# 2015 Research Award Recipients

**FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY** OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF CANADA MANPEI SUZUKI INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR DIABETES RESEARCH. MANPEI SUZUKI DIABETES FOUNDATION



### Dr. Daniel Drucker

is a world leader in the translational biology of gastrointestinal hormones. His pioneering studies of gut hormone action have enabled development of three new classes of medications for the treatment of diabetes. obesity and short bowel syndrome (SBS), including teduglutide, the first glucagon-likepeptide-2 analogue approved for treatment of SBS. Dr. Drucker is the first Canadian researcher to be honoured with the Manpei Suzuki International Prize, the world's most valuable prize for diabetes research, and was appointed to the Order of Canada "for his contributions to the development of medicines used around the world to treat diabetes and

Daniel J. Drucker, OC, MD, FRS, FRSC, FRCPC Professor, Department of Medicine Senior Investigator, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute of Sinai Health System

# **INTERNATIONAL MEMBER OF THE** NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

**FELLOW OF THE CANADIAN ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING** 

# Dr. Michael Sefton

is internationally recognized for his fieldleading research in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. He received the rare honour of election to the United States's National Academy of Medicine, formerly the Institute of Medicine, in recognition of his outstanding achievements, including his pioneering use of synthetic polymers for tissue engineering. Members of the NAM advise the U.S. government and international community on critical issues in health, medicine and related policy. Dr. Sefton's current research focuses on the challenge of vascularization, the construction or growth of blood vessels vital to engineered tissue.



Michael Sefton, ScD, FRSC, FCAE University Professor.

Department of Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry and Institute for Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering

#### 2015 CANADA GAIRDNER WIGHTMAN AWARD **COMPANION OF THE ORDER OF CANADA**



# Dr. Janet Rossant

received the prestigious Canada Gairdner Wightman Award in recognition of her global leadership in stem cell biology and policy, her remarkable contributions to developmental biology research, and her achievements as Chief of Research at The Hospital for Sick Children, Dr. Rossant's research on genes that control embryonic development has introduced new research techniques and led to the discovery of a novel placental stem cell type. She was appointed Companion of the Order of Canada "for advancing the global understanding of embryo development and stem cell biology, and for her national and international leadership in health science."

Janet Rossant, CC, PhD, FRS, FRSC University Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics Senior Scientist, SickKids Research Institute, The Hospital for Sick Children

# BOUNDLESS RECOGNITION

#### L'ORÉAL-UNESCO FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE **INTERNATIONAL AWARD**

# Dr. Molly Shoichet

has been named the L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science 2015 Laureate for North America. The valuable award recognizes the contributions of eminent women in science around the world. Dr. Shoichet received the award for her pioneering biomaterials research, which focuses on the design of hydrogels that can effectively deliver stem cells and drugs to different areas of the body. These hydrogels protect transplanted stem cells, giving them more time to integrate to treat injuries to the brain and spinal cord, and can be used to precisely time drug delivery and release.



Molly Shoichet, OOnt, PhD, FAAAS, FRSC, FCAE, FCAHS University Professor. Department of Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry and Institute for Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering

#### OFFICER OF THE MOST EXCELLENT ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

# Dr. Agostino Pierro

was awarded the title of Officer of the Order of the British Empire in recognition of his distinguished contributions to the field of paediatric surgery. Dr. Pierro has been an innovator in the field, introducing new minimally invasive surgical procedures, leading international clinical trials, and investigating the use of stem cells for treatment of intestinal conditions. His current research focuses on understanding and treating necrotizing enterocolitis, a leading cause of death in

Agostino Pierro, OBE, MD, FRCS (Engl), FRCS (Ed), FAAP Professor, Department of Surgery Senior Scientist, SickKids Research Institute, and Head of General and Thoracic Surgery, The Hospital for Sick Children

# **CLAUDE JACQUILLAT AWARD** FOR CANCER RESEARCH. FRANCE DR. JOSEPH PATER EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL TRIALS RESEARCH AWARD, NCIC CLINICAL TRIALS GROUP



# Dr. Frances Shepherd

is internationally recognized for her leadership of clinical trials that have changed the standard of care for lung cancer treatment, including Phase III studies spanning North America and Europe and national and local Phase I and II trials. Her research has led to significant breakthroughs in therapies for non-small cell lung cancer, and she has fostered the development of personalized approaches to cancer treatment, lung cancer tumour banks and increased translation of basic research related to lung cancer.

Frances A. Shepherd, OOnt, MD, FRCPC Professor, Department of Medicine Scott Taylor Chair in Lung Cancer Research and Senior Staff Physician, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, UHN

#### MARGOLESE NATIONAL BRAIN DISORDERS PRIZE, UBC OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF CANADA ROBERT L. NOBLE PRIZE. CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY

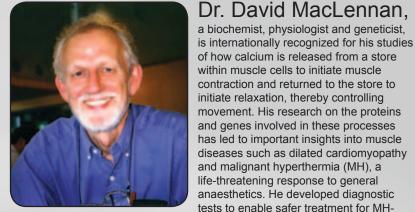
## Dr. James Rutka

was awarded the Margolese National Brain Disorders Prize for his achievements in neurosurgery research and practice. Dr. Rutka has created widely-used human brain tumour cell lines, identified molecular mechanisms by which brain tumours invade healthy brain tissue, and created a tumour classification system for medulloblastomas. He has developed surgical techniques for identifying and removing tumours and for treating children with epilepsy. Dr. Rutka was appointed to the Order of Canada "for his contributions to advancing treatment for pediatric brain tumours and for his international

leadership in neurosurgery." James Rutka, OC, OOnt, MD, PhD, FRCSC, FACS, FAAP, FAANS, FRSC, FCAHS

RS McLaughlin Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery Senior Scientist and Co-Director, Arthur and Sonia Labatt Tumour Research Centre, SickKids Research Institute, and Neurosurgeon, The Hospital for Sick Children

#### **FOREIGN HONORARY MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**



David H. MacLennan, OC, OOnt, susceptible patients. PhD. FRS. FRSC

University Professor Emeritus, Banting and Best Department of Medical Research

#### PAUL MARKS PRIZE FOR CANCER RESEARCH, **MEMORIAL SLOAN KETTERING CANCER CENTER FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA**



has won the biennial Paul Marks Prize for his research on "how cells maintain the integrity of their genomes, and especially how they deal with a particular type of damage called the DNA doublestrand break." Dr. Durocher studies how cells detect and coordinate the repair of double-strand breaks, which can cause chromosome rearrangements and mutations that lead to cancer. His recent work examines how mutations in the BRCA1 protein, which are linked to breast and ovarian cancer, may affect cells' ability to respond to DNA damage and play a role in chemotherapy resistance.

Dr. Daniel Durocher

Daniel Durocher, PhD, FRSC Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics Assistant Director of Biomedical Research. Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute of Sinai Health System

#### **COLVIN PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT** IN MOOD DISORDERS RESEARCH **BRAIN & BEHAVIOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

# Dr. Trevor Young

received the prestigious Colvin Prize for his research on the molecular changes to brain structure and function that lead to bipolar disorder. The prize is awarded to an outstanding scientist whose work "gives particular promise for advancing our understanding of affective illness or its basic brain mechanisms that will lead to new treatment approaches." Dr. Young uses postmortem brain samples to study fundamental pathways linked to bipolar disorder, which may provide new targets for mood-stabilizing drugs and have the potential to lead to a new biomarker for the disorder.



L. Trevor Young, MD, PhD, FRCPC, FCAHS Dean, Faculty of Medicine Vice Provost, Relations with Health Care Institutions Professor, Department of Psychiatry