

**University of Guelph
College of Biological Science**

11th Annual Careers in Biology

April 24-28, 2023

Speaker panels, workshops, and a professional photo shoot for graduate students!

**UNIVERSITY
of GUELPH**

**COLLEGE of
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE**

ASSOCIATE DEAN OF RESEARCH OFFICE

Careers in Biology 2023

Full Schedule at a Glance

Time	Mon., April 24	Tue., April 25	Wed., April 26	Thur., April 27	Fri., April 28
10-11 am	Workshop: Your LinkedIn Profile (SSC1511)			Workshop: Transitioning to the Workplace (Conversation with Recent Alumni) (SSC1504)	Professional Photo Shoot (limited spots; priority for students who complete the LinkedIn workshop) (SSC2315)
11-12 pm					
12-1 pm					
1-2:15 pm	Workshop: All About Salaries (SSC1511)	Speaker Panel: Research & Development (Zoom)	Speaker Panel: SciComm (Zoom)	Speaker Panel: Research Admin & Management (Zoom)	
2:30-3:45 pm		Speaker Panel: Education (Zoom)	Speaker Panel: Policy Analysis & Regulation (Zoom)		



Schedule - Speaker Panels (Virtual)

April	1:00–2:15 pm	2:30–3:45 pm
Tue 25	<u>Research & Development</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Lauren Bortolotti (Research Scientist, Inst. for Wetland and Waterfowl Research)2. Sean Liston (PDF, Bright Angel Therapeutics)3. Benjamin Mcleod (Technical Lead, Virica Biotech)	<u>Education</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Leonardi Nataprawira (Lab Technician, UofT Scarborough)2. Daniel Jeffrey (Assistant Professor, Western University)3. TBD
Wed 26	<u>Science Communication</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sarah Goodwin (Executive Director, Science Comm. Lab)2. Sheril Kirshenbaum (Scientist & Author, MSU)3. Sarah Shales (Freelance Writer and Editor)4. Colin Stringer (Senior Medical Writer, bMod Comm.)	<u>Policy Analysis & Regulation</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Madison Maguire (Director of Ontario Operations, Second Harvest)2. Rebekah Campbell (Policy Analyst, Health Canada)3. Qilan (Grace) Deng (Regulatory Affairs Intern, Healthy Cow)
Thur 27	<u>Research Management & Admin</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sandra Clark (Research Coordinator, McMaster Univ.)2. Ann Meyer (Director, adMare BioInnovations)3. Jamie Slogan (Dept. Head, Biological Services, Keystone Environmental Ltd.)	<p>To join us, click on the title of the sessions and they will take you to Zoom!</p>

Schedule – Workshops (In-person)

April	10:00 am–12:00 pm	1:00–2:30pm
Mon 24	LinkedIn Workshop (SSC 1511) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Julia Leary (Career Advisor, Experiential learning Hub)2. Virginia Capmourteres (Research and Graduate Officer, CBS)3. Olivier Herlin (Student, CBS) <p><i>In this workshop, we will give you a step-by-step guide to create an impactful LinkedIn profile. This is a practical workshop, so bring your laptop and leave with more tools to advance your networking and job search endeavours! Plus, you get priority for the professional photo shoot on Friday!</i></p>	All About Salaries (SSC 1511) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Julia Leary (Career Advisor, Experiential learning Hub)2. Virginia Capmourteres (Research and Graduate Officer, CBS)3. Cas Knihnisky (Assistant Branch Manager/Advisor, RBC) <p><i>Let's have an honest conversation about salaries and financial literacy. Does graduate school pay off? How much do master's and doctoral graduates make? How can you negotiate your salary? How can you budget, save, and repay your student debts? Answers to these questions and more in this money-centered workshop.</i></p>
Thur 27	Transitioning to the Workplace (SSC 1504) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amanda Reside (Research technician/assistant, UoG)2. Perrin Baker (Director, New Technologies, Maple Leaf Foods Inc.)3. Kelsey Randhawa (Former R&D Senior Technician) <p><i>It's always good to learn from those who were in your shoes just a few years ago. Recent CBS grad alumni will tell us more about how they transitioned to the workplace. If you're looking for strategies and a safe place to ask questions about what comes next, this is for you!</i></p>	<p>To join us, please check the room numbers under the title of each workshop!</p>

Schedule – Photo Shoot (In-person)

April

10:00 am–2:00 pm

Professional Photo Shoot (SSC 2315)

Tired of using a vacation selfie as a professional picture? Don't want to pay hundreds of dollars? We've got you covered!

Photographer Martin Schwalbe will be joining us for a 4-hour photo shoot for CBS graduate students.

We have spots available for 40 students and priority will be given to those who complete the LinkedIn workshop.

Students who attend the LinkedIn workshop will be able to choose a specific timeslot to get their picture taken. Remaining spots will be assigned randomly, and students will be informed of their timeslot by email. No drop-ins available.

Fri
28



Panel Speakers

Research and Development

Lauren Bortolotti

BSc, PhD | Research Scientist, Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl Research



Lauren Bortolotti works as a Research Scientist for the Institute of Wetland and Waterfowl Research, the science arm of Ducks Unlimited Canada. She has a BSc from the University of Saskatchewan and completed her PhD at the University of Alberta, working on the recovery of biodiversity and ecosystem function in restored wetlands. Lauren has a diverse scientific background, having started her scientific career working on intra-cellular transport in plants, then gained experience in avian ecology and wetland ecology and biogeochemistry. She is broadly interested in research on wetlands and biodiversity, and using science to advance conservation in Canada.

Sean Liston

BSc, PhD | Post-doctoral Fellow, Bright Angel Therapeutics



Bright Angel Therapeutics is a pre-clinical stage biotechnology company focused on the development of novel therapeutics for the treatment of drug-resistant systemic fungal infections. In this role, I have developed enzyme and whole-cell assays to demonstrate and optimize target engagement of small molecule inhibitors as novel antifungal therapies.

Education: Postdoctoral Fellow. Molecular Genetics, University of Toronto. Advisor: Dr. Leah Cowen; Ph.D. Molecular and Cellular Biology. University of Guelph. Advisor: Dr. Chris Whitfield; BSc. Biochemistry. University of Guelph

Benjamin McLeod

BSc, MBIOT | Technical Lead, Virica Biotech



Benjamin studied Molecular Biology at the University of Ottawa, followed by a Master of Biotechnology at the University of Guelph.

Ben works for Virica Biotech as a Technical Lead. Virica focuses on improving the manufacturing process for cell and gene therapies. Ben supports the business development and marketing teams as a technical liaison.

Panel Speakers

Education

Leonardi Nataprawira

BSc, MSc | Lab Technician, University of Toronto Scarborough



I completed my BSc in Waterloo ('18) and my MSc in Guelph ('22). I currently work for the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) as a Lab Technician for their Department of Biological Sciences. In this position, I set up teaching labs and prepare teaching assistants for the delivery of course material. Recently, I organized the equipment and materials for first-year biology labs which covered a wide variety of topics from plant biology to ecology.

Daniel Jeffery

BSc, PhD | Assistant Professor, Western University



My name is Daniel Jeffery. I went to Guelph for my undergrad in Molecular and Cellular Bio with a 4th year research project in the lab of Dr. Yankulov. I found I really liked the lab so stayed on as a MSc student when I finished my undergrad, eventually transferring to my PhD a year later. As part of my grad studies, I participated in a number of exchanges to Tokyo, Japan, to work in a collaborator's lab. After my PhD, I did two research assistantships with the Centre for Teaching and Learning at Guelph (now OpenEd) and taught biology for an MCAT prep company, then I went off to Paris to do a research post-doc at the Institut Curie. This lasted nearly 7 years and then I switched positions to a Project Manager role. After a little over a year there, this summer I landed my new position at Western University as a teaching stream Assistant Professor in Genetics.

TBD
TBD

Panel Speakers

Science Communication

Sarah Goodwin

BSc, PhD | Executive Director, Science Communication Lab



Sarah Goodwin is a leader in science communication and filmmaking. As the founding Executive Director of the Science Communication Lab, she has worked with hundreds of scientists from around the world to help communicate their research and interests to a diverse and growing global audience. Through the iBiology and Wonder Collaborative initiatives, Sarah is excited to experiment with how video storytelling can demystify the process of science, illuminate the many personalities and backgrounds of scientists, and contribute to a deeper understanding of science. Sarah received her PhD in Cell Biology from the University of California, San Francisco.

Sheril Kirshenbaum

BSc, MSc | Scientist and Author, Michigan State University



Sheril Kirshenbaum works to enhance public understanding of science and improve communication between scientists, policymakers, and the public. She hosts *Serving Up Science* at PBS and is an academic specialist at Michigan State. Her books include *Unscientific America* with Chris Mooney and *The Science of Kissing*. Sheril has been a Presidential Leadership Scholar, a Marshall Memorial Fellow, and a science fellow in the Senate. She has worked at *Scientific American*, *Wired*, and *Discover* and hosted an NPR podcast. Sheril holds an MSc in marine biology, a masters in policy, and will complete a PhD in Community Sustainability this year.

Sarah Shales

BSc, MSc, PhD | Freelance Writer and Editor



Sarah is a freelance science writer and editor based in the UK. She studied biology as an undergraduate student and then followed that with a PhD in plant science, studying the symbioses between legumes (e.g., peas and beans) and nitrogen-fixing bacteria. During her PhD studies she started blogging and soon discovered a love of writing about science, especially in making research findings more accessible for wider audiences. Today she works on a wide variety of life and biomedical science content including plain language summaries of research, magazine-style articles and journal articles

Colin Stringer

BSc, MSc, G.Dip | Senior Medical Writer, bMod Communications



Colin is a Senior Medical Writer for bMod Communications - a Montreal-based medical ad agency. The experience and skillset he has curated over his career offer him a unique viewpoint on medical communications. He holds an MSc (MCB) from UofG, a GDip. (Science Communication) from Laurentian University, and six years of experience operating a scicomm practice focused on video production and online learning.

Panel Speakers

Policy Analysis and Regulation

Madison Maguire

BA, MSc | Director of Ontario Operations, Second Harvest



Madison is currently the Director of Ontario Operations at Second Harvest. She is responsible for overseeing a Fleet and Warehouse team that rescues surplus food and redistributes to over 250+ social service organizations across Toronto and the Second Harvest Food Rescue app activity across Ontario. Previously she was the Project Lead for a Food Loss and Waste research project that examines food waste from a whole of Canadian chain perspective – from primary production to consumption. Madison is a graduate of the Masters of Environmental Studies program at York University where she focused her research on a food waste reduction strategy for Toronto Restaurants. Her paper was included in York U's Outstanding Paper Series. Madison is a passionate advocate for waste reduction and for utilizing a systems approach for tackling environmental issues.

Rebekah Campbell

BSc, MSc | Policy Analyst, Health Canada



Rebekah graduated with a Bachelor of Science (honors) in Human Kinetics from the University of Guelph in April of 2018, and a Master of Science in Human Health and Nutritional Sciences specializing in Biomechanics and Neurophysiology in December of 2019. She has been a Policy Analyst with the Accessibility Readiness Team at Health Canada for the past 2.5 years. As a Policy Analyst she has several responsibilities which includes writing summary documents, creating presentations, gathering and synthesizing information, and liaising with stakeholders.

Qilan (Grace) Deng

PhD | Regulatory Affairs Intern, Healthy Cow



Grace completed her PhD program in Animal Science at the University of Alberta in 2014. After spending a decade in academia, she started to explore the world from a different perspective. She first worked as a financial advisor, then as an office manager, then she worked as a project coordinator in the real estate industry. After the pandemic, she enrolled in the Regulatory Affairs program, learning about the regulatory frameworks of Canada, the development of public policies, and the requirements for health products to be launched in the market. She currently works as a Regulatory Affairs Intern at a startup company promoting animal health, helping with preparing and compiling regulatory submissions.

Panel Speakers

Research Management & Administration

Sandra Clark

BSc, MSc | Research Coordinator, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University



After starting her career in regulatory affairs, Sandra moved into a patient education and knowledge translation role at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, and now works as a Research Coordinator at McMaster University where she enjoys combining these new skills with the research skills she gained during her MSc. On any given day she finds herself writing grant proposals, collecting data and preparing manuscripts for research focusing on dementia awareness and support, as well as supporting resident physicians and undergraduate students with medical education-related research projects.

Ann Meyer

BSc, PhD | Director, BioInnovation Scientist Program, adMare BioInnovations



Dr. Ann Meyer is the Director of the BioInnovation Scientist Program at adMare BioInnovations. The program aims to provide early-career scientists with the foundational drug development knowledge and professional skills to succeed in the Canadian life sciences industry. Previously, Ann was Manager, Sector Innovation and Programs at Ontario Genomics supporting the implementation of strategic initiatives aimed at bringing new genomic-derived solutions to Ontario, and the Manager, Knowledge and Research Exchange at the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research overseeing the Canadian Bioinformatics Workshops series. Ann is a University of Guelph alumni with a PhD in Plant Agriculture, Crop Breeding and Genetics, and a BSc Honours in Biological Science.

Jamie Slogan

BSc, MSc, PhD | Department Head, Biological Services, Keystone Environmental Ltd.



Dr. Slogan manages a diverse group of biologists at Keystone Environmental that pride themselves on providing practical, knowledge-based solutions to an array of environmental issues. Jamie has extensive experience and training as a senior marine, fisheries and vegetation ecologist with over 20 years of experience, including 17 years as an environmental consultant and five years working for conservation organizations. Jamie has worked across Canada leading environmental assessments, construction monitoring, and habitat restoration projects for government, port, mining, transportation, and infrastructure development projects. In addition to leading his team at Keystone, Dr. Slogan created and instructed courses in Ecological Restoration and supervised graduate students at Simon Fraser University and British Columbia Institute of Technology.

Workshop Speakers

Transitioning to Workplace (Conversation with Alumni)

Amanda Reside

BSc, MSc | Research technician/assistant, University of Guelph



Amanda Reside is a recent graduate from the University of Guelph. She holds a master's degree in Integrative Biology with a collaborative specialization in Neuroscience. Her research focuses on fish physiology and ecotoxicology in aquatic systems, and she currently works as a research technician/assistant in the Integrative Biology department. This position involves analyzing samples and carrying out experiments to support ongoing grad students' projects, as well as designing her own related projects.

Perrin Baker

BSc, PhD | Director, New Technologies, Maple Leaf Foods Inc.



Perrin Baker completed both his undergraduate degree in MBG in 2007 and his PhD in Stephen Seah's lab in 2012 from the University of Guelph. Following graduation, he completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. In 2017, he transitioned to the medical device industry, working at Covalon Technologies as the company's Director of R&D. Currently, he is the Director of New Technologies for Maple Leaf Foods and their subsidiary in Chicago. His team is at the forefront of exploring new processes, ingredients, and technologies including; cultivated meat, synthetic and plant-based proteins for the next generation of foods.

Kelsey Randhawa

BSc, MSc | Former R&D Senior Grow Technician in the Cannabis Industry



My name is Kelsey Randhawa and I have a B.Sc. in Ecology from Laurentian University, as well as a M.Sc. in Integrative Biology from the University of Guelph. In my academic career I focused on plant ecology and restoration and after graduating I pursued a career in research in the cannabis industry. As a Research & Development Senior Grow Technician, my responsibilities included proposing and managing research projects, conducting data analysis and interpretation, and conducting horticultural activities in both research and commercial settings. Due to the increasing instability of the cannabis industry, I decided to begin the transition back into ecology and am currently searching for a career where I can make a positive impact alongside environmental organizations.

Careers in Biology 2023 Planning Committee

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