



MESSAGE FROM YOUR MIMM CHAIRS

Dear colleagues,

Even though it may seem like we just started the academic year, there are now less than 5 weeks left of the fall term. We can be proud of the resilience and adaptability we have all shown in working together to face the challenges of remote delivery – students, staff and faculty alike. We are also applying what we have learned this term in planning for the winter semester, which is well underway. The current University target for the winter 2021 semester is ~30% in-person activities across campus, and we have been hard at work devising a plan that provides the opportunity for meaningful in-person activities that will enhance our learners experience while keeping everyone safe. Our planned

PUBLICATIONS

[Cannon T, Sinha A, Trudeau LE, Maurice CF, Gruenheid S. Characterization of the intestinal microbiota during *Citrobacter rodentium* infection in a mouse model of infection-triggered Parkinson's disease. Gut Microbes. 2020 Nov 9;12\(1\):1-11. doi: 10.1080/19490976.2020.1830694. PMID: 33064969.](#)

[Goldman-Pinkovich A, Kannan S, Nitzan-Koren R, Puri M, Pawar H, Bar-Avraham Y, McDonald J, Sur A, Zhang WW, Matlashewski G, Madhubala R, Michaeli S, Myler P J, Zilberstein D. Sensing Host Arginine Is Essential for *Leishmania Parasites'* Intracellular Development. mBio. 2020 Oct 13;11\(5\):e02023-20. doi: 10.1128/mBio.02023-20. PMID: 33051367; PMCID: PMC7554669.](#)

[Ghanem M, Dubé J-Y, Wang J, McIntosh F, Houle D, Domenech P, Reed M, Raman S, Buter J, Minnaard A, Moody D, Behr M,1 Heterologous Production of 1-Tuberculosinyladenosine in *Mycobacterium kansasii* Models Pathoevolution towards the Transcellular Lifestyle of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. mBio Oct 2020, 11 \(5\) e02645-20; DOI: 10.1128/mBio.02645-20](#)

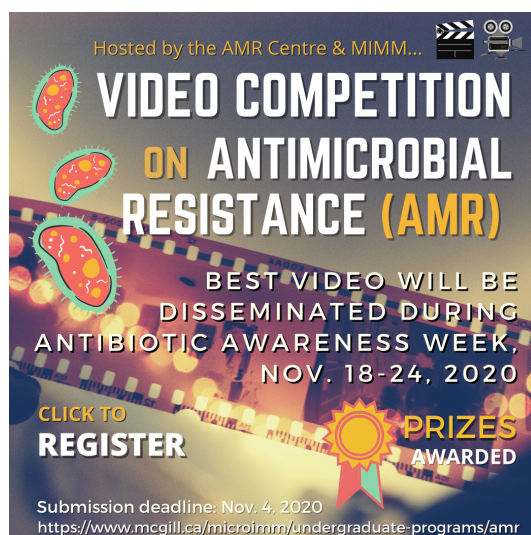
[Monette, A.; Mouland, A.J. Zinc and](#)

in-person activities will focus on two areas: student research experiences (Honours and undergraduate research projects) and an optional hands-on laboratory experience. We will share more details on this latter initiative as we finalize the plans and would ask all Faculty members to please lend a hand if you are asked.

We recognize that this pandemic is taking a toll on everyone's energy and mental health, and encourage you to reach out to us if you have thoughts or suggestions on how to best support our community during this challenging time. On the bright side, the MIMM community has had very few cases of COVID-19 and there are optimistic signs that we are closing in on vaccine candidates that will likely be available in the new year!

Stay safe everyone

Don Sheppard and Sam Gruenheid



AMR Awareness Video Competition

[World Antimicrobial Awareness Week is coming up](#) (Nov. 18-24). McGill undergraduate students are

[Copper Ions Differentially Regulate Prion-Like Phase Separation Dynamics of Pan-Virus Nucleocapsid Biomolecular Condensates. *Viruses* 2020, 12, 1179.](#)

[Schneider, C., Shen, C., Gopal, A.A. et al. Migration-induced cell shattering due to DOCK8 deficiency causes a type 2-biased helper T cell response. *Nat Immunol* \(2020\). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41590-020-0795-1>](#)



Congratulations to the students who have graduated (during COVID!)

MSc:

Aretha Chan
Ernesto Cuadra Foy
Karla Páez Martínez
Shannon Hewgill
Jinyu Huang
Will Jogia
Priya Patel
Chad Poloni
Allan Tran
Stefanie Valbon Fernandes Garcia

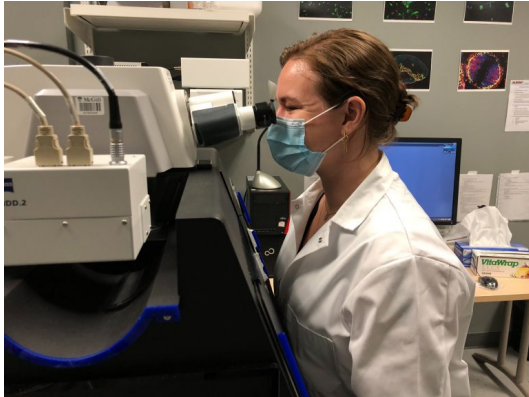
PhD:

Barbara Mindt
Fernando Alvarez
Jamilah Abusarah
Jasmin Chahal
Nathan Osman
Ryan Pardy
Saina Beitari
Todd Douglas

We are proud of you and wish you exciting opportunities.

invited to create a short video highlighting the causes and threat of AMR, and the actions citizens can take to tackle this problem. The deadline to [submit](#) is **November 4 2020**.

The voting period for the best video will be between **November 6th and 16th**. Videos and voting link will be posted [here](#).



Caitlin Schneider in the lab.

A possible link between cell death and allergic disease

Caitlin Schneider, Ph.D. student supervised by Dr. Judith Mandl, is the first author of a new study published in Nature shedding light on cellular processes that may lead to allergic immune responses. [Read more.](#)



Cooking with Staph

MISA's latest initiative: introducing a live cooking class where MIMM faculty members put on their chef's hat and share their best recipes. Dr. Jasmin Chahal was the first to show off her cooking skills during Thanksgiving weekend by preparing a delicious apple pie. [Click here for the recipe.](#)

Dr. Robert Murgita- retiring

Dr. Robert Murgita will be retiring on December 31 2020. He completed his Ph.D. at McGill University and joined the MIMM department in 1977. He has worn several hats during his McGill career, including teaching and developing courses, holding the chair of the MIMM department position, holding 40 US and International patents and building four companies: Immtech, Atlantic Biopharmaceuticals, Merrimack Pharmaceuticals and the latest one: Remedium AI, which applies machine learning algorithms to drug discovery. Thank you for your service and best wishes for this new chapter.

Quarter Century Club

McGill's Years of Service and Quarter Century Club employee recognition programs are strong annual traditions to which many of us eagerly look forward. These distinctions carry with them the gravitas of long-term dedication to the University's mission. McGill's world-class reputation for excellence is achieved and maintained through the sustained efforts and commitment of its staff members.

This year, two MIMM members have joined the club: **Dr. Greg Marczynski and Dr. Rongtuan Lin**. Congratulations on 25 years at McGill University!

[Click here to see the list of 2020 QCC inductees.](#)

Faculty Helping Faculty

Faculty peer-support sessions. These informal drop-in sessions include a brief information session



MIMM Branded Clothing

MISA & MIGSA have been working hard to bring MIMM clothing to the MIMM community. Feel like doing a bit of shopping, representing MIMM during the semester and being cozy?

Head this way:

[Undergraduate clothing](#)

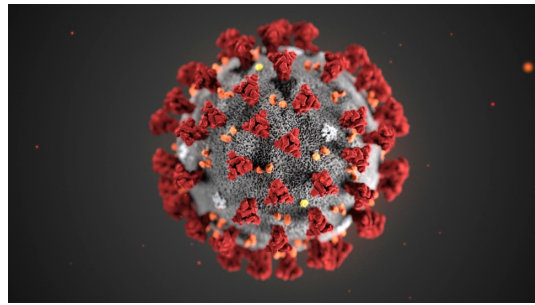
[Graduate clothing](#)

Google Doodle highlighted a microbiologist last week.

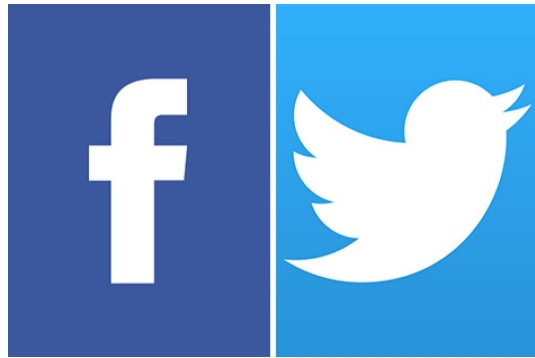
Did you notice the Google Doodle last Tuesday, October 27th 2020? It celebrated Dr. Stamen Grigorov's 142nd birthday: the microbiologist who discovered the bacteria that makes yogurt.

[Read more.](#)

from an expert, followed by Q&A, a small break-out group discussions to share experiences peer-to-peer, and a wrap-up to summarize what was learned. Summaries of the discussions and videos of the sessions are posted online for those not able to attend. [Click here to register and learn more.](#)



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



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