Upcoming Events

“The Flipped Classroom Seminar: What is out there and why?”

Wednesdays, Spring 2014
1:30-2:30 pm
IRMACS Centre, room 10940
* event will be video conferenced to the Surrey Campus

Cindy Xin, Harpreet Kaur, Jamie Mulholland and Veselin Jungic will meet once a week in Spring 2014 to go through the existing literature about the issue of flipped classrooms. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

The seminar is part of the project “Flipping the classroom: An investigation of student and instructor experience in two first-year calculus courses and its impact on learning” with the SFU Institute for the Study of Teaching and Learning in the Disciplines.

Congratulations to:

Faculty of Science Nets 3 Staff Achievement Awards
Pawel Kowalski of the Science Technical Centre won the Innovation Award
Susanne Vlcek in the Dean’s Office won the Leadership Award
Ken MacFarlane in the Dean’s Office won the Work Performance Award.

February 17, 2014: Susanne Vlcek, Ken MacFarlane, and Claire Cupples at a small presentation ceremony for their staff achievement awards. Missing, Pawel Kowalski.

Jon Moore was awarded the Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Stevenson Lectureship for 2014. The Stevenson Lecture is a prestigious lectureship instituted in memory of Cam Stevenson, the long-time Editor of the Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences and is conferred upon a young, energetic and creative researcher at the cutting edge of an aquatic discipline. The abstract of his talk can be found at:
http://www1.uwindsor.ca/glier/ccffr/stevenson-lecture-0

Mike Thewalt’s team created a key component of a quantum computer that can survive at room temperature for a whopping 39 minutes, blowing away previous records of just seconds. Physicsworld magazine voted this one of the Top 10 Breakthroughs of 2013.
Mike Hayden, of the Physics department, is part of a team of Canadian and international research scientists that won NSERC’s John C. Polanyi Award for 2013. Experiments conducted by this collaboration at CERN (the European Organization for Nuclear Physics) in Geneva, have recently led to a series of important breakthroughs in the area of antihydrogen physics.

Isabell Graf, a postdoc in Mathematics has received a fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. The Fyodor Lynen Research Fellowship (http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/2983.html) will support her work on the mathematical modelling of sap flow in maple trees, and provides her with roughly $50,000 per year for two years. Isabell Graf and John Stockie also received a fellowship from the DAAD RISE program (Research Internships in Science and Engineering, https://www.daad.de/rise/en/) to bring over a German student for 10-12 weeks this summer. Isabell will take the lead in supervising this project on mathematical modelling of dynamics and thermoregulation in emperor penguin huddles (her interests are certainly diverse).

Fez Moussavi, an undergraduate student from BPK, won this year’s Venture Idea Prize. The Venture Idea prize is a new category for early-stage businesses showing “Promise & Plan”. Fez is developing an online and in-person tutoring service for high-school students wanting to go to university.

**Dean’s Office News**

We are pleased to announce the appointment of a new Secretary to the Dean. Erin Westwood has been working with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences on the Surrey Campus since 2006 and started in the Faculty of Science on February 24.

Please also welcome Rochelle Diablo to the role of Associate Director, Advancement for the Faculty of Science. Rochelle is transitioning from the Business Career Management Centre at the Beedie Business School, where she started in 2009. Rochelle has been a valuable member of the team, playing a key role in developing relationships with industry, mentors and sponsors of the Career Expo, the Mentors in Business Program, the MBA and BBA recruitment event. Rochelle starts her new position on March 10.

**Staff and Faculty News and Events**

**Science Fair Fun Run**

You are invited to join the Faculty of Science team “Nerds of Steel” in the Science Fair Foundation’s 5k run and 1k mini run on Sunday, May 25. The first 9 people to sign up will receive refunds on their $35 entry fee. More details and registration info to follow in the next few days.

Participants will also receive free admission to TELUS World of Science on race day.
Going Bananas?
Students, staff and faculty were treated to a healthy snack of bananas and apples compliments of the Dean’s office. All 8 Science departments set out bowls of fruit and helpful handouts from the Student Learning Commons and Health and Counselling. This new initiative, fittingly named ‘Going Bananas’, was well received and will continue around the third week of each Spring and Fall semester at both the Burnaby and Surrey campuses.

Faculty of Science Retirees’ Luncheon
February 19th marked our annual Faculty of Science Retirees luncheon held at the DAC. About 30 familiar faces showed up to enjoy a buffet lunch and hear about the latest departmental and faculty developments from Claire. Of course, the annual event wouldn’t be complete without a concert from Chemsemble!
Faculty of Science 3 Minute Thesis Heat
All 9 competitors braved the snowiest day on campus to compete in the 3MT heat on February 24. Illustrious judges included Peter Ruben, Nancy Hawkins and Erica Branda while the Master of Ceremonies role was entertainingly handled by George Agnes.

First prize winner as well as the People’s Choice winner was Bekka Brodie of Biological Sciences who won $550 while the Runner Up was Allison Cornell of Biological Sciences who won $150. Please cheer on our two Science students when they compete in the university-wide final on March 10 at 5:45 pm in Blossom Hall, 9660.

Congratulations to all competitors who managed to clearly discuss their thesis in 3 minutes - well done!

February 24, 2014: The nine contestants of the Faculty of Science Heat. Pictured from left to right: Jasmine Parmar, Bekka Brodie, Graeme Langille, Jeremy Chiu, Marie-Hélène Burle, Jacob Verbaas, Allison Cornell, Vernon Wang, and Olga Lansdorp.