

February 2018

DEAN'S ROUND-UP



The Faculty announced the launch of the bioanalytical core facility **YSciCore**. All are invited to attend the launch event, to be held as part of **Science Unplugged** on March 6.

The Faculty launched the second call for applications for the **York Science Communicator in Residence Program**. Application deadline is April 13, 2018.

The Faculty announced that it would be offering 25 **Dean's Undergraduate Research Awards** for summer 2018.

Arturo Orellana (Chemistry) and **Gary Sweeney** (Biology) received **project grants** from the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR).

New recipients of the **York Science Fellowships** were announced in yFile.

The Faculty of Science, Let's Talk Science at York and Bethune College hosted the second Tri-Sci Tourney, a high school science competition in physics, chemistry and biology for Grade 11 students.

The **Department of Science & Technology Studies** hosted the event UX Jobs in the Gaming Industry for graduate students.

Chris Lortie (Biology) published **Modelling the niche space of desert annuals needs to include positive interactions** in *OIKOS*. His research was also highlighted in a **Dispatches** article in *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. In addition, he and students Nargol Ghaziantafrihi, **Stephanie Haas**, **Alex Filazzola**, and **Jenna Braun** presented at the California Native Plant Society Meeting.

Research by **Seyed Moghadas** (Mathematics & Statistics) and PhD student **Sara Maghdoori** on how to control *C. difficile* in hospitals was profiled in the **Brainstorm** edition of yFile.

Jean-Paul Paluzzi (Biology) and his team published “Molecular identification, transcript expression, and functional deorphanization of the adipokinetic hormone/corazonin-related peptide receptor in the disease vector, *Aedes aegypti*” in Nature’s **Scientific Reports**.

Sapna Sharma (Biology) presented “On Thin Ice: Are Lakes Feeling the Heat?” at York Circle.

Kathi Hudak (Biology) presented “Harnessing Nature’s Pharmacy” at the Markham Scholars Hub, organized by York’s Office of Alumni Relations.

- **BRAP-2 promotes DNA damage induced germline apoptosis in C. elegans through the regulation of SKN-1 and AKT-1** – Cell Death and Differentiation
 - Research conducted in Terry Kubiseski’s lab found that the gene BRAP-2 plays a key role in programmed cell death, also known as apoptosis, when there is DNA damage. See the story in **yFile**.

Nature News profiled new research by **Laurence Packer** (Biology) that found that most research on insects is unscientific.

Logan Donaldson (Biology) was highlighted in article in **The Globe and Mail** that explored the risk of misleading results from DNA testing.

Paul Delaney (Physics & Astronomy) commented about Falcon Heavy for *CTV News, AM640, Sirius XM, CFRB 1010*. In addition, he spoke to *AM640* about the lack of a Canadian rocketry program, sunspots and the changing Sun, orbiting space junk (satellites) and space funding in Canada.

Mar 6: Science Unplugged, 3:00-4:30 pm, Underground. RSVP: **Science Unplugged**

Mar 28: York Science Forum with Nobel Laureate Arthur McDonald, 7pm, Accolade West Bldg. RSVP:
<http://science.yorku.ca/forum>

Apr 5: Annual Association of Graduate Students in Biology Symposium:
<http://agsbs.yugsa.ca/symposium/>