

BioMedicine 2023 Symposium

Guest Speaker



Jeff Biernaskie, PhD

Professor of Stem Cell Biology and
Regenerative Medicine

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Alberta
Children's Hospital Research Institute

University of Calgary

Dr. Biernaskie completed his BSc in Neuroscience at the University of Lethbridge. He earned a PhD in Neuroscience at Memorial University studying the effects of focused rehabilitative experience on brain plasticity following stroke. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto where he studied skin and neural stem cell biology. In 2009, he joined the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Calgary, where he is currently a Professor in Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine. He is a member of the Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute (ACHRI) and the Hotchkiss Brain Institute (HBI), and he holds the Calgary Firefighters Burn Treatment Society Chair in Skin Regeneration and Wound Healing. In 2019, Dr. Biernaskie was elected as a member of the Royal Society of Canada, College of Scholars, Artists and Scientists.

The Biernaskie lab is focused on understanding the cellular and molecular mechanisms that promote fibrotic versus regenerative healing with the goal of developing treatments to restore healthy organ function following injury or disease. They are also interested in how skin and brain stem/progenitor cells are regulated during homeostasis and how factors like injury, advanced aging, and the immune system impact their function.