



# Department of Biology Newsletter

Friday, April 13, 2018

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

## March for Science 2018

### March for Science 2018 Victoria

On **Saturday, April 14**, communities from coast to coast will come together to celebrate science in Canada as part of the international March for Science movement. This year we will celebrate, encourage, and work towards science that is for everyone.

The event starts in **Centennial Square in downtown Victoria at 1pm** with a traditional Indigenous welcoming ceremony, and a series of short speeches from a diverse group of speakers, including scientists and researchers from the BC Cancer Agency, The Land Conservancy of BC, the University of Victoria, and First Nations communities. These speeches will focus on how science impacts us by protecting our health and our environment, and by providing us with facts and evidence to hold our governments accountable. The event will conclude with a march to the Legislature. Whether a scientist or a supporter of science, we invite you to show solidarity with scientists and citizens around the world by participating in the March for Science and sharing the event with your friends and family. More information can be found on our [Facebook event page](#) or by emailing [m4svictoria@gmail.com](mailto:m4svictoria@gmail.com)



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## Upcoming Seminars 2017-2018 Series. Everyone Welcome!

### Biology

**Amy Teffer**  
PhD Exit Seminar  
Department of Biology, UVic

“Gone too soon: How cumulative Stressors and infections contribute to adult pacific salmon mortality”

Friday, April 13, 2018  
at 3:30 pm in MSB 150

### Biology

**Dr. Peter Abrams**  
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology,  
U. of Toronto

“When and why adaptive evolution reduces population size”

Friday, April 20, 2018  
at 3:30 pm in MSB 150

### Biochemistry & Microbiology

**Susannah Gagnon**  
Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, UVic

“Advancing understanding of the human blood group enzymes”

Friday, April 20, 2018  
at 1:30 pm in ECS 124

### Biology

**Mauricio Carrasquilla**  
PhD Exit Seminar  
Department of Biology, UVic

“Ecological importance of nearshore habitats to sustain small-scale fisheries”

Friday, April 27, 2018  
at 3:30 pm in MSB 150

## Calendar

### Important Dates:

**Tuesday, April 24**

Examinations end for all faculties. End of Winter Session

**Friday, May 4**

Senate meets

**Monday, May 7**

May-Aug courses begin for all faculties

**Monday, May 14**

May and May–June courses begin. Last day for course changes (Faculty of Law only)

**Monday, May 21**

Victoria Day

**Thursday, May 24**

Senate committee on Academic Standards meets to approve Convocation lists

**Thursday, May 31**

Fees deadlines for summer ( see [Add and Drop Dates for Standard Summer Courses](#))



## Biology Announcements

### Publications

K. Cox, L. P. Brennan, T.G. Gerwing, S. E. Dudas, F. Juanes: [Sound the alarm : A meta-analysis on the effect of aquatic noise on fish behaviour and physiology](#)

### Centre for Forest Biology

Congratulations to Diane Gray, who retired at the end of March after 29 years as the Administrative Assistant for the Centre for Forest Biology. Diane, we wish you all the best, and you will be greatly missed.

We are pleased to announce that Joanne Thompson from the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research has recently joined the Centre for Forest Biology as the new Administrative Assistant. Welcome Joanne!

### Welcome New Biology Graduate Students

These new Biology graduate students will be joining the Department in May, 2018:

Lea Carmen	MSc	Dr. Peter Constabel
Kelsie Murchy	PhD	Dr. Francis Juanes

### Science Fair

Congratulations to Rossi Marx and Greg Beaulieu for organizing another highly successful Vancouver Island Regional Science Fair this past weekend. There were ~ 135 exhibits from elementary, middle and high school students, and roughly the same number of judges. It's a mammoth task to organize this event! Thanks also to Heather Down for technical assistance, and to all the faculty, staff and student judges. It was a great event!

## 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. Irina Paci**, Department of Chemistry — April 17

“Hey Siri, make me a new drug: How computers are changing chemistry and medicine”

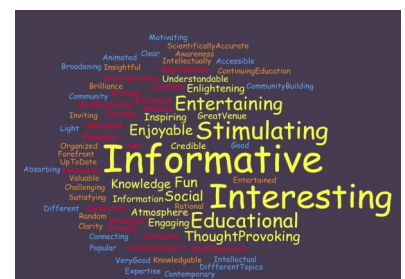
Reserve by clicking [here](#)

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](#)



## Honours Theses Defences

### Biology Honours Defences

Johanna Stewart	April 19 @2:00 pm in ECS 104	*Supervisor: Dr. Terri Lacourse
"Developmental history of a mid elevation fen on central Vancouver Island"		
Emily Enns	April 23 @9:00 am in ELL 162	*Supervisor: Dr. Bob Chow
"Pax6 and miR-7: in vivo examination of dose-dependent regulation of dopaminergic periglomerular cell fate in subventricular zone adult neurogenesis"		
Emily May	April 23 @9:00 am in CUN 146	*Supervisor: Dr. Paul de la Bastide
*Co-supervisor: Dr. Barbara Hawkins		
"A comparison of Saprolegnia parasitica gene expression in the presence and absence of a host"		
Armin Bayati	April 23 @10:30 am in ELL 161	*Supervisors: Drs. Brian Christie and Patrick Nahirney
"Effect of Ischemic Stroke on Neuronal and Glial Cell Structure within the Peri-Infarct Zone of Adult Mice"		
Rebecca Waines	April 23 @12:30 pm in CUN 146	*Supervisor: Dr. John Taylor
"TBA"		
Michelle Morello	April 23 @2:00 pm in ELL 161	*Supervisor: Dr. Laura Arbour
*Co-supervisor: Dr. Francis Choy		
"Congenital Anomalies in Nunavut: Trends and Current Status"		
Nicholas Planidin	April 23 @3:30 pm in CUN 146	*Supervisor: Dr. Thomas Reimchen
"Laterality of neuromasts in threespine stickleback, <i>Gasterosteus aculeatus</i> "		
Elizabeth Brockman	April 24 @9:00 am in ECS 104	*Supervisor: Dr. Brian Christie
"Applications for adiponectin in restoration of long-term potentiation in the Hippocampal Dentate Gyrus of Fmr1 Knockout Mice"		
Rachel Harman-Denhoed	April 24 @10:30 am in ECS 108	*Supervisor: Dr. Barbara Hawkins
"Stoichiometric C:N:P ratios of saprophyte and ectomycorrhizal fungi across edaphic gradients on Vancouver Island"		
Samuel Chu	April 24 @10:30 am in ECS 130	*Supervisor: Dr. Francis Choy
"Reprogramming Sanfilippo B fibroblasts to induced pluripotent stem cells and CRISPR/Car9 gene editing of Sanfilippo B mutations"		
Keyrian Le Gratiet	April 24 @12:30 pm in CUN 146	*Supervisors: Drs. Kerry Delaney and Raad Nashmi
"A Mouse Model of Rett Syndrome Shows a Cell-Autonomous Reduction of $\alpha 4$ Nicotinic Receptors in Dopaminergic Neurons of the Substantia Nigra Pars Compacta"		
Chris Lee	April 24 @2:00 pm in ECS 130	*Supervisor: Dr. Stephanie Willerth
*Co-supervisor: Dr. Francis Choy		
"Direct Reprogramming of Glioma Cells to Neurons via Small Molecules and a Novel Protein Delivery System"		

## Honours Theses Defences (continuation from page 3)

Emily Vanden Berg                      April 24 @2:00 pm in ECS 128                      \*Supervisor: Dr. Craig Brown  
"Cerebral Microvascular Occlusions are Associated with Behavioural Deficits in Mice"

Natalie Mack                              April 24 @3:30 pm in ECS 124                      \*Supervisor: Dr. John Taylor  
"Changes in starry flounder (*Platichthys stellatus*) visual opsin expression in natura from day to night"

Peter Socha                                May 1 @9:30 am in ECS 130                      \*Supervisor: Dr. Jürgen Ehltling  
"Towards a genetic basis for quinate biosynthesis in monocots "

Brandy Biggar                            May 1 @2:00 pm in CUN 146                      \*Supervisor: Dr. Louise Page  
"Development of the foregut in *Katharina tunicata* (Mollusca; Polyplacophora)"

## UVic Announcements

### Sounding the Alarm on Aquatic Noise

Fish are reacting not just to what people put into the water, but the underwater noise that they create. A collaborative team led by UVic Biology doctoral student and Hakai Scholar Kieran Cox and fish ecologist Francis Juanes has found that human-caused noise is changing the ability of fish to forage, reproduce and avoid predation. The team analyzed 42 studies from across the globe on the effects of aquatic noise on fish behaviour and physiology, and found anthropogenic noise to be most compromising factor affecting the ability of fish to feed, avoid predators and reproduce.

Click [here](#) to read the full story.



### UVic Scuba Diving Club

This is a club organized by students, for students. You must be a full time student at the University of Victoria or a Vikes Recreation member to be eligible to become a member.

Click [here](#) to find out how to join the club.

### UVic In-course Scholarships

The UVic online application for in-course scholarships for students currently attending UVic is open April 1-May 31. To view a list of awards and specific requirements visit <https://www.uvic.ca/registrar/safa/in-course-scholarships/application/index.php>

How to apply:

Go to [MyPage](#), click on Finances

Awards and Financial Aid

Apply for Awards

Winter Session

In-Course and then follow the application portal.

For more information on how to apply go to <https://www.uvic.ca/registrar/safa/in-course-scholarships/apply/index.php>

Questions can be directed to [awrds1@uvic.ca](mailto:awrds1@uvic.ca) or [awards3@uvic.ca](mailto:awards3@uvic.ca)

## Biology Undergraduate Student Opportunities

### **G7 Oceans Youth Innovation Challenge**

Are you interested in a global ocean policy? Do you have an innovative ocean policy solution?

Share your idea for a chance to attend the G7 Environment Ministerial Meetings in October!

On January 1, 2018, Canada assumed Presidency of the G7 group of industrialized countries. Canada's presidency is orientated around 5 themes, one of which is "Working Together on Climate Change, Oceans and Clean Energy".

If you are 18-25 years old, have reached the age of majority in your province and are a citizen of one of the G7 countries, you could share your solutions to challenges facing global ocean health.

The Challenge:

Using a 2 minute video, answer the following questions:

What is your vision for healthy and productive oceans in 2050?

What innovative solutions would you recommend be adopted to reach this goal?

We are looking for solutions to one of the following ocean health challenge areas: plastics, coast, resilient communities, climate, clean energy and fishing.

Click [here](#) to find more information about this exciting opportunity.

### **American Fisheries Society (AFS)**

The Student Subsection of the Education Section of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) is seeking applicants for the 2018 Undergraduate Travel Assistance Award (UTAA). The UTAA is designed to introduce undergraduate students to AFS and increase participation at the Society level.

The UTAA will help defer travel costs to the Annual Meeting and fund AFS membership. Four undergraduate students will be selected to receive the award (\$500) at the Education Section Business Meeting. Selection of awardees will be based on involvement in student and professional organizations and rationale for attending the meeting.

The UTAA provides a great opportunity for undergraduate students to network with peers and professionals within AFS and immerse themselves in aquatic science and research that is being conducted by society members.

Recipients are expected to attend all student-related activities at the annual meeting including, but not limited to, the student colloquium, career fair, awards luncheon, Education Section business meeting, and Student Subsection business meeting.

Travel funding may be withheld if these requirements are not met.

Applicants must be undergraduates or anticipate graduating prior to the Annual Meeting.

To obtain the application form please click [here](#).

For more information or questions contact:

Daniel Weaver: [daniel.weaver@maine.edu](mailto:daniel.weaver@maine.edu)

## UVic Women in Science

### **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.

Visit: [UVic Women in Science](#) for more information on events, interviews, resources and community.

## Job Opportunity

### Want to work for BC Parks?

Student Ranger. Now is your chance! BC Parks is hiring for the 2018 summer season for crew leads and crew member positions at eight different locations across BC. Learn new skills and spend time in the field working on meaningful projects related to conservation, recreation, public outreach, and indigenous relations.

Where? Crews will be based out of Prince George, Smithers, Kamloops, Victoria, Black Creek, Manning Park, North Vancouver and Squamish.

When? Crew Lead positions will run from May 21 to August 31. Crew member positions will run from June 4 to August 24.

Are you? A Canadian Resident between the age of 18 and 30. A full time student at Secondary or Post Secondary School. Inspired to conserve and enhance BC's parks and protected areas.

Able to work outdoors as part of a tight-knit team. Passionate about developing cross-cultural understanding of BC's diverse indigenous population.

For more information, and to apply, click [here](#)



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For more information, and to apply, visit [gov.bc.ca/bcparks-student-rangers](http://gov.bc.ca/bcparks-student-rangers)

 BRITISH COLUMBIA

## Volunteer Opportunity

### Let's Talk Science

Site coordinator volunteer opportunity

Join a national network of enthusiastic senior undergraduate and graduate science, social science and engineering students working together to make a difference in the science literacy of young Canadians!

Some of the responsibilities: Recruit and train new site volunteers, recruit educators, support volunteers by helping plan activities, organizing activity supplies, and making travel arrangements, plan and recognize trip to rural and remote communities, maintain records of activities carried out and evaluations received on the web-based portal, track program finances and maintain the site budget, etc. Some of the benefits: Develop business and communication skills, gain fundraising and budgetary skills, work in a positive environment, tremendous freedom to pursue new goals for the UVic LTS outreach site, paid travel to LTS conference and rural communities, earn a small coordinator stipend (based on the amount of funding secured). Training and support are provided.

To apply send your résumé with references and cover letter to Dr. Jane Gair at [jgair@uvic.ca](mailto:jgair@uvic.ca)

Deadline: April 13, 2018



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).

#### **Editors:**

L. Alcaraz-Sehn, C. Laliberté

Contributors: Dr. F. Juanes, R. Ashmead, M. Shen, Dr. R. Nashmi, Dr. J. Taylor, Dr. B. Hawkins, UVic Scuba Diving Club, K. Cox.

#### **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](mailto:biology@uvic.ca)

Website:

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

