

Jacqueline Lebenzon, BScH (PhD Candidate)

Curriculum vitae



Contact

University of Western Ontario

Department of Biology
Biological and Geological Sciences, Rm 2035
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Citizenship: Canadian

Academic Training

PhD Student (transferred from MSc September 2016) 2016-Present
Project: Physiological mechanisms of insect diapause and cold tolerance
Department of Biology (Physiology and Biochemistry stream)
University of Western Ontario, London, ON
Supervisor: Dr. Brent Sinclair
Advisory committee: Dr. James Staples, Dr. Cam Donly

BSc (Hons) – Honour's specialization in Biology 2010-2014
Project: Development of an artificial diet for gut loading in the fall field cricket, *Gryllus pennsylvanicus*
Department of Biology
University of Western Ontario, London, ON
Supervisor: Dr. Brent Sinclair
Advisory committee: Dr. Chris Guglielmo, Dr. Alexander Timoshenko

Scholarships and Awards

Canadian Society of Zoologists Student Travel Award (300 CAD) 2018

NSERC Post Graduate Scholarship – Doctoral award (42000 CAD) 2018
University of Western Ontario, Awarded to the top ~15% of applicants nationally

Helen Battle Award (500 CAD) 2017
Canadian Society of Zoologists Meeting, University of Manitoba, Awarded to best poster

Ontario Graduate Scholarship (15000 CAD) 2017
University of Western Ontario

Journal of Experimental Biology Travelling Fellowship (3000 CAD) 2017
Company of Biologists, Awarded for research to be conducted in a lab in the Czech Republic

Dean's Doctoral Award (1000 CAD) 2017
University of Western Ontario

NSERC Canadian Graduate Scholarship - Master's (17500 CAD) <i>University of Western Ontario, Awarded to the top ~15% of applicants nationally</i>	2016
Academic Achievement Award (500 CAD) <i>PSAC Local 610 TA Union, Awarded to graduate students with exceptional academic achievements</i>	2016
Helen Battle Award Finalist (250 CAD) <i>Canadian Society of Zoologists Meeting, University of Calgary, Awarded to a poster in the running for best research poster at the conference</i>	2015
Western Science Entrance Scholarship (2500 CAD) <i>University of Western Ontario, For exceptional graduate students starting their first year</i>	2015
Best Physiology and Biochemistry Presentation (50 CAD) <i>Honour's Biology Day, University of Western Ontario</i>	2014
Dean's Honour List <i>University of Western Ontario</i>	2012-2014
Western Scholarship of Excellence <i>University of Western Ontario</i>	2010

Teaching & Supervision

Along with teaching assistantships, I also have over two years of experience mentoring undergraduate students in the lab. I have directly supervised 11 undergraduate lab work study students, trained an undergraduate intern to conduct biochemical and molecular work for a substantial Genome Canada Grant, and trained an NSERC USRA student on various molecular techniques.

Guest Lecture <i>University of Western Ontario, London, ON, Canada</i> Biology 3602 – “Mechanisms of Metabolic Suppression”	2018
Tutor <i>Tutor Doctor, London, ON, Canada</i> Taught high school biology and general science to students in line with the Ontario curriculum, and helped them develop independent study skills.	2018-present
Biology Instructor <i>Beat Your Course, London, ON, Canada</i> Developed review packages for to first year biology courses at the University of Western Ontario, and taught crash courses to up to 100 students to help with comprehension of course material	2016-2017
Teaching Assistant (Nominated for a Graduate student teaching award) <i>University of Western Ontario, London, ON, Canada</i> Animal Physiology II (Bio3602)	2016-Present
Teaching Assistant (Nominated for a Graduate student teaching award) <i>University of Western Ontario, London, ON, Canada</i> Organismal Physiology (Bio2601)	2015

Teaching Assistant

2015

University of Western Ontario, London, ON, Canada
Introductory Biology (Bio1002/1202)

Publications

Karsten, M., **Lebenzon, J.E.**, Sinclair, B.J. and Terblanche, J.S. (2018) Does loss of ion homeostasis explain chill coma and impaired dispersal ability in false codling moth *Thaumatotobia leucotreta* (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae)? *In prep*

Lebenzon, J.E., Des Marteaux, L.E. and Sinclair, B.J. (2018) Manipulating ion gradients between the hemolymph and gut of the fall field cricket, *Gryllus pennsylvanicus*, speeds chill coma recovery. *In prep*

Lebenzon, J.E., Toxopeus, J., Anthony, S.E. and Sinclair, B.J. (2018) De novo assembly of the pseudoscorpion transcriptome. *In prep*

Ferguson, L.V., Dhakal, P., **Lebenzon, J.E.**, Heinrichs, D.E., Bucking, C. and Sinclair, B.J. (2018) Seasonal shifts in the insect gut microbiome are concurrent with changes in cold tolerance and immunity. *Functional Ecology*, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2435.13153>.

Toxopeus, J., **Lebenzon, J.E.**, McKinnon, A.H. and Sinclair, B.J. (2016) Freeze tolerance of *Cyphoderris monstrosa* (Orthoptera: Prophalangopsidae). *Canadian Entomologist*, 148: 668–672.

Conference Presentations and Posters

International

Lebenzon, J.E., Turnbull, K.F., Mathers, K.E., Staples, J.F. and Sinclair, B.J. Does mitophagy drive metabolic suppression during diapause in the Colorado potato beetle? (Oral presentation) *International Symposium on the Environmental Physiology of Ectotherms*, Tartu, Estonia, 2017.

National

Lebenzon, J.E., Turnbull, K.F., Mathers, K.E., Staples, J.F. and Sinclair, B.J. Let's break it down: Mitophagy drives metabolic suppression during diapause in the Colorado potato beetles. (Poster) *Canadian Society of Zoologists Meeting*, Winnipeg, MB, Canada 2017. *Awarded Best Poster

Lebenzon, J.E. and B.J. Sinclair. Manipulating cryoprotectants to investigate cold tolerance in the Colorado potato beetle. (Poster) *Canadian Society of Zoologists Meeting*, London, ON, Canada 2016.

Lebenzon, J.E., Des Marteaux, L.E. and Sinclair, B.J. Pass the salt: Sodium gut loading affects cold tolerance in the fall field cricket, *Gryllus pennsylvanicus*. (Poster) *Canadian Society of Zoologists Meeting*, Calgary, AB, Canada 2015. *Finalist for best poster

Provincial

Lebenzon J.E. and Sinclair, B.J. Development of an artificial diet for gut loading in the fall field cricket, *Gryllus pennsylvanicus*. (Presentation) *Ontario Biology Day*, Mississauga, ON, Canada 2014.

Institutional

Lebenzon, J.E. and Sinclair, B.J. All you need is cryoprotection: Cold tolerance of the Colorado potato beetle. (Presentation) *Biology Graduate Research Forum*, London, ON, Canada 2016.

Lebenzon, J.E., Des Marteaux, L.E. and Sinclair, B.J. Pass the salt: Sodium gut loading affects cold tolerance in the fall field cricket, *Gryllus pennsylvanicus*. (Poster) *Biology Graduate Research Forum*, London, ON, Canada 2015.

Service

Reviewed manuscripts for:

Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology A: Molecular & Integrative Physiology - 1
European Journal of Entomology -1

Workshop panelist at Western University for:

Writing a PhD thesis proposal (2017, 2018)

Deciding to pursue a PhD (2017)

Department of Biology orientation: Writing an MSc thesis proposal (2016)

Department of Biology orientation: How to work well with your supervisor (2016)

Media

Interview on research and communicating science featured on “Gradcast” podcast – 2018

<http://gradcastradio.podbean.com/e/episode-156-jackie-title/>

3 Minute Thesis competitor at Western University – 2018

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uM63tGuj7ZU&t=123s>

Interview on research featured on blog project “Humans at Western – Animal Edition” – 2017

<https://humansatwestern.weebly.com/>

Extracurricular and Leadership Activities

Graduate Education Committee – Society of Biology Graduate Students

2018-Present

London, Ontario

- Rank applicants to the graduate program in Biology
- Rank various scholarships from applicants within the department of Biology (NSERC, departmental travel awards)
- Hosted proposal writing workshops for MSc and PhD students in preparation for national and provincial scholarship competitions

Social Committee – Society of Biology Graduate Students

2016-2017

London, Ontario

- Plan and execute all department social and fundraising events
- Sit as an elected representative on the SOBGS executive council

Finance officer – Mustang Bioinformatics Club

2016-2017

London, Ontario

- Responsible for maintaining the finances of the club

- Organize “Software carpentry” workshops for club members

Virtual Researcher on Call 2016-Present
VROC

- Skype call classes grades K-12 and answer questions about biology as an expert

BGRF Organizing Committee – Society of Biology Graduate Students 2016
London, Ontario

- Organizing Biology Graduate Research Forum, an annual student-run research conference to be held in October 2016
- On Programming sub-committee, responsible for scheduling sessions and other conference related activities

“Boo-seum” outreach organizer – London Children’s Museum 2016
London, Ontario

- Organized an insect and spider themed outreach event

Chairperson – Society of Biology Graduate Students 2015 - 2016
London, Ontario

- Liaison between graduate students and Department Chair
- Attend department faculty meetings as the official Biology student representative
- Administer finances of the Society and balance the budget of the Society
- Oversee all responsibilities of elected representatives
- Call, organize and chair Society meetings

Local Organizing Communications Committee – Canadian Society of Zoologists 2015 – 2016
London, Ontario

- Designed a conference logo
- Graphic designer for the conference, making all conference advertisements and signage
- Built the conference website and maintained the conference twitter account

Recruitment volunteer – Western University and Biology Department 2015 – Present
London, Ontario

- Represented Western Biology Department and the Society of Biology Graduate Students at two annual prospective undergraduate fairs (Fall Preview Day and March Break Open House)
- Compiled outreach material to help recruit undergrads to the biology program

STEM Expo Volunteer – Inspiring Young Women in STEP 2016 Conference 2016
London, Ontario

- Ran live demonstration of how to study the winter and low temperature biology of insects
- Interacted with young high school and undergraduate women interested in pursuing graduate studies in STEM fields

Bug Day Volunteer – Entomological Society of Ontario 2015-2016
London, Ontario

- Volunteer for an annual insect themed outreach day with over 500 attendees

- Used various activities to teach children of all ages about the importance of insects in our ecosystem
- Activities included “How to identify an insect”, “Live Insect Zoo” and “Cockroach Races”

Seminar Committee Representative – Society of Biology Graduate Students 2015

London, Ontario

- Responsible for coordinating weekly lunches with Seminar speakers and students, help facilitate lunchtime question and answer period with speaker
- Help organize student nominations for seminar speakers
- As a voting representative of the Society of Biology Graduate Students, attend monthly meetings

BGRF Organizing Committee – Society of Biology Graduate Students 2015

London, Ontario

- Organized Biology Graduate Research Forum, an annual student-run research conference held in October
- Responsible for coordinating “Bio Booths” – an outreach component of BGRF

Let’s Talk Science – Volunteer 2015

London, Ontario

- Facilitated science outreach programs at the Boys and Girls club of London and the London International Academy