



# Department of Biology Newsletter

Friday, September 14, 2018

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

## Welcome to the Department of Biology!

We wish a warm welcome to the following new people in the Department:

### Faculty Member

Dr. Ryan Gawryluk, Assistant Professor

### Graduate Students

Carmen Lea—Constabel Lab (joined the Department in May 2018)

Kelsie Murchy—Juanes Lab (joined the Department in May 2018)

Sean Dimoff—Baum Lab

Ainsley Fraser—El-Sabaawi Lab

Keyrian Le Gratiet—Nashmi Lab

Michael Livingston—Varela Lab

Emily May—El-Sabaawi Lab

Nicholas Planidin—Reimchen Lab

Candice Powell—Perlman Lab

Elizabeth Van Der Merwe—Hawkins Lab

### Sessional Instructors

Dr. Erin O'Brien (joined the Department in January 2018)

Dr. Hugh MacIntosh

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## Biology Seminars, Everyone Welcome!

### Biochemistry and Microbiology Graduate Student Seminar

#### Wei Li

"Exploring the structural basis of antigen-antibody interactions relevant to cancer therapy"

#### Tara Brosschot

"Investigating how intestinal helminths promote infection with bacterial pathogens"

Friday, September 14, 2018  
at 1:30 pm CLE A212

### Biology

#### Dr. Xuekui Zhang

Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
UVic

"Bayesian hierarchical models for SNP discovery from genome-wide association studies, a pseudo-supervised machine learning approach."

Friday, September 21, 2018  
at 3:30 pm in MSB 150

### Biology

#### Dr. Irene Garcia Newton

Department of Biology  
Indiana University Bloomington

"Mi Casa es su Casa: How an intracellular symbiont manipulates host biology"

Friday, September 28, 2018  
at 3:30 pm in MSB 150

## Calendar

### Important Dates :

**Monday, September 3**

**Tuesday, September 4**

**Wednesday, September 5**

**Thursday, September 13**

**Tuesday, September 18**

**Friday, September 21**

**Sunday, September 30**

Labour Day

First year registration and opening assembly for Faculty of Law

First term classes begin for all faculties

Last day for course changes in Faculty of Law

Last day for graduate students to register in a personal leave in first term.

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

Last day for adding courses that begin in the first term

Last day for paying first term fees without penalty



## Biology Announcements



Congratulations to **Dr. Brad Anholt** who has been recognized for his many years of dedicated service as the Director of the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre by the creation of the “Brad Anholt Undergraduate Research Award”. The Management Council of BMSC wished to recognize Dr. Anholt’s strong commitment to the unique undergraduate experience he helped create at Bamfield, as well as his belief that undergraduates should have the opportunity to develop valuable research skills. The award will enable students who have begun outstanding research projects to return to Bamfield to collect more data and work with mentors to see their research through to publication.

Dr. Anholt’s many contributions to BMSC included strong financial management, great success in obtaining equipment and infrastructure grants, diversification of course offerings, building a positive relationship with the Huu-ay-aht First Nation, attracting new researchers and reinvigorating school programs. The outcomes of Dr. Anholt’s dedication to BMSC will contribute to the Centre’s success and growth for many years to come.

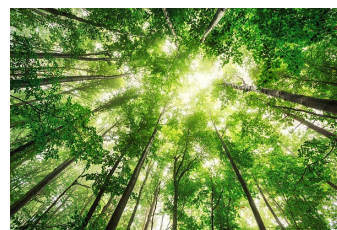
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**Dr. Peter Constabel** is the recipient of the 2018 Canadian Society of Plant Biology David J. Gifford Award in Tree Biology. The award is for outstanding research contributions in tree biology, with special consideration given for originality and independence of thought. The Award was presented at the Combined Meeting of the Canadian and American Societies for Plant Biology in Montreal on July 14, 2018.

**Dr. Terri Lacourse** has a new paper in Nature Climate Change: [Latitudinal limits to the predicted increase of the peatland carbon sink with warming.](#)

**Dr. David Marques and Dr. Tom Reimchen** have a recent paper in Nature Ecology and Evolution: [Experimental evidence for rapid genomic adaptation to a new niche in an adaptive radiation.](#)

**Dr. Fabio De Leo** has recently published a paper that highlights Ocean Networks Canada deep-sea observatory and a project that was initiated with the help of **Biology co-op student, Bruno Ogata**. You can read the article in [Progress in Oceanography](#).



## Oral Examinations Presented Summer 2018

### Jillian McAllister, MSc

Supervisor: Dr. Patrick Gregory

Natural History of Common Gartensnakes (*Thamnophis sirtalis*) in East Central British Columbia

### Nova Hanson, MSc

Supervisor: Dr. Louise Page

Developmental modulatory in the adult feeding structures of the predatory gastropod, *Amphissa columbiana* (Neogastropoda; Columbellidae)

### Juan Aldana, PhD

Supervisors: Dr. Barbara Hawkins, Dr. John Russell

Resistance mechanisms to *Didymascella thujina* (Durand) Maire in *Thuja plicata* Donn ex D. Don, *Thuja standishii* (Gord) Carr. And *Thuja standishii* x *plicata*

### Lucianne Marshall, MSc

Supervisor: Dr. Diana Varela

Progression of Marine Phytoplankton Blooms and Environmental Dynamics from Sea-Ice Coverage to Open waters in the coastal Arctic: Comparing experimental data with continuous cabled observations



If you have stories or announcements that you 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).

## Alumni News

### Big Success for Three of our Biology Graduates

Three former UVic Biology students were admitted to pursue an MSc program in Genetic Counselling: Noorhan Osman, Amy Cutts and Emily Enns. The program is offered at UBC, McGill and Toronto, and all three universities accept only 5-6 students a year out of 200+ applicants. Noorhan and Amy will be going to UBC and Emily, to McGill.

Congratulations to Noorhan, Amy and Emily for making the cut!

#### Editors:

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