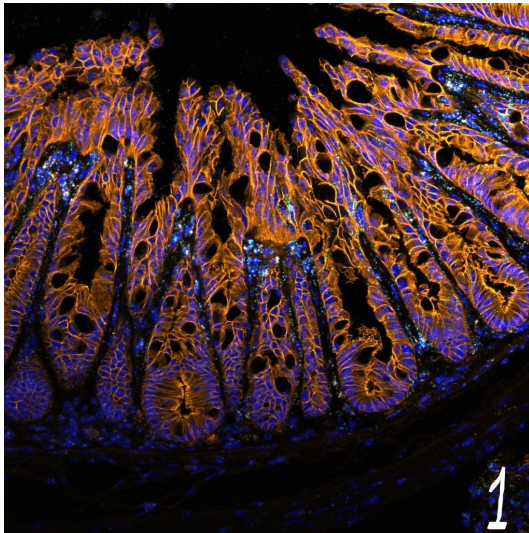
Dr. Samantha Gruenheid
MIMM Interim Chair

Winners of the MIMM Scientific Art Contest

Congratulations to the winners of the MIMM Scientific Art Contest:

1st Place - Jessica Pei
2nd Place - Marcus Saldhana
3rd Place - Dr. Judith Mandl
and Dakota Rogers

In order from top, left to right.
[See all submissions here.](#)



Infection & Immunity
Seminar Series



Thursday March 31, 2022
Time: 11:30am - 12:30pm

McGill
Department of Microbiology and Immunology

Dr. Natalie Zeytuni
Assistant Professor,
Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology
McGill University

Structural insights into the cytotoxic peptides ATP-driven exporter essential to pathogenicity of drug resistant Staphylococcal aureus by hybrid approaches.

For information:
info.microimm@mcgill.ca
514-398-7492

Virtual Seminar
presented on
Zoom

Infection & Immunity Seminar Series

[Dr. Jo Ann Stratton - March 24, 2022](#)

[Dr. Natalie Zeytuni - March 31, 2022](#)

NOTE: seminar times have been changed for the winter semester 2022: from 11am to 11:30am

If you would like to attend and have not yet registered with us please [contact us](#).



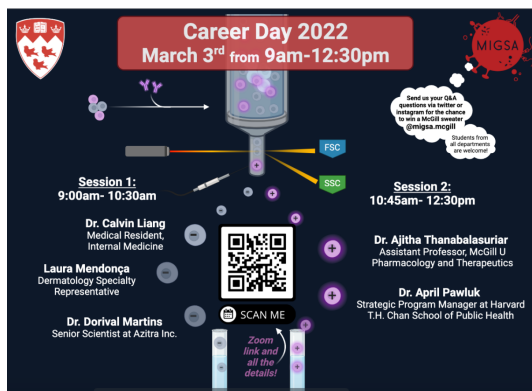
When: Thursday, March 24, 2022

Time: 7 to 10pm

Where: In-person, at [Plaza Centreville](#)

Tickets: \$40.00

[Click here to buy tickets](#)



MIGSA's Annual Career day

Career Day 2022 will be hosted on Zoom this year and it's happening this **Thursday, March 3rd from 9am-12:30pm**. The day will be divided into two sessions of speakers, and each session will end with a 30-minute Q&A panel. [Click here for all the details.](#)



PhD Oral defence

Congratulations to Hanna Ostapska for successfully defending her PhD defence.

Thesis Title: ***Exopolysaccharides in co-operative biofilm formation by Aspergillus fumigatus and Pseudomonas aeruginosa.***

Supervisor: Dr. Donald Sheppard

Upcoming Graduate Student



Plant-based vaccine approved by Health Canada- Dr. Brian Ward

One of MIMM's adjunct faculty, Brian Ward, also serves as the medical officer for Medicago R & D with McGill's permission. This small Quebec-based biotech has developed a novel plant-based platform for the production of biopharmaceuticals (eg: virus-like particle vaccines, monoclonal antibodies). Based on the results of a successful global, phase 3 efficacy study, Medicago's [SARS-COV-2 vaccine](#) was licensed by Health Canada last week (February 24, 2022). This licensure of the world's first plant-made vaccine for human use is not only a major milestone for the company but also for vaccine development.

To read the article, [click here](#).



Mark your calendars: McGill24 is

Seminars

In March, we have the following Graduate Student Seminars:

Sarah Grech
Ariane Brassard
Pavitra Upadhyaya
Lydia Labrie
Jaryd Sullivan
Sarah Danchuk
Lisa Hennemann
Sang Yu Gong

For a full list of dates and times, [click here](#).

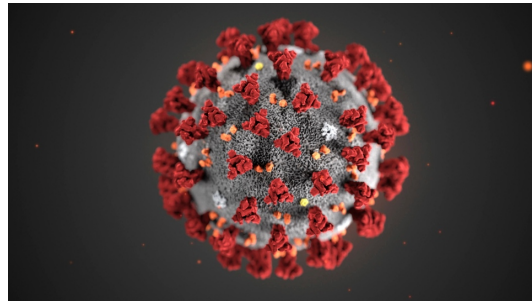


All pets are welcome in MIMM 214!

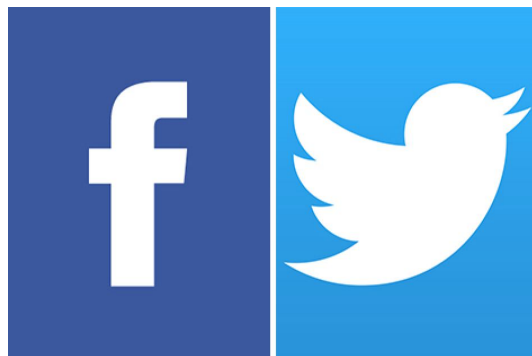
We are all aware of all the distractions present during zoom lectures and meetings. So why not acknowledge them? The MIMM 214 course encouraged students to post photos of their pets that join them in the zoom lectures and it would be a shame to deprive all of you of these photos. Enjoy!

back on March 9th for its 7th edition. This year, the department is raising funds for MIMMternship in Infection and Immunity, to fund summer studentships for MIMM students in the summer of 2022.

When you give on McGill24, your gifts combine with others to go further. Best of all, the first \$1,000 raised for our unit during McGill24 will be matched **dollar for dollar!** [Make a donation on March 9th here](#)



Stay updated on the latest COVID-19 news by visiting the [McGill COVID-19 page](#).



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