

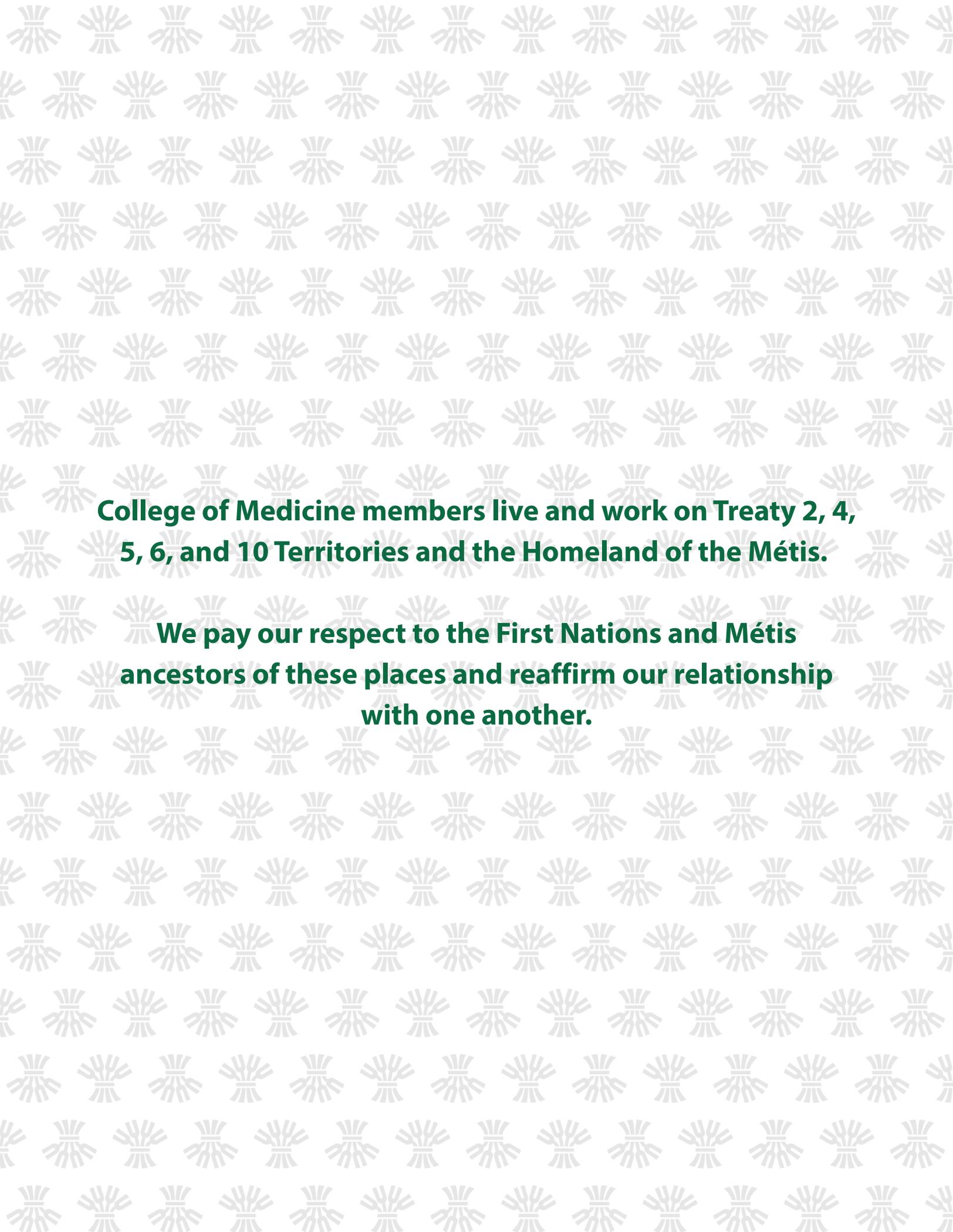


Celebrating our People

Faculty & Staff Recognition Booklet
2024-2025



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of Medicine
MEDICINE.USASK.CA

The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of stylized hands. Each hand is depicted with fingers spread, palms facing outwards, and is rendered in a light grey color. The hands are arranged in a grid-like fashion, creating a textured, woven appearance across the entire document.

**College of Medicine members live and work on Treaty 2, 4,
5, 6, and 10 Territories and the Homeland of the Métis.**

**We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis
ancestors of these places and reaffirm our relationship
with one another.**

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Dr. Sarah Forgie
Dean, College of Medicine

As I read through the pages of this booklet, I was amazed by the contributions of our faculty and staff. They consistently go above and beyond, contributing their time, talents, and passions across administration, leadership, teaching, research, clinical care, and career development. They truly embody the values of collaboration, empathy, enthusiasm, and advocacy. I am honored to celebrate your achievements and grateful for the impact you make every day at our College of Medicine. Congratulations to all - you continue to inspire and enrich our college!

Dr. Marilyn Baetz
Vice Dean Faculty Engagement, College of Medicine



This booklet is a celebration of the invaluable contributions of our faculty and staff, and a reminder of how interconnected our efforts truly are. Our daily work depends on mutual support, and recognizing one another plays a vital role in fostering a positive and healthy workplace culture. Whether through internal awards, nominations for national awards, or the academic advancement of our faculty, each acknowledgment strengthens our collective academic reputation across the province. I'd like to extend special thanks to Jacque Zinkowski (Faculty Engagement Officer) and Erin Prosser-Loose (Engagement and Recognition Specialist) for their dedicated support in helping our faculty and staff achieve these important milestones.

Welcome!

FACULTY RENEWAL, TENURE, AND PROMOTION

Renewal of Probation

This important milestone signifies satisfactory progress towards meeting standards for tenure across the majority of categories.



Dr. Asmahan AbuArish, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Asmahan AbuArish joined the Anatomy, Physiology and Pharmacology department at USask's College of Medicine as an assistant professor in November 2021. She earned her PhD degree in biophysics from McMaster University and completed her postdoctoral fellowships at McGill. Her areas of expertise include quantitative molecular biophysics and cell biology. She uses her expertise to investigate the development of hyperinflammatory pulmonary diseases such as cystic fibrosis (CF) and COPD. Currently, she investigates the molecular mechanisms responsible for inflammation dysregulation in CF and COPD in hope to identify targets to restore that.



Dr. Michelle Collins, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Michelle Collins joined the Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology in 2001. She earned a PhD in Human Genetics from McGill University, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at the Max Planck Institute for Heart and Lung Research in Germany. The Collins lab aims to uncover the genetic and molecular basis of cardiac development and function. Using zebrafish and cell models, her team identifies genes critical for heart formation and explores how mutations in these genes contribute to congenital heart disease.



Dr. Jeff (Yifei) Dong, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology

Dr. Dong completed his PhD in 2018 at UBC where he focused on understanding the mechanisms that regulate lung alveolar macrophage behaviour during homeostasis and inflammation. He then joined University of Calgary as a postdoctoral fellow where his research highlighted oxidized phosphatidylcholines (OxPC) as novel mediators of neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration. In 2022, he joined USask where his lab currently investigates: 1) how OxPC mediate chronic inflammation and neurodegeneration during progressive MS; 2) the cellular signaling mechanisms in macrophages responding to OxPC; and 3) strategies to promote central nervous system resilience against aging and inflammatory oxidative injury.



Dr. Wendie Marks, PhD

Canada Research Chair in Developmental Origins of Health and Disease in Indigenous People and Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Wendie Marks is a member of the Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Saskatchewan and holds a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Developmental Origins of Health and Disease in Indigenous People. Dr. Marks uses preclinical models to explore the effects of early life trauma on long-term and intergenerational health. Dr. Marks is examining best practices and the ethical space for engaging Indigenous communities in research focused on preclinical and animal models of diseases and disorders.



Dr. Peter Pioli, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology

Since 2022, Dr. Pioli has been an Assistant Professor at the University of Saskatchewan in the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology. Pete earned his BSc at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, completed his PhD at the University of Utah and then performed his postdoctoral training at University of California-Los Angeles. The Pioli lab seeks to understand the generation and function of antibody-secreting cells (ASCs). Areas of interest include how ASCs regulate aspects of hematopoiesis as well as how ASCs are produced in the thymus. The latter is critically important to understanding the etiology of autoimmune diseases such as myasthenia gravis.



Dr. Jess Sheldon, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology

Jess Sheldon joined USask in 2022 after completing her PhD at the University of Western Ontario and postdoc at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Her lab is currently focused on deciphering the role of essential nutrient metals in the pathophysiology of emerging and multidrug-resistant Gram-negative pathogens, as well as disentangling the role of histamine. The overall goal of Jess' research program is to identify targetable pathways for future therapeutic development against multidrug-resistant bacteria. Outside of the lab, Jess enjoys traveling with friends and for conferences, and trail running (slowly) when weather permits.

Granting of Tenure

This is an important stage of faculty career development, indicating the appointment to a permanent position, and having made accomplishments in teaching, research and scholarly work, professional practice and public service.



Dr. Anand Krishnan, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Dr. Krishnan joined USask in September 2019. His research explores the nerve-tumor interface to understand the role of peripheral nerves in solid cancer progression and metastasis. He received his professional degree in Pharmacy and received research training in Cancer biology (PhD) and Neuroscience (PDF). Since starting his lab at USask, he has authored 15 peer-reviewed articles and 3 book chapters. As PI, he has secured funding from the NSERC, Cancer Research Society and CIHR-Institute of Cancer Research, Breast Cancer Society of Canada, Prostate Cancer Fight Foundation & Ride for Dad Foundation, SHRF, and College of Medicine. He teaches Advanced Cell Biology, Pharmacology, and Current topics in Neuroscience.

Granting of Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

Promotion to associate professor is an important faculty career stage, indicating the University's confidence in the performance of academic duties and expectations of future contributions.



Dr. Angelica Lang, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr Angelica Lang is an Associate Professor in the Canadian Centre for Rural and Agricultural Health and the Department of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan. She is the lead of the Shoulder Health and Ergonomics Research Lab, due to her expertise is in shoulder biomechanics. Her research, currently funded by NSERC Discovery and CIHR Project Grants, aims to improve musculoskeletal health and quality of life by exploring how biomechanics are related to injuries, functional abilities, and work. She is also mom to two young boys.



Dr. Stacey Lovo, PhD

Associate Professor, School of Rehabilitation Science

Dr. Lovo is a fourth-generation settler Treaty 6 and Homeland of the Métis. She is the Director of Virtual Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation at the Virtual Health Hub. Stacey teaches Professional Practice in the MPT Program. Her research is in partnership with rural and remote First Nation and Métis communities to co-develop, implement and evaluate virtual healthcare options for rehabilitation and primary care. She also works to enhance culturally responsive and anti-racist care in Saskatchewan.

Promotion to Associate Professor

This is an important faculty career stage, indicating the University's confidence in the performance of academic duties and expectations of future contributions.



Dr. Varun (Varunkumar) Bathini, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Varun Bathini attended the University of Alberta prior to obtaining his medical degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 2009. He then went on to complete his urology training at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario. After completing his residency in 2014 Dr. Bathini joined Saskatoon Urology Associates. He is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan. His clinical areas of expertise are minimally invasive surgery and surgical oncology. He is currently the Provincial Lead of Robotic Surgery.



Dr. Gavin Beck, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Gavin trained in General Surgery at USask and completed a multi-organ abdominal transplant fellowship with the University of Western Ontario. He joined the College of Medicine as a clinical faculty in 2014. He is currently the Co-Director (surgical) of the Saskatchewan Transplant Program, Program Director of the General Surgery Residency Training Program and a Co-Director of the Department of Surgery Surgical Simulation Laboratory. In addition to his transplant practice, he is one of the team members providing hepato-pancreatico-biliary surgery to the province of Saskatchewan. He is dedicated to the surgical education of USask.



Dr. Brady Bouchard, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine (North Battleford)

Dr. Brady Bouchard is a family physician in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, with focused practice in addiction and emergency medicine. He holds degrees in engineering, medicine, and public health from the University of Alberta, University of Queensland, and Imperial College London. He has served on the CFPC Board (President, 2021–22) and currently sits on the Saskatchewan Medical Association Board. He leads provincial emergency medicine and addictions initiatives, teaches with the University of Saskatchewan, and supports harm reduction quality improvement.



Dr. Mahli Brindamour, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Brindamour is a general pediatrician at the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital in Saskatoon. She also provides outreach clinics to the northern SK communities of Black Lake and Fond du Lac and was the first pediatrician at Sanctum 1.5, a supportive home for mothers and infants at risk of or living with HIV. She co-founded with the Saskatoon Refugee Health Collaborative the Refugee Engagement and Community Health (REACH) Clinic, which offers team-based care for refugee children. Dr. Brindamour is a consultant with the Saskatchewan Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program serving Northern First Nations communities, and she serves on the steering committee of Stop TB Canada.



Dr. Jordan Buchko, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery (Regina)

Dr. Jordan Buchko is an Orthopaedic Surgeon specializing in arthroscopy and sports medicine. Born and raised in Regina, he completed his MD (2009) and his Orthopaedic Surgery residency (2014) at USask. He followed this with a one-year Reconstructive Arthroscopy fellowship at UBC. Dr. Buchko has been practicing in Regina since September 2015, and has been fortunate to be a team Orthopaedic Surgeon with the Saskatchewan Roughriders since May 2016. He is the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Orthopaedic Surgery Education Coordinator for the College of Medicine Regina Campus. In his spare time, he enjoys coaching his daughter Gabriella's flag football team and spending time with his lovely wife Jennifer.



Dr. Garson Chan, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Chan works in the Division of Urology at USask with a cross-appointment in Obstetrics and Gynecology. He specializes in functional and reconstructive urology and is developing a functional urology fellowship program, serving as a tertiary referral center for complex cases from SK, MN, and BC. He performed the first sacral neuromodulation procedures for both urinary and bowel dysfunction in SK. He is actively involved in clinical research, including prospective trials, and contributes as a reviewer for several peer-reviewed journals. A dedicated educator and mentor, Dr. Chan is committed to advancing patient care, medical education, and innovation in urology.



Dr. Eugene Choo, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology

Dr. Eugene Choo is a cardiac anesthesiologist and Program Director of the Anesthesiology Residency Program. He has led initiatives in curriculum renewal and the expansion of the distributed anesthesia residency program. His interests include medical education and adult structural heart interventions. Dr. Choo is actively engaged in national education and policy development through the Association of Canadian University Departments of Anesthesia. He has contributed to the scholarship of teaching and learning through publications on point-of-care ultrasound and resident assessment. A recent graduate of the Clinician Educator Program, Dr. Choo is dedicated to mentoring future educators in anesthesia education.



Dr. Dawn De Souza, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Dawn De Souza is with the Department of Psychiatry. She completed her residency training at the University of Saskatchewan. She has a busy clinical practice serving the adult population of Saskatchewan with a special focus on disordered eating, mood and anxiety. She is actively involved in both Undergraduate and Postgraduate Medical Education; teaching learners, serving on local and national committees, and holding many medical education roles across the years. She is currently the Co-Program Director of the Psychiatry Residency Training Program at the University of Saskatchewan.



Dr. Jonathan Gamble, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology

Dr. Gamble joined the Department of Anesthesiology in 2009. He completed his medical and anesthesiology training at the University of Saskatchewan, followed by fellowships in Pediatric Anesthesiology and Pediatric Intensive Care at the University of Alberta. Dr. Gamble has received multiple teaching awards, including the F. Barrie Reynolds Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching, and has supervised numerous undergraduate and graduate students. His research focuses on pediatric anesthesia, virtual care, and perioperative safety. He currently serves as Executive Director of Research for the department and as Past President of the Canadian Pediatric Anesthesia Society, actively advancing education and clinical innovation.



Dr. Dilip Gill, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dilip Gill is a Colorectal Surgery subspecialist originally from Windsor, Ontario. Trained at the University of Saskatchewan College of Medicine, he completed his General Surgery residency there and a fellowship in Colorectal Surgery at the University of British Columbia. He has had a strong interest in leadership and medical education at both the PGME and UGME level and serves as Associate Program Director for the General Surgery training program and as Course Director for Clinical Skills. Passionate about minimally invasive surgery for Colorectal Cancer and IBD, Dr. Gill drives colorectal health advancements and is working towards establishing a provincial Colorectal Health Centre.



Dr. Tamara Hinz, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Dr. Tamara Hinz is a child and youth psychiatrist. In addition to her clinical and academic roles, she is a passionate advocate for youth with mental health struggles and other marginalized populations and serves as the first female president of the Saskatchewan Psychiatric Association. She frequently serves as a voice in conventional and social media to provide public education and advocacy on a variety of health topics. In 2021, she was the recipient of the Provincial Department Head's Award in recognition of exemplary advocacy and leadership in academic/clinical psychiatry.



Dr. Alana Holt, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Dr. Holt joined the Department of Psychiatry at USask in 2007. She completed her MD from USask where she also completed her psychiatry residency. She serves as Clinical Practice Lead at the Student Wellness Centre and is actively engaged in teaching medical students and residents. Dr. Holt is a long-time member of the Saskatchewan Medical Association's Physician Health Program and also serves as Physician Wellness Lead for Continuing Medical Education and Director of Resident Wellness Resources in Postgraduate Medical Education. Dr. Holt represents SK on the National Steering Committee for Health Canada's Plan for Health Workforce Wellbeing. She is married with four children and enjoys time outdoors and with family and friends.



Dr. Ayisha Kurji, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Ayisha completed medical school at the University of Calgary in 2004, and her Pediatrics Residency at the University of Saskatchewan in 2008. She practices inpatient and outpatient general pediatrics, and also provides medical care for children and youth with eating disorders. She is passionate about patient safety, quality improvement, and teaching. Outside of work, she loves baking, reading, spending time with her family, being outside, and chasing the northern lights.



Dr. Mita Manna, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Oncology

Dr. Mita Manna is a Medical Oncologist at the Saskatoon Cancer Centre, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and Associate Professor within the Department of Oncology, University of Saskatchewan. She is the Provincial Disease Site Lead for Breast Malignancies and Chair for the REAL Alliance Breast Cancer Canada (Research Excellence and Active Leadership). Her research interests include quality improvement and real-world evidence. She is the 2025 recipient of the College of Medicine Annual Excellence in Research Award at the University of Saskatchewan. She is also actively involved in medical education. When she is not at work, she can be found cycling and leading the Pedal Wench group at Bike Doctor.



Dr. Ahmed Mater, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Ahmed Mater joined the Department of Pediatrics in 2009 as a pediatric emergency physician, following his fellowship in Pediatric Emergency Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario and the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. He is the Saskatoon site representative for Pediatric Emergency Research Canada, where he has played a pivotal role in establishing Saskatoon as an active site in national and international multicenter research initiatives. Dr. Mater is the site Principal Investigator for the Surveillance Program for Rapid Identification and Tracking of Infectious Diseases in kidS (SPRINT-KIDS), an active surveillance initiative funded by the PHAC, and the CIHR-funded Pediatric Outcome Improvement through Coordination of Research Networks (POPCORN).



Dr. Alexandra Mortimer, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Mortimer completed her MD at Dalhousie University in 2010. She received her RCPSC after completing her Orthopedic Surgery residency at the University of Saskatchewan in 2016. She travelled to Seattle, WA to complete her fellowship in Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery at Seattle Children's Hospital. In the fall of 2017, she returned to Saskatoon to start her practice as a Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon. Her clinical area of expertise is pediatric foot and ankle conditions. In 2020 she became co-director for the surgery clerkship program in the University of Saskatchewan College of Medicine and in 2022 became director for undergraduate surgical education.



Dr. Sarah Oberholtzer, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr. Oberholtzer completed her medical degree at the University of Alberta and her Internal Medicine residency and Rheumatology fellowship at USask. She is a full time general rheumatologist in Saskatoon and runs an outreach clinic in La Ronge. She runs a unique combination rheumatology and gastroenterology clinic and has a special interest in spondyloarthritis and psoriatic disease. She is passionate about educating the next generation of physicians and is a full time teacher and assistant program director for the rheumatology fellowship training program .



Dr. Quinten Paterson

Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

Dr. Quinten Paterson is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan College of Medicine (2016) and and Royal College Emergency Medicine residency (2021). He obtained a Clinician Educator Diploma from McMaster University in 2023 and has been Program Director of the EM residency program since 2024, after serving as Assistant Program Director from 2022–2023. He is currently pursuing a Master’s in Medical Education through the University of Dundee, with research focused on the impact of emergency department overcrowding on residency education. Outside of medicine, he is a devoted husband and father to two boys, with a baby girl on the way.



Dr. Laura Sims, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Born and raised in Saskatchewan, Dr. Laura Sims proudly calls this province home. She completed her medical degree in 2013 and her orthopedic residency training in 2018, both at the University of Saskatchewan. Following this, she spent time in London, Ontario gaining subspecialty training at the Roth McFarlane Hand and Upper Limb Centre. Her practice in Saskatoon focuses on surgical conditions of the hand, wrist and elbow. In addition to her clinical practice, Dr. Sims is involved in medical and resident education and is the Chair of Research for the Division of Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan. Her research interests focus on clinical outcome measures following upper limb surgery.



Dr. Sabira Valiani, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr. Sabira Valiani joined the Department of Adult Critical Care Medicine in Saskatoon in 2016. Prior to this, she completed medical school at the University of Alberta, and residency and fellowship training in Internal Medicine and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Ottawa. During her time as a staff physician, Dr. Valiani has completed a Master of Science in Bioethics at the Columbia University. She is an active researcher within the Department of Medicine and member of the Canadian Critical Care Trials Group. Her research interests include patient and family-centered care, communication, and palliative care.



Dr. Johannes van der Merwe, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

I grew up in Pretoria, South Africa and completed medical school at the University of Pretoria in 2000. I did my Houseman year in Windhoek, Namibia, which was followed by a community service year in Potchefstroom, South Africa. My wife (family physician) and I emigrated to Canada in 2003. I spent my first 3 years working as a family physician in La Ronge. In 2006 I joined the residency program in Orthopaedic Surgery at USask, and graduated in 2011. This was followed by 2 fellowships in adult reconstruction surgery at USask and UBC. My family and I moved back to Saskatchewan in 2013 where I started my practise as a hip and knee surgeon.

Promotion to Professor

This significant accomplishment in a faculty member's career signifies outstanding accomplishments in teaching, research, and academic administration.



Dr. Joseph Blondeau, PhD

Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Dr. Joseph M. Blondeau is a Clinical Microbiologist and Head of Clinical Microbiology at Royal University Hospital and USask and is the provincial clinical lead with the SHA. He holds a MSc in Microbiology and a PhD in Medical Microbiology, followed by post-doctoral training in infectious diseases and Clinical Microbiology. He is a Professor of Pathology, Clinical Associate Professor of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology, and Clinical Associate Professor of Ophthalmology. He teaches undergraduate and graduate students in the areas of microbiology, infectious diseases, antimicrobial agents and pharmacology. His research interests are antimicrobial agents and resistance, clinical microbiology, and clinical outcomes associated with antimicrobial therapy in both human and veterinary medicine.



Dr. Phil Davis, MD

Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

Phil Davis is an Emergency Physician who came to Saskatoon in 2016. Passionate about academic medicine, he served as the research director for the Department of Emergency Department from 2016 - 2023. Seeking new challenges and opportunities, he joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 2023 and currently serves as a Major with 1 Canadian Field Hospital. Recently he has also taken on the role of Co-Area Department Lead for Emergency Medicine in Saskatoon. Throughout his career, he has been committed to evidence-based practice, teaching, and teamwork.



Dr. Holly Graham, PhD

Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Dr. Holly Graham is a member of the Thunderchild First Nation, SK. She has worked as a Registered Nurse (RN) in northern communities and other health care environments since 1985 and is currently a Professor in the Department of Psychiatry. She holds an Indigenous Research Chair in Nursing awarded by CIHR, SHRF, and the Canadian Nurses Foundation (CNF). Holly maintains a private practice as a Registered Doctoral Psychologist, working with individuals who have experienced trauma and symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Holly's research is strength-based with a focus on Indigenous (First Nation, Inuit, and Métis) peoples' health, mental health, and wellness.

Dr. Camille Hamula, PhD

Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine



Dr. Camille Hamula is a clinical microbiologist, a public health program lead for Sexually Transmitted Infections, Antimicrobial Resistance, and Enteric Infections, and Clinical Lead for Laboratory Quality and Safety. She has advanced diagnostics and testing protocols across the province, improving turnaround times and implementing quality control measures in both urban and rural labs. Dr. Hamula has published extensively on sepsis and antimicrobial resistance and contributes to Clinica Laboratory Standards Institute guideline development, including for syphilis and anaerobic detection. She is dedicated to ensuring laboratory quality and quality patient care.

Dr. Andries Muller, MD

Professor, Department of Family Medicine



Andries is a family physician in the Department of Academic Family Physician. He trained in South Africa and moved to Canada in 2002. He started out as a rural family doctor in Biggar, SK and later joined the University, first as an Assistant Professor and worked his way up the ranks to Full Professor now. He has an interest in Men's health and completed a PhD in this area. He currently lives with his wife and daughter in Saskatoon.

Dr. Paul Olszynski, MD

Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine



Paul is a Professor of Emergency Medicine and Director of both Simulation and Clinical Ultrasonography for the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan. He is passionate about the integration of simulation into everyday healthcare and the widespread inter-professional adoption of Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) to improve patient care. He is actively involved in the training, clinical implementation, and research in both simulation and POCUS.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AWARDS

Sydney Inskip Service Award

This award was established by alumni Drs. Ivan Jen and Suzanne Yip to memorialize Sydney Inskip, a staff member who made an impact on the couple when they were students. The award recognizes staff members who have made outstanding contributions and have enhanced the work environment in the College.



Joshua Lloyd (2024 Recipient)

Director of Assessment

Dr. Lloyd was nominated by Dr. Greg Malin, Dr. Ginger Ruddy, and Bev Digout. He was recognized for his empathy, professionalism, and collaborative nature. Nominators commented on his ability to lighten the mood and make others feel at ease, which contributes to a positive atmosphere and open communication, even during stressful times. Notable is Joshua's unwavering sense of equity and fairness, which has enhanced individual student experiences but also strengthens the community as a whole.



Valerie Arnault (2025 Recipient)

Senior Lead, Indigenous Initiatives and Programming

Valerie was nominated by Sherry Pederson, Terri Thunder, Indiana Best, Jensen Tralberg, Dr. Holly Graham, Dr. Veronica McKinney, and Michelle Gabayan. The nominators shared how in their conversations with faculty and staff they all felt that "Val undoubtedly is the reason why so many of them are where they are today". They highlighted her instrumental contributions to the Indigenous Health Committee, how she has created accessible cultural spaces, and her dedication to bringing in students to USask with care, respect, and kindness.

Louis Horlick Spirit of the College Award

This award was established by the Alumni Association in honour of Dr. Louis Horlick, Professor Emeritus, Department of Medicine, for his contributions to the College of Medicine. It is presented to an individual who has contributed service over and above the call of duty and shows spirit, dedication, and enthusiasm.



Bev Digout (2025 Recipient)

Student Affairs Coordinator

Bev was nominated by Joshua Lloyd and Dr. Ginger Ruddy. She was recognized for her dedication to ensuring every student receives representation, her advocacy for their well-being, her strengths-based and restorative approach to learners having difficulties, her leadership of the Healer's Art program, and her overall dedication, generosity, and spirit.

Ann Finch Exemplary Service Award

This new award will recognize staff members at the Regina Campus for providing outstanding service and making a significant impact to the College of Medicine.



Ann Finch (2025 Recipient)

Program Administrator, Family Medicine - Emergency Medicine, (Regina)

The development of this award was spearheaded by Catherine MacKay-Wilson, Annie Ethier, Dr. Andrew Leach, and Dr. Glenda Kaban. This year's inaugural award, of course, goes to Ann Finch! Ann is being recognized for her willingness to go above and beyond for students, how she has enhanced the effectiveness and efficiency of her team, her extraordinary dedication to her department, and the significant impacts she has had on the institution.

Living Our Values Award

This award recognizes individuals who have exemplified the College values (*collegiality, fairness & equitable treatment, inclusiveness; integrity, honesty, and ethical behaviour, and respect*) in their work and actions.



Donna McLean (2025 Recipient)

Administrative Assistant, Academic Support and Assessment

Donna was nominated by Joshua Lloyd, Meghan Nelson, Ayesha Iqbal, and Sherry Pederson. She was recognized for how she shows genuine caring to her colleagues, her steady presence during times of change, her skills in communication and listening, and her professionalism.



Sheldon Moellenbeck (2025 Recipient)

Coordinator, Office of Career Advising and Mentorship

Sheldon was nominated by Bev Digout and Shannon Bay. He was recognized for his ability to create a welcoming environment, his responsiveness, his support of mentorship programs, and his collaborative and respectful spirit.



Anna Taruc (2025 Recipient)

Administrative Coordinator, Masters of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS)

Anna was nominated by Gayathri Manoharan and Dr. Trustin Domes. She was recognized for her approachable nature and genuine care for her colleagues, her strong sense of responsibility, her commitment to partnership, her creativity, and her contributions to building a values-aligned community in our College.

Strategic Star Award

This award recognizes individuals whose exceptional actions have contributed to one of the College of Medicine strategic directions.



Kristen Cutting (2025 Recipient)

Communications and Strategic Initiatives Coordinator, School of Rehabilitation Science

Kristen was nominated by Dr. Brenna Bath, Dr. Soo Kim, and Liz Rackow. She was recognized for her organization and efficiency; her leadership of a continuous quality improvement process; her involvement in the Occupational Therapy (OT) and Speech Language Pathology (SLP) development working group; and the positive influence she has on those around her.



Kim Gilbert (2025 Recipient)

Program Administrator, Internal Medicine, (Regina)

Kim was nominated by Dr. Marc Reeson, Annie Ethier, and Catherine MacKay-Willson. She was recognized for her contributions to quality improvement initiatives, her ability to inspire collaboration, and how she is the “first person residents turn to with questions or concerns and is a true friend and advocate for every resident in our program”.

Team Achievement Award

This award recognizes a team whose actions, including demonstration of collegiality, respect, and inclusiveness, have been key in the achievement of an outcome.



L-R: Dr. Rani Kanthan and Deb Quirion

Pathology Program Team: Dr. Rani Kanthan and Deb Quirion (2025 Recipient)

The Team was nominated by Dr. Pramath Kakodkar and Dr. Daniel Markewich. They were recognized for how they have set a gold standard for professionalism and inclusivity for their residents, their genuine care for the residents' professional and personal well-being, how they have elevated the program's academic standing, and how they have set an exemplary standard for resident education and support.



Top left - clockwise: Kirsten Hanke, Dr. Bev Karras, Lisa Krol, and Dr. Roona Sinha

Curriculum Quality Review Team: Kirsten Hanke, Dr. Bev Karras, Lisa Krol, and Dr. Roona Sinha (2025 Recipient)

The Curriculum Quality Review Team was nominated by Dr. Regina Taylor-Gjevre and Dr. Meredith McKague. They were recognized for how they advanced the UGME curriculum quality and strengthened accreditation compliance standing, their exceptional collaboration both inside and outside the team, their authentic and empathetic approach, and the significant and far-reaching impact of their work.

Faculty Development Captivator of the Year Award

This award acknowledges members who have presented their work contributing to needs identified by UGME, PGME, or CPD. The award also recognizes inclusive presentation skills, and interaction and engagement with the audience in a meaningful way.



Dr. Paul Olszynski, MD (2025 Recipient)

Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

Dr. Olszynski was nominated by Dr. Cathy MacLean and Sean Polreis. He was recognized for his work in developing a simulation program for faculty across the province with asynchronous online access, how he has created meaningful change in simulation and capacity, and his leadership and creativity.

Faculty Development Deirdre Bonnycastle Champion of Change Award

This award pays tribute to the work done by Deirdre Bonnycastle and acknowledges those who go above and beyond in contributing to faculty development and creating change in medicine.



Dr. Asma Gargoum, MD (2025 Recipient)

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine, (Regina)

Dr. Gargoum was nominated by Dr. Natasha Kalra, Dr. Olivia Reis, and Dr. Haidar Kubba. She was recognized for her work as a driving force behind the faculty development curriculum, her dedication to equity, diversity, and inclusion, her forward-thinking approach, and her willingness to invest time and energy into faculty, residents, and community development.



Dr. Kalyani Premkumar, PhD (2025 Recipient)

Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology

Dr. Premkumar was nominated by Dr. Cathy MacLean and Dr. Helen Chang. She was recognized for her work as the College of Medicine Lead for the Masters of Education (Health Professions Education), and how she has fostered the professional growth of graduates of the program who are making meaningful changes in medicine every day.

Faculty Leadership Excellence Award

The award recognizes an outstanding faculty leader who has exhibited care in building a healthy workplace.



Dr. Justina Koshinsky, MD (2025 Recipient)

Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology

Dr. Koshinsky was nominated by Dr. Eugene Choo, Dr. Mateen Raazi, and Dr. Lei Xia. She was recognized for her leadership in the anesthesia simulation program, her dedication to diversity and outreach to underrepresented populations, her mentorship, and her commitment to wellness initiatives that address social engagement as well as critical issues.

Annual Excellence in Research Award

The award recognizes faculty who have exhibited excellence and had a significant impact on research.



Dr. Laura Hopkins, MD (2024 Recipient)

Professor, Department of Oncology

Dr. Hopkins was nominated by Dr. Shahid Ahmed and Dr. Vickie Martin. She was recognized for her innovative research initiatives aimed at improving outcomes and quality of life for ovarian cancer patients, including the 4PDQ trial which involved prioritizing patient preferences in the decision-making process, representing a shift towards more personalized health care. She had a pivotal role in establishing Saskatchewan's first ovarian tissue cryopreservation program, addressing a significant gap in care and ensuring young patients have the possibility of maintaining their fertility in the future.



Dr. Mita Manna, MD (2025 Recipient)

Associate Professor, Department of Oncology

Dr. Manna was nominated by Dr. Shahid Ahmed and Dr. Adnan Zaidi. She was recognized for her leadership in research-driven implementation of mainstream genetic testing for breast and ovarian cancer, her advocacy for oncology research and engagement in policy-shaping initiatives, her dedication to education and mentorship, and her commitment to knowledge dissemination and continuous learning.

Research Career Achievement Award

This award recognizes faculty who have had significant research impact over the course of their career.



Dr. Don Crockcroft, MD (2024 Recipient)

Distinguished Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr. Crockcroft was nominated by Dr. Haissam Haddad and Dr. Josh Lawson. He was recognized for his foundational research in asthma and allergic disease, including establishment of the methacholine challenge method and identification and description of allergen-induced increases in airway responsiveness. Dr. Crockcroft's contributions towards the training and education of research trainees have been exceptional and have helped to shape the careers of many faculty and researchers in respiratory health.



Dr. Hadi Goubran, MD (2025 Recipient)

Professor, Department of Oncology

Dr. Goubran was nominated by Dr. Shahid Ahmed and Dr. Kelsey Brose. He was recognized for his pioneering work in the development of fibrin sealant technology, his dedication to addressing needs of developing countries, his engagement in mentorship and education, and his commitment to patient health and safety.

Mingling Minds in Research Award

This award recognizes individuals or teams who have exhibited the highest commitment to conducting interdisciplinary research and/or to approaching research areas with novel, outside of the box approaches.



Dr. Daniel Fuller, PhD (2024 Recipient)

Associate Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology

Dr. Fuller was nominated by Dr. Sylvia Abonyi and Dr. Sarah Oosman. He was recognized for his impactful research in the field of urban environmental design, including leadership of the Interventions, Equity, and Research in Cities Team (INTERACT), which required extensive multidisciplinary collaborations. Nominators commented on his innovative use of digital tools which has served to enhance the accuracy and scope of his research but also made it more accessible to a wider audience of partners.

Rural Medical Education Award

This award recognizes rural faculty members who have created new, or adapted existing, tools, curriculum, or programs, for use in rural-focused teaching and learning.



Dr. David Boyle, MD (2024 Recipient)

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine, (Melfort)

Dr. Boyle was nominated by Dr. Geoff Zerr. He was recognized for his work in simulation and POCUS education which have helped to substantially improve clinical knowledge and communication of his colleagues in Melfort. Dr. Boyle's approachability, kindness, and the emotional debriefs he has implemented were especially appreciated.

Rural Partnership Award

This award recognizes rural members who work in partnership in advancing academic medicine in rural Saskatchewan.



Associate Family Physicians Clinic, Swift Current (2024 Recipient)

The AFPC team was nominated by Tammy Schlamp. The team was recognized for their work on the Patient Medical Home project, including their dedication to teaching and mentoring staff members and explaining changes to patients, and the strong connection between team members this project has provided.

The physician team includes: Dr. Tara Lee, Dr. Kelsy Leavins, Dr. Janna Cuthbert, Dr. Austin Little, Dr. Kristine Pederson, Dr. Emmett Harrison, Dr. Kayla Fehr, Dr. E. Bronwen Gould, Dr. Sarah Harrison, and Dr. Michael Kapusta.

Continuing Medical Education Teaching Excellence Award

This award recognizes a faculty member who is deemed as excellent in their teaching at the CME level.



Dr. Ibraheem Othman, MD (2024 Recipient)

Associate Professor, Department of Oncology, (Regina)

Dr. Othman was recognized for his contribution to the Saskatchewan Oncology Education Course. He was chosen for his exceptional knowledge, superior communication skills, & ability to create an engaging experience with his learners within the domain of CME.



Dr. Madhav Sarda, MD (2025 Recipient)

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Dr. Sarda was nominated for his involvement with the CanREACH-SK PPP Mini-Fellowship. He was chosen for his expertise in adolescence mental health, his ability to communicate and explain concepts, and his engagement with learners, creating an inclusive and encouraging environment.

New Teacher Award

This award provides an opportunity to honour individuals who are early in their academic careers and have made contributions to the teaching mission of the College of Medicine.



Dr. Natasha Kalra, MD (2024 Recipient)

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine, (Regina)

Dr. Kalra was nominated by Zoher Rafid-Hamed on behalf of several undergraduate students and faculty members. She was recognized for her love for learning and discovery, the way she challenges learners to think critically, and her creation of an inclusive learning environment. Nominators commented on her approach to assessments as learning opportunities, and her commitment to continuous improvement as important aspects in meeting the needs of your learners. Notable is Dr. Kalra's openness to receive feedback and encouragement of broad perspectives in the classroom and clinic.



Dr. Hui Wang, MD (2024 Recipient)

Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Dr. Wang was nominated by Dr. Ingrid Tam on behalf of the entire resident body of Diagnostic and Clinical Pathology. She was recognized for her high degree of expert knowledge, her passion for teaching, respect for students, and ability to create an inclusive learning environment. Nominators commented on her use of the model of graduated responsibility and real-time feedback which has helped to enrich the education experience of her learners. Notable is Dr. Wang's regard for education as an "opportunity" and a "privilege", and her re-invigoration of the six-month examination process.



Dr. Brittany Waller, MD (2025 Recipient)

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, (Regina)

Dr. Waller was nominated by Dr. McKenzie Van Eaton and Dr. Rachel Asiniwasis. She was recognized for her leadership in creating the new Dermatology Residency Program and developing the comprehensive curriculum, her dedication to teaching and learning as foundational to the program, and the encouragement and empowerment she offers her students.

Regina Campus Teaching Award

The award recognizes excellence in teaching by an individual faculty member at the Regina Campus.



Dr. Ibraheem Othman, MD (2024 Recipient)

Associate Professor, Department of Oncology, (Regina)

Dr. Othman was nominated by Aby Korbo and Ali Khan on behalf of several undergraduate students. Nominators highlighted his teaching in the hematology and oncology module and how he encouraged inquiry and exploration, provided opportunities for discussion, brought humour and clarity to complex materials, emphasized cross-cultural awareness, and sought feedback from students to further improve his teaching. Notable was how Dr. Othman provides an inspiring, safe, and engaging learning environment and how he exemplifies a compassionate and caring medical professional.



Dr. Donald McCarville, MD (2025 Recipient)

Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, (Regina)

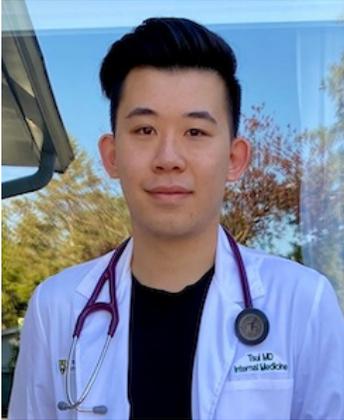
Dr. McCarville was nominated by the pre-clerkship team at the Regina campus: April Cannon, Dr. Afzal Siddiqui, Cass Cozman, Cassie Eskra, Meghan Nelson, and Randi Bodas; as well as Year 2 students Syed Subhan and Ali Khan. He was recognized for his ability to establish trust with students, his welcoming and compassionate nature, his interactive teaching style, and his dedication to fostering the growth of future physicians.



Dr. Ryan Pikaluk, MD (2025 Recipient)

Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, (Regina)

Dr. Pikaluk was nominated by Dr. Eugene Choo, Dr. Lei Xia, Dr. Mateen Raazi, and Dr. Tim Rosser. He was recognized for his contributions to research and quality improvement projects, his ability to foster an environment of trust and respect, his pivotal role and leadership in establishing the distributed anesthesia program in Regina, and his dedication to fostering curiosity and deep understanding among learners.



Dr. Calvin Tsui, MD (2025 Recipient)

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, (Regina)

Dr. Tsui was nominated by Dr. Alexander Wong and Dr. Marc Reeson. He was recognized for his superb communication skills with interdisciplinary colleagues, patients, and families, his high standard of clinical care and teaching, his mentorship, and his support of learner wellness.

Excellence in Teaching Award

This award honours faculty members for their significant contributions to the teaching mission of the College and is an acknowledgement by their peers and students as being exceptional in practicing their art and craft.



Dr. Stan Bardal, PhD (2025 Recipient)

Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Dr. Bardal was nominated by Dr. Thomas Fisher and Dr. Meredith McKague. He was recognized for his dedication to learning as exemplified through his Masters studies and research, his ability to create respectful learning environments, and his overall contributions to curriculum development and programming, notably as co-lead of the Masters of Physician Assistants (MPAS) curriculum.



Dr. Ayisha Kurji, MD (2025 Recipient)

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Kurji was nominated by Dr. Krista Baerg and Dr. Janna Brusky. She was recognized for her positive attitude, how she shows respect and trust to her learners, peers, and patients, how she creates an inclusive and empowering learning environment, and her contributions to curricular development.

Clinical Investigator Program, Clinical Investigator Faculty Award



Dr. John DeCoteau, MD

Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Post Graduate Medical Education Faculty and Staff Awards



Excellence in Enhancing Resident Learning

Dr. Jill Kambeitz, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Academic Family Medicine



Excellence in Enhancing Resident Learning

Dr. Kate Moolman, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics



Exemplary Role Model Faculty Member

Dr. Alexander Rajput, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine



Program Administrator of the Year Award

Megan Fortosky

PGME & UGME Program Administrator, Department of Anesthesiology



Program/Site Director of the Year Award

Dr. Shane Wunder, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
(Regina)



SCHOOL AND DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

SCHOOL OF REHABILITATION SCIENCE



Liz Harrison Interprofessional Collaboration Award

Dr. Katie Crockett, PhD

Assistant Professor, School of Rehabilitation Science

DEPARTMENT OF ACADEMIC FAMILY MEDICINE



Keith Ogle Award for Teaching in Family Medicine -
Enhanced Skills

Dr. Murray Dease, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology



Keith Ogle Award for Teaching in Family Medicine -
North

Dr. Olukayode Olutunfese, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Academic Family Medicine, (Nipawin)



Keith Ogle Award for Teaching in Family Medicine - South

Dr. Jessi Warren, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Academic Family Medicine (Weyburn)



Keith Ogle Award for Teaching in Family Medicine - Urban

Dr. Nicole Shedden, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Academic Family Medicine (Saskatoon)



Dr. Sally Mahood Award

Dr. Megan Clark, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Academic Family Medicine, (Regina)



Dr. Viv Ramsden Award

Dr. Peter Butt, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Academic Family Medicine



Dr. Gill White Award

Dr. Michael Stoll, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Academic Family Medicine, (Melfort)

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE



Emergency Residency program, Regina Site Off-Service
Teacher of the Year

Dr. Grazyna Burek, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics (Regina)

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

PROVINCIAL HEAD AWARDS



Administrator of the Year

Dr. Jessie Baptiste, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine



Clinician of the Year

Dr. Stephen Pylypchuk, MD
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine



Researcher of the Year

Dr. Angelica Lang, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine



Teacher of the Year

Dr. Tom Guzowski, MD
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

FACULTY AWARDS (VOTED ON BY INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENTS)



Bedside Teacher of the Year, Regina

Dr. Lucas Diebel, MD
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, (Regina)



Bedside Teacher of the Year, Saskatoon,
AND
Teacher of the Year, Saskatoon

Dr. Linden Kolbenson, MD
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

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Distinguished Lecturer of the Year

Dr. Kathryn Whittemore, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine
Teacher of the Year, Regina

Dr. Aadam Ijaz, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine (Regina)

DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY



Tom MacLachlan Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Education

Dr. Bobbi Batchelor, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology



Peter Woodrow Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Education

Dr. Dorian Kristmanson, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, (Regina)



Bob Sollars Award for Excellence in Postgraduate Education

Dr. Arohumam Kan, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, (Regina)

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David Popkin Award for Excellence in Postgraduate Education

Dr. Sue Auvinen, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHAMOLOGY



Faculty Teacher of the Year Award

Dr. Shehla Rubab, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Opthamology

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS



Pediatric Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award -
Regina

Dr. Shauna Flavelle, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, (Regina)



Pediatric Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award -
Saskatoon

Dr. William Weiler, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY



Faculty Teaching Award - Saskatoon

Dr. Isaac Cheveldae, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry



Provincial Department Head Leadership Award

Dr. Malin Clark, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry

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Faculty Teaching Award - Regina

Dr. Bechedza Hatitchki, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry (Regina)

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



Faculty Research Award

Dr. Gary Groot, MD, PhD

Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN AWARDS

Distinguished Professor, 2025

This designation recognizes, honours, and celebrates outstanding achievements in research, scholarly or artistic works by University of Saskatchewan faculty. There are no more than 30 individuals that can hold the title of Distinguished Professor at a time. It is an appointment for life, and upon retirement, the awardees will bear the title of Distinguished Professor Emeritus/Emerita.



Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine , PhD

Distinguished Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology

Dr. 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, 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. Muhajarine exhibits remarkable depth and range in his scholarly work, and is a highly respected researcher, leader, mentor, and teacher, and an exceptional academic who works effectively with people across sectors.



Dr. Valerie Verge, PhD

Distinguished Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Dr. Verge is a leading researcher focusing on enhancing nervous system repair, particularly for peripheral nerves and for the treatment of multiple sclerosis (MS). She earned a Bachelor of Science from Concordia University, as well as a certificate in computer programming and a PhD in neuroscience from McGill University. Her work is known for explaining the molecular basis and application of innovative therapies that enhance nervous system repair, including electrical nerve stimulation and non-invasive acute intermittent hypoxia. Verge's work has established her as a pioneer in the field.



Provost's College Teaching Award, 2025

This award recognizes a teacher in each College or School at the University of Saskatchewan, who has demonstrated teaching excellence.

Dr. Jacqueline Kraushaar, MD

Director Faculty and Learning Environment, and Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, (Regina)



Distinguished Teacher Award, Fall 2024

This award represents the highest level of recognition of teaching excellence at the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Greg Malin, MD, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Academic Family Medicine

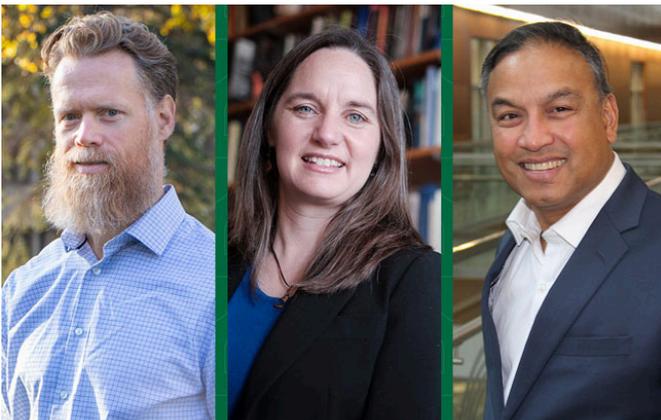


Distinguished Researcher Award, 2025

This award recognizes significant contributions to knowledge or artistic creativity.

Dr. Valerie Verge, PhD

Distinguished Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology



College of Arts and Science, Publicly Engaged Scholar Team Award, 2025

Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine, PhD

Distinguished Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology

This award was shared with team members Dr. Jim Clifford and Dr. Ericka Dyck, from the Department of History, College of Arts and Science.

L-R: Dr. Jim Clifford, Dr. Ericka Dyck, and Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine



Excellence in Research Administration - Distinguished Administrator Award, 2025

Karen Mosier

Research Coordinator/Navigator, Department of Surgery



University of Saskatchewan India Students' Association, Distinguished Faculty Award, 2025

Dr. Jay Kalra, PhD, MD

Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine



University of Saskatchewan Lifetime Achievement Award, 2024

Dr. Jim Dosman, MD

Distinguished Professor, Department of Medicine

EXTERNAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL

Resident Doctors of Saskatchewan, Exceptional Teaching Awards, 2025



Dr. Idris Bare, MD
Assistant Professor,
Department of Medicine



**Dr. Puneet Kapur,
MD**
Associate Professor
Department of
Emergency Medicine



Dr. Julia Radic, MD
Assistant Professor,
Department of Surgery



**Dr. Izn Shahab,
MD**
Assistant Professor,
Department of Medicine

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Dr. Lee Kolla, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery
Dr. Alex Zhai, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

Saskatchewan Book Awards' First Book Award, 2025



Dr. Jarol Boan, MD
Clinical Associate
Professor,
Department of
Medicine, (Regina)

Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation



Establishment
Grant, Biomedical,
2024-25

**Dr. Amanda Hall,
MD**

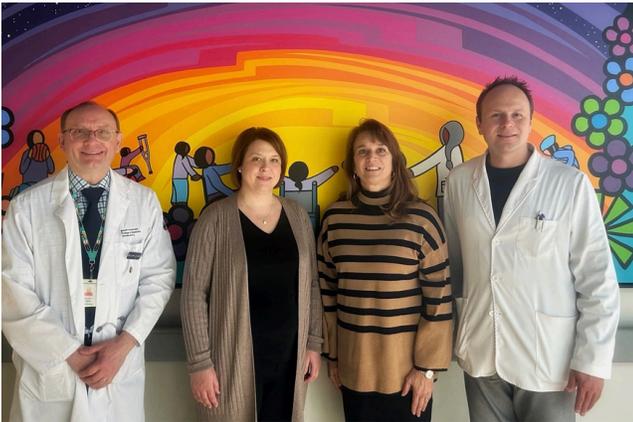
Assistant Professor,
Department of Surgery



Solutions Grant,
Impact, 2023-24

**Dr. Rachel Engler-
Stringer, PhD**

Professor, Department
of Community Health
and Epidemiology



Recognizing SHRF Connections Award, 2025

**Theresa Robertson and Saskatoon
Rehabilitation Centre Team**

L-R: Dr. Gary Linassi, Marla Neufeld, Theresa Robertson
and Dean Nahachewsky



Recognizing SHRF
Connections Award,
2025

Heather Dyck

Patient Partner and Co-
Investigator with
Department of
Anesthesiology

Saskatchewan Medical Association, 2024



Physician Leader of
the Year

**Dr. Marilyn Baetz,
MD**

Vice Dean Faculty
Engagement and
Professor, Department
of Psychiatry



Service Award

Dr. Peter Butt, MD

Associate Professor,
Department of
Academic Family
Medicine

Saskatchewan Order of Merit, 2025



**Dr. Haissam
Haddad, MD**
Provincial Department
Head and Professor,
Department of Medicine

Saskatoon Medical Staff Association Exceptional Service Award, 2025



**Dr. Munier Nour,
MD**
Associate Professor,
Department of
Pediatrics



**Dr. Jocelyne
Martel, MD**
Clinical Professor,
Department of
Obstetrics and
Gynecology

Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan, Dr. Lionel and Mary Hastings Award, 2025



Dr. Tamara Hinz
Associate Professor,
Department of
Psychiatry

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Saskatchewan Psychiatric Association, Outstanding Service Award, 2025

Dr. Azaad Baziany MD, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry

EXTERNAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

American Association for Anatomy, Fellowship, 2025



Dr. Julia Boughner, PhD

Professor, Department of Anatomy,
Physiology, and Pharmacology

American College of Physicians, Prairie Provinces Chapter, Distinguished Teacher/Mentor Award, 2025



Dr. Sharon Card, MD

Associate Professor, Department of
Medicine

American Psychiatric Association, Fellow, 2025



Dr. Oladele Oladapo, MB-BS

Assistant Professor, Department of
Psychiatry, (Prince Albert)

American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics, Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Service and Effort as an ASHI Inspector, 2025; **and** Best Written Plain Language Summary, ASHI Annual Meeting, 2025



Dr. Ahmed Mostafa, MD, PhD

Associate Professor,
Department of
Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine

Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics, Distinguished Scholar, 2024; **and** Association of Clinical Biochemists of India Dr. T.N. Pattabhiraman Oration Award, 2024



Dr. Jay Kalra, PhD, MD

Professor, Department
of Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine

Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada, 2025



Outstanding
Contribution To
Faculty Development
In Canada

Dr. Cathy MacLean, MD

Professor
Department of Academic
Family Medicine



Scientist Award

Dr. Valerie Verge, PhD

Distinguished Professor
Department of Anatomy,
Physiology, and
Pharmacology

Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellow, 2024



Dr. Alexandra King, MD

Cameco Chair in Indigenous Health and Wellness, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

Canadian Association for the Study of Liver Disease, Distinguished Service Award, 2025



Dr. Lawrence Worobetz, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine



In celebration, Dr. Worobetz's Foundation class demonstrated the "liver salute" and dressed in red in their last session of 2025. Dr. Worobetz always asks questions to students in red.

Canadian Association of Medical Education, Certificate of Merit, 2025



Dr. Kelsey Brose, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Oncology



Dr. Joelle McBain, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology



Dr. Andries Muller, MD
Professor, Department of Academic Family Medicine

Canadian Association of Pathology, Leadership in Patient Safety and Quality Assurance Award, 2025



Dr. Henrike Rees, MD
Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Canadian Blood Services Recognition Award, 2024



The Provincial Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Laboratory, St. Paul's Hospital, led by Dr. Ahmed Mostafa, MD, PhD

Left to right, back row: Twyla Pearce, Tech II; Ashley Day, Tech I; Janae McIntyre, Tech I; Karey Gorkoff, Tech I; Dr. Ahmed Mostafa, Clinical Lab Director; Left to right front row: Destinie Webster, Lab Supervisor; Simone Corriveau, Lab Manager.

Canadian Certified Physician Executive Designation, 2025



**Dr. Shahid Ahmed,
MD**

Department Head and
Professor, Department of
Oncology

Canadian Institute of Health Research, Outstanding Reviewer, 2024-25



Dr. Jeff Dong, PhD

Assistant Professor,
Department of
Biochemistry,
Microbiology, and
Immunology



**Dr. Angelica Lang,
PhD**

Associate Professor,
Department of Medicine



**Dr. Scot Leary,
PhD**

Professor, Department
of Biochemistry,
Microbiology, and
Immunology



**Dr. Peter Pioli,
PhD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of
Biochemistry,
Microbiology, and
Immunology



**Dr. Scott
Widenmaier, PhD**

Associate Professor,
Department of
Anatomy, Physiology,
and Pharmacology

Canadian Lipid and Vascular Summit, Stewart Whitman New Investigator Award, 2024



Dr. Changting

Xiao, PhD

Assistant Professor,
Department of
Anatomy, Physiology,
and Pharmacology

College of Family Physicians of Canada, Ian McWhinney Family Medicine Education Award, 2024



Dr. Kathy

Lawrence, MD

Associate Professor and
Provincial Head,
Department of Family
Medicine (Regina)

Crohn's and Colitis Canada, Advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Researcher Award, 2024



Dr. Juan-Nicolás

Peña-Sánchez

Associate Professor,
Department of
Community Health and
Epidemiology

Fellowship of the Canadian Association of Radiologists, 2025



**Dr. Grant
Stoneham, MD**
Associate Professor
(retired), Department of
Medical Imaging

International Critical Care and Organ Donation Conference, Appreciation for Excellence Award, 2025



**Dr. Ahmed
Mostafa, MD, PhD**
Associate Professor,
Department of
Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine

International Professional Association for Transport Health, Highest Scoring Early Career Professional Abstract, 2025



**Dr. Jacob
Alhassan, PhD**
Assistant Professor,
Department of
Community Health and
Epidemiology

International Science Council's (ISC) Global Roster of Experts, 2024



**Dr. Nazeem
Muhajarine, PhD**
Distinguished Professor,
Department of
Community Health and
Epidemiology

King Charles III Coronation Medal , 2025



**Dr. Alanna
Danilkewich, MD**
Associate Professor,
Department of
Academic Family
Medicine



**Dr. Brett Graham,
MD**
Assistant Professor,
Department of Medicine



**Dr. Brian Graham,
PhD**
Professor Emeritus,
Department of Medicine



Dr. Mike Kelly, MD
Provincial Department
Head, Fred H. Wigmore
Professor, and Knight
Family Enhancement
Chair in Neurological
Surgery, Department of
Surgery



Dr. Andrea Lavoie, MD
Assistant Professor,
Department of
Medicine, (Regina)



Major (Dr.) Nabeel Samad, MD
Assistant Professor,
Department of Medicine



Dr. Kerri Schellenberg, MD
Associate Professor,
Department of Medicine



Dr. Michael Stoll, MD
Assistant Professor,
Department of Family
Medicine, (Melfort)

North American Chinese Clinical Chemists Association, Lifetime Achievement Award, 2024



Dr. Jay Kalra, PhD, MD
Professor, Department of
Pathology and Laboratory
Medicine

Order of Canada, 2025



**Dr. David Jones,
MD**

Professor, Division of
Public Health and
Preventative Medicine

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada



Duncan Graham Award
for Outstanding
Contribution to Medical
Education (2024)

**Dr. Anurag Saxena,
MD**

Professor, Department of
Pathology and Laboratory
Medicine



Award for Early-Career
Leadership (2025)

**Dr. Puneet Kapur,
MD**

Associate Professor,
Department of
Emergency Medicine

Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada



Carl Nimrod Educator
Award, 2024

**Dr. Jocelyne
Martel, MD**

Clinical Professor,
Department of
Obstetrics and
Gynecology



Thirza Smith Clinical
Practice Award, 2025

**Dr. Annette Epp,
MD**

Clinical Associate
Professor, Department
of Obstetrics and
Gynecology

Society of Rural Physicians of Canada, Rural Service Award, 2024



**Dr. Aimee Seguin,
MD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of Family
Medicine (Meadow
Lake)

York University, Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree, 2025



**Dr. Malcolm King,
PhD**

Professor, Department
of Community Health
and Epidemiology

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Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons, Dr. Leslie R. Chasmar Mentorship Award, 2025

Dr. Peter Chang, MD, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

APPRECIATION ALERT

The Appreciation Alert allows all college members to share appreciation for their peers - from an every-day action that makes someone smile to major accomplishments! The recognition is shared with the recipient's people-leader, on the awards webpage, and social media. The action of recognizing someone is contagious - recipients tend to pay it forward to others, contributing to a more appreciative culture in the College of Medicine.

To date 204 Appreciation Alerts have been shared! Faculty, staff, and learners in the college's urban and rural locations have all participated as both senders and recipients.



Appreciation Alert #200!



Geoff Zerr, Michael Stoll, Laura Marshall, Stephen Loden, Austin Little, Mabel Ryhorchuk, Janice Skilliter, Tammy Schlamp, Nicole Toutant were recognized by Bailey Edelman who said: *"These particular individuals are directly involved in the success of the SLIC program in the province and continue to provide their leadership, support and expertise to students and faculty. I want to share my sincere appreciation for all that they do to make this program possible!"*

A few more recent appreciations:

"Today in the lab, we had to find and remove a box that had fallen in a liquid nitrogen dewar. Mark and Stephanie brought a bunch of tools and worked together to remove the box and save the day for us in the Chelico lab!" from Dr. Linda Chelico.

"Thank you to Austin Peters for helping me with Co-Pilot! His help was quick and productive, and I was able to get my meeting minutes done in a timely fashion. Your hard work does not go unnoticed Austin!" from Shannon Bay.

"Thank you to the CBL team, Dr. Sharon Card, Dr. Azeez Olajide, Kim Basque, & Cassie Eskra for their extra effort, responsiveness and dedication to improving how we teach Case Based Learning in preclerkship! "不经一事，不长一智" (Bù jīng yī shì, bù zhǎng yī zhì) "Without experiencing setbacks, one cannot gain wisdom." from Dr. Helen Chang.

Some feedback from senders and receivers:

"I feel so valued and motivated both when I was appreciated and when I sent the appreciation. It feels so good to be validated for going a bit above and beyond."

"It is a great way to show others appreciation, because you have to go out of your way to do it."

"Providing an avenue for people to show their appreciation, outside of just a verbal acknowledgement, is a great idea - it makes people think more about it and gives an easy way for them to make it happen."

Give it a try! You can find the Appreciation Alert [here](#). Please provide your feedback [here](#).



Thank you to our College of Medicine faculty members who served on the **College Review Committee**. This committee undertook the significant task of reviewing 38 departmental recommendations for renewal of probation, tenure, and promotion and 45 salary review cases. They dedicated countless hours and considerable effort towards these crucial decisions, and we are deeply grateful for their hard work in supporting their fellow faculty members.

Thank you to the College of Medicine **award adjudicators** for volunteering their time in service of recognizing their fellow members. Adjudicators are always tasked with making difficult decisions and it is impressive the high level of professionalism and care they take.

Thank you to all College of Medicine **award nominators and supporters** for putting in time and effort to submit a nomination for your colleagues. Nominees always consider it a significant form of recognition in itself - "it is an honour just to be nominated" is a very true statement!

Thank you to all **Appreciation Alert senders** for pausing to reflect on your colleagues' impact and share it with them and the college community. Acknowledging your colleagues for their work, making your job easier, enhancing your office environment, and just brightening your day goes a long way to developing a college-wide culture of appreciation.



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