UTM biomedical illustrators win top honours at AMI2014

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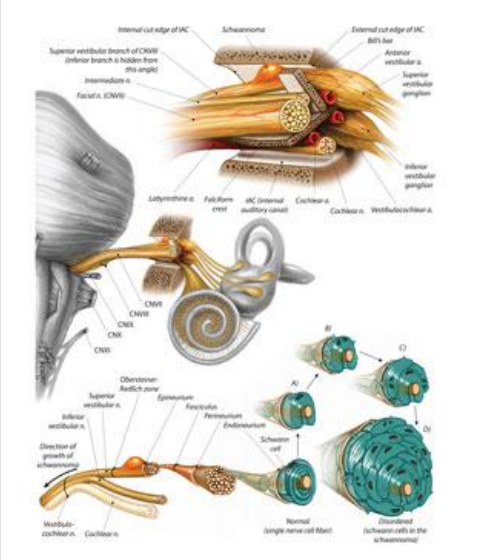
Outstanding work from students and faculty with UTM's **Biomedical Communications** [http://bmc.med.utoronto.ca/bmc/] (BMC) program was recognized with top honours at the recent **Association of Medical Illustrators** [http://www.ami.org/] (AMI) conference. The annual meeting took place July 23-26 at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.



Kateryna Procunier's work was honoured at the 2014 AMI conference
Image by Kateryna Procunier

Kateryna Procunier [http://bmc1.utm.utoronto.ca/~KateP/About.html] , a first-year student in the Master of Science in Biomedical Communications program, won the “Orville Parkes Best of Show” award for her piece, "The Clinical Significance of the Formation and Growth of a Vestibular Schwannoma.”

"I didn't believe it at first, and had to double-check the list of winners to make sure," said Procunier.

The artwork depicts the four stages of progression and structural effects of growth of a vestibular schwannoma, a benign tumour involving the cells that insulate and support the vestibular nerve of the inner ear. The illustrations show how the tumour is formed, and the ear and nerve structures the tumour affects as it develops. Procunier digitally painted the piece, which is intended for use in an anatomy textbook for medical students.

“This really is a remarkable piece,” said **Nicholas Woolridge** [http://bmc.med.utoronto.ca/bmc/research/faculty-research/woolridge-2/] , director of the Biomedical Communications program. “It clearly explains the growth of a tumour in a complex, tiny space deep in the skull.”

BMC assistant professor **Jodie Jenkinson** [http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/vp-research/research-campus/researcher-profiles/biology/jodie-jenkinson] , with her co-investigator, Gaël McGill of Harvard Medical School, received the “2014 Literary Award” for their outstanding article, “Using 3D Animation in Biology Education: Examining the Effects of Visual Complexity in the Representation of Dynamic Molecular Events.” The editorial board of *The Journal of Biocommunication* selects the award winner from the scholarly articles published in the journal in the preceding year.

BMC graduate students and alumni also won in multiple categories at the Salon Exhibit that opened the meeting. Kateryna Procunier, **Qingyang Chen** [http://www.qcvisual.com/] , **Natalie Cormier**, **Megan Kirkland** [http://bmc1.utm.utoronto.ca/~megan/] , **Man-San Ma** [http://bmc1.utm.utoronto.ca/~mansan/aboutpage.html] , **Brendan Polley** [http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/main-news/heart-matter-virtual-anatomy-lessons-could-revolutionize-education] , and **Andrew Tubelli** [http://www.andrewtubelli.com/] , and alumni **Jerusha Ellis [http://jerushaellis.ca/]** and **Stuart Jantzen** [http://bmc.erin.utoronto.ca/~stuart/] , represented the BMC program with their winning pieces in multiple student categories.

Winners in the professional categories included alumni **Kate Campbell** [http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/main-news/research-renderings-and-rainforest] and **Ian Suk**, and BMC industry partners and employers of BMC alumni, Artery Studios, AXS Studio Inc., and INVIVO Communications.

See the work of the BMC award winners here > [http://bmc.med.utoronto.ca/bmc/utm-biomedical-illustrators-win-top-honours-at-ami2014/]