Faculty News

Corey Watson (Biological Sciences) has been awarded the Quirks and Quarks award for the best thesis or dissertation in the Faculty of Science. During his PhD, Corey worked on the genetics and evolution of duplicated and expanded gene families, including projects on human immunoglobulins/T cell receptors and disease, and the duplication and regulation of teleost LWS opsins.

Statistics and Actuarial Sciences student Simon Mak has won this year’s Governor General’s Silver medal. Beyond excelling academically, Simon has contributed to the department and the university through the Statistics and Actuarial Sciences Student Association, the SFU recital society and a great deal of volunteering within his department.

Scott Brown has been awarded the Dean of Science Undergraduate Convocation Medal this year. Scott is graduating from the Joint Major Program with Computing Science and MBB and will be entering UBC’s Genome Science and Technology Graduate Program in the fall.

Congratulations to all of our convocation award recipients!

Upcoming Events

Engaging students through Q&A and gamification system
May 28, 2013, 10:30–11:30 am

As instructors, we hope to be engaging and stimulating, but this is a difficult task because of the predominantly one-way exchange of information. To be fully engaged, students need to be consulted and given the ability to exercise their knowledge (and thus power). The Internet, as a medium, can provide this service like no other. In this presentation, Wendell Challenger will outline a Q&A and gamification system that he has been building to supplement his regular lecture material.

Wendell Challenger is a statistical ecologist who has had a fascination with the Internet and open-source Internet tools for over a decade.

Space is limited; please register here.

Convocation Reception
June 12, 2013, immediately following convocation until 2:00
TASC2 Midway (7000 level)

Please join us for a light lunch and an opportunity to say goodbye and good luck to all of our convocating students. The reception is scheduled to begin immediately following convocation, and will continue until 2:00.

Women in Physics Canada Conference
July 25-27, 2013
Simon Fraser University

Please join us at the third annual Women in Physics Canada Conference, which will feature talks by prominent women scientists, panel discussions, a poster session, a BBQ, and a banquet dinner. For more information and registration, click here.

President’s Dream Colloquium 2014-2015
Application deadline: October 1, 2013

Applications are now being accepted for a President’s Dream Colloquium to be held in Fall 2014 or Spring 2015.

The challenge: You have up to $25,000 to bring in 6 speakers that you would like to bring in to help you teach a graduate course and deliver public lectures. Oh, and you get a teaching release to do it.

Sound like a daydream? Well, it’s not. The President’s Dream Colloquium has had two very successful series so far, and has welcomed almost two thousand
Contribute to the Rosemary Hotell Undergraduate Research Prize

Thank you to all those who have contributed to the Rosemary Hotell Research Prize to date. If you haven’t yet had a chance to donate, don’t forget that all funds raised in Rosemary’s name before June 30th will be matched by the Faculty of Science.

These $3,000 research prizes will be given to ambitious undergraduate students who show an aptitude for and interest in research. This will give them a chance they might never otherwise have to get research experience during their undergraduate career.

You can make a donation by selecting “Undergraduate Research Prizes/Rosemary Hotell” under the “donation designation” menu at the following link: donate here.

Do you know about an upcoming event, or have an exciting piece of news to share? Send it to scirec@sfu.ca for inclusion in the next newsletter!

Mitacs Globalink
Project submissions due by July 31, 2013

Mitacs is offering Canadian professors an opportunity to work with exceptional undergraduate students from India, China, Brazil, and Mexico on a 10 - 12 week research project in summer 2014. Mitacs will advertise internationally, review applications, and select a shortlist of candidates who best match professors’ project requirements. Mitacs also oversees all logistical aspects of the visit, including payment of living costs, medical insurance and accommodation. Globalink is open to top senior undergraduate students with a minimum CGPA of 8 out of 10 (or equivalent), as well as strong letters of recommendation.

For more information on the Globalink program, please click here.