

The logo consists of four red circular shapes arranged in a 2x2 grid, each partially overlapping its neighbors to form a central white square. To the right of this icon, the words "Weekly News" are written in a large, bold, black sans-serif font.

Weekly News

UBC School of Biomedical Engineering

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Announcements

SBME Symposium: Amgen Pitch Competition

Pitch your research at the SBME Symposium. The Amgen pitch competition at the School of Biomedical Engineering is an event that aims to showcase and promote innovation in the field of biotechnology, life sciences and biomedical

engineering. The purpose of the competition is to provide a platform for students and researchers to present their unique and innovative ideas for solutions or technologies that can address real-world problems in the field.

The competition is designed to encourage students to develop their skills in scientific research, problem-solving, and communication, as well as to foster collaboration and networking opportunities with industry professionals and academics. The competition aims to inspire and motivate the next generation of leaders in biomedical engineering and support the development of new ideas and technologies.

Applications Close: May 22nd, 2023

Six Applicants Selected & Notified by: May 29th, 2023

Pitch & Award Ceremony: June 13th, 2023

[Rules & Guidelines.](#)

[Apply.](#)

Dr. Anna Blakney and collaborators awarded New Frontiers in Research Fund grant

MSL Faculty member Dr. Anna Blakney and collaborators have received support from the New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) for a novel project which aims to develop new treatment approaches for neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's, stroke and epilepsy. The goal of the project is to use RNA to reprogram cells to try and develop new treatments for neurological diseases. Blakney's role is to design mRNAs and saRNA with certain transcription factors (proteins) that will be able to convert stem cells into neurological cells. These can then be used for the regeneration of damage to the brain due to disease or injury. The funding program supports global innovation and encourages a high degree of interdisciplinary collaboration.

[Read More.](#)

Professional Development Sessions & Research Talks

Celebrating 20 Years of Research Excellence at VCHRI

May 9 | 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

This year, VCHRI proudly commemorates the 20th anniversary of our establishment. To celebrate this milestone, we are hosting a full-day event that aims to recognize two decades of research achievements and showcase innovative projects from our research community. The event will include oral and panel presentations, industry demonstrations and networking sessions. Lunch will be provided and there will be opportunities to win exciting prizes.

[Learn More.](#)

SBME Presents - Dr. Hideyuki Okano

May 15 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am | LSC 1003

This session will focus on Dr. Okano's research. Specifically, on his team's use of iPSC technology and genetically engineered non-human primates to address the challenges faced when studying human neurological/psychiatric disorders.

[Learn More.](#)

Creating Inclusive Spaces

May 16 | 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Inclusive learning and working spaces allow people to feel both physically welcomed and psychologically included. Our optimal environments celebrate the diverse experiences of our members and respond to a variety of cultural and personal needs. When we embrace the differences amongst us and actively seek to welcome and amplify the voices of those adversely affected by a lack of inclusion, we support culture change and create space for belonging.

[Register.](#)

Transformation, Inspiration and Guidance: Celebrating 20 Years of Indigenous Excellence in Medicine

May 17 | 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

James Andrew has been a source of inspiration and guidance in helping to create and transform the UBC Faculty of Medicine's Indigenous MD Admissions Pathway. In 2022, the Faculty of Medicine community celebrated 20 years of the Pathway as well as the Indigenous Family Medicine Residency Program, and over this time period more than 120 Indigenous doctors have graduated and are now serving communities across the province as family doctors, surgeons, pediatricians and more.

[Register.](#)

Disrupting the Status Quo: Intersecting Inequities Impacting Women in the Faculty of Medicine and Opportunities for Change

June 7 | 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

During this virtual event, hear from a diverse group of women about their perspectives on leadership, opportunities and barriers in the context of health professions practice, education and research. We will centre intersectionality and the differentiated experiences of women as we critically examine how current academic systems and hierarchies create additional barriers for women and ideas for change.

[Register.](#)

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SBME Events Calendar

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Do you have news or information you want to share with the community?

Fill out our [newsletter submission form](#) to be featured in the next **SBME Newsletter** (*we will accept submissions up to two days before the release of the next edition*).

And don't forget to connect with the SBME on social media.

THE SBME COMMUNICATIONS TEAM
