Summer 2026

Save the Date: Calgary International Microbiome Summit 2027

The Calgary International Microbiome Summit (CiMS) will bring together scientists, clinicians, trainees and innovators from around the world to explore the evolving role of the microbiome in human health and disease. Taking place **October 5-7, 2027, at the BMO Centre in Calgary**, CiMS will showcase emerging discoveries and foster collaboration across basic, translational and clinical microbiome science. Scientific themes include microbiome and human health, microbial therapeutics, precision medicine, AI and multi-omics, chronic disease and clinical microbiome research. Learn more here.

LINK Grant: Launching Innovative Novel Knowledge Translation

LINK
LAUNCHING INNOVATIVE NOVEL KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION

The LINK Grant supports new collaborations between clinicians and basic scientists to transform important clinical observations into early-stage translational research. Postgraduate trainees including postdoctoral trainees, residents and fellows are strongly encouraged to apply! Funding helps teams generate preliminary data, investigate disease mechanisms and therapeutic opportunities, and build a strong foundation for future external funding and partnerships.

Funding: Up to **$30,000 in matched 50/50 funding** for 12 months, with **3-4 grants awarded annually**. One grant each year is reserved for an early-career researcher or postgraduate trainee.

Eligible expenses include pilot data generation, research supplies, research/student assistant stipends, participant recruitment and publication costs. Matching funds must be confirmed at the time of application. One grant each year is reserved for an early-career researcher with **applications now open to postgraduate trainees (PDFs/PGYs). Apply here.**

Application deadline: **November 2, 2026 at 4:00 pm MST**

For questions or application support, contact **ryan.eng@ucalgary.ca**.

Cold and Flu Season Is Coming — Are You Ready?

As respiratory virus season approaches, infectious-disease expert Dr. Craig Jenne shares simple, evidence-based ways to stay healthy, from getting enough sleep and staying hydrated to getting vaccinated and staying home when you're sick. Learn how small, everyday choices can help protect you and those around you this season. Read more here.

Education News

Grad Seminar Series Schedule (September)

All lectures begin at noon. Pizza (2 pcs. per person please) provided first come first served; best to arrive by 11:50 am.

September 14 | Clara Christie

- Welcome and Expectations for the Series & SCoRe Lab Presentations

September 21 | Clara Christie

- Noga Sharlin, MDMI PhD Graduate Student
  Dr. Corcoran's Laboratory, Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Infectious Diseases
- Barbara Waddell, MDMI MSc Graduate Student

Dr. Parkins' Laboratory, Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Infectious Diseases

September 28 | Clara Christie

- Cassie Wood, MDIM PhD Graduate Student
  Drs. Canton's and Mahoney's Laboratories, Department of Microbiology, Immunology & Infectious Diseases

Calgary Melbourne Postdoc Exchange

This exchange program supports postdoctoral researchers pursuing projects overseas under the mentorship of world-class research supervisors. It is an opportunity to spend **one to two years** in a host laboratory at the partner institution.
Applications Deadline: October 1, 2026 - 7:59 a.m. **| Results:** December 2026

Submit via the University of Melbourne SmartyGrants portal.
If you have any questions about the application process, eligibility requirements, or available supports, please contact medgrant@ucalgary.ca.

Congratulations

Celebrating Teaching Excellence at UCalgary

The University of Calgary Students' Union has recognized 39 outstanding educators thro ugh its 2026 Teaching Excellence Awards, celebrating their dedication to student success and impactful teaching. Among this year's recipients are Dr. Joe Harrison - Teaching Excellence Award and Dr. Craig Jenne - Teaching Excellence Award – Honourable Mention. Congratulations to the award winners for their contributions to creating exceptional learning experiences for UCalgary students! Read more here.

Upcoming Events

Snyder Research Day 2026 | October 6

Join the Snyder Institute for Research Day 2026, *Road to CIMS: A Gathering of Local Microbiome Leaders*, bringing together researchers, trainees and collaborators to showcase the breadth of research across the Institute.

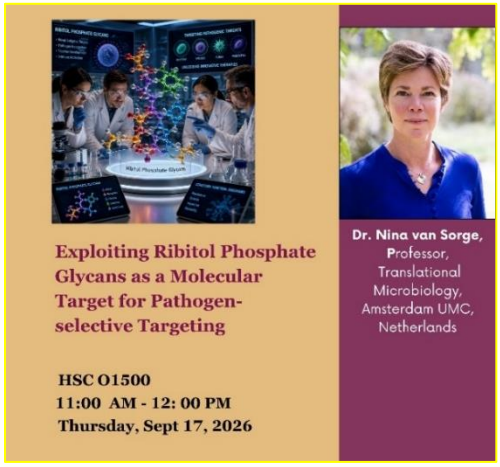
Research Day 2026 will highlight research from keynote speaker **Dr. Eugene B. Chang, MD**, Martin Boyer Professor of Medicine at the University of Chicago, as well as local microbiome leaders. Dr. Chang will present **"**Paths to restoring gut microbiome health through the lens of ecological and evolutionary principles." The event will also mark the one-year countdown to the Calgary International Microbiome Summit (CiMS).

Date: October 6 | Time: 9:00am - 5:00pm | Location: Libin Theatre and Azrieli Atrium
Learn more and register here.

Snyder Undergraduate Research Night | September 29

Join the Snyder Institute Trainee Committee for our Undergraduate Research Night, an evening celebrating undergraduate research and the next generation of researchers. The event, held at **Azrieli (HRIC) Atrium** from **3:30 pm to 5:30 pm**, will highlight the work and experiences of undergraduate students engaged in research at the institute and provide an opportunity to connect with fellow students, researchers and members of the Snyder community. Register here.

Snyder Invited Speaker Seminar | September 17



Join us on September 17, from **11:00 am to 12:00** pm in **HSC 01500** for the next lecture in the Snyder Invited Speaker Seminar Series. This session will feature **Dr. Nina van Sorge** presenting on "Exploiting Ribitol Phosphate Glycans as a Molecular Target for Pathogen-selective Targeting." Dr. Nina van Sorge is a professor of Translational Microbiology at the Amsterdam UMC, the Netherlands. She works at the interface of epidemiology, (glyco)biology and human immunology in the context of bacterial infections.

Trainees and postdocs are invited to attend lunch with Dr. van Sorge from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. RSVP here . The Snyder Invited Speaker Seminar Series is a biweekly lecture series featuring invited speakers hosted by Snyder endowed chairs, research groups, and journal clubs.

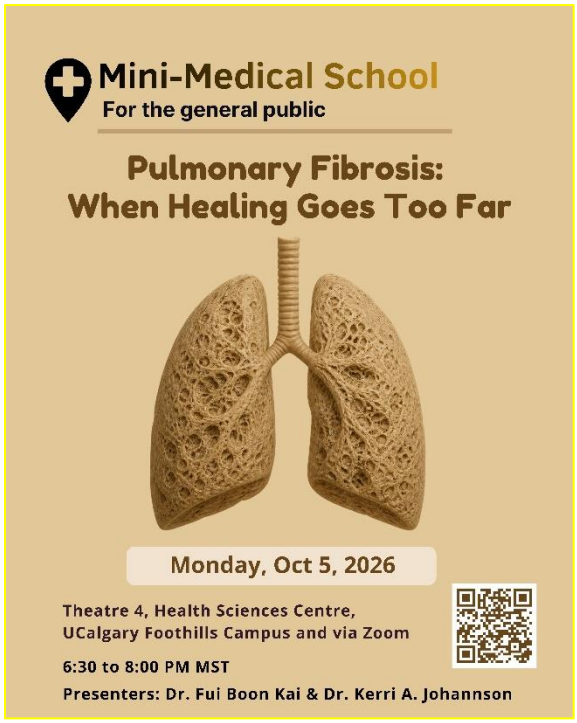
Snyder Invited Speaker Seminar | September 24

Join us on September 24th, from **11:00 am to 12:00 pm** in **Theatre Four** for the next lecture in the Snyder Invited Speaker Seminar Series. This session will feature **Dr. Pablo A. Romagnoli** presenting on "Integrating Diet, Microbiome, and Metabolomics to Understand Inflammation in the Intestinal Mucosa." Dr. Romagnoli is an Adjunct Investigator at CONICET and Professor at the Centro de Investigación en Medicina Traslacional "Severo R. Amuchástegui" (CIMETSA), Instituto Universitario de Ciencias Biomédicas de Córdoba (IUCBC), in Córdoba, Argentina. He earned his Ph.D. in Immunology and Molecular Pathogenesis from Emory University (Atlanta, GA, USA) and completed his postdoctoral training at UCONN Health (Farmington, CT, USA), where he studied mucosal immunity and resident memory CD4 and γδ T cells. Trainees and postdocs are invited to attend lunch with Dr. Söderholm from 12:15 to 1:30 pm. RSVP here.

Health & Life Sciences Industry Collaboration Initiative | September 22

Join UCalgary's Health & Life Sciences Industry Collaboration Initiative on **September 22** for a day of networking, collaboration and innovation. The event will bring together researchers, startups, industry leaders and other partners to explore new research opportunities, commercialization pathways and innovative health-care solutions. The program will feature industry presentations, Alberta Innovator Speed Pitches, UCalgary research services and licensable technologies, followed by networking opportunities. Learn more and register.

Mini-Medical School Lecture Series | October 5



The Snyder Institute's Mini-Medical School returns for another year of engaging public lectures exploring chronic, infectious and inflammatory diseases. The 2026-2027 series kicks off on **October 5** with *Pulmonary Fibrosis: When Healing Goes Too Far*, featuring Snyder researchers Dr. Fui Boon Kai and Dr. Kerri Johannson. The lecture will explore how the lungs heal after injury, what happens when healing goes too far and the latest research into pulmonary fibrosis and potential new treatments. Lectures are open to the public and offered in a hybrid format, both in person and online. Register here.

Learn How to Write for The Conversation Canada | October 21

Join an editor from The Conversation Canada for a 90-minute in-person workshop on Wednesday, 21st October, designed for faculty, postdocs and graduate students. The session will explore how to pitch stories, share your expertise and turn your research into an engaging article for a wider audience. Learn how publishing with The Conversation can amplify your research, reach a global readership and position you as a trusted expert. The workshop will be held at **Theatre One** (G504), Health Sciences Centre. Register here.

Opportunities

IRN, Diversity Days Needs You! September 19

Want to spend a day talking science, meeting the public and playing with parasite specimens and games? The UCalgary Host-Parasite Interactions group is looking for volunteers for Diversity Days!

September 19 - ~8:30 am to 4:30 pm - Bow Habitat Station

No parasite knowledge? No problem! We have cheat sheets that will have you sounding like a parasite expert in no time. No outreach experience? Also no problem! Many of us do outreach regularly, and you'll be supported by a great team throughout the day. If you're interested, please sign up here (for as many or as few hours as you can make). If you have any questions, feel free to contact Hayley directly (hayley.gorman1@ucalgary.ca).

Reminder to the Membership

When publishing your research, please remember to include the Snyder Institute in your affiliation or acknowledgements, where appropriate. This is an important way for us to accurately track and showcase the research contributions of our Institute members.

Thank you for helping us ensure your research and the Institute's collective impact are recognized!

Other News

Snyder Institute Funding Reminder

- Snyder internal funding opportunities can be found on our website under Membership & Funding
- Snyder internal scholarship opportunities can be found on our website under Education & Scholarships

Awareness Information

Disinfectant Solutions: Efficacy, Use, And Expiry

- Not all disinfectants are made equal
- Follow required contact times!
- Check disinfectant expiry dates

Would you like to contact someone at the Snyder Institute?

On our website, our Contact Us page has some useful contacts.

We want to hear from you! Send us your news

We invite all Snyder members, trainees and staff to send us your news about successes, lectures, workshops... anything that you would like to share with the membership. We will make every effort to post it, and the best ways for us to share your news are through our:

- Snyder Newsletter
- Snyder Website (as long as your news fits the site's guidelines)
- X, LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook channels

Do you want help publicizing your event/lecture/workshop? Send us the details **one month before the event date.** Please contact Mary Siliveru (mary.siliveru@ucalgary.ca). if you have any questions.

For the latest news and information, visit us at snyder.ucalgary.ca, and at

Calvin, Phoebe and Joan
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