

VOLUME 3 • FEBRUARY 2021

Department of Biological Sciences Newsletter

FROM BIOMOLECULES TO THE BIOSPHERE

IMPORTANT DATES

**PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT GRANT
INTAKE**
FEB. 1-15

READING WEEK
FEB. 15-19

**PEER BEYOND GRADUATE
RESEARCH CONFERENCE**
FEB. 25-26

**BIOSCI SYMPOSIUM
REGISTRATION DEADLINE**
FEB. 26

If you or someone in your lab have something to celebrate, including successful defences and awards, please contact biogsa@ucalgary.ca to have your accomplishment included in the next newsletter!

CONGRATULATIONS TO:



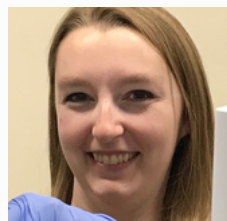
Margaret Cramm, of the Hubert lab, for her first author publication in the journal *Science of The Total Environment* titled "*Characterization of marine microbial communities around an Arctic seabed hydrocarbon seep at Scott Inlet, Baffin Bay*"!



Caroline Jasper, of the Vamosi lab, who successfully defended her MSc Thesis titled, "*The history and future of the rare, endemic plant species, *Draba yukonensis* (Yukon *Draba*)*" on January 22, 2021!



Dr. Jayne Rattray, of the Hubert lab, for her first author publication in the journal *Environmental Microbiology* titled "*Sensitive quantification of dipicolinic acid from bacterial endospores in soils and sediments*"!



Nicole Taylor, of the Gieg lab, for her first author publication in the journal *Microorganisms* titled "*The Effect of an Adsorbent Matrix on Recovery of Microorganisms from Hydrocarbon-Contaminated Groundwater*"!



Gabrielle Scheffer, of the Gieg lab, for her first author publication in *Microbial Biotechnology* titled "*Enzyme Biotechnology Development for Treating Polymers in Hydraulic Fracturing Operations*"!



The Ro Lab, for their publication in the journal *Planta* titled "*The promoter sequences of lettuce cis-prenyltransferase and its binding protein specify gene expression in laticifers*"!



SEMINARS

ECOL601 Seminar - Monday 12:00pm Meeting ID: 518 1943 338

February 1 - **Michelle Ives** - Population Study of Trees Growing on Cliffs.

BCEM601 Seminar - Monday 4:00pm Meeting ID: 966 0864 7151 Passcode: BCEM601

February 1 - **Colin Unruh** - Gadolinium Interactions with Phospholipid Bilayers.

BIOL601 Seminar - Wednesday 12:00pm Meeting ID: 950 3831 8705 Passcode: 601-is-fun

February 3 - **Colin MacKenzie** - A Systematic Genomic and Proteomic Survey of Antimicrobial Resistance Modulating Traits in *Staphylococcus aureus*.

ICB601 Seminar - Friday 3:00pm Meeting ID: 957 5461 2969 Passcode: 5n575h

February 5 - **Alyne Ribano** - Investigation of the role of kinase-associated protein phosphatase in pistil-pollen interactions in *Brassica napus* (canola).

BioSci Connected - Friday 4:00pm Meeting ID: 921 6834 7029 Passcode: 349959S

February 5 - **Dr. Marcus Samuel**

ECOL601 Seminar - Monday 12:00pm Meeting ID: 518 1943 338

February 8 - **Alex Niese** - The effect of temperature and substrate as an early life stressor on gene expression of Coho (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*).

BCEM601 Seminar - Monday 4:00pm Meeting ID: 966 0864 7151 Passcode: BCEM601

February 8 - **Nikhil Pradhan** - Exploration Towards Novel Biogenic Nanomaterial Using BCP1.

BIOL601 Seminar - Wednesday 12:00pm Meeting ID: 950 3831 8705 Passcode: 601-is-fun

February 10 - **Olivia Sosnowski** - Characterizing the tuft cell response following infection with the protozoan parasite Giardia.

ICB601 Seminar - Friday 3:00pm Meeting ID: 957 5461 2969 Passcode: 5n575h


February 12 **Kayla Dias** - Elucidating the molecular mechanism of natural rubber biosynthesis in plants within *Asteraceae*

ECOL601 Seminar - Monday 12:00pm Meeting ID: 518 1943 338

February 22 - **Erik Olson** - Plasticity of Female Reproductive Investment in Hatchery-Reared Coho Salmon.

BCEM601 Seminar - Monday 4:00pm Meeting ID: 966 0864 7151 Passcode: BCEM601

February 22 - **Andriy Plakhotnyk** - Assessment of Proteins Modulating Antimicrobial Resistance using Targeted Proteomics.



SEMINARS CONTINUED

BIOL601 Seminar - Wednesday 12:00pm Meeting ID: 950 3831 8705 Passcode: 601-is-fun
February 24 - **Carly Chan** - Characterizing the metabolism of uropathogenic Escherichia coli in urinary tract infections.

ICB601 Seminar - Friday 3:00pm Meeting ID: 957 5461 2969 Passcode: 5n575h
February 26 - **Jia Wang** - TBA

GRADUATE STUDENT AFFAIRS

Ph.D. Candidacy Oral Examination - Candidacy Exams are Closed Exams.

Chantel Biegler (Supervisor: Dr. Peter Dunfield) will be holding her Ph.D. Candidacy Examination on February 18, 2021.

Thesis Oral Examinations - Exams are "Open" unless otherwise noted.

Mahdi Mousseai (Supervisor: Dr. S. Noskov) will be holding his MSc Thesis Examination titled "Mapping ligand binding sites in hERG1 channel with biomolecular simulations" on February 9, 2021 at 1:30 pm. (Exit Seminar at 12:30 pm).

Amber Whitebone (Supervisor: Dr. Jason Anderson) will be holding her MSc Thesis Examination titled "A Multi-Method Analysis of Differential Enthesis Microstructure: Implications for Paleontological Soft Tissue Reconstructions" on March 1 at 2 pm. (Exit Seminar at 1pm).



5th Biological Sciences Graduate Symposium

March 25-26, 2021

Keynote
speaker



*Nobel
Laureate*

*Dr. Martin
Chalfie*

InclusiveSTEM



*Dr. Lisa
Willis*

Register by Feb. 26th, 2021:

https://survey.ucalgary.ca/jfe/form/SV_25zMuYghW0cBcy2



Biological Sciences
from biomolecules to the biosphere



BGSA
Biology Graduate Students' Association

Register today to present a poster, talk or 3MT!

- Win door prizes and presentation prizes!
- Learn about the implementation of GFP as a molecular tool from the pioneer Dr. Martin Chalfie!
- Learn how inclusiveness makes us stronger scientists and how to write an effective EDI statement from Dr. Lisa Willis!
- Share your work with your community!

LET'S TALK SCIENCE!

Let's Talk Cancer Virtual Symposium

- Let's Talk Science UCalgary is putting together a Let's Talk Cancer virtual symposium
- This is going to be a half-day long event, sometime in late March or early April
- Any grad student who has expertise in epigenetics, immunology, cancer genetics, or molecular biology would be a great candidate.



Speakers should prepare a 20-30min talk geared to a high school audience. Anyone interested should contact ucfts.events@gmail.com for more details!

DID YOU KNOW?

You can find candidacy forms and guidelines under "The Academic Side of Grad Studies" in your BioSci D2L course!

GO TO YOUR D2L UNDER ONGOING COURSES

FIND THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION COURSE!