



Department of Biology

May 13, 2022

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Congratulations to Biology Honours Students 2022!

Biology Honours Students 2022

Julianne, Anderson

Supervisors: **Drs. Jürgen Ehling & Patrick Walter**

"The bioactivity of Poplar root extracts as a novel treatment for iron overload in a THP-1 cell culture model"

Jori Bishop

Supervisors: **Drs. Patrick Walter & John Taylor**

"The bioactivity of Poplar root extracts as a novel treatment for iron overload in a THP-1 cell culture model"

Jacob Bos

Supervisor: **Dr. Kerry Delaney**

"Long-Term depression in the American bullfrog vomeronasal to accessory olfactory bulb synapse from prolonged low-frequency"

Emily Bosdachin

Supervisors: **Dr. Nicole Templeman & Brian Christie**

"Cell proliferation in the hippocampus of adult female rats after repeated mild traumatic brain injury"

Sydney Elarid

Supervisors: **Drs. Jürgen Ehling & Patrick Walter**

"The Role of Light at Night in Parkinson's Disease and Prostate Cancer"

Devin Hentschel

Supervisor: **Dr. David Punzalan**

"Mechanisms of sexual selection on forelimb length of male intertidal jumping spiders (Terralonus californicus) and an investigation into intrasexual behaviours"

Hannah Hickli

Supervisors: **Drs. Neville Winchester & Steve Perlman**

"Seasonal dynamics of an urban leafhopper community in Metchosin, British Columbia: investigating diversity trends, parasitoid (Hymenoptera: Dryinidae) relationships, and the potential for a defensive symbiosis"

Jessica Holden

Supervisor: **Dr. Tom Reimchen**

"Phenotype frequency and isotopic signatures of Littorina obtusata on three algal substrates following the establishment of Fucus serratus in Nova Scotia"

Thompson Hyggen

Supervisor: **Dr. Steve Perlman**

"Host Benefits of a Novel Endosymbiont: Interactions Between a Defensive Spiroplasma and a Specialist Nematode in Drosophila"

Taylor Kaban

Supervisor: **Dr. Kerry Delaney**

"Establishing a new protocol to investigate sensory adaptation in a mouse model of Rett Syndrome"

Carolina Limido

Supervisor: **Dr. Kim Juniper**

"Quantifying microeukaryote grazing rates and community composition across an oxic/anoxic gradient in Saanich Inlet, a seasonally anoxic fjord"

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Congratulations to Biology Honours Students 2022!

Megan Loland

Supervisor: **Dr. Peter Constabel**

"Confirmation of UGT71L1's role in salicinoid biosynthesis using transgenic rescue and overexpression poplars"

Chloe McKee

Supervisors: **Drs. Marie-Eve Tremblay & Raad Nashmi**

"Effects of fractalkine signaling deficiency on microglial diversity and ultrastructure in aged male and female mice"

Kylie Milne

Supervisor: **Dr. Tom Reimchen**

*"Ecological adaptation to novel niche space in colonizing Stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*)"*

Saige Motkoski

Supervisor: **Dr. Nicole Templeman**

*"Characterizing how intermittent and single periods of fasting affect age-related reproductive decline in *Caenorhabditis elegans*"*

Simon Petley

Supervisor: **Dr. Peter Constabel**

*"Investigating the Effects of Altered Root Proanthocyanidin Concentration on the Establishment of Ectomycorrhizal Symbiosis in *Laccaria bicolor* and *Populus tremula* x *Populus tremuloides*"*

Spencer Quayle

Supervisor: **Dr. Gerry Allen**

*"Mating system and niche breadth in sister species of *Erythronium* in the Pacific Northwest: a study using Ecological Niche Modelling"*

Declynn Robertson-Hooper

Supervisor: **Dr. Bob Chow**

*"Regulation of Paired Box Gene 6 (*PAX6*) expression in the forebrain lateral ventricular zone by miR-7 in postnatal mice"*

Brittnie Spriel

Supervisor: **Dr. Julia Baum**

"Local environmental conditions predict spatial transitions in seaweed structural complexity in a rocky intertidal ecosystem"

Tanninn Standing

Supervisor: **Dr. Julia Baum**

"Investigating 50 years of change in the community composition of intertidal seaweeds along the coast of Victoria, BC"

Nathan Sykes

Supervisor: **Dr. Greg Owens**

*"Rapid turnover and evolution of sex-determining regions among *Sebastes* rockfish"*

Madeline Thompson

Supervisor: **Dr. Francis Juanes**

*"Spatial navigation and maze learning in a fish with alternative reproductive tactics, the plainfin midshipman, *Porichthys notatus*"*

Shaye Ogurek

Supervisors: **Drs. Francis Juanes & Bill Halliday**

*"The influence of boat noise on wild plainfin midshipman (*Porichthys notatus*) vocalizations"*

Emma van Tonder

Supervisor: **Dr. Tom Reimchen**

*"Trophic and Morphological Responses of an Endemic Population of Three-spine Stickleback (*Gasterosteus* sp.) to an Invasive Amphibian"*

congratulations

If you have stories or announcements that you would like to share in the Biology newsletter, please email:

Jennie Bartosik at biology@uvic.ca or Laura Alcaraz-Sehn at bioclerk@uvic.ca



Calendar

Important Dates:

Monday, May 16th

Last day for Faculty of Law course changes

Tuesday, May 17th

Last day for graduate students to register in a personal leave in summer

Monday, May 23rd

Victoria Day

Thursday, May 26th

Senate Committee on Academic Standards meets to approve Convocation

Tuesday, May 31st

Fees deadlines for summer. See [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) add and drop dates for standard summer courses



ABLE (Association for Biology Laboratory Education)

ABLE is coming to UVic!

What is ABLE?

ABLE is the Association for Biology Laboratory Education (<https://www.ableweb.org/>). This is an international community of biology educators whose “focus is to improve the undergraduate biology laboratory experience by promoting the development and dissemination of interesting, innovative, and reliable laboratory exercises.”

We are excited to host ABLE’s 43rd annual conference here in our department, June 21-24, 2022. This conference provides the opportunity for members to gather and exchange information, experiences, and resources specific to university and college level biology laboratory education.

Conference events will take place primarily in the Cunningham and Petch teaching labs on June 21-24, 2022. There will also be posters throughout the hallways and we will be using common spaces in both buildings. With close to 200 participants our hallways and labs will be bustling with activity!

If you are interested in participating in this conference, registration is open until June 1st. Click [here](#) for the conference website and to see a list of the [major](#) and [mini](#) workshops being offered.

We also need volunteers to help with a variety of tasks. Please email Rossi Marx at rmmarx@uvic.ca if you are interested in volunteering or would like more details about volunteer opportunities.

A big thank you to Kim Curry for bringing this amazing conference to UVic!

The ABLE 2022 Organizing Committee (Kimberley Curry, Roswitha Marx, Alicia Rippington, Mauricio Carrasquilla, Gregory Beaulieu)



Honours Fest 2022

Congratulations Honours Fest students!

Matthew Thibodeau (Biochemistry & Microbiology) takes first prize at Honours Fest, with Chloe McKee (Biology) coming in second and Annabel Rowley (Chemistry) third. Explore all the student research presentations on our new Honours Fest blog: <https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/honoursfest/>

Congratulations to all our 2022 Honours Fest winners:

1st prize (\$2500): Matthew Thibodeau, BCMB

2nd prize (\$1500): Chloe McKee, BIOL

3rd prize (\$1000): Annabel Rowley, CHEM



(L-R) Annabel Rowley, Matthew Thibodeau and Chloe McKee win the top three awards for Honours Fest 2022.
Credit: UVic Photo Services

BCMB Dept award (\$500): Emma Field

BIOL Dept award (\$500): Shaye Tudor

CHEM Dept award (\$500): Alexis Kellinghusen

SEOS Dept award (\$500): Ellie McLeod

MATH Dept award (\$500): Elena Moss

PHYS Dept award (\$500): Aydan McKay



Honours Fest 2022 award winners. Credit: UVic Photo Services

Biology Announcements

Remembering Mary Finnegan



We are deeply saddened to forward the news of the passing of Mary Finnegan, who was the Chair's Assistant for 26 years. Patrick von Aderkas has written the following tribute:

Mary Finnegan passed away March 31st, 2022 after a long standoff with cancer. When I met her for coffee in December last year, she was at peace with her lot. Mary said she'd had a full life, had watched her grandchildren prosper. She loved her family to bits. It was her wish that there would be no memorial service, but her passing will not go unnoticed. So many of her biology colleagues loved her for her warmth, helpfulness and friendship.

For more than a quarter of a century, Mary Finnegan was the chair's secretary. She served a long line of chairs, beginning with Lou Hobson, Patrick Gregory, Ben Koop, Patrick von Aderkas and ending with Will Hintz. All of us were able to tap into her unbelievable wealth of experience and memory. She was wonderfully professional, always very positive, giving us important bits of timely advice that saved many from rather obvious pratfalls. Mary also had a sense of humour that was light and gentle.

She also used any spare time she could find to study sociology and psychology, resulting in her graduating with a degree as a mature student. She was rightly proud of this.

Mary was also prominent in the union, and understood instinctively how the university needed to be reminded that an enterprise that pays poorly depends on goodwill of its employees. Not surprisingly, the office under Mary's supervision had a harmonious atmosphere. She was kind and showed genuine interest in the staff and faculty.

After she retired, she did not lose touch. She joined with other retired biology colleagues who met up at Maud Hunters for lunch once a month to share good memories and talk about how they were getting on, and how their families were prospering.

It is a sad day for all of us who had the privilege to have been able to call her a friend. Mary Finnegan made our lives better. She will be missed and our condolences go out to her lovely family.

-PvA

Condolences can be shared with the family online at <https://www.mccallgardens.com/obituaries/mary-teresa-finnegan-sails>.

Bamfield Trip 2022



Two years on, the field trip to the Bamfield Marine Science Centre (BMSC) finally took place. Many of the 45 students who signed up at the time for the annual Evolution and Biodiversity (BIOL184) excursion were new to the Island. The original trip ended in the tragic deaths of Emma Machado from Winnipeg and John Geerdes from Iowa City. The accident also altered the lives of the survivors. So it was with mixed emotions that a group of two dozen set out Friday, April 29th.

The group travelled down the Alberni Inlet on the MS Frances Barkley. The BMSC Field Trips Program folks were there to greet us. Three sub-groups were created: Seastars (Katy), Urchins (Dave), and yes, Patrick got the Crabs. Trips down Grapppler Inlet, through the Deer Group Islands, to Brady's Beach, and around the BMSC foreshore during the day and at night were supplemented with talks and guided walks and seaweed pressing. It gave everyone a chance to chat with one another.

The highlight for many was the feast, ceremony and all-in zig-zag dance put on in the recently built House of Huu-ay-aht Community Centre. Chief Robert Dennis and his wife Sarah had a deeply personal connection to the accident, as they were the first on the scene that Friday, September 13th, 2019. We were all invited together with people from Anacla, the village perched high above Pachena Bay. The evening's events were built around songs, stories and dances that celebrated our common humanity. It was a particularly touching and unforgettable moment of this trip.



2022 Bamfield Field Trip participants

Job Opportunities

Fall 2022 TA/Lab Instructor opportunities

The Laboratory Instructor positions for the **September - December term** of the 2022-23 Winter session are now posted on the Biology website under STAY INFORMED, News

The following is a list of Lab Instructor positions available at the moment.
The number of positions is subject to enrollment and/or course cancellation.

BIOL184	Evolution & Biodiversity	36-40 lab sections
BIOL215	Ecology	11-12 lab sections
BIOL225	Principles of Cell Biology	21-23 lab sections
BIOL311/EOS311	Oceanography	4 lab sections
BIOL321	Invertebrates	3-4 lab sections
BIOL325	Tree Biology	1 lab section
BIOL345	Animal Behaviour	4-5 lab sections
BIOL365	Animal Physiology	7-8 lab sections
Biol448	Neuroethology	1-2 positions for tutorials

Please see the postings for more details and the Cupe4163 Application form.
The closing date for applications is **Sunday, July 03, 2022.**

Associate Director, Learning & Community Engagement – Temporary Appointment Opportunity



Apply by 12 May 2022.

<https://www.oceannetworks.ca/about-onc/jobs-and-opportunities/>

Ocean Networks Canada is seeking a candidate with strong leadership and management skills and domain knowledge in education, Indigenous engagement, and ocean science to fill a parental leave appointment in the role of Associate Director, Learning & Community Engagement for the period 23 May 2022 -15 September 2023.

In this position, the Associate Director is responsible for the management of ONC's Learning & Community Engagement department which includes four teams: Education (K-12 and Post-secondary, Community-based monitoring, Indigenous engagement, and Community-engaged research).

During the temporary appointment, the core day-to-day responsibilities will include management of departmental staff; monitoring and reporting on department-led projects, grants, and contracts; contribution to ONC leadership meetings and committee meetings; and direct engagement with user communities.

The ideal candidate will have a combination of relevant education and experience in ocean science, education and outreach, community-engaged research, financial and project management, supervision of staff, and will demonstrate a high degree of Indigenous cultural acumen.

Explore [here](#) for a glimpse of work the team contributes to.

UVic Announcements

2nd annual Beyond the Thesis Event

[Beyond the Thesis: Careers in Industry for STEM Grads.](#)

Tuesday, May 17, 2022
1:00 pm Eastern time

[Webinars.elsevier.com](https://webinars.elsevier.com)

UVic Announcements

Spring GoByBike Week

Spring GoByBike Week is May 30th to June 5th. Register today and join the “Friends of Forest Biology” team! Registration is open at GoByBikeBC.ca.

Participation is free, fun, helps you stay fit and healthy, and it’s great for the environment! And you can win great prizes!



Cycling health benefits:

It only takes two to four hours a week to achieve a general improvement to your health

- Low impact—it causes less strain and injuries than most other forms of exercise
- A good muscle workout—cycling uses all of the major muscle groups as you pedal
- Easy—unlike some other sports, cycling does not require high levels of physical skill. Most people know how to ride a bike and, once you learn, you don’t forget
- Good for strength and stamina—cycling increases stamina, strength and aerobic fitness
- As intense as you want—cycling can be done at very low intensity to begin with, if recovering from injury or illness, but can be built up to a demanding physical workout
- A fun way to get fit—the adventure and buzz you get from coasting down hills and being outdoors means you are more likely to continue to cycle regularly, compared to other physical activities that keep you indoors or require special times or places.
- Time-efficient—as a mode of transport, cycling replaces sedentary (sitting) time spent driving motor vehicles or using trams, trains or buses with healthy exercise

Health Benefits of regular cycling:

Increased cardiovascular fitness, increased muscle strength and flexibility, improved joint mobility, decreased stress levels, improved posture and coordination, strengthened bones, decreased body fat levels, prevention or management of disease, reduced anxiety and depression.

Information from [Better Health Channel](#)

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