



UNIVERSITY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN

**FACULTY PROMOTIONS**  
**COLLEGE OF MEDICINE**  
**2019 & 2020**

Presented by

**Faculty Engagement Office, College of Medicine**

**BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS**

July 2020

We are pleased to present the faculty from the College of Medicine throughout the province who, over the past two years, have each achieved the prestigious promotion in academic rank.

The College of Medicine Standards for Promotion were revised in 2018 and represent a rigorous evaluation of academic contribution by departmental, college and university collegial committees. Each of these individuals have contributed in diverse but significant ways to enhance the reputation of the College of Medicine.

Congratulations to all!



Marilyn Baetz MD FRCPC CCPE  
Vice-Dean Faculty Engagement  
College of Medicine, U of S

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*(Presented in alphabetical order)*



**CAMELIA ADAMS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Psychiatry**

In addition to her clinical practice as a psychiatrist, Dr. Adams leads the Attachment Research Laboratory, studying the role of attachment in mood and anxiety disorders. She also introduced Interpersonal Group Therapy which is a much sought after modality for treatment resistant psychiatric disorders. She balances an active research program with high clinical and teaching demands.

**SHAHID AHMED, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Division of Oncology**

Dr. Ahmed became the Division Head of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency in 2019. He is a medical oncologist whose goal is to support oncologists (solid organ and blood cancers specialists) in the division to conduct research. His own research focuses on gastrointestinal cancers, while he continues to provide a high quality of care to patients.







**TERRA ARNASON, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Medicine**

Dr. Arnason is a respected endocrinologist who, aside from running a busy clinical practice, conducts a research program focused on thyroid disease, thyroid cancer, and diabetes in pregnant women. She was instrumental in developing the college’s latest curriculum module for her specialty, and continues to educate learners at all levels including colleagues across the country.

**MARK BOSCH, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Division of Oncology**

Dr. Bosch has been the Director of the Department of Hematology within the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency since 2015. His background and training in internal medicine, hematology and bone marrow transplantation motivate him to bring the latest technologies to the province in order to continually improve the quality of care for Saskatchewan patients.



**LINDA CHELICO, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology**

Dr. Chelico earned her Ph.D. (2004) in Applied Microbiology, College of Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan. She then worked as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Southern California in the field of biochemistry before returning to a faculty position at the U of S in 2009. Her research program since has flourished, with her lab studying immune proteins and their relation to suppressing HIV and other viruses; and has gained national and international respect.

**MARLA DAVIDSON, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon)  
– Department of Psychiatry**

Dr. Davidson has established a busy clinical practice specializing in geriatric psychiatry. Early in her residency, she developed a strong interest in medical education which she nurtured. She now serves on various curriculum committees for her specialty locally and nationally, and is currently the College of Medicine’s PGME Director of Transfers and Program Director in Psychiatry.



**PHILIP DAVIS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Emergency Medicine**

Dr. Davis is a Saskatoon emergency physician and Trauma Team Leader. Currently also the Research Director for the Department of Emergency Medicine, Dr. Davis is a respected physician who excels at teaching and is involved in national multi-site studies and conferences with organizations in the emergency medicine field.

**PAYAM DEGHANI, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Regina) –  
Department of Medicine**

Dr. Dehghani’s work as a cardiologist is recognized by his colleagues nationally and internationally. His leadership has been acknowledged by the Society for Cardiology Angiography and Interventions. Soon after his appointment, he created the Adult Congenital Heart Disease Clinic to treat patients from Saskatchewan and beyond; also, the Prairie Vascular Research Network to promote research, to enroll patients in numerous multi-centre trials, and to educate medical students and residents.





**HUMPHREY FONGE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Medical Imaging**

Dr. Fonge is a Radiopharmacist whose specialty is Nuclear Medicine. He earned his PhD in Belgium (KU Leuven) followed by a post-doctoral fellowship in Molecular Imaging and Radiopharmaceuticals as well as an MBA, at the University of Toronto. Dr. Fonge has an active role in Nuclear Medicine teaching and research. He is an author of many scientific publications and is principal and/or co-investigator on research grants in excess of \$5 million over the last few years to study the area of precision diagnostics and therapeutics using different antibody platforms and radionuclides.

**KERRI KOBRYN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology**

Dr. Kobryn is a molecular biologist whose area of expertise is biochemistry and molecular biological studies of Lyme Disease spirochetes. Lyme disease is transmitted by ticks and is an emerging infection in Canada, making the output of the research in his lab significant. Dr. Kobryn has presented his findings internationally and has published in high impact journals in his field. His teaching and his students are of great importance to him.



**JOSHUA LAWSON, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Medicine**

Dr. Lawson is based in the Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture (CCHSA) where his research program focuses on pediatric asthma and respiratory epidemiology as well as various aspects of child health, lung health, and rural health. He has been involved in several population based studies as well as studies using large administrative and research based databases. His collaborations are interdisciplinary and span the country, along with strong collaborations in eastern Europe.

**NELSON LEONG, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Regina) –  
Division of Oncology**

Dr. Leong specializes in Radiation Oncology at the Allan Blair Cancer Centre where he has helped to develop and implement new treatment methods for cancer patients. His research involvement through clinical trials, presentations and teaching attest to his expertise in his field.



**ERIQUE LUKONG, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology &  
Immunology**

Dr. Lukong's PhD is in biochemistry. Work in his U of S lab is centered on breast cancer; specifically on breast tumor kinase (BRK) and two other BRK family members, FRK and SRMS. His findings are published in notable journals, his research projects are well funded, and he is an internationally invited speaker.

**BINDU NAIR, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Medicine**

Dr. Bindu Nair is a respected rheumatologist, specializing in inflammatory arthritis. Her research program also focuses on this disease. She is actively involved in teaching all levels of learners, frequently develops curriculum for her specialty, and during her career has taken on the roles of Division Head, Program Director, Residency Program Director and Assistant Dean Student Services.







**CORDELL NEUDORF, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Community Health & Epidemiology**

Dr. Neudorf’s work as a public health specialist physician is well-known across Canada, through his participation on many national advisory committees and consultation work in the public health realm. In the province, he is the Lead Medical Health Officer (formerly Chief MHO) for Saskatoon for the past 2 decades. His work and research concentrates on social determinants of health in low income populations, urban health, and health equity in Saskatchewan, comparative to other parts of Canada and internationally, all with the goal of improving the determinants of health themselves.

**HARON OBAID, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Medical Imaging**

Dr. Obaid’s sub-specialty is musculoskeletal (MSK) radiology. He was the first in Saskatchewan to introduce MSK ultrasound and intervention into his clinical practice. He is a motivating teacher. His research centers around MSK MRI and robotic teleonography, collaborating with colleagues from many disciplines, publishing and presenting at national and international conferences.



**PAUL OLSZYNSKI, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Emergency Medicine**

Dr. Olszynski is an emergency physician in Saskatoon who most recently was appointed Director of Emergency Ultrasound for the province. He is passionate about implementing the adoption of clinical ultrasound throughout the healthcare system, to improve patient care. His interest in education led to a Masters in Education Administration. He instructs learners of all levels in numerous courses. Also of note, he co-developed an ultrasound simulator for critical care simulation.

**SARAH OOSMAN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
School of Rehabilitation Science**

After accepting an academic position, Dr. Oosman quickly expanded her professional practice to include educating future physiotherapists, which she excels at, and also building a research portfolio that she is passionate about. Sarah is becoming increasingly well-known across the country for her expertise as an ally working within the Indigenous health equity context. Her research areas include aboriginal health, intervention research, culture-based and culturally relevant research, community-based participatory action research and health promotion.



**SILVANA PAPAGERAKIS, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Surgery**

Dr. Papagerakis is an established clinician-scientist in the field of oral, head and neck cancer with over 20 years of research success in basic, translational and clinical research. Her expertise encompasses many areas including qualitative and quantitative patient oriented research; cancer epidemiology; clinical trials; outcomes prediction; anti-cancer drug reformulation and personalized therapeutics. She has led collaborative inter-disciplinary projects in circadian disruption, dentistry and autoimmune diseases. Her work has received national and international research recognition.

**LISSA PEELING, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Surgery**

Dr. Peeling is a surgeon in the Division of Neurosurgery, whose subspecialty training is in Endovascular and Cerebrovascular Neurosurgery. She is a strong advocate of 'Women in Surgery' locally as well as nationally. She is co-director of the Saskatchewan Cerebrovascular Center where her and her multi-disciplinary team strive to improve the care of cerebrovascular and stroke patients, recently establishing the successful Saskatchewan Acute Stroke Pathway.





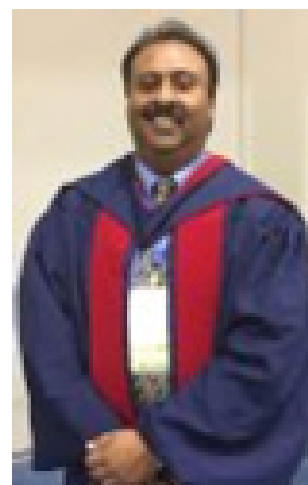


**ERIKA PENZ, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Medicine**

Dr. Penz is a respirologist with research expertise in health economics and health policy. Specifically, cost-effectiveness analysis alongside clinical trials, use of decision analytic models in cost-effectiveness studies, and systematic review and meta-analysis in diagnostic accuracy studies. She was recently awarded a SHRF Establishment Grant to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of lung cancer screening in Saskatchewan and the costs of lung cancer care. She is a co-investigator and collaborator on numerous research projects such as evaluating lung cancer screening, sleep disordered breathing diagnostic pathways, chronic inflammation in the lung and COPD clinical pathway implementation.

**YAGAN PILLAY, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Prince Albert) –  
Department of Surgery**

Dr. Pillay has been a general surgeon in Prince Albert since 2006. His practice encompasses all aspects of general surgery including endoscopy and rural clinics, with his surgical interests in hernia and laparoscopic surgery. He enjoys teaching medical students, surgery residents and acute care fellows. He is currently serving as a council member on the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan.



**BONNIE RICHARDSON, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Regina) –  
Department of Medicine**

Dr. Richardson is a nephrologist with expertise in kidney disease and rare metabolic diseases. Her research focuses on Indigenous health, nephrology and quality improvement. She developed the plasma exchange program in Regina. Currently she is the Department of Medicine Area Lead for Regina.

**KERRI SCHELLENBERG, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Medicine**

Dr. Schellenberg is the Medical Director of a multidisciplinary ALS Clinic – the first of its kind in the province - which she established soon after arriving in Saskatoon in late 2016. Her clinical expertise is neuromuscular neurology, and her advocacy for improved patient care has resulted in positive advances in this field for the people of Saskatchewan.



**BRENT THOMA, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Emergency Medicine**

Dr. Brent Thoma was one of the first two graduates in 2015, of the U of S Royal College emergency medicine residency program. He works as an emergency and trauma physician, and studies technology-enhanced learning including simulation, online educational resources, and learning analytics. His contributions to the medical education program in the college and beyond are as valued as his contributions in the emergency room.

**CATHERINE TRASK, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Medicine**

Dr. Trask’s training in Occupational and Environment Hygiene led to a focus on musculoskeletal health and ergonomics, studying rural and agricultural occupations in particular. While at the U of S, she was awarded a Tier II Canada Research Chair from 2012-2020, with a strong research program and a large cohort of students and HQP in her lab. Her expertise is acknowledged nationally and internationally through invitations to speak. We wish her continued success in her new position in Sweden.





**FRANCO VIZEACOUMAR, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
(Saskatoon) – Division of Oncology**

Dr. Vizeacoumar has established a solid research program in cancer genomics since his appointment in 2013. The research projects he leads and shares, are recognized and strongly funded by multiple national granting agencies. His long-term goal is to build a synthetic lethal network that will lead to an understanding of the genetic dependencies of cancer cells and define key therapeutic targets.

**JOYCE WILSON, PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology**

Dr. Wilson's work as a virologist is well-known in the HCV (Hepatitis C) realm across the country. She participates local, nationally and internationally with organizations to foster education and research on this disease. She has trained and mentored many students who are now as passionate as she, to improve human health. She has been consistently successful in grant funding throughout her career, including in the most recent awards from CIHR.



**ROB WOODS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Saskatoon) –  
Department of Emergency Medicine**

Dr. Woods is an ER physician in the Adult & Pediatric Emergency Departments in Saskatoon as well as one of the Transport Physicians with STARS. Within the department, he is also the Program Director for the Emergency Medicine Training Program and the Program Director for the Clinical Educator Diploma Program, both Royal College programs. Beyond his departmental work, he chairs the Education Scholarship Committee for the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians, and is a decision editor for education scholarship for the Canadian Journal of Emergency Medicine.