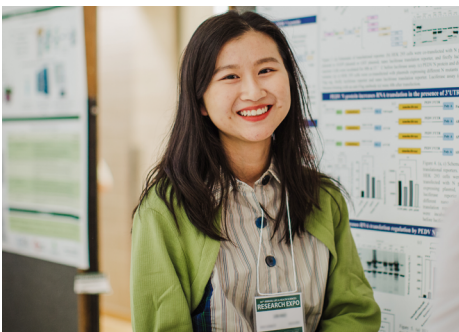


THE 2024 LIFE & HEALTH SCIENCES RESEARCH EXPO

ACKNOWLEDGING EXEMPLARY RESEARCH AND LEARNING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN



2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Life & Health Sciences Research Expo acknowledges exemplary research and learning activity at the University of Saskatchewan and is an annual showcase of the interdisciplinary health science research taking place on campus and throughout the province.

Special thanks to all presenters, adjudicators, and to the review committee for helping celebrate outstanding research, collaboration, and mentorship within the health sciences on **Thursday, May 2, 2024**.

For more information about the expo — including summaries of competition categories and award submission/nomination requirements, please visit healthsciences.usask.ca/expo.

healthsciences.usask.ca/expo



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Health Sciences
HEALTHSCIENCES.USASK.CA

BEST SUPERVISOR



Back-to-front, from left: Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine (MSc, PhD), Interim Associate Provost Health Dr. Adam Baxter-Jones (PhD), Dr. Behzad Toosi (DVM, PhD), Sahana Ramamoorthy, and Jessica Sharpe. Photo: Tammy Zdunich.

Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine (MSc, PhD)

Professor, College of Medicine

Nominated by: Sahana Ramamoorthy

Dr. Behzad Toosi (DVM, PhD)

Assistant Professor, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Nominated by: Jessica Sharpe

BEST PAPER

The 2024 Life & Health Sciences Research Expo Best Paper Awards are sponsored by the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF).

Best Basic Science Paper (first place)

Mahesh Rachamalla, College of Arts & Science

Chronic dietary exposure to arsenic at environmentally relevant concentrations impairs cognitive performance in adult zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) via oxidative stress and dopaminergic dysfunction

Supervisors: Som Niyogi (College of Arts & Science) and Arash Salahinejad (University of Western Ontario)

Best Basic Science Paper (second place)

Kundanika Mukherjee, College of Medicine

Release of lipids stored in the intestine by glucagon-like peptide-2 involves a gut-brain neural pathway

Supervisor: Changting Xiao (College of Medicine)

Best Translational, Clinical, or Applied Science Paper

Tallan Black, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition

Characterization of cannabinoid plasma concentration, maternal health, and cytokine levels in a rat model of prenatal *Cannabis* smoke exposure

Supervisors: Allison Cammer (College of Pharmacy & Nutrition) and Paulette Hunter (College of Arts & Science)

Best Social & Population Health Paper

Heather Alford, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition

Employee experiences providing nutritional care during the COVID-19 pandemic

Supervisors: Robert Laprairie (College of Pharmacy & Nutrition) and John Howland (College of Medicine)



From left: Interim Associate Provost Health Dr. Adam Baxter-Jones (PhD), Tallan Black, Kundanika Mukherjee, Mahesh Rachamalla, Heather Alford, and Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF) Programs and Engagement Manager Dr. Chelsea Cunningham (PhD). Photo: Tammy Zdunich.

RESEARCH POSTER PRESENTATION COMPETITION



Photo: Collin Semenoff.

Medical and dentistry residents, graduate students, undergraduate students, and post-doctoral researchers were invited to submit an abstract for the research poster presentation competition. Presenters competed in cohorts based on alignment with the following primary research categories: Basic Science; Translational, Clinical, or Applied Science; and Social & Population Health.

Basic Science 1

First place: Kira Mudrey, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Supervisor: Tim Dumonceaux, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Second place: Ruoqi Yu, College of Medicine

Supervisor: Jeff Dong, College of Medicine

Basic Science 2

First place: Shreoshi Bhattacharjee, College of Medicine

Supervisor: Linda Chelico, College of Medicine

Second place: Miranda Messmer, College of Medicine

Supervisor: Michael Levin, College of Medicine

Basic Science 3

First place: Nima Daneshver Baghbadorani, College of Medicine

Supervisor: Dean Chamberlain, College of Medicine

Second place: Leonie Bettin, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Supervisor: Volker Gerdts, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Basic Science 4

First place: Victoria Gonzalez, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Supervisor: Arinjay Banerjee, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Second place: Marina Carla Bezerra da Silva, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Supervisor: Sarah Wood, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Translational, Clinical, or Applied Science 1

First place: Hemlata Gautam, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Supervisor: Susantha Gomis, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Second place: Iresha Subhasinghe, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Supervisor: Susantha Gomis, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Translational, Clinical, or Applied Science 2

First place: Ahmed Eldib, College of Dentistry

Supervisor: Walter Siqueria, College of Dentistry

Second place: Emilio Enrique Tellarini Prieto, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Supervisor: Sarah Wood, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Translational, Clinical, or Applied Science 3

First place: Dhruv Patel, College of Medicine

Supervisor: Aneesh Thakur, College of Medicine

Second place: Naga Suresh Kola, School of Public Health

Supervisor: Aneesh Thakur, College of Medicine

Social & Population Health 1

First place: Oleksii Obshta, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Supervisor: Sarah Wood, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Second place: Taylor Raiche, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition

Supervisor: Holly Mansel, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition

Social & Population Health 2

First place: Jing Wang, School of Public Health

Supervisor: Li Xing, College of Arts & Science

Second place: Bailey Gitzel, College of Kinesiology

Supervisor: Kevin Spink, College of Kinesiology

ADDITIONAL AWARDS

Based on the quality of the research posters presented, additional awards were presented for achievement aligning with the following optional, self-declared themes:

Indigenous Health Research

Recipient: Katie Tolley, School of Public Health

Supervisor: Amanda Froehlich-Chow, School of Public Health

Interdisciplinary/Interprofessional Collaboration

Recipient: Taylor Raiche, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition

Supervisor: Holly Mansel, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition

Recipient: Anurag Sakharkar, College of Arts & Science

Supervisor: Changiz Taghibiglou, College of Medicine

Undergraduate Research 1

First place: Kaitland Fior, College of Arts & Science

Supervisor: Michael Levin, College of Medicine

Second place: Andy Kim, College of Arts & Science

Supervisor: Robert Laprairie, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition

Undergraduate Research 2

First place (tie): Khoi Tran, College of Arts & Science

Supervisor: Wendie Marks, College of Medicine

First place (tie): Luke Wandzura, College of Dentistry

Supervisor: Felipe Sperandio, College of Dentistry

Undergraduate Research 3

First place: Abang Omot, College of Arts & Science

Supervisor: Roslyn Compton, College of Nursing

Second place: Brittany Krammer, College of Kinesiology

Supervisor: Kevin Spink, College of Kinesiology

Sustainable Progress

The 2024 Life & Health Sciences Research Expo Sustainable Progress Awards are sponsored by the Office of Sustainability and the Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching and Learning.

Sustainability & People: Ryan Chan, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition

Supervisor: Katelyn Halpape, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition

Sustainability & Planet: Mahesh Rachamalla, College of Arts & Science

Supervisor: Som Niyogi, College of Arts & Science

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS