

Secretary General

Full Name: Arinjay Banerjee

Country of Residence: CANADA

University of Attendance: UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Level of Degree Currently: PhD candidate

Year in that Degree: 3rd

Previous Degrees and/or Diplomas: Bachelor of Science (Microbiology and Biochemistry), Master of Science (Virology), Certificate in Integrated training program in Infectious Disease, Food safety and Public policy.



I am a PhD candidate in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada. For my doctoral thesis I am exploring the host-pathogen interaction between viruses and bats. Several wicked viruses such as Marburg virus, Ebola virus, Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) coronavirus and Middle-East respiratory syndrome (MERS) coronavirus are speculated to have spilled over from bats. I am exploring the unique immune adaptations in bats that allow them to survive infections with these viruses that are often lethal in other mammals such as humans.

I also have a Certificate in Integrated training program in infectious diseases, food safety and public policy (ITraP). ITraP is the first graduate program of its kind in Canada. Funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, ITraP is an interdisciplinary, international training initiative in infectious diseases, food safety and public policy. This program is based on 'One Health' ideas and goals. The program's ultimate goal is to reduce the medical, economic and social impacts of outbreaks for people, industries and the public sector. I thank you for your support and I look forward to serving on the inaugural executive council of the Students for One Health.