

The University of British Columbia



**Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology  
& Centre for Blood Research**



**2024 Michael John Page Postdoctoral Fellow Award**

*The Michael John Page Postdoctoral Fellow Award recognizes a postdoctoral fellow who reflects Dr. Page's academic excellence and his passion for life.*

*The University of British Columbia  
Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology / Centre for Blood Research  
Michael John Page Postdoctoral Fellow Award*

**Michael Page**

Dr. Michael John Page was born and raised in Thunder Bay, Ontario where he graduated from the Port Arthur Collegiate in 1994. Mike then attended Carleton University in Ottawa graduating with his B.Sc. degree in biochemistry in 1998. Mike entered the UBC Biochemistry & Molecular Biology graduate program under Ross MacGillivray's supervision and was supported by competitive graduate studentships from Canadian Blood Services. During his time in the MacGillivray lab, Mike designed, created and hosted the first web site for the UBC Centre for Blood Research. Mike successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis entitled *Bioengineering coagulation factor Xa substrate specificity into Streptomyces griseus trypsin* in 2004. During his graduate studies, his fellow graduate students recognized Mike's achievements by selecting him for the 2001 Zbarsky Prize. Mike then completed a highly productive postdoctoral fellowship studying the biological activity of thrombin with Dr. Enrico Di Cera at Washington University in St. Louis. In 2010, Mike moved to a junior faculty position at the University of California, San Francisco supported by a grant from the American Heart Association and mentored by Dr. Charles Craik. At UCSF, Mike developed a peptide-based probe that was able to detect blood clots in real time. He and his team won a major biochemical entrepreneurship competition that also stimulated him to patent his discovery and to form a spin-off company called Biopaint Inc. Tragically, Mike collapsed and died suddenly in June 2013 at the age of 36. In addition to Mike's sustained academic success, he was well-liked by his peers and friends. As one colleague described him:

***Mike was the essential glue in keeping our group coherent during grad school and made those years so memorable for all of us.***

After his arrival in Vancouver in 1998, Mike hosted the annual biochemistry hockey tournament in Vancouver and whether in Vancouver, St. Louis or San Francisco, he continued to host the tournament and maintained his support for his beloved Vancouver Canucks hockey team. Mike was always there to help and support his colleagues. He was a great guy who was fun to be around – Mike really had a passion for life. As one of his graduate student colleagues recalled:

***Mike had an endless excitement and drive for science, sports and life in general, and he shared all of those interests with his friends***

<http://www.chroniclejournal.com/obituaries/page/michael-dr>

**Nomination Process**

Each year, we remember and celebrate Mike's contributions to life and science, with this prestigious award to be presented to a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology or the Centre for Blood Research who has outstanding records of achievement in academia and extra-curricular activities, i.e., both scientific and non-scientific. **Nominees must have held a PDF appointment at UBC for at least 1 year.**

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Nominations will be made by the Postdoctoral Fellow's research supervisor; each research supervisor can only nominate one PDF per year. The nominator must hold an appointment as a full member of the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology or be an Investigator in the Centre for Blood Research. Unless the PI is a member of the CBR, Associate Members of the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology are ineligible to be nominators for the award. A nomination form (attached) should be accompanied by a curriculum vitae (in either UBC or Common CV format) plus a one-page description of the nominee's extra-curricular activities since graduating from high school or equivalent. Nominators will complete all documentation and submit the completed nomination package electronically to **Kaitlyn Chuong**, [kaitlyn.chuong@ubc.ca](mailto:kaitlyn.chuong@ubc.ca) by **4:30pm on Wednesday, September 18, 2024**. After checking for eligibility and completeness, the nomination packages will be forwarded to the Adjudication Committee which will be comprised of qualified individuals appointed by the Head of the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and the Director of the CBR. The 2024 awardee will be announced on **Wednesday, October 2, 2024**.

**Past Award Recipients**

2013 - Dr. Julien Bergeron

2014 - Dr. Michael Yuchi

2015 - Dr. Solmaz Sobhanifar

2016 - Dr. Evan Haney

2017 - Dr. Juergen Niesser

2018 - Dr. Jennifer Grants

2019 - Dr. Peter Rahfeld

2020 - Dr. Maria de Guadalupe Jaraquemada-Peláez

2021 - Dr. Alison McAfee

2022 – Dr. Miffy Hok Yan Cheng

2023 – Dr. Melina Messing

**Nomination Guidelines**

Provided that the nomination package is updated, nominations will stand for two consecutive years. Nominees will be encouraged to update an unsuccessful nomination before it is considered for the second year. It is the Nominator's responsibility to keep a nomination current. The Adjudication Committee will resolve questions concerning eligibility. The identities of the nominees will not be made public unless they win the award. Decisions made by the Adjudication Committee are final and may not be appealed. Posthumous awards will not be made. Nominators should not expect members of the Adjudication Committee staff to assist with the preparation of a nomination beyond general advice concerning the regulations and proper forms to use; nor will they offer opinions as to a nomination's chances of success.

**Judging Criteria**

- Evidence of distinguished scholarly research **as a Postdoctoral Fellow at UBC**.
- Evidence of extra-curricular activities of the Nominee since entering graduate school.

**Awardee's Prize and Obligations**

At the awards ceremony, the recipient of the award will be presented with a memorial plaque and a prize of **\$4,600**. At the awards event, to be held at **1PM on Wednesday, October 9, 2024**, the awardee will present a 25-minute summary of their career to date together with their extra-curricular activities. Following the award presentation, a reception will be held in the Life Sciences Centre **4th Floor Pod**.

## **NOMINATION FORM 2024**

**Nominee's name:**

**UBC Address:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**Current Academic Department:**

**Nominator Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Signature

**Confirmation of Eligibility** by the Head of Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology or the CBR Director:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**In addition to this Nomination Form, the Nominators should include the following:**

1. The nominee's current **CV and publication list** (using either the UBC or Common CV format)
2. A **one-page summary of extra-curricular activities** (both academic and non-academic)

**Completed nomination packages should be forwarded electronically to Kaitlyn Chuong, [kaitlyn.chuong@ubc.ca](mailto:kaitlyn.chuong@ubc.ca), by 4:30pm on Wednesday, September 18, 2024.**