

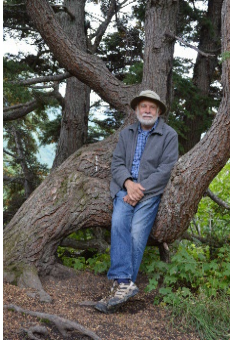


UVic Forest Biology Update

Summer
2023

Meet our Associate Member:

Dr. Joseph Antos



I am an adjunct professor at UVic & have been associated with Forest Biology for many years. I am a plant ecologist & my work has focused on various aspects of the ecology of forest plants. About 25 years ago I started working on the age structure of old forests in southern BC. We obtained age structures for five subalpine stands. Some of these forests contained amazingly old trees. All four species in a stand on northern Vancouver Island had individuals over 900 years old! Subsequently, we used the tree-ring data from these stands to examine how forests may respond to climate change. The work on old forests indicated that advanced regeneration may be important, & thus I have examined the growth & age of small trees in the understory. Some of these are very old and growing very slowly. I have also examined the possibility that advanced regeneration may be important in forming new stands following major bark beetle outbreaks in British Columbia. I am very interested in forest understory plants & clonal growth, which is common among forest herbs. I have excavated rhizome systems of a number of species, which provides a different perspective on plant growth than is typically observed aboveground. My work on clonal growth has been very rewarding & has increased understanding of understory plants – an important component of forest ecosystems.

FORB Honours Defenses

Congratulations to Bethany Robson and Alistair Knox on successful completion of their Honours defenses. Bethany, pictured with supervisor Barbara Hawkins, spoke on how contrasting mycorrhizal associations (ectomycorrhizae vs. arbuscular mycorrhizae) affect drought tolerance in Lodgepole Pine and Western Red Cedar. Alistair, pictured with supervisor Patrick von Aderkas, successfully defended his Honours thesis on fern reproductive biology towards establishing breeding systems.

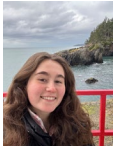


New FORB Members

Kailey Strachan

Dr. von Aderkas/
Dr. Lacourse

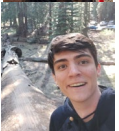
Summer Student



Iosif Mitiashin

Dr. Ehltling/
Dr. Constabel

Summer Student



Freya Innes

Dr. Hawkins/
Dr. Lacourse

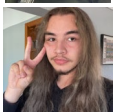
Summer Student



Jacob Smallboy

Dr. Hawkins

Summer Student



Erik Murphy

Dr. Ehltling/
Dr. de la Bastide

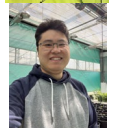
Summer Student



Martin Liu

Dr. Hawkins

Directed Study



Rylie Ferguson

Dr. Hawkins

Directed Study



Recent Publications

Aldana, J.A., Kope, H.H., and Hawkins, B.J. 2023. Western redcedar - natural history and pathosystems, with emphasis on cedar leaf blight. Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07060661.2023.2198489>

Kranabetter, J.M., Robbins, S., Hawkins, B.J. Host population effects on ectomycorrhizal fungi vary between low and high phosphorus soils of temperate rainforests. Mycorrhiza. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00572-023-01109-5>

Congratulations Biology Graduate Symposium Winners!

Big congratulations to our FORB Members on winning Best Talk at the 2023 Biology Graduate Symposium!

Sarah Lane (Ehltung Lab) won Best Talk in the PhD category and Emma Hayward (Ehltung Lab) won Best Talk in the MSc category!



One Year of FORB Coffee/Tea Gathering!

Every Wednesday between May 11, 2022 and today our FORB group and friends have gathered to socialize and network. The sun has co-operated, and we have managed over 1 full year (yes, even during the snow closure in December 2022!) of weekly outdoor gatherings – keeping our group safe, healthy and fed. Looking forward to future Wednesday gathering!



Compiled by Andrea Roszmann, Administrative Assistant, Centre for Forest Biology

Terrie Finston – long-time member of FORB is retiring!

Terrie has been working with us since 2014 & I can officially say she is a Mycologist! Born & raised in Michigan, Terrie went to Oakland University for her undergraduate degree. She made the jump across the border to work at the University of Guelph & a bit later started her research career at Carleton in Ottawa, completing her M.Sc. in Biology. In search of greater adventures, Terrie & her partner Rick moved to Perth in Western Australia, where Terrie studied Zoology for her Ph.D. at the UWA. Together they spent many happy years in Perth, raising their daughter & son under the hot Australian sun. In 2010, they emigrated back to Canada, landing in Victoria on a cooler west coast. In our lab, Terrie has been a key partner in many different projects over the years & has kept us moving in the right direction, providing guidance & advice for many students. She is the voice of calm & reason when things just don't seem to be working! As well, she has a great sense of humour & we can always find something to laugh about when experiments go sideways! Terrie is looking forward to a retirement where she will have time for the fun stuff that she has been putting off for too long – something I can definitely understand!



*Submitted by Dr. Paul de la Bastide

UVic FORB Symposium and CSPB – Western Region Meeting

The Combined Meeting of the UVic Forest Biology Research Symposium & the Canadian Society of Plant Biologists - Western Region was held at UVic on May 1 & 2. Over 100 people registered, with 31 talks & 20 posters presented. Participants came from four universities, federal forestry & agriculture research labs, provincial ministries, & industry. The campus was in bloom & people were happy to be sharing science. We thank the Centre for Forest Biology, Mosaic Forest Management, Conviron/Argus, Biochambers, the Forest Genetics Council & Select Seed for their support.

AWARDS:

Best Talk

First: Cecily Costain (UBC)
Second: Eerik Piirtola (UVic)
Third: Sean Ritter (UBC)

Best Poster

First: Bailan Lu (UBC)
Second: Emma Hayward (UVic)

