



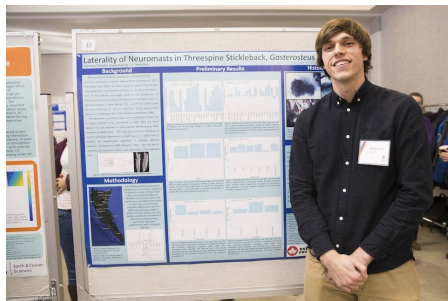
Department of Biology Newsletter

Thursday, March 15, 2018

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Nicholas Planidin: Second Place at 2018 Honours Fest

The Boehm Family Award for Excellence in Science



Nicholas Planidin, a fourth-year undergraduate student in the biology honours program, clinched second place at this year's Honours Fest poster competition, winning a prize of \$1000.

This year competition was steep, with the honours students from all departments within the faculty of science coming together to share their research with fellow students and faculty alike.

Nicholas is completing his honours thesis under the supervision of Dr. Reimchen, investigating neuromasts of the lateral line of threespine stickleback. His findings, which indicate an unexpected right-side asymmetry to the number of neuromasts of the lateral line, suggest a diversity of new questions and approaches in studies of fish behavior including predator-prey interactions. If the results are confirmed on other species, it would substantially alter understanding of this major sensory organ that has been largely assumed to be bilaterally symmetrical. Congratulations on your achievement Nicholas!

Inside this issue:

- NICHOLAS PLANIDIN: SECOND PLACE AT HONOURS FEST **1**
- SEMINARS **1**
- CALENDAR **2**
- BIOLOGY ANNOUNCEMENTS **2**
- BIOLOGY ORAL DEFENCES **3**
- CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE **4**
- OCEAN NETWORKS CANADA **4**
- UVIC WOMEN IN SCIENCE **4**
- SCHOLARSHIPS **5**
- JOB OPPORTUNITY **6**
- VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY **6**

Upcoming Seminars 2017-2018 Series. Everyone Welcome!

Centre for Forest Biology



Biology

Dr. Nicolas Feau
Department of Forest Sciences, UBC

“How tree domestication and cultivation triggers the emergence of novel pathogens: the invasion history of poplar leaf-spot and canker disease”

Wed., March 21, 2018
at 2:30 pm in CUN 146

Dr. Roi Holzman
Department of Zoology, Tel Aviv University

“The sad story of larval fishes” what constrains larval feeding and survival during the ‘critical period’?”

Friday, March 23, 2018
at 3:30 pm in MSB 150

Centre for Forest Biology



Biology

Dr. Miriam Isaac-Rentos
Postdoctoral Fellow, MFLNORD and **Dr. David Montwé**, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Alberta

“Adaptation of lodgepole pine to climatic extremes: Implications for assisted migration”

Wed., March 28, 2018
at 2:30 pm in CUN 146

Dr. Mike Worobey
LANSDOWNE LECTURER
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Arizona

“TBA”

Friday, April 5, 2018
at 3:30 pm in MSB 150

Calendar

Important Dates:

Friday, March 30

Good Friday

Monday, April 2

Easter Monday

Friday, April 6

Senate meets, Last day of classes for all faculties, except Faculty of Human and Social Development.

Monday April 9

Examinations begin for all faculties, except for Faculty of Human and Social Development

Tuesday, April 24

Examinations end for all faculties. End of Winter Session

Session

Friday, May 4

Senate meets

Monday, May 7

May and May-June courses begin for all faculties



Biology Announcements

Publications

J. Baum, D. Claar. New Science paper on mass coral bleaching. Dr. Julia Baum and PhD student Danielle Claar are co-authors on a paper published January 5, 2018 in Science “Spatial and temporal patterns of mass bleaching of corals in the Anthropocene”. The team looked at 100 reefs from around the world and found that the average interval between bleaching events has been reduced by more than half.

[Publication](#)

A. Ferguson, E. Carvalho, G. Gourlay, V. Walker, S. Martens, J. Salminen, C. P. Constabel. Phytochemical analysis of salal berry (*Gaultheria shallon* Pursh.), a traditionally-consumed fruit from western North America with exceptionally high proanthocyanidin content.

[Publication](#)

Baby News

Congratulations to our Graduate Student, Jess Wyatt, on the birth of Rory Rosalind Crowson, born on Friday, February 16, 2018. Mother and daughter are doing well.



Congratulations to Dr. Ben Koop on the birth of his grandson, William Peter, born on Tuesday, March 13, 2018.



Biology Oral Defences

Biology Oral Defences



Amanda McLaughlin, PhD
Supervisor: Dr. John Taylor
Tuesday, March 27, 2018 @ 12:30 pm in Halpern Grad House, Room 108
Title: "Na⁺ channels enhance low contrast signalling in the superior-coding direction-selective circuit"

Kyle Beer, MSc

Supervisor: Dr. Terri Lacourse
Friday, April 13, 2018 @ 1:00 pm in HHB 120
"Holocene Ecosystem Dynamics of a Central Vancouver Island Wetland: Development, Vegetation Change, and Carbon Accumulation"



Amy Teffer, PhD
Supervisor: Dr. Francis Juanes
Monday, April 16, 2018 @ 2:00 pm in CLE B007
"Impacts of cumulative thermal and fishery stressors and infection development on the health and survival of adult Pacific salmon during freshwater residence"

Graeme Keais, MSc

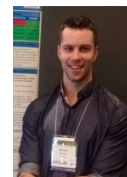
Supervisor: Dr. Steve Perlman
Tuesday, April 17, 2018 @ 10:00 am in ECS 130
"X Chromosome Drive in *Drosophila testacea*"



David Minkley, MSc
Supervisor: Dr. Ben Koop
Wednesday, April 18, 2018 @ 10:00 am in HHB 120
"Transposable Elements in the Salmonid Genome"

Michael Minkley, MSc

Supervisors: Drs. Patrick Walter and Raad Nashmi
Thursday, April 19, 2018 @ 9:00 am HHB 120
"Ironing out the Pathophysiology of Neurodegeneration with Brain Iron Accumulation (NBIA)- Clinical Investigations and Disease Modeling Yield Novel Evidence of Systemic Dysfunction and Provide a Robust and Accurate Disease Model of NBIA"



Mauricio Carrasquilla, PhD
Supervisor: Dr. Francis Juanes
Tuesday, April 19, 2018 @ 2:00 pm in CLE B017
"Ecological importance of nearshore habitats to sustain small-scale fisheries"

Anastasia Litke, MSc

Supervisor: Dr. Bob Chow
Wednesday, April 25, 2018 @ 10:00 am in MSB 150
"Investigating the pathogenicity of missense mutations in VSX1 and their association with corneal dystrophies"



Café Scientifique

Café Scientifique

The Café Scientifique series is an informal series of talks given in a relaxed setting such as a café. These talks are designed to engage the public in learning about recent research in science. The talks, which are given by experts in the field, provide an opportunity to stimulate discussion around some of the most exciting topics in modern science.

Dr. Olav Krigolson and Lab, School of Exercise Science, Physical & Health Education and Department of Psychology—March 20
“Tools of the Trade: An Interactive Evening with the Latest Technology in Neuroscience”

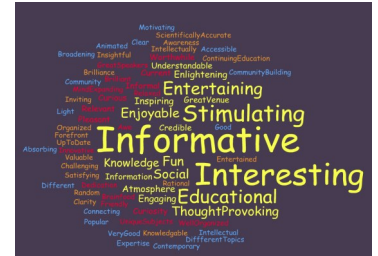
Dr. Alan McConnachie, NRC Herzberg (Dominion Astrophysical Observatory) and Department of Physics and Astronomy—April 10
“Canada’s Place in the Galaxy”

Location: Hermann’s Jazz Club, 753 View Street

Start time: 6:30 pm

Doors open at 4:30 pm. A UVic representative will be available at 5:45 pm.

For more information visit [Centre for Biomedical Research](#)



Ocean Networks Canada

2018 PICES Summer School

Ocean Networks Canada will host the 2018 PICES summer school on Coastal Ocean Observatory Science. July 9-13, 2018, Victoria, BC

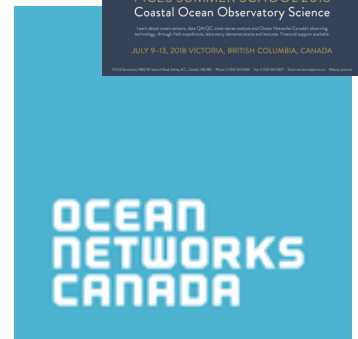
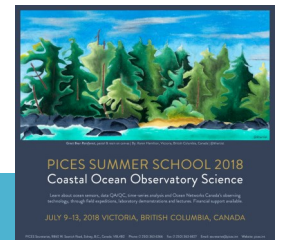
Who can attend? Early career scientists

What? Learn about ocean sensors, data QA/AC, time –series analysis and Ocean Networks Canada’s observing technology, through field expectation, laboratory demonstrations and lectures.

Cost? Cost of course, meals and accommodation is covered. Participants are responsible for their own travel costs (although limited funding support is available; for more details, contact asastri@uvic.ca).

Applications are due March 16, 2018.

For detailed information, visit [meetings.pices.int](#)



UVic Women in Science

UVic Women in Science is a club with the purpose to connect and support female graduate and undergraduate students pursuing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. Through newsletters, social events, guest lectures and professional development seminars, this network is open to all genders and persons who want to contribute to the success of these women. Membership offers a variety of resources that aim to support and enable members to form relationships with peers, professors, and industry professionals.



For more information contact Lauren McMillan at: lmcmilla@uvic.ca or communication.uvic.wis@gmail.com
Visit: [UVic Women in Science](#) for more information on events, interviews, resources and community.

UVic Announcements

5 Days of Action - Courageous Conversations

March 19-23, 2018. What roles do words, narratives, and stories play in creating and maintaining exclusion? How can they be harnessed in our attempt to create a more inclusive and respectful UVic community?

The purpose of this week is to encourage every member of the UVic community to take concrete steps toward ending discrimination, harassment, and sexualized violence on campus. 5 Days of Action is aimed at re-establishing our 365 days of commitment toward these goals.

Events: The week explores intersecting sub-themes related to race and ethnicity, sex and gender, disability, sexuality, and religious affiliation. Explore how social location shapes our commitments and capacity to identify and address barriers to inclusion.

Programming for the week includes:

- Daily calls to action
- Workshops
- Theatre presentations and films
- Diverse forms of social media engagement and activism

Contact us to share how you want to participate: eqhr@uvic.ca or 250-721-8488

This Event is held on the UVic campus, traditional territory of the Lkwungen-speaking peoples, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁ NEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Scholarships

Organization of American States (OAS) Academic Scholarships Program

Competition open for Canadians. The organization of American States (OAS) has launched its 2018-2019 Academic Scholarships Program. One scholarship will be awarded to a Canadian to study or conduct research at the Master's or PhD level, leading to a degree from a university in an OAS member state. The scholarship is tenable starting in August/September 2018.

- Program name: Organization of American States Academic Scholarships Programs
- Funding organization: Organization of American States
- Target audiences: Canadians who wish to undertake graduate studies or research in a university in an OAS members state (except Canada)
- Duration: 1-2 academic years
- Value: USD \$15,000 (Maximum) per academic year
- Inclusions: Airfare, tuition fees, mandatory expenses, monthly allowance, medical insurance and annual book allowance
- Deadline: March 21, 2018

For full program details and to submit an application, visit: [Organization of American States \(OAS\) Academic Scholarships](#)

All inquiries regarding this scholarship program should be directed to : admin-scholarships-bourses@cbie.ca or 313-237-4820.

Subscribe to the International Scholarships RSS feed to be kept informed of competition launch dates and other news relating to the [International Scholarships Program of Global Affairs](#).

International Pacific Halibut Commission Merit Scholarships

The International Pacific Halibut Commission funds several Merit Scholarships to support university technical college and other post secondary education. The scholarship fund has been established to assist the further education of Canadian and U.S.A. students connected to the Pacific halibut fishery. Generally, a single new scholarship valued at \$4,000 (USD) per year is awarded every two years. The scholarships are renewable annually for the normal four-year period of undergraduate education, subject to maintenance of satisfactory academic performance. A Scholarship Committee composed of industry and Commission representatives reviews applications and determines recipients based on academic qualifications, career goals, and relationship to the halibut industry.

Applications are available through [the Commission Opportunities](#) .

Applications must be received by June 30, 2018 and emailed to secretariat@iphc.int.

Job Opportunity

Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (Formerly Ministry of Forests)

Hiring two assistants who have had some forest ecology experience to work on silviculture/regeneration/wildlife habitat research trial near Kamloops. Work would begin in late April-early May and continue until September or possibly longer and be based in Kamloops. The work will involve primarily vegetation identification, tree/seeding measurements, forest structure measurements and some site maintenance duties. Plant identification skills, the ability to work unsupervised in a field setting and previous relevant field-work experience is an asset. A valid driver's licence is essential. Applications will be accepted until March 15, 2018. For more information and/or to submit a resume, please contact:

Walt Klenner, Wildlife Ecologist
FLNRO Rd. 441 Columbia St.
Kamloops, BC V2C 2T3
250-828-4158 email: walt.klenner@gov.bc.ca

Volunteer Opportunity

Rural eMentoring BC

Rural eMentoring BC would like you to consider joining them as a volunteer mentor. Rural eMentoring BC connects rural high school students to post-secondary students studying Health Sciences across the province. Mentors guide mentees through exploring school and career options and share the tools to navigate Health Sciences pathways.

Volunteering in Rural eMentoring BC program has many benefits. Youth and communities gain a knowledgeable member for a semester and you will get the chance to learn new skills and gain new understandings of the rural experience.

Mentees commit 2-3 hours a week to work through flexible online curriculum activities and discuss topics like study habits and goal settings with their mentors. Last year there were many students who came consistently to the program in the hope that they would eventually be paired with a mentor.

YOU CAN BE THAT MENTOR!

You can read about this great opportunity offered by Rural eMentoring BC by visiting www.eMentoringBC.com. You can also email e.mentoring@ubc.ca for more information.

Rural eMentoring BC "ReMBC"
We are Recruiting Mentors! 2018
Health Sciences Students
Flexible Timing
2-3 hours a week
Great Volunteer Opportunity!
What is ReMBC
Rural eMentoring BC connects rural high school students to post-secondary Health Sciences students across the province. Mentees and Mentors come together on our platform to explore high school and post-secondary realities and unlock opportunities. As a Rural eMentoring BC Mentor you can spend a semester inspiring rural youth to pursue Health Sciences Careers
For more information email at e.mentoring@ubc.ca or visit us at eMentoringBC.com
ReMBC REAP UBC



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

Editors:

L. Alcaraz-Sehn, C. Laliberté

Contributors: Nicholas Planidin, Dr. Ben Koop, Jess Wyatt, Dr. Constabel, Michelle Shen, CBR, Ocean Networks Canada, Dr. Francis Juanes

Department of Biology

P.O. Box 1700
STN CSC
Victoria, BC,
V8W 2Y2,
Canada

Tel: 250-721-7095

Fax: 250-721-7120

Email: biology@uvic.ca

Website:

<http://www.uvic.ca/science/biology/>

