



**Dr. David M. Kovitz**  
L.D.S, D.D.S., F.A.S.C.H., F.I.C.D.{C}

The Dr. David M. Kovitz Visiting Professorship was established to stimulate interest and development in education, training and research in the area of cancer and diabetes. The fund supports a lectureship which provided the opportunity for distinguished scholars from around the world to interact with faculty, students and members of the Calgary community while visiting our University.

Dr. David M. Kovitz, a well-respected dentist and businessman in Calgary, originally established the endowment in 1988. The fund was matched by the Government of Alberta and received further support by his family and friends. In 1992, Dr. Kovitz passed away but through his gift to the University of Calgary, the Visiting Professorship is a lasting tribute to his commitment to excellence and the advancement of medical research and education.

Past Dr. David M. Kovitz Lecturers:

1992	Dr. Paul Talalay
1993	Dr. Edmond Fischer
1994	Dr. Meng H. Tan
1995	Dr. Frank Rauscher III
1996	Dr. Joseph Bertino
1997	Dr. Ronald Klein
1998	Dr. Trevor Powles
1999	Dr. Robert Weinberg
2000	Dr. Barry I. Posner
2001	Dr. Morris J. Birnbaum
2002	Dr. C. Ronald Kahn
2003	Dr. Nader Abraham
2004	Dr. Frances M. Ashcroft
2005	Dr. Jeannette Ward
2006	Dr. Edward H. Leiter
2007	Dr. Leonard C. Harrison
2008	Dr. Daniel Von Hoff
2009	Dr. Camillo Ricordi
2010	Dr. Paul Nurse
2011	Dr. Linda Wicker
2012	Dr. Joan S. Brugge
2013	Dr. F Philippe Froguel
2014	Dr. Morag Park
2015	Dr. Emil Unanue

# 2016 Dr. David M. Kovitz Visiting Professorship Lecture

**Dr. Nada Jabado**

**Professor of Pediatrics, McGill University**

**“Oncohistone-associated cancers:  
a tale of histone tail”**

**Tuesday, November 8, 2016  
1:00-2:00pm**

**Theatre 4, HSC**

**Reception: 2:00-3:00pm  
HRIC Atrium**



**UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY**



## **Dr. Nada Jabado**

**Dr. Nada Jabado** is a Professor of Pediatrics and staff physician at McGill University. She completed her residency in pediatrics with a specialization in hemato-oncology. She also obtained a PhD in Immunology in Paris, France, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship in biochemistry at McGill. She began her career as an independent investigator at McGill in 2003, pioneering a research program in pediatric brain tumors which is now unparalleled. Her group uncovered that pediatric high-grade astrocytomas (HGA) are molecularly and genetically distinct from adult tumors. More importantly, they identified a new molecular mechanism driving pediatric HGA, namely recurrent somatic driver mutations in the tail of histone 3 variants (H3.3 and H3.1).

Dr. Jabado's ground-breaking work has created a paradigm shift in cancer with the identification of histone mutations in human disease which has revolutionized this field, as the epigenome was a previously unsuspected hallmark of oncogenesis, thus linking development and what we now know are epigenetic-driven cancers. This work and other publications are considered landmark papers. Dr. Jabado has over 145 peer-reviewed publications, with an impressive number of senior-author, high-impact publications in such prominent journals as *Nature Genetics*, *Nature*, *Science* and *Cancer Cell*.

Dr. Jabado has received numerous national and international honors while garnering prestigious salary support awards throughout her career. She is one of the best-funded investigators in Canada with grants from CIHR, Genome Canada, NIH as well as philanthropic organizations. She was recently inducted as a Fellow to the Royal Society of Canada.

## **Program**

### **Welcoming Remarks**

Dr. Greg Cairncross  
Director, Charbonneau Cancer Institute

### **Introduction of Dr. Nada Jabado**

Dr. Marco Gallo  
Assistant Professor, University of Calgary

### **The 2016 Dr. David M. Kovitz Lecture**

***“Oncohistone-associated cancers:  
a tale of histone tail”***

### **Recognition**

Kovitz Family

### **Closing Remarks**

Dr. Jennifer Chan  
Deputy Director, Charbonneau Cancer Institute

**Please join us for a reception in the HRIC Atrium**