



Department of Biological Sciences Newsletter

"from biomolecules to the biosphere"

No. 20

June 26, 2015

Announcements



On May 29th at the Faculty of Science Staff Awards ceremony, three members of the Department were honoured and received Awards of Excellence.



Congratulations to **Dale Cooper** for a Lifetime Achievement Award for his many years of service to our students, the Department, and the University. Congratulations to **Louise Hahn** for winning one of the Leadership and Community Spirit Awards. And Congratulations to **Brant Pohorelic** for winning the Rookie of the Year Award!



Jonathon Lee (Wildering lab) was the recipient of the Helen I Battle Award: best student poster presentation Canadian Society of Zoologist meeting held May 25-29, 2015 in Calgary.

GAC Award winners:



AITF Graduate Scholarship winner:

Anne-Marie Labandera (Moorhead)



Izaak Walton Killam Pre-Doctoral Scholarship winners:

Kyle Wilson (Post)

Oscar Aleuy Young (Ruckstuhl)

Important Dates

May - August - the newsletter will be published every other week

July 3, Department deadline for APR completion

July 8th Department Annual Stampede Breakfast 9 - 11 AM

August 15, Second Annual Family Picnic - Kananaskis Field Station.



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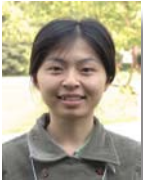
Open Doctoral Scholarship winners:

Christopher Cahill (Post)
Isha Nasa (Moorhead)
Subramanian Sankaranarayanan (Samuel)
Jaspreet Mand (Voordouw)



Sharon Wilkens Graduate Scholarship TA award winner:

Mark Mahadeo (Prenner)



Gene Huber Graduate Thesis Award winner:

Thuy Dang (Facchini)

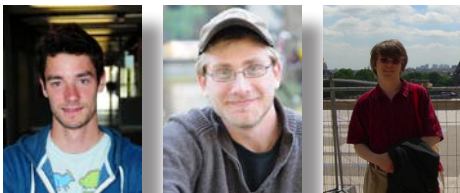


Biological Sciences Thesis Award winner:

Matthew Patterson (Prenner)

Please mark your calendars for the second annual Department Family Picnic. It will happen on August 15th at the KFS.

Recent Publications



Matt Szostakiwskyj, Jason D. Pardo, Jason S. Anderson .
2015. Micro-CT Study of Rhynchonkos stovalli (Lepospondyli, Recumbirostra), with Description of Two New Genera.
DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0127307

Seminars

August 6 - 1 PM to 3 PM - Spring-Summer 528/530 Oral Presentations

Graduate Student Affairs



Research Proposals

The MSc Research Proposal for **Analisa Lazareo Côté**, in the area of “Physiology”, was accepted by her Supervisory Committee on June 18, 2015.

The M.Sc. Research Proposal for **Daniel Wuitchik** (Supervisor: W. Wildering) entitled “Environmental Modulation of the Lunar Clock in Reef Building Corals”, will be held on June 25, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Biological Sciences room 312.

The M.Sc. Research Proposal for **Isabella Skuplik** (Supervisor: J. Cobb) entitled “Characterization of a novel limb enhancer of the human SHOX gene”, will be held on June 30, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Biological Sciences room 389.

The M.Sc. Research Proposal for **Rajni Pushpker** (Supervisor: R. Turner) entitled “Screening *Escherichia coli* gene knockout mutants to identify EmrE-mediated efflux participants”, will be held on July 9, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Biological Sciences room 389.

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

Erin Faught (Supervisor: M. Vijayan), will be holding her Candidacy Examination, in the area of “Physiology”, on July 24, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Biological Sciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: W. Wildering).

Iain George (Supervisor: G. Chua), will be holding his Candidacy Examination, in the area of “Molecular Microbiology” on July 31, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Biological Sciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: G. Moorhead)

Dulmini “Nandun” Wathugala (Supervisor: M. Hynes), will be holding her Candidacy Examination, in the area of “Molecular Microbiology”, on August 27, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Biological Sciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: G. Voordouw).

Soraya Villalobos-Hernandez (Supervisor: J. Vamosi), will be holding her Candidacy Examination, in the area of “Ecology”, on September 11, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in Biological Sciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: J. Fox).

Thesis Oral Examinations - Exams are “Open” unless otherwise noted.

Erin Baerwald (Supervisor: R. Barclay), will be holding her Ph.D. Thesis Oral Examination, in the area of “Ecology”, on July 28, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Biological Sciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: D. Hansen)
EXIT SEMINAR @ 9:00 A.M. IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES ROOM 499.

Marc Demeter (Supervisor: R. Turner), will be holding his Ph.D. Thesis Oral Examination, in the area of “Environmental Microbiology”, on July 30, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Biological Sciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: E. Lohmeier-Vogel).
Exit Seminar @ 9:00 A.M. in BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES ROOM 499.

Asfandiyar Sikandar (Supervisor: K. Ng), will be holding his M.Sc. Thesis Oral Examination, in the area of “Biochemistry”, on August 4, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in Biological Sciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: D.K. Ro).
EXIT SEMINAR @ 1:00 P.M. IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES ROOM 499.

Steven Olsen (Supervisor: D. Muench), will be holding his M.Sc. Thesis Oral Examination, in the area of “Biochemistry”, on August 12, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Biological Sciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: J. Vamosi).
EXIT SEMINAR @ 9:00 A.M. IN SCIENCE THEATRE ROOM 147.

Pratyush Gupta (Supervisor: D. Hansen), will be holding his Ph.D. Thesis Oral Examination, in the area of “Developmental Biology”, on August 13, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in Biological Sciences room 389. (Neutral Chair: TBD).
EXIT SEMINAR @ 1:00 P.M. IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES ROOM 499.

Anastassiia Moussatova (Supervisor: P. Tieleman), will be holding her Ph.D. Thesis Oral Examination, in the area of “Biochemistry”, on August 17, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in Biological Sciences room 499. (Neutral Chair: M. Fraser).
EXIT SEMINAR @ 1:00 P.M. IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES ROOM 499

Carol Best (Supervisor: M. Vijayan), will be holding her M.Sc. Thesis Oral Examination, in the area of “Physiology”, on September 16, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in Biological Sciences room 312. (Neutral Chair: A. Buret).
EXIT SEMINAR AT 1:00 P.M. IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES ROOM 211.

Congratulations to....

Roshan Khadka, who passed his Candidacy Examination, in the area of “Environmental Microbiology”, on June 22, 2015!



Dr. Brian Rankin, who passed his Ph.D. Thesis Oral Examination, in the area of “Evolutionary Biology”, on June 19, 2015!

Positions / Opportunities

Post-Doctoral Fellowships

Plant Metabolic Biochemistry and Genomics

Positions are available immediately and applications will be accepted until suitable candidates are found. Applicants must have completed a Ph.D. within the last 3 years and demonstrate expertise in biochemistry and/or molecular biology.

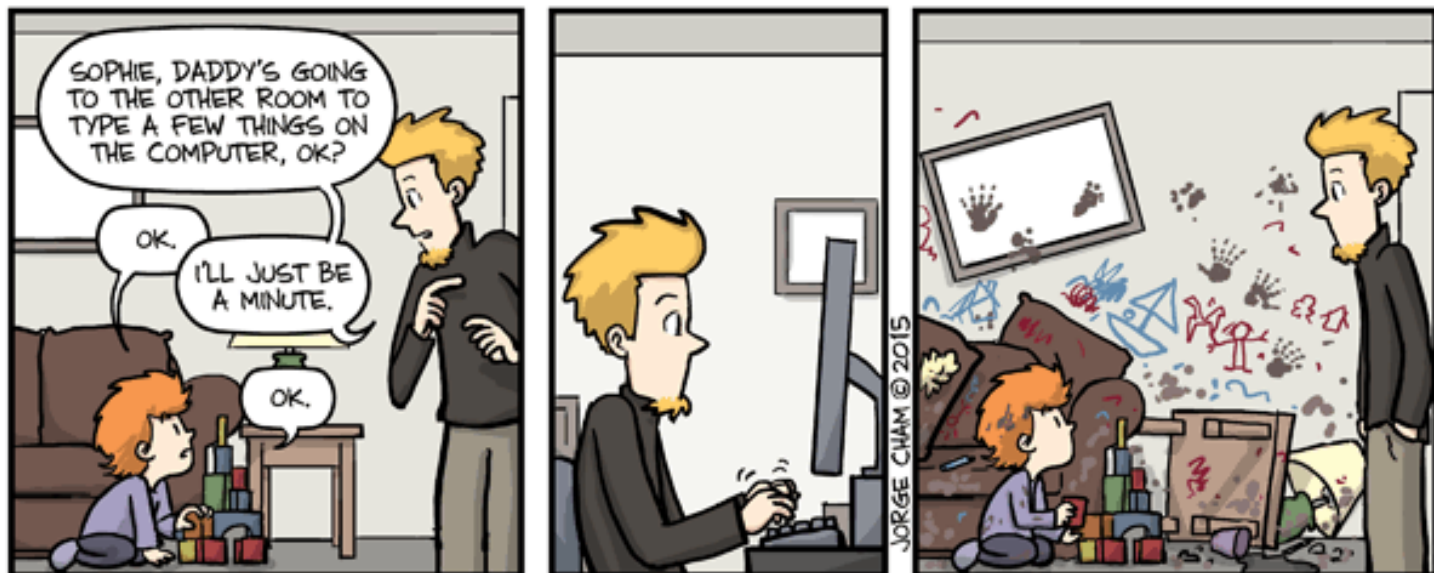
For more information contact Dr. Peter Facchini (pfacchin@ucalgary.ca)

Oregon State University Department of Crop and Soil Science Extension Soil Fertility Specialist

The Department of Crop and Soil Science at Oregon State University invites applications for a full-time (1.00 FTE), 9-month extension soil fertility specialist. This is a tenure-track assistant/associate professor position. The goal of this position is to provide leadership for a statewide Extension soil fertility program that conducts applied research and develops nutrient management recommendations for commercial agronomic crops. A Ph.D. degree in soil science, agronomy, or a related field is required. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. To review posting details and apply, go to:

https://jobs.oregonstate.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails_css.jsp?postingId=407593

Closing date is 06/26/2015. OSU is an AA/EOE.



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Behind the Leaf

News from the BGSA

Cookie Day

Come to Drummond Hall Monday June 29 from 2pm to 4pm to sample and vote on the department's best bakers. \$2 for a sample of each treat, \$0.50 for milk and \$1 for pop!

D2L Webpage

During the graduate student retreat in April students voiced their concerns regarding the difficulty in finding resources on the administrative aspects of their degrees. To address this, the BGSA has begun work with the department to gather the existing resources and post them on our D2L page. The D2L page is now live and all graduate students in the department should be enrolled as students. If you are not, please send us an email. Check it out and send us your thoughts on what we should add!

Get To Know Your Executive

Analisa Lazaro-Côté VP-Events

I am in the first year of my Master's degree in the Jackson lab. I'm from Montreal and I like to travel.



biogsa@ucalgary.ca



**BGSA – University
of Calgary**



Biogsa



BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

invites friends and neighbours to our stampede

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

9 A.M.-11 A.M. PARKING LOT 21

\$3.00

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO
THE SHARON WILKENS
MEMORIAL FUND**



**BRING YOUR OWN
MUG, PLATE & CUTLERY
& GET \$1 OFF**



MSc Scholarship in Forest Nutrient Cycling (with a paid internship in Sweden)

I am offering a MSc scholarship worth \$32,000 (i.e., 16,000 x 2 years) to a deserving candidate wishing to conduct research that will unravel the abiotic controls on biological nitrogen fixation in boreal forest mosses. The project is funded by a strategic project grant, comprising a team of 8 students, 5 professors from 3 Universities, and 4 government scientists. Part of the field work will be conducted in Sweden with the collaboration of colleagues at the *Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet* in Umeå, Sweden. Travel and research costs are covered by the project. The announced position is immediately available and the funding has been secured.

The recruited student will be registered at *Université de Sherbrooke* (Québec, Canada), and will be supervised by Prof. Robert Bradley and co-supervised by Prof. Jean-Philippe Bellenger. *Université de Sherbrooke* is a francophone institution, such that French language proficiency is an asset, albeit not a requirement for the recruited student. We are looking to recruit a highly motivated, respectful, autonomous, creative and hard working individual holding a B.Sc. degree in either Biology, BioGeosciences, Forestry or Agriculture.

Tuition fees at *Université de Sherbrooke* are among the lowest in Canada. The Quebec Government increases these tuition fees for students hailing from other Canadian provinces; however, *Université de Sherbrooke* will concurrently reimburse the extra fees if the recruited student maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.3 or higher during his/her B.Sc. studies. The Quebec government also increases tuition fees for students hailing from other countries. In that case, the University of Sherbrooke offers partial fee waivers to its international graduate students.

Those interested, please contact :

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