Recent publications in the school


This is Bernat’s first publication, and at first author. He is presently completing his PhD in Ecology with Associate Professor Daniel Stouffer. Congratulations Bernat!


Maria presented her poster at the symposium mentioned below.


This is Michael's first publication. Michael is in the early stages of his PhD in Biochemistry with Associate Professor Renwick Dobson. Congratulations Michael!


PhD oral exam

Pictured: Associate Professor Hazel Chapman (Oral Organiser), Della, Professor Jim Briskie (Senior Supervisor) and Dianne Brunton (Oral Examiner, Massey University)

Della Bennet, successfully defended her oral exam on Thursday 14th June and that the recommendation was that she will be awarded the degree without any revisions. Congratulations Della!

In the spotlight

Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy

UC’s teaching month kicked off with an award ceremony where our own Professor Jon Harding was announced as a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. Congratulations to Jon!

Marine Biological Association (UK)

Distinguished Professor David Schiel has recently been elected a Fellow of the Marine Biological Association (MBA) of the United Kingdom.

The MBA was formed in 1884, and is one of the oldest and most important marine science societies worldwide, so this is quite an honour. Well done David!

DNA could help save threatened species - UC research

University of Canterbury researchers are collecting DNA information from one of Aotearoa New Zealand’s most threatened freshwater fish – the Canterbury mudfish (kōwaro) – in an effort to make it more resilient to future environmental change.

Master of Science student Levi Robinson is working with students from Te Kura o Tuahiwi to sample kōwaro at Tūhaitara Coastal Park in North Canterbury, as part of a BioHeritage Challenge project led by Associate Professor Tammy Steeves. Read the full article at UC News.
Shrinking rivers affect fish populations – new research

New research from the University of Canterbury published today has found that a shrinking river is less able to support larger predatory fish, such as the highly-valued sports fish like brown trout or at-risk native fish like galaxiids and eels.

Using data from 29 New Zealand rivers, a new research paper by lead author Freshwater Ecology Professor Angus McIntosh of the School of Biological Sciences, UC Science, and co-authored by UC mathematician Associate Professor Michael Plank, UC biologist Dr Helen Warburton, and collaborators from NIWA and overseas, has been published in the online journal *Science Advances*. Check out the complete article at [UC News](#).

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**Events**

**The New Zealand Institute of Agricultural & Horticultural Science**

*Water in Canterbury - our vital resource*

Wednesday 24th October 2018
Stewart 1, Lincoln University, Lincoln

[Registration](#) now open

**The Ngāi Tahu Research Centre**

Invites you to attend the July seminar with visiting guest speakers Kiana Frank, Mamo Leota and Nakoa Farrant presenting: Loko Iʻa Restoration and Management: from Microbes to Mahinga Kai

*When: Thursday 19 July, 11.00am – 12.00pm*
*Where: Room 208, Level 2, Te Ao Marama Building, Arts Road, University of Canterbury*

[Full details](#)

**Conferences**

**The 31st Australasian Wildlife Management Society (AWMS) conference**

4-6 December 2018, Hobart, Tasmania

*Integrating wildlife management, nature conservation and production in land-, river- and seascapes*

For more information on the conference, how to participate, student prizes and subsidies, how to register and submit abstracts (deadline 31. August 2018) please visit our conference website [www.awms.org.au/conference](http://www.awms.org.au/conference), or contact the conference organiser ([conference@awms.org.au](mailto:conference@awms.org.au)).

In addition to dedicated sessions for students and general presentations, proposed symposia are:

- Effectiveness of ‘multi-use’ landscape management practices
- Managing freshwater and marine systems for wildlife
- What does ‘renewables (solar, wind, hydro)’ mean for wildlife management?
- Cultural practices in wildlife management – how and why?
- Harvesting and control of wildlife for commercial and environmental purposes
- Management of wide-ranging species across the landscape
- Wildlife disease management

[Hobart Poster](#) - Hobart Call for abstracts
Other symposia will be organised to fit the topics of the abstracts received. There will also be open sessions to accommodate talks on any topic related to wildlife management.

There are many ways to participate at the AWMS2018 conference:

a) Register as delegate to learn about projects and research, and network with other professionals in the wildlife management field,

b) Present your project with a talk or poster;

c) Promote your company or organisation with one of our sponsorship packages or take part in the trade exhibition.

An AWMS conference typically attracts 200 delegates from the Australasian region, with members from Australia, New Zealand, and around the world, all of whom have an interest in the wildlife management field. AWMS promotes the use of science to identify appropriate wildlife management principles and practices, develop plans of management, and to implement and review these plans within a social, environmental, economic and political context. AWMS members include research scientists, educators, wildlife managers, and extension, interpretation and policy professionals.

Postgraduate news

Thesis-in-three planning

Thesis-in-three is a UC wide competition for Masters Research & Doctoral students. Competitors give a 3 minute talk about their thesis using only 1 powerpoint slide. Heats are run within Schools & Departments. Departmental winners then compete in College finals, and those winners then compete in our University Final. The UC Finals will be held on the evening of the 14th August.

We will be looking for three winners; the best Doctoral student, the best Masters student, the best runner up. Cash prizes are typically available for winners at the College level, then additional cash prizes for the UC Finals.

The best UC Masters student presents at the NZ Universities finals on 23rd August and the best UC Doctoral candidate competes in the Asia-Pacific finals in Queensland in September.

Rules

- A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted. No slide transitions, animations or 'movement' of any description are allowed. The slide is to be presented from the beginning of the oration.
- No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.
- No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted.
- Presentations are limited to three minutes maximum and competitors exceeding three minutes are disqualified.
- Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
- Presentations are to commence from the stage.
- All presenters must be physically present (no video or other presentations are acceptable).

The School of Biological Sciences is having its heat on Friday 27th July. Get registrations with Nicki Judson before 20th July.
Biology Student Post-Graduate Committee (SPGC)

Who we are
The Committee is a group of postgrad students of the department of Biological Sciences.

What we do
- **Represent** postgrad students in important school meetings and inform students about student related topics discussed in these meetings.
- **Improve** the postgrad life in the department by running workshops, seminars and fun events.
- **Listen** if students need advice regarding topics like: PhD life, addressing important issues in Health and Safety, Teaching and Learning, Research, Ethics and Staff meetings.

What we accomplished in the past
- Increase in demonstrator pay.
- Series of R-seminars for students and staff.
- Updating students about student related topics discussed in school meetings.
- Bringing attention of student related topics to school meetings.
- Organising social events such as Pub Quiz Nights, Potlucks etc.

What’s coming up
- Workshops on Data Analysis, GIS, ScienceCom (PowerPoint, Poster, Paper, Movie making), Scientific writing, PhD survival guide,…
- Seminars on academic and non-academic career paths for master and PhD students.
- Options for students to practice conference/oral defense talks.
- Movie screenings and mid-winter potluck.

Why we need YOU!

The more members we are, the more things we can accomplish! Join the team and get involved to make postgrad life easier and more fun 😊 We have monthly meetings on the **second Monday** of the month **1PM Room 225** or contact us! 
[canterburybiolPG@gmail.com](mailto:canterburybiolPG@gmail.com) or **Biology Postgraduate Lounge on**
Opportunity for students to visit Princeton University's Ecology and Evolution department

We are trying to attract a broader range of students to apply to the program and one way that the department is trying to encourage that is to have a no-strings-attached visit to the department for students that are applying to PhD programs and might not consider a place like Princeton otherwise. The visit would be a 4-day trip in early October where successful applicants would get to see the department, meet faculty, and talk to current graduate students. For successful applicants, Princeton will cover the travel (at least $900 worth though this will likely be greater for international travelers), lodging, and food expenses for the four days.

EEB encourages students to apply to the 2018 EEB Scholars Program, in which exceptional students (EEB Scholars) will be selected from a competitive national applicant pool and invited to Princeton University for a weekend program focused on the graduate application process, connecting with EEB faculty and students, and highlighting Scholars’ academic achievements. Students with backgrounds historically underrepresented in STEM are particularly encouraged to apply to this scholastic program.

Full details
Flyer

Vacancies

Open Faculty Positions in Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Sciences

Application Deadline: August 31, 2018 (EDT)

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (https://www.oist.jp/) invites applications for at least 2 new faculty positions in ecology, evolution, and related disciplines as part of its planned expansion. Scientists using theoretical or empirical approaches, and working on any system/geographic region will be considered.

Excellent scholarship and creativity will be the main criteria. We are particularly interested in scholars who complement and extend existing strengths at OIST and have the potential to interact broadly with the interdisciplinary OIST community.

Successful candidates are expected to establish an active and independent program of research, to supervise Ph.D. students, to teach in the graduate program, and perform service tasks. Generous and sustained research resources will be provided, which may be supplemented with external grants. Appointments will be Tenure-Track or Tenured. Starting date is flexible. There are also Open Faculty Positions advertised in Marine Science at OIST, applications via either route will be shared, please apply only once.

Applications should include the following:

1. **Cover letter** with contact details
2. **CV and publication list**: including one or two sentences describing up to six significant reports
3. **Research Statement**: summary of previous research (max. 1 page) and research proposal, (max. 2 pages)
4. **Teaching Statement** (max. 1 page)
5. **Contact Reference** (3 referees will be approached only if shortlisted)

Information and instructions regarding application submission: https://groups.oist.jp/facultypositions
Open Faculty Positions in Marine Science

**Application Deadline: August 31, 2018 (EDT)**

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University ([https://www.oist.jp/](https://www.oist.jp/)) invites applications for at least 2 new faculty positions as part of its planned expansion in marine sciences. Targeted areas for the current search include physical and chemical oceanography, marine biogeochemistry, marine biology and ecology, marine microbiology and any other fundamental research topic with relevance to the marine environment. Scientists working on any system/geographic region will be considered.

Excellent scholarship and creativity will be the main criteria. We are particularly interested in scholars who complement and extend existing strengths at OIST and have the potential to interact broadly with the interdisciplinary OIST community.

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For both positions:

OIST offers a world-class research environment with an international research community and opportunities for interdisciplinary research. Research and teaching are conducted in English. The campus is situated in a beautiful subtropical setting in Okinawa, Japan, providing opportunities to work on a range of interesting ecosystems on the island and more broadly in the Asia-Pacific region.

OIST Graduate University is an equal opportunity educator and employer that is actively working to increase the diversity of its faculty, students and staff. OIST has implemented policies designed to promote a culture of diversity and inclusion and a family friendly working environment. These include considerations for hiring and supporting dual career couples, “stop the clock” options for new parents, an on site child care facility for children from 2 months to 6 years of age, and after-school and holiday programs for K-6 children. The University strongly encourages applications from women and other underrepresented groups.

Inquiries should be directed to Professor Mary Collins, Provost and Dean of Research, [faculty-recruiting@oist.jp](mailto:faculty-recruiting@oist.jp)

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**What movie is that?**

General Woundwort’s body was never found. It could be that he still lives his fierce life somewhere else, but from that day on, mother rabbits would tell their kittens that if they did not do as they were told, the General would get them. Such was Woundwort’s monument, and perhaps it would not have displeased him.

426: The boy heard Hooper, and he tried to run. But in the chest-deep water his movements were slow and labored. A swell knocked him sideways. He stumbled, then stood and leaned forward.

Answer: **Jaws (1975)**

Guessed by: **Nobody**
Classified

Needing garden plants for research
Masters student is looking for some garden grapes (*Vitis vinifera*) and fruit from the Bay plant (*Laurus nobalis*) as part of her master's project and was wondering if anyone may have some in their garden. Email Laura or see her directly in room 325.

Editor/proofreader available
Experienced editor/proofreader available online for essays, dissertations, theses and for postgraduates’ papers and publications. Specialist help for students whose first language is not English (ESL).
University of Auckland approved proofreader.

Virginia Gray, BSc. (Canterbury), Dip.Edit.
Pennell.edit@gmail.com
027 419 1046

Local honey for sale
1 kg $10, 500 g $5. 2017 season, multi-floral Ilam garden honey in plastic pottles. Soft granulated. I will deliver to the School of Biological Sciences or arrange pickup/delivery elsewhere. Harry Taylor, email: harry.taylor@canterbury.ac.nz; ph/txt: 021 292 5319

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...and now for something completely different

How Rescuers Pulled Off the Impossible in a Treacherous Thai Cave

Thought for the week
You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, 'I lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along.'

~ Eleanor Roosevelt

Contact details
If you have items of news or interest that you would like included in this newsletter, contact the admin office before noon on Friday at BIOLAdminSharedMailbox or phone ext 95200.