

Department of Biological Sciences Newsletter

"from biomolecules to the biosphere"



No. 32

October 7, 2011

Announcements



Corridor space in the Biosciences Building - On Friday, September 30, 2011 I met with Doug Morton from Facilities Management. Doug is the Facilities Manager for the Biosciences building. As such, one of his duties is to ensure that the buildings (and its occupants) comply with safety code regulations. Doug is concerned about clutter, such as items of furniture and things such as coffee making facilities that are currently evident in our hallways. I am aware of the convenience and comfort that such items provide, but regardless of that it is still necessary for us to comply with fire and safety codes. In my discussions with Doug we felt that this issue would be best addressed by the Departmental Safety Team. That team is charged with ensuring that we all have a safe working environment. The Safety Team will work with Doug to determine how best to allow us to have the most comfortable working conditions possible while also obeying the regulations that are ultimately there to protect us. So, please be prepared to make changes that are necessary when requested to do so. Whether we like this or not, these issues are non-negotiable.

Tony



Applications for Research & Scholarship Leaves and Professional Fellowship applications are now available for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Application forms may be obtained online at http://www.ucalgary.ca/hr/staff/academic_staff/leaves/research_scholarship_leave_professional_fellowship

The deadline for submitting Application forms to your Department Head, or equivalent, is October 15, 2011.

If you would like to inquire about your eligibility for a Research & Scholarship Leave or a Professional Fellowship Leave, please contact the office of the Dean of Science. **Please ensure that you include a list of courses which would be affected by your leave as well as a listing of other faculty members who would be qualified to replace you in your absence.**

Important upcoming dates

Oct 14 - Travels at Lunch - Ella Bowles - Noon BI 190 (George Drummond Lounge)

Nov 29 - Departmental Meeting - 14h00 - 16h00 - BI 211

Seminars



EEB seminars - Friday Oct 14 - 11h00 - BI 211
Doug Hallett - TBA

CDP 601 seminars - Wednesdays at 16h00 in MS 319
Oct 12 - Jobran Chebib - TBA

EEB 601 seminars - Mondays at 12h00 in BI 211
Oct 17 - Stefano Liccioli - GI parasites of coyotes in urban Calgary

Micro 601 seminars - Wednesdays at 11h00 in BI 211
Oct 12 - Josie Libertucci - Examining interactions between *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in cystic fibrosis pulmonary infections”

Scholarships



NSERC Industrial Postgraduate Scholarship (IPS) program provides support to graduate students who wish to gain research experience in industry. Both International & Canadian students are eligible to apply. http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/IPS-BESII_eng.asp

NSERC Postdoctoral Fellowships program provides support to promising researchers at a critical time in their careers.

http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PD-NP/PDF-BP_eng.asp

You can apply for a Postdoctoral Fellowship by completing and submitting an application on-line (Form 201), and attaching required supporting documents.

Online application deadline: 15 October



CIHR IRSC

CIHR Doctoral awards provide funding to students who are pursuing a doctoral degree in a health-related field. Applications are invited in all areas of health research, and following criteria will be used for evaluating award applications: achievements & activities of the candidate, characteristics & abilities of the candidate, & research training environment. The award is valued at \$30,000/year (plus research allowance \$5000/yr) for three years.

<http://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/viewOpportunityDetails.do?progCd=10218&org=CIHR>

CIHR Application deadline: **14 Oct 2011**

Post Doctoral Research Fellowships (PDRF) 2012-2013 - Deadline: November 12, 2011

- Government of Canada Awards - Post-Doctoral Research Fellowships

http://www.scholarships-bourses.gc.ca/scholarships-bourses/non_can/pdf-brpd.aspx?lang=eng&view=d

- Canadian Commonwealth Scholarships Program - Post Doctoral Research Fellowships

http://www.scholarships-bourses.gc.ca/scholarships-bourses/non_can/ccsp_pdf-pcbc_brpd.aspx?lang=eng&view=d

- Canada-Mexico Awards - Post-Doctoral Research Fellowships

http://www.scholarships-bourses.gc.ca/scholarships-bourses/non_can/cm_pdf-cm_brpd.aspx?lang=eng&view=d

Graduate Student Affairs



Did you know...

There have been a number of students neglecting to inform me of their upcoming meetings (**ESPECIALLY** for Research Proposals and Annual Committee Meetings).

It is imperative that you inform me of these meetings so that I can prepare the proper paperwork for the meeting and it is noted in your file that you did in fact have a meeting.

As per regulations, you are required to give me (and your committee) a copy of your Research Proposal NO LATER than 7 days prior to the proposal meeting! Failure to do so may result in you having to defer your meeting, so that I can receive proper notification in the specified time-line so that I can prepare the required paperwork.

Annual committee meeting : 2 days prior to the meeting, please provide me with the date and time of the meeting, I will book the room and data projector and make sure the required paperwork is in your file or forwarded to your Supervisor.

Research Proposals: 7 days prior to the proposal meeting, please ensure I have a copy of the proposal, the date and time of the meeting and I will organize your file for your Supervisor to pick up prior to the meeting.

Candidacy Exams and M.Sc./Ph.D. thesis defenses – 4 weeks prior to the exam, please ensure I have the name of the extra examination committee members:

***Candidacy – two additional (one must be from outside BISI)**

***M.Sc. Defenses – one addition from outside BISI**

***Ph.D. Defenses – two additional (one from outside BISI and one from outside the UofC)**
In addition, 4 weeks prior I will need the thesis title for thesis defenses; date and time of the exam.

Please note that 8 weeks prior to the Ph.D. exam, I will need a copy of the “outside UofC” examiner or “external” examiner).

Supervisors, it is your responsibility to schedule these meetings. Students, it is your responsibility to ensure that I have been made aware of the arrangements.

Thank you for your understanding,
Karen

Research Proposals

The Research Proposal for M. Omair Sarfaraz entitled “Understanding the Metabolomic Profiling of Lung and Liver Carcinomas and Application in Biomarker Studies”, will be held on October 7, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in Biological Sciences room 499.

The Research Proposal for Chandni Rao in the area of “Viral Polymerase Biochemistry”, was accepted by her Supervisory Committee on September 21, 2011.

The Research Proposal for Ivan Gomez-Castano, in the area of “Cell Differential Dynamics”, was accepted by his Supervisory Committee on September 23, 2011.

Ph.D. Candidacy Oral Examinations - Candidacy Exams are Closed Exams.

Kate Chatfield-Reed (Supervisor: G. Chua), will be holding her Candidacy Oral Defense, in the area of “Functional Genomics”, on December 1, 2011 @ 10:00 a.m. in BioSciences room 312. (Neutral Chair: S. Vamosi).

Alexander Tinius (Supervisor: A. Russell), will be holding his Ph.D. Candidacy Examination, in the area of “Vertebrate Morphology”, on December 16, 2011 @ TBA in BioSciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: L.J. Jackson).

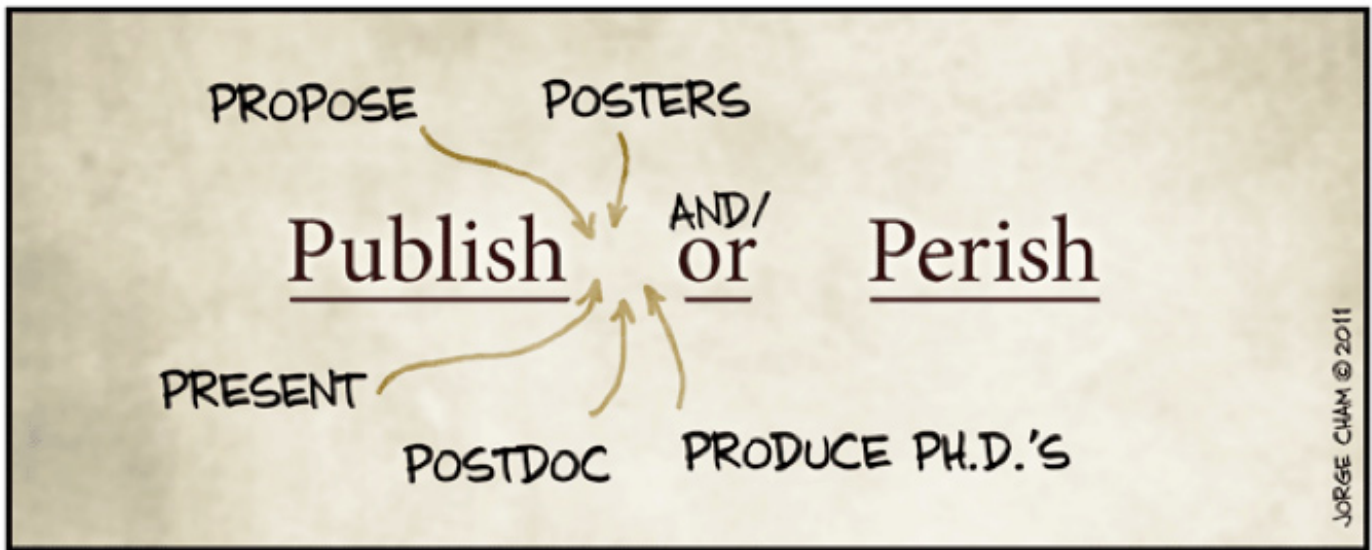
Thesis Oral Examinations

Please note: *Pre-defense seminars are a degree requirement for all M.Sc. and Ph.D. students in Biological Sciences. Typically, the seminar will take place immediately preceding the Oral Defense Exam.*

It is the student’s responsibility to book the necessary com-media equipment with either Christine (220-3578) or David (220-8307) for their examination. Please book the equipment as soon as you have the date set for your exam/proposal meeting. (defense seminars are held one hour before the stated defense time in BI 211 unless noted otherwise)

Lisa Nelson (Supervisor: H. Ceri), will be defending her Ph.D. Thesis, in the area of “Bacterial Interactions at the Mucosa”, on November 25, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in BioSciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: TBA).

Nina Hobbhahn (Supervisor: L.D. Harder), will be defending her Ph.D. Thesis, in the area of “Plant Reproductive Ecology”, on December 12, 2011 at 10:15 in BioSciences room 499. (Neutral Chair: J. Vamosi).



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

Congratulations to....

To Christine Sharp, who passed her Ph.D. Candidacy Examination in the area of “Environmental Microbiology”, on September 22nd, 2011!



To **Marcy Yurkiw**, who passed her M.Sc. Thesis Exam, in the area of “Molecular Microbiology”, on September 29, 2011!

Positions / Opportunities



Assistant Professor – Freshwater Ecologist The University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), Department of Biology, invites applications for a tenure track faculty position at the rank of Assistant Professor effective July 1, 2012.

We are searching for an outstanding Freshwater Ecologist whose research program focuses on whole organisms, communities, trophic dynamics, or foodwebs. We are particularly interested in individuals who will enhance or complement existing research areas in our department. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

Applications must include: a curriculum vitae, statement of teaching philosophy and evidence of teaching experience, an outline of their proposed research and three representative publications. We encourage applicants to combine PDF or WORD documents into one or two files. Applications should be submitted online through the University of Toronto’s Academic Employment Opportunities website (<https://utoronto.taleo.net/careersection/10050/joblist.ftl#>) and search for job number 1100708.

Professor Bryan Stewart, Chair, Department of Biology, University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Road North, Mississauga, ON L5L 1C6

Or by email to: biochair.utm@utoronto.ca

Closing date for submissions is October 31, 2011.



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We are also always looking for individuals interested in adding copyediting and peer-reviewing experience to their CVs. Please direct general inquiries to the Editors-in-Chief at eic@akademeia.ca

Humboldt State University's Department of Wildlife invites applications for a full-time temporary faculty position in Wildlife Ecology. Initial appointment will be for Spring 2012 semester. Subsequent reappointment for Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 will be contingent upon satisfactory performance evaluation.

In letter of application, please refer to Job #7512.

For more information and to apply, visit: <http://apptrkr.com/206633>

Biotech Job Bank (www.bhrc.ca) has current employment opportunities in the biotechnology industry in Canada. The Biotech HR Pulse is available in PDF format at: www.bhrc.ca/Pulse/index.html. Phone 519-457-1470, Ext 268, Fax 519-457-3997.

University Affairs Career Ads. Current employment opportunities, including all facets of the biological sciences, in Canadian universities may be found at the University Affairs website: www.universityaffairs.ca. Career ads are available in HTML format at: http://www.universityaffairs.ca/career_ads/index.html

Classified Ads



Wanted: Eco-committed Graduate Students and Faculty

Fellow Biologists, the new academic year has started and provides new challenges and opportunities for all of us.

If you feel that one of our priorities should be a sustainable and responsible lifestyle, then the Sustainability program of the U of C might be just right for you. I've been a SustainabilityON Coordinator for two years now and took an active part in many small revolutions that left a positive impression on the U of C community and myself.

The University of Calgary won the Canadian Commuter Challenge and ranked fairly high in the eight-week North American RecycleMania Challenge, where we achieved a weekly waste diversion of circa 37%. We also saved about \$109,000 worth of electricity during the three-week PowerOFF Challenge. But being the sole representative of Biological Sciences in this program is starting to feel a bit lonely. Also, I don't seem to be capable of reaching out to all bioscientists on campus. Thus, if you see yourself engaged in the issues of sustainability and you want to coordinate your efforts with the Office of Sustainability, I invite you to ask me all kinds of questions about the program, or talk to our program coordinator Anna (amnowacz@ucalgary.ca) and maybe become a SustainabilityON Coordinator yourself.

All the best, Alex. [atinius@ucalgary.ca]

Conferences / Workshops / Courses



Mitacs : On Wednesday September 28th Laurence Meadows and Christine Gillies gave a presentation in BI 211 about the Accelerate, Globalink, and STEP programs administered by Mitacs. These provide opportunities for support for graduate students whose research is associated with industry linkages.

The information about these programs is available on the Department Home Page (<http://www.bio.ucalgary.ca/MITACS/MITACS.html>).

Please also note that Christine Gillies is the new Mitacs Business Development Director for Alberta. She is based in Calgary and will be on campus frequently and available to answer any questions you or your students may have about the research and training programs of Mitacs. Christine will also be happy to meet with industry partners to explain how Mitacs' research collaborations work.

Cycling for the United Way

We are riding to raise funds for the U of C United Way! Between September 26th and November 30th (*that's 10 weeks!*) we will keep track of our kilometers ridden to and from work. We are asking you to pledge us!. The more we ride, the more money goes to the United Way.

Our goal is 2000 km ridden and \$1000 raised

Our maximum weekly commute

David Bininda - 85 km

Rob Edwards - 80 km

Warren Fitch - 15 km

Louise Hahn - 50 km

Lee Jackson - 185 km

Pledge options:

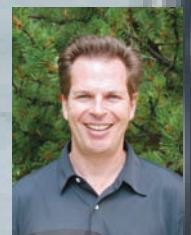
- \$\$s per kilometer covered by all of us
- \$\$s per person
- single donation
- any other combination that works for you!



United Way
of Calgary and Area

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Please note: all pledges can have a donation ceiling



Beautiful 3-bedroom house in Cougar Ridge

Phone: (403) 677- 5092 Email: tnfinancial@shaw.ca

145 Cougar Plateau Mews SW

Monthly rent	\$1895	Square footage	1776
Security deposit	\$1895	Year built	2004
Bedroom	3	Parking	Garage – Double
Bathroom	2.5	Under 18	Allowed
Available date	November 1	Smoking	Non-smoking
Term of lease	6 months – 1 year	Pets	Not allowed
Basement	Unfinished	Furnishing	Unfurnished

Lower Level:

-Modern kitchen with hardwood floor, cinnamon stained maple cabinets, breakfast bar, corner pantry, and tile backsplash.

-Dining area with garden door to deck with built-in gas line for BBQ.

-Cozy great room with gas fireplace.

-Flex room perfect for den or office space.

Upper Level:

-Bright, functional and beautiful 3-bedroom house with roomy master suite, walk-in closet, ensuite jetted tub/ jacuzzi and shower.

-2 good size spare bedroom and bonus room perfect for entertaining.

-Convenient laundry room with washer and dryer.

