



Institute of Medical Science UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Translational research and interdisciplinary graduate education that advance human health

NEWS & VIEWS | NOVEMBER 2013

IN THIS ISSUE...

Events & Details.....1
 SURP Recap.....3
 Introducing the New IMS Student Association Executive.....5

IMS Staff Announcements.....6
 Winter 2014 Course Offerings.....6
 Student publications.....6
 Spotlight on IMS Alumni.....7

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EVENTS & DETAILS

The Symphony of Science: An IMS Alumni Reception and concert by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra

On Wednesday, January 29th, 2014, please join the Institute of Medical Science (IMS) for its first ever alumni reception. Reconnect with old friends, network with renowned scientists, and celebrate the legacy and future of the Institute of Medical Science.

The Reception will start at 6:30 pm in the lobby of Roy Thomson Hall, followed by the TSO’s much-anticipated performance of the Sounds of Simon and Garfunkel. Admission to the reception is with a ticket only. Tickets on sale until December 16th, 2013. Buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment, Click [HERE](#).

The Institute of Medical Science
 Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto
 Presents

The Symphony of Science
 An IMS Alumni Reception and
 Concert by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra

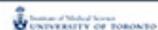
Wednesday, January 29, 2014
 Roy Thomson Hall

Reception at 6:30 pm
 The Sounds of Simon and Garfunkel
 with the TSO 8pm

Limited tickets on sale now
 until December 16, 2013

<http://www.ims.utoronto.ca>

All IMS Alumni, Students,
 Faculty and Staff welcome



SPOTLIGHT ON IMS ALUMNI: DUGALD SEELY

IMS ALUMNI, DUGALD SEELY NAMED TOP 25 PEOPLE IN THE CAPITAL BY OTTAWA LIFE MAGAZINE

Dr. Dugald Seely (IMS MSc 2007) is Founder & Executive Director, Ottawa Integrative Cancer Centre and a practicing Naturopathic Doctor. As a clinician scientist, Dr. Seely has been awarded competitive grant and trainee funding from CIHR, CBCRA, the SickKids Foundation, the Lotte and John Hecht Memorial Foundation, the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation, and the Gateway for Cancer Research Foundation. He has also garnered much attention for pioneering cancer care treatment using complementary medicine. Along with his team, he has established the first integrative cancer care and research centre in Eastern Canada. We had an opportunity to speak with Dr. Seely about how the IMS has played a role in his success. Here is what he had to say:

How did your research at IMS help shape your future directions?

I felt that the work I did at IMS was a training ground to better understand issues related to interactions between natural health products and chemotherapy. This was and continues to be an area of real importance for me clinically as well as academically. The work at IMS specifically explored the impact of combining melatonin with chemotherapeutic agents and testing these in a neuroblastoma cell line and in an animal model. While not directly related, the work I did in the lab and through synthesis research, led to a randomized trial, testing the ability of melatonin to reduce lung cancer mortality and recurrence. This trial is ongoing and is the largest of its kind now running in eight hospital centres across Canada with a current enrollment of over 550 participants.

How has the IMS contributed to your current success?

The IMS provided a place that allowed me to focus on the physiology of cancer, a better understanding and application of good research methodology, and to defend my reasoning and present findings succinctly and clearly. The process of writing and defending my thesis was an accomplishment that provided both the knowledge and confidence to carry this work forward.

Has mentorship played a role in getting you to where you are today?

I was lucky to work within a strong team and lab that kept my research productive, interesting, and relevant. I was



fortunate to have Dr. Sylvain Baruchel a hematologist/oncologist who works at SickKids as my supervisor. Dr. Baruchel had an interest in exploring complementary medicines and gave me just the right balance of freedom and direction to pursue the experiments and line of inquiry for my thesis.

What advice would you give to IMS graduates?

There is a great opportunity and need to explore low cost natural therapies for cancer care that can have a real impact on patient's quality of life and longevity. Overall, we need to explore a more whole-person approach to care that includes complementary medicine as people are using other forms of medicine that are not considered conventional but nevertheless have real value to offer. We need to better understand overall which therapies should come to the mainstream and which avoided. A big challenge in this field is the lack of industry funding as most of the natural therapies simply can't be patented and monetized in the same way that pharmaceuticals can. We need dedicated, bright graduates who are willing and interested in exploring these promising therapies in a rigorous way.

Learn more about Dr. Seely's work :

Ontario Integrative Cancer Care website - [HERE](#).
OttawaLife Magazine - [HERE](#).