



# Department of Biology Newsletter

February 2, 2016

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

## Congratulations Biology Graduates Fall 2015!

The Department of Biology congratulates the graduate students who graduated in the Fall of 2015.

Robert Bourdon MSc	Supervisors: Dr. Francis Juanes and Dr. Sarah Dudas
Geoffrey DeRosenroll MSc	Supervisor: Dr. Kerry Delaney
Phineas (Finn) Hamilton PhD	Supervisor: Dr. Steve Perlman
Mark Hanson MSc	Supervisor: Dr. Steve Perlman
Christina Hodson MSc	Supervisor: Dr. Steve Perlman
Lisa Rodgers MSc	Supervisor: Dr. Asit Mazumder
Hannah Westlake MSc	Supervisor: Dr. Louise Page
Rebecca Westley MSc	Supervisors: Dr. Peter Constabel and Dr. Barbara Hawkins

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## Welcome to our New Graduate Students

Morgan Black	(Juanes lab, MSc)
Lia Chalifour	(Baum lab, MSc)
Garth Covernton	(Dower lab, MSc)
Graeme Keais	(Perlman lab, MSc)



## Upcoming Seminars. Everyone Welcome!

### Forest Biology

#### **Marta Fontbote**

"Potential interaction of JAZ proteins with transcriptional activators of the tannin pathway in poplar"

#### **Coung Le**

"Secondary metabolite-producing hydroxycinnamoyl transferases in plants"

#### **PhD Students**

Center for Forest Biology, UVic

Wednesday, February 3, 2016  
at 1:30 pm CUN 146

### Forest Biology

#### **Marie Vance PhD Student**

Center for Forest Biology, UVic

"Assessing genetic variation and structure in northern populations of grand fir (*Abies grandis*)"

Wednesday, February 10, 2016  
at 1:30 pm CUN 146



### Biology

#### **Dr. Seth Rudman** UBC

"The interplay between evolution and ecology in British Columbia's freshwater ecosystems"

Friday, February 19, 2016  
at 2:30 pm MSB 150

### Biology

#### **Dr. Travis G. Gerwing** UVic/Hakai Institute

"Population and Community Ecology: Lessons from four decades of muddy research in the Bay of Fundy"

Friday, February 26, 2016  
at 2:30 pm MSB 150

## Calendar

### Important Dates:

Friday, February 5

Sunday, February 7

Monday, February 8

Monday to Friday, February 8-12

Monday, February 15

Monday, February 29

Senate meets

Last day for 50% reduction of tuition fees for standard courses. 100% of tuition fees will be assessed for courses dropped after this date

Family Day

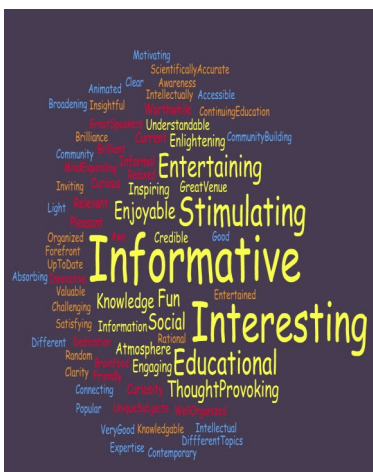
Reading Break for all Faculties

Faculty of Graduate Studies deadline to apply to graduate for spring convocation (students completing in the spring only)

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



## Café Scientifique Series



### Café Scientifique Centre for Biomedical Research

Presenter: Dr. Patrick Walter, Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Biology, UVic and Children's Hospital, Oakland California.

(Please note this was originally booked for January 19)

"Iron Overload: Why too much of a good thing can be bad"

Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at 6:30 pm

For more information contact: [cfr@uvic.ca](mailto:cfr@uvic.ca) or call 250-472-4067

or visit: <http://cbr.uvic.ca/science-and-society/cafe-scientifique>

### Café Scientifique Faculty of Science

Presenter: Dr. Christian Marois, Department of Physics and Astronomy, and NRC Herzberg.

"The Quest for a Habitable Exoplanet"

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 6:30 pm

This is a free event hosted by the Faculty of Science; seating is limited so please reserve at:

<http://www.astro.uvic.ca/~pritchet/CafeSci/>

All Café Scientifique take place at Hermann's Jazz Club 753 View Street

For all Café Scientifique Series visit: <http://www.uvic.ca/research/learnabout/home/news/cafe/>



## Science Undergraduate Research Awards (SURA)

### SURA Applications

Summer research can be an important and enjoyable part of an undergraduate experience, and can also be helpful in deciding whether to pursue research as a career. A fund initiated and sustained by an endowment provided by the estate of the late Eva Moody allows the Faculty of Science to provide a number of competitive awards each year to undergraduate students who want to do research in the summer.

The award is directed at undergraduate students who wish to carry out a research project during the summer under the supervision of a Faculty member in Science at UVic. **The Application deadline to apply is February 15 of each year.**

For more information, a complete description of the award and procedures visit:

<http://www.uvic.ca/science/assets/docs/SURA-application.pdf>



If you have an event or story you would like to share in the Biology Newsletter, please e-mail: [biology@uvic.ca](mailto:biology@uvic.ca) or [bioclerk@uvic.ca](mailto:bioclerk@uvic.ca)

## UVic Events

### **Wilderness First Aid**

Presented by Slipstream in conjunction with the Department of Occupational Health, Safety and Environment.

February 9 and 10

7:30 am to 5:30 pm

This two-day introduction to Wilderness First Aid for Field Scientists covers the basics, including traumatic injuries, evacuation planning, simulation training and much more.

To register go to <https://ohs.uvic.ca/trainingcalendar.php>

Register early as the courses book quickly.

Note: There will be a penalty fee for people who register but do not show up. Also note that this course does not qualify for the Transport Canada basic 16 hr marine First Aid certification.

### **Human Resources Open House**

After a busy summer of renovations and office moves to serve everyone better, the staff in Human Resources invites you to an Open House to visit the re-designed office suite.

Sedgewick B-Wing

February 11

12:30 to 3:30 pm

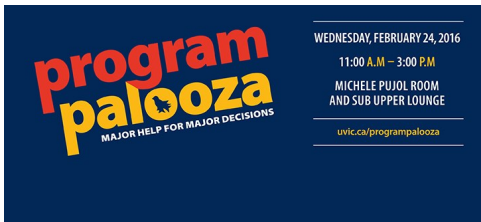
Meet the HR staff over some light snacks, a tour, and to learn more about their programs and services.

### **Programpalooza: Major help for major decisions**

Visit the Programpalooza in the Student Union Building on Wednesday, February 24 where professors and advisers from the faculties of Science\*, Humanities\*\*, and Social Sciences\*\*\* will be on hand to help you explore program options and find the right match for you.

11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Michele Pujol Room and SUB upper lounge. [uvic.ca/programpalooza](http://uvic.ca/programpalooza)



\*Faculty of Science: Biochemistry and Microbiology, Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Ocean Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics, Physics and Astronomy

\*\*Faculty of Humanities: English, French, Germanic and Slavic Studies, History, Latin American Studies, Linguistics, Medieval Studies, Pacific and Asian Studies, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Women's Studies

\*\*\*Faculty of Social Sciences: Anthropology, Economics, Environmental Studies, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology

### **Alumni Week**

Includes fun and informative events to celebrate the economic, social and cultural impact of UVic grads everywhere. Here are some of the highlights of Alumni Week 2016.



-Introverts' Night Out: UVic Chancellor Shelagh Rogers will be in conversation with University of Cambridge psychologist Brian Little, BA'64 (*Me, Myself and Us: The science of Personality and the Art of Well-Being*) at the First Metropolitan United Church, February 5, 7:30 pm

-12 Amazing Alumni: An evening of inspiration and celebration as the Distinguished Alumni Awards, (selected by each of UVic's faculties, divisions and the University Libraries) are presented to individuals whose careers and community involvement define the positive impact of UVic alumni. At the Royal BC Museum, February 2, 7:30 pm

For more information visit:

<http://www.uvic.ca/alumni/impact/home/alumni-week/index.php>

## Job Opportunities

### Vancouver Island University, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and University of Victoria

Vancouver Island University, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the University of Victoria are conducting a collaborative project to investigate microplastics in British Columbia's coastal ecosystem. This project will determine the presence, types and extent of microplastics in shellfish and their surrounding environment and investigate the impacts of microplastics on animal health and function.



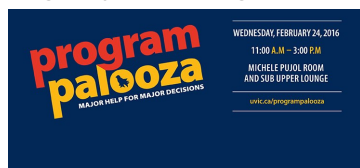
The student will have the opportunity to work with the shellfish industry, non-profit, government and university researchers in a range of disciplines including ecology, contaminants, genomics and aquaculture. We are looking for an enthusiastic, self-motivated student that is organized, conscientious and has experience working in both field and lab settings and is keen to work with multiple stakeholder groups. Experience and/or knowledge in shellfish biology, contaminants, aquaculture and GIS would be an asset. Prospective candidates should be competitive for NSERC scholarships. The successful applicant would start in January 2016.

If you are interested in applying, please send a single document that combines:

1. A cover letter outlining your research interests, relevant experience and your interest in this project,
2. CV and
3. University transcript copies to Dr. Sarah Dudas at [Sarah.Dudas@viu.ca](mailto:Sarah.Dudas@viu.ca)

Please ensure that your family name is at the start of the file name (as in Smith\_John.docx). Only those selected for an interview will be contacted. <http://www.ecologicalinteractions.com/>

### Programpalooza Program Assistants



The Program Assistants will help with:

- Event promotion (Chalk boarding classrooms and sidewalks, delivering posters)
- Event set-up (putting up banners on tackboards, setting up posters)
- Event day support (greeting, information table, number count, event evaluation, supervising prize table, handing out flyers on campus, supporting student and staff volunteers.

To apply for this opportunity: Cover letter, resume, January term course schedule and contact information for 3 references should be emailed to Jeneanne Kallstrom, Academic Advising Center for Humanities, Science and Social Sciences, [jeneanne@uvic.ca](mailto:jeneanne@uvic.ca).

All inquiries about this opportunity should be directed to [jeneanne@uvic.ca](mailto:jeneanne@uvic.ca).

Successful candidates must be eligible to work in Canada. We thank all interested candidates for applying –only those selected for interviews will be contacted.

## Workshops

### University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

The Michael Smith Labs present their MOLECULAR BIOLOGY WORKSHOP, 2016 Spring Session, at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

One week version—Molecular Biology Workshop, April 4 to 8, 2016 (\$1500)

This intense 5 day workshop will focus on a 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.



Did you know the UVic Retirees Association puts out a quarterly newsletter? Visit their link below for more information <http://web.uvic.ca/retirees/newsletters.html>

## NPAFC 2016 Internship Program

### **Announcement: 2016 NPAFC Internship Program**

The North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) invites citizens from its member countries

(Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and USA) to apply for the NPAFC Internship Program. One intern will be accepted upon approval of the Commission. The intern will work at the NPAFC Secretariat office of in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

\*The intern will gain experience and knowledge in operations of the NPAFC and will have the opportunity to test their interest in international governmental organizations, management, fisheries, biology, ecology, and fisheries enforcement. The intern will work under the supervision of the Executive Director and/or his designate. In general, the intern will assist in a variety of tasks.

\*Internship period: September 1, 2016 for a period of a maximum of six months. Monday to Friday, 7.5 hours per day.

\*Qualifications: Applicants must be a citizen of NPAFC member country, have a university degree, the ability to read, write and speak English, the ability to use computers and the internet; and demonstrated personal initiative. Applicants must currently be a part of the government or Academic sector, a recent graduate, or currently enrolled in school for an advanced degree.

\*Financial Support: NPAFC will provide a stipend of @2,500 CDN per month. Travel costs to and from the intern's place of residence and the location of the Secretariat office and cost of medical insurance will be at the intern's own expense or by home country support. Travel expenses associated with the intern's work in the Secretariat will be covered by NPAFC.

\*Applications—Email the following documents to [secretariat@npafc.org](mailto:secretariat@npafc.org) by March 16, 2016:

Cover letter describing the applicant's interests and qualifications,

Resume showing academic and/or work experience,

Three professional letters of reference \*

For complete information visit: [http://www.npafc.org/new/about\\_internship.html](http://www.npafc.org/new/about_internship.html) and contact the NPAFC Secretariat for questions at [secretariat@npafc.org](mailto:secretariat@npafc.org)



NORTH PACIFIC  
ANADROMOUS FISH  
COMMISSION

Established by international convention  
to promote conservation of  
Pacific salmon and steelhead trout  
in the North Pacific Ocean



## 2016 IUBMB Conference

### **IUBMB Conference (International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology)**

Signalling Pathways in Development, Disease and Aging.

**Conference July 17 to 21, 2016, Vancouver, BC**

The IUBMB unites biochemists and molecular biologists in 77 countries. Aims to promote research and education in biochemistry and molecular biology world-wide, especially in areas where the subject is still in its early development.

The IUBMB seeks to advance the international molecular life sciences community by:

\*Promoting interactions across the diversity of endeavours in the molecular life sciences.

\*Creating networks that transcend barriers of ethnicity, culture, gender and economic status.

\*Creating pathways for young scientists to fulfill their potential.

\*Providing evidence-based advice on public policy.

\*Promoting the values, standards and ethics of science and the free and unhampered movement of scientists of all nations.

Registration and Accommodations: on-going

Abstract Submission deadline: March 4, 2016

Abstract Notifications deadline: April 1, 2016

Early Registration deadline: April 15, 2016

Regular Registration deadline: May 27, 2016

Late Breaking Abstract Submission deadline: May 27, 2016

For more information visit: [IUBMB2016.ORG](http://IUBMB2016.ORG)



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