



September 2017



University of Toronto and University Health Network Renew Partnership Focused on Diabetes Research

Improving the lives of people with diabetes through cross-disciplinary research is the driving force behind a renewed partnership between the University of Toronto's [Banting & Best Diabetes Centre \(BBDC\)](#) and the [University Health Network \(UHN\)](#).

The five-year renewed commitment will enable experts from diverse backgrounds from both organizations to continue to work together on cutting-edge prevention and treatment strategies for people with diabetes.

"UHN and U of T have a long and rich history of partnering in diabetes research, education and care, dating back to the 1921 discovery of insulin at U of T followed by the first successful insulin treatment at the Toronto General Hospital," says Gary Lewis, BBDC Director, and a professor of Medicine and Physiology, who holds the Drucker Family Chair in Diabetes Research and the Sun Life Financial Chair. "This renewed agreement between UHN and BBDC further strengthens this partnership, for the benefit of those living with diabetes."

This is the third renewal of the partnership, which began in 2007 with a focus on training a new generation of diabetes scientists. Over the past 10 years 31 postdoctoral fellows and 52 graduate students have received support from UHN for their diabetes research training. The majority of these trainees have pursued their interests in diabetes and many are predicted to make important contributions to the field.

For the next phase of the partnership, UHN will continue to provide much needed support for postdoctoral fellowships and graduate studentships who are working in the laboratories of UHN-based diabetes scientists, enabling the BBDC to increase the breadth of its diabetes research. Continued support will also be provided for BBDC educational activities such as the Annual Scientific Day and Seminar Series at City-wide Endocrine Rounds. UHN will continue to provide the BBDC with administrative office space on the 12th floor of the Eaton Building of the Toronto General Hospital.

Today, more than 9 million Canadians have diabetes or pre-diabetes. Worldwide, almost half a billion people are affected by diabetes.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

4th BBDC-Joslin-UCPH Conference
October 20-21, 2017
MaRS Centre, Toronto

BBDC News is distributed by e-mail in September, January and June of each year. Those who wish to advertise diabetes-related events or programs can contact us at diabetes.bbdc@utoronto.ca.

New Trainee Advancement and Development Committee

In an effort to provide an improved training environment for fellows, the BBDC has established a subcommittee of post-doctoral fellows to review applications for the Trainee Travel Awards, Summer Studentships, and Annual Trainee Awards competitions. A member of this committee is also selected to coordinate the Charles Hollenberg Summer Studentship program. The [Trainee Advancement and Development Committee](#) which is chaired and mentored by Dr. Tony Lam, provides our fellows with an opportunity to gain experience in reviewing applications and to play an active role in BBDC activities. The committee is made up of fellows with diverse expertise and disciplines who are either BBDC or externally funded and are from labs of BBDC members.

Upcoming BBDC Events

4th BBDC-Joslin Diabetes Center-UCPH Conference Diabetic Complications: From Molecular Mechanisms to Patient Oriented Research

October 20-21, 2017
MaRS Centre, Toronto

The BBDC together with the Joslin Diabetes Center and the University of Copenhagen will be co-hosting the 4th annual diabetes conference from October 20-21, 2017 in Toronto. The program will include speakers from all three institutions as well as guest speakers from other leading diabetes research centres across the globe and will focus on diabetic complications from molecular mechanisms to patient oriented research. Registration is free for all members of the BBDC, Joslin Diabetes Center and University of Copenhagen. The conference will be preceded by a one-day interactive learning session for trainees from the three universities on Thursday, October 19. We gratefully acknowledge Eli Lilly and Novo Nordisk for their generous support of this event. [Visit the conference website](#) for program details and registration information.



BBDC Seminar Series 2017/2018

The BBDC will be hosting the following diabetes-related seminars which are held in conjunction with City-wide Endocrine Rounds. The seminars are held from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Mount Sinai Hospital, Lebovic Building, 60 Murray Street, 3rd floor conference room.

October 27, 2017	<i>Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease as a Nexus of Metabolic and Hepatic Diseases</i> Gerald Shulman, MD, PhD, FACP, MACE George R. Cowgill Professor of Medicine and Cellular & Molecular Physiology Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Yale University School of Medicine
December 1, 2017	<i>Frontiers of Human Pancreas Biology and Genetics: Implications for Diabetes and Cancer</i> Seung K. Kim, MD, PhD Professor, Department of Developmental Biology and (by courtesy) Department of Medicine (Divisions of Oncology and Endocrinology) Director, Stanford Diabetes Research Center
January 19, 2018	<i>Thermogenic Fat Metabolism in Mice and Humans</i> Yu-Hua Tseng, PhD Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School Senior Investigator, Joslin Diabetes Center

March 23, 2018 *Chemical Approaches to Metabolic Diseases*
Pere Puigserver, PhD
 Professor of Cell Biology
 Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
 Harvard Medical School

Faculty who wish to meet with any of the speakers should contact Chris Sargent at chris.sargent@utoronto.ca. Graduate students and postdoctoral fellows will also have the opportunity to meet with visiting speakers in one-hour, informal group meetings specifically for trainees to discuss research and career-related topics. Attendance is open to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows whose supervisor is a member of the BBDC. The meetings will be held in the BBDC conference room. An invitation to meet with the speakers will be emailed to BBDC trainees (and their supervisors) approximately six weeks prior to each speaker's visit, and registrations will be accepted at that time.

New Trainee Lab Seminar Series 2017/2018

The Banting & Best Diabetes Centre is proud to announce the new *Trainee Lab Seminar Series* set to begin in September 2017. This monthly seminar series is intended to provide trainees (residents, fellows and graduate students) and junior faculty with an opportunity to present their proposals and unpublished basic science research. Each month's seminar highlights a different BBDC-associated lab, with presenters selected from among each supervisor's trainees. Attendance is open to all BBDC members, their trainees, and U of T endocrine residents. Lunch will be provided. All seminars will be held in the Physiology Seminar Room A at the U of T Medical Sciences Building, 1 King's College Circle, room 3227. The schedule of speakers will be updated on the [BBDC website](#) approximately one month before each seminar. *(Please note this seminar series is separate from our new monthly Clinical Research-In-Progress Rounds which will focus on clinical research.)*

Friday, September 29, 2017 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Drucker Lab: Role of DPP-4 in metabolic disease: Adipokine, Hepatokine, or Omnikine? Dr. Elodie Varin
Friday, October 27, 2017 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Rocheleau Lab To be announced
Friday, November 24, 2017 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Bendeck Lab To be announced
Friday, January 26, 2018 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Wheeler Lab To be announced
Friday, February 23, 2018 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Screaton Lab To be announced
Friday, April 27, 2018 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Hanley Lab To be announced
Friday, May 25, 2018 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Adeli Lab To be announced
Friday, June 29, 2018 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Lam Lab To be announced

New Clinical Research-in-Progress Rounds 2017/2018

We are delighted to announce the new Clinical Research-in-Progress Rounds. This new quarterly seminar series is intended to provide trainees (residents, fellows and graduate students) and junior faculty with an opportunity to present their proposals and unpublished **clinical and population-based diabetes research**. Attendance is open to all BBDC members, their trainees, and U of T endocrine residents. All seminars will be held at Women's College Hospital, first floor, room 1441. There will be an option to join via WebEx for those unable to attend in person. The

schedule of speakers will be updated on the [BBDC website](#) as they become known. Those interested in presenting their clinical research should contact Christina Yu, assistant to Dr. Lorraine Lipscombe, at christina.yu@wchospital.ca.

Friday, September 15, 2017 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Diabetes-Attributable Cardiovascular Mortality in India: A Nationally-Representative Case-Control Study Dr. Calvin Ke (supervisor Dr. Baiju Shah) Association between allopurinol and mortality, cardiovascular and renal outcomes in type 2 diabetes Dr. Alanna Weisman (supervisors Drs. Bruce Perkins and Gillian Hawker)
Friday, December 8, 2017 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	To be announced
Friday, March 23, 2018 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	To be announced
Friday, June 8, 2018 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	To be announced

Other Upcoming Events

The following event announcement is provided by BBDC member, Dr. Anthony Hanley:

15th Symposium of the International Diabetes Epidemiology Group

December 8-10, 2017
Abu Dhabi, UAE

An Official Academic Satellite Symposium of the World Diabetes Congress in Abu Dhabi, UAE, Dec, 4-8, 2017. The purpose of the IDEG is to promote worldwide collaboration among investigators who focus their research on the epidemiology of diabetes.

Featured Speakers & Topics:

National response to diabetes in the Middle East - Speaker: Dr. Al Busiadi
Young onset type 2 diabetes in the Middle East - Speaker: Dr. Deeb
Novel aspect of diabetes prevention - Speaker: Prof. Ramachandran
Diabetes and the brain - Speaker: Assoc. Prof. Luchsinger
Developmental origins of diabetes - Speaker: Prof. Lewers
Recent trials of glucose lowering drugs: implications for public health - Speaker: Prof. Shaw

Agenda:

Dec 8 - Local speakers, plenary sessions, oral presentations
Dec 9 - Plenary sessions, oral & poster presentations, Peter Bennett Award Lecture
Dec 10 - Plenary sessions, oral & poster presentations, Harry Keen Award Lecture
Dec 11 - Training Day on diabetes epidemiology for invited junior researchers

For more information visit www.ideg-diabetes.org.

Funding Opportunities

Trainee Travel Awards 2017/2018 (Period 1) For Travel Occurring Between July 1 and December 31, 2017

Awards of up to \$1,000 (Canadian) are available to trainees who will be traveling to a national or international meeting between July 1 and December 31, 2017 to present a first-author abstract. The content of the abstract must be directly relevant to diabetes. At the time of abstract submission to the meeting, the applicant must be either: A) a registered University of Toronto graduate, undergraduate or medical student; B) a post-doctoral fellow having received a PhD within the last 5 years; or C) a medical resident or clinical fellow having received an MD within the last 9 years. The applicant's supervisor must hold a faculty appointment with the University of Toronto at the level of Assistant, Associate or Full Professor and must also be a registered member* of the BBDC at the time of application submission. **Applications must be received by 5 p.m., October 3, 2017.** For complete award details and application instructions, please see [our website](#).

Sun Life Financial New Investigator Award for Diabetes Research 2018-2020 and Reuben & Helene Dennis Scholar in Diabetes Research 2018-2020

These awards are intended to support new clinician-scientists and basic scientists in the early stages of their careers. One Sun Life Financial New Investigator Award and one Reuben & Helene Dennis Scholar award will be made available for this competition. Funds may be used for diabetes research support and/or the salary of a clinician-scientist conducting diabetes research.

Eligibility:

- Faculty are eligible for this funding normally within five years of their first faculty appointment at any university at the time of funding commencement.
- The applicant must be a basic scientist or a clinician-scientist (by official job description and with minimum 75% time protected for research) who holds or will hold a faculty appointment with the University of Toronto at the level of assistant, associate or full professor. Applicants who have not yet taken up their faculty appointment at the University of Toronto must do so by July 1, 2018.
- The applicant must be conducting diabetes-related research and must be a registered member* of the BBDC (although membership is not required for those who do not currently hold a U of T faculty appointment but expect to by July 1, 2018).

Applications must be received by 5 p.m., October 24, 2017. For complete award details and application instructions, please see [our website](#).

Sun Life Financial Pilot and Feasibility Grants 2018/2019

This program provides funding of up to \$40,000 per application to enable eligible investigators to explore **new initiatives** in the area of biomedical research/basic sciences. This funding is not to be used as bridging or emergency funding, nor is it intended as funding for ongoing studies. Up to six awards will be made available for this competition.

To be eligible to apply, the principal applicant must hold a faculty appointment with the University of Toronto at the level of associate, assistant, or full professor. The principal applicant must also be employed by the University of Toronto or a University of Toronto-affiliated institution. The principal applicant should be a registered member* of

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

The following funding programs will be announced in the fall of 2017. Please visit the BBDC's website bbdc.org for updates:

- Post-doctoral Fellowships
- Graduate Studentships
- Annual Trainee Awards
- Charles Hollenberg Summer Studentships

the Banting & Best Diabetes Centre at the time of application submission. However, faculty who are new to the field of diabetes research are not required to be members at the time of application submission but will be required to become a BBDC member if their Pilot and Feasibility Grant application is awarded funding. Those who received a 2017/2018 Sun Life Financial Pilot and Feasibility Grant as principal applicant are **not** eligible to apply for this competition as a principal or co-applicant.

The following individuals would qualify for grant support:

- New faculty members who have not yet obtained their own independent funding.
- Established investigators in non-diabetes related fields who are entering into new pilot and/or feasibility studies related to diabetes.
- Established investigators involved in diabetes research who are proposing new pilot and/or feasibility studies related to diabetes that are completely unrelated to the investigator's current lines of research. Applicants must be exploring a completely new research direction entirely unrelated to their current or past research.

Applications must be received by 5 p.m., November 14, 2017. For complete award details and application instructions, please visit [our website](#).

Diabetes Educator of the Year Award 2017

Each year the Banting & Best Diabetes Centre presents one award to a certified diabetes educator who has demonstrated outstanding efforts and achievements in his/her role as a diabetes educator. This award is meant to recognize achievements above and beyond their clinical job descriptions, and exceptional individuals who contribute to initiatives across teams within their organization and more broadly to the diabetes community. Full-time or part-time health care professionals working within the boundaries of the following Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) are eligible to apply: Central LHIN, Central East LHIN, Central West LHIN, Mississauga Halton, LHIN, Toronto Central LHIN. The nominee must have a minimum 3 years of full or part-time experience as a diabetes educator and must have maintained certification as a Certified Diabetes Educator (CDE). **Nominations must be received by 5 p.m. October 24, 2017.** For full award details, nomination instructions and a full list of U of T affiliated institutions please visit [our website](#).

*Those who are new to the field of diabetes research, education or care and are not members of the BBDC can request free membership prior to submitting an application. For more information about BBDC Membership, please view the Membership section of our web site at www.bbdc.org/membership/membership-overview.

Funding Decisions**

AstraZeneca Impact Challenge Grant 2017 – Cardiovascular/Diabetes

Recipient	Title of Research	Amount
<i>Principal Applicant:</i> Dr. David Cherney	iNcretin And Treatment with Inhibition of sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 combination In Congestive Heart Failure Preserved Ejection Fraction Trial ("NATRIURETIC-pEF")	\$249,863
<i>Co-Applicants:</i> Dr. Daniel Drucker Dr. John Floras Dr. Mansoor Husain Dr. Susanna Mak Dr. John Parker Dr. Bruce Perkins Dr. Jacob Udell		

Graduate Studentships 2017/2018

BBDC Novo Nordisk Studentships		
Recipient	Supervisor(s)	Title of Research
Parastoo Boroumand	Dr. Amira Klip and Dr. Stephen Girardin	Nutritional influence on the development of bone marrow monocytes: implications for metabolic inflammation
Chantel Kowalchuk	Dr. Margaret Hahn and Dr. Gary Remington	Elucidating the mechanisms behind antipsychotic impairment on central insulin sensing
Emily McGaugh	Dr. Maria Cristina Nostro	Elucidating the role of FGF signaling during the expansion of pancreatic progenitor cells
Stephanie Kimiko Nishi	Dr. John Sevenpiper and Dr. Richard Bazinet	Assessing the Effect of Nut Consumption on Adiposity: Is a Calorie a Calorie?
Romario Regeenes	Dr. Jonathan Rocheleau	Quantifying OCR and ECAR levels in individual pancreatic islets using an optical sensor and microfluidic device
Zhila Semnani-Azad	Dr. Anthony Hanley	Soluble CD163, a marker of adipose tissue macrophage activation, in the etiology of type 2 diabetes
Zhengnan Wang	Dr. Anthony Hanley	Urinary vitamin D binding protein loss as a potential biomaker for nephropathy in patients at risk for type 2 diabetes

BBDC University Health Network Graduate Awards		
Recipient	Supervisor	Title of Research
Paige Bauer	Dr. Tony Lam	Dissecting the upper small intestinal microbiota-dependent mechanisms in the anti-diabetic action of metformin
Cindy Bui	Dr. Jonathan Rocheleau	Investigating the role of NADPH production in glucolipotoxicity-induced pancreatic β cell failure

Post-doctoral Fellowships 2017/2018

Recipient	Supervisor(s)	Title of Research	Award
Sri Mahavir Agarwal	Dr. Margaret Hahn	Investigation of the role of gut microbiome in antipsychotic (AP) induced glucose dysregulation and associated cognitive dysfunction in AP-naïve schizophrenia patients	Hugh Sellers Postdoctoral Fellowship
Evan Lewis	Dr. Bruce Perkins and Dr. Vera Brill	The effect of omega-3 supplementation on diabetic neuropathy	BBDC Fellowship in Diabetes Care (Funded by Eli Lilly and Boehringer Ingelheim)
Dler Mahmood	Dr. Maria Rozakis-Adcock	Epigenetic regulation of hepatic gluconeogenesis & insulin resistance	BBDC Fellowship in Diabetes Care (Funded by Eli Lilly and Boehringer Ingelheim)
Brent McLean	Dr. Daniel Drucker	Mechanisms linking GLP-1 Receptor Signaling to Control of Inflammation in the Cardiovascular System	BBDC Fellowship in Diabetes Care (Funded by Eli Lilly and Boehringer Ingelheim)

Haneesha Mohan	Dr. Michael Wheeler	CMPF Regulates Hepatic Lipid Metabolism	BBDC Postdoctoral Fellowship
Ashley Anne Untereiner	Dr. Michael Wheeler	Investigation of GABA-stimulated beta-cell mass and its correction of hyperglycemia and glucose intolerance in mouse models of T1D and T2D	BBDC Postdoctoral Fellowship
T. M. Zaved Waise	Dr. Tony Lam	The role of intestinal energy sensors in the antidiabetic action of metformin	BBDC Postdoctoral Fellowship

Trainee Travel Awards 2016/2017 – Period 2 For Travel Occurring Between January and June 2017

Recipient	Supervisor	Title of Research
Mona Abraham	Dr. Tony Lam	Activation of Dynamin-related Protein 1-dependent Mitochondrial Fission in the Dorsal Vagal Complex is Sufficient and Necessary to Induce Insulin Resistance
Paige Bauer	Dr. Tony Lam	Microbiota in the upper small intestine alters gut hormone-dependent fatty acid sensing pathways to influence whole body glucose homeostasis
Brigida Bruno	Dr. Catherine Yu	Psychometric Properties of DDS, SF12, PAC1C and DCS in Cohort of Patients with Diabetes and Other Comorbidities
William Cameron	Dr. Jonathan Rocheleau	Organelle-targeting of Apollo-NADP+ Requires Careful Selection of Fluorescent Proteins to Maintain PH Independence
Ghazal Fazli	Dr. Gillian Booth	Progression of Prediabetes to Type 2 Diabetes among Recent Immigrants and Long-Term Residents in Canada
Calvin Ke	Dr. Gillian Booth	Impact of Socioeconomic Status on Incidence of End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and Mortality following Dialysis in Patients with Diabetes
Reha Kumar	Dr. Ilana Halperin	Metformin vs Insulin for Management of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus: Impact on Pregnancy Outcomes and Patient Satisfaction
Neruja Loganathan	Dr. Denise Belsham	The Effect of Bisphenol A and Bisphenol S on Feeding-Related Hypothalamic Npy and Agrp Neurons
Brian Lu	Dr. Shiley X.Y. Wu	Development of highly concentrated thermally stable insulin formulations by experimental investigation and molecular dynamic modeling
Lilia Magomedova	Dr. Carolyn Cummins	Hepatic ablation of the nuclear receptor coactivator, ARGLU1, is protective against the development of type 2 diabetes and fatty liver in high-fat diet fed mice
Alexandre Martchenko	Dr. Patricia Brubaker	The core clock gene Bmal1 positively regulates circadian secretion of glucagon-like peptide-1 from the intestinal L cell
Jarvis Clyde Noronha	Dr. John Sievenpiper	Effect of Small Doses of Fructose and Allulose on Postprandial Carbohydrate Metabolism in Type 2 Diabetes: An Acute Randomized Double-blind Crossover Trial
Xavier Revelo	Dr. Daniel Winer	Intrahepatic T cells promote inflammation and insulin resistance during obesity and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease

Ingrid Dominique Santaren	Dr. Richard Bazinet	Serum Fatty Acids Derived from Dairy Consumption are Associated with Longitudinal Changes in Insulin Sensitivity and Beta-cell Function: the PROspective metabolism and ISlet cell Evaluation (PROMISE) Cohort
Zhila Semnani-Azad	Dr. Anthony Hanley	Longitudinal Associations of Soluble CD163 with Insulin Sensitivity and β -Cell Function: The Prospective Metabolism and Islet Cell Evaluation (PROMISE) Cohort
Vivian Szeto	Dr. Zhong-Ping Feng	Cerebrovascular Safety of Sulfonylureas: The Role of KATP Channels in Neuroprotection and Stroke Risk in Sulfonylurea Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes
Victoria Tokarz	Dr. Warren Lee	Investigating the Role of the Vascular Endothelium in Insulin Delivery
Susan Tran	Dr. Ravi Retnakaran	Effect of Liraglutide on Time to Post-challenge Peak Glucose in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes (T2DM)
T. M. Zaved Waise	Dr. Tony Lam	Mechanism of metformin action in the upper small intestine
Zhengnan (Windy) Wang	Dr. Anthony Hanley	Urinary Vitamin D Binding Protein as a Potential Biomarker for Nephropathy in Patients at Risk for Type 2 Diabetes: The Prospective Metabolism and Islet Cell Evaluation (PRMOISE) Cohort Study
Sarah Wheeler	Dr. Patricia Brubaker	Regulation of Biphasic Exocytosis of Glucagon-like Peptide-1 by the SNARE Protein Syntaxin1a

****An essential condition of all BBDC programs is the acknowledgement of BBDC support, where appropriate, in all publications, presentations and communications relevant to the BBDC-supported research program. Failure to appropriately acknowledge the BBDC in relevant publications, presentations and communications will be considered grounds for suspending future eligibility for BBDC funding programs.**

BBDC Member Profile



Julie Lovshin, MD, PhD, FRCPC

Julie is a new faculty member, clinician scientist in the division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, and a new member of the BBDC commencing September 2017. Julie's research interests are focused on vascular complications of diabetes, in particular clinical investigation in cardio-renal hemodynamic function in diabetes mellitus. Her laboratory is based at the Sunnybrook Research Institute at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. Julie cites local excellence in research, diabetes clinical care, education, and leadership, the opportunity to collaborate with outstanding local faculty in many divisions and the BBDC's strong commitment to support diabetes research in her decision to join the faculty at the University of Toronto.

Julie first completed an Honours Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Western Ontario. She was then drawn to the University of Toronto to pursue a PhD in molecular endocrinology, supervised by Dr. Daniel Drucker. Her basic science PhD studies focused on gastrointestinal incretin hormones including glucagon-like peptide-1 and 2 (GLP-1, GLP-2) and oxyntomodulin. After completing her PhD, Julie pursued medical studies at the University of Toronto

Medical School and subsequently completed her residency in Internal Medicine and sub-specialization in Endocrinology and Metabolism, the timing of which she describes as slightly “blurred” due to the arrival of their two children, Nolan (10) and Aidan (7).

Julie then entered the Clinical Investigators Program at the University of Toronto and was an Elliot Phillipson Scholar in the Clinician Scientist Training Program, receiving the CSEM Dr. Fernand Labrie Fellowship Research award. Circling back to her PhD interests but transitioning into clinical investigation, Julie’s post-doc studies focused on natriuretic and cardiorenal effects of incretin-based diabetes therapies in type 2 diabetes, and also on renal and systemic hemodynamic function in type 1 diabetes in the Canadian Study for Longevity in Diabetes working with many investigators including Drs. David Cherney, Bruce Perkins and Daniel Drucker. She also completed an intensive six-month clinical and research fellowship in nephrology focused on diabetic nephropathy with Dr. David Cherney. Just to keep things interesting, Julie completed the Program in Clinical Research Methods at the Harvard School of Public Health & Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. In this program, Julie enriched her skills in clinical research methods and epidemiology, which included living in residence at the Longwood Medical Campus in Boston (*thank goodness for Porter Airlines*).

The Lovshin lab is new and still growing and developing. Its main research interests are focused on vascular complications in diabetes, specifically clinical investigation of renal and systemic hemodynamic function. Julie is interested in the non-glycemic effects of novel antidiabetic therapies, effects which span from cardiorenal function to diabetic retinopathy to effects in the CNS on brain structure and function.

Julie acknowledges that spare time is a rare commodity which is not to be wasted. In the summer she enjoys spending time at the Sandbanks in Picton, Ontario, water-skiing, kayaking, SUPing, and checking out the very popular farm-to-table food and wine scene. In the winters, Julie and her husband, Kylan, can be found on the local and not-so-local ski slopes or on the highways driving their two children to competitive ski races with friends & family. Epic family hikes with their two young kids in tow include the Crypt Lake Trail (Alberta), Pulpit Rock hike (Norway), Na Poli Coast Hike (Kauai), and mountain trails around Mt. McKinley, Yellowstone, Mt. Rainer and Crater Lake. Julie describes her life as doctor, scientist, wife and mom as sometimes “busy”, but is grateful for all of these opportunities and gratefully acknowledges the help of many including amazingly supportive colleagues, mentors, friends, family and most of all her husband and children.

Director: Gary F. Lewis, MD, FRCPC

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