



Association of Faculties  
of Pharmacy of Canada

Association des facultés  
de pharmacie du Canada

# *A'FPC Awards*

## *2023 Award Winners*

# 2023 Award Winners

## Student Awards

### **AFPC / CCPE Graduate Student Research Award**

Sepideh Soukhtehzari, University of British Columbia

### **AFPC / CFP Graduate Student Award for Pharmacy Practice Research**

Danielle Nagy, University of Alberta

### **AFPC / CCPE Student Research Poster Awards**

Erin Chung, University of Toronto

Jennifer Einarson, University of Manitoba

Sneha Singh, University of British Columbia

### **AFPC / CCPE Whit Matthews Undergraduate and Graduate Student Poster Awards**

Randilynne Urslak, University of Waterloo

Courtney Lawrence, University of Manitoba

## Faculty Awards

### **AFPC New Investigator Research Award**

Davide Brambilla, Université de Montréal

### **AFPC Award for Innovation in Education**

Marie-Laurence Tremblay, Université Laval

### **AFPC / PEBC Award for Excellence in Research or Innovation in Assessment of Competence**

Janice Yeung, University of British Columbia

### **AFPC Educational Scholarship Poster Award**

Kerry Wilbur, University of British Columbia

### **AFPC Research Career Award**

Brian Rodrigues, University of British Columbia

### **AFPC National Award for Excellence in Education**

Theresa Charrois, University of Alberta

### **AFPC Honoured Life Membership**

Tannis Jurgens, Dalhousie University

Anne Marie Whelan, Dalhousie University

### **AFPC & CFP Past President Awards**

Natalie Crown, University of Toronto



# Student Awards

## AFPC / Council for Continuing Pharmaceutical Education Graduate Student Research Award

*Purpose: To recognize the best research paper written by a graduate student, and accepted for publication or published, during the calendar year preceding the AFPC annual meeting.*

### Sepideh Soukhtehzari

University of British Columbia

Sepideh Soukhtehzari completed a BSc in Molecular and Cell biology from Alzahra University (Tehran) and a MSc in Medical Biotechnology from Tarbiat Modares University (Tehran). She began her PhD research at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at University of British Columbia focusing on the identification of polysialylated proteins in breast cancer and correlation with patient prognosis. In her primary work, she quantified the mRNA levels of two sialyltransferases responsible for synthesis of polysialic acid in breast cancer patient tissues and identified the responsible enzyme in this process and found its correlation with patient survival and disease prognosis.



Sepideh has successfully published her primary research in *npj Breast Cancer*, a multidisciplinary research journal. She has also received multiple awards in recognition of her work and achievements including the CIHR Canada Graduate Scholarship – Doctoral, the Ruth and Paul Bass Graduate Scholarship in Pharmacology and the Douglas and Jean Bailey Scholarship.

Award winning paper: *The different prognostic significance of polysialic acid and CD56 expression in tumor cells and lymphocytes identified in breast cancer.* [BreastCancer 2022]



# Student Awards

## AFPC / Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy Graduate Student Award for Pharmacy Practice Research

*Purpose: To recognize the best pharmacy practice research paper by a graduate student, published or accepted for publication during the year preceding the AFPC annual meeting.*

### Danielle Nagy

University of Alberta

Danielle Nagy is a third year PhD student at the University of Alberta in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) at the University of Alberta in 2020. Under the supervision of Dr. Scot Simpson, her thesis research is focused on uncovering inequities in processes of care during the management of type 2 diabetes across the rural-urban continuum. Her research is funded by the Endowed Chair in Patient Health Management, jointly held by the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alberta. In addition to her scholarly work, Danielle also holds several teaching assistantships in undergraduate PharmD courses and has co-developed a graduate-level course on foundational knowledge in health services research.



Danielle practices part-time as a community pharmacist in Edmonton and is a Continuing Competence Program Assessor with the Alberta College of Pharmacy.

*Award winning paper: Rural residence is associated with a delayed trend away from sulfonylurea use for treatment intensification of type 2 diabetes. [Diabetes Care 2023]*



# Student Awards

## AFPC / Council for Continuing Pharmaceutical Education Student Research Poster Awards

*Purpose: To stimulate and foster the development of research programs and research skills, in all areas of pharmacy, by undergraduate and graduate students (3 national awards)*

### Erin Chung

University of Toronto

Erin Chung is a PhD Candidate from Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Toronto who successfully defended her dissertation in April. Erin is also the Therapeutic Drug Monitoring Coordinator and a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Pharmacist at the Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids). Erin obtained a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Biochemistry at McMaster University, a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy at University of Toronto and has completed the Hospital Pharmacy Residency/Master of Science combined program at SickKids and Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Toronto.



To expand her knowledge and skills in population pharmacokinetic modelling, she underwent the PhD program under the supervision of Profs. Winnie Seto (primary supervisor) and Scott Walker (co-supervisor). Upon graduation, Erin plans to implement the results from her thesis into clinical practice and continue to use advanced statistical and pharmacokinetic modeling techniques to improve the precision of medication dosing in neonatal and pediatric patients.

*Award winning poster: Improving precision of vancomycin dosing in neonatal sepsis based on clinical outcome evaluation and population.*

---

### Jennifer Einarson

University of Manitoba

Jennifer Einarson is a second-year student in the PharmD program at the University of Manitoba. Over the past two summers, Jennifer has had the privilege of being part of Dr. Lucy Marzban's lab. She worked on research projects focused on methods to improve pancreatic beta cell survival. Her interest in diabetes research was inspired by multiple family members with diabetes and her passion for the subject has grown over the past two years.



Jennifer is looking forward to growing her passion for research in her fourth year of the pharmacy program.

*Award winning poster: Pharmacological blockade of interleukin-1 beta action reduces extracellular amyloid-induced beta-cell death.*

# AFPC / Council for Continuing Pharmaceutical Education Student Research Poster Awards

*Purpose: To stimulate and foster the development of research programs and research skills, in all areas of pharmacy, by undergraduate and graduate students (3 national awards)*

## Sneha Singh

University of British Columbia

Sneha Singh is a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of British Columbia under the guidance of Dr. Ujendra Kumar. She completed a MSc in Pharmaceutical Sciences (major in Pharmacology) from Mumbai University, India. Her current research focuses on studying neurogenesis and anterograde translocation of synaptophysin to neurites in Alzheimer's disease models. She is studying the role of Somatostatin (an inhibitory growth hormone peptide) in potentiating the differentiation process in human SH-SY5Y cells and iPSCs. She is also working to delineate the cross-talk between Somatostatin and Dopamine receptors in neurogenesis.



She has held multiple funding awards during her doctoral program, including a 4-year UBC-SERB (Science and Engineering Research Board, India) doctoral fellowship, the 2023 UBC Friedman Award, MATRIX-N Junior Scholar, and the John H. McNeill graduate student award. In addition to her research pursuits, Sneha is passionate about teaching and has been awarded the prestigious Killam Graduate Teaching Assistant award.

*Award winning poster: Developmental changes in somatostatin and dopamine receptor subtypes during the transition from non-neuronal to terminally differentiated SH-SY5Y cells.*

# Faculty Awards

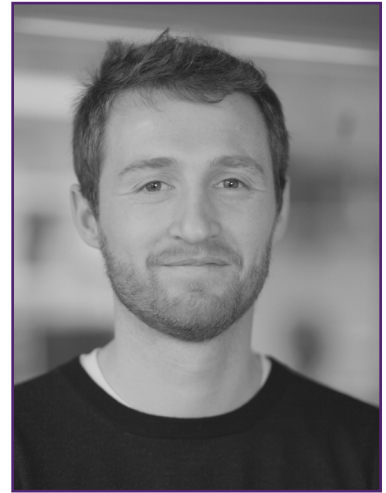
## AFPC New Investigator Research Award

*Purpose: To recognize outstanding research achievements and contributions of the junior members of the academic staff of faculties, colleges or schools of pharmacy in Canada.*

### **Davide Brambilla**

Université de Montréal

Davide Brambilla is associate professor of drug delivery at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the Université de Montréal. Prof. Brambilla completed his PhD in pharmaceutical technologies at the School of Pharmacy, University of Paris-Sud (now Paris-Saclay) under the supervision of professor Patrick Couvreur on the design of nanoparticles for drug delivery applications. In 2012, he joined the laboratory of JC Leroux in the Department of Chemistry and Applied Biosciences at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETH) where he was later promoted group leader. In 2017, he was appointed assistant professor at the Université de Montréal, where he started his research laboratory focused on micro and nanotechnology-based drug delivery tools and diagnostic devices and where he teaches the development of biological drugs and the pharmacokinetics.



In 2022, he was appointed associate professor and his laboratory mainly focuses on the design of organic nanoparticles for the delivery of genetic materials for gene therapy applications and the design of polymeric microneedles for diagnostic applications. He pioneered the concept of fluorescent medical micro-tattoos for the non-invasive and wearable monitoring of physiological and pathological parameters. His other positions includes a junior research fellow at the Québec Research Funds, the biotherapy research Chair with the Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association and Biosimilars Canada, the current president of the Canadian chapter of the Controlled Release Society, as well as the Assistant Editor of the Journal of Controlled Release. He has co-authored over 60 publications in peer-reviewed international journals, filed two patents and co-founded the start-up company mTatt Inc.



# Faculty Awards

## AFPC Award for Innovation in Education

*Purpose: To recognize the development of a significant innovation in teaching, learning and/or assessment that have been implemented and evaluated by members of the academic staff and are currently in place and operating within a faculty, college, or school of pharmacy within Canada.*

### Marie-Laurence Tremblay

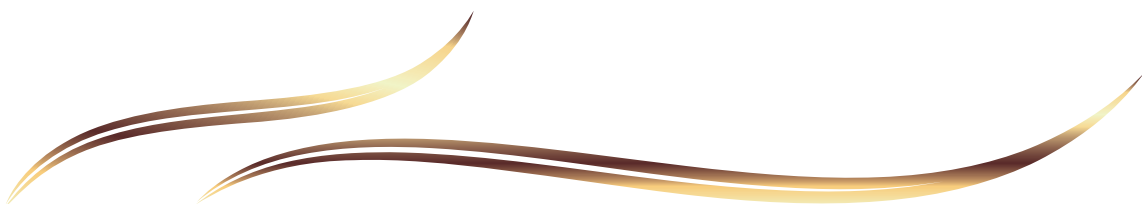
Université Laval

Marie-Laurence Tremblay is a pharmacist and professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy with Université Laval. She holds a bachelor's degree in Pharmacy (2008) and a master's degree in Hospital Pharmacy (2009) from Université Laval. She also holds a Specialist Diploma in Advanced Pharmacotherapy from the American Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties and has practiced in both community pharmacy and in health care institutions. Marie-Laurence has completed her masters and doctoral studies in health professions education at Maastricht University in the Netherlands. In 2020, she became the Chairholder of the Familiprix Educational Leadership Chair in Community Pharmacy.



Passionate about simulation-based education, clinical reasoning, professional identity in pharmacy and clinical reasoning, she is involved in numerous academic projects on these different themes with the goal to improve the quality of pharmacy education in order to enhance pharmacy practice.

Award winning innovative initiative: *Immersive simulation in community pharmacy to develop professional competencies.*





# Faculty Awards

## **AFPC / Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada Award for Excellence in Research or Innovation in Assessment of Competence**

*Purpose: To forge external partnerships and give recognition of support for PEBC. To recognize excellence in the area of assessment of competence in the field of pharmacy.*

### **Janice Yeung**

University of British Columbia

Janice obtained her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy at the University of British Columbia and then worked in community pharmacy practice in both rural and urban settings. She later returned to UBC to complete her hospital residency at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver and her post-graduate Doctor of Pharmacy degree. She practiced as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist with the Leukemia/Bone Marrow Transplant Program at Vancouver General Hospital and served as the Residency Coordinator for the Lower Mainland Pharmacy Services Pharmacy Practice Residency Program before transitioning to her current role as Lecturer and Director in the Office of Experiential Education with the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at UBC. As the Director, Janice is responsible for the academic



and administrative leadership of the experiential education programs under the faculty's academic portfolio. This includes the Entry-to-Practice PharmD, Flexible PharmD and Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Sciences programs, as well as the international pharmacy graduates' placements (Structured Practical Training) for the Canadian Pharmacy Practice Program. Janice also serves on the Canadian Pharmacy Residency Board (CPRB) as the AFPC Representative and is a member of the CPRB Standards Working Group.

With years of experience in teaching, precepting, mentoring and coaching students at all levels and a keen interest in workplace-based assessment, Janice aspires to enhance student learning in experiential education and encourage and support practice educators in the training and mentorship of our future colleagues and leaders of the pharmacy profession.

*Award winning assessment initiative: Assessing pharmacy student performance on practicum using a novel rubric based on the Dreyfus Model of Skill Acquisition in the entry-to-practice PharmD Program.*

# Faculty Awards

## AFPC Research Career Award

*Purpose: To stimulate and foster the development of research programs in all areas of pharmacy by recognizing research excellence of members of the academic staff.*

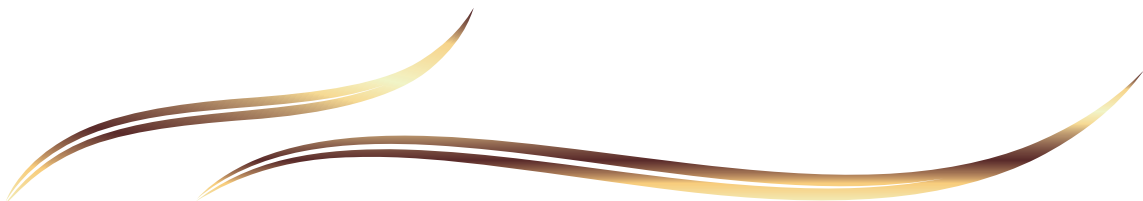
### Brian Rodrigues

University of British Columbia

Dr. Brian Rodrigues is a professor in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at UBC. He came to Canada in 1983 and obtained a master's and a PhD degree in pharmacology at UBC. Following completion of a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Calgary, he was appointed as an assistant professor at UBC in 1993. Throughout his career, Dr. Rodrigues has pursued his interest in diabetes and heart research with funding from the Heart and Stroke Foundation, Diabetes Canada and CIHR. He truly cares about enriching the lives of others - both those afflicted by diabetes and those working to improve the lives of people living with this challenging disease. Brian was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding contribution to the diabetes community in Canada.



His research findings have been published extensively and he is actively involved in the training of graduate students. He has graduated sixteen PhD students who went on to complete PDFs at Oxford, Harvard, Toronto, Yale, Stanford and NIH. Of these trainees, six are now themselves independent investigators and professors in universities around the world. He currently serves as a member of all of the major grant review panels including CIHR, Diabetes Canada and Heart and Stroke Foundation. His love for teaching is reflected in the many teaching awards he has received over the years including the Bristol-Myers Squibb and Killam excellence in pharmaceutical teaching awards.



# Faculty Awards

## AFPC National Award for Excellence in Education

*Purpose: To recognize an academic staff member's contribution(s) to the development of major innovations in Canadian pharmacy education.*

### Theresa Charrois

University of Alberta

Dr. Teri Charrois is currently a Clinical Professor and Academic Lead of Practice Innovation at the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Alberta. Teri has held various roles in pharmacy practice, research and teaching over her 25 years of being a pharmacist. She completed her Doctor of Education in 2020 and teaches in the patient skills courses where she oversees curricular development for the skills team.

Her research interests include pharmacist prescribing and the scholarship of teaching and learning. Her clinical practice is in a multidisciplinary osteoporosis clinic. In July this year, she will be joining UBC as Associate Dean of Practice Innovation.



# Faculty Awards

## AFPC Honoured Life Membership

*Purpose: Awarded to eligible individuals to recognize their outstanding contribution to the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada at a national level, in accordance with established criteria.*

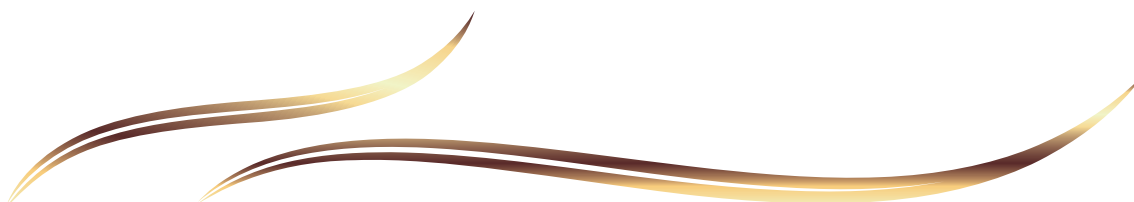
### Tannis Jurgens

Dalhousie University

Dr. Tannis Jurgens began her career as a community pharmacist following graduation from Dalhousie's College of Pharmacy. An interest in herbal medicine prompted her to return to Dalhousie to obtain a MSc in Pharmacognosy and a PhD in Pharmacognosy, from the School of Pharmacy, University of Mississippi. Tannis spent five years as a Senior Research Chemist at Merck Research Laboratories in Rahway, New Jersey as part of a research program investigating plants as sources of new drugs. Tannis returned to Dalhousie 27 years ago where she was responsible for incorporating medicinal chemistry and natural health products (NHPs) into the problem based learning curriculum, providing students with opportunities to explore practical applications of both subjects in solving therapeutic issues. Dr. Jurgens received Dr. Jessie I MacKnight Teaching Awards in 2016 and 2020. She has combined her pharmacy education with her knowledge of natural products chemistry to develop a research program focused on evaluating the quality of evidence of the efficacy and safety of NHPs used in women's health and obesity. She served as the College of Pharmacy's Associate Director of Research (2020-2022) and chaired Dalhousie's Health Sciences Research Ethics Board (2016-2019).



Dr. Jurgens has been an active participant in AFPC: Council of Faculties-Councilor (2012-2018), Vice Chair (2014-2015), Chair (2015-2016); AFPC Board Member (2014- 2018); Chair of the Awards Committee (2016-2019) and member of the MedChem SIG since inception. Dr. Jurgens is retiring as a Professor in Medicinal Chemistry and NHPs and is looking forward to spending time with family, gardening, skiing and relaxing at the cottage.



# Faculty Awards

## AFPC Honoured Life Membership

*Purpose: Awarded to eligible individuals to recognize their outstanding contribution to the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada at a national level, in accordance with established criteria.*

### Anne Marie Whelan

Dalhousie University

Anne Marie Whelan is a Professor at the College of Pharmacy at Dalhousie University. After receiving her BSc in Pharmacy, she started her career working in community pharmacy practice. She obtained her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1989 and completed a one-year post PharmD Residency in Family Medicine. Dr. Whelan has been a faculty member at the College of Pharmacy since 1990. She taught pharmacotherapeutics, primarily topics related to sexual and reproductive health. Students selected her as the recipient of the Dr. Jessie I. MacKnight Award for Teaching Excellence in Pharmacy in 1992, 1993 and 1994. In recognition of her work with implementing and evaluating the only undergraduate problem-based learning pharmacy curriculum in Canada she was a co-recipient of the Bristol-Myers Squibb National Award for Excellence in Education in 2000 from AFPC and received Honourable Mention in the 2002 Innovations in Teaching Competition sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. In 2011 Dr. Whelan was awarded the Faculty of Health Professions (Dalhousie University) Teaching Excellence Award.



To facilitate her leadership role in curriculum evaluation Dr. Whelan was appointed Associate Director, Program Evaluation at the College of Pharmacy in 2010. Her research interests spanned from her work in curriculum evaluation to clinical practice to sexual and reproductive health. Dr. Whelan was the Dalhousie University Councillor on AFPC from 1992-95 and then again from 2002-2005. She was then honoured to serve on AFPC executive (as President-elect, President and Past- President) from 2005-2008. Dr. Whelan has been a member of the Evaluation/Assessment SIGs of AFPC since their inception. She also served as President on the board of The Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (2013-2014). Dr. Whelan will be retiring from Dalhousie University June 30, 2023 and is looking forward to enjoying retirement with her husband — including playing golf and spending winters in Florida.



# CPERC Poster Awards

## **AFPC / Council for Continuing Pharmaceutical Education Whit Matthews Student Poster Awards**

*Purpose: To recognize the best undergraduate and graduate student posters presented at the annual AFPC conference (judged at CPERC).*

### **Randilynne Urslak**

University of Waterloo

Award winning undergraduate student poster: *Peripartum mental health and the role of the pharmacist: A scoping review.*

### **Courtney Lawrence**

University of Manitoba

Award winning graduate student poster: *Adverse drug effects of vancomycin, daptomycin and ertapenem in the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority community intravenous program.*

## **AFPC Educational Scholarship Poster Award**

*Purpose: To recognize the best innovative and effective educational scholarship poster presented by a faculty member at the AFPC annual conference (judged at CPERC).*

### **Kerry Wilbur**

University of British Columbia

Award winning poster: *Health advocate competency role: A gulf between instruction and practice remains.*



# Past President Awards

## AFPC Past President Award

**Dr. Natalie Crown**

University of Toronto



Association of Faculties  
of Pharmacy of Canada

Association des facultés  
de pharmacie du Canada



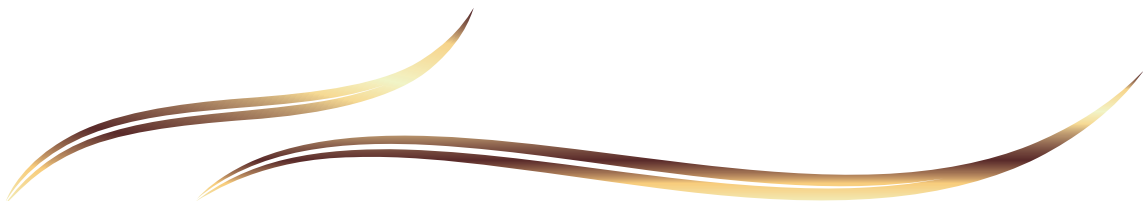
## CFP Past President Award

**Dr. Natalie Crown**

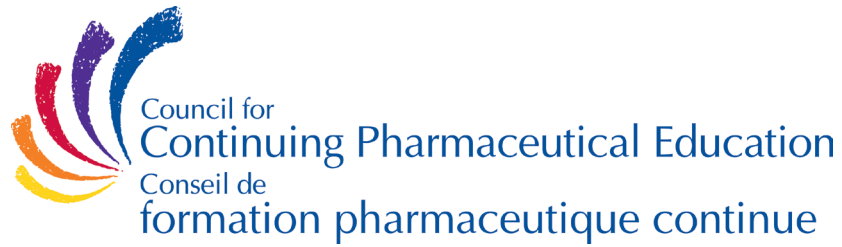
University of Toronto



Canadian Foundation  
for Pharmacy



# Award Sponsors



**Thank you to our Award Sponsors for your generous support!**

