



## 2012 Student Presentation Awards

Students are a central part of the present and future of ecology and evolution research in Canada, and the CSEE annual meeting is a great opportunity to emphasize their contributions. This year in Ottawa, the quality of student presentations was extremely high! We are pleased to announce the following award winners.

### **Prizes from the Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution**

Three prizes were awarded for the best oral presentations, and three for the best poster presentations. In each category, first prize is \$500, second prize \$300, and third prize \$200.

CSEE Talk 1<sup>st</sup> prize: Nathaniel Sharp, University of Toronto, "Sexual selection can reduce mutation load in *Drosophila melanogaster*."

CSEE Talk 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: Njal Rollinson, Dalhousie University, "A key component of the physical environment drives the evolution of maternal reproductive strategies in Atlantic salmon."

CSEE Talk 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: Aleeza Gerstein, University of British Columbia, "Evolve or die: A characterization of adaptive mutations in yeast."

CSEE Poster 1<sup>st</sup> prize: Alexandre Martin, Université de Sherbrooke "Age-Dependent Effect of Testosterone on Social Rank in Bighorn Rams (*Ovis canadensis*)."

CSEE Poster 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: Katherine Ostevik, University of British Columbia, "Speciation, Sunflowers and Sand Dunes: Reproductive barriers between dune and non-dune ecotypes of *Helianthus petiolaris*"

CSEE Poster 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: Anna Simonsen, University of Toronto, "Evidence for ecological benefits of cheating symbiotic soil microbes in the face of insect herbivory"

### **The Holohil Prize**

The \$500 Holohil Prize is offered by Holohil Systems Inc. for an outstanding student presentation in the ecology or evolution of wildlife. Oral and poster presentations were judged together. The winner is:

Ann McKellar, Queens University, "Form, function, and consequences of density-dependence in a migratory bird"

### **The New Phytologist Prize**

The \$500 New Phytologist Prize is offered by the New Phytologist Trust for an outstanding student presentation in botany. Oral and poster presentations were judged together. The winner is:

Emily Austen, University of Toronto, "Flowering early or flowering big: which matters more for male and female fitness?"

I would like to thank Holohil and New Phytologist for their contributions of prizes, the many CSEE members who volunteered to help judge presentations, and members of the CSEE Awards and Recognition Committee and the Local Organizing Committee. Special thanks go to Risa Sargent (University of Ottawa), who worked hard to coordinate the entire judging process.

Locke Rowe, Chair, CSEE Awards and Recognition Committee