

Professor Marvin Fritzler is a prominent Canadian rheumatologist, recognized internationally for his contributions to the field of rheumatology by improving the diagnosis of autoimmune diseases. He was inducted as a Master of the American College of Rheumatology in 2013, ten years after being recognized by the CRA with the award for CRA Distinguished Investigator. Dr. Fritzler has served as Chair of the Alberta Research and Innovation Authority. He has published over 420 peer-reviewed manuscripts with more than eleven thousand citations. For his work in molecular diagnostics with autoantibodies, which underpin the precise diagnosis of several autoimmune conditions, Dr. Fritzler recently received the *Carl R. Jolliff Award for Lifetime Achievement in Clinical and Diagnostic Immunology* from the American Association of Clinical Chemistry. It is a tremendous pleasure to welcome him back this year as the CRA's prestigious 2018 Dunlop Dottridge Lecturer.

Save the date: February 21-24, 2018. I look forward to seeing you in Vancouver!

Tom Appleton, MD, PhD, FRCPC  
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The University of Western Ontario  
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**ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING**  
**L'ASSEMBLÉE SCIENTIFIQUE ANNUELLE**

**VANCOUVER • FEB 21-24 FÉV 2018**

The CRA would also like to announce that the 2018 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) and Arthritis Health Professionals Association (AHPA) Annual Meeting will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia from February 21-24<sup>th</sup>

For more conference information and important dates visit [rheum.ca](http://rheum.ca).

## Update From the Abstract Committee

By Maggie Larché, MBChB, MRCP(UK), PhD

The abstract committee is once again gearing up to review all of the submitted abstracts for the 2018 meeting.

With over 200 abstracts submitted so far – and more to come from the PGY4 and PGY5 fellows – there will be diverse and interesting scientific and clinical posters, and oral presentations. Each abstract is vetted by three reviewers and scored. The top scoring abstracts are then selected for oral presentations. In a similar fashion to last year, there will be oral presentations on a wide variety of topics, from a selection of students, residents, fellows and practicing rheumatologists.

In order to nurture the trainees and young faculty, and foster enthusiasm amongst medical students and undergraduates, we have nine prizes to be awarded again in 2018. These are:

- Best Abstract on Research by Young Faculty
- Best Abstract on Basic Science Research by a Trainee
- Best Abstract on Clinical or Epidemiology Research by a Trainee - *Phil Rosen Award*
- Best Abstract on Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) Research by a Trainee - *Ian Watson Award*

- Best Abstract by a Medical Student
- Best Abstract by a Postgraduate Resident
- Best Abstract by a Rheumatology Resident
- Best Abstract by an Undergraduate Student
- Best Abstract by a Postgraduate Research Trainee

There will be two interactive poster sessions where delegates can quiz the poster presenters, and two podium sessions, during which there will be oral presentations of some of the best abstracts. Prize winners will be judged during the poster and oral presentation sessions.

I would like to extend a huge gratitude to the Abstract Sub-committee members who volunteer to review the abstracts and judge the presentations. Looking forward to seeing you there!

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