RESEARCH AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

September 20, 2023
5:30 pm
WHO ARE WE?

- Taline Apelian-Sutor
  - 2nd-year Biology student
  - Peer Mentor
  - taline22@my.yorku.ca

- Radoslaw Staskiewicz
  - 4th-year Physics student
  - Peer Mentor
  - radicice@my.yorku.ca

- Maheen Hemani
  - 4th-year Astrophysics student
  - Peer Mentor
  - msh12@my.yorku.ca
Taline

- Peer Mentor
- Class Representative
- Science Student Caucus
- Undergraduate Research
  - York Science Scholars Award
  - Indicium Research Competition
- Science Student Ambassador
Our Volunteer and Research Experiences

Radoslaw

- Peer Mentor
- Class Representative
Our Volunteer and Research Experiences

Maheen

- Peer Mentor
- Observatory and Laboratory Assistant (Work-Study)
- Undergraduate Research
  - Research At York (RAY position)
  - EXPLORE (Experiential Learning Opportunity through Research and Exchange)
- Member of the Astronomy club
- York Observatory Volunteer
AGENDA

- Volunteer Opportunities at York
- Unpaid/Volunteer Research Opportunities
- Hospital Volunteering/Research
- Paid Opportunities
- Recreational Opportunities
Volunteer Opportunities at York
Student Ombuds Services (SOS)

- Peer Mentor (PM)

- Peer Tutoring (PT)
  - [https://www.yorku.ca/colleges/bethune/get-involved/volunteer-positions/peer-tutor-recruitment/](https://www.yorku.ca/colleges/bethune/get-involved/volunteer-positions/peer-tutor-recruitment/)

- Peer-Assisted Study Sessions (PASS)

- Class Representatives (CR)

http://bethune.yorku.ca/sos/
Bethune College Council (BCC)

- Elections in October for two First-Year reps as well as any vacant positions
- General elections in March for all other positions (President, VP, External, VP Athletics, and four General Members)

- Office: 122 Norman Bethune College (In the basement across from JCR)
- https://www.bethunedragons.ca
- Instagram: @bethunecollege
York Federation of Students (YFS)

- YFS organizes popular events like York Fest, Frost Week, Multicultural week

- RedPack: Volunteer Program run by YFS
  - Events Teams, Campaigns & Equity Team, Wellness Team

- Wellness centre

Office Location:
336 Student Centre
Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm

http://www.yfs.ca/redpack
Student Community and Leadership Development (SCLD)

- SCLD [https://www.yorku.ca/scld/join-our-team/](https://www.yorku.ca/scld/join-our-team/)
  - Assist students with their transition into university life and to ensure their continued growth and engagement throughout their time at the university

- RedZone [http://redzone.scld.yorku.ca/](http://redzone.scld.yorku.ca/)
  - At the RED Zone, students are welcomed by student ambassadors who will be able to answer any questions about York and connect them to on-campus resources
YUConnect

- York’s hub for co-curricular activities
- Click the organizations tab to browse through over 500 clubs at York

https://yorku.campuslabs.ca/engage/
Let's Highlight Some Clubs!

**Chemistry Society**
- csygram
- Posts: 46
- Followers: 851
- Following: 261

**Astronomy Club**
- acyuatyork
- Posts: 153
- Followers: 403
- Following: 45

**Breaking Stigmas**
- brstigmas.yu
- Posts: 52
- Followers: 353
- Following: 98

**Association For Research Placement**
- yorku_arpy
- Posts: 70
- Followers: 790
- Following: 89
Indicum Mentee Applications are now open! The Application is available in our bio!

View 1 comment
November 24, 2022
York University
Allan I. Carswell Observatory

ATRIUM TOUR
Wednesday, September 20th
8:00 pm ET

Location: Roof of William Small Center
(Arboretum parking garage)

Note: Weather dependent event
Scan to register

Liked by stuart.heggie and 18 others
yorkuobservatory We are back with an Atrium tour night! 🌟
... more
Unpaid/Volunteer Research
Volunteering for a professor

- Opportunities available depend on the Professor

- Check with each professor individually (via email or in-person)

- Be persistent

- Don’t give up easily (you will likely get many “no”s before you finally get a “yes”)

- Be professional and courteous when you email them

Note: Ecology-based labs usually advertise for volunteers in class
PHYSICS/ASTRONOMY PROJECT
PHYS 4310 3.0

- Fall/Winter/Summer terms available
- Open to students in the final year of
  - Physics, Applied Physics Astronomy streams of an Honours Physics and Astronomy program.
- 1 term: 3 credits
- Example of project areas:
  - Atomic physics
  - Biophysics
  - Computational electromagnetism

Links:
https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/8/wo/QRnzE25O1MdRSQmFsAdqLg/2.3.10.8.3.51.0.5
Experiential Learning Opportunity through Research and Exchange (EXPLORE)

PHYS 3600 3.0

- Opportunity to Collaborate with an international research team
- Admittance to the course is by application only
- Offered as a year course
- Open to all undergraduate and MSc students (even outside of Physics and Astronomy!)

- 3 credit course
- Research themes:
  - Theoretical and/or computational physics
  - Astrophysics
  - Biophysics

Links:
https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/6/wo/C5bXEaZzoRs7vqjTHGSTTg/8.3.10.8.3.31.0.5

See Faculty profiles for a description of their research and their contact information → [https://www.arpy.ca/](https://www.arpy.ca/)

Familiarize yourself with their research and choose a prof whose line of research/techniques genuinely interests you!

Approach professors through email, class, or office hours

Be courteous and prepare to market yourself

Show the professor that you really have an interest in their research (read a few of their most recent papers)
Dear [Name],

I am an undergraduate student at York University completing a double major in psychology and biology. I will be starting my fourth year in September 2015 and would like to do my honours thesis. After volunteering in a Biology research lab for the past year and realizing that my research interests lie in the [field], I found that your research on [specific topic] was particularly interesting. Furthermore, I find it appealing that [additional context or interest]. On that note, I would like to inquire whether you are currently accepting honours thesis students for the 2015/2016 year. If so, I was wondering if you would be available anytime next week to discuss this possibility?

I would like to mention that I have previous research experience [additional context]. My psychology GPA is [GPA]. I have attached my unofficial transcript and resume for your consideration. I have also attached a writing sample I submitted as an assignment for the course PSYC 3260 Cognition. Thank you in advance for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,
Ontario Universities Program in Field Biology

- Gain experience through field-based learning and research, and fulfill your interest in the natural world
- Research fields are located around the world (Costa Rica, Brazil, Bahamas etc.)
- Application found on website http://www.oupfb.ca/
- York: https://www.yorku.ca/science/biology/course/field-courses/

Dr. Dawn Bazely  dbazely@yorku.ca
Ms. Patty Lindsay  patlind@yorku.ca
416-736-2100 X 20109
416-736-2100 X 33770
Independent Study/Honors Thesis

Biology, Kinesiology, Chemistry, and Psychology Departments

➢ Each department requires the student to be in the respective Honours program and to have completed >84 credits
➢ Biology: Biology Major GPA of at least 6.0
   ● 3.0 or 8.0 credits
➢ Psychology: PSYC 1010, 2030, 2020 OR 2021/2022
➢ Chemistry: no other specific requirements
➢ Kinesiology: no other specific requirements

Arrange project details with professor
Grading system is determined beforehand with professor

Look early! (Nov/Dec/Jan of the year before)

http://science.yorku.ca/biology/faculty-research/
Research Practicum

- Biology and Chemistry (Research Experience Term)
- Can be taken during any year/semester of study
- Taken part time while taking courses (5~10 hours/week)

**ZERO CREDITS (PASS/FAIL) ON TRANSCRIPT**

- Must make arrangements with professor before enrolling
- Submit personal essay/report on your work at the end of practicum

**GREAT WAY TO GET YOUR FOOT IN THE DOOR!**
NSERC USRA, ENURA, and DURA

Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada

Summer research assistant studentships for undergraduate students

Application deadline is in Feb 2023 (TBD) so you must find a professor well before this deadline

Pay: $8,400 ($6,000 from NSERC + $2,400 from your supervisor and faculty)

Application package includes forms + Research Statement + Transcript

At York, students can apply for NSERC starting summer of 1st year

NSERC INFORMATION SEMINAR

- Stay tuned for the Faculty of Science NSERC information session… likely in early February
- Presentation slides from 2023:
RAY (Research At York): Eligible undergraduate students will have the opportunity to participate in research projects with faculty members and/or fellow students, while receiving compensation at a competitive rate.

Work Study: On-campus part-time job opportunities for eligible full-time undergraduate students. Provide support to their relevant department/faculty in clerical, administrative and technical capacities.

Leadership Engagement & Ambassadorship Program (LEAP) supports high profile contributions and engagement activities on campus that are focused on such things as peer mentoring, ambassadorship and advising. Ex. YU Start Leader, Student Recruitment Ambassadors and Peer Educators/Mentors.

https://experience.yorku.ca/home/home.htm

https://sfs.yorku.ca/work-study-programs
Volunteering at a Hospital

http://mackenziehealth.ca/
http://www.hrh.ca/BecomeaHumberRiverVolunteer
http://sunnybrook.ca/content/?page=volunteer-application
https://www.mountsinai.on.ca/patients/volunteer
Recreational Opportunities
Recreational Activities
Intramurals

York Torch: Intramural championship for which York Colleges compete

Three Levels:
- Group A – Competitive
- Group B – Semi-competitive
- Group C – Recreational

Register through IMLeagues or Bethune Athletic Committee

https://www.imleagues.com/spa/account/registration
https://yorkulions.ca/sports/intramurals
YORK U LIONS

**INTRAMURAL ASSISTANT:** Provide administrative support with statistics, standings, rules, points, staff training and evaluation.

**INTRAMURAL CONVENOR:** Hiring, training and scheduling of officials, participant identification verification, player eligibility, field/court inspection and equipment inventory as well as appropriate incident management and reporting.

**INTRAMURAL OFFICIALS/REFEREES:** Ball Hockey, Basketball, Broomball, Cricket, Flag Football, Futsal, Handball, Innertube Basketball, Innertube Water Polo, Rugby, Soccer, Volleyball

**Note:** These positions are part of the Work/Study program

http://www.yorkulions.ca/index.aspx
SUMMARY

- There are plenty of opportunities available
- Use the time now to get your resume, cover letters and reference letters ready
- Start searching for projects that interest you
- Approach professors early to see if they have positions available
- Try to get good grades!