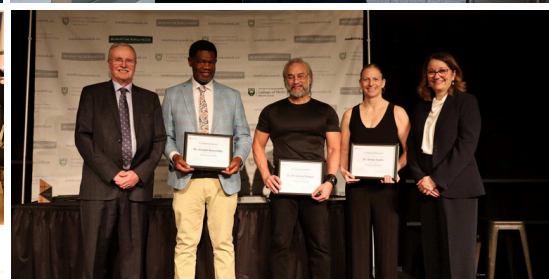




UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of Medicine
MEDICINE.USASK.CA



Celebrating our People

*Faculty & Staff Recognition Booklet
2025-2026*

**College of Medicine members live and work on
Treaty 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 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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MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



I continue to be inspired by the contributions and accomplishments of our staff and faculty. I am proud to celebrate these achievements and the impact our people have every day on our college, our university, and beyond.

The breadth of talent and dedication represented in this booklet is extraordinary, spanning professional development, administration, leadership, teaching, research, clinical care, and even athletic achievement. As we Pave our Path to 2030 with our new strategic plan, this booklet reflects our commitment to fostering a culture of recognition, appreciation, and celebration.

Congratulations to all who are recognized here. Your achievements enrich our community, strengthen our college, and inspire us all!

Dr. Sarah Forgie
Dean, College of Medicine

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. Jacob Alhassan, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology

Dr. Jacob Alhassan joined the Community Health and Epidemiology department at USask's College of Medicine as an assistant professor in July 2023 after completing his PhD in the same department in 2021. He holds MSc degrees from University of Oxford and University of Durham. Funded through SSHRC and SHRF grants, his research explores the politics of health and uses key themes such as racism and public transportation to reveal how power and politics influence global and local health equity outcomes. Jacob is guided by an anti-colonial praxis and enjoys teaching (global health and research methods), music, cooking, and poetry.



Dr. Justin Botterill, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Dr. Botterill earned his PhD in Cognition and Neuroscience at the University of Saskatchewan, followed by postdoctoral fellowships at the Nathan Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research and the University of Toronto Scarborough. The Botterill laboratory is currently exploring novel circuit mechanisms of temporal lobe epilepsy with the long-term goal of developing new and effective therapies for people with drug-resistant epilepsy. The Botterill laboratory is also studying how a unique cell type in the hippocampus known as mossy cells support cognitive and affective behaviours.



Dr. Julie Kosteniuk, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr. Kosteniuk joined the Department of Medicine in 2023. She holds a PhD in Psychiatry and a Master of Arts in Sociology from the University of Saskatchewan. She is Co-Lead of the Rural Dementia Action Research (RaDAR) Team which partners with primary health care teams in rural communities to implement local primary care memory clinics, including hybrid and home-based virtual models. Her research focuses on rural dementia care, including primary care for persons living with dementia, community-based services for older adults, and the use of health administrative data to investigate health service use among rural populations.



Dr. Heather Szabo-Rogers, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Dr. Szabo-Rogers joined USask in 2023 as an Assistant Professor in the APP Department. She received her PhD from the University of British Columbia, and post-doctoral training at Kings College London in London UK. The Szabo-Rogers lab is centered on providing a better understanding of how orofacial clefting (i.e. cleft lip and cleft palate) develops. The lab uses in vivo and in vitro models to understand typical and atypical development of the face focusing on the genes, proteins, and tissues that contribute to the development of the early face. The goal is to provide new knowledge regarding the biochemical and physical causes of orofacial clefting in humans.

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. 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, and 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.

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. Changting Xiao, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Dr. Xiao joined the Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology in September 2020, following his employment as a Senior Scientific Associate at the University Health Network and the Banting and Best Diabetes Centre at the University of Toronto. His lab uses integrative approaches to study lipid and lipoprotein metabolism, gastrointestinal physiology and gut hormones, and pathophysiology of metabolic diseases (diabetes, obesity) and complications (atherosclerosis, cardiovascular disease). His research program is supported by NSERC, CIHR, and HSFC.

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. Tahir Abbas, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Oncology

I graduated from Nishtar Medical College, Multan, Pakistan, in 1982 and earned the MCPS in Medicine in 1984. After moving to the UK in 1986, I completed the MRCP (Ireland) in 1992 and was elected FRCP (Ireland) in 2006. I also earned a Master's degree in Clinical Oncology from the University of Birmingham in 2001. My career includes extensive NHS experience, Specialist Registrar training in Cardiff and Swansea, and service as a Consultant Oncologist before joining the Saskatoon Cancer Centre in 2010. I have contributed to research, teaching, and leadership, attaining Associate Professor rank in 2026.



Dr. Scott Adams, MD, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Medical Imaging

Dr. Scott Adams completed his MD, PhD, and residency at USask, studying as a Vanier Scholar and receiving the Governor General's Gold Medal. He completed clinical and research fellowships in cardiovascular and thoracic imaging at Stanford University, Harvard Medical School, and Massachusetts General Hospital, and an MEd at the University of Toronto. He joined the faculty of the College of Medicine at USask in 2023 and was appointed UGME Program Director for Medical Imaging and Artificial Intelligence in UGME Lead. Dr. Adams' research interests include cardiothoracic imaging, artificial intelligence, medical education, and improving access to care for underserved populations. His research program is supported by CIHR and SHRF.



Dr. Stephen Adams, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Dr. Stephen Adams is a psychiatrist in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Saskatchewan, where his academic and clinical work has focused on early psychosis, forensic psychiatry, adult attachment, and substance abuse. Based at Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon, Dr. Adams has contributed to psychiatric care, education, and research, with a particular interest in early identification and treatment for psychosis as well as work through the forensic division. In 2025 he took on the role of Program Director for the Forensic Psychiatry Subspecialty Program.



Dr. Osama Ahmed, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Oncology

Dr. Osama Ahmed is a Medical Oncologist with the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency, serving as Medical Oncology Division Head in Saskatoon. He provides high-quality, patient-centered cancer care while advancing oncology services across Saskatchewan. Dr. Ahmed is actively involved in clinical leadership, quality improvement, multidisciplinary collaboration, and physician education. He plays a significant role in the Medical Oncology Residency Program in Saskatchewan, contributing to resident training and mentorship. His interests include gastrointestinal and breast cancers, patient advocacy, and improving access to care and outcomes for patients with cancer. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time with his family and travelling.



Dr. Rashmi Bhargava, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (Regina)

Dr. Rashmi Bhargava is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Saskatchewan and a practicing OBGYN. She is the provincial Undergraduate Chair and Director of Faculty Engagement for the Regina campus. A graduate of the University of Saskatchewan and Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, her scholarly work focuses on medical education, competency-based assessment, simulation, and inclusive learning environments. She has contributed to numerous national and international publications through the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics and is recognized for her leadership in undergraduate medical education and women's health.



Dr. Susan Bobbitt, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Susan Bobbitt is a Developmental Pediatrician and Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics. Her work integrates clinical care, medical education, research, and leadership to improve the lives of children with neurodevelopmental disabilities and their families. She has a particular interest in advancing equitable access to care for vulnerable populations and developing inclusive models of healthcare delivery. Dr. Bobbitt has served on the Canadian Paediatric Society Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Committee and currently serves on the CPS Developmental Pediatrics Section Executive. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, spending time at her family's cabin at Emma Lake, coaching her three small children's various sports, and enthusiastically chauffeuring them to their many activities.



Dr. Keefe Davis, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Keefe Davis moved back to Saskatchewan, joining the Division of Pediatric Nephrology within the Department of Pediatrics in Saskatoon, in July 2018. He grew up on a farm near Creelman, Saskatchewan. He trained in a combined Pediatrics and Internal Medicine Residency Program at Albany Medical Center and fellowship training in Pediatric Nephrology at Washington University in St. Louis. He provides comprehensive clinical care in all aspects of kidney disease. He has a research focus on hypertension, kidney biopsy procedures, and novel therapeutic agents.



Dr. Ray Deobald, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Ray Deobald completed medical school and General Surgery Residency at the University of Saskatchewan. He then completed a General Surgical Oncology Fellowship at the University of Toronto and returned as a clinical faculty with the College of Medicine in 2014. His clinical practice involves the treatment of sarcoma, melanoma, gastrointestinal, and breast malignancy. In addition to his clinical practice, he has held many administrative positions and is currently the Surgical Lead of the Saskatoon Breast Health Centre.



Dr. Kathleen Felton, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr Kathleen Felton is a pediatric hematologist/oncologist at the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital (JPCH) in Saskatoon. She specializes in neuro-oncology and helped to found the pediatric neuro-oncology clinic at JPCH. She is the division leader for clinical trials and research, serving as the Children's Oncology Group site principal investigator. She continues to advocate for pediatric clinical trial access for the children of Saskatchewan.



Dr. Brett Graham, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr. Brett Graham, MD, FRCPC, is an Associate Professor in the Division of Neurology at USask and a stroke neurologist with the Saskatchewan Health Authority. After completing his medical degree and neurology residency at the University of Saskatchewan, he pursued fellowship training in stroke neurology with the Calgary Stroke Program. His clinical and academic interests include acute stroke care, stroke prevention, neuroimaging, and medical education. Dr. Graham is a founding member of the Stroke Care and Neurological Emergency Response Simulation (SCaNERS) program and has contributed to the Canadian Stroke Best Practice Recommendations, helping advance stroke care and education across Canada.



Dr. Peter Graham, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Peter Graham completed his General Surgery residency at the University of Saskatchewan in 2014. He went on to complete a Fellowship in Complex General Surgical Oncology at the Tom Baker Cancer Center in Calgary, returning as clinical faculty in Saskatoon. His busy clinical practice includes Breast Cancer, Melanoma, Sarcoma, and Complex GI Malignancy. Dr Graham enjoys active involvement with resident and medical student education for which he has received a number of awards. He is the Surgical Oncology Resident Rotation Lead developing a number of initiatives including AM Teaching Rounds and Soft Tissue Tumor Boards.



Dr. Peter Hedlin, MD, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology

Dr. Hedlin is a Clinician Scientist in the Department of Anesthesiology at the University of Saskatchewan. He has been working in Saskatoon now as a member of the department since 2018 where he has been able to combine his interests in clinical medicine, teaching, and research. His current research focuses on the impact that both Surgery and Anesthesia have on patient post-operative cognitive function.



Dr. Kaitlyn Hughes, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine (Regina)

Dr. Kaitlyn Hughes is a family physician in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan. She graduated from the U of S with an M.D. in 2016 and completed her Family Medicine residency training in Regina in 2018. Dr. Hughes practices full-scope family medicine with low-risk obstetrics at the Regina Family Medicine residency training site. She obtained her Clinician Educator Diploma (CEd) in 2023 through the Clinician Educator Diploma Program at the U of S where she now serves as the program's Curriculum Unit Lead. Dr. Hughes has a strong interest in behavioural medicine and strives to engage learners with different teaching style and methods in different educational contexts.



Dr. Anand Krishnan, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Dr. Krishnan leads a research team focusing on cancer neuroscience. After completing his Pharmacy degree, he received research training in Cancer biology (PhD) and Neuroscience (PDF). He has also spent a couple of years in the pharma industry. Since starting his lab at USask, he has published 18 peer-reviewed articles and 3 book chapters. He has been running a well-funded research lab within the Dept. of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology and the Cameco MS Neuroscience Research Centre. His trainees have secured jobs in academic (faculty) and industrial sectors. He teaches Pharmacology to undergraduate students. He has been recognized by CIHR as an outstanding reviewer.



Dr. Ninad Mehta, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Dr. Ninad Mehta is a clinical microbiologist and the provincial lead for Pre-Analytics with the Saskatchewan Health Authority. He holds a PhD in Virology and is a Diplomate of the American Board of Medical Microbiology and a Fellow of the Canadian College of Microbiologists. He oversees parasitology, molecular diagnostics, and serology, advancing PCR-based testing across urban and rural laboratories province-wide. Dr. Mehta has published widely on virology and clinical diagnostics, and serves on national committees developing standards for serologic testing, specimen collection, and vector-borne infections. He teaches medical students and pathology residents, and is dedicated to diagnostic excellence and patient care.



Dr. Russell Murphy, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Russell Murphy is an Otolaryngologist–Head and Neck Surgeon in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and serves as Divisional Lead for Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery. He completed his medical degree at the University of Saskatchewan and residency and fellowship training at the University of Alberta to return back home to Saskatoon. His clinical practice focuses on head and neck oncology, microvascular reconstruction, and skin cancer. Dr. Murphy is actively involved in undergraduate and postgraduate medical education and has a interest in mentoring, healthcare leadership, quality improvement, and developing sustainable systems that improve access to specialized surgical care across Saskatchewan.



Dr. Charissa Pockett, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Charissa Pockett has been a Pediatric Cardiologist specializing in interventional cardiology at the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital in Saskatoon since 2012 and division head for Pediatric Cardiology since 2018. Dr. Pockett has been a member of the CHAMPS team since its inception and collaborates on various research projects and initiatives. She is very active in the Pediatric Residency Training program and involved in numerous community volunteer positions with focus on optimizing the health of all children in Saskatchewan.



Dr. Sarah Tehseen, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Sarah Tehseen is a transfusion medicine physician and pediatric hematologist. She completed her Pediatric Hematology Oncology fellowship at Emory University, and Transfusion medicine fellowship at the Versiti institute of Blood Research in 2017. Her clinical and academic interests include pediatric, perinatal transfusion practice, hemoglobinopathies, and bleeding disorders. She is the co-chair of COPTN (National Canadian Obstetrical and Pediatric Transfusion Network) and part of CTTC-Canheme consortium working towards equitable implementation of curative therapies for hemoglobinopathies in Canada. She is a passionate advocate of equitable care for children with hemoglobinopathies and neurodevelopmental differences.



Dr. Aleksander Vitali, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Aleksander Vitali is a Specialist Neurosurgeon at the Saskatchewan Health Authority and Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan. He is also Head of the Division of Neurosurgery at Royal University Hospital. With international training in Poland, South Africa, the UK, and Canada, he is a Fellow of both the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the College of Surgeons of South Africa. Dr. Vitali's clinical expertise spans functional, pediatric, and stereotactic neurosurgery. He has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications, contributed to global conferences, and leads innovative research in neuromodulation and neurosurgical care.



Dr. Daphne Yau, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Daphne Yau is a pediatric endocrinologist at Jim Pattison Children's Hospital who joined the pediatrics faculty at the University of Saskatchewan in 2019. Her clinical and research interests lie in the field of congenital hyperinsulinism (CHI) and prior to moving to Saskatoon, she completed post-fellowship training in CHI at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Royal Manchester Children's Hospital. She remains active in the CHI community as member of the CHI Collaborative Research Network. Dr. Yau is also the pediatrics residency program research director, playing an active role in supporting and mentoring pediatrics residents in their scholarly pursuits.

Promotion to Professor

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



Dr. Tim Bradley, MD

Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Bradley completed medical school at the University of Otago, New Zealand and his Pediatric and Pediatric Cardiology RACP Fellowship training in New Zealand, Australia, and Canada. He is a Pediatric Cardiologist at the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital in Saskatoon. His clinical interests include echocardiography, fetal echocardiography, and aortopathy. His research is focused on early detection of congenital heart disease by fetal echocardiography, assessment of increased arterial stiffness in at-risk pediatric disease populations, and management of hereditary thoracic aortic disease in Marfan syndrome, Loeys-Dietz syndrome, and related conditions. He is the Co-Principal Investigator for the Canadian Aortic and Connective Tissue Disorders (CAN-ACT) Registry.



Dr. Gudrun Caspar-Bell, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr. Caspar-Bell completed her medical training at Karl Ruprecht University in Heidelberg and Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship in Endocrinology at Goethe University. Since joining the University of Saskatchewan in 2006, Dr. Caspar-Bell has served as a staff endocrinologist at Royal University Hospital, Full Professor, and Division Head of Endocrinology. An accomplished clinician-scientist and educator, she has received numerous teaching and research awards, including the WLP Royal University Hospital Foundation Grant. Her clinical and research interests include thyroid disorders, diabetes mellitus, and pituitary disease.



Dr. Payam Dehghani, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine (Regina)

Dr. Payam Dehghani is an interventional cardiologist, clinician-scientist, and educator at USask. His work is grounded in collaboration, including serving as the Canadian lead for the North American COVID-19 Myocardial Infarction Registry and contributing to national and international cardiovascular research networks. He views research as a constructive response to clinical frustration—transforming unanswered bedside questions into studies that can improve care. Above all, his proudest academic moments come from mentorship: watching medical students, residents, fellows, and research trainees develop confidence, find their own questions, publish meaningful work, and ultimately thrive across disciplines as clinicians, scholars, and colleagues.



Dr. Franco Vizeacoumar, MD

Professor, Department of Oncology

Dr. Franco Vizeacoumar is a Professor in the Department of Oncology at the University of Saskatchewan's College of Medicine and a Senior Research Scientist with the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency. He is a cancer researcher whose work is focused on developing "genotype-directed" cancer therapies. His lab applies the genetic concepts of synthetic lethality and synthetic dosage lethality to identify targetable vulnerabilities in cancer cells, with the long-term goal of creating a comprehensive genetic network to define key therapeutic targets. His current research is investigating new therapeutic strategies for cancers including pancreatic, breast, and prostate cancer.

Special Recognition

In celebration of Dr. James Dosman for his more than 50 years of dedicated service to the University of Saskatchewan and the College of Medicine.



Widely known as the "Father of Agricultural Medicine" in Canada, Dr. Dosman has devoted his career to improving the health, safety, and well-being of rural and agricultural communities locally, nationally, and internationally.

Since graduating from the University of Saskatchewan, College of Medicine in 1963, he has been a physician, researcher, educator, mentor, administrator, and visionary leader. Dr. Dosman founded the Division of Respiratory Medicine, established the Centre for Agricultural Medicine, and later led the Institute of Agricultural Rural and Environmental Health and the Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture.

His pioneering research has advanced our understanding of agricultural health and safety, respiratory disease, rural health, and environmental exposures, while securing significant funding to support impactful research programs.

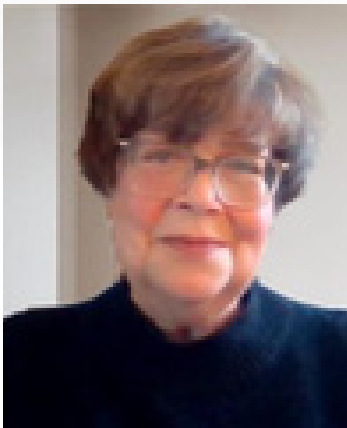
Beyond the university, Dr. Dosman helped establish national organizations focused on agricultural safety and rural health, and championed initiatives that brought vital health and safety knowledge directly to rural communities. His exceptional contributions have been recognized through many of Canada's highest honours, including appointment as an Officer of the Order of Canada and receipt of the Saskatchewan Order of Merit.

Most importantly, Dr. Dosman's mentorship, leadership, and commitment to rural health have inspired generations of students, physicians, researchers, and health professionals.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AWARDS

Friends of the College of Medicine Award

This award recognizes individuals, teams, or organizations outside the college, who have demonstrated exceptional commitment and partnership to the college.



Heather Thiessen

Patient Partner

Heather was nominated by Dr. Krista Baerg and Dr. Juan-Nicolás Peña-Sánchez, who highlighted Heather's exceptional and longstanding partnership with the college and her contributions to medical education through the Patient and Family Centered Care Module.

Saskatchewan International Physician Practice Assessment (SIPPA) Community Award

This award allows physicians in SIPPA to recognize individuals, teams, or organizations who they have worked with in their assigned communities who have positively impacted their experience.



Dr. Eseosa Desmond Aghedo, MD

Family Physician, Shellbrook, SK

Dr. Aghedo was nominated by Dr. Ileapigie Lamai who highlighted Dr. Aghedo's exceptional generosity, collegiality, and commitment to supporting SIPPA physicians and their families as they settle into both practice and community life. His nomination described the positive, lasting impact he has had on fostering belonging, collaboration, and well-being within the Shellbrook community.



Sandra Hintz

Clinic Manager, Maidstone Medical Clinic, Maidstone SK

Sandra was nominated by Dr. Mahyar Sotoodeh who highlighted her generosity in helping SIPPA physicians and clinic staff feel welcomed, confident, and supported within the Maidstone community. Her nomination described her empathetic, patient-centred approach to clinic management and her ability to foster teamwork and high standards.



Crystal Kuras

Emergency Nurse Supervisor, Tisdale SK

Crystal was nominated Dr. Nahid Yazdan Panah and Dr. Mojgan Yazdan Panah who highlighted her leadership, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to supporting SIPPA physicians, her calm and supportive presence in high-acuity situations, and her curiosity-driven efforts to improve systems and workflows.

Louis Horlick Spirit of the College of Medicine Award

This award was established by the Alumni Association in honour of Dr. Louis Horlick, Professor Emeritus, Department of Medicine, and is presented to an individual who has contributed service over and above the call of duty.



Dr. Jason Baserman, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Jason was nominated by Dr. Mark Inman and Dr. Erin Woods who highlighted his unwavering commitment to learners, colleagues, patients, and the broader community. They noted his exceptional generosity of time, joyful and compassionate approach to teaching and mentorship, and his consistent ability to bring people together, foster belonging, and uplift others.

Sydney Inskip Service Award

This award was established by Alumni Drs. Ivan Jen and Suzanne Yip, who wished 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 enhanced the work environment.



Jalene Jepson

Manager, Academic Programs, Department of Family Medicine

Jalene was nominated by Jaclyn Randall, Dr. Kathy Lawrence, Dr. Sheila Smith, and Dr. Martin Heroux who highlighted her extraordinary service, kindness, and steady leadership, noting the profound impact she has had on the work environment within the college. They emphasized her quiet reliability, empathy, and ability to foster trust, connection, and a true sense of community across a provincially distributed team.

Ann Finch Exemplary Service Award

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



Maria Liamzon

Program Administrator, Clerkship and Postgrad, Department of Surgery

Maria was nominated by Catherine MacKay-Wilson and Annie Ethier who highlighted her exceptional leadership, responsiveness, and deep commitment to learners while managing both Undergraduate and Postgraduate Surgery programs. They noted she is a compassionate, dependable, and highly valued colleague who consistently goes above and beyond.

Excellence in Education Support Award

This award recognizes staff members who contribute to developing skilled, engaged educators, and empowered learners.



Dua Abbas

Physician Assistant Professional Practice Co-Lead, Master of Physician Assistant Program

Dua was nominated by Dr. Trustin Domes, Gayathri Manoharan, and Anna Taruc, who highlighted her ability to bridge academic teaching with frontline clinical practice, and her strong advocacy for the PA profession. They noted her engaging, learner-centred approach to teaching professionalism, and her mentorship and support of students.



Justine Assié

Clerkship Nurse Coordinator, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Justine was nominated by Dr. Bobbi Batchelor and the year 3 and 4 clinical clerks, who highlighted her dedication to learner support in undergraduate and postgraduate Obstetrics and Gynecology education, as well as her clinical expertise, innovative approaches to simulation and scheduling, and unwavering commitment to learner well-being.



Carla Flogan

Quality, Safety, and Continuous Improvement Facilitator, Department of Anesthesiology

Carla was nominated by Dr. Lei Xia and Dr. Eugene Choo, who highlighted her leadership in quality improvement, innovative program development, her collaborative approach, ethical leadership, and dedication to fostering belonging.

Excellence in Research Support Award

This award recognizes individuals or teams of staff members who contribute to developing innovation, research, scholarship, or quality improvement.



Dr. Mariam Alaverdashvili, PhD

Provincial Research Facilitator, Department of Psychiatry

Dr. Alaverdashvili was nominated by Dr. Ana Mendes-Silva and several of her departmental colleagues who highlighted her strategic mentorship of faculty and learners, proactive identification of funding and partnership opportunities, and hands-on guidance that has measurably strengthened research quality and funding success in the department.

Staff Leadership Excellence Award

This award recognizes staff members who have embodied exemplary leadership practices and demonstrated the college values.



Amanda Galambos

Program Coordinator, STBBI Treatment Education Program for Saskatchewan (STEPS)

Amanda was nominated by Jasmin Ogren, Rayan Shafi, Katherine Churchman, and Carolyn Hoessler, who highlighted her ability to drive meaningful system change, empower learners and partners, foster inclusive collaboration grounded in lived experience, and model accountability, curiosity, and belonging.



Crystal Maslin

Health Human Resources Expansion Project Manager (previous Director of Projects and Planning, College of Medicine)

Crystal was nominated by Kaitlin Pike, Catherine Delaney, Liz Kuley, and Gayathri Manoharan, who highlighted her advancement of the college's mission through her visionary, inclusive, and people-centred approach to planning and transformation. They noted her ability to bring diverse voices together, translate shared values into meaningful action, and navigate complexity with empathy and curiosity.

Annual Excellence in Research Award

This award recognizes faculty who have had a significant impact on research over the past year and who demonstrate the college values.



Dr. Ana Mendes-Silva, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Dr. Mendes-Silva was nominated by Dr. AG Ahmed and Dr. Malin Clark, who highlighted how her work has rapidly advanced knowledge in molecular neuroscience, and neuropsychiatric and neurodegenerative disorders. They noted her translational impact, outstanding trainee mentorship, and commitment to collaboration, inclusion, and well-being.



Dr. Ahmed Mostafa, MD, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Dr. Mostafa was nominated by Dr. Mohamed Elemery and Dr. Waleed Sabry, who highlighted his significant translational impact in transplant immunology and personalized medicine, and how his work has advanced knowledge, improved patient outcomes, and trained the next generation of clinician-scientists.

Research Mingling Minds 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. Camelia Adams, MD

Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Dr. Adams was nominated by Dr. AG Ahmed and Dr. Mansfield Mela who highlighted her innovative partnerships that bridge psychiatry, the humanities, social sciences, Indigenous perspectives, and community organizations. They noted her creative, outside-the-box approaches to mental health research and her leadership in generating impactful scholarship that advances well-being and human flourishing.

Research Career Achievement Award

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



Dr. Franco Vizeacoumar, PhD

Senior Scientist, Saskatchewan Cancer Agency, and Professor, Department of Oncology

Dr. Vizeacoumar was nominated by Dr. Shahid Ahmed, Dr. Adnan Zaidi, and Dr. Sunil Yadav, who highlighted his sustained and transformative impact on cancer genomics research, marked by scientific innovation, national and international leadership, and meaningful translational impact. They also noted his commitment to building research capacity and infrastructure, and his outstanding mentorship.

Rural Medical Education Innovation Award

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



Dr. Aileen Hamilton, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine (Humboldt)

Dr. Hamilton was nominated by Dr. Tara Lee who highlighted her vision, perseverance, and commitment to building a sustainable learning community in Humboldt, SK. She noted her creative adaptation of existing structures to expand learner housing, faculty engagement, administrative support, and residency training opportunities, resulting in meaningful growth in rural teaching capacity.

Rural Partnership Award

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



Dr. Jeffrey Irvine, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine (La Ronge)

Dr. Irvine was nominated by Dr. Rabia Shahid and Dr. Shahid Ahmed who highlighted his leadership in building meaningful, respectful partnerships that advance academic medicine and patient care in rural and northern Saskatchewan. They noted his collaborative, community-engaged approach to co-designing innovative models of care with Indigenous partners, rural clinicians, and academic and health system collaborators.

Continuing Medical Education Teaching Excellence Award

This award recognizes a faculty member who colleagues, learners, and participants deem as excellent in their teaching at the CME level.



Dr. Osama Souied, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Oncology (Regina)

Dr. Souied was recognized for his creation of the Immunotherapy Toxicity Management Module, and his contributions to the Saskatchewan Oncology Education program. Also highlighted was his demonstration of exceptional knowledge, superior communication skills, and ability to create an engaging environment for the learners.

Excellence in Teaching Award

This award honours faculty members for their significant contributions to the teaching mission of the College of Medicine.



Dr. Landon Baillie, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Dr. Baillie was nominated by Dr. Thom Fisher and Dr. Stan Bardal who highlighted his impact across medical, biomedical, and professional programs in the College of Medicine, and noted his thoughtful instructional design, fair and meaningful assessment practices, and unwavering commitment to inclusive, student-centred learning.



Dr. Angela Lapetsky, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine

Dr. Lapetsky was nominated by Dr. Nicole Shedden, Dr. Joshua Lloyd, Dr. Oriana Watt, Neda Moslemi, Dr. Jacqueline Kraushaar, Cassie Eskra, and Meghan Nelson. Her nominators highlighted the impact her thoughtful, innovative, and learner-centred teaching has had on foundational clinical skills education. They noted her compassionate mentorship, commitment to fair and formative assessment, and leadership in continuous curriculum improvement.



Dr. Tessa Laubscher, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine

Dr. Laubscher was nominated by Dr. Nicole Shedden, Dr. Nassrein Hussein, Loren Regier, and Dr. Meredith McKague who highlighted her teaching, mentorship, and national leadership as having had a profound and lasting impact on learners, colleagues, and clinical practice. They noted her teaching is evidence-based, compassionate, and highly engaging and that she exemplifies the college core values of collaboration, curiosity, belonging, accountability, and well-being.

New Teacher Award

This award recognizes faculty who are early in their academic career have made contributions to the teaching mission of the College of Medicine..



Dr. Michelle Collins, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Dr. Collins was nominated by Dr. Thom Fisher and Dr. Landon Baillie, who highlighted her engaging, innovative, and research-informed teaching across undergraduate and graduate programs. They noted her exceptional ability to translate complex scientific concepts into accessible learning experiences, and the inclusive, supportive learning environments she fosters.



Dr. Paul D'Alessandro, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. D'Alessandro was nominated by Dr. Mark Inman, Tova Dybvig, and Dr. Roona Sinha, who highlighted his engaging, compassionate, and learner-centred teaching across undergraduate, postgraduate, and scholarly settings. They noted his innovative curriculum development, integration of medical humanities and patient narrative, and his strong mentorship of trainees.



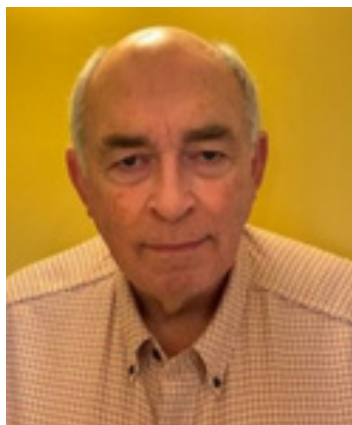
Dr. Taegen Fitch, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine

Dr. Fitch was nominated by Dr. Angela Lapetsky and Dr. Helen Chang who highlighted her leadership in communication skills teaching and her impact on undergraduate medical education. They noted her engaging and learner-centred teaching, commitment to continuous improvement, and her ability to create psychologically safe, inclusive learning environments.

Regina Campus Teaching Award

The award recognizes excellence in teaching by faculty members at the Regina Campus of the College of Medicine.



Dr. George Carson, MD

Clinical Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (Regina)

Dr. Carson was nominated by Dr. Rashmi Bhargava, Dr. Christine Lett, and Dr. Dorian Kristmanson who highlighted his exceptional dedication to teaching at the Regina Campus and his enduring impact on learners across undergraduate and postgraduate medical education. They noted his passion for helping learners understand complex concepts through innovative, engaging approaches, his commitment to fair and constructive feedback, and his ability to foster curiosity, confidence, and a supportive learning environment.



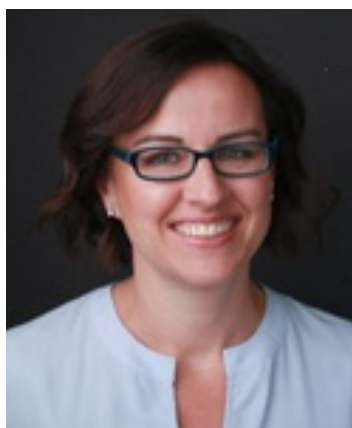
Dr. Matthew Pechey, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine (Regina)

Dr. Pechey was nominated by Dr. Tatiana Fras, Dr. Paldeep Kahlon, Dr. Taegen Fitch, and Dr. Daniel Thomas who highlighted his excellence as a clinician-educator and his significant impact on undergraduate medical education through equity-oriented, community-based teaching. They noted his strong commitment to learner development, intentional and evidence-informed instructional approach, and his ability to create inclusive, psychologically safe learning environments.

Faculty Leadership Excellence Award

This award recognizes faculty members in the College of Medicine who have shown outstanding leadership and achievements while exhibiting care and the college values, in building a healthy workplace, teams, and citizens.



Dr. Julie Stakiw, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Oncology

Dr. Stakiw was nominated by Dr. Shahid Ahmed and Dr. Waleed Sabry who highlighted her exceptional leadership in advancing hematologic cancer care through system-level innovation, collaborative partnerships, and the development of a provincial model that has improved equity, access, and patient experience across Saskatchewan. They also noted her compassionate, patient-centred approach, and commitment to fostering inclusive, collaborative, and values-driven health care teams.

Faculty Development Captivator of the Year Award

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



Dr. Emily Sullivan, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine

Dr. Sullivan was nominated by Dr. Andries Muller and Dr. Jason Hosain who highlighted her creation of Faculty Development Connects, a highly engaging and inclusive forum that has strengthened provincial connection, collaboration, and shared learning. They noted her accessible insights and interactive and conversational presentation style.

Faculty Development Deirdre Bonnycastle Champion of Change Award

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



Dr. Lynsey Martin, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

Dr. Martin was nominated by Dr. Cathy MacLean and Dr. Rob Woods, who highlighted her central role in advancing Competency-Based Medical Education across the College of Medicine, as well as her collaborative mentorship of program leaders, which has helped to foster a culture of coaching in the college.



Department of Family Medicine Faculty Development Program

This group was nominated by Dr. Cathy MacLean who highlighted the program as an innovative, province-wide model that has significantly strengthened faculty development and expanded capacity for programs, enhanced local engagement, supported accreditation and program improvement, and created meaningful, sustainable change in how faculty development is delivered across the college.



Clockwise from top left: Dr. Asma Gargoum, MD (Regina), Dr. Rob Haver, MD (Moose Jaw), Dr. Emily Sullivan, MD (Saskatoon), Dr. Alanna Kurytnik, MD (Prince Albert), and Dr. Jeffrey Irvine, MD (La Ronge). Not shown: Dr. Mike Barnett, MD (North West), Dr. Mahmood Beheshti, MD (South East), and Dr. Alta van Breda, MD (Swift Current).

Team Achievement Award

This award recognizes a team of College of Medicine members whose exceptional actions in the last year have been key in the achievement of an outcome, or in making progress towards an outcome.



Anesthesia Quality Improvement for Residents (AQulRe) Committee

Department of Anesthesiology

This team was nominated by Dr. Eugene Choo and Dr. Mateen Raazi who highlighted their leadership in redesigning the Anesthesia Quality Improvement curriculum into a rigorous, engaging, and learner-centred program with measurable impact. They noted their collaborative, multidisciplinary approach, responsiveness to learner feedback, and shared commitment to accountability, curiosity, belonging, and educational excellence.



Clockwise from top left: Wasim Al-Khanati, Dr. Jessica Bruce, MD, Dr. Lei Xia, MD, Dr. Vicky Loessin, MD, and Carla Flogan.

Putting People First Award

This award recognizes members who exhibit responsibility in caring for, developing, and sustaining people in the College of Medicine community.



Debbie Briere

Interim Clinical Skills Coordinator, Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program

Debbie was nominated by Dr. Trustin Domes, Gayathri Manoharan, and Anna Taruc who highlighted her expertise, generosity, and unwavering commitment to supporting others. They noted her calm, compassionate presence and her respectful, collaborative approach that fosters confidence, belonging, and excellence for students, faculty, and staff alike.



Dr. Trustin Domes, MD

Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program, and Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Domes was nominated by Marilyn Baniak, Garson Chan, Rahul Mainra, Crystal Maslin, Karen Mosier, and Anna Taruc who highlighted his unwavering commitment to people-centred leadership and his ability to make individuals feel genuinely seen, valued, and supported. They noted his deep commitment to mentorship, and the trust, belonging, and well-being he fosters.



Shayla Kluchewski

Administrative Coordinator, School of Rehabilitation Science

Shayla was nominated by Kristine Hunter and Dr. Brenna Bath who highlighted the meaningful ways she has enhanced the work environment including her warmth and genuine care for others, her ability to create welcoming, inclusive spaces, and her positive, steady presence.



Dr. Cathy MacLean, MD

Director Faculty Development, and Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine

Dr. MacLean was nominated by Sean Polreis, Amy Winik, Dr. Helen Chang, Dr. Scott Tunison, and Dr. Rob Woods who highlighted her exceptional people-centred leadership. They noted her compassion, generosity, and inclusive approach, as well as the way she fosters belonging, celebrates others, supports professional growth, and creates a healthy, joyful workplace.



Undergraduate Medical Education Social Committee

This group was nominated by Sherry Pederson and Dr. Meredith McKague who highlighted their exceptional commitment to fostering joy, belonging, and well-being within the College of Medicine community. They noted their creativity, compassion, and reliability in creating inclusive celebrations, strengthening morale, supporting colleagues through meaningful connection and charitable initiatives, and cultivating a welcoming workplace culture that truly puts people first.



Clockwise from top left: Kim Basque, Shannon Bay, Wren Mynhardt, Lisa Krol, and Tami Golding.

Clinical Investigator Program, Clinical Investigator Faculty Award, 2026



Dr. Gary Groot, MD, PhD

Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology

Post Graduate Medical Education Faculty and Staff Awards



Excellence in Enhancing Resident Learning

Dr. Justina Koshinsky, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology



Exemplary Role Model Faculty Member

Dr. Sanchea Wasyliw, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine



Program Administrator of the Year Award

Janna Ethier

Program Administrator, Department of Medicine



Program Director of the Year Award

Dr. Jennifer Duda, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (Regina)



Program Director of the Year Award

Dr. Kristine Mytopher, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

SCHOOL AND DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

SCHOOL OF REHABILITATION SCIENCE



Liz Harrison Interprofessional Collaboration Award

Dr. Hope Jervis Rademeyer, PhD

Assistant Professor, School of Rehabilitation Science



Liz Harrison Interprofessional Collaboration Award

Dr. Stephanie Huff, PhD

Assistant Professor, and

Dr. Angela Feehan, PhD

Assistant Professor

School of Rehabilitation Science



Excellence in Teaching and Mentorship Award

Robyn Morhart

Master of Physical Therapy Instructor, School of Rehabilitation Science



Student Impact Award

Julianne Gordon

Student Affairs Coordinator, School of Rehabilitation Science

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE



Keith Ogle Award for Teaching in Family Medicine - Enhanced Skills

Dr. Jordan Anderson, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine (Regina)



Keith Ogle Award for Teaching in Family Medicine - South

Dr. Tara Lee, MD

Associate Dean, Rural Medicine and Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine (Swift Current)



Keith Ogle Award for Teaching in Family Medicine - Urban

Dr. Stephanie Nyberg, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine (Regina)



Dr. Sally Mahood Award for Mentorship and Advocacy

Dr. Carla Holinaty, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine



Dr. Viv Ramsden Award

Dr. Bruce Reeder, MD

Professor Emeritus, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology



Dr. Gill White Award

Dr. Reid McGonigle, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine (Île à la Crosse)

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Keith Ogle Award for Teaching in Family Medicine - North

Dr. Devin Ritter, MD, Professor, Department of Family Medicine

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE



RCPSC Emergency Medicine Teacher Award - Junior

Dr. John Hanson, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine



Off-Service Teacher Award - Junior

Dr. Taylor Kobussen, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine



Off-Service Teacher Award - Senior

Dr. Vanessa Cranford, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery



Helping Hand Award

Kallee Heinrichs

Program Administrator, Emergency Medicine Residency Programs (Regina)

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RCPSC Emergency Medicine Teacher Award - Senior, AND CCFP-EM Teacher Award

Dr. Maria Weyland, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

PROVINCIAL HEAD AWARDS



Administrator of the Year

Dr. Shelley Kirychuk, PhD

Director, Canadian Centre for Rural and Agricultural Health, and Associate Professor, Department of Medicine



Clinician of the Year

Dr. Anil Bedi, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine



Researcher of the Year

Dr. Kerri Schellenberg, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine



Teacher of the Year

Dr. Gary Hunter, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

FACULTY AWARDS (VOTED ON BY INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENTS)



Teacher of the Year, Regina

Dr. Krystyna Wang, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, (Regina)



Teacher of the Year, Saskatoon,

Dr. Linden Kolbenson, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine



Bedside Teacher of the Year, Regina

Dr. Moyosore Abimboye, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine



Bedside Teacher of the Year, Saskatoon

Dr. Ben Leis, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine



Distinguished Lecturer Award

Dr. Nabeel Samad, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine



Faculty Research Day, First Place Presentation

Dr. Kerri Schellenberg, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine



Faculty Research Day, Second Place Presentation

Dr. Ben Leis, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine



Faculty Research Day, Third Place Presentation

Dr. Christina (Tia) Shaw, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY



Bob Sollars Award for Excellence in Postgraduate Education

Dr. Tara Peters, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (Regina)



David Popkin Award for Excellence in Postgraduate Education & 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. Rashmi Bhargava, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (Regina)



Thiriza Smith Clinical Practice Award

Dr. Sarah Smith, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHAMOLOGY



Faculty Teacher of the Year Award

Dr. Todd Buglass, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Opthamology

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS



Pediatric Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award

Dr. Jason Baserman, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY



Faculty Teaching Award - Saskatoon

Dr. Alana Holt, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry



Provincial Department Head's Award - Excellence in Collaboration

Dr. Anna Felstrom, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry



Provincial Department Head's Award - Faculty Member

Dr. Olajide Adelugba, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry



Provincial Department Head's Award - Staff Member

Dr. Mariam Alaverdashvili, MD

Provincial Research Facilitator, Department of Psychiatry

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Faculty Teaching Award - Regina

Dr. Mohamed Eisa, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry (Regina)

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



Faculty Research Award

Dr. Michael Moser, MD

Professor, Department of Surgery

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN AWARDS

Distinguished Professor, 2026

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. Mirosław (Mirek) Cygler, PhD

Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology

Dr. Cygler's research uses the Canadian Light Source (CLS) synchrotron to uncover the structural basis of enzymatic function, host-pathogen interactions, and protein-carbohydrate recognition. His discoveries have revealed how bacterial pathogens evade host defenses, advanced understanding of iron-sulfur cluster assembly, and identified novel enzymes with potential applications in antibiotic, anticancer, and precision therapeutic development. Beyond his research, Dr. Cygler has been a key architect of Canada's structural biology infrastructure, helping establish the CLS, the Canadian Macromolecular Crystallography Facility, PRISM, and major protein characterization facilities at USask. His leadership, mentorship, and service have had lasting national and international impact.



Provost's College Teaching Award, 2026

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

Dr. Stan Bardal, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology



Provost's New Teacher Award, 2026

This award recognizes a new USask faculty member who is within the first years of their appointment.

Dr. Valerie Caron, PhD

Assistant Professor, School of Rehabilitation Science



Provost's Support of Teaching and Learning Award, 2026

This award recognizes a staff member's excellent contributions in the support of course design, delivery, advising, and instruction.

Natalya Mason

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Specialist, Division of Social Accountability



College of Arts and Science, Expression Prize, 2026

Sydnie Gengler

Research Navigation Specialist, Office of the Vice Dean Research, College of Medicine

This prize was awarded for work done while Sydnie was an undergraduate student in Chemistry, and it was shared with team members Brianna Lukan, Christa Blaquiere, and Dr. Michel Gravel. The award is in recognition of their research paper, published in Nature Synthesis, 2022.



Excellence in Research Administration - Distinguished Administrator Award, 2026

Dr. Bruna Bonavia-Fisher, PhD

Research Facilitator, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology, and Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology



University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association, Ohpahotân | Oohpaahotaan "Let's Fly Up Together" Award, 2025

Dr. Peter Butt, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, retired, Department of Family Medicine

EXTERNAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL

American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, Elizabeth and Sidney Licht Award for Excellence in Scientific Writing



**Dr. Sarah
Donkers, PhD**

Associate Professor,
School of Rehabilitation
Science

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan



Senior Life Membership

**Dr. Jay Kalra, MD,
PhD**

Professor, Department of
Pathology and Laboratory
Medicine

Resident Doctors of Saskatchewan, Exceptional Teaching Awards, 2026



**Dr. Jeremie
Houde, MD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of Physical
Medicine and
Rehabilitation



**Dr. Trevor Loback,
MD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of Surgery



**Dr. Tosin Odeshi,
MD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of Medicine



**Dr. Karun Tandon,
MD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of
Anesthesiology



**Dr. Ryan Verity,
MD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of Medicine



**Dr. Yayuan Zhao,
MD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of
Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine
(Regina)

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Dr. Oluwale Olabisi, MD, Assistant Professor,
Department of Psychiatry (Regina)

Saskatchewan Health Authority, Innovation Award



Dr. Jackie Perrot, MD
(Assistant Professor), **Dr. Shayan Shirazi, MD**
(Resident Emergency Physician), and **Dr. Tracy Wilson, PhD** (EM Research Coordinator)
Department of Emergency Medicine

Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation



Excellence Award,
Establishment
Grant: Biomedical,
2024-25

Dr. Tyler Wenzel, MD
Assistant Professor,
Department of
Psychiatry



Excellence Award,
Solutions Grant,
Innovation, 2024-25

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

(with Dr. Charlene Thompson, College of Nursing, co-recipient)

Saskatchewan Medical Association, 2025



Physician Leader of
the Year

**Dr. Puneet Kapur,
MD**

Associate Professor,
Department of
Emergency Medicine



Early Career
Physician Leader of
the Year

**Dr. Mary Kinloch,
MD**

Associate Professor,
Department of
Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine



SMA Board of
Directors
Appreciation Award

**Dr. Annette Epp,
MD**

? Professor,
Department of
Obstetrics and
Gynecology

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Physician of the Year

Dr. Etienne Crouse, MD, Assistant Professor,
Department of Family Medicine (Moosomin)

Service Award

Dr. Stan Oleksinski, MD, Assistant Professor,
Department of Family Medicine (Prince Albert)

Rural Relief Program, 20 Years of Service

Dr. Francois Reitz, MD, Assistant Professor,
Department of ?

Saskatchewan College of Family Physicians, 2025



Award of Excellence

**Dr. Taofiq Segun
Oyedokun,
MBChB**

Clinical Associate
Professor, Department
of Emergency Medicine

EXTERNAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

American College of Physicians, Prairie Provinces Chapter



Internal Medicine Award

Dr. Michael Prystajecky, MD

Associate Professor, Department of
Medicine



Distinguished Teacher/Mentor
Award

Dr. Linden Kolbenson, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of
Medicine

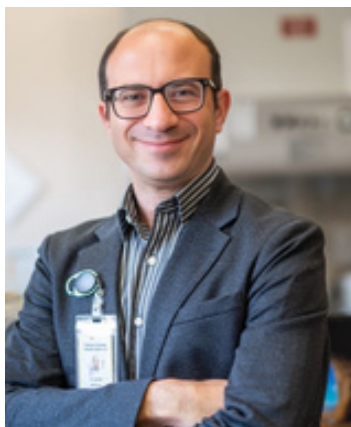
Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics Conference, Leadership Excellence
Award & Distinguished Scholar Technical Program Contribution Award, 2026



Dr. Jay Kalra, MD, PhD

Professor, Department of Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine

American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics, Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Service and Effort as an ASHI Inspector, 2026;
& Best Written Plain Language Summary, ASHI Annual Meeting, 2025



**Dr. Ahmed
Mostafa, MD, PhD**

Associate Professor,
Department of
Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine

Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada, 2026



Clinical Teacher
Award

**Dr. Paul Olszynski,
MD**

Professor,
Department of
Emergency Medicine



Indigenous Health
Advocacy Lifetime
Contribution Award

Valerie Arnault

Senior Lead Indigenous
Programming and
Initiatives



Leadership Award for
the Promotion of
Health in
Francophone
Communities-Lifetime
Achievement

Dr. Anne Leis, PhD

Professor Emeritus,
Department of
Community Health and
Epidemiology

Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellow, 2026



**Dr. Valerie Verge,
PhD**

Distinguished Professor,
Department of
Anatomy, Physiology,
and Pharmacology

Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry (CACB) Award for Outstanding Service to the Profession of Clinical Biochemistry



**Dr. Jay Kalra, MD,
PhD**

Professor, Department
of Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine

Canadian Association of Medical Education, Certificate of Merit, 2026



**Dr. Alexandra
Mortimer, MD**

Associate Professor,
Department of Surgery



**Dr. Nicole
Shedden, MD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of Family
Medicine



**Dr. Andrea
Vasquez
Camargo, MD**
Clinical Assistant
Professor, Department
of Family Medicine

Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians and Schwartz/Reisman Emergency Medicine Institute, Dr. Paul Hannam Memorial Award for Emerging Leadership



**Dr. Sachin Trivedi,
MD**
Associate Professor,
Department of
Emergency Medicine

Canadian Association of Occupational Therapy - Saskatchewan, Outstanding Occupational Therapist of the Year Award



Tami Turner
Professor of Teaching,
School of Rehabilitation
Science

Canadian Blood Services, Transfusion Camp Impactful Educator Award, 2025



**Dr. Oksana
Prokopchuk-
Gauk, MD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of
Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine

Canadian Thoracic Society Distinguished Achievement Award, 2026



**Dr. Don Cockcroft,
MD**

Distinguished Professor,
Department of Medicine

Canadian Certified Physician Executive Designation, 2026



Dr. Abid Lodhi, MD

Assistant Professor,
Department of Pediatrics
(Regina)

Canadian Institute of Health Research, Outstanding Reviewer, 2025-26



Dr. Camelia Adams, MD
Professor, Department of Psychiatry



Dr. Anand Krishnan, PhD
Associate Professor,
Department of
Anatomy, Physiology,
and Pharmacology



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



Dr. Wendie Marks, PhD
Tier 2 Canada Research
Chair in Developmental
Origins of Health and
Disease in Indigenous
People and Assistant
Professor, Department
of Pediatrics



Dr. Peter Pioli, PhD
Assistant Professor,
Department of
Biochemistry,
Microbiology, and
Immunology



Dr. Jessica Sheldon, PhD
Assistant Professor,
Department of
Biochemistry,
Microbiology, and
Immunology

Canadian Medical Association, Dr. Léo-Paul Landry Medal of Service, 2026



Dr. Hang Ha, MD

Clinical Associate
Professor, Department
of Anesthesiology

Canadian Paediatric Society, Certificate of Merit, 2026



**Dr. Krista Baerg,
MD**

Associate Professor
Department of
Pediatrics

Egyptian Society of Nephrology and Transplantation (ESNT) Board Award, 2026



**Dr. Ahmed
Mostafa**

Associate Professor,
Department of
Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine

King Charles III Coronation Medal , 2026



**Dr. Joanne
Kappel, MD**
Clinical Professor,
Department of Medicine

Muscular Dystrophy Canada, Dr. David Green Outstanding Healthcare Partner Award, 2026



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

Gabriel Dumont Institute, Order of Gabriel Dumont Bronze Medal, 2026



**Angie Phenix, DSc
(Candidate)**
Assistant Professor,
School of Rehabilitation
Science

Radiological Society of North America, Rising Star Award, 2026



**Dr. Scott Adams,
MD, PhD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of Medical
Imaging

Resident Doctors of Canada, Mikhael Award for Medical Education, 2026



**Dr. Quinten
Paterson, MD**

Associate Professor,
Department of
Emergency Medicine

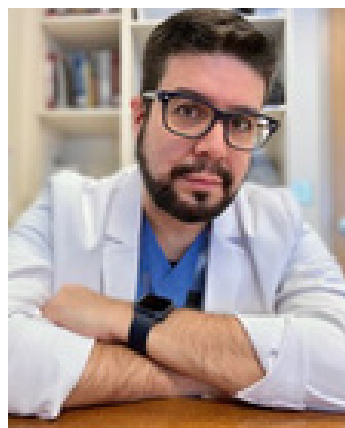
Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada



Carl Nimrod Educator
Award, 2025

**Dr. Dorian
Kristmanson, MD**

Assistant Professor,
Department of
Obstetrics and
Gynecology (Regina)



Regional Achievement
Award for the Central
Region, 2026

**Dr. Ernesto
Figueiro, MD**

Associate Professor,
Department of
Obstetrics and
Gynecology (Regina)

Stem Cell Network, Rising Star Award, 2026



Dr. Tyler Wenzel,

PhD

Assistant Professor,
Department of
Psychiatry

The Physiological Society, Hodgkin-Huxley-Katz International Prize Lecture, 2027



Dr. Valerie Verge,

PhD

Distinguished Professor,
Department of
Anatomy, Physiology,
and Pharmacology

World Beach Ultimate Championships, Bronze Medal (coach of Team Canada in Masters Mixed division) & Coach of the Year Nominee, Sask Sport's Annual Saskatchewan Sports Awards



Dr. Colin Yeung,

MD

Assistant Professor,
Department of Medicine

APPRECIATION ALERT

The Appreciation Alert allows all college members to share appreciation for their peers - from an every-day action that brings a smile to major accomplishments.

Recognition is contagious! Recipients tend to pay it forward to others, contributing to a more appreciative culture in the College of Medicine.

To date 305 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.

Give it a try! You can find the Appreciation Alert [here](#). See some recent examples below.

IT Team, Regina Campus, College of Medicine

Mark Quinola, Samip Patel, Ravijot Mangat, and Will Wallace were recognized by Catherine

MacKay-Wilson who said: "Thank you to Mark, Samip, Ravi, and Will for their daily work to support our learners at the Regina Campus. Mark and Samip went above and beyond to help with a major move of staffing in our 1B/0A offices in Regina this week and we wanted to thank you and let others know how much you are appreciated. You are essential and always make stressful times for staff lighthearted and easy and we are so grateful."

Dr. Pramath Kakodkar, Dr. Daniel Markewich, and Dr. Henry Pan, College of Medicine

The DCP PGY5 residents were recognized by Deb Quirion who said: "These three residents will be completing their training at the end of June, and they have truly been exceptional senior residents. Their dedication to teaching, strong leadership, and outstanding role modeling have had a lasting impact on our program. While they will be greatly missed, I am confident that their knowledge, compassion, and influence will continue to shape and inspire our current and future residents."

Robyn Morhart, Instructor, School of Rehabilitation Science, College of Medicine

Robyn was recognized by Racquel Biem who said: "Thank you to Robyn Morhart, for leading off our first Teaching and Learning Showcase today and setting such a positive and inspiring tone. Your leadership in curriculum renewal, willingness to try innovative teaching approaches, and thoughtful use of technology have a huge impact on our teaching and learning culture. Just as importantly, you are always generously sharing your experiences and supporting colleagues through what can feel like an uncertain process. You bring calm, confidence, and encouragement to the team. Your dedication and generosity are deeply appreciated."

Tara Holland, Department Head Assistant, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology, College of Medicine

Tara was recognized by Dr. Bruna Bonavia-Fisher who said: "I would like to thank Tara for installing a cheerful holiday spirit in the Biomedical Office! Her creative ways to include everyone by surprising us every morning with newly printed pictogram riddles, funny holiday jokes written in doors, hand crafted elf on the office (with team member faces) really installed a bright and joyful atmosphere in the office, very appropriate for the season! Thank you, Tara! And have a great holiday season everyone!"



Thank you to our College of Medicine faculty members who served on the **College Review Committee**. The committee undertook the significant task of reviewing 38 departmental recommendations for renewal of probation, tenure, and promotion, and 51 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 were tasked with making difficult decisions and did so with a high level of professionalism and care.

Thank you to all **award nominators and supporters** for taking the time to submit a nomination for deserving colleagues. Nominees always deem it a significant form of recognition in itself.

Thank you to the **Faculty and Staff Awards Committee** for their contributions as advisors and ambassadors.



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