

science

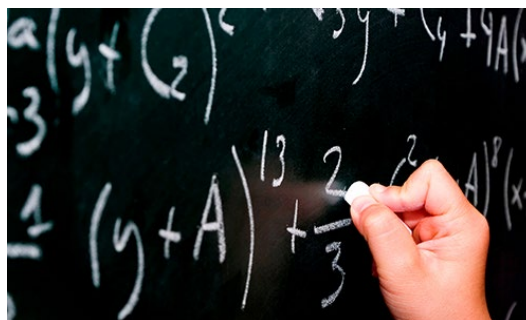


## Dean's Round-up: October 2019

### Faculty Highlights



The **Allan I. Carswell Observatory** has now opened up its new one-metre telescope for [public viewing](#) events, with tickets already selling out until mid-January.



[Maclean's](#) magazine ranked YorkU among Ontario's top five – and Canada's top 10 – for mathematics programs. Compared to last year, YorkU's math program ranking maintained its fourth spot provincially and moved up to ninth place nationally (from eleventh).



The third class of Carswell Schoars – six PhD students from the Faculty of Science and six from the Lassonde School of Engineering – attended a [luncheon](#) with Allan Carswell and the Deans of Science and Lassonde where they outlined the scope of their research.

## Congratulations

**Chris Caputo** (Chemistry) received the 2019 Petro-Canada Young Innovator [Award](#). The award is presented to outstanding early-career faculty members at York University and is a commitment by Petro-Canada (now Suncor Energy Inc.) and the University to encourage excellence in teaching and research that will enrich the learning environment and contribute to society.

**Cora Young** and **Trevor VandenBoer** (Chemistry) received \$440,000 over four years from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for their project "Assessing the Atmospheric Transport and Deposition of Ionogenic Contaminants Impacting Whale Habitats."

PhD students **Tanushree Tiwari** and **Kathleen Dogantzis** (supervised by **Amro Zayed**, Biology) received the 2019 CanadianPAm-Costco Scholar [Fellowship](#).

## Other News

In a new [opinion piece](#) in *Perception*, **Nikolaus Troje** (Biology) discusses how virtual reality is a game changer for vision science

**Sapna Sharma** (Biology) presented a plenary lecture at the American Geophysical Union Winter Limnology meeting.

**Paul Delaney** (Physics & Astronomy) and **Mark Bayfield** (Biology) participated in How Did We Get Here? The Cosmos, Humanity, And The Unknown, presented by The Universe Discovery Project in partnership with York Science and the Royal Canadian Institute for Science.

## Research Highlights

Research by **Gary Sweeney** (Biology) and his PhD student **James Jahng** on the impact of iron overload on insulin sensitivity was covered by [Brainstorm](#), a special edition of *yFile*.

Former MSc student **Azizia Wahedi** (supervised by **Jean-Paul Paluzzi**, Biology) and Paluzzi published [Insight Into Mosquito GnRH-Related Neuropeptide Receptor Specificity Revealed Through Analysis of Naturally Occurring and Synthetic Analogs of This Neuropeptide Family](#) in *Frontiers in Endocrinology*.

PhD student **Alyssa Murdoch** (supervised by **Sapna Sharma**, Biology) and Sharma published [The interactive effects of climate change and land use on boreal stream fish communities](#) in *Science of the Total Environment*.

## Media

[York University Magazine](#) featured **Thomas Baumgartner** and **Chris Caputo's** (Chemistry) development of a new fluorescence-based method for accurately determining the strength of a range of Lewis acids.

**Bridget Stutchbury** (Biology) spoke to [CTV News](#) about the installation of new window coverings on some York University buildings and how they will help prevent bird deaths on campus.

**Paul Delaney** (Physics & Astronomy) spoke to CBC Radio about the

Observatory's new one-metre telescope, as well as to *AM640* about Interstellar comet Brisov, Planet Nine investigation, Saturn's new moons, Viking Label release results, the all-female spacewalk at ISS and space settlements in the near future.

**Patricia Lakin-Thomas** (Biology) co-authored an opinion piece in [The Globe and Mail](#) about why standard time is healthier than daylight savings time. She also spoke to various national and local media outlets on this topic, including [CBC News](#), [CTV News](#), [Toronto Sun](#), [CP24](#), and more.

**Dawn Bazely** (Biology) spoke to the [CBC News](#) about an archive of photos and research of plants and animals in Manitoba's tundra that is now available online.

**Deborah Harris** (Physics & Astronomy) was quoted in a story in [Quantum Magazine](#) about recent results from the Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino (KATRIN) experiment in Germany.

## Upcoming Events

**Nov. 7** – Science Unplugged, featuring talks by **B.D. Colen** (Science Communicator in Residence), **Sandra Rehan** (Biology), **Eric Hessels** (Physics & Astronomy) and student **Sunna Withers** (Physics & Astronomy). 3-4:30 pm, Second Student Centre. [More details](#).

**Nov. 11** – Mercury Transit viewing event hosted by the Observatory team. Telescopes will be set up along Campus Walk, 9 am-1 pm.

**Until Nov. 18** – Toronto Public Library Series, "[Feasting at the Table of Elements](#)," with Christopher Caputo, Cora Young, Pierre Potvin, Hovig Kouyoumdjian and Derek Jackson (Chemistry).

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