



Fall 2007 Newsletter for Student Members

WHAT'S UP WITH SCL?

The executive council for the Society of Canadian Limnologists welcomes new and returning members! Plans for the 2008 SCL/CCFFR meeting in Halifax, NS in early January are underway. Be sure to check our website regularly <http://uregina.ca/~scl/society.htm> for updates on the meeting.

Your new SCL student reps (2007-2010):

François Guillemette, UQAM (guillemette.francois.2@courrier.uqam.ca)
Jesse Vermaire, McGill University (jesse.vermaire@mail.mcgill.ca)

Contents of Newsletter:

1. Introduction to your new student representatives
 2. 2007 Robert H. Peters Award winner
 3. Recap of the 2007 SCL/CCFFR meeting in Montréal
 4. 2008 SCL meeting
 5. 2007 SIL meeting in Montréal
 6. Fall 2008 Agenda for members
 7. Student Services
-

1. Your New Student Representatives



François Guillemette (UQÀM)

It is with great pleasure that I accept my new position as a student representative and I would like to thank the Canadian limnology community for my nomination. I hope to become an active member of the Society of Canadian limnologist for the student best interests. I started a Ph.D. thesis at the Université du Québec à Montréal under the direction of Paul del Giorgio in winter 2006. My research focuses on the dynamics of bacterial carbon consumption in freshwater ecosystems.

Jesse Vermaire (McGill University)



I would like to thank the SCL members for electing me as one of their student representatives. I am looking forward to contributing to the society and being an active member of the Canadian limnology community. Currently, I am working towards my PhD at McGill University in Dr. Irene Gregory-Eaves' lab. My PhD research is focused on quantitatively tracking long-term (multi-centennial) trends in macrophyte biomass in response to eutrophication. See you at the SCL meeting this January in Halifax.

2. 2007 SCL Award Winners

The Robert H. Peters Award:

2007 saw the creation of a new student award for SCL members. **The Robert H. Peters Award** recognizes the best limnological paper published in the preceding year by a Canadian student or a student working in Canada.

Congratulations to **Greg Silsbe** the 2007 recipient of the Robert H. Peters Award for the paper published in *Limnology and Oceanography* 51(5), 2006, 2052–2063.



Greg Silsbe, the 2007 Robert H. Peters Award recipient learning the ropes.

Titled:

“Variability of chlorophyll *a* and photosynthetic parameters in a nutrient-saturated tropical great lake”

co-authors: G. M. Silsbe, R. E. Hecky, S. J. Guildford and R. Mugidde.

Copies of Silsbe et al. 2006 can be obtained from the link below:

http://www.aslo.org/lo/toc/vol_51/issue_5/2052.pdf

Brief Bio of Greg Silsbe:

Upon completion of his M.Sc., Greg immediately enrolled into a Ph.D. program at the University of Waterloo. His focus has (temporarily) switched from tropical to temperate limnology, and although he appreciates the proximity of his current fieldwork he still collaborates with Ugandan limnologists and hopes he can soon return to

Lake Victoria. Primarily armed with a fast repetition rate fluorometer and micro-structure CTD profiler, Greg is currently investigating how vertical mixing influences photosynthetic rates in-situ across a trophic gradient of lakes.

3. Recap of the 2007 SCL/CCFFR Meeting

The 2007 SCL/CCFFR meeting last January in Montreal was a huge success. Excellent plenary lectures were given by Dr. Kidd (University of New Brunswick), Dr. Leavitt (University of Regina), Dr. Minns (Fisheries and Oceans Canada), Dr. Ricciardi (McGill University), and Dr. Jackson (University of Toronto).

This meeting was also the first time that CCFFR and SCL presentation were not separated based on the affiliation of the speaker, but rather integrated into larger themes. This gave attendees the chance to attend sessions of interest and hear both presentations from the limnology and fisheries communities. Overall this restructuring of the SCL/CCFFR meetings was greeted with enthusiasm by members of both organizations.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Roxane Maranger and the outgoing SCL student representatives Alison Derry and Jérôme Marty for organizing a very successful student workshop titled “How to be a successful scientist”. We would also like to thank the four successful scientists; Dr. Beatrix Beisner (Université du Québec à Montréal), Dr. Moira Ferguson (University of Guelph), Dr. John Smol (Queen’s

University), and Dr. Norman Yan (York University) who volunteered their time to sit on the panel and offer advice to the young researchers in attendance. This workshop was so well attended in fact that it was standing room only and likely a good indication of the level of interest in having future student workshops at SCL/CCFFR meetings.

4. The 2008 SCL/CCFFR Meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia

The 2008 SCL/CCFFR annual meeting will be held from January 3-5 at the Marriott Harbourfront Hotel, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The abstract submission deadline was November 2nd, 2007.

Please check the SCL website for further information on this meeting

Plans for student activities during this meeting are underway. If there are particular student events you would like to see organized for this (or future) SCL/CCFFR meetings feel free to send either of us an email and we will do our best to implement your ideas.

- ***Student housing pool for conference meeting***

Coordination of roommates for the next SCL meeting will be done at the beginning to middle of November. If you would like to share a hotel room with another SCL student member to reduce costs, please send an e-mail request to the student representatives.

5. The 2007 SIL Meeting

This past summer, from the 12th to 18th of August 2007, Montréal was host to one of the largest gatherings of freshwater scientists from around the globe. In its first return to North America in over 30 years, the Montréal SIL Congress was a huge success. This congress was remarkable for the large number of high-quality scientific research presented in both the oral and poster sessions and for the green initiatives taken by the organizing committee to make this a carbon neutral event.

Because of increasing problems with cyanobacterial blooms public interest in surface-water quality is arguably at all time high in Quebec. This resulted in media coverage of the SIL Congress that is rarely seen at scientific meetings, with a number of attending scientists interviewed both for television and newspaper stories. For a sample of the media coverage please see the SIL Montreal website at: <http://www.sil2007.uqam.ca/>

Thanks to the organization of student activities the SIL-2007 meeting was not only a chance for students to learn about the latest research in the aquatic sciences but also to experience other aspects of a scientific career. Over three evening workshops students had the opportunity to participate in a round-table discussion on their vision of SIL in the future, to meet with established scientists in limnology, and have an introduction to communicating their research with the media thanks to a seminar given by journalists at CBC.

6. 2007-2008 Agenda for Members**Deadline**

Deadline for early-bird 2006 SCL-CCFFR meeting registration	08 Dec, 2007
Deadline for early-bird SCL membership renewal	15 Dec, 2007
2009 SCL/CCFFR Meeting (Ottawa, ON)	4-6 Jan, 2008

7. Student Awards and Services**Peters Award**

To be given for best student lead-authored paper within the last five years dealing with a topic related to aquatic sciences. The paper must come from a Canadian institution (located in Canada) or a Canadian citizen (author) and includes non-Canadians studying in Canada and Canadians studying at home or overseas. To be considered in the competition, the student may apply for the award or may be nominated by the student's supervisor or colleague familiar with the work.

Discussion forum

We are currently working on setting up an online discussion board to facilitate communication between SCL student members. Once this online forum is up and running we will send out instructions on how to sign up for this discussion forum.

Employment and student opportunities

Because future employment is an often cited, and important, concern for most students one of our major goals for 2008 is to make the employment page on the SCL website an active area for posting Canadian and international employment and student opportunities.

NEXT ISSUE: Spring 2008