



October, 2013 Newsletter

NGDI Member News

[New NGDI Student Global Health Journal – Abstract Submissions Open Oct 1-31, 2013](#)

[NGDI Congratulates Dr. Julio Montaner for receiving CMA's Highest Honour](#)

[Vote for your UBC Grand Challenges Canada Submissions](#)

[NGDI Welcomes new Member Graham Reynolds](#)

[Lily Mignault reports about her time with the Roll Back Malaria Initiative in Geneva, Switzerland.](#)

[Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Hosts Annual Summer Student Research Competition](#)

NGDI News

[NGDI Distinguished Lectureship Seminar with Dr. Robert Hancock - October 18th, Noon – 1 PM](#)

[Dr. King Holmes - Gairdner Global Health Award 2013 – October 31st, 2013](#)

[The NGDI Provides Opportunities for Student Involvement](#)

[Pharmacist in the Developing World: Providing Impact to the Poorest of the Poor](#)

Funding Opportunities

[Trudeau Foundation Doctoral Scholarship](#)

[CIHR Grant Deadlines](#)

[Burroughs Wellcome Fund](#)

[Warren Alpert Foundation Prize](#)

[Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#)

Conferences and Save the Date

[2013 Gairdner Symposium – October 21, 2013](#)

[Global Health in 2013: Are We Having Impact?](#)

[mHealth for Infectious and Chronic Disease Management: Taking Evidence to Scale – SAVE the DATE](#)

Reports of Interest

[Levels and Trends in Child Mortality – Report 2013](#)

[Roadmap for Childhood Tuberculosis](#)

NGDI Member News

New NGDI Student Global Health Journal – ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS **OPEN OCTOBER 1-31ST.**

Journal Matches Student with Faculty Member to Highlight Issues on Global Health

GOAL: The NGDI Student Global Health Journal is a new, cross-disciplinary publication created and published by student members of the NGDI. Articles in the journal will be written by students and edited by a paired expert UBC faculty member. The journal will focus on a wide range of topics pertaining to global health. This bi-annual



NGDI-UBC Student Global Health Journal

publication will foster student interest and participation in global health research by allowing students a chance to work directly with a faculty mentor to produce a journal article, which will be published and accessible through the UBC library and the NGDI website.

Mechanism for Submission: Please submit by following the link on the right hand tool bar. Students will submit **an abstract or general idea**, and the editorial board will contact a faculty member that would be appropriate as an editor, including the proposed article abstract/idea. If the faculty member is interested in the project, the student will be contacted and introduced to the collaborating faculty member. When the student has completed their article, they will submit it to the faculty member for revision. The faculty member will review and edit the article, and return it to the student. Communication between the faculty member and student is strongly encouraged throughout all steps of the writing and editing process. The final article will be submitted by the faculty member to the editorial board for formatting and publication. The final publication will contain both the student and the faculty member as authors. <[Read more](#)>

NGDI Congratulates Dr. Julio Montaner for receiving CMA's Highest Honour

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) has named Dr. Julio Montaner, a global leader in the fight against HIV and AIDS from Vancouver, the recipient of its 2013 Frederic Newton Gisborne Starr Award. As a result of Dr. Montaner's work, British Columbia has in the last 20 years seen the incidence of AIDS decline by more than 80 per cent, AIDS mortality rates decline by more than 95 per cent, and new diagnoses of HIV drop by 60 per cent, from about 900 cases a year in the 1990s to fewer than 289 cases in 2011. B.C. is the only region in Canada with consistently declining rates of new HIV infections. Having created in British Columbia a global prototype for HIV/AIDS control, Dr. Montaner has raised real hope that future generations can be AIDS-free. <[Read more](#)>

Vote for your UBC Grand Challenges Canada Submissions

Grand Challenges Canada's "Stars in Global Health Competition" Round 6 is on!

Dr. Tim Green (NGDI member and Faculty of Land & Food Systems) - *Thiamin-fortified fish sauce as a means of combating infantile beriberi in rural Cambodia*

Dr. Marianne Black (Faculty of Medicine) - *Sterile Drill Covers for Low Cost Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery*

Matthew Wiens (PhD Candidate, School of Population and Public Health) - *The Post Discharge Survival Project*

Katherine Ryan (Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry) - *Cheap drugs for bad bugs: engineering natural product synthesis*

Click <[here](#)> for the links to 2-minute videos and voting.

NGDI Welcomes new Member Graham Reynolds



Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law

Email: reynolds@law.ubc.ca

Webpage: <http://www.law.ubc.ca/faculty/reynolds/index.html>

Graham J. Reynolds teaches and researches in the areas of copyright law, intellectual property law, property law, and intellectual property and human rights. Prior to joining the UBC Faculty of Law in 2013, Graham was an Assistant Professor at the Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University, where he was the Co-Editor in Chief of the Canadian Journal of Law and Technology and a member of Dalhousie University's Law and Technology Institute. The recipient of an award for excellence in teaching, Graham has completed graduate studies at the University of Oxford, where he studied on a Rhodes Scholarship, and has served as the judicial law clerk to the Honourable Chief Justice Finch of the British Columbia Court of Appeal. Graham is currently completing doctoral studies in law at the University of Oxford. The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation supported his doctoral work, which focuses on the intersection of freedom of expression and copyright in Canada.

Lily Mignault reports about her time with the Roll Back Malaria Initiative in Geneva, Switzerland.

I am a third year pharmacy student and I just finished doing a summer internship at a partnership hosted by the World Health Organization called Roll Back Malaria in Geneva, Switzerland. I applied for the internship because I have always had a strong interest in essential medicines/neglected diseases and I wanted to see what was being done at the global level to help with medical issues facing the developing world. I also wanted to explore the branch of humanitarian pharmacy, and learn more about career options in that field. <[Read more](#)>

Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Hosts Annual Summer Student Research Competition

On September 3 2013, the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of British Columbia (UBC) hosted the Summer Student Research Program (SSRP) Poster Competition. Participating students presented 19 posters showcasing their research projects and over 110 people attended the reception that followed. First place was awarded to Riley Walsh, supervised by faculty member Dr. Kishor Wasan for her poster titled "Efficacy of an oral and tropically stable lipid-based formulation of Amphotericin B (iCo-010) in an experimental mouse model of systemic candidiasis." Walsh will be representing UBC at the 2014 CSPS National Meeting in Montreal. <[Read more](#)>

NGDI News

Dr. King Holmes – Canada Gairdner Global Health Award 2013

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Research: Major Progress, Current Challenges and Future Opportunities

Date: October 31, 2013

Time: 4:00 – 5:00 pm with reception following

RSVP: <http://gairdnerlectureubc.eventbrite.ca>

Dr. King Holmes is the William H. Foege Chair of Global Health at the University of Washington, a position he has held since 2006. He is also founder and director of the University of Washington Center for AIDS and STD, a World Health Organization Collaborating Center for AIDS and STD. Currently, Dr. Holmes is also the head of Infectious Diseases at Harborview Medical Center. Dr. Holmes has been a member of the University of Washington faculty since 1969, holding educational leadership positions in areas such as medicine, microbiology, epidemiology and

global health. He has participated in research on STDs for over 40 years in Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia, and the Western Pacific. He has authored over 550 peer-reviewed publications and edited 30 books, monographs, and journal supplements.

NGDI Distinguished Lectureship Seminar with Dr. Robert Hancock, October 18th, Noon – 1 PM

The Neglected Global Diseases Initiative at UBC Distinguished Lectureship Seminar Series Presents

Inflammation, Infection and Sepsis in Developing Countries: New Insights, New Treatments

Presented by **Dr. Robert E.W. Hancock**, Professor, Microbiology & Immunology

October 18, 2013—Noon to 1:00 PM, reception to follow

London Drugs Theatre, Pharmaceutical Sciences, 1st floor—2405 Wesbrook Mall at Agronomy



Please join us for our Ninth Distinguished Lectureship Seminar featuring Dr. Robert E.W. Hancock.

Dr. Hancock is a Professor of Microbiology & Immunology, UBC, an Associate Faculty Member of the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute and a Canada Research Chair in Health and Genomics. He is also co-founder of the Neglected Global Diseases Initiative and a member of the Scientific Advisory Board.

Dr. Hancock's research interests include small cationic peptides as novel antimicrobials and modulators of innate immunity, the development of novel treatments for antibiotic resistant infections, the systems biology of innate immunity, inflammatory diseases and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and antibiotic uptake and resistance.

Dr. Hancock has published more than 600 papers and reviews, has 44 patents awarded, and is an ISI highly cited author in Microbiology with more than 45,000 citations and an h-index of 111. He has won several awards including the Aventis Pharmaceuticals Award, the leading award for research on antimicrobials, and Canada's three top prizes for Health Research, and is an Officer of the Order of Canada. He was a co-founder of Migenix, Inimex Pharmaceuticals and the Centre for Drug Research and Development.

The NGDI Provides Opportunities for Student Involvement

NGDI INTERNSHIPS 2012-2013

In recent years, the NGDI has been working on increasing opportunities for student involvement. Now, in 2013, we have multiple ways to give students the opportunity to get involved and it has been a record year for campus engagement. NGDI Students have been contributing through four main project avenues: Administrative support, the Neglected Tropical Diseases Database, Directed Readings Courses, and the NGDI Student Health Journal. Student involvement has been a huge success and is now an integral part of our organization.

So far the NGDI has utilized the **Work-Learn Program**, **The Arts Internship Program**, **The School of Library and Information Science Professional Experience Program**, **Computer Science Interns**, and **Directed Readings Courses**. Students involved with the NGDI have reported increased sense of community and belonging on campus, valuable work experience, improved network relations with professors and mentors, a feeling of having contributed to an important cause, and more. We look forward to continuing with our new commitment to student engagement. <[Read more](#)>

Pharmacist in the Developing World: Providing Impact to the Poorest of the Poor

Jocelyn Conway and Kishor Wasan published an OP-ED in the 2nd Issue of the Pharmaceutical Sciences Student Journal

Can you imagine waking up with a splitting headache and not having access to a simple pain relief medication like ASA (Aspirin ®)? What if you were diagnosed with cancer, or an infectious disease like malaria, and did not have access to the

medicines that would save your life? What if accessing the necessary medicine was possible, but you could not be sure of its quality, or how to properly administer it? These situations exist in far too many countries and their effects on the health of the world's poorest populations are a travesty. Access to medicines is a global problem consisting of several component parts and is a fascinating study that, if it interests you, could change the trajectory of your career. <[Read more](#)>

Funding Opportunities

Trudeau Foundation Doctoral Scholarship

\$40,000 stipend plus \$20,000 travel allowance; Graduate Studies deadline **25 October, 2013**: check with graduate program for internal deadline

Up to 15 Trudeau Scholarships are awarded each year to support doctoral students pursuing research in one or more of the four themes: human rights and social justice, responsible citizenship, Canada and the world, and humans and their natural environment. Trudeau Scholars are highly gifted individuals who are actively engaged in their fields and expected to become leading national and international figures.

Eligibility

- Candidates must be applying into the first year of a PhD at UBC, or be registered in the first or second year of a PhD at UBC.
- Although priority will be accorded to Canadian citizens and landed immigrants, up to one fourth of the total number of Trudeau Scholars may be international students (preference will be given to international students from the developing world).

For application and nomination procedures, please see the Graduate Awards website:

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/awards/trudeau-foundation-doctoral-scholarship>. The contact at the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies for this competition is Allan Lee (allanlee@mail.ubc.ca)

CIHR Grant Deadlines

CIHR Opportunities [website](#)

Dissemination Events – October 15, 2013

Fellowship – November 15, 2013

Master's Award – December 1, 2013

New Investigator Salary Award – December 2, 2013

Operating Grants - Various Dates starting November 20, 2013

Burroughs Wellcome Fund

Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease

Faculty of Medicine Internal Deadline: **October 18, 2013**, Program Deadline: **November 1, 2013**

Five-year awards provide \$500,000 to support accomplished investigators at the assistant professor level to study pathogenesis, with a focus on the interplay between human and microbial biology, shedding light on how human and microbial systems are affected by their encounters. The awards are intended to give recipients the freedom

and flexibility to pursue new avenues of inquiry and higher-risk research projects that hold potential for significantly advancing the biochemical, pharmacological, immunological, and molecular biological understanding of how microbes and the human body interact.

Warren Alpert Foundation Prize

The [Warren Alpert Foundation Prize](#) recognizes one or more scientists whose scientific achievements have led to the prevention, cure or treatment of human diseases or disorders, and/or whose research constitutes a seminal scientific finding that holds great promise of ultimately changing our understanding of and/or ability to treat disease. The \$250,000 Prize is open to scientists, physicians, and researchers from any country. Nominations must be received by **November 1, 2013**.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

And its funding partners in the Grand Challenges family of grant programs are inviting innovators to apply for four new grant opportunities:

1) **Grand Challenges Explorations**, an initiative to encourage innovative and unconventional global health and development solutions, is now accepting grant proposals for its latest application round. Applicants can be at any experience level; in any discipline; and from any organization, including colleges and universities, government laboratories, research institutions, non-profit organizations and for-profit companies.

- Proposals are being accepted online until **November 12, 2013** on the following topics:
- Innovations in Feedback & Accountability Systems for Agricultural Development
- Inciting Healthy Behaviors: nudge, leapfrog, disrupt, reach
- Novel Enabling Tools and Models Supporting the Development of Interventions for Severe Diarrhea and Enteric Dysfunction
- Develop the Next Generation of Condom
- The "One Health" Concept: Bringing Together Human and Animal Health

Initial grants will be US \$100,000 each, and projects showing promise will have the opportunity to receive additional funding of up to US \$1 million.

Full descriptions of the new topics and application instructions are available at:
www.grandchallenges.org/explorations.

2) **Achieving Healthy Growth** through Agriculture and Nutrition, the first program launched through the Grand Challenges India partnership, is now accepting applications. This program joins others within the Grand Challenges family of grant programs supported by the Gates Foundation and its partners. It seeks a comprehensive set of approaches - spanning innovation in nutrition and agriculture and social innovation - to 1) reduce the high incidence of low birth weight, early stunting, and wasting in Indian children less than 2 years of age and 2) prevent undernutrition in women of reproductive age and in children from 0-2 years of age.

The application deadline is **October 31, 2013**. Details on how to apply for a grant can be found at
http://www.grandchallenges.org/GrantOpportunities/Pages/GCIndia_healthygrowth.aspx

3) The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has launched **Records for Life: A Design Contest that can Save Lives**. This new grant opportunity seeks individuals or teams to re-examine the current child health record and design new ways to accurately track vaccine doses, increase ease of interpretation and use, and incite behavior change to make the record a valued asset for health professionals and families alike.

The application deadline is **October 31, 2013**. Details on how to apply for a grant can be found at
<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/How-We-Work/General-Information/Grant-Opportunities/Records-for-Life-RFP>

4) This October researchers are invited to attend **Advancing Vaccines in the Genomic Era**, a meeting held as part of the Keystone Symposia Global Health Series supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The meeting will be held October 31 - November 4, 2013 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. More information can be found at <http://www.keystonesymposia.org/13T1>

Conferences and Save the Date

2013 Gairdner Symposium

Date: Monday, October 21, 2013 4– 6pm

Location: Life Sciences Centre, Lecture Theatre 2 (LSC 2), UBC, 2350 Health Sciences Mall

Don't miss this opportunity to listen to two dynamic and high profiled researchers at the 2013 Gairdner Vancouver Symposium.

This **free public lecture** will feature:

[Dr. Nasmyth](#) [2007 Canada Gairdner International Award Recipient]

Presentation title: TBA

and

[Sir Winter](#) [2013 Canada Gairdner International Award Recipient]

Presentation title: The antibody revolution: new pharmaceuticals for a new age

More information about the symposium can be found at <http://www.cmmt.ubc.ca/events/2013/10/2013-gairdner-foundation-symposium>

More information about the Gairdner Foundation can be found at <http://www.gairdner.org/>

Global Health in 2013: Are We Having Impact?

20th Canadian Conference on Global Health

Date: October 27-29, 2013

Location: The Westin Hotel, Ottawa

Sponsor: Canadian Society for International Health

Registration is open, for more [information](#).

mHealth for Infectious and Chronic Disease Management: Taking Evidence to Scale



An **International Roundtable Discussion** will take place in Vancouver BC, from **May 7 - 10, 2014**. For four days we are bringing together thought leaders and community stakeholders from around the globe to discuss and develop strategies for scale up implementation of mHealth programs in low, middle and high-economy countries, including Canada.

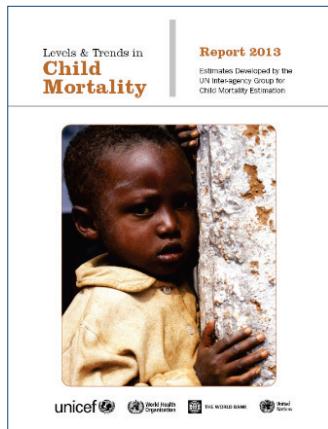
This event is a CTN and WelTel collaborative initiative supported by the Peter Wall Centre for Advanced Studies at the University of British Columbia. At this time we have been awarded funding from the Peter Wall Centre to host this event but we are also awaiting news (in November) of additional CIHR funding in order to conduct a full size Roundtable event.

Final invitations and attendance limits can only be determined once we receive notice of CIHR supplemental funding, and we therefore request your patience and understanding in the event of any changes to the size of our event.

However, in anticipation of receiving the final funding approval, we would appreciate it if you could save the date in your calendar and let us know if you can come by sending an RSVP to ctninfo@hivnet.ubc.ca.

Reports of Interest

Levels and Trends in Child Mortality – Report 2013

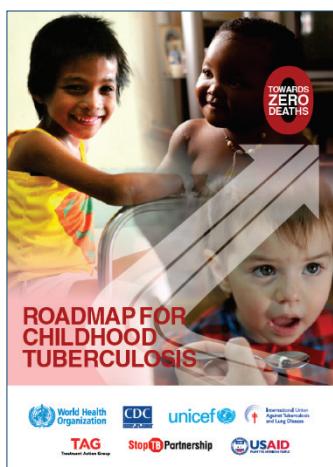


Millennium Development Goal 4 (MDG 4) calls for reducing the under-five mortality rate by two thirds between 1990 and 2015. The world has made substantial progress, reducing the under-five mortality rate 47 percent, from 90 (89, 92) deaths per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 48 (46, 51) in 2012. However, this progress has not been enough, and the target risks being missed at the global level. To achieve MDG 4 on time, the global annual rate of reduction in under-five mortality rate would need to rise to 15.6 percent for 2012–2015, much faster than the 3.9 percent achieved over 2005–2012. At the country level, historical trends show that progress for most countries has been too slow and that only 13 of the 61 countries with high under-five mortality rates (at least 40 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2012) are currently on track to achieve MDG 4—with an average annual rate of reduction of 4.4 percent or more.

Still, in 2012, 6.6 (6.3, 7.0) million children died before reaching their fifth birthday, mostly from preventable causes and treatable diseases, even though the knowledge and technologies for life-saving interventions are available. In addition, inequities in child mortality between high income and low-income countries remain large. In 2012 the under-five mortality rate in low income countries was 82 deaths per 1,000 live births—more than 13 times the average rate in high-income countries (6). Many countries still have very high under-five mortality rates—particularly those in Sub-Saharan Africa, home to all 16 countries with an under-five mortality rate above 100 deaths per 1,000 live births. Reducing these inequities across countries and saving more children's lives by ending preventable child deaths are important priorities.

Report is available from: <http://www.childmortality.org/>

Roadmap for Childhood Tuberculosis



After decades of being relegated to the shadows, the childhood tuberculosis (TB) epidemic is now in the global spotlight. The goal of a world with zero TB deaths in children has been endorsed by the international TB community and has melded key stakeholders to make this goal a reality. This is a significant breakthrough for partners and advocates who have worked tirelessly to draw attention to the misunderstood epidemic of TB in children.

The urgency of the problem of TB in children, whose full scope is still not fully known, cannot be underestimated. World Health Organization (WHO) estimates in 2012 revealed that up to 74 000 children die from TB each year and children account for around half a million new cases annually. It should be noted that the estimated deaths only include those in human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-negative children. In fact, the actual burden of TB in children is likely higher, especially given the challenge in diagnosing childhood TB. Compounding this difficulty with diagnosis is the fact that children with TB often come from families that are poor, lack knowledge

about the disease and live in communities with limited access to health services. Another compelling reason is that TB is important in the context of children's overall survival. We do not know the extent to which TB is a cause of childhood deaths that are reported in global statistics as deaths due to HIV, pneumonia, malnutrition or meningitis, but the number is likely to be substantial.

Report is available from: <http://www.who.int/tb/challenges/children/en/>