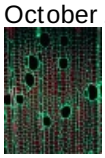
News

- Plant Cell cover image: Brumer Lab contributes fluorescent probe to visualize enzyme activity in tree stems reacting to gravity
  October 1, 2015
  

  In a collaboration led by researchers at the US Forest Service and UBC Forestry, the Brumer Lab contributed a fluorescent probe to directly visualize the activity of enzymes responsible for rearranging the structural polysaccharide xyloglucan in the "tension wood" of tree stems responding to gravity. An image of this activity, obtained in the laboratory of Dr. Andrew Groover of the US Forest Service, was featured as the cover image of the October 2015 issue of The…

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- UBC researchers create self-propelled powder to stop bleeding
  October 2, 2015

  UBC researchers have created the first self-propelled particles capable of delivering coagulants against the flow of blood to treat severe bleeding, a potentially huge advancement in trauma care.

  “Bleeding is the number one killer of young people, and maternal death from postpartum hemorrhage can be as high as one in 50 births in low resource settings so these are extreme problems,” explains Christian Kastrup, an assistant professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and the Michael Smith Laboratories at the…

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- Four gut bacteria decrease asthma risk in infants
  September 30, 2015

  New research by scientists at UBC and BC Children’s Hospital finds that infants can be protected from getting asthma if they acquire four types of gut bacteria by three months of age. More than 300 families from across Canada participated in this research through the Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study.

  “This research supports the hygiene hypothesis that we’re making our environment too clean. It shows that gut bacteria play a role in asthma, but it is early in life when the baby’s immune system is being established,” said the…

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- Dr. Joerg Bohlmann inducted into the Fellows of the Royal Society of Canada
  September 18, 2015

  Congratulations to Dr. Joerg Bohlmann for being inducted into the Fellows of the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) in the Life Science Division! This is the highest honour a scholar can achieve in the arts, humanities and sciences in Canada.

  Dr. Bohlmann is a world leader in the fields of plant and forestry genomics and in plant natural products biology. He is distinguished for his research on the genomics of defense and resistance mechanisms of conifers against insect pests and insect-associated fungal pathogens, as well as on plant terpenoid biochemistry. New systems…

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- New weapon in the fight against malnutrition
  August 4, 2015

  UBC scientists have opened the doors to new research into malnutrition by creating an animal model that replicates the imbalance of gut bacteria associated with the difficult-to-treat disease.

  Malnutrition affects millions of people worldwide and is responsible for one-fifth of deaths in children under the age of five. Children can also experience impaired cognitive development and stunted growth.

  The problem arises when people don't have…

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- Scientists pinpoint brain-swelling mechanism
  April 23, 2015

  # Discovery paves way for treatments to prevent brain damage or death following head trauma

  A team of UBC researchers has made a significant discovery uncovering the cause of brain swelling after trauma to the head. Their research, published today in *Cell*, paves the way for a preventative drug treatment for severe brain damage following stroke, infection, head injury or cardiac arrest.

  By turning off a single gene, scientists from the Djavad…

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- Work of the Bohlmann Lab on the Mountain Pine Beetle Genome Featured in National Geographic Magazine
  April 1, 2015

  The work of the Bohlmann Lab on the mountain pine beetle genome was featured in an article in the April 2015 issue of National Geographic Magazine. Read The Bug That's Eating the Woods to find out more about the pine beetle epidemic.

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- Minister Ambrose announces new glycomics research network to prevent and treat diseases
  February 6, 2015
  GlycoNet

  The Honourable Rona Ambrose, Minister of Health, on behalf of her colleague, the Honourable Ed Holder, Minister of State (Science and Technology), today announced that GlycoNet, a new national research network, is receiving $27.3 million over five years to develop new drugs and vaccines for conditions such as influenza, genetic diseases and diabetes.

  GlycoNet will build on Canada's international leadership in glycomics during the last 50 years. GlycoNet researchers will analyze the function of glycomes (or carbohydrates) in the body and find ways to take advantage of their…

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