

Department of Biological Sciences Newsletter

"from biomolecules to the biosphere"



No. 31

September 30, 2011

Announcements



FPC Timeline 2011 - The information below is a repeat of that provided earlier (on July 15th) about the FPC process following submission of the assessments to the Dean's office.

September 30. Deadline for submission of an appeal of the Head's assessment to the Vice-Dean (Brian Key).

October 14 – 31. Faculty Promotions Committee meets.

November 7. Submission of promotion, change in rank, and zero increment recommendations to the Chair of the General Promotions Committee (GPC).

November 7. Written notice provided to each academic staff member of the recommendation(s) being carried forward to GPC.

November 16. Last day for academic staff members to appeal promotion, change in rank recommendations, and/or zero increment recommendations to GPC.



Applications for Research & Scholarship Leaves and Professional Fellowship applications are now available for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Application forms may be obtained online at http://www.ucalgary.ca/hr/staff/academic_staff/leaves/research_scholarship_leave_professional_fellowship

The deadline for submitting Application forms to your Department Head, or equivalent, is October 15, 2011.

If you would like to inquire about your eligibility for a Research & Scholarship Leave or a Professional Fellowship Leave, please contact the office of the Dean of Science. **Please ensure that you include a list of courses which would be affected by your leave as well as a listing of other faculty members who would be qualified to replace you in your absence.**



Recent Publications



Raveh S, Heg D, Dobson FS, Coltman DW, Gorrell JC, Balmer A, Rösli S, **Neuhaus P** (2011) No experimental effects of parasite load on male mating behaviour and reproductive success. *Animal Behaviour* 82:673-682

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Seminars



EEB seminars - Friday Oct 7 - 11h00 - BI 211

Alex Dutchak - Hot stuff: mammalian faunal change in Colorado and Utah during the Early Eocene Climatic Optimum

BCEM 601 seminars - Mondays at 16h00 in BI 211

Oct 3 - TBA

CDP 601 seminars - Wednesdays at 16h00 in MS 319

Oct 5 - Katherine Chatfield-Reed - TBA

EEB 601 seminars - Mondays at 12h00 in BI 211

Oct 10 - Thanksgiving - No Seminar

Micro 601 seminars - Wednesdays at 11h00 in BI 211

Oct 5 - Anupama Halmillawewa - Increasing the nodulation competitiveness of *Rhizobium inoculants* with the use of bacteriophages”

Scholarships



NSERC administers several funding programs for graduate students and post-docs. Details regarding the program and eligibility can be found at: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/index_eng.asp

NSERC Canada Graduate Scholarships (CGS) and Postgraduate Scholarships (PGS) Details about the program can be found at: . http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/BellandPostgrad-BelletSuperieures_eng.asp

Applicants should refer to the NSERC website for detailed instructions regarding the completion of an NSERC application. Applications must be submitted electronically through the NSERC Online Services Portal. http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/onlineservices-servicesenligne/index_eng.asp

Please note transcripts and two reference letters have to be attached to the application, before they can be submitted through the NSERC Online Services Portal. Applicants are strongly encouraged to initiate the process as early as possible.

Transcript request: The deadline to request transcripts from the University Designate is October 3, 2011 at 4:30 pm. This can be accomplished by indicating Brad Drebit and the e-mail address gsaward@ucalgary.ca as the University Designate. The online application will automatically generate an e-mail request, and the student will be notified once the request has been fulfilled.

Online application deadline: Deadline to submit full application electronically through the NSERC Portal is October 7, 2011 at 4:30 pm. Late applications will not be accepted.

NSERC Industrial Postgraduate Scholarship (IPS) program provides support to graduate students who wish to gain research experience in industry. Both International & Canadian students are eligible to apply. http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/IPS-BESII_eng.asp

NSERC Postdoctoral Fellowships program provides support to promising researchers at a critical time in their careers.
http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PD-NP/PDF-BP_eng.asp

You can apply for a Postdoctoral Fellowship by completing and submitting an application on-line (Form 201), and attaching required supporting documents.

Online application deadline: 15 October



Alberta Innovates - Health Solutions (AIHS) Full-time Studentships & fellowships enable students to undertake full-time research training in biomedical sciences or in clinical research. The award consists of a stipend and a research allowance. For program details, eligibility, and application forms, please consult: <http://www.ahfmr.ab.ca/grants/individual.php>

AIHS deadline: The deadline for receipt of all applications by AIHS is **3 October 2011**.
Department courier deadline: 30 Sept 1 PM.



CIHR Doctoral awards provide funding to students who are pursuing a doctoral degree in a health-related field. Applications are invited in all areas of health research, and following criteria will be used for evaluating award applications: achievements & activities of the candidate, characteristics & abilities of the candidate, & research training environment. The award is valued at \$30,000/year (plus research allowance \$5000/yr) for three years.

<http://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/viewOpportunityDetails.do?progCd=10218&org=CIHR>

CIHR Application deadline: **14 Oct 2011**



Did you know...

Payroll Schedule

If you hold a TA for the Fall term, your payment days will be Oct. 10 & 25; Nov. 10 & 25; Dec. 10 & 25; Jan. 10th.

If you hold a scholarship or are being paid by your Supervisor, your payment days will be Oct. 25, Nov 25 and Dec. 25th.

Please note that recent upgrades to Peoplesoft now restrict us from entering pay information if a student and/or employee's Study Permit and/or Social Insurance Number has been entered incorrectly, or has expired. So, if you are an International Student PLEASE be aware of when your SIN card or Study Permit is expiring so that you will not miss any payments pending the updating of this information.

For students requiring letters for...confirming enrollment; renewing study permits; banking; etc.: Please send me the request via email. Indicate in the email what the letter is for; to whom it should be addressed, and what information is required. I receive numerous letter requests, and to ensure that you receive the correct letter, with the required information, an email request (in preference to a verbal request) would be **GREATLY APPRECIATED** and more importantly **REMEMBERED** by me on my "to do" list.

Thanks! Karen

Research Proposals

none scheduled

Ph.D. Candidacy Oral Examinations

Candidacy Exams are Closed Exams.

none scheduled

Thesis Oral Examinations

Please note: *Pre-defense seminars are a degree requirement for all M.Sc. and Ph.D. students in Biological Sciences. Typically, the seminar will take place immediately preceding the Oral Defense Exam.*

It is the student's responsibility to book the necessary com-media equipment with either Christine (220-3578) or David (220-8307) for their examination. Please book the equipment as soon as you have the date set for your exam/proposal meeting. (defense seminars are held one hour before the stated defense time in BI 211 unless noted otherwise)

none scheduled



Assistant Professor – Freshwater Ecologist The University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), Department of Biology, invites applications for a tenure track faculty position at the rank of Assistant Professor effective July 1, 2012.

We are searching for an outstanding Freshwater Ecologist whose research program focuses on whole organisms, communities, trophic dynamics, or foodwebs. We are particularly interested in individuals who will enhance or complement existing research areas in our department. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

Applications must include: a curriculum vitae, statement of teaching philosophy and evidence of teaching experience, an outline of their proposed research and three representative publications. We encourage applicants to combine PDF or WORD documents into one or two files. Applications should be submitted online through the University of Toronto's Academic Employment Opportunities website (<https://utoronto.taleo.net/careersection/10050/joblist.ftl#>) and search for job number 1100708.

Professor Bryan Stewart, Chair, Department of Biology, University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Road North, Mississauga, ON L5L 1C6

Or by email to: biochair.utm@utoronto.ca

Closing date for submissions is October 31, 2011.



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Biotech Job Bank (www.bhrc.ca) has current employment opportunities in the biotechnology industry in Canada. The Biotech HR Pulse is available in PDF format at: www.bhrc.ca/Pulse/index.html. Phone 519-457-1470, Ext 268, Fax 519-457-3997.

University Affairs Career Ads. Current employment opportunities, including all facets of the biological sciences, in Canadian universities may be found at the University Affairs website: www.universityaffairs.ca. Career ads are available in HTML format at: http://www.universityaffairs.ca/career_ads/index.html

Conferences / Workshops / Courses



10th Annual Markin USRP Student Research Symposium in Health and Wellness

**Friday September 30, 2011, Husky Oil Great Hall, Rosza Centre
10:00 AM - Noon**

Procter presentations 10:15-11:50 AM

(27 posters are scheduled, David Hansen is the faculty mentor for one of these).

Oral presentations (in the Evans Room) 10:15 - 11:00 AM

(4 oral presentations are scheduled; Doug Storey is the faculty mentor for one of these).



Select Biosciences is pleased to announce the Genomics Research 2012 conference and exhibition. This year's event will be held in Boston, MA, USA.

The five conference tracks at this event include RNAi & miRNA, Advances in qPCR, Epigenetics, Next Gen Sequencing and Exosomes in Oncology.

Registered delegates will have access to all five meetings ensuring a very cost-effective trip.

<http://www.selectbiosciences.com/conferences/RNAiWC2012/>



Wanted: Eco-committed Graduate Students and Faculty

Fellow Biologists, the new academic year has started and provides new challenges and opportunities for all of us. If you feel that one of our priorities should be a sustainable and responsible lifestyle, then the Sustainability program of the U of C might be just right for you. I've been a SustainabilityON Coordinator for two years now and took an active part in many small revolutions that left a positive impression on the U of C community and myself.

The University of Calgary won the Canadian Commuter Challenge and ranked fairly high in the eight-week North American RecycleMania Challenge, where we achieved a weekly waste diversion of circa 37%. We also saved about \$109,000 worth of electricity during the three-week

PowerOFF Challenge. But being the sole representative of Biological Sciences in this program is starting to feel a bit lonely. Also, I don't seem to be capable of reaching out to all bioscientists on campus. Thus, if you see yourself engaged in the issues of sustainability and you want to coordinate your efforts with the Office of Sustainability, I invite you to ask me all kinds of questions about the program, or talk to our program coordinator Anna (amnowacz@ucalgary.ca) and maybe become a SustainabilityON Coordinator yourself.

All the best, Alex. [atinius@ucalgary.ca]

Mitacs : On Wednesday September 28th Laurence Meadows and Christine Gillies gave a presentation in BI 211 about the Accelerate, Globalink, and STEP programs administered by Mitacs. These provide opportunities for support for graduate students whose research is associated with industry linkages. The information about these programs is available on the Department Home Page (<http://www.bio.ucalgary.ca/MITACS/MITACS.html>).

Please also note that Christine Gillies is the new Mitacs Business Development Director for Alberta. She is based in Calgary and will be on campus frequently and available to answer any questions you or your students may have about the research and training programs of Mitacs. Christine will also be happy to meet with industry partners to explain how Mitacs' research collaborations work



The Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Graduate Student's Association invites you to

“The role of the microbiota in enteric and allergic diseases”

Presented by

Brett Finlay
(University of British Columbia)

Oct 17, 2011 | 11:00 am
Theatre 3 HSC

Cycling for the United Way

We are riding to raise funds for the U of C United Way! Between September 26th and November 30th (*that's 10 weeks!*) we will keep track of our kilometers ridden to and from work. We are asking you to pledge us!. The more we ride, the more money goes to the United Way.

Our goal is 2000 km ridden and \$1000 raised

Our maximum weekly commute

David Bininda - 85 km

Rob Edwards - 80 km

Warren Fitch - 15 km

Louise Hahn - 50 km

Lee Jackson - 185 km

Pledge options:

- \$\$s per kilometer covered by all of us
- \$\$s per person
- single donation
- any other combination that works for you!



United Way
of Calgary and Area

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Please note: all pledges can have a donation ceiling

