

# MEOPAR Annual Training Meeting Schedule

**Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Registration Desk – (9am-5pm)**

**Trivia Pub Night (8-11pm)**

**1751 Lower Water St, Halifax, NS B3J 3E4**

Join us for a pub night at Murphy's on the Water. Don't forget your thinking cap! Trivia will start at 9PM with prizes available to those who really know their stuff. Munchies will be provided and beverages are available at happy hour prices all night.

**Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Practical Tips for Growing Your Network (9am-12pm)**

***Mitacs***

Get the knowledge you need to build your network! Your time at graduate school or during your post-doctoral fellowship will be filled with opportunities to make connections in and outside of your field. This flipped classroom workshop requires you to view a short online workshop that will give you the information you'll need to make the most of each opportunity followed by an in-person session where you will put knowledge to practice!

Building a strong personal and professional network may be one of the single most important things you can do for your career. Learn how to plan, prepare, build and foster your network and watch opportunities unfold in front of you.

By the end of this session, you will:

- Understand the importance of building a strong network
- Become familiar with techniques to tap into the existing network around you
- Learn practical tips on identifying and planning networking opportunities
- Learn to strategically prepare for an upcoming event
- Have a better understanding of social networking tools available, and know how and when to use them
- Plan your network
- Apply your knowledge and network with peers

**High-Performance Computing (HPC) Workshops (9am-12pm)**

***ACENET***

**National Resources for High-Performance Computing**

What is high performance computing (HPC) and what can it do for you? How can ACENET help? HPC is used by researchers across many disciplines to tackle analyses too large or complex for a desktop computer. This session explains the basics of HPC and computer clusters, what (new!) resources are available to you, and how to access them. We look at software packages available for various scientific disciplines and at tools for software development. Finally, we

discuss parallel computing and how it can be a path to faster or better results. This session is designed for those with no prior experience in HPC, and are looking for an introduction and overview.

### **Introduction to the Linux Command Line**

The Linux command line is the interface you use to work with ACENET and Compute Canada HPC clusters from your desktop. It's the tool to get your data on the clusters, run your programs, and get your data back. In this session, learn how to get started with Linux, how to create and navigate directories for your data, load files, manage your storage, run programs on the computing clusters, and set file permissions. This workshop is designed for those with no prior experience in working with a terminal interface.

### **Introduction to Shell Scripting**

Participants will learn how to use shell scripting to exercise the power of the command line. Shell scripting can save you time and reduce mistakes. This session teaches you how to manage input and output files, how to write and submit job scripts, and how to automate repetitive tasks. This workshop is designed for either new HPC users who are familiar with working in a Linux environment, but have not had experience with shell scripting, or for experienced users seeking to get more out of shell scripting.

### ***Patterson-Parson's Luncheon (12:00-1:30pm)***

### **Peaks and valleys: Mental Wellness in Grad School (1:30-3:00pm)**

***Karen Suchy, Jonathan Kellogg and Dalhousie Student Wellness***

The journey through graduate school is filled with peaks of accomplishments and valleys of challenges (and even failures). No matter where you are on the journey, the path ahead and behind is well worn. In addition to the regular pressures associated with grad school, all too commonly students and early career scientists struggle with mild to severe mental health issues such as depression and anxiety. Recent research has shown that depression affects more than one third of graduate students. Despite this alarming statistic, mental illness is not openly discussed in the environment of academia, often leaving one with the sense that they are the first person to experience such troubles along their graduate journey. This workshop aims to change that. Come hear stories from those who have been in your shoes with anecdotal accounts from individuals dealing with mental illness in grad school and early career science, get the facts and resources from a counselling professional, and, if you feel comfortable, share your story with others. Although our individual journey through grad school can be a long and difficult one, we don't have to go through it alone.

### **Intermediate Python Workshop (1:30-3:00pm)**

***Diego Ibarra***

*1:30-3:00pm*

*Session description coming soon.*

### ***Tour of Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO) & Early-Career Professionals Panel***

*3:30-6:30pm (Dinner included)*

Located on the shores of the Bedford Basin in Dartmouth Nova Scotia, the Bedford Institute of Oceanography – also known as BIO - is Canada's largest centre for multi-disciplinary ocean research.

Oceanography, by nature, is a multidisciplinary research field, involving geological, physical, chemical and biological research disciplines. To solve problems related to the oceans, BIO houses over 600 researchers, engineers, technicians, natural resource and environmental managers, and support staff from a variety of different disciplines. Currently, four federal departments are located at BIO: [Fisheries and Oceans Canada \(DFO\)](#), [Natural Resources Canada \(NRCan\)](#), [Environment Canada \(EC\)](#), and the [Department of National Defence \(DND\)](#). The facilities are all managed by [Public Works and Government Services Canada \(PWGSC\)](#).

Join your fellow MEOPeers for a tour of BIO and an early-career professionals panel and Q&A session. Return transportation from the conference and dinner (pizza and salad) will be provided.

Confirmed panelists include MEOPAR alumni Katie Brennan (Marine Ecosystem Modeller, BIO), Greg Oulahan (Assistant Professor, Ryerson University), and Esteban Figueroa (Professionnel de recherche, Université du Québec à Rimouski), along with Eric Oliver (Assistant Professor, Dalhousie University), Lucy Chisholm (Health and Air Quality Meteorologist, ECCC), and Anna Naylor (Manager of Learning and Development, IORE/COVE).

Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

### **The Science of Science Communication (Plenary Session)**

#### **COMPASS Science Communication**

9:15am-10:00am

### **Science Communication Workshop**

#### **COMPASS Science Communication**

10:30am-3:30pm

This workshop will help participants share what they do, what they know - and most importantly, why it matters - in clear, lively terms. Grounded in the latest research on science communication, COMPASS's training is designed to help participants find the relevance of their science for the audiences they most want to reach — journalists, policymakers, the public, and even other scientists.

Key components include:

- Communications framework and strategy: the Message Box
- Skills training through hands-on practice, peer feedback and individual coaching

Key concepts include:

- Beginning where your audience is
- How to identify and frame your core message
- Crafting messages for multiple audiences

As a result of this training, participants will learn how to:

- Identify key messages arising from their research and professional activities, with an emphasis on explaining “so what?”
- Refine and reframe their messages for different audiences.

### **CMOS/MEOPAR Poster Session**

3:30-5:00pm