

Michelle Harkness

MENTORSHIP AWARDS

A celebration of mentoring,
leadership & dedication in the allergy,
asthma & clinical immunology community

In memory of Michelle Harkness



MHMA Grant

Mentorship Development Grants

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019-23

MENTORSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



Sue Keller-Olaman

Manager, Public Health Ontario

Opportunities accessed:

- National Mentorship Program of the Canadian College of Health Leaders (CCHL)
- McMaster Leadership Essentials courses

MENTORSHIP GRANT | Sue Keller-Olaman



My MHMA goal was to focus on being a better mentor and leader through listening, communication, and learning from my own mentors. Team and project success is about people and collaboration.

Mentorship takeaways:

- Lead from behind.
- Be aware of mentees' ambitions and interests. Advocate for opportunities.
- Encourage creativity. Give mentees the space to try. Minimize obstacles. Provide personal support. Celebrate growth and success.

I am proud to have helped the personal growth and careers of others.

Thank you for the opportunity.

'...unfaltering support, advocacy and commitment to the professional and personal development of her team members, qualities that have significantly contributed to my growth and success in subsequent endeavours'.



MENTORSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



Mary-Ellen Rayner

Manager, Communications & Operations, *Canadian
Critical Care Trials Group*

Opportunity accessed:

- Successfully Coaching and Mentoring Individuals and Teams, York University

MENTORSHIP GRANT | Mary-Ellen Rayner



The Michelle Harkness Mentorship Development Grant allowed me to access formal mentorship training and develop skills that I will continue to use – and build on – for the rest of my career. This training changed the way I think of my role. When I'm working with students and early career professionals, being a good mentor is my goal above all others.

I often reflect on the ways I continue to benefit from the impacts of this Award. I'm thankful for the opportunities afforded by the Award itself, but also for Allergen's brilliant mentorship culture, which I was privileged to be touched by during my time at The Sandbox Project.

It's an honour to have been part of the Michelle Harkness Mentorship Award program. I'm proud to be among the many, many people who continue to carry on Michelle's far-reaching and enduring legacy.



MENTORSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



Neeloffer Mookherjee

Professor, *University of Manitoba*

Opportunity accessed:

- Women in Academic Leadership program Center for Higher Education Research and Development (CHERD), University of Manitoba

MENTORSHIP GRANT | Neeloffer Mookherjee



This award allowed me to attend the Women in Academic Leadership Program, which was pivotal in providing me the tools and knowledge to facilitate my development as a mentor and within academic leadership.

This has directly helped me to effectively lead the Women in Science initiative, WISDOM, into a nationally recognized platform for supporting women in science and medicine.

My greatest sense of achievement is derived from the success of others whom I have mentored.



MENTORSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



Lianne Soller

Postdoctoral Fellow, *The University of British Columbia*

Opportunity accessed:

- Coaching and Mentoring course, Sauder Executive Education, The University of British Columbia

MENTORSHIP GRANT | Lianne Soller



This mentorship grant provided me the opportunity to hone my skills as the research manager of a growing team of research assistants, nurses, and trainees.

In the 4 years since I completed my training course, I have mentored 3 summer medical students who have published impactful research papers and are planning to pursue their medical specialty training in pediatric allergy/immunology.

On a personal level, I am honoured to have been chosen for this award to continue Michelle's legacy of mentoring the future leaders in the field of allergy research. The opportunity means so much to me as I looked up to Michelle as one of my mentors and friends. **Her legacy lives on in all the award winners.**



MENTORSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2020



Jennifer Protudjer

Associate Professor and Endowed Research Chair in
Allergy, Asthma and the Environment, *University of
Manitoba*

Opportunity accessed:

- Association for Medical Education in Europe

MENTORSHIP GRANT | Jennifer Protudjer



Active participation at the 2023 AMEE conference provided opportunities to:

- Network with my own mentors in Medical Education
- Gain new perspectives on mentorship through discussions with colleagues from around the world
- Develop increased knowledge and skills to mentor learners from diverse backgrounds
- Complete the in-person requirement for my fourth (of 4) courses towards completion of a Specialist Certificate in Medical Education
- Foster the growth of formal mentorship skills as I assume the role of Director, Pediatric Graduate Program, within the Department of Pediatrics and Child Health, University of Manitoba



MENTORSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT

MHMA

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2021



Lori Connors

Clinical immunologist & allergist; Associate Professor,
Dalhousie University

Opportunities accessed:

- Canadian Women in Medicine Leaders Course
- Canadian Women in Medicine Annual Conference

MENTORSHIP GRANT | Lori Connors



Through this mentorship grant I was able to build on and enhance my leadership skills and focus on women in leadership.

I created a Women in Allergy and Immunology Conference through the CSACI and co-chaired the conference for the first couple of years. This allowed me to work with a great group of inspiring women in our profession and eventually hand over the reigns to 2 allergist/immunologists to continue the work. This conference led to the CSACI incorporating a Women in Allergy and Immunology networking event at the annual meeting.

I am now Program Director for Internal Medicine at Dalhousie University, which has been an exciting new leadership opportunity for me. I thank Michelle and her family for the opportunity. Michelle was always so kind when I had the chance to work with her. I hope to continue to mentor with her in mind.



MENTORSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2022



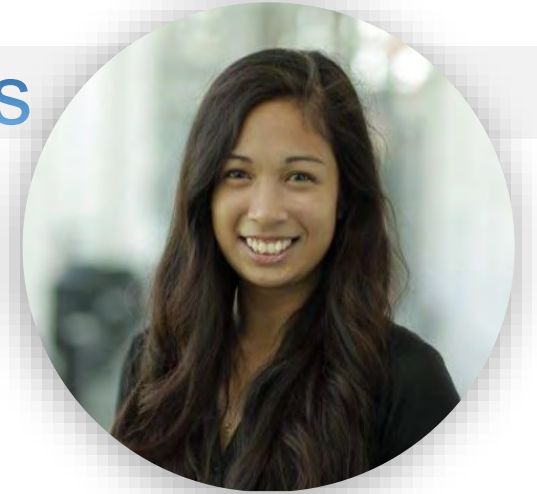
Joy Ramielle Santos

Graduate Research Assistant, *University of Alberta*

Opportunities accessed:

- Coaching and Mentoring course, University of Alberta
- Women in STEM Leadership Summit 2022
- Women in STEM online resource: domain registration & hosting fees

MENTORSHIP GRANT | Joy Ramielle Santos



The MHMA Mentorship grant has helped me develop into a more effective leader and mentor, both in my professional network and in my post-secondary classroom.

The funds provided valuable opportunities for growth, networking, and skill enhancement that have impacted my journey not just as a student or an instructor, but also as a human being.



MENTORSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2023



April O'Connell

Volunteer, Human Resources Professionals Association

Opportunity accessed:

- Certificate in Coaching and Mentoring from Schulich School of Business at York University

MENTORSHIP GRANT | April O'Connell



I am very grateful to the MHMA Committee for supporting my mentoring activities with the Mentorship Development Grant, which enabled me to complete the Certificate in Coaching and Mentoring.

This program has helped me to more deeply cultivate qualities that Michelle effortlessly demonstrated everyday such as attentiveness, compassion and encouragement, particularly as I continue to support these mentoring relationships and connections as a volunteer.



MHMA Recognition Award

Mentorship Excellence

Non-Investigator

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019-23

MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



Loubna Akhabir

Pre-clinical Faculty, *Oceania University of Medicine*

Nominators:

- Oleya Strigul
- Judah Denburg
- Guillaume Paré
- Sonia Anand
- Delia Heroux

MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE | Loubna Akhabir

Mentorship is one of my most valued aspects of health research and education. To be recognized for excellence in mentorship has deeply touched me and I keep a fond memory of being on stage with Glenn and Kasey at the 2019 AllerGen conference.



Today, my trophy is standing in my bookcase behind my desk where I see it everyday and where it encourages me be generous with the students I have the pleasure of teaching and advising in my new role.

I am immensely honored that my name is associated with Michelle forever in the form of this recognition. May she be proud of me for trying to walk in her steps.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



John-Paul Oliveria

Principal Scientist and Group Leader, *Genentech Inc.*

Nominators:

- Emma Louise Price
- Gail Gauvreau
- Matthew Boroditsky
- Caleb Seward
- Michael Aw
- Alex Dragoman
- Michelle Ye
- Abi Kirubarajan
- Caroline Munoz

MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE | John-Paul Oliveria

As I progressed through my training and even now as a working professional, I have been blessed with world-class mentors. There's too many to name because a true mentor sticks with you through the next phases of your life. These mentors have molded me and continue to guide me to being the best person I can be, both personally and professionally.



Having received the MHMA award in 2019, I felt validated as a good mentor, and this inspired me to continue to guide trainees both in university and industry to achieve their goals. I will always reflect on this award and its namesake Michelle Harkness and remember that what mentorship excellence means to me is: dedication, kindness, understanding and selflessness towards the next generation of learners.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



Gurpreet Singhera

Research Associate, *University of British Columbia*

Nominators:

- Jasmine Yang
- Del Dorscheid
- Tony Guo
- Yi Xuan Yan
- Loubna Akhabir
- Paul Hanson
- Amreen Toor
- Julia Yang
- Beth Whalen

MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE | Gurpreet Singhera

This award promises to continue Michelle's legacy by encouraging us to lead with kindness and to be present through the challenges and successes of others.

The award also represents working together, striving for excellence, and making a positive impact that goes beyond your mentees' immediate successes.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2020



Kyle Dine

Musician & Educator, *Food Allergy Canada*

Nominators:

- Jennifer Gerds
- Ranjit Dhanjal
- Joni Huang
- Beatrice Povolo
- Tammy White

MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE | Kyle Dine

Receiving the Michelle Harkness Mentorship Award has made me incredibly proud.

It has already been very rewarding to mentor children with severe allergies and help them gain confidence in managing their own safety. This award validates the importance of our efforts to make a difference in the lives of others.

I feel fortunate to have run Allergy Pals - a program helping thousands of children. I owe a lot to the Dr. Miriam Stewart, the program mentors, mentees, and Food Allergy Canada for ensuring its overall success.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2020



Kozeta Miliku

Assistant Professor, University of Toronto

Nominators:

- Brittany Semenchuk
- Meghan Azad
- Jacqueline Richelle
- Faith Kirabo
- Michaela Groen
- Sara Turner
- Meredith Brockway
- Linda Lam
- Michaela Groen

MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE | Kozeta Miliku



As a postdoctoral trainee, this mentorship helped me gain self-confidence and critically reflect on my mentorship style.

Seeing Michelle's impact on her mentees, I always ensure that I create a safe and motivating environment as a mentor.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2021



Jenny Thiele

Laboratory Course Content Lead
Department of Biomedical and Molecular Sciences
Queen's University

Nominators:

- Sophia Linton
- Lubnaa Hossenbaccus
- Alyssa Burrow
- Rashi Ramchandani
- Kyle Sayeau
- Lisa Steacy
- Dan Adams

MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE | Jenny Thiele

Michelle Harkness always offered an open ear, kind words, and a helping hand - not just to trainees, but to everyone.

I feel honored and deeply humbled to even have been nominated for the MHMA award.

Having the opportunity to advise young scientists in the early stages of their careers is one of the most fulfilling tasks out there. It comes with an immense satisfaction to see them make a breakthrough, thrive and achieve inside the laboratory and out. At the same time, I feel equally much the mentee as the mentor – we can learn something new every day.

This award serves as a wonderful motivator for me to continue in Michelle's footsteps.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2022



Min Hyung Ryu

Postdoctoral Fellow, *Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School*

Nominators:

- Tina Afshar
- Juma Orach
- Denise Wooding
- Jason Zhou
- Evelyn Gunawan
- Mitch Syberg-Olsen
- Hang Li
- Agnes Yuen
- Kevin Lau
- Chris Carlsten

MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE | Min Hyung Ryu

The Michelle Harkness Mentorship Award has profoundly shaped my professional and personal growth, serving as a powerful reminder of mentorship's positive impact on research communities.

This acknowledgment fuels my passion for mentorship, reinforcing the belief that collaborative learning and support are vital for personal and collective success.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2023



Natalie Rodriguez

Co-Director, THrIVE Discovery Lab
University of Manitoba

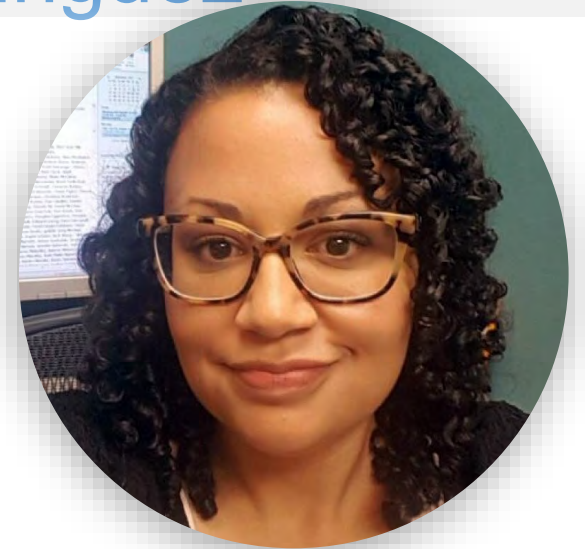
Nominators:

- Meghan Azad
- David Burgner
- Rishma Chooniedass
- Tricia Choquette
- Trenton Dailey-Chwalibog
- Andrew Halayko
- Kozeta Miliku
- Sarah Reyes
- Wai Hei (Andrew) Tse
- Sarah Turner

MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE | Natalie Rodriguez

The magical combination of coordinating chaos, multi-faceted depth of knowledge, and caring touch required to operationalize research is incredibly rare and often overlooked. Michelle possessed these qualities in abundance and blazed a path for administrators such as myself to follow.

Receiving this award has been a tremendous honor. I can only hope that I am carrying on Michelle's legacy through my commitment to team science, making the seemingly impossible a reality, and championing people from every aspect of the research process to achieve excellence and improve the lives of others.



MHMA Recognition Award

Mentorship Excellence

Investigator

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019-24

MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



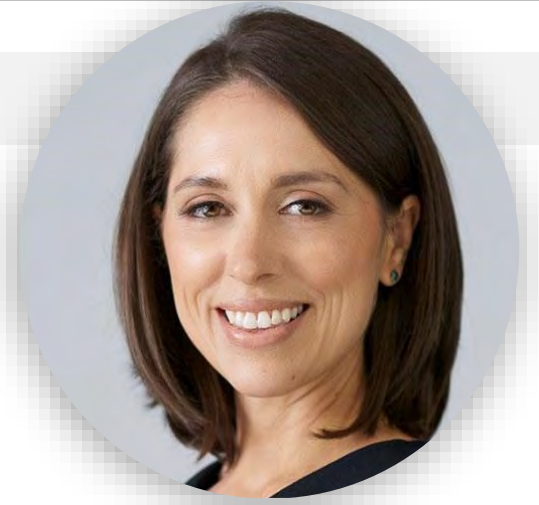
Meghan Azad

Professor of Pediatrics & Child Health,
University of Manitoba

Nominators:

- Kozeta Miliku
- Shirin Moossavi
- Deborah Chan
- Michelle La

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Meghan Azad



I am so honoured to receive an award that not only comes from my fantastic trainees, but also pays tribute to Michelle Harkness.

Michelle was an inspiration and incredible support to me at a critical time in my career – first as a trepidatious postdoc in a new field, and later as a junior PI struggling to establish my own lab.

I drew so much motivation and comfort from Michelle's cheerful messages and will forever be grateful for her support.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



Chris Carlsten

Professor & Head, Respiratory
Medicine, *University of British Columbia*

Nominators:

- Min Hyung Ryu
- Christopher Rider
- Ryan Huff
- Danay Maestre-Battle
- Jason Zhao
- Denise Wooding
- Hang Li
- Wayne Tse
- Agnes Yuen
- Kevin Lau

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Chris Carlsten



The MHMA is a recognition that I truly cherish.

Mentorship is not easy and requires pushing oneself to focus on the needs of the next generation, even when the mundane demands of the present – ‘the tyranny of the immediate’ – gnaw at one’s energy.

This award is a reminder of how important it is to imagine and enable the successes of those at all stages of growth, because we have all faced periods of challenge and doubt.

The MHMA inspires me to keep positive and prioritize trainees, to see the best in them, and to envision a future where they do the same for others because I modelled this support.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



Jeremy Hirota

Associate Professor, Medicine, *McMaster University*;
Adjunct Professor, Medicine, *UBC*

Nominators:

- Yechan Kim
- Stephanie Warner
- Dong Yan
- Min Ryu
- John Paul Oliveria
- Matt Gold
- Ryan Huff
- Vincent Hou

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Jeremy Hirota



I come from a family that believes there is always someone supporting people who are trying to do great things – rarely does one accomplish something special by themselves.

When I see the award which sits in my office, I am reminded of how Michelle supported me as a trainee, and I compelled to carry on that legacy.

Being nominated by my trainees as a helpful mentor is way more important to me than traditional academic metrics that lack true personal impact.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



Paige Lacy

Professor, Department of Medicine, Faculty
of Medicine & Dentistry, *University of Alberta*

Nominators:

- Sarah Almas
- Samineh Kamravaei
- Andrea Lo
- Lindsey C. Felix
- Dalia Abdel Latif
- Meghan Dueck
- Christopher Skappak
- Ramses Ilarraza
- Danny Chao
- John Dongil Kim
- Saswati Das

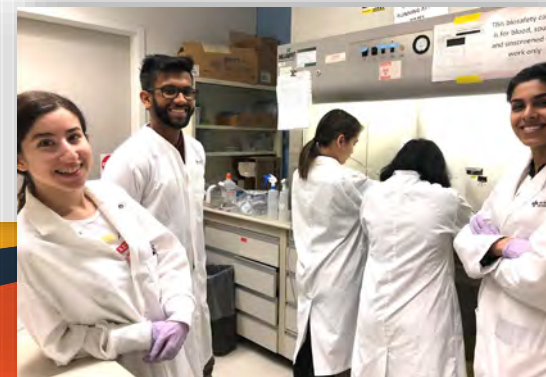
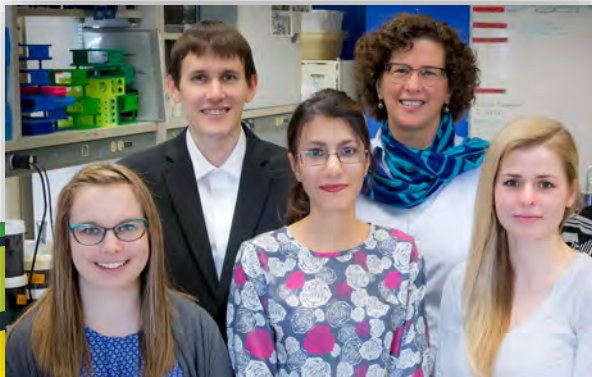
MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Paige Lacy

Being a recipient of the Michelle Harkness Mentorship Award in 2019 had a profoundly positive impact on all our research activities and efforts.

I was deeply honoured to have been recognized in this manner by trainees in our lab at the Alberta Respiratory Centre.

To this day, many of the nominators (and those who encouraged the nominators!) continue to work with us to advance important and innovative research initiatives.

This is a marvelous way to commemorate Michelle Harkness and capture some of her energy and enthusiasm for our research activities.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2020



Del Dorscheid

Associate Professor of Medicine,
The University of British Columbia

Nominators:

- Jasmine Yang
- Nancy Yang
- Clarus Yeung
- Srijan Subedi
- Janet Xu
- Gurpreet Singhera
- Tara Martin
- Anthony Tam
- Tony Gui
- Shoshana Parker

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Del Dorscheid



To be able to teach and transfer knowledge...

To be able to inspire creativity...

To develop the next generations of thinkers and researchers...

To participate in such a profound activity and with translation of knowledge to create better health outcomes...

To have a lab family and see them grow, mature and have their own lab and family...

These are all the thoughts that I had and still have today with respect to being honored with this award. It is a true and lasting honor to be recognized for this contribution to education, research and health. I express my gratitude, thanks.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2020



Susan Elliott

Professor, Geography and Environmental
Management, *University of Waterloo*

Nominators:

- Francesca Cardwell
- Michelle Vine
- Jennifer Dean
- Andrea Rishworth
- Carise Thompson
- Thelma Abu
- Buba Manjang
- Abraham Nunbogu
- Maurice Anfara Dogoli
- Emily Shantz

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Susan Elliott



Recognition from the colleagues you care most about in the world – nothing compares to that.

THE most important thing we can do in our world is send the elevator back down – to raise up those who come behind us. It is not only our obligation, it is our right and a privilege.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2020



Andrew Halayko

Professor, Physiology & Pathophysiology,
University of Manitoba

Nominators:

- Christopher Pascoe
- Thomas Mahood
- Min Ryu
- Reinoud Gosens
- Aruni Jha

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Andrew Halayko



I was fortunate to have been an internal reviewer for the AllerGen training program, and through that I first met, learned from and worked with Michelle.

It was no secret that I borrowed from the successes and ideas Michelle orchestrated when I later led the RENASCENT training and mentoring platform for the Canadian Respiratory Research Network.

Michelle was a willing resource, and what-you-see-is-what-you-get colleague. Her main goal always to ensure personal & professional growth & success of trainees.

If being honoured with a Michelle Harkness Mentorship Award means I am coming even remotely close to Michelle's approach and commitment, that's an accolade I wear proudly and that motivates me to ensure my own trainees carry on this tradition.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2021



Kelly McNagny

Professor, Department of Medical Genetics; Senior Scholar of the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, *The University of British Columbia*

Nominators:

- Michael Hughes
- Bernard Lo
- Melina Messing

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Kelly McNagny



I've been a Scientist for almost 40 years. Of all the recognitions I've received, this one is, hands-down, the one that means the most to me.

Two reasons:

First and foremost, because I had the honor of working with Michelle Harkness and she was the absolute embodiment of mentorship. Mentorship for her was like a parent nurturing her kids, with all the same attachments and passion, and as I quipped at the award ceremony: When God handed out "Mom Stuff" he gave Michelle two helpings.

The second reason is because I was nominated by my trainees. For them to feel this strongly that I've helped in their incredible careers means more to me than I can express in words.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2022

Padmaja Subbarao

Senior Scientist, Co-Lead of Precision Child Health, *The Hospital for Sick Children*; Director, *CHILD Cohort Study*

Nominators:

- Myrtha Reyna-Vargas
- Maria Medeleanu
- Vanessa Breton
- Ruixue Dai
- Yaminee Charavanapavan
- May Brydges
- Zihang Lu
- Kozeta Miliku
- Wendy Lou
- Yu Chen Qian



MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Padmaja Subbarao

I had the pleasure of working with Michelle for a number of years. She was an exceptionally kind person who embodied the notion of 'servant leadership' - always there to lend a supportive hand or ear.

To me, core principles of outstanding mentorship include: building supportive relationships personally and professionally with mentees; helping them cultivate their own support systems; and coaching them to develop their potential while managing the expectations of others as they find their way to their own chosen success.

I have had the benefit of being surrounded by remarkable mentors, friends, colleagues and trainees. I was, therefore, extremely honored to have been nominated by my team for this award, as recognition of progress toward my goal to “pay it forward.” It holds a special place in my heart as one of my greatest life achievements.



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2023



Anne Ellis

Chair, Division of Allergy & Immunology
Professor of Medicine
Queen's University

Nominators:

- Stephen Archer
- Eman Badawod
- Lubnaa Hossanbaccus
- Paula James
- Emily Kay
- Sophia Linton
- Lysa Lomax
- Bill Moote
- Michelle North
- Lisa Steacy

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Anne Ellis



I have such fond memories of Michelle from our time together in AllerGen NCE. Receiving this award has been such an honour and I feel very privileged to become one of the recipients.

Michelle indeed embodied mentorship and I am so proud to have inspired all of the nominators who worked so hard on this application.

Thank you to one and all, but especially Sophia Linton and Michelle North who really spearheaded the efforts!



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2024



Tillie Hackett

Professor & Vice-Chair of Research,
Anesthesiology, Pharmacology &
Therapeutics, *University of British Columbia*

Nominators:

- Gurpreet Singhera
- Aileen Hsieh
- Emmanuel Osei
- Chen Xi Yang
- Leila Mostaco-Guidolin
- Kauna Usman
- Kingsley Okechukwu Nwozor
- Keith Wu
- Cleo Leung
- Steve Booth

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Tillie Hackett



“Dr. Hackett's approach to mentoring goes far beyond traditional academic boundaries. She cultivates an environment where critical thinking, creativity, and independent research are not just encouraged but are the foundation of daily practice. Her ability to inspire confidence and foster a sense of belonging within her team is remarkable.

“A quality that is consistently echoed by Dr. Hackett's mentees is her dedication to creating a positive learning environment where everyone feels heard. She never fails to support her trainees who collectively represent different cultural backgrounds at all levels of training... She prioritizes the importance of inclusivity, diversity, and fostering a strong sense of collaboration within the lab.”



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2024



Meaghan Jones

Assistant Professor, Biochemistry and
Medical Genetics, Rady Faculty of Health
Sciences, *University of Manitoba*

Nominators:

- Samantha Lee
- Doris Onuzulu
- Ben Van Bastelaere
- Maria Shenna Fauni
- Shivam Chadha
- Haziqa Kassim

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Meghan Jones



“One of the best things about Dr. Jones is the support she provides to ensure the mental wellbeing and resilience of her trainees. She strongly encourages trainees to adapt healthy work-life balances and fully acknowledges people work better when they can also have fun.

“Dr. Jones also makes her students feel capable and confident in their skills as scientists, supporting the development of foundational knowledge relevant to each trainee. As they progress, Dr. Jones encourages them to become more independent in exploring new ideas and techniques and helps them develop networks to support their career aspirations.

Dr. Jones is also sympathetic to personal matters, whether it be illness, family emergencies, or just a bad day. As examples, during COVID, she personally delivered rapid tests to our houses when we became sick, and she has taken care of pets when a trainee was hospitalized and could not find someone else on short notice.”



MENTORSHIP EXCELLENCE

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2024



Theo Moraes

Division Head, Respiratory Medicine, *SickKids*
Associate Professor, Paediatrics, *University of Toronto*

Nominators:

- Eshwari Nanjappan
- Kozeta Miliku
- Barbara Porto
- Akash Kothari
- Meghan Azad
- Chantal Cheung
- Michael Norris
- Tarini Gunawardena
- Wenming Duan
- Carmen Li

MENTORING EXCELLENCE | Theo Moraes



“Theo’s altruistic investment in us exceeds expectations for many reasons. He not only supports and motivates his mentees professionally, but he also prioritizes our mental and physical well-being. Theo constantly checks on us to ensure we are not feeling burnt out or overwhelmed with our projects. He often goes out of his way to offer support and is always happy to help in any way he can.

“Theo makes sure his office is a safe and comfortable space for all his mentees and staff. He is always entertaining us with his light-hearted jokes, and ensures he has chocolate available for us ‘in case we need it.’ Anyone that comes in to meet Theo leaves his office with clarity, motivation, and drive. Theo radiates positive energy which gets passed on to everyone he meets!”



MHMA Recognition Award

Lifetime Mentoring Achievement

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019-24

LIFETIME MENTORING ACHIEVEMENT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2019



Manel Jordana

Professor, Department of Medicine, *McMaster University*

Nominators:

- Rodrigo Jimenez-Saiz
- Yosef Ellenbogen
- Derek Chu
- David Alvarez
- Stacey Ritz
- Beata Gajewska
- Tina Walker
- Ramzi Fattouh
- Clint S. Robbins
- Ryan Wile
- Albert Agro

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT | Manel Jordana



Immense thanks to the Michelle Harkness family.

This was, without a doubt, the most meaningful award I ever received.

It was also a great inspiration to continue doing my best teaching and nurturing of our young trainees: our future indeed.



LIFETIME MENTORING ACHIEVEMENT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
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2020



David Proud

Professor Emeritus, Department of Physiology & Pharmacology,
Cumming School of Medicine, *University of Calgary*

Nominators:

- Richard Leigh
- Jon Meddings

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT | David Proud



I have always believed that we have more potential to benefit humankind through the people we train rather than by our own individual research. As such, mentoring the next generation of scientists has always been of utmost importance to me.

Receipt of the MHMA lifetime achievement award means so much to me because it recognizes my efforts in an area that is so critical to the future of science.

To also see several of my trainees provide support for this award is the greatest feeling. Encouraging young scientists to approach their work with dedication and integrity provides the greatest reward possible in our field and I am grateful beyond words to the MHMA for their recognition.



LIFETIME MENTORING ACHIEVEMENT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2021



Dean Befus

Professor Emeritus in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry,
University of Alberta

Nominators:

- Eduardo Reyes-Serratos
- Rene Dery
- Tal Chul Moon
- Katherine St. Laurent
- Candy Tsang-Marcet
- Marcelo Marcet-Palacios
- Derrick Gibbings
- Jim Wickware
- Thomas G. Egwang

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT | Dean Befus



I have loving memories of Michelle: what a gem, a big heart, so much empathy and commitment.

It is hard to define the “Michelle factor;” it encompassed all that Michelle was and is! It is the guiding star of our community.

This award has had a remarkable impact... I realize that during my illness and the continuing mental recovery, Michelle and the award in her honor reawakened in me the core issues of mentorship at a time when I was becoming less mindful, less conscious and less driven by the commitment and passion to help others.

Her passion and the “M” factor was infectious, a role model to strive for; it provided revitalization, renewed energy, a new commitment.

Thank you so much Michelle!



LIFETIME MENTORING ACHIEVEMENT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2022



Teresa To

Senior Scientist, *The Hospital for Sick Children*

Nominators:

- Rachel McGihon
- Laura Feldman
- Emilie Terebessy
- Jingqin Zhu
- Sndrea Verdugo
- Ivy Fong
- Natasha Gray
- Kimball Zhang
- Jovanka Vailesvska-Ristovska

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT | Teresa To



In my culture, a teacher/mentor is the utmost respectable position. I am incredibly grateful to have the opportunity to play that role in my trainees' journey.

The title "LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT" is an awesome honour and yet very humbling.

Every time I run/chair a trainee lightning rounds session or an early-scientist career development talk, I do it in the MHMA spirit – with true passion and devotion.

I am forever empowered and seeking to live up to the MHMA "legacy"!

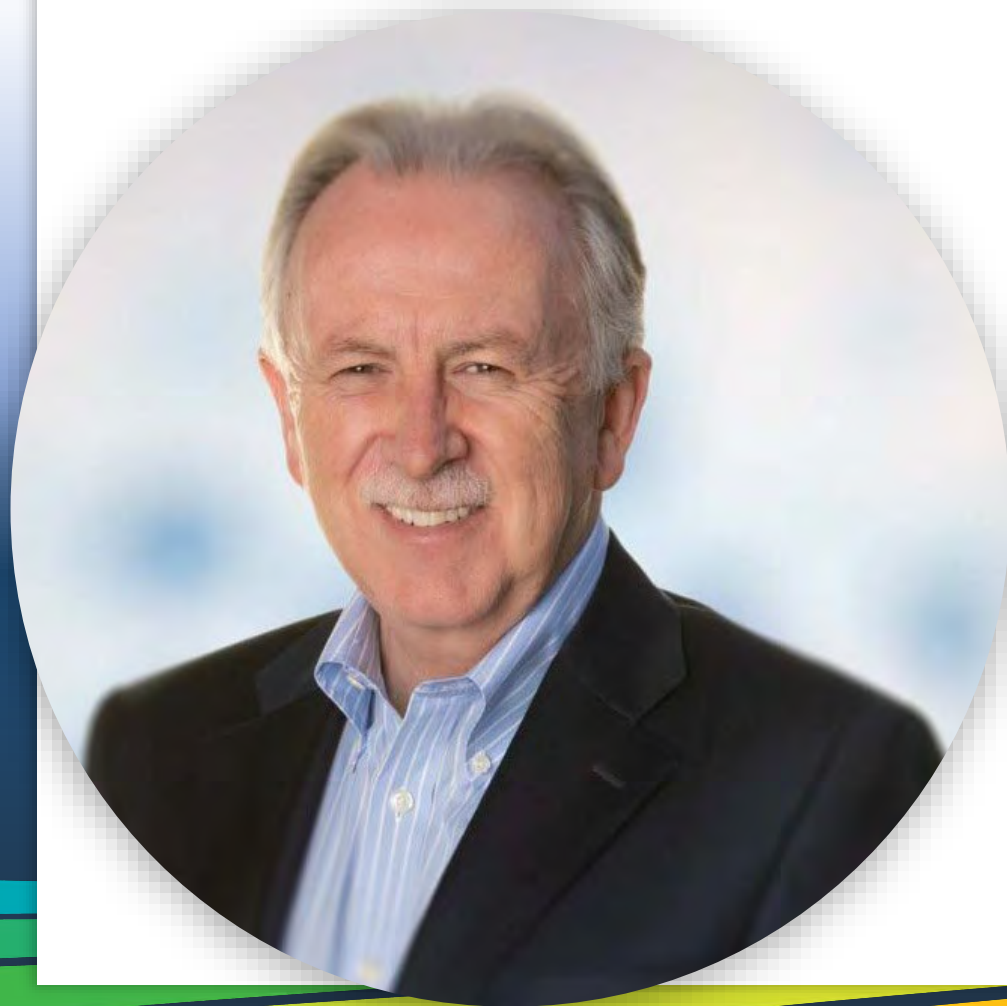


LIFETIME MENTORING ACHIEVEMENT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2023



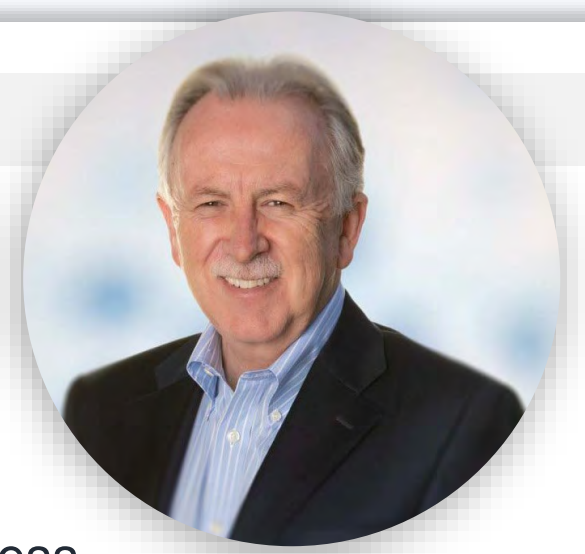
Paul O'Byrne

Dean & Vice President, Faculty of Health
Sciences, *McMaster University*

Nominators:

- Gail Gauvreau
- Alan Hamilton
- Lorna Hart
- Mark Inman
- Tomotaka Kawayama
- Huib Kerstjens
- Richard Leigh
- Param Nair
- Roma Sehmi
- John Upham

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT | Paul O'Byrne



Mentorship is, in many regards, the most important contribution that an academic can make.

As one advances through a career, it is surprising how individual success, recognized by usual academic metrics such as grants and peer-reviewed publications, becomes much less important than the success and achievement of mentees.

I was surprised and really delighted to be nominated by such remarkable mentees and to have been selected as the Michelle Harkness awardee for 2023.



LIFETIME MENTORING ACHIEVEMENT

MHMA

Michelle Harkness
Mentorship Awards

2024



Wendy Lou

Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public
Health, *University of Toronto*

Nominators:

- Lu Zihang
- Myrtha Reyna
- Ruixue Dai
- Anastasia Teterina
- Kozeta Miliku
- Teresa To
- Ryan Rosner
- Param Nair
- Maria Medeleanu
- Padmaja Subbarao

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT | Wendy Lou



“Wendy is more than a traditional mentor as she goes above and beyond the expectations of a supervisor. She inspires us with her work and infuses in us a passion for learning, critical thinking, and the discovery of our own professional and academic path.

“Wendy is very intentionally inclusive, and strongly committed to building a diverse and inclusive work and learning environment based on principles of fairness, respect, dignity, and autonomy. She has created a big family within the Biostatistics Unit at the university, and always provides her time and advice for as long as we need it if we were going through personal issues or if we were struggling with other aspects of our studies or life.

“She holds mentees to high standards and has left an invaluable mark as a mentor for many trainees over the years. Like Michelle, Wendy generously gives her time, energy, experience and advice for the benefit of her trainees.”



MHMA Awards

Perpetuating Michelle's legacy



"This award will constantly remind us of Michelle's outstanding qualities and what she meant to us. It will encourage us to strive for excellence and integrity."

- donor statement