



CSEE/SCEE 2009 Student Presentation Awards Report

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution/ Société canadienne d'écologie et d'évolution was held jointly with the Genetics Society of Canada/ Société de génétique du Canada at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia on May 14-17, 2009. This meeting was very well attended with about 450 participants.

The student presentation competition was exceptionally well supported with a total of 332 students entering the CSEE/SCEE student presentation award competition in 2009, including 222 talks and 110 posters. A total of 46 judges (faculty and postdocs) volunteered to evaluate the student presentations. Dr. Jeremy Lundholm from St. Mary's University organized the competition and allocated judges to the talks/posters, based on disciplinary preferences and to avoid conflicts. Most student presentations received 2 or 3 evaluations. The standard of presentations were high making the selection of winning presentations very challenging. First prize winners received \$500, second \$300, and third \$200 and a congratulatory letter from the Chair of the Awards and Recognition Committee.

Oral Presentations:

First Prize:

Jessica MacKay Ward, Biology, McGill University... Email: jessica.ward@mail.mcgill.ca

Supervisor: Anthony Ricciardi

Title of Presentation: A meta-analytical test of the ecological naïveté hypothesis.

Tie for Second Prize:

Shawn Leroux, Dept of Biology, McGill Univ, Email: shawn.leroux@mail.mcgill.ca

Supervisor. Michel Loreau

Title of Presentation: Consumer-mediated recycling and cascading trophic interactions.

And **Richard Vogt**, Dept Sciences Biologiques, UQAM, Email: richvogt@gmail.com

Supervisor: Bea Beisner

Title of Presentation: Investigating the interaction between functional diversity and eutrophication in modulating phytoplankton community productivity.

Third Prize:

Magdalena Bartowska, Dept Biology, Dalhousie, Email: mbartkow@dal.ca

Supervisor: Mark O Johnston

Title of Presentation: Quantitative genetic variation in populations of *Amsinckia spectabilis* that differ in rate of self-fertilization.

Honourable Mention

Danna Gifford, Dept of Biology, University of Ottawa. Email: dgifford@uottawa.ca

Supervisor: Rees Kassen

Title of Presentation: The effect of wild-type fitness on the properties of adaptive walks in *Aspergillus nidulans*.

Poster Presentations:

Ties for First prize

Leanna Lachowsky, Biol Sciences, Univ of Calgary, Email: leanna.lachowsky@gmail.com

Supervisor: Mary Reid

Title of Presentation: What's sex got to do with it? Differential mortality during development as a cause of female-biased sex ratios of mountain pine beetles

And **Claude Leroux**, Biologie, Université Laval, Email: claudio.leroux.1@ulaval.ca

Supervisor: Ladd Johnson

Title of Presentation: Potential differences in the growth rate of a marine snail across the intertidal zone: potential for local adaptation?

Second Prize

Russell Dinnage, Ecology & Evol Biol, Univ. of Toronto, Email: russell.dinnage@utoronto.ca

Supervisor : Peter Abrams

Title of Presentation: Herbivory is negatively associated with phylogenetic diversity at a community scale

Third Prize

Lucia Kwan, Dept of Biology, Univ Ottawa, Email: luciakwan@uottawa.ca

Supervisor: Howard D. Rundle

Title of Presentation: Adaptation to desiccation resistance fails to generate pre- and postmating isolation in *Drosophila melanogaster*

The Awards and Recognition Committee and the CSEE/SCEE executive wish to thank all students for your participation in and contributions to the 2009 CSEE/SCEE conference.

Kathy Martin, Chair

CSEE/SCEE Awards and Recognition Committee,

10 June 2009