

Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Académie canadienne des sciences de la santé

Media Release

Forty-eight new Fellows elected into the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellows' accomplishments recognized by peers for contributions to the promotion of health science

Ottawa, ON – September 20, 2023 – The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS) is pleased to present the list of individuals that were elected as Fellows for 2023. CAHS is proud to recognize excellence in health sciences and these new Fellows reflect a rich and varied expertise.

"I would like to personally congratulate all the applicants that were elected as a Fellow in the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences for 2023. This recognition reflects their dedication and excellence in their field," said Dr. Jan Sargeant, Chair of the Fellowship Committee. "We look forward to having their expertise further enrich the work of our Academy."

Election to Fellowship in the Academy is considered one of the highest honours for individuals in the Canadian health sciences community and carries with it a covenant to serve the Academy and the future well-being of the health sciences irrespective of the Fellow's specific discipline.

"Becoming a member of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences recognizes Fellows' dedication to health sciences," says Dr. Marie-France Raynault, President, CAHS. "We are proud of their accomplishments, and we are honoured to welcome them to the Canadian Academy of Heath Sciences."

For information on the nomination process, please visit: <u>https://cahs-acss.ca/nominations/</u>

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About CAHS

The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences brings together Canada's top-ranked health and biomedical scientists and scholars to make a positive impact on the urgent health concerns of Canadians. Our Fellows, drawn from all disciplines across our nation's universities, healthcare and research institutes, evaluate Canada's most complex health challenges and recommend strategic, actionable solutions.

You can find us on LinkedIn and Twitter.

For further information or media inquiries, please contact: Serge Buy, Chief Executive Officer | Email: <u>sbuy@cahs-acss.ca</u>



Jason Acker, Professor, University of Alberta; Senior Scientist, Canadian Blood Services



Dr. Jason Acker is an outstanding mentor, educator and advisor who is internationally recognized for his leadership and scholarly contributions to the transfusion sciences and cryobiology communities. He is an innovative scientist whose paradigm-shifting research discoveries have advanced the preservation of cell-based therapeutics. He is a collaborative researcher who successfully brings together multidisciplinary teams to support the translation of novel discoveries into innovative products. Through his service with national and international organizations he has actively contributed to improving practices, policies and standards which have enhanced the quality and utilization of cell therapies, and advanced the biobanking industry.

Evdokia Anagnostou, Vice President of Research, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital



Dr. Evdokia Anagnostou is the Vice President of Research and Director of the Bloorview Research Institute at Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital, Canada's largest pediatric rehabilitation hospital. She is also a child neurologist and professor of pediatrics at the University of Toronto. She is a senior clinician scientist and co-leads of the Autism Research Centre (ARC) at Holland Bloorview and University of Toronto. She holds a Canada Research Chair in translational therapeutics in autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and the Dr. Stuart D. Sims Chair in Autism at Holland Bloorview.

Martin M. Antony, Professor of Psychology, Toronto Metropolitan University



Dr. Martin M. Antony is among Canada's leading experts on the correlates and evidencebased treatment of anxiety and related disorders. He has contributed over 300 peer-reviewed publications and over 30 widely recommended books that have been translated into 20 languages. Dr. Antony has played a central role in the delivery of evidence-based mental health care in Ontario as founding director of the Anxiety Treatment and Research Clinic and the Clinical Psychology Residency Program at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, founding director of Toronto Metropolitan University's Psychology graduate programs, and Clinical and Training Lead for the Ontario Structured Psychotherapy Program.

Peter Backx, Professor, York University; University Health Network



Peter Backx has been at the forefront of medical research designed to better understanding the molecular and ionic underpinnings of the heart's electrical and contraction properties, particularly in relationship to disease. His work has bridged information gaps related to cardiac arrhythmias which is causes ~50% of deaths related the cardiovascular system. These studies have led directly to new concepts and approaches for treating arrhythmias including ongoing clinical trials for iron-overload related cardiomyopathies. More recent studies have focused on the most common cardiac arrhythmia, atrial fibrillation, wherein Dr. Backx has established involvement of immune cells and inflammation, which is leading to new approaches for treating this condition.



Janice L. Bailey, Scientific Director, Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologies (FRQNT)



Janice Bailey is the Scientific Director of the Fonds de Recherche du Quebec - Nature et Technologies (FRQNT). She is internationally recognised as a biomedical scientist, elucidating the paternal influences on developmental trajectories of health and disease; as an effective administrator supporting trainees and diversity in research; as an advocate for issues ranging from the environment to health equality; and as an innovative thought leader in the health sciences. She has served in leadership capacities of major professional organisations, as an advisor to government, and has built strong intersectoral and interdisciplinary initiatives across Canada, the Arctic and Global South.

Ahmed Bayoumi, Clinician Scientist, St. Michael's Hospital; University of Toronto



Ahmed Bayoumi is the Baxter and Alma Ricard Chair in Inner City Health at St. Michael's Hospital and the University of Toronto. His research has been instrumental in improving the health of people experiencing marginalization, including people who use drugs and people living with HIV. He has led highly impactful studies and has received the Canadian Society of Internal Medicine David Sackett Senior Investigator Award, the Society of Medical Decision Making Distinguished Service Award, and several teaching awards. He has extensive experience in translating research to policy and has held numerous leadership positions at the local, regional, and international level.

Aminu Bello, Professor of Medicine, Consultant Nephrologist, University of Alberta



Aminu Kasarawa Bello is a Professor of Medicine (Nephrology), University of Alberta (U of A). He trained at Usmanu Danfodio University, Sokoto, Nigeria, University of Sheffield, UK and U of A, Edmonton, Canada. His work has produced over 200 scientific publications, and is internationally recognized for his work in the development of Global Kidney Health Atlas under the auspices of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN), the largest project of its kind and the first to determine the capacity for kidney care at a global scale. This work has led to collaborations with renowned professional societies, and the WHO to inform governments and stakeholder organizations of the burden and best practices for kidney disease prevention and treatment.

Trevor Birmingham, Professor, Western University



Trevor Birmingham is a Professor and Canada Research Chair in Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Western University. A physiotherapist, Dr. Birmingham leads an internationally recognized research program that combines clinical and laboratory-based outcome measures to improve our understanding of musculoskeletal conditions and their interventions. The research program includes practice-changing clinical trials in knee osteoarthritis. A strong believer in the benefit of co-leadership, and the importance of collaborative, equitable and transdisciplinary health sciences research, he co-founded the Canadian Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation Research Network, Western University's Bone and Joint Institute, and the Collaborative Training Specialization in Musculoskeletal Health Research.



Michael Brauer, Professor, The University of British Columbia



Dr. Michael Brauer, Professor in the UBC School of Population and Public Health, is an internationally recognized expert in environmental epidemiology, and widely regarded as a global leader in exposure assessment of air pollution and evaluation of its impacts on population health. Dr. Brauer has advised the World Health Organization and the US State Department on air pollution, and led a working group for the International Agency for Research on Cancer regarding air pollution carcinogenicity. He is a leader in urban sustainability and the built environment; his global work and public health advocacy have motivated actions to mitigate climate change-related emissions.

Patricia Lee Brubaker, Professor Emerita, University of Toronto



Patricia Brubaker is Professor Emerita in the Departments of Physiology and Medicine at the University of Toronto. She is recognized internationally for her innovative research to characterize the secretion and function of the intestinal hormones, glucagon-like peptide (GLP)-1 and GLP-2. Her studies have contributed to the development of novel treatments for patients with Type 2 diabetes and obesity, conditions that affect millions of Canadians, as well as for rare individuals with intestinal failure. She has been honoured with 'Lifetime Achievement Awards' from Diabetes Canada and the Canadian Physiological Society and is widely sought out by industry for her expertise.

Leah Cowen, Vice-President, Research and Innovation, and Strategic Initiatives; Professor, Molecular Genetics; University of Toronto



Professor Leah Cowen has pioneered genome-scale analyses of deadly fungal pathogens to understand how they cause disease and evolve resistance to the limited arsenal of drugs available to kill them. Her interdisciplinary approaches to understand host-pathogen interactions and identify new antifungals and their targets have catalyzed the discovery of novel strategies to treat fungal infectious disease. Cowen is developing life-saving medicines as co-Founder and Chief Scientific Officer of Bright Angel Therapeutics and is transforming global scientific communities by leading both the CIFAR Fungal Kingdom: Threats & Opportunities program and the research and innovation enterprise for the top-ranking university in Canada.

Anne Crocker, Professor, Department of Psychiatry & Addictions and School of Criminology, Université de Montréal; Director, Research & Academics, Institut national de psychiatrie légale Philippe-Pinel



Professor Crocker is a leading international forensic mental health scholar and holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Mental Health, Justice and Safety and Past-president of the International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services. She has been leading the most comprehensive national study on criminal responsibility en mental illness since 2007. Her research program addresses the needs of and services to justice-involved persons with mental illness and their loved-ones; individual and systemic barriers and facilitators of community re-entry; alternatives to incarceration; and prevention of violence and criminality. She contributes to numerous national and international advisory boards and action plans in mental health and justice.



Mark Crowther, Chair, Department of Medicine, McMaster University



Dr. Mark Crowther, MD from the University of Western Ontario, is a leading Hematology expert at McMaster University, with a specialized Research Fellowship in Thromboembolism. Holding several leadership positions including Chair of McMaster's Department of Medicine and Past Treasurer of the American Society of Hematology, his clinical and research focus is on thromboembolic disorders and their management. His research contributions, particularly in the prevention of venous thrombosis and optimization of anticoagulants, are globally recognized with nearly 600 publications and an H-index of 129. He is a Royal Society of Canada inductee for his research work and for his educational work in Uganda.

Guy Faulkner, Professor and Chair in Applied Public Health, The University of British Columbia



Guy Faulkner is a Professor and Chair in Applied Public Health in the School of Kinesiology at the University of British Columbia. Coupled with a broader research interest in public health, his research has focused on two inter-related themes: the development and evaluation of physical activity interventions; and physical activity and mental health. He was founding editor of the journal 'Mental Health and Physical Activity' which fosters the inter-disciplinary development of this research field. He led the development of, and currently coordinates, the Canadian Campus Wellbeing Survey (www.ccws-becc.ca) which is a health and wellbeing surveillance platform for the postsecondary sector.

Angel M. Foster, Professor, University of Ottawa



Dr. Angel M. Foster is a Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ottawa. She holds a doctorate from the University of Oxford, an MD from Harvard Medical School, and master's and bachelor's degrees from Stanford University. A global abortion researcher, Dr. Foster leads projects in 22 countries. She has authored more than 100 articles and co-edited three books. She is the National Abortion Federation Canada's Board Chair and Editor-in-Chief of Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health. The recipient of numerous awards, she received the Guttmacher Institute's 2017 Darroch Award for Excellence in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research.

Neeru Gupta, Professor and Stephen M. Drance Chair; Head, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences; Professor, School of Population and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, The University of British Columbia



Dr. Gupta is a recognized leader with numerous awards for contributions to eye health and vision science research. Investigating relationships with other health conditions, she has identified new ocular targets to fight blindness, introduced novel glaucoma drugs through clinical trials, and pioneered surgical methods to treat patients. She is Editor in Chief of the Journal of Glaucoma and President of the International Council of Ophthalmology. Championing global collaborations, she spearheaded international guidelines for eye care training and standards of care. Her work with the World Health Organization contributed to the first Package of Eye Care Interventions, developed for policymakers worldwide.



Mojgan Hodaie, Professor of Surgery, University of Toronto; Senior Scientist, Krembil Research Institute, University Health Network



Dr. Hodaie is a neurosurgeon, Professor of Surgery at the University of Toronto, and Senior Scientist at the Krembil Research Institute. Her surgical and research expertise centers on trigeminal neuralgia, a debilitating neuropathic pain disorder. Her research employs advanced brain imaging and artificial intelligence methods to enhance the understanding of neuropathic pain. These approaches have increased objectivity in the study of pain and helped identify factors that lead to successful treatment outcomes. Her scientific contribution has been internationally recognized, and has generated new ways to approach the study of pain. She holds the Greg Wilkins-Barrick Chair of International Surgery at University Health Network, dedicated to expanding surgical education worldwide.

Bev Holmes, President & Chief Executive Officer, Michael Smith Health Research BC



Bev Holmes leads British Columbia's health research agency and studies health research systems with a focus on funding, producing and using evidence to improve health. She's a member of Canada's National Alliance of Provincial Health Research Organizations, adjunct professor at SFU's Faculty of Health Sciences and UBC's School of Population and Public Health, and a Chartered Director (Degroote School of Business, McMaster University). She and her partner have four children and two grandchildren. They are grateful to live on the traditional unceded territories of the x^wməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Səlílwəta?/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) and Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) First Nations.

Cindy Hutnik, Professor and Chair, Department of Ophthalmology, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University; Ophthalmologist-in-Chief, Ivey Eye Institute



Dr. Hutnik has cared medically and surgically for patients suffering from the most common worldwide cause of blinding eye disease. Her translational research has focused on novel treatments. Her leadership roles have included President of the Canadian Glaucoma Society, Board member of the Glaucoma Research Society of Canada and advisor in the creation of Ontario Glaucoma Quality standards, as well as the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health for Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgeries. She brings this experience to her current roles as Governing Chair of the Academic Medical Organization of Southwestern Ontario and representation on the Eye Physicians of Surgeons of Ontario.

Sharon Kaasalainen, Professor & Gladys Sharpe Chair in Nursing, McMaster University



Dr Sharon Kaasalainen is a world-renowned leader in palliative long-term care. As a Professor and Gladys Sharpe Chair in Nursing, she has had a significant impact on quality care in long-term care. She is building capacity among a generation of health professionals and researchers to revolutionalize a person-centered approach to care for some of Canada's most vulnerable citizens. Most notably, she created the Strengthening a Palliative Approach in Long Term Care program with national colleagues, which has garnered attention from governments across the country to inform long-term care policies, with many entrusting her with resources to implement this innovative approach.



John C. P. Kingdom, Clinician-Scientist and Maternal-Fetal Medicine Specialist, Mount Sinai Hospital; Chair, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, University of Toronto



John Kingdom is an obstetrician clinician-scientist who has made seminal contributions to understanding the functions of the placenta in normal and pathologic pregnancies. He pioneered the model of a "placental clinic" for pregnant individuals that has been adopted by many centres worldwide. He has been elected to leadership roles in learned societies, built research teams, and fostered postgraduate training programs locally and in Western Kenya. He has served as advisor to governments, research organisations and academic perinatal programs. During his decade as Chair of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Toronto, the Department has emerged as a global exemplar.

Adam Kirton, Pediatric Neurologist, Professor, University of Calgary



Dr. Kirton is Professor of Pediatrics and Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Calgary and an attending Pediatric Neurologist at the Alberta Children's Hospital. He holds the Dr. Robert Haslam Chair in Pediatric Neurology. Dr. Kirton's research focuses on applying neurotechnologies to generate new opportunities for life participation for children with severe disabilities. He directs the Calgary Pediatric Stroke Program (perinatalstroke.com, @PedStrokeYYC) and ACH Brain Computer Interface Laboratory (BCI4kids.com, @BCI4kids).

Paul Kubes, Professor, University of Calgary



Dr Kubes leads the Vice President's priority in Infection Immunity and Chronic Diseases. He has built major infrastructure at UCalgary, including Imaging, Microbiome and a Level 3 Centre through CFI, philanthropy and government support. His own work is geared towards understanding how the immune system behaves in infections and chronic diseases using live cell imaging techniques.

Jeffrey Masuda, Professor, University of Victoria



Jeff Masuda is a Professor in the School of Public Health and Social Policy at the University of Victoria. He received his PhD from the University of Alberta in 2005, followed by postdoctoral fellowships at McMaster University, the University of Toronto, and the University of British Columbia. A former CIHR New Investigator (University of Manitoba) and Canada Research Chair (Queen's University), Jeff undertakes community-aligned research that reveal the structural underpinnings of place-based health inequities. He has served as an Advisory Board member of the CIHR Institute of Population and Public Health and a Senior Editor of the Canadian Journal of Public Health.



Gerlinde Metz, Professor, Board of Governors Research Chair, University of Lethbridge



Dr. Gerlinde Metz is a Professor of Neuroscience and the Board of Governors Research Chair in Healthy Futures at the Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neuroscience, University of Lethbridge. Her research investigates how experiences, both positive and negative, affect brain health from early development to old age. Her pioneering work has demonstrated that transgenerational stress affects the wellbeing of future generations, which is now leading to new tools for risk prediction and diagnosis of human disease. Devoted to interdisciplinary and translational research and training around the globe, her work advances precision health with benefits for the most vulnerable populations.

Steven Miller, Head and Professor of the Department of Pediatrics and James & Annabel McCreary Chair in Pediatrics, University of British Columbia; Chief of Pediatric Medicine and Hudson Family Hospital Chair in Pediatric Medicine, BC Children's Hospital



Dr. Steven Miller is Head and Professor of the UBC Department of Pediatrics and Chief of Pediatric Medicine at BC Children's Hospital. He and his team's brain-imaging studies of critically-ill newborns identified the power of early-life intensive care unit experience to shape the trajectory of brain development through childhood. His findings led a paradigm shift from brain injury as a fixed-event to a focus on "everyday" interventions that are modifiable to promote brain maturation. He is passionate about supporting the career development of early-career child health researchers and served as President of the Society for Pediatric Research. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Deborah Money, Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, The University of British Columbia



Dr. Deborah Money is a Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medicine and Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia. She is very proud of developing an education and research program in Reproductive Infectious Diseases (RID) that has trained many scientists and clinicians across Canada. Her research has led to improved understanding of the impact of HIV treatments in pregnancy and infancy, the role of the vaginal microbiome in health and disease, the role of HPV and the vaccine on prevention of cervical cancer in women living with HIV and the impact of COVID-19 on pregnant women.

Nazeem Muhajarine, Professor and Director, University of Saskatchewan



Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine is one of Canada's most accomplished population health researchers and a driver of change at the community level to promote better health. Specializing in social epidemiology, Dr. Muhajarine has excelled in conducting research that is translated into change. He has led projects nationally and internationally, built research institutions and infrastructure, and is a highly sought-after mentor. Dr. Muhajarine exhibits remarkable depth and range in his scholarly work. He is at once a highly respected researcher, leader, and builder; a valued mentor and teacher; and an exceptional academic who works effectively with people across sectors.



Torsten Nielsen, Professor of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, University of British Columbia; Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute; BC Cancer



Torsten Nielsen was inspired by Terry Fox to become a cancer researcher, training as a clinicianscientist in McGill's MD/PhD program (and now directing that program at UBC). He works to translate new discoveries from emerging genomic technologies into practical diagnostics and treatments for cancer. His work has led to several new tests that allow accurate and inexpensive diagnosis of sarcomas, where he has also contributed to clinical trials leading to at least two new targeted sarcoma therapies. In breast cancer, Prof. Nielsen has developed tests currently in use internationally that identify women who can safely avoid chemotherapy or radiotherapy.

Adrian M. Owen, Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience and Imaging, Western University



Adrian M. Owen OBE, FRSC, PhD, is Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience and Imaging at the University of Western Ontario, Canada and co-directs the CIFAR Brain, Mind, and Consciousness program. His research combines structural and functional neuroimaging with neuropsychological studies of brain-injured patients. Owen has published over 400 scientific articles and chapters and a best-selling popular science book 'Into the Gray Zone'. In 2019, he was awarded an OBE by Queen Elizabeth II for services to scientific research.

Carla Prado, Professor of Human Nutrition, University of Alberta



Carla Prado is a Professor at the University of Alberta and a member of the Royal Society of Canada College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. Her internationally recognized work assesses and disseminates evidence on the importance of body composition, particularly low muscle mass, to predict health outcomes such as cancer survival. This work is changing clinical practice. She is designing targeted nutritional strategies to optimize body composition and improve health in multiple diseases, and in immigrant health. Recent recognitions of her pathbreaking work include Canada's Top 40 Under 40 award and Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100.

Carlos Quiñonez, Vice Dean and Director of Dentistry, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University



Dr. Carlos Quiñonez, a leading dentist and dental public health specialist, is Vice Dean and Director of Dentistry at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University. His impressive scholarship centres on the history, politics, and economics of dentistry with a focus on health and social equity. He is a world authority on the political economy of dentistry, having published the only monograph in this area, and his research is regularly used by public and private agencies to enhance their practice. His work is shaping the landscape of public dental care programs to the benefit of millions of Canadians.



Cheryl Regehr, Vice-President and Provost, University of Toronto; Professor, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work



Professor Cheryl Regehr is an internationally recognized scholar known for her cross-disciplinary expertise in social work, forensic psychiatry and law. Her research has contributed significantly to understandings of trauma among survivors of violence, and frontline emergency and healthcare professionals. Her work informs the treatment and care of trauma survivors, and has brought to light critical factors regarding the impact of trauma exposure on professional decision-making in situations of risk and uncertainty that have far-reaching implications for the health sciences. Professor Regehr is also a highly respected and influential leader in higher education, having served as Vice President and Provost of the University of Toronto since 2013.

Alan M. Rosenberg, Distinguished Professor, University of Saskatchewan



Dr. Alan Rosenberg, a pediatric rheumatologist, is a University of Saskatchewan Distinguished Professor. Following pediatric and pediatric rheumatology training he returned to Saskatchewan in 1981 to establish the province's first pediatric rheumatology program. He has been Head of the Department of Pediatrics and was co-founder of the Children's Health Foundation of Saskatchewan, which led to the realization of Saskatchewan's first children's hospital. Dr. Rosenberg's research explores how genetic, lifestyle, and environmental factors interact to influence childhood rheumatic diseases. He promotes collaborations to improve child health, advance research, and inspire the next generation of care providers and scientists.

Christopher Rudd, Professor, Universite de Montreal; Head of Section, Centre de Recherche Hopital Maisonneuve-Rosemont



Christopher Rudd has contributed significantly to the fields of immunology and immunotherapy by defining key signalling events needed for the activation and function of T-cells. He was the Professor of Molecular Immunology at the University of Cambridge (UK) and held professorial positions at Harvard Medical School, and Imperial College London before returning to Canada several years ago. His work established the scientific groundwork for therapeutic approaches employed in the treatment of patients suffering from immune-related clinical conditions and cancer. Christopher Rudd is globally acknowledged as a pioneer in the rapidly expanding domain of immunotherapy.

Catherine Sabiston, Professor & Canada Research Chair in Physical Activity and Mental Health, University of Toronto



Professor Catherine Sabiston is a Canada Research Chair in Physical Activity and Mental Health at the University of Toronto. She is an authoritative pioneer in interdisciplinary exercise and sport psychology, and is recognized globally for her innovative research in physical activity and mental health. Her exceptional expertise is at the intersection of body image and health. Sabiston improved vulnerable people's health worldwide by designing sharable programs and measures to substantially improve access to quality physical activity experiences, especially for girls. She is also a tenacious champion of body shape and size diversity in physical activity and mental health contexts.



Thomas Schlich, James McGill Professor in the History of Medicine, Department Chair, Department Social Studies of Medicine, McGill University



Thomas Schlich is a preeminent historian of modern medicine and science. In his work he has examined the rationale for surgery—why surgeons open the body -- and the techniques they develop to do so. Combining the perspectives of history with science and technology studies, Schlich's work elucidates the introduction of innovative ideas and techniques, including organ transplants, metal implants in the treatment of fractures, the pathways to the contemporary development of minimally invasive surgery, and, most recently, the origins and use of face masks to prevent infections.

Stephen Scott, Vice-Dean Research, Queen's Health Sciences, Queen's University



Professor Stephen Scott from Queen's University is a leader in understanding how the brain supports our ability to generate voluntary motor actions. He invented Kinarm, interactive robotic technologies that provide unprecedented experimental control over arm motor function, which he has used to understand the intimate link between brain circuits and limb biomechanics. Kinarm robots are now widely used around the world to quantify brain function and dysfunction.

Samir Sinha, Director of Geriatrics Sinai Health System and the University Health Network



Dr. Samir Sinha is the Director of Geriatrics at Sinai Health System and the University Health Network in Toronto and a Professor of Medicine at the University of Toronto and the Director of Health Policy Research at Toronto Metropolitan University's National Institute on Ageing. A Rhodes Scholar, Dr. Sinha is a highly regarded clinician and international expert in the care of older adults. In 2021, he was appointed to serve as a member of the Government of Canada's National Seniors Council in 2021, and also recently led the development of Canada's new National Long-Term Care Services Standard.

Lillian L. Siu, Professor of Medicine, University Health Network, University of Toronto



Dr. Lillian Siu is a Senior Medical Oncologist, Director of the Phase I Clinical Trials Program and holds the BMO Chair in Precision Genomics at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre. She is globally recognized for her significant contributions in anticancer drug development, precision medicine and clinical trials methodology. She has led numerous clinical trials focusing on early phase therapeutic development of molecularly targeted agents, immunotherapeutics and novel cytotoxics. Her work has undoubtedly shaped the development of oncology agents globally within the context of genomic medicine and immunotherapy, enabling incorporation of this knowledge into clinical research practice to benefit patient outcomes.



Gregory Steinberg, Professor, McMaster University



Dr. Gregory Steinberg's research answers fundamental questions about metabolism with a focus on how cells detect and respond to changes in nutrient availability and energetic stress. Addressing problems from an integrative physiology and translational perspective his scientific discoveries have led to the identification of new classes of medications that mimic a low energy state and have therapeutic applications for obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and cancer.

Craig Stephen, Executive Director, McEachran Institute; Clinical Professor, School of Population and Public Health, The University of British Columbia



Craig is an internationally recognized One Health and EcoHealth practitioner. He develops ideas, capacities, and evidence to concurrently promote the health of people, animals and their shared environments. He uses population health concepts on issues ranging from conservation, to global health, emerging threat preparedness and climate change. Craig works internationally with all levels of government, the non-profit sector, community groups, universities and industry to adapt health promotion and harm reduction concepts to health disciplines outside of the usual public health realms. His aim is to help develop sensible, practical, and evidence-based actions to promote inter-species and inter-generational health equity.

Shannon L. Stewart, Full Professor, Western University



Dr. Stewart is a Psychologist, Professor and Clinical Training Director at the Faculty of Education, Western University. She holds a cross-appointment with the Department of Psychiatry, Schulich Faculty of Medicine. She is an Associate Scientist at the Children's Health Research Institute and Associate Scientist at the Lawson Health Research Institute. Dr. Stewart is an interRAI fellow, lead developer and international lead of the interRAI Child and Youth suite of instruments and has published extensively with over 150 publications in children's mental health. Her work has had extensive national and international uptake, improving outcomes for our most vulnerable young Canadians.

Yu Sun, Professor, University of Toronto



Yu Sun is a Professor, a Tier I Canada Research Chair and founding Director of the Robotics Institute at the University of Toronto. His pivotal contributions fall at the intersection of engineering and medicine, including robotic cell surgery for clinical in vitro fertilization and nano-surgery for glioblastoma. He has published 7 books and 270 journal papers, and serves as Editor-in-Chief of IEEE Trans. Automation Science and Engineering and an editorial board member of the AAAS journal, Science Robotics. He has been elected Fellow of RSC, CAE, IEEE, ASME, AAAS, AIMBE, NAI, CSME, and EIC for his significant academic, clinical and industrial impacts.



Michael Tymianski, Senior Scientist, Krembil Brain Institute, University Health Network



Prof. Tymianski is a Senior Scientist at the Krembil Brain Institute. Among his scientific contributions is the discovery and development of PSD95 inhibitors for the treatment of stroke and related neurological disorders. His research spans from protein chemistry to global clinical trials. A lead compound, nerinetide, has completed Phase 3 trials and continues to be developed. Next generation compounds are also entering clinical studies. He is a retired neurosurgeon, having treated patients with complex cerebrovascular disorders, and leads NoNO Inc., a biotechnology company that sponsors the development of PSD95 inhibitors.

Elena F. Verdú, Professor, McMaster University



Dr. Verdu holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Microbial Therapeutics and Nutrition in Gastroenterology. She is Associate Director of the Farncombe Institute at McMaster University where she studies microbial metabolism of dietary antigens and its role in food sensitivities and intestinal inflammation. She is Senior Associate Editor for the journal Gastroenterology and Secretary of the International Society for the Study of Celiac Disease. She received the American Gastroenterology Association (AGA) Master's Award, the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology Research Excellence Award, the Crohn's and Colitis Canada-Pfeizer Women in IBD Outstanding Research Award, and an AGA Mentor in Research Award.

Teodor Veres, Director, Research and Development, Medical Devices Research Centre, National Research Council of Canada (NRC)



Dr. Teodor Veres is an international leader in integrating nanomaterials and lab-on-chip technologies to create a new class of miniaturized devices for biomedical research and precise clinical diagnostics. His 170 peer-reviewed articles, 200 patents and over 60 inventions underpin a national innovation ecosystem in lab-on-chip technologies, accelerating biomedical research advances worldwide. As an interdisciplinary bridge builder, he has a career-long track record of fostering dynamic collaborations between government laboratories, academic institutions, and industrial partners, collectively attracting more than \$140 million in funding. These efforts have yielded sustained scientific, technological, and societal impacts, including nurturing the next generation of biomedical science and technology talent in Canada.

Toshifumi Yokota, Professor, The Friends of Garrett Cumming Research & Muscular Dystrophy Canada Endowed Research Chair, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Alberta



Dr. Toshifumi Yokota, a Professor of Medical Genetics at the University of Alberta, is globally recognized for pioneering advancements in the treatment of muscular dystrophy. The trailblazing work on the development of the ground-breaking antisense oligonucleotide-mediated therapy for Duchenne muscular dystrophy resulted in the FDA-approved drug viltolarsen. As a scholarly contributor to over 100 peer-reviewed articles, an editor of three influential books, and a valued board member for numerous journals and organizations, Dr. Yokota's relentless dedication to the medical field continues to revolutionize therapies for muscular dystrophy and rare diseases.