



Institute of Medical Science
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



IMS CONNECTS

Working in Academia

Don't miss your chance to identify your career needs, learn about diverse careers in academia, and network with an incredible community.



JANUARY 17, 2024



1:30–5:30 PM



HART HOUSE

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Temerty
Medicine





AGENDA

January 17, 2024 from 1:30 - 5:30 PM

1:00 - 1:30 PM
Debates Room

Registration

1:30 - 3:00 PM
Debates Room

**Workshop- Exploring Your Why:
Discovering Your Place in Academia**

3:00 - 3:15 PM

Break

3:15 - 4:30 PM
Debates Room

Working in Academia Career Panel

4:30 - 5:30 PM
Music Room

Networking & Refreshments



EXPLORING YOUR WHY: DISCOVERING YOUR PLACE IN ACADEMIA



PAMELA PLANT, PHD

**ADJUNCT SCIENTIST, KEENAN RESEARCH CENTRE
GPD COURSE DIRECTOR, IMS**

Dr. Plant obtained her Ph.D. at the University of Toronto in the Department of Biochemistry followed by fellowships at the CHUV, University of Lausanne and the Lunenfeld Institute at Mt. Sinai Hospital. Dr. Plant has been with St. Michael's for over 10 years where she has developed her interest in molecular diagnostics research and has published over 40 peer-reviewed articles.

As an application scientist in the area of molecular biology and biochemistry she provides support to the research community with experimental design, data acquisition, analysis and representation.

Dr. Plant is passionate about trainee education and began the Research Core Facilities (RCF) "Core Clinics" educational program, where RCF Specialists run dozens of unique courses for trainees in a broad range of basic science techniques. She has been dedicated to promoting scientific literacy in the community through involvement in scientific outreach programs for high school students, in Pathways to Education and Women in STEM programs through the public library system. Pamela lectures at IMS with a focus on graduate professional development.



REINHART REITHMEIER, PHD

**PROFESSOR EMERITUS, DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY
IMS DIRECTOR, GPD AND ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT**

Reinhart Reithmeier obtained his BSc at Carleton University and his PhD in Biochemistry at the University of British Columbia. Following post-doctoral training at Harvard and the University of Toronto he obtained his first faculty position at the University of Alberta in 1980. Dr. Reithmeier is known internationally for his research on anion transport membrane proteins in human health and disease.

As former IMS Graduate Coordinator, Chair of Biochemistry and Special Advisor to the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) on graduate professional and leadership development, Dr. Reithmeier is dedicated to ensuring that graduate students have the skill set and network to be fully prepared to take advantage of the diverse job opportunities available to them in today's global marketplace. He was founder of "IMS Connects" and the Project Leader for SGS' "10,000 PhDs" project. His leadership was recognized in 2012 by election to the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

CAREER PANELISTS



YVONNE BACH, MSc
CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR, UHN

Yvonne finished her BSc at Queens University before being employed for two years as a clinical research assistant at UHN focusing on adult congenital and structural heart diseases. She continued her education with an MSc at IMS. Since graduating in 2019, she has been employed within a clinical research setting, first as a clinical research analyst and now a clinical research coordinator within the department of Medical Oncology and Haematology at UHN.



KATHARINE DUNLOP, PhD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Dr. Katharine Dunlop is a scientist at the Centre for Depression and Suicide Studies, and an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto. Dr. Dunlop received her PhD from IMS in 2018 as a CIHR Vanier Scholar. She also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in neuroscience as a CIHR Banting Fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medicine in 2021.

Dr. Dunlop uses cognitive science, human structural and functional neuroimaging, and non-invasive brain stimulation (e.g., transcranial magnetic stimulation) to investigate the biological underpinnings of inter-individual variability in behaviour and symptomatology, treatment response, and predictors of symptom improvement.



JAMES HONG, PhD
SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATE, UHN
PRESIDENT, VERISMO HEALTH

Dr. James Hong did his doctoral and postdoctoral work in the lab of Dr. Michael Fehlings at the University of Toronto investigating the differences in disease progression between cervical and thoracic spinal cord trauma and disease mechanisms of degenerative cervical myelopathy. During his studies, he frequently employed the use of high

resolution sonography to perform in vivo gross tissue assessments and vascular characterization of the spinal cord. Dr. Hong currently leads Verismo Health Inc, a primary care startup, and lectures in the department of human biology at the University of Toronto.



SIAN PATTERSON, PHD

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, TEACHING STREAM;
DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY**

Dr. Sian Patterson plays an active role in the education of life science undergraduates, collaborating with other instructors to facilitate student learning, and provide mentorship to further their growth and future careers. She's been involved with the coordination and evolution of the biochemistry undergraduate labs as well as the lecture components of many courses.

Teaching research and trying new things is the best way to improve our teaching practices, through reflection and experimentation, seeking out student feedback to improve on their university experience and develop life long learners.

She is a strong believer in reflection, learning and building on your experiences to assist others and achieve success.



ROLA SALEEB, MD, PHD

CLINICIAN-SCIENTIST, UNITY HEALTH TORONTO

Dr. Rola Saleeb is a Pathologist and the medical director of Immunohistochemistry at Unity Health Toronto, a Clinical Scientist at the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, and an Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto. Her areas of interest are Genitourinary Pathology and Molecular Pathology. She received her medical degree from Cairo University, Anatomical Pathology and PhD training from the University of Toronto.

She also completed a 1-year Transformative Pathology Molecular Fellowship from the Ontario Institute of Cancer Research (OICR).

Rola Saleeb's research lab is at the LiKa Shing Knowledge Institute. Her team is studying pathogenesis and biomarkers of renal cell carcinomas and works on establishing feasible sequencing methods for cancer genetic testing for all cancers.





Please join us to network with IMS students, staff, faculty, and career panelists.



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This event has been designed and delivered in partnership with the [IMS Peer-to-Peer](#) and [Career Mentorship Programs](#).

