



# Department of Biology Newsletter

Friday, May 19, 2017

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

## Dr. Diana Varela: Canada C3

### Celebrating 150 years of Canada. Canada C3 Research in the Canadian Arctic



Dr. Diana Varela will be involved in a wonderful research opportunity in the Canadian Arctic that is linked to the celebration of 150 years of Canada. Canada C3 is a signature project for Canada 150th Anniversary of Confederation in 2017. The Centrepiece is an epic 150 day sailing journey from Toronto to Victoria via the Northwest passage. Through this unprecedented journey, Canada C3 will celebrate our environment, share the stories of coastal communities and connect Canadians from coast to coast to coast.

For more information visit <https://canadac3.ca/en/expedition/>

If you are interested in learning about Dr. Varela's project on "Marine phytoplankton production and diversity", visit: <https://canadac3.ca/en/expedition/the-research/>

This is an initiative lead by Students-On-Ice with organizational help from the Museum of Nature in Ottawa.

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## Andy Farquharson Teaching Excellence Award for Graduate Students

### Congratulations to Forest Biology Graduate Student Gerry Gourlay



The Department of Biology and the Centre for Forest Biology would like to congratulate Graduate Student Gerry Gourlay for being the recipient of the Andy Farquharson Teaching Excellence Award for Graduate Students, 2017.

This award, named after a past director of the Learning and Teaching Centre, is for registered graduate students who have excelled in their teaching during the preceding calendar year. Only three awards are given out annually and Gerry will be receiving one of them in a ceremony some time during the month of May.

*Congratulations!*

## Calendar Summer Session 2017-2018

### Important Dates:

<b>Monday, May 1</b>	May-Aug courses begin for all faculties, except Faculty of Law
<b>Friday, May 5</b>	Senate Meets
<b>Monday, May 8</b>	May and May-June courses begin. May-August courses begin for Faculty of Law
<b>Monday, May 15</b>	Last day for course changes (Faculty of Law only) <sup>3</sup> Last day for graduate students to register in a personal leave in summer
<b>Monday, May 22</b>	Victoria Day <sup>1</sup>
<b>Thursday, May 25</b>	Senate Committee on Academic Standards meets to approve Convocation lists
<b>Wednesday, May 31</b>	Fees deadlines for summer Add and Drop dates for Standard 2016 Summer Courses
<b>Wednesday, June 7</b>	May courses end
<b>Thursday, June 8</b>	June courses begin
<b>Monday to Friday, June 12-16</b>	Spring convocation
<b>Friday, June 30</b>	May-June and June courses end



## Announcements

### Welcome to Our New Biology Grad Student

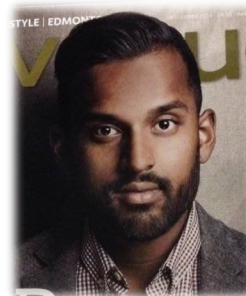
Malcolm Cowan                      Supervisor: Dr. Will Hintz

### Welcome to the Biology Summer Students

*Sile Kafrissen with Dr. Varela	*An Te Chu with Dr. Mazumder
*Veronica Wong with Dr. Nashmi	*Emily May with Drs. Hintz and von Aderkas
*Keyrian Le Gratiet with Drs. Nashmi and Delaney	*YuQi Li with Dr. von Aderkas
*Michael Allison with Dr. Nashmi	*Zachary Adams with Dr. Ehlting
*Anique Le Roux with Dr. Nashmi	*Brandy Biggar with Dr. El-Sabaawi
*Breanna Bomback with Dr. Dower	*Emily Buchanan with Dr. Nashmi
*Nick Brown with Dr. Tunnicliffe	*Alixadra Wong with Drs. Ehlting and Walter
*Justin Meeds with Drs. Hawkins and Kanabetter	*Maia Skowron with Drs. Ehlting and Walter
*Fernanda Luna Arvizu with Dr. Constabel	
*Jacquelin Irvine with Dr. Ehlting	
*Bryan Elder with Dr. Ehlting	
*Sarah Schwarz with Dr. Ehlting	

### Congratulations!

The Department of Biology would like to congratulate Robin Mazumder on his achievement of being a Vanier Scholar at the University of Waterloo. Robin did his undergraduate degree in the department of Biology and is the son of faculty member, Dr. Asit Mazumder, and Research Technician, Shapna Mazumder. Robin will also be featured in the May/June issue of Canadian Geographic.



### Biology Publications

**Simkanin C, Davidson IC, Therriault TW, Jamieson G and Dower JF** (2017) Manipulating propagule pressure to test the invasibility of subtidal marine habitats. *Biological Invasions* 19:1565-1575.

**Guan L, Dower JF, McKinnel SM, Pepin P, Pakhomov EA and Hunt BP** (2017) Interannual variability in the abundance and composition of spring larval fish assemblages in the Strait of Georgia (British Columbia, Canada) from 2007 to 2010. *Fisheries Oceanography*. DOI: 10.1111/fog.12223

## Workshops

### **Keep Calm and Carry a Pipette**

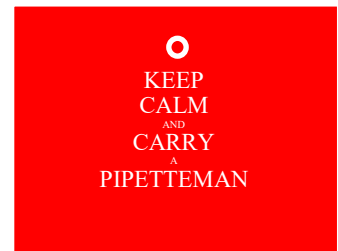
The Molecular Biology Workshop is presented by the Michael Smith Labs  
2017 Summer Session University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada  
One week version – Molecular Biology Workshop  
June 19 to 23, 2017  
Cost: \$150

This intense 5 day workshop will focus on myriad of different techniques used in the molecular manipulation of DNA, RNA and protein, as well as inclusion of lectures of high throughput genomic techniques. Primarily aimed at researchers who are new to the area, familiar but require a quick updating, or would like more practical bench training.

Hands on technique covered include: Various nucleic acid purification methodologies (silica bead, organic, and/or pl based), restriction digest, ligations, dephosphorylation assays, agarose gel electrophoresis, transformation (including electro-poration), PCR, reverse transcriptase assay, real time qPCR, SDS-Page western blot analysis, Isoelectric focusing strips, and 2D protein gels. This also includes theoretical and hands-on work on Next Gen Sequencing (using an Ion Torrent set up)

To register or inquire about the workshop, please contact Dr. David Ng at [db@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:db@mail.ubc.ca) or 604-822-6264. More information can be found at <http://www.bioteach.ubc.ca/portfolio/professional-courses/>

Reviews can be found at <http://www.bioteach.ubc.ca/reviews-professional/>



## Summer Student Job Opportunities

### **Rocky Point Bird Observatory Job opportunities**



Two summer student positions available at Rocky Point bird Observatory.

Position: Assistant Bander  
Duration: 6 or 8 weeks  
Compensation: \$13.75 per hour (plus mandatory benefits)  
Start Date: July 1, 2017

The student will gain significant technical skills and scientific knowledge invaluable for future scientific work related to Canada's migratory birds.

The Assistant Bander will primarily support our fall migration monitoring projects, which track the population trends (including age and sex composition), productivity, and survival of more than 95 species of migratory land birds and owls. Assistant banders will also participate in monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) banding. Most work will occur at our main monitoring sites on Southern Vancouver Island (Rocky Point and Pedder Bay).

Submit résumé and copy of post-secondary transcript by email with references to [execdir@rpbo.org](mailto:execdir@rpbo.org) by June 7, 2017. Please include "Summer Student Applicant" in the subject line.

For more information, please contact Jag Sekhon ([execdir@rpbo.org](mailto:execdir@rpbo.org)) or visit <http://www.rpbo.org/index.php>

## Job Opportunities

### Department of Biology, Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor positions available for Fall 2017

The Department of Biology is now accepting applications for Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructors for the Fall 2017 term.  
**The closing date for applications is Sunday, July 16, 2017**

Please complete the CUPE 4163 application form and submit your applications and current curriculum vitae to:

Janice Gough, Administrative Officer, Department of Biology, UVic  
bioadmin@uvic.ca

Visit the following link for TA postings and CUPE 4163 application form:

<http://www.uvic.ca/science/biology/home/news/current/ta-postings-fall-2017.php>



If you have stories or announcements that would like to share for the Biology newsletter, please email Chantal Laliberté at [biology@uvic.ca](mailto:biology@uvic.ca) or Laura Alcaraz-Sehn at [bioclerk@uvic.ca](mailto:bioclerk@uvic.ca).

## Volunteer Opportunities

### **Parks Canada BioBlitz 2017**

Volunteer experts needed! Share your knowledge and contribute to the protection of Parks Canada's heritage places.

#### **Who?**

Survey Leaders: Professional scientists from scientific or educational institutes or regional, provincial or federal agencies or naturalists with a solid knowledge of the taxonomic groups and years of experience surveying, collecting and identifying.

Survey Assistants: Naturalists, students, specialists or interpreters with an intermediate knowledge of taxonomy and survey methods.

#### **What?**

Survey Leaders: Lead species surveys, identify species, educate about biodiversity, and possibly deliver public programs.

Survey Assistants: Assist Leaders, upload observations to iNaturalist.ca, or encourage the public to do so, and possibly deliver family programs.

#### **Why volunteer?**

Make a difference for the environment. Share your enthusiasm and knowledge. Access Parks Canada sites for surveys and collecting. Have fun with peers out in the field.

#### **Where?**

**West Coast Quest:** Pacific Rim National Park Reserve. Noon Saturday, May 20 to noon Sunday, May 21, 2017

Contact: [diana.lukinuk@pc.gc.ca](mailto:diana.lukinuk@pc.gc.ca) 250-726-3509

**Island Quest Gulf Islands National Park Reserve. Pender Island:**

4:00 pm Friday, June 9 to 4:00 pm Saturday, June 10

Register on-line or call 250-654-4000

[www.BioBlitz2017gulfilands.eventbrite.ca](http://www.BioBlitz2017gulfilands.eventbrite.ca)

## Summer Course

### Seaweeds of the West Coast, a weekend field course in Tofino, BC—June 9-11, 2017

This three-day field course, based out of the Tofino Botanical Gardens, will introduce participants to the world of west coast seaweeds. Topics to be covered in this year's course include and introduction to seaweeds (What are they? What is their role in coastal ecology?), biodiversity of west coast seaweeds, essentials of collecting and identifying seaweeds, seaweed foraging, the relationship between seaweeds and people, pressing and preserving seaweed, and more.

Dr. Katy Hind is a seaweed biology and Hakai Scholar. She is currently working as a Senior Laboratory Instructor at UVic. In her research, she has described new species of seaweed using an integrative approach that combines molecular techniques, historical DNA, morphology, biogeography and ecology. To find out more about Dr. Hind's research visit [www.katyhind.com](http://www.katyhind.com).

Course fee is \$240 and includes lunch on Saturday and Sunday.

For a complete schedule, information and registration:

Web: [raincoastinstitute.com](http://raincoastinstitute.com)

Phone: 250.725.2560

Email: [info@raincoasteducation.org](mailto:info@raincoasteducation.org)



## Scholarship Opportunities

### Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC Scholarship Opportunity

The Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC is a private non-profit organization dedicated to the enhancement and conservation of BC's freshwater fish resources for the benefit of the public. The society delivers the provincial fish stocking program to support sport fishing; offers a range of conservation services to protect wild fish, and promotes the importance of sport fishing and fish conservation to the public.

**Award and Eligibility Requirements:** The Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC awards up to four scholarship awards annually with a value of up to \$1500 each. These scholarships are available to students enrolled in a fish culture or fisheries management program within a recognized post-secondary educational institution in British Columbia. To be eligible applicants must have completed at least their first year of post secondary studies and plan to continue as a student, with the intent of establishing a career in British Columbia in one of the following fields: Fish culture, recreational fisheries management; fisheries enhancement, conservation and/or research. Previous recipients are not eligible to reapply.

**Application Requirements:**

Interested applicants may submit either a short essay or an audio visual presentation that outlines career aspirations and how past experience, interests, and chosen educational program will benefit BC freshwater recreational fisheries upon your graduation. Also outline an environmental issue in BC that is important to you and why. An essay must be between 740-1000 words or an audio visual presentation between five and ten minutes in length.

Your application must also include:

\*A copy of your recent transcript

\*Your resume

\*The names and contact information of three references, including at least one academic and/or faculty member reference.

\*An indication that if you are the award recipient, you give permission to Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC to publish your photo and application essay in our Newsletter.

Submit your application to the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC, Human Resources Department by May 31, 2017 by email to: [jobs@gofishbc.com](mailto:jobs@gofishbc.com) Funds will be awarded in a tuition credit for the fall term upon proof of full time enrollment.

For further information about the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC, please visit [www.gofishbc.com](http://www.gofishbc.com)

#### **Editors:**

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