



M[i]⁴ Interdisciplinary Initiative in
Infection and Immunity

MI4 FUNDING for COVID-19 RESEARCH

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS

It feels like so much has happened since our last newsletter. While the COVID pandemic has impacted all of our lives in ways that felt unimaginable a few months ago, our students, faculty, and staff have pulled together and adapted in awe-inspiring ways. From deftly moving our teaching to e-learning platforms to rapidly launching numerous COVID-19 research programs, our students and faculty have a lot to be proud of. Ending the academic year in such a historic but unusual manner brings mixed feelings: we should celebrate the resilience we have all shown to pull off the massive feat of completing the semester remotely, but there is also a sense of sadness that we don't get to celebrate this in person. This is particularly poignant for our graduating students who will have to celebrate virtually for now. We hope to see you on the stage at the rescheduled convocation ceremony

The McGill Interdisciplinary Initiative in Infection and Immunity (MI4) has awarded funding for research projects as part of the MI4 Emergency COVID-19 Research Funding program. Congratulations to the following MIMM members on their successful submissions:

Dr. Jorg H. Fritz
Dr. Ciriaco A. Piccirillo
Dr. Irah King
Dr. Greg Matlashewski
Dr. Matthew Cheng
Dr. Momar Ndao
Dr. Selena Sagan
Dr. Maziar Divangahi
Dr. Momar Ndao
Dr. Michael Reed
Dr. Jonathan D. Spicer

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in 2021. For our returning students, please know that we will be here for the Fall 2020 semester and are hard at work already to make sure that you will receive an exceptional educational experience during the 2020-2021 academic year, no matter what restrictions may or may not be in place at that time. If anything, this pandemic has illustrated the critical importance of our educational and research programs. As microbiologists and immunologists, we have an important role to play in this pandemic, not only in research but also in helping others understand and interpret the information (and misinformation) related to the virus and our response to it.

We wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to catching up in the fall.

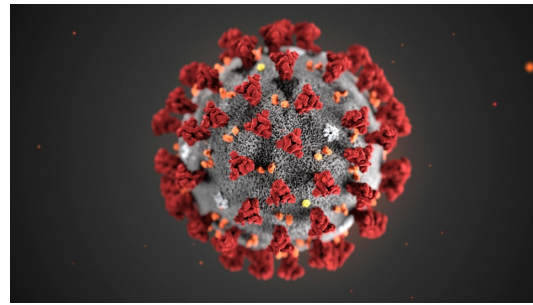
Drs. Sam Gruenheid & Don Sheppard

PUBLICATIONS

[Dubé J.-Y., McIntosh F., Zarruk J.G., David S., Nigou J., Behr M.A. \(2020\). Synthetic mycobacterial molecular patterns partially complete Freund's adjuvant. *Scientific Reports*, 10\(1\), 5874. doi: 10.1038/s41598-020-62543-5.](#)

[Le M., Ghazawi FM., Gabrielli S., Alkhodair R., Sheppard DC., Jafarian F. \(2020\) Reply to a commentary on: "Efficacies and merits of the cotton swab technique for diagnosing tinea capitis in the pediatric population". *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*. 2116:199-224. doi: 10.1007/978-1-0716-0294-2_14.](#)

[Monette, A., Niu, M., Chen, L., Rao S., Gorelick, R.J., Mouland, A.J. \(2020\). Pan-retroviral Nucleocapsid-Mediated Phase Separation Regulates Genomic RNA Positioning](#)

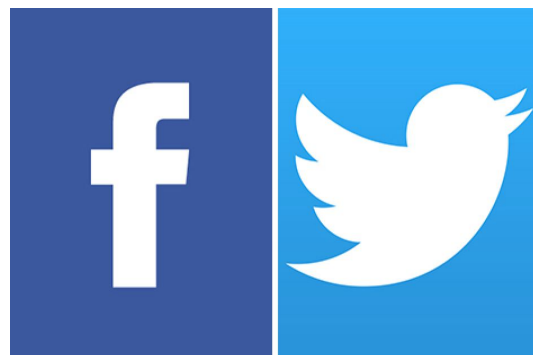


Stay updated on the latest COVID-19 news by visiting the [McGill COVID-19 page.](#)



Wellness programming

The Student Wellness Hub has created virtual activities to help students feel supported and connected during these uncertain times. Activities include COVID-19 emotional support, stress management, yoga and art. [Visit their website for more information.](#)



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and Trafficking, *Cell Reports*, 31, 107520. doi: 10.1016/j.celrep.2020.03.084

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Shaw T, Ablenas C, Desrochers GF, Powdrill M, Bilodeau DA, Vincent-Rocan JF, Niu M, Monette A, Moulard A, Beauchemin AM, Pezacki JP. A bifunctional nucleoside probe for the inhibition of the human immunodeficiency virus-type 1 reverse transcriptase. *Bioconjugate Chemistry*. 2020 Apr 7.; doi: 10.1021/acs.bioconjchem.0c00191

Vieira D., Angel S., Honjol Y., Gruenheid S., Gbureck U., Harvey E., Merle G. (2020) Electroceutical Silk-Silver Gel to Eradicate Bacterial Infection. *Advanced Biosystems*. 4(4):e1900242. doi: 10.1002/adbi.201900242.

Zhang WW., Lypaczewski P., Matlashewski G. (2020). Application of CRISPR/Cas9-Mediated Genome Editing in Leishmania. *Methods in Molecular Biology*. 2116:199-224. doi: 10.1007/978-1-0716-0294-2_14.



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Department of Microbiology and Immunology - McGill University · 3775 University Street · Montreal, QC H3A 2B4 · Canada



