# Nathan Holwell, BASc, PhD (c)

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# **Skills Summary**

- Ability to quickly and efficiently learn new tasks and information
- Exposed to variety of STEM disciplines from internships in Canada and USA
- Demonstrated writing proficiency by winning grants from federal and provincial agencies
- Corresponded with various scientists through professional and personal experiences
- Productivity and creativity were considered key strengths by employers
- Strengthened leadership skills through school and work experience
- Distilled complex scientific discoveries through academic and professional presentations

## **Peer-Reviewed Publications**

- 1. Serack F., **Holwell N.**, Amsden B.G. (2018) Polymer Scaffolds for Anterior Cruciate Ligament Tissue Engineering. In: Jafar Mazumder M., Sheardown H., Al-Ahmed A. (eds) Functional Biopolymers. Polymers and Polymeric Composites: A Reference Series. Springer, Cham
- 2. Louka D.A., **Holwell N.**, Thomas B.H., Chen F., and Amsden B.G. (2017) Highly Bioactive SDF-1α Delivery from Low-Melting-Point, Biodegradable Polymer Microspheres. ACS Biomaterials Science & Engineering, 4 (11), 3747-3758
- 3. Lee, Y., Xu, C., Sebastin, M., Lee, A., **Holwell, N.**, Xu, C., Miranda Nieves, D., Mu, L., Langer, R. S., Lin, C. and Karp, J. M. (2015), Bioinspired Nanoparticulate Medical Glues for Minimally Invasive Tissue Repair. Adv. Healthcare Mater., 4: 2587-2596.
- 4. Murakami M., Ernsting M.J., Undzys E., **Holwell N.**, Foltz W.D., Li S.D. (2013) Docetaxel Conjugate Nanoparticles That Target Smooth Muscle Actin-Expressing Stromal Cells Suppress Breast Cancer Metastasis. Cancer Research, 73(15):4862–4871.

# **Science Communication Experience**

### Skype a Scientist

**November 2020-present** 

 Delivering an introduction to tissue engineering lecture to classrooms using gradeappropriate vocabulary

### **Best of Banff: Science Communication Program Attendee**

**April 2021** 

• Earned spot for program with lectures from Jay Ingram and other science communicators

## **HotDocs Science Communication Workshop Attendee**

February 2021

• Lecture series led by Canadian science communicators, including Dr. Samantha Yammine

### Communicating Science to the Public, McGill University

September-December 2020

- Learned theory of distilling complex scientific discoveries to general public
- Produced concise and clear articles to practice theory (e.g. op-ed, policy letter)

### Graduate Student Graphic Designer/Reviewer, CanYouth,

**April-August 2020** 

• Created graphics and edited articles to debunk myths surrounding COVID-19

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## **Scientific Research Experience**

PhD Candidate / Teaching Assistant, Queen's University, Kingston, ON

Project: Biomimetic, Stem Cell Supplemented Biodegradable Scaffold for Anterior Cruciate Ligament Replacement

Supervisor: Dr. Brian Amsden, PhD

September 2016-present

- Extensive training in polymer chemistry techniques and validation
- Engaging undergraduate students in lab and tutorials though teaching assistantships

**Product and Process Development Intern**, Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine, Toronto, ON

**Supervisor:** Dr. Patrick Blit, PhD

**January-August 2015** 

Material and device design of a novel method to assay cardiotropic drugs

**Research Trainee,** Karp Laboratory for Advanced Biomaterials and Stem-Cell-Based Therapeutics, Harvard Medical School, Cambridge, MA, USA

Supervisor: Drs. Yuhan Lee, PhD & Dr. Jeffrey Karp, PhD September 2013-April 2014

Investigating novel properties of a biocompatible, biodegradable polymer

**Nanomedicine Research Assistant,** Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, Toronto, ON

**Supervisors:** Drs. Shyh-Dar Li, PhD & Mark Ernsting, PhD

**April-August 2012** 

Provided research support for chemotherapeutic drug delivery technologies

### Education

### Candidate for Doctor of Philosophy, Queen's University

Chemical Engineering with Biomedical Engineering specialization September 2016-present

### **Bachelor of Applied Science with Distinction, University of Waterloo**

Nanotechnology Engineering, Honours, Co-op

September 2011-April 2016

# **Leadership Experience**

#### **Under The Microscope**

January 2017-present

Founded blog to practice science communication skills

## Science to Business Network, Kingston Chapter

October 2019-present

Led strategic meetings to find panelists to highlight professions outside of academia

### PhD-Community Initiative, Queen's University

September 2020-April 2021

 Worked with inter-disciplinary team to understand effect of COVID-19 pandemic on consumer confidence

## **Awards**

**NSERC PGS-D Scholarship** (\$42,000 CAD)

January 2020-December 2021

OGS Scholarship (\$15,000 CAD)

September 2017-May 2018

Canadian Posture and Seating Centre Project Award (\$2500 CAD)

January 2016

Sandford Fleming Foundation Senior Design Competition, 1st place

January 2016

Canadian Finalist, 3M Invent a New Future Challenge

July 2015

**International Experience Award** (\$2500 CAD)

September 2015