



Department of Biology Newsletter

February 7, 2014

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Featured Researcher-Dr. Diana Varela



Biology and SEOS Professor Diana Varela took part in a joint effort to study the effects of climate change on coastal planktonic communities in Antarctic marine waters. The project was funded by and sponsored by Argentinean research agency the Argentinean Antarctic Institute. Diana together with colleagues (Drs. Irene Schloss, Marcelo Hernando and 3 other PIs, and Ph.D. student Natalia Visintini) investigated the effects of increasing temperatures and decreasing salinities on the physiology and ecology of marine phytoplankton and zooplankton, which are the base of marine food webs. Seawater temperatures are increasing due to global warming, and salinities are decreasing due to enhanced runoff of freshwater from land and melting of ice. Microcosm experiments exposed to varying temperature and salinity conditions were set up on shore, in which coastal assemblages are being followed for a variety of parameters that are indicative of the physiological status of the organisms. Diana participated in the field campaign at the Argentinean Base Carlini in King George Island (which is part of the South Shetland Archipelago, west of the north tip of the Antarctic peninsula) during December and January 2014. The team plans to compare Antarctic responses in planktonic communities with those in coastal Arctic waters during the next two years.

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DR. DIANA VARELA:
CO-INVESTIGATOR ARGENTINIAN/CANADIAN RESEARCH IN THE ANTARCTIC

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DR. VERENA TUNNICLIFFE

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Awards

President's Distinguished Service Award

The Department of Biology is very pleased to announce that Dr. Rossi Marx is the recipient of the President's Distinguished Service Award - "Excellence in Service"

This award only begins to recognize Rossi's

- *support for students and providing outstanding improvement in the learning environment by engaging students outside the regular daily curriculum
- *support for other staff members by sharing her knowledge and time
- *outstanding contribution to the community with Science Fair and many other events too numerous to list
- *dedication and high level of integrity

Rossi will be honoured on Thursday, **February 20, 2014**

at the University Club from 4:30pm - 6:00pm (formal program begins at 4:45pm).

We encourage everyone to attend and to congratulate Rossi on this well-deserved award.

To RSVP please register online at <http://www.uvic.ca/hr/pdsa> by Thursday, February 13, 2014.

For more information about Rossi

<http://www.uvic.ca/science/students/prospective-undergrad/degree/profiles/profile/rossi-marx.php>

<http://ring.uvic.ca/people/day-life-dr-rossi-marx>



Awards

19th Annual Murray A. Newman Awards

Join us to celebrate the accomplishments of Dr. Verena Tunnicliffe at the 19th Annual Murray A Newman Awards. Each year the Murray A. Newman Awards recognizes leading researchers and conservationists who have made invaluable contributions to understanding and conserving our irreplaceable aquatic ecosystems.



Tuesday, February 19 at 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm at the Vancouver Aquarium (Main entrance)

*Attire: Business Attire *Inquiries: 604-659-3472 *Tickets: Purchase tickets on-line

Dr. Verena Tunnicliffe

For significant Achievement in Aquatic conservation and Research

Dr. Verena Tunnicliffe has pioneered both research and observation methods that have significantly influenced the study of local waters and the world's oceans. She was among the first to explore B.C.'s marine habitats and contributed to the discovery of over 75 new species. Dr. Tunnicliffe has also explored extreme marine systems deepening our understanding of how species respond to catastrophic or stressful events.

She has also consistently taken advantage of technology to study ocean life in situ.

Biology Grad Symposium

The Biology Graduate Symposium is an annual event held during the Fall Term Reading Break. This year marked its 25th anniversary and as always, it was a huge success. Organized by our graduate students, for our graduate students, it is an excellent opportunity for our graduate students to showcase their diverse research.

There were many fine talks, making it difficult for the Judging Committee to choose the following award winners.

Best Overall Talk

Justin Suraci – Brad Anholt and Michael Clinchy Lab

Best Cells and Gels Talk (MSc)

Jessica Bilkey – Kerry Delaney Lab

Best Surf and Turf Talk (MSc)

Adrian Burrill – Julia Baum Lab

Best Cells and Gels Talk (PhD)

Bridget Ryan – Bob Chow Lab

Best Surf and Turf Talk (PhD)

Finn Hamilton – Steve Perlman Lab



Congratulations to these graduate students, thanks to all the students that presented and a huge thank you to all those that volunteered to help make this year's symposium the success it was.

Upcoming Seminars

Biology

***No Seminar Feb 14 and 21, 2014**

Dr. Meg Krawchuk

Simon Fraser University



Title: TBA

Friday, February 28, at 2:30 p.m. CUNN Room 146

Biochemistry Microbiology

Dr. Alex Filo

Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology

"B-1,3-glucan degradation in the environment".

Friday, February 7, at 1:30 p.m. ECS Room 124



Biochemistry Microbiology

Dr. Paul Brett

Assistant Professor, Microbiology Immunology, University of South Alabama

"Development of Polysaccharide-Based Vaccines for immunization against melioidosis".

Friday, February 21, at 1:30 p.m. ECS Room 124

Centre for Biomedical Research

Café Scientifique

Dr. Brad Nelson
Deeley Research Centre

"Curing killer Cancer cells with T cells"

Tuesday, February 25, 2014
6:30 p.m.

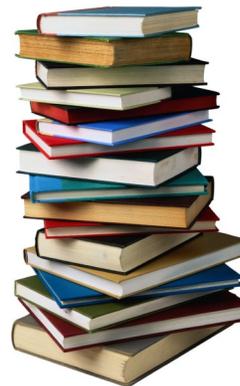
Location: Strathcona Hotel-Maple Room 919 Douglas St. Victoria, BC

Admission is complimentary and light appetizers and beverages are provided. Please contact cfr@uvic.ca or 250-472-4067 to RSVP or for more information
Sponsored by Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR)

Student News

Congratulations to our grad students who defended Fall 2013:

- Katie Bell (MSc, Gregory Lab)
- Anne Berland (MSc, von Aderkas Lab)
- Graeme Dixon-MacCallum (MSc, Gregory Lab)
- Amy Franklin (MSc, Constabel Lab)
- Jane Guo (PhD, Ehlting Lab)
- Amber Paulson (MSc, Perlman and von Aderkas Labs)



Welcome to our new grad students who started this January 2014:

- Will Duguid (Juanes Lab, PhD)
- Erin Hornell (Reimchen Lab, MSc)
- Kimberley Kennedy (El-Sabaawi Lab, MSc)
- Tom Iwanicki (Taylor Lab, MSc)

Calendar

Important Dates:

Monday, February 10 - Friday, February 14

Reading Break. No Classes.

Friday, February 28

Last day for withdrawing from full-year and second-term courses without penalty of failure



Conferences

4th Banff Conference on Plant Metabolism

Major Themes for 2014:

Plant Metabolism and Human Health Genomics and Metabolism of Fruits Crops,
Nitrogen and Phosphorus Metabolism,
Plant Specialized Metabolism,
Synthetic Biology

June 26-30, 2014 The Banff Centre, Banff ,Alberta
plantmet@ucalgary.ca
www.ucalgary.ca/plantmetabolism

Conference Chair: Peter Facchini



Other Institution Info Session

University of Waterloo Graduate Studies in Nanotechnology

Waterloo's unique Collaborative Nanotechnology Graduate Program is for students interested in interdisciplinary research

spanning Engineering, Science and Mathematics. Nanotechnology is a diverse and exciting field encompassing biomedical technology, information and communications, energy and advanced materials.

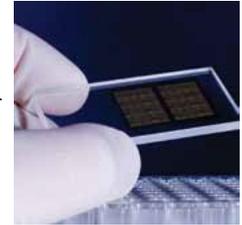
At Waterloo, you can receive a \$10,000 Nanotechnology Scholarship, or Nanofellowship from the Waterloo Institute for

Nanotechnology (WIN) on top of research and teaching assistantships provided by the department. **Deadline for 2014**

applications is April 30, 2014

Find out if the UW Collaborative Nanotechnology program is right for you and how to apply for WIN's Nanofellowship competition: www.nano.uwaterloo.ca/students/graduate-program and www.nano.uwaterloo.ca/students/nanofellowships.

Or, contact us at win@uwaterloo.ca.



Internship Opportunities and programs

Intern with the South African Shark Conservancy – positions available!

SASC is a non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting the conservation and sustainable utilisation of marine resources through research, education and outreach. Since its inception in 2007, SASC has developed partnerships with academic and conservation organisations around the globe, and has become well-known in South Africa for its inclusive and holistic approach to conservation and management initiatives.

SASC offers interns the opportunity to become involved in a unique and exciting approach to marine conservation. Interns may be involved in field research, outreach and educational programmes as well as desktop studies and organisational development projects. Our research and outreach projects are specifically designed to promote a well-rounded approach to conservation, working with various fishing sectors, research institutes and governmental organisations. We are looking for interns with a biological background or interest in shark biology and conservation for a period of one to three months. Join our internship programme and gain valuable insight into the conservation management of sharks and other living marine resources.

For more details and an application form, please send an email to intern@sharkconservancy.org.

Visit www.sharkconservancy.org for more details about current projects and events.

BC SPCA WILD ARC –Wild animal Rehabilitation Centre

BECOME A WILD ARC SUMMER INTERN!

Internships are intensive two-month placements during one of the following periods: May-June, July-August, September-October

All internship positions are voluntary. No stipend or salary is offered. Housing and transportation are the responsibility of the individual applicant. Application deadline: March 1st, 2014 For more information visit: www.wildarc.com

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