

Atlantic Canada Association of Parasitologists

Annual meeting 2024

Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia

Friday, October 25

17:00 Registration (\$75 for full-time faculty, \$60 for students, post-docs, and retirees)

19:00 **ACAP Reception**

Acadia University Club

Russell Easy's and sous-chef Don Stewart's famous seafood chowder

Saturday, October 26

Session 1: Mosquitoes and ticks

KC Irving Centre Auditorium

Chair: Laura Ferguson

09:07 Convenors: **Laura Ferguson, Todd Smith, Russell Easy, and Dave Shutler**

Acadia University

Welcome to ACAP 2024

09:15 **The impacts of microplastics on cold tolerance in mosquito larvae**

Andie McKee*, April Sharpe, and Laura Ferguson

Acadia University

09:30 **Developing sustainable methods for mosquito surveillance in the Maritimes using community science**

Lili Ricker*, Nolan Boyd, Gemma Rawson, and Laura Ferguson

Acadia University

09:45 **Entomopathogenic fungus for tick control: insights on mode of action and formulation development**

Creighton Jarvis*, Luis Anholeto, Laura Ferguson, and Nicoletta Faraone

Acadia University

10:00 **What ticks really like: collection and identification of volatile organic compounds from tick hosts**

Bronwyn Naugler*, Kirk Hillier, and Nicoletta Faraone

Acadia University

10:15 **Effect of temperature and humidity on tick response to repellents and acaricides: implications of climate change for tick control strategies**
Luis Anholeto*, Laura Ferguson, Kirk Hillier, and Nicoletta Faraone
Acadia University

10: 30 Coffee break (*KC Irving Centre Auditorium, Acadia University*)

Session 2: Keynote address

KC Irving Centre Auditorium

Chair: Laura Ferguson

11:00 **Avian malaria as a model to develop biomarkers of infectious disease severity in wildlife**
Tosha Kelly
Louisiana State University

12:00 **ACAP Lunch**
Acadia University Club

Session 3: Parasites of fishes, frogs, and canids

KC Irving Centre Auditorium

Chair: Dave Shutler

13:00 **Parasite co-infection models to investigate loss of fish vaccine efficacy**
Noah Rogozynski, Sophie Dyke, José Gallardo, Pablo Conejeros, Emily Jenkins, and Brian Dixon*
University of Waterloo

13:15 **PHAC around and find out: Navigating institutional committees and government agencies to conduct experimental parasitic infections in animals**
Megan Fraser^{1,2}, Shawn MacLellan¹, and Mike Duffy^{1,2}
¹UNB Fredericton, ²Canadian Rivers Institute (Fredericton)

13:30 **A crappie situation: Management and monitoring of introduced host fishes and potential hitchhikers**
Erika Ouellette^{*1}, Tyler Lynn^{1,2}, Aruna Jayawardane², Sarah Cusack³, Mike Duffy¹
¹UNB Fredericton and Canadian Rivers Institute (Fredericton), ²Maliseet Nation Conservation Council (Fredericton), ³Invasive Species Council (Fredericton)

13:45 **Identifying host fishes for freshwater mussels in the Wolastoq/Saint John River: Uncovering crucial life partners**
Kerstyn Dobbs^{*1,2}, Sarah Cusack^{2,3}, Aruna Jayawardane⁴, Cecilio Valadez-Cano¹, Adrian Reyes-Prieto¹, Meghann Bruce^{1,2}, and Mike Duffy^{1,2}
¹UNB Fredericton, ²Canadian Rivers Institute (Fredericton), ³Invasive Species Council (Fredericton), ⁴Maliseet Nation Conservation Council (Fredericton)

14:00 **Investigating relationships between seasonality and chytrid infection intensity among ranid frogs in a protected area of New Brunswick**
Andrew Smith^{*1}, Arik Hartmann², Ana Longo², Mike Duffy¹, and Greg Jongsma³
¹UNB Fredericton and Canadian Rivers Institute (Fredericton), ²University of Florida (Gainesville), ³New Brunswick Museum (Saint John).

14:15 **What the fox is up with *Echinococcus multilocularis* in the Maritimes?**
Brady Sweeney*, Kylee Graham, Megan Jones, and Nina Germitsch
University of Prince Edward Island

14:30 **Worms on the rise: the spread of lungworms and heartworms in Maritime wild canids**
Laura Leaman*, Kylee Graham, Megan Jones, and Nina Germitsch
University of Prince Edward Island

14:45 Coffee break

Session 4: More ticks!

KC Irving Centre Auditorium
Chair: Russell Easy

15:15 **Development, optimization, and validation of a real-time PCR assay for *Borrelia burgdorferi* detection in tick, wildlife, and human samples**
Julie Lewis*, Gilles Robichaud, and Vett Lloyd
Mount Allison University

15:30 **Detection of *Babesia* spp. and other tick-borne pathogens in wild and residential rodents from Maritime Canada**
Lana Boyd* and Vett Lloyd
Mount Allison University

15:45 **PCR detection of *Babesia* spp. in cows, horses, and dogs from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia**
Meg Sarty* and Vett Lloyd
Mount Allison University

16:00 **Prevalence of rare tick-borne viruses in the Maritime Provinces**
Alyssa Wilson* and Vett Lloyd
Mount Allison University

16:15 **Detection and prevalence of *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* in ticks from Maritime Canada, 2017 to 2021**
Kat Kerner* and Vett Lloyd
Mount Allison University

- 16:30 Convenors: **Laura Ferguson, Todd Smith, Russell Easy, and Dave Shutler**
Acadia University
ACAP 2024 closing comments
- 16:39 Group photo
- 16:45 Free time
- 18:30 **ACAP Banquet**
Acadia University Club
Dave Shutler's and sous-chef Russell Easy's famous chilli
- 20:00 Social festivities

Sunday, October 27

Have a safe trip home!