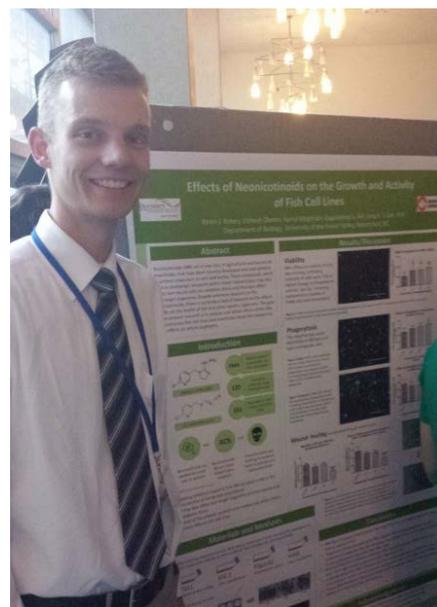


### **Highlights from the Faculty of Science for the academic year 2014-15**

**Dr Alida Janmaat**, from the Department of Biology, actively participated as a member of the local Organizing Committee for the International Congress on Invertebrate Pathology and Microbial Control and also at the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Invertebrate Pathology held August 9-13, 2015 at the University of British Columbia (UBC). As Scientific Program Co-Chair, she did a superb job coordinating the many sessions that ran during the four days of the conference. Along with moderating a session, she made presentations, and oversaw the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) student volunteers **Martin Muermann, Marleau Brown, Chris Hinz, John Konyk, and Anthony Iliev**. The students assisted in the smooth running of the conference. John Konyk was instrumental in the organization and uploading of the presentations and assisted with populating the EventMobi App used by the conference. For their volunteer service, UFV was acknowledged as one of the various sponsors of the event. See [sipmeeting.org/van1/SIP2015-Full%20Program.pdf](http://sipmeeting.org/van1/SIP2015-Full%20Program.pdf)

**Kevin Kobes**, Bachelor of Science Biology 3<sup>rd</sup> year student, was selected to attend the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF) this past summer as our student ambassador. He also made a presentation on his research project on July 24, 2015 at Imperial College, London, UK. For the two week duration, he blogged his experiences in the UFV Science Blog [blogs.ufv.ca/science/category/trips/science-in-london](http://blogs.ufv.ca/science/category/trips/science-in-london). At the end, he stated: "Thanks for following me on my blog! I just want to end with a huge shout-out to the University of the Fraser Valley who made this entire opportunity possible with their scholarship! If there are any young science students at UFV reading this, be sure to apply for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, not only will it expand your worldview and engage you in various areas of current science, it's an opportunity to see the world and make a huge number of new friends with lasting memories!"



**The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Science Rocks** summer camps have run successfully once more this summer for children in grades 4 to 7. **Christine Dalton** coordinated several student leaders who took charge of the various weekly events. Six camps were held in total, with themes ranging from 'Things that are gross' to 'Turbo week' to 'Fire and Lightning' with the most popular activities showcased in the last camp and also the hugely successful 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Aboriginal Youth Camp.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual **Faculty of Science AAAwards** were given out in June 2015 to recognize outstanding achievement in teaching, research, service and outreach events. This year we recognized **Dr. James Bedard**, Biology, as the Awesome Achievement Award winner for overall excellence in all areas of academic endeavour. **Dr. Greg Schmaltz**, Biology, was recognized for Terrific Teaching, while **Dr. Olav Lian**, Geography, received the Remarkable Research recognition. **Dr. Cory Beshara**, Chemistry, received the Outstanding Outreach award, and **Patrick Harrison** (Biology) and **Nicole Klassen** (Assistant to the Dean) received recognition for Superb Service.



functions held at UFV.

**Etienne Dreyer** from Physics received the Science Dean's medal at convocation this past June and is off to Simon Fraser University (SFU) with an NSERC Post Graduate Scholarship. He was our LIYSF representative for 2014 and at only 19 years old, he is the youngest graduate of our Bachelor of Science program. A few years ago, he participated in the UFV sponsored Fraser Valley Regional Science Fair and won an award for his work with the Tesla coil which has proven amusing at various science

On May 22-23, 2015, UFV Science supported Creating Connections 4.0, held at Simon Fraser University. It is the 4<sup>th</sup> conference which creates participation of Women in Engineering, Science and Technology. **Dr. Alma Barranco**, a sessional faculty in the CIS department, participated as an invited speaker [sfu.ca/sfuwest/cc-2015/schedule/2B.html#alma](http://sfu.ca/sfuwest/cc-2015/schedule/2B.html#alma). The UFV Faculty of Science made a contribution for the success of this event and was acknowledged as one of the sponsors [sfu.ca/sfuwest/cc-2015/sponsors.html](http://sfu.ca/sfuwest/cc-2015/sponsors.html).

**Dr. Noham Weinberg** from Chemistry received a five year NSERC Discovery grant totalling \$100,000 to support his research on molecular modelling and chemical reactions at extreme conditions. **Dr. Lucy Lee**, Dean of the Faculty of Science was a co-applicant for an NSERC Strategic grant and will receive over \$125,000 in a span of three years to do research with blueberries as a source of nutrients and phytochemicals for fish diets. This year, Dr. Lee supported three NSERC USRA students: **Vishesh Oberoi**, **Gagandeep Rai** and **Kamal Moghrabi**, as well as several other Biology students with research projects utilizing fish cells for evaluating effects of insecticides.

In a restructuring move earlier this spring, the Department of Computer Information Systems (CIS) was returned to the Faculty of Professional Studies where they moved to ten years ago. Albeit a big loss to

the Faculty of Science, the move to the Professional Studies Faculty will facilitate student interaction with Business and Library Information Systems and will also facilitate the development of a new Computing Science Program within the Faculty of Science. This will provide a continuing and ongoing close collaboration with CIS and the various science departments.

The 3rd Annual Science Research Open House was held April 14, 2015. There was great student participation and they delighted in presenting their research findings and science knowledge. Several faculty and staff volunteered to make this another successful event. Public participation was low but we hope to better advertise the event for future years.



Super Science Club is a partnership between Faculty of Science at UFV and Telus World of Science. Every fall and winter semester, UFV science students are trained by Telus World of Science to deliver fun and informative after-school science activities to children in the Fraser Valley. This year, eight UFV science students, **Alexandra Renwick, Sarah Klann, Frank Foster, Megan Krabbendam, Kim Roffel, Dave Bamford, Elizabeth Avery, and Linda VanLaar**, participated at four different elementary schools in the Valley: Bernard Elementary, Central Elementary, Rosedale Elementary (all in Chilliwack) and Deroche Elementary (Mission).



The Department of Mathematics and Statistics continued its offerings of MathMania throughout the year, reaching out to elementary schools in the Fraser Valley. **Dr. Susan Milner** and her team of mathematicians went to Sardis, MEI, Yarrow, Dewdney, along with the many other Elementary Schools, and actively engaged with the students in fun and engaging math games. The department also hosted the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual BC Math Contest and for the second year in a row, Math Challengers, which attracted approximately 200 students from over 20 schools. Both of these events were coordinated by **Dr. Ian Affleck** with assistance from the many faculty, staff and students from the Math and Stats Department.

Overall, we had a very busy year and further highlights of many of our happenings for 2014-15 can be seen in our blog pages [blogs.ufv.ca/science/](http://blogs.ufv.ca/science/)