



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of Medicine
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FACULTY CAREER MILESTONES

2024

Presented by

Faculty Engagement Office, College of Medicine

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

July 2024

We are pleased to highlight the faculty from the College of Medicine throughout the province who have achieved renewal of probation, been granted tenure, or received prestigious promotion in academic rank during 2023-2024.

The College of Medicine Standards for Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion represent a rigorous evaluation of academic contribution by departmental, college, and university collegial committees. In addition to these individual achievements, each of these individuals have contributed in diverse but significant ways to enhance the reputation of the College of Medicine. The summary below is only a small account of the vast amount of work each has accomplished.

Congratulations to all!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M. Baetz', written in black ink.

Marilyn Baetz MD FRCPC CCPE
Vice-Dean Faculty Engagement
College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan

FACULTY RENEWAL OF PROBATION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION, 2024

These are important milestones in an academic's career, marking significant professional accomplishments. They acknowledge a faculty member's achievements and contributions to their field, and reflect the department's, college's, and university's confidence in their continued contribution to the academic life of the University of Saskatchewan.

Renewal of Probation

This important milestone signifies satisfactory progress towards meeting standards for tenure across the majority of categories.



Dr. Anil Kumar, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology

Dr. Kumar joined the college in October 2020. His research interests include the host-virus interactions of important human viral pathogens like SARS-Coronavirus-2, Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus, Enterovirus-D68, and Zika virus. His recent work focuses on understanding the mechanisms by which human microproteins and long noncoding RNAs impact virus infections. His research program is funded by grants from the College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation, NSERC, and CIHR.



Dr. Angelica Lang, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr. Lang is the Director of the Musculoskeletal Health and Ergonomics Lab based in the Canadian Centre for Rural and Agricultural Health. Dr. Lang's primary areas of expertise are shoulder musculoskeletal health, biomechanics, and ergonomics. Her work aims to improve musculoskeletal health and quality of life by determining how biomechanics are related to work demands and injuries.



Dr. Changting Xiao, PHD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Prior to his appointment at USask, Dr. Xiao was a researcher at the University Health Network and the University of Toronto. He has expertise in integrative physiology, metabolism, and pathophysiology of metabolic diseases including diabetes, obesity, and metabolic syndrome. His research program is supported by a SHRF Establishment Grant, an NSERC Discovery Grant, USask Bridge Funding, several College of Medicine Research Awards, and a CIHR Project Grant. He received a New Investigator Award and the Henry J.M. Barnett Scholarship from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada.

Granting of Tenure

This is an important stage of faculty career development, indicating the appointment to a permanent position, and having made accomplishments in teaching, research and scholarly work, professional practice and public service.



Dr. George Katselis, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr. Katselis is a dedicated educator and researcher with a BSc from Dalhousie University, an MSc and PhD from the University of Saskatchewan, and a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the City of Hope Medical Center in California. He has a strong commitment to teaching, having developed graduate courses and supervised multiple MSc and PhD students. Renowned for his expertise in mass spectrometry-based technologies, Dr. Katselis was pivotal in establishing the proteomics laboratory in Health Sciences.



Dr. Erick McNair, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Dr. McNair holds a BSc in Zoology from Howard University and an MSc in Clinical Chemistry and PhD in Pathology from the University of Saskatchewan. With specialized training in Cardiovascular Perfusion from the Cleveland Clinic, Dr. McNair has excelled both as a Clinical Perfusionist and as an educator, delivering pathology courses across multiple disciplines, including medicine, veterinary medicine, and nursing. His research focuses on acute renal damage during pulmonary bypass surgery. Active in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) efforts, Dr. McNair co-founded the Canadian Black Scientist Network.

Promotion to Associate Professor

This is an important faculty career stage, indicating the University's confidence in the performance of academic duties and expectations of future contributions.



Dr. Harold Bull, PhD

Associate Professor (APA), Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology

Dr. Bull accepted a tenure track position as one of the newly created Academic Programming appointments in 2007. Since then he has been transitioning from a bench-research mindset to a teaching and learning mindset and 5 years ago created a new course, "Team-based experimental microbiology". This has allowed him the freedom to mentor undergraduate researchers while promoting an exemplary learning environment. He has contributed administratively, serving on and occasionally chairing a variety of committees. His research interests include studies on learning, teamwork, and skills development.



Dr. Helen Chang, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine (Regina)

Dr. Chang is a dedicated family physician and educator with an interest in integrating the humanities into medicine. She completed her MD and Rural Family Medicine Residency at the University of Saskatchewan and recently earned a Graduate Certificate in Quality Teaching in Health Professions Education. Currently pursuing a Master of Education, Dr. Chang plays a key role in the undergraduate program at the Regina campus, particularly in launching the first-year program. Dr. Chang's contributions to teaching and curriculum development have been recognized with a faculty teaching award from the College of Medicine.



Dr. Mark Inman, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Mark Inman is a Pediatric Endocrinologist in the Department of Pediatrics (since 2015) and the Pediatric Residency Program Director (since 2019). He completed his training at Acadia University (BSc Biology/Psychology), the University of Toronto (MD), Dalhousie University (Pediatrics Residency), and the University of Toronto (Pediatric Endocrine Fellowship & Certificate in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety). He has a strong interest in medical education and his research interests lie in the areas of pediatric diabetes quality of care and quality improvement. He has made Saskatoon his home since 2015 with his wife and 3 children.



Dr. Kunal Jana, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Kunal Jana joined Saskatoon Urology Associates in 2006 and is the Head of the Division of Urology. He graduated from the College of Medicine at USask and completed his urological fellowship training at the University of Ottawa. His clinical areas of expertise are minimally invasive surgery, including robotics, and surgical oncology. In addition to his clinical work, Kunal has an interest in health care quality improvement. He has been involved with various provincial and regional quality improvement initiatives such as the Prostate Assessment Pathway. His research interests are in continuous quality improvement and urologic oncology. He loves to travel and share meals with family and friends.



Dr. Mehul Jariwala, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Mehul Jariwala is the Division Head of Pediatric Rheumatology at USask and the Saskatchewan Health Authority. He completed his undergraduate medical degree and postgraduate training in Pediatrics in India, followed by advanced Pediatric Rheumatology training in New Delhi and an additional two-year fellowship at SickKids in Toronto. His research interests include localized scleroderma, vasculitis, and juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA). He has authored chapters in leading textbooks, and has led drug trials for juvenile arthritis while exploring the impact of diet on JIA patients. He is dedicated to educating fellows and residents on the importance of integrating pathology into clinical practice.



Dr. Alexandra King, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr. King is a citizen of Nipissing First Nation (Ontario). She is the Cameco Chair in Indigenous Health and Wellness at USask and co-leads Pewaseskwan, a large team which collaborates with Elders, Knowledge Keepers, Indigenous communities and organizations. This approach ensures the sustainability of culturally responsive and effective services and supports. The insights gained from Pewaseskwan's research projects not only provide benefits at the grassroots level but also inform broader health initiatives. She is sought after and widely recognized for her expertise in integrating Indigenous methodologies into health research and care.



Dr. Kylie Kvinlaug, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Kvinlaug is a vascular surgeon who completed his MD in 2004, followed by a General Surgery Fellowship at the University of Saskatchewan and a Vascular Surgery Fellowship at McGill University in 2011. As the first endovascular surgeon in Northern and Central Saskatchewan, Dr. Kvinlaug has modernized vascular care in the region and now oversees a busy clinical practice with over 300 cases annually, in addition to serving as the division head for vascular surgery. He is highly regarded for his teaching excellence, having received the Gold Scalpel Award and the Surgical Foundations Teaching Award, which was named in his honor.



Dr. Stephen Lee, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine (Regina)

Stephen joined in 2020 and works at the intersection of machine learning, clinical informatics, and medicine. He has published peer-reviewed articles using machine learning models in medical tasks as well as data science and informatics. He also has a Masters from OHSU. During the pandemic he took a brief detour from informatics and played a leadership role in the COVID-19 response.



Dr. Ben Leis, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

Dr. Leis holds a joint appointment in General Internal Medicine and Cardiology at the College of Medicine. For the last 2 years, he has led a diverse research team who are implementing the Multi-Disciplinary Infective Endocarditis Clinical Pathway (MENDO), a quality improvement initiative which is changing how infective endocarditis is managed by addressing social determinants of health and misconceptions around vulnerable populations. His academic focus is system improvement to address poor health care access driven by inequality. He believes that our public health crises, including homelessness, can only be tackled with solutions that are supported by quality improvement research.



Dr. Kathleen Lumb, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Kathleen Lumb is a surgeon and educator who completed her MD at the University of Calgary in 2007, followed by a General Surgery residency at the University of Western Ontario in 2012. She is a Fellow of both the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada and the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Lumb is actively involved in teaching at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, receiving a number of teaching awards. She has expertise in rural surgical healthcare and is frequently invited to lecture on the subject.



Dr. Elke Mau, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Elke Mau is a Pediatric Urologist with the Saskatchewan Health Authority and holds a Medical Faculty appointment in the Department of Surgery at USask. Her extensive and diverse academic background includes a fellowship in Pediatric Urology at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario in 2016 following earning her MD from USask in 2009 as well as a Bachelor of Music Performance in 2002. Her dedication to both her medical and musical education exemplifies her multifaceted talents and commitment to excellence.



Dr. Ahmed Mostafa, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Dr. Mostafa is a specialist in histocompatibility and immunogenetics with an MD from Cairo University, an MSc from Menoufia University, and a PhD in Immunology and Infectious Disease from Memorial University. He completed advanced fellowship training and became a Fellow of the American College of Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics. He is the Provincial Lead for the Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Lab, where he leads clinical and academic initiatives, including patient care and collaboration with the transplant teams. He has dedicated over 1,000 hours to teaching residents, fellows, and other medical professionals.



Dr. Anil Sharma, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Dr. Anil Sharma is an ENT surgeon. He received his MD from the University of Saskatchewan in 2006 and completed a Head & Neck Surgery and Salivary Endoscopy fellowship at UBC in 2013. As a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Otolaryngology, he has made significant contributions to medical education across all levels, from undergraduate to residency. Dr. Sharma introduced laser endoscopy technology to Saskatchewan and is renowned for his expertise in complex cases.



Dr. Osama Souied, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Oncology (Regina)

Dr. Souied earned his MD from Beirut Arab University in 2008, followed by Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology residencies at Queen's University. Specializing in genitourinary and lung cancers, Dr. Souied has a busy clinical practice managing around 200 new cancer patients annually. He is also highly involved in undergrad and post grad education, including leading sessions for clerks and pre-clerks, and contributes to research with numerous peer-reviewed papers and funding for clinical trials. He has been recognized with the International New Drug 234 National Team Award and actively engages in community outreach and support initiatives, including serving as a Saskatchewan Cancer Agency Ambassador and supporting Syrian refugees.



Dr. Eric Sy, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine (Regina)

Dr. Eric Sy has a Medical Faculty appointment in the Department of Medicine and is an Intensivist at the Regina General Hospital and Pasqua Hospital. He completed medical school at the University of Calgary in 2010 and went on to complete an Internal Medicine residency and Critical Care Medicine fellowship at the University of British Columbia in 2015. He earned a Master of Public Health with a focus in epidemiology from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in 2017. His current research focuses are in transitions in care from the ICU and epidemiology, and is a clinical trial site investigator for several trials including REMAP-CAP, HEMOTION, and REVISE.



Dr. Sachin Trivedi, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine (Regina)

Dr. Sachin Trivedi holds a Medical Faculty appointment in the Department of Emergency Medicine and is an Emergency Physician and STARS Transport physician in Saskatoon. He is the chair of CAEP's Quality Improvement and Patient Safety committee as well as the QI coordinator for the Saskatoon EDs. He is also one of the Assistant Program Directors for the Royal College EM residency training program. Originally from Regina, he completed his MD and Emergency Medicine residency at the University of Saskatchewan. He has also completed a Master of Science in Healthcare Quality from Queen's University. His interests within Emergency Medicine include Quality Improvement and Patient Safety, Trauma, and medical education.

Granting of Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor



Dr. Sarah Donkers, PhD

Associate Professor, School of Rehabilitation Science

Dr. Sarah Donkers is a Tenured, Associate Professor in the School of Rehabilitation Science, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan. She is a physiotherapist turned neuroscience researcher specializing in neurorehabilitation. In addition to her clinical experience, Dr. Donkers has conducted numerous studies investigating interventions to promote improvements in walking, balance, physical activity levels, symptom management, and neurorecovery. She is dedicated to improving the access to and quality of rehabilitation services for individuals living with neurological conditions, especially multiple sclerosis.



Dr. Kerry Lavender, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology

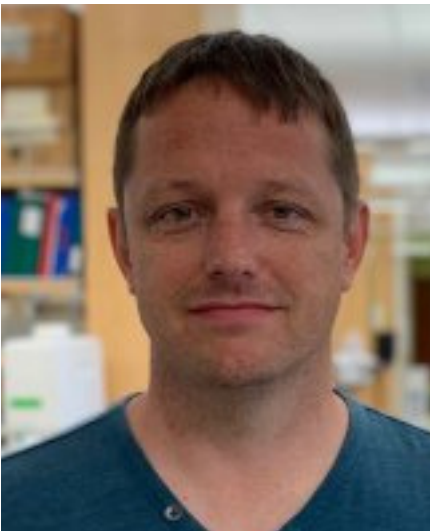
Dr. Lavender received her B.Sc. degree from the University of Toronto and completed her Ph.D. at the University of Alberta. She went on to complete postdoctoral positions at the University of Oxford and at Rocky Mountain Labs, NIAID, NIH. Dr. Lavender has been a tenure-track Assistant Professor at the University of Saskatchewan since 2018 within the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology, College of Medicine.



Dr. Steven Machtaler, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Medical Imaging

Dr. Machtaler holds a BSc and PhD from UBC and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Stanford University in Molecular Imaging. His research focuses on developing molecular imaging tools and he is known for his expertise in molecular and ultrasound imaging. Dr. Machtaler has contributed significantly to student supervision, presentations at local and international conferences, serving on planning committees, and reviewing journal articles.



Dr. Scott Widenmaier, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Dr. Widenmaier's research focuses on the molecular interface linking obesity and inflammation to immunometabolism and associated diseases. He did a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard under Dr. Gokhan Hotamisligil, investigating the endoplasmic reticulum's role in defending against cholesterol stress during obesity. His PhD research at UBC, supervised by Dr. Christopher McIntosh, explored how gut-derived incretin hormones promote pancreatic beta-cell survival in obesity. He has earned recognition through numerous awards, including the National New Investigator Award from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada and the prestigious McDonald Scholarship.

Promotion to Professor

This significant accomplishment in a faculty member's career signifies outstanding accomplishments in teaching, research, and academic administration.



Dr. Sylvia Abonyi, PhD

Professor and Department Head, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology

Dr. Abonyi is a medical anthropologist and researcher with the Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit (SPHERU). She recognizes that she teaches, learns, works, and lives on traditional Indigenous territories. As a non-Indigenous person, her research program in Indigenous Population Health Equity is approached with humility through community engaged processes that centre Indigenous paradigms and capacities. Her research contributes to the documentation of historical and contemporary truths about Indigenous population health, and advocacy for *reconciliation*s to decolonize and redress inequities.



Dr. Camelia Adams, MD

Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Dr. Adams received her MD from Universitatea de Medicina și Farmacie, Victor Babeș, Timișoara, Romania and an MSc in Neuroscience from the University of Western Ontario. Following the completion of her psychiatry residency at the University of Saskatchewan, she completed a one-year Clinical Fellowship in Mood and Anxiety Disorders at University of Toronto. Dr. Adams joined the Department of Psychiatry as a faculty member in 2011, establishing both an outpatient clinical practice and the Attachment Research Lab. Dr Adams' practice focuses on Mood and Anxiety Disorders. In addition, she offers and teaches interpersonal group therapy.



Dr. Krista Baerg, MD

Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Baerg is passionate about pediatric pain management, patient- and family-centered care, and quality improvement. She serves as medical lead for the Interdisciplinary Pediatric Complex Pain Clinic. Nationally, she led a subproject of the Chronic Pain Network, the Canadian Surveillance Study of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome in Children and Youth, and co-authored a Canadian Paediatric Society position statement on children's pain management for common simple procedures. She is involved in clinical teaching and established the Patient & Family Centered Care Module, which aims to improve students' understanding of interpersonal and organizational changes required to achieve patient- and family-centered care.



Dr. Brian Eames, PhD

Professor, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology

Brian came from Cleveland to Chapel Hill to San Francisco to Eugene to Saskatoon, following his research interests to investigate how skeletal cells form bone and cartilage, how they evolve across vertebrate clades, and how they can be used to regenerate bone and cartilage. Over \$5M grants and over 50 papers later, it seems like the story is just beginning.



Dr. Humphrey Fonge, PhD

Professor, Department of Medical Imaging

Dr. Humphrey Fonge is a distinguished academic with a PhD from KU Leuven, and a postdoc, and an MBA from the University of Toronto. Dr. Fonge has trained 39 highly qualified personnel and secured over \$18 million in research funding from major Canadian agencies, including CIHR. He has led five clinical trials, holds four patents, and has made two invention disclosures. Dr. Fonge singlehandedly established the Innovation Wing at the Cyclotron Facility, a pioneering multi-user theranostic center. His numerous awards, committee memberships, and significant contributions to the Black community highlight his comprehensive impact on his field and society.



Dr. Scot Leary, PhD

Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology

Dr. Leary is a rare disease researcher whose interests lie at the interface of the mitochondrial and metal ion homeostasis fields of research. His lab creates and investigates cell culture and animal models of human diseases caused by genetic lesions that impact the biology of mitochondria, tiny compartments in the cell that fulfill a myriad of roles critical to homeostasis. The goal of his research is to define the function of mutated gene products in order to devise and ultimately test the efficacy of therapeutic interventions in a clinical context.



Dr. Michael Moser, MD

Professor, Department of Surgery

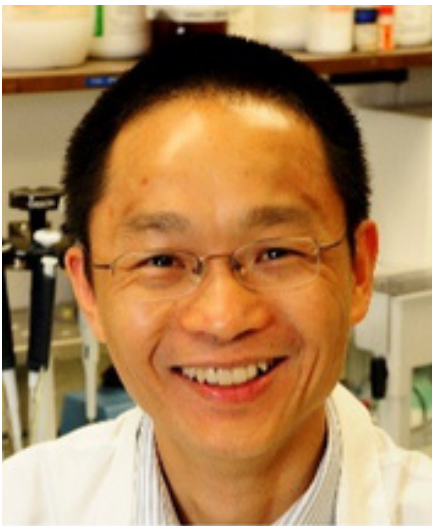
Dr. Moser is a transplant and hepatobiliary surgeon whose research involves collaboration with multiple disciplines and focuses, paradoxically, on both tissue protection from injury and tissue destruction. He helped bring NanoKnife (R) (irreversible electroporation) to Saskatoon, and this clinical program now receives referrals from across Canada, offering hope to some patients with inoperable tumours. He is also a passionate advocate for organ donation and transplantation, often speaking to the public, whether on the radio or in schools, to raise awareness and address disparities in organ donation and transplantation among Indigenous populations.



Dr. James Stempien, MD

Professor and Department Head, Department of Emergency Medicine

Dr. James Stempien completed his medical school University of Toronto in 1984. His first job was as a GP anesthetist in Inuvik in 1986 and then spent the next ten years working in northern Canada and isolated areas internationally. Dr. Stempien started working in Saskatoon as the head of Emergency Medicine in 2007 and has been the Provincial Department Head since 2016. Dr. Stempien's research interests include quality improvement and patient centered research. He lives on an acreage just east of the city with his wife, 20 chickens, and 4 hives of bees.



Dr. Yuliang Wu, PhD

Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology

Dr. Yuliang Wu received his bachelor and Master degree in China, and obtained his PhD in Molecular Biology from the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi, India. He did his first postdoctoral training in Department of Physiology at University of Alberta, and second postdoctoral in National Institute on Aging at NIH. Dr. Wu's research is focusing on helicase in cancer/disease. His research has been supported by NSERC, CBCF (Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation), LLSC (Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada), CRS (Cancer Research Society), PCFF (Prostate Cancer Fight Foundation) and his work has been published in JBC, NAR, and Cell Reports.