

## Note from the Chair

Greetings. I hope everyone had a good break with time to spend with family and friends. I wish you all good health, happiness and continued successes in our lives for 2013. In the first part of this semester, we will be busy with faculty recruitment and writing our reports for the Program Prioritization Process (PPP). Regarding faculty recruitment, we will shortly be requesting permission to negotiate for the Wildlife/Zoo position, interview for the Avian Health and Disease position, and recruit an Anatomic Pathologist to replace Dr. Tony Hayes. We can't hire into Dr. Hayes' position until the end of 2013. Our MSc, DVSc and PhD programs will form the basis of our PPP reporting efforts. Once I have rough drafts, these will be circulated and comments and suggestions solicited. Your quick feedback will be appreciated.

I had hoped to start on the PPP work over the break, but as sometimes happens during breaks in our routine I stumbled on a great read. You must try Wade Davis' non-fiction entitled 'Into the Silence'. This is a very detailed history of Mallory's conquest (?) of Mt. Everest set in the context of the end of the Great War. It took Mr. Davis ten years to do the research to support his book. I am a sucker for adventure particularly those stories related to turn-of-the-century polar expeditions and the northwest passage. Dr. Doug Campbell, our quiet but deep-thinking colleague in the CCWHC, shares in this passion.

Also, I'd like to applaud those grad students I've noticed choosing to use the stairs rather than elevator - a practice we should all try to adhere to. Those grad students are likely the first to invade our kitchenette close to my office when sweet treats appear. We thank Cathy Bernardi for the sugar rush. Lastly, I'd like to thank Elizabeth Gilbertson and Dr. Pat Turner for a reportedly very enjoyable seasonal lunch. Enjoy, R

On December 6, 2012, **Dale Smith** and Ian Duncan, emeritus faculty in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science, were the guest speakers for a standing room only crowd at a lunchtime talk organized by the OVC Animal Welfare and ZEW Clubs to discuss the status of the elephants at the Toronto Zoo. Both Dale and Ian had made presentations at the Toronto City Council Executive Committee Meeting in November. They spoke against the 2011 decision of Toronto City Council to move the elephants to an animal sanctuary in California that has ongoing problems with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in its elephants and in favour of letting the Toronto Zoo's professional staff make the decision as to the best "retirement home" for the aging animals. Although the Executive Committee agreed with Dale and Ian's recommendations, the full Council disagreed and subsequently voted to uphold their initial decision. *Note by Dale Smith*

Congratulations **Pauline Delnatte**, DVSc Zoo, who was awarded a Latonnell Graduate Travel Scholarship, which she used to travel to Oakland California to attend the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians Annual Conference last October.

## Workshops for Early Career Faculty Writers

In June 2012, OVC Dean **Elizabeth Stone** started a series of monthly workshops that she hosts over the lunch hour for "Early Career Faculty Writers". This initiative is intended for faculty members within the first five years of their appointment. The goal is to promote productive authorship with an emphasis on equipping the group with skills required for effective grant and manuscript writing. Topics have included engineering efficient writing spaces, developing good writing habits, using checklists and reverse timelines and creating first drafts. The use of questionnaires has allowed workshops to be tailored to the unique needs of the group. Keys to success have been Dean Stone's mentorship, discussions among members and the ability to provide accountability and a support network, with one-month writing goal plans serving as a primary tool. Most recently, **Carlton Gyles** presented valuable advice and insights from the perspectives of a journal editor, reviewer and senior scientist. Other guest speakers are anticipated in the future. Members of this group from Pathobiology include **Brandon Lillie, Brandon Plattner, Byram Bridle** and **Sarah Wootton**. Any interested "early career faculty" within OVC should contact Dean Stone. *Note by Byram Bridle.*

## Holiday Season Fun

**Gingerbread House Contest**, Many wonderful gingerbread houses were created at the department's first competition. Seven teams entered with the following winners: Best in Show – Team Mouse by Janet Sunohara-Neilson, Joelle Ingrao and Pat Turner; Most Creative – Chicken House by Lisa Santry and Scott Walsh; Nerdiest – Darth Night by Jon Lui and Ian Villanueva; Most Festive – Barn Yard Style by Lesley Berghuis, Kayla Price, Beth MacMillan and Rachel Mozes. Thanks to **Marlene Paibomesai** for organising this tasty event.

**Seasonal Luncheon & Jeopardy!!!** Faculty, staff and students enjoyed a game of jeopardy at the annual seasonal lunch this year. Winners for 5 categories include: **Lisa Santry** for Music and Movies; **David Cristo** for Sports; **Bryan Griffin** for Canadian Geography; **Scott Walsh** for Animals; and **Laura Cain** for History. **Vivian Nicholson** and **Glenn Soltes** took away door prizes and **Jennifer Brisbin** won a \$10 hospitality card with her "gangnam style" dancing. Fun was had by all.



Professor Emeritus **Dean Percy** celebrated his 80th birthday on New Year's Day at a surprise party in Fergus. Happy Birthday Dean!



**Cathy Bernardi** took place in the Santa 5K race, in December, and 5K New Year's Eve Resolution race.

## Department Holiday Lunch Photos



# January Calendar of Events

## Pathobiology Seminar Series Fridays @ 11:00 am, Room 1810

**Fri. Jan. 11, Peter Krell**, Professor, Molecular and Cellular Biology, UoG, "Functional genomics of an insect baculovirus, studies of AcMNPV chitinase, cathepsin and me53 genes".

**Fri. Jan. 18, Geneviève Labbé**, Post Doc, Pathobiology, "What does FIV do in dentritic cells".

**Fri. Jan. 25, Tony Mutsaers**, Professor, Clinical Studies, UoG, title: TBA.

**Feb. 1, Heather Chalmers**, PhD Seminar, Pathobiology, title: TBA.

## University Events & Notices

**OVC Coffee House/Art Show**, Do you have artistic talents, singing, playing an instrument, drawing, painting, poetry? OVC will be holding a coffee house/art show in late Jan/early Feb. If you're interested in performing or showing your art, please contact Whitney DeGroot at [wdegroot@uoguelph.ca](mailto:wdegroot@uoguelph.ca). More details to follow.

**Thurs. Jan. 10, Climate Change Talk**, The Department of Plant Agriculture seminar series presents **Ghassem Asrar**, director of the World Climate Research Program in Geneva, Switzerland. He will discuss "Climate and Agriculture: Risks and Opportunities", 3:30 pm, Thornbrough, Room 1307.

**Wed. Jan. 16, Ecohealth Club Presents "Applying Ecohealth Principles to Graduate Research"**, A panel discussion with four graduate students who have applied ecohealth principles to their research projects. Time 12:30 to 1:30 pm, Room 1713 OVC LLC.

**Mon. Jan. 21, Better Planet Project Speaker Series**, Learn how psychology professor **Barbara Morrongiello** is helping build a better planet by making the world a safer friendlier place for children. Time noon to 1:00 pm, University Centre Room 103.

**Wed. Jan. 23, MCB Distinguished Speaker Series, Dr. Roy Duncan**, University Research Professor, Microbiology & Immunology, Dalhousie University, "Virus-encoded cell-cell fusogens in pathogenesis, cell biology and drug delivery", 12:30 pm, ANNU 156.

**Tues. Jan 29, Guelph Tech Showcase 2.0**, For more information, visit <http://techanddesign.ca/>

[gtdcc-events/guelph-technology-showcase/](http://gtdcc-events/guelph-technology-showcase/).  
Time 5-7 pm, Science Complex Atrium.

## Arboretum Events

**Fri. Jan. 18, Owls Who's Who**  
Learn how to identify Ontario's owls through hands-on activities. An evening owl prowling is planned. The fee is \$75 plus HST. Register by Jan. 10. For more information, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum/educationandevents/workshops.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum/educationandevents/workshops.shtml).  
Time is 9am to 4pm, Arboretum.



**Fri. Jan. 25, Animal Tracking**  
In this full day program, you will learn how to track animals by studying the tracks and signs of Ontario mammals and other types of wildlife. The fee is \$75 plus HST. Register by Jan. 17. For more information, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum/educationandevents/workshops.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum/educationandevents/workshops.shtml).  
Time is 9am to 4pm, Arboretum.



**United Way!** The department raised a total of **\$7,592**, and the College raised a total of **\$46,518**. Thank you to everyone who donated and supported the many events held in OVC. Your OVC team is Jennifer Beehler, Kim Best, Frances Grazziotto, Linda Kraemer, Sheila Currie, Judy Metherel, Carol Ann Higgins, **Elizabeth Gilbertson** and many DVM students.

**Packages** going out by **COURIER** need to be submitted **by NOON the day** you want them to be sent out.

**Major Holidays for upcoming year.** HREO website lists the major holy days of obligation for a number of religions for 2013. The URL is: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/hre/hr/hrholydays.shtml>. If you have any questions contact Fernande Allen at x53275 or at [f.allen@hre.uoguelph.ca](mailto:f.allen@hre.uoguelph.ca).

## Check Web, Local Media During Bad Weather

When a winter storm hits and you need to know if the University of Guelph is open before setting off for school or work, the best information sources are the U of G's website and local media; CJOY, 1460 AM; MAGIC, 106.1 FM, Guelph and many more. The campus switchboard will also have a recorded message. More information can be found at [www.uoguelph.ca/news/2011/11/check\\_web\\_local\\_1.html](http://www.uoguelph.ca/news/2011/11/check_web_local_1.html).

## HEALTH & SAFETY CORNER

We would like to take the opportunity of the beginning of the semester to remind you that there is a **"NO FOOD/NO DRINK"** regulation applying to the teaching labs. We would be very thankful if you could remind the students at the beginning of the courses, that for reasons of health and safety, they are not allowed to eat or drink in these labs, nor to bring food, drinks, and mugs in the teaching labs. We would also be thankful, if you see students disregarding these regulations, to make them aware of these regulations and to immediately bring any food/drink/mug out of the lab. Of course, this applies to any time in the teaching labs, even when no pathogen is in current use.



no food or drink allowed

## Defenses, Oral Qualifying Exams & Notices/Reminders

Welcome to new graduate student **Gabriella Mallia** who will be working on a PhD with Scott Weese.

## NOTICES

**Financial Need Assessment forms** are due to SFS by **Thurs. Jan. 10th**.

If you're paying your own fees, **tuition** is due by **Fri. Jan. 18th**. If paying by debit please ensure that SFS has your payment before the due date to avoid any late fees.

**Add period ends Fri. Jan. 11th**, check Webadvisor to make sure you're registered in the correct courses. Last **day to drop** two-semester courses (F/W) is **Fri. Jan. 11th**.

**OVC Award applications** are due to **Donna** by **Thurs. Feb. 21st**.

**NEW Resource: The 2012 TA Survival Guide is now available in PDF format, go to <http://www.uoguelph.ca/tss/id/ta/tapdfs/TA%20survguide%202012.pdf>.**

**Graduate Student Learning Initiatives**, January workshops include [all are located in the McLaughlin Library]:

**Jan. 14, Brain Food: Introduction to the Thesis Process for Graduate Students in the Sciences**, 11:30-1:00, Room 384 Florence Partridge Room;

**Jan. 14, Conversation Partners Orientation & Information Session**, 4:00-5:00, Room 384 Florence Partridge Room;

**Jan. 14, Effective Project Management for Graduate Students**, 4:00-5:30, Room 034 Basement Computer Lab. Visit <http://gsli.uoguelph.ca/workshops.html> to register for any of these workshops.