

Gavin Murray Douglas

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Postdoctoral Research Scholar (January 2024 – *Ongoing*)

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA | Supervisor: Dr. Louis-Marie Bobay

Postdoctoral Researcher (May 2021 – December 2023)

McGill University, Montréal, QC, Canada | Supervisor: Dr. Jesse Shapiro

PhD Microbiology and Immunology (January 2017 – May 2021)

Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, Canada | Supervisor: Dr. Morgan Langille

Thesis: Integrating Functional and Taxonomic Data Types for Microbiome Data Analysis

MSc Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (September 2013 – November 2015)

University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada | Supervisor: Dr. Alan Moses.

Thesis: Investigating the Evolutionary Forces Acting on Mammalian Transcription Factor Binding

BSc Specialist in Evolutionary Biology (September 2009 – June 2013)

University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship (2024 - *Ongoing*; Gov. of Canada; \$140,000 / 2 years)

NSERC Postdoctoral Fellowship (2021 – 2023; Gov. of Canada; \$90,000 / 2 years)

Globalink Research Award (2019; Mitacs Canada; \$6,000)

NSERC Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement (2019; Gov. of Canada; \$6,000)

NSERC Alexander Graham Bell CGS Doctoral (2017 – 2020; Gov. of Canada; \$105,000 / 3 years)

Izaak Walton Killam Predoctoral Scholarship Level 2 (2017 – 2019; The Killam Trusts; Honorary)

President's Award (2017-2019; Dalhousie University; Tuition / 3 years)

Kathryn A. Weldon Travel Award (2018; Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation; \$2,000)

Early Career Scientist Bursary (2018; International Human Microbiome Consortium; €500)

NSERC CGS Master's (2013 – 2014; Gov. of Canada; \$17,500)

NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award (2012; Gov. of Canada; \$5,625)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Douglas GM and Shapiro BJ. 2024. Pseudogenes act as a neutral reference for detecting selection in prokaryotic pangenomes. *Nature Ecology and Evolution* 8:304-314.

- News and Views [article](#)
- Behind the Paper [blog post](#)

El Chaar M, Khoury Y, **Douglas GM**, El Kazzi S, Jisr T, Soussi S, Merhi G, Moghnieh RA, Shapiro BJ. 2024. Longitudinal genomic surveillance of multidrug-resistant *Escherichia coli* carriage in critical care patients. *Microbiology Spectrum* 12:e03128-23.

Douglas GM, Kim S, Langille MGI, Shapiro BJ. 2023. Efficient computation of contributonal diversity metrics from microbiome data with FuncDiv. *Bioinformatics* 39:btac809.

Douglas GM, Hayes MG, Langille MGI, Borenstein E. 2022. Integrating phylogenetic and functional data in microbiome studies. *Bioinformatics* 38:5055-5063.

Migicovsky Z, **Douglas GM**, Myles S. 2022. Genotyping-by-sequencing of Canada's apple biodiversity collection. *Frontiers in Genetics* 13:934712.

Wright AH, Shawkat A, Migicovsky Z, **Douglas GM**, Yurgel S, Bunbury-Blanchette A, Franklin J, Adamas SJ, Walker AK. 2022. A characterization of a cool climate organic vineyard's microbiome. *Phytobiomes* 6:69-82.

Nearing JT*, **Douglas GM***, Hayes MG, MacDonald J, Desai DK, Allward N, Jones CMA, Wright RJ, Dhanani AS, Comeau AM, Langille MGI. 2022. Microbiome differential abundance methods produce different results across 38 datasets. *Nature Communications* 13:342 (*joint first authors).

Douglas GM and Langille MGI. 2021. A primer and discussion on DNA-based microbiome data and related bioinformatics analyses. *Peer Community Journal* 1:e5.

Douglas GM and Shapiro BJ. 2021. Genic selection within prokaryotic pangenomes. *Genome Biology and Evolution* 13:evab234.

Cook J, **Douglas GM**, Zhang J, Glick BR, Langille MGI, Liu K-H, Cheng Z. 2021. Transcriptomic profiling of *Brassica napus* responses to *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. *Innate Immunity* 27: 143-157.

Douglas GM, Bielawski JP, Langille MGI. 2020. Re-evaluating the relationship between missing heritability and the microbiome. *Microbiome* 8:87. [Podcast interview](#).

Douglas GM, Maffei VJ, Zaneveld J, Yurgel SN, Brown JR, Taylor CM, Huttenhower C, Langille MGI. 2020. PICRUSt2 for prediction of metagenome functions. *Nature Biotechnology* 38:685-688.

Nejman D*, Livyatan I*, Fuks G*, et al. 2020. The human tumor microbiome is composed of tumor type-specific intracellular bacteria. *Science* 368:973-980 (*joint first authors).

Palau M, Piqué N, Comeau AM, **Douglas GM**, Ramírez-Lázaro MJ, Lario S, Calvet X, Langille MGI, Miñana-Galbis D. 2020. Detection of *Helicobacter pylori* microevolution and multiple infection from gastric biopsies by housekeeping gene amplicon sequencing. *Pathogens* 9:97.

Douglas GM and Langille MGI. 2019. Current and promising approaches to identify horizontal gene transfer events in metagenomes. *Genome Biology and Evolution* 11:2750-2766.

- Bolyen E et al. (> 100 authors). 2019. Reproducible, interactive, scalable and extensible microbiome data science using QIIME 2. *Nature Biotechnology* 37:852-857.
- Yurgel SN, Nearing JT, **Douglas GM**, Langille MGI. 2019. Metagenomic functional shifts to plant induced environmental changes. *Frontiers in Microbiology* 10:1682.
- Singh R, Chandrashekarappa S, Bodduluri SR, Baby BV, Hegde B, Kotla NG, Hiwale AA, Saiyed T, Patel P, Vijay-Kumar M, Langille MGI, **Douglas GM**, Cheng X, Rouchka EC, Waigel SJ, Dryden GW, Alatassi H, Zhang H, Haribabu B, Vemula PK, Jala VR. 2019. Enhancement of the gut barrier integrity by a microbial metabolite through the Nrf2 pathway. *Nature Communications* 10:89.
- Nearing JT, **Douglas GM**, Comeau AM, Langille MGI. 2018. Denoising the Denoisers: An independent evaluation of microbiome sequence error-correction approaches. *PeerJ* 6:e5364.
- Yurgel SN, **Douglas GM**, Dussault A, Percival D, Langille MGI. 2018. Dissecting community structure in wild blueberry root and soil microbiome. *Frontiers in Microbiology* 9:1187.
- McElroy MS, Navarro AJR, Mustiga G, Stack C, Gezan S, Peña G, Sarabia W, Saquicela D, Sotomayor I, **Douglas GM**, Migicovsky Z, Amores F, Tarqui O, Myles S, Motamayor JC. 2018. Prediction of cacao (*Theobroma cacao*) resistance to *Moniliophthora spp.* diseases via genome-wide association analysis and genomic selection. *Frontiers in Plant Science* 9:343.
- Douglas GM***, Hansen R*, Jones C, Dunn K, Comeau AM, Bielawski JP, Tayler R, El-Omar EM, Russell RK, Hold GL, Langille MGI, Van Limbergen J. 2018. Multi-omics differentially classify disease state and treatment outcome in pediatric Crohn's disease. *Microbiome* 6:13 (*joint first authors).
- McClure KA, Gardner KM, **Douglas GM**, Toivonen PMA, Hampson CR, Song J, Forney CF, DeLong J, Rajcan I, Myles S. 2018. A genome-wide association study of fruit quality and historical scab resistance in an apple collection. *The Plant Genome* 11:170075.
- Inkpen A, **Douglas GM**, Brunet T, Leuschen K, Doolittle F, Langille MGI. 2017. The coupling of taxonomy and function in microbiomes. *Biology and Philosophy* 32:1225-43.
- Yurgel SN, **Douglas GM**, Comeau AM, Mammoliti M, Dussault A, Percival D, Langille MGI. 2017. Variation in bacterial and eukaryotic communities associated with natural and managed wild blueberry habitats. *Phytobiomes* 1:102-113.
- Comeau AM, **Douglas GM**, Langille MGI. 2017. Microbiome Helper: A custom and streamlined workflow for microbiome research. *mSystems* 2:e00127-16.
- Douglas GM**, Wilson MD, Moses AM. 2016. Decreased transcription factor binding levels nearby primate pseudogenes suggests regulatory degeneration. *Molecular Biology and Evolution* 33:1478-85.
- Khan T, **Douglas GM**, Patel P, Nguyen Ba AN, Moses AM. 2015. Polymorphism analysis reveals reduced negative selection and elevated rate of insertions and deletions in intrinsically disordered protein regions. *Genome Biology and Evolution* 7:1815-26.
- Douglas GM***, Gos G*, Steige KA*, Salcedo A, Holm K, Ågren JA, Hazzouri KM, Wang W, Platts AE, Josephs EB, Williamson RJ, Neuffer B, Lascoux M, Slotte T, Wright SI. 2015. Hybrid origins and the earliest stages of diploidization in the highly successful recent polyploid *Capsella bursa-pastoris*. *PNAS USA* 112:2806-11 (*joint first authors).

BOOK CHAPTERS

Douglas GM, Comeau AM, Langille MGI. 2018. Processing a 16S rRNA sequencing dataset with the Microbiome Helper workflow. *Microbiome Analysis – Methods and Protocols* (Springer; Editors: Beiko RG, Hsiao RG, Parkinson J):131-141.

Douglas GM, Beiko RG, Langille MGI. 2018. Predicting the functional potential of the microbiome from marker genes using PICRUSt. *Microbiome Analysis – Methods and Protocols* (Springer; Editors: Beiko RG, Hsiao RG, Parkinson J):169-177.

OTHER WRITING

Douglas GM. 2024. Policy Considerations for Canada's Open Access Publishing Strategy. *Journal of Science Policy & Governance*. 25:07.

Douglas GM. 2022. Mutiny. Winner of the FEMSmicroBlog Writing Competition on "How Microbiology will Change our Future". [Link](#). [Podcast interview](#).

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Characterizing the relationship between rates of co-occurrence and horizontal gene transfer across prokaryotic marine genomes. June 2024. American Society for Microbiology - Microbe Conference (Atlanta, USA).

Pseudogenes as a neutral reference for detecting selection in prokaryotic pangenomes. June 2023. The Canadian Society of Microbiologists Annual Conference (Halifax, Canada).

Strategies for efficiently writing a strong thesis. February 2023. Webinar by the McGill Microbiology & Immunology Graduate Student Association (Montréal, Canada).

POMS enables interpretation of functional differences between the stool microbiome of obese and control individuals. December 2022. McGill Centre for Microbiome Research Symposium: Emerging Breakthroughs in Microbiome Science (Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre, Montréal, Canada).

The need-to-know facts of microbiome research. July 2019. Continuing Medical Education: Gut flora and the answers your patients are looking for (Dartmouth General Hospital, Dartmouth, Canada).

Prediction of microbial genomes from 16S rRNA gene sequences and application for disease state classification. March 2019. Crossroads Interdisciplinary Health Research Conference (Halifax, Canada).

Differences in host gene expression linked to predicted shifts in microbial pathways in an inflammatory bowel disease cohort. May 2018. Professional & Research Education Program Graduate Student Research Day (Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada).

Multi-omics differentially classify disease state and treatment outcome in pediatric Crohn's disease. May 2017. Professional & Research Education Program Graduate Student Research Day (Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada).

POSTERS *(Presenter is first listed, unless otherwise indicated)*

- El Chaar M, Mordorisissan JM, Abdallah B, **Douglas GM***, Shapiro BJ. June 2024. The composition of the microbiota in the full-term newborn's gut, and mother's colostrum and breastmilk: Evidence of early bacterial transmission. American Society for Microbiology - Microbe conference (Atlanta, USA; *presenter).
- Douglas GM**, Stott CM, Bobay L-M, Raymann K, Shapiro BJ. July 2023. Allelic diversity across honey bee gut microbiomes is consistent with niche-specific adaptation. Microbial Population Biology – Gordon Research Conference (Andover, USA).
- Watts S, Migicovsky Z, **Douglas GM**, Myles S. January 2022. Genome-wide association studies in Canada's Apple Biodiversity Collection. Plant & Animal Genome Conference XXIX (Held virtually, but organized in San Diego, USA).
- Nearing JT, **Douglas GM**, Hayes M, MacDonald J, Desai D, Allward N, Jones CMA, Wright R, Dhanani A, Comeau AM, Langille MGI. June 2020. Microbiome differential abundance methods produce strikingly different results across 38 datasets. Symposium: "Having IMPACTT: Advancing Microbiome Research" (Held virtually, but organized at the University of Calgary, Canada).
- Douglas GM**, Langille MGI, Borenstein E. October 2020. Identifying robust functional biomarkers in microbiome sequencing data with POMS. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Conference – Microbiome (Held virtually, but organized in Cold Spring Harbor, USA).
- Douglas GM**, Langille MGI, Borenstein E. September 2020. Identifying robust functional biomarkers in microbiome sequencing data with POMS. Wellcome Genome Informatics Conference (Held virtually, but organized in Hinxton, UK).
- Douglas GM**, Langille MGI. December 2019. Making sense of functional microbiome associations with POMS. Genomics in Medicine Conference (Dalhousie University, Canada).
- Douglas GM**, Zaneveld J, Maffei VJ, Xu ZZ, Leuschen K, Brown JR, Huttenhower C, Langille MGI. June 2018. PICRUSt 2.0: Novel features for predicting functional potential. 7th International Human Microbiome Conference (Killarney, Ireland).
- Douglas GM**, Zaneveld J, Maffei VJ, Xu ZZ, Leuschen K, Huttenhower C, Brown JR, Langille MGI. March 2018. PICRUSt 2.0: Novel features for predicting functional potential. Keystone Symposia: Microbiome, Host Resistance and Disease (Banff, Canada).
- Leuschen K, **Douglas GM**, Langille MGI. May 2017. Assessing functional stability in the human microbiome. Graduate Student Research Day (Halifax, Canada).
- Stadnyk AW, **Douglas GM**, Comeau AM, Jain U, Schaeble W, Stover C, Beiko R, Langille MGI. March 2017. Properdin deficiency does not impact the mouse response to DSS-induced colitis despite differences in colonic microbiome. Canadian Digestive Diseases Week (Banff, Canada).
- Jones C, **Douglas GM**, Comeau AM, Hansen R, Russell R, Hold G, Van Limbergen J, Langille MGI. November 2016. Assessing the relative contribution of genetics and micro-omics for predicting pediatric Crohn's Disease. International Human Microbiome Consortium (Houston, USA).
- Jones C, **Douglas GM**, Comeau AM, Hansen R, Russell R, Hold G, Langille MGI, Van Limbergen J. October 2016. An integrated microbiome and genetic analysis of pediatric Crohn's disease. World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (Montréal, Canada).

Jones C, **Douglas GM***, Comeau AM, Hansen R, Russell R, Hold G, Langille MGI, Van Limbergen J. August 2016. Assessing the relative contribution of genetics and the microbiome for predicting pediatric Crohn's disease. International Soc. for Microbial Ecology (Montréal, Canada; *presenter).

Comeau AC, **Douglas GM**, Langille MGI. June 2016. Integrated Microbiome Resource: Developing an open and streamlined experimental and analysis pipeline for microbiomics research. American Society for Microbiology (Boston, USA).

Douglas GM, Wilson MD, Moses AM. January 2015. Detecting selection on mammalian transcription factor binding sites. Stochastic Physics in Biology - Gordon Research Conference (Ventura, USA).

Douglas GM, Wilson MD, Moses AM. June 2014. Degeneration of mammalian cis-regulatory modules. Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution Conference (San Juan, Puerto Rico).

Khan T, **Douglas GM***, Nguyen Ba AN, Moses AM. June 2014. Analysis of polymorphisms reveal constraints on amino acids and increased rates of insertions and deletions in intrinsically disordered regions. Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution Conference (San Juan, Puerto Rico; *presenter).

Douglas GM, Lascoux M, Holm K, Steige KA, Slotte T, Gos G, Hollister J, Wright SI. July 2013. Rapid relaxation of purifying selection in the young allopolyploid *Capsella bursa-pastoris*. Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution Conference (Chicago, USA).

ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Independent Contractor (September 2015 and August 2020)

I conducted paid bioinformatics tasks on an independent basis. I also contributed results and co-authored a consulting report on the genetic basis of carotenoid content in spinach, which contained recommendations for a future breeding program.

Bioinformatician (September 2015 – December 2016)

Integrated Microbiome Resource, Dalhousie University
Supervisors: Dr. Morgan Langille and Dr. Sean Myles

I was responsible for building tools and pipelines for analyzing a variety of different bioinformatics datasets. My main focuses were on analyzing microbiome data and associating mutations in the apple and cannabis genomes with agriculturally relevant phenotypes.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer (April 8, 2024, North Carolina State University)

I presented a lecture titled 'Detecting Molecular Signatures of Natural Selection' for a graduate-level course in the Bioinformatics program (BIO592/CSC591: Algorithmic Aspects of Bioinformatics).

Guest Lecturer (April 4, 2023, McGill University)

I presented a lecture titled 'Ecology and Evolution in the Human Microbiome' for a graduate-level course (MIMM617: The Human Microbiome) in the Microbiology & Immunology department.

Presentation Grader (February and March 2023, McGill University)

I evaluated student presentations over three sessions for The Business of Science (MIMM387), which is an interdisciplinary course in the Microbiology & Immunology department. These presentations summarized current controversies in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical sectors.

Session Leader (September 2022 – October 2023, McGill University)

I lectured and led discussions in small group meetings for medical students. This was part of Research Fundamentals 1 (INDS123), which is a required course at the McGill Medical School. This course is intended to provide future clinicians with an understanding of how to evaluate the primary literature. My lessons covered fundamental and clinical research approaches from a general viewpoint, with a focus on the link between the gut microbiome and disease as a case example.

Guest Lecturer (October 26, 2020, Dalhousie University)

I presented a guest lecture introducing the human microbiome to students in the fourth-year undergraduate course, Host-Pathogens Interactions (MICI4119).

Teaching Assistant (January – April 2020, Dalhousie University)

I helped lead lab sessions and marked students' reports for MICI2400 (Laboratory Methods in Microbiology & Immunology), which is an entirely lab-based course that introduced aseptic technique and basic microbiology practices to students.

Microbiome Analysis Instructor (May 16, 2019, Sheba Medical Center, Tel Aviv, Israel)

I delivered a lecture and workshop on analyzing 16S rRNA gene sequencing data for a diverse group of microbiome and clinical researchers.

R Programming for Biologists Workshop Instructor (August 2018, Dalhousie University)

I presented a series of four workshops to biology graduate students. I began each workshop with a lecture and then lead the students through in-class assignments to solidify the lecture content. All the resources I developed are [openly available](#).

Canadian Bioinformatics Workshop Instructor and Teaching Assistant (June 5 - 7, 2018)

I presented a lecture on the major classes of bioinformatics tools used for taxonomic and functional profiling of shotgun metagenomics data and developed a tutorial to complement this lecture. I was also a teaching assistant for all tutorials presented over three days. This workshop took place at the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research in Toronto, Canada.

Bioinformatic Tutorial Developer (September 2015 – October 2017, Dalhousie University)

While working as a bioinformatician in the Langille Lab at Dalhousie University I developed several online tutorials to teach researchers how to analyze microbiome data. These tutorials were presented at several international conferences to hundreds of trainees. These tutorials are available on the [Microbiome Helper website](#).

Module Instructor (November – December 2016, Dalhousie University)

I created and delivered a four-week graduate-level module entitled "Introduction to Python Programming for Biologists". I lectured two classes each week and created all the quizzes and assignments (three quizzes and four assignments). This module was one of several modules offered as part of BIOL5705 (Graduate Modules class) in the Biology department. The resources I developed are [available here](#).

Teaching Assistant (Fall 2013 and 2014 terms, University of Toronto)

I supervised a subset of laboratory classes for BIO120 (Adaptation and Biodiversity), which were diverse workshops that introduced students to key themes in organismal and evolutionary biology.

SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE

Sana Naderi (February 2023 – December 2023, McGill University)

PhD student analyzing SARS-CoV-2 sequencing data from wastewater samples collected across Québec in a time-series using population genetic approaches.

Isabel Kim (September 2021 – April 2022, McGill University)

Undergraduate student conducting an independent research project. The project, which I designed, focused on developing and evaluating diversity metrics based jointly on taxonomic and functional microbial ecology data (i.e., contributinal diversity).

Arvin Mahmoodi (May - August 2020, Dalhousie University)

NSERC undergraduate student research award recipient that worked on a project I designed to characterize novel genes in metagenome-assembled genomes.

Jocelyn MacDonald (January - April 2019, Dalhousie University)

Undergraduate experiential learning student that conducted a comparison of methods for differential abundance tests applied to microbiome sequencing datasets.

VOLUNTEER AND SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Copy Editor – Peer Community Journal (July 2024 – *Ongoing*)

Articles recommended by ‘Peer Communities’ (such as PCI Genomics, see below) are eligible for publication in the Peer Community Journal. Alongside other volunteers, I help format submissions correctly, check for mandatory information, and correct reference details prior to publication.

Managing Board Member – Peer Community In (PCI) Genomics (May 2023 – *Ongoing*)

PCI Genomics is a platform for reviewing and recommending preprints. As a board member, I approve new recommenders (which are similar to traditional editors), evaluate recommenders’ work and assessments, and deal with internal conflicts between authors, reviewers, and recommenders. I am also PCI Genomics’ representative to the broader PCI non-profit organization, where I vote on pertinent matters, such as proposals for the creation of new thematic PCIs (analogous to new journals).

Peer Community in Genomics (PCI Genomics) Recommender (April 2021 - *Ongoing*)

As a recommender, my role is like that of a traditional editor, except that I also write a short article recommending the preprint if it passes the review process (listed below).

- Positive selection acted upon cetacean ion channels during the aquatic transition. 2024. *Peer Community in Genomics*, 100256. <https://doi.org/10.24072/pci.genomics.100256>
- A unique and customizable approach for functionally annotating prokaryotic genomes. 2023. *Peer Community in Genomics*, 100233. <https://doi.org/10.24072/pci.genomics.100233>
- A workflow for studying enigmatic non-autonomous transposable elements across bacteria. 2023. *Peer Community in Genomics*, 100166. <https://doi.org/10.24072/pci.genomics.100166>
- EukProt enables reproducible Eukaryota-wide protein sequence analyses. 2022. *Peer Community in Genomics*, 100021. <https://doi.org/10.24072/pci.genomics.100021>

Volunteer – American National Science Policy Network (December 2022 – September 2024)

I contributed to this organization’s Communication Committee through three initiatives. First, I helped write and edit science policy blog posts published monthly on the organization’s website. Second, I volunteered as a member of the “Writer’s Room”, where I discussed draft manuscripts written by myself and other volunteers prior to them being submitted to formal science and policy venues. Last, I co-organized a panel discussion on open access science publishing with three experts that have divergent perspectives on this topic (held virtually on July 17, 2024).

Executive Member - Association of Postdoctoral Fellows (May 2022 – December 2023)

I represented postdoctoral fellows across McGill University, which involved many tasks and initiatives. For instance, I contributed ideas regarding resources that could be provided to postdoctoral researchers, helped to determine our organization's priorities, and helped plan specific events. I held executive positions as Vice President Finance and Operations (May 2022 – May 2023), which involved managing all financial transactions, and Vice President Academic (June 2023 – December 2023). In this latter role I organized an academic award series for McGill postdoctoral fellows. I also contributed in other ways, such as redesigning and maintaining the organization's website, representing our organization as a councillor on the Post-Graduate Students' Society council, and representing postdocs more generally at the annual Canadian Association of Postdoctoral Administrators meeting. This last event was held in Montréal from October 31 to November 1, 2022, where I was a panelist on a discussion panel entitled "Preparing postdocs for a diverse job market".

Co-President - Science & Policy Exchange (December 2022 – December 2023)

Science & Policy Exchange (SPE) is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization (based in Montréal) with the mandate of introducing next-generation researchers to Canadian science policy. I supervised over 30 volunteers as they conducted numerous initiatives, such as organizing forums, writing policy briefs, and consulting with policymakers. Beyond general managing, my specific contributions were:

1. Being a witness for the House of Commons Standing Committee on Science & Research (May 9, 2023), regarding the value and number of federal awards for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars. My testimony contributed to the Committee's [recommendations to the government](#).
2. Coordinating with the Canadian Association of Postdoctoral Scholars to analyze survey data and write [a report](#) on international postdoctoral scholars' work permit processing times in Canada.
3. Sitting on the advisory board for a new annual collection of publications organized by the University of Ottawa's Institute of Science, Society and Policy.
4. Co-authoring an [editorial](#) on the Canadian Science Policy Centre website.
5. Being a panelist at the Canadian Association of Postdoctoral Fellows Annual General Meeting (November 16, 2023) on a panel discussion entitled 'Supporting Postdocs'.

Postdoc. Rep. – Department Graduate Student Association (June 2022 – May 2023)

I represented postdoctoral fellows within the department of Microbiology and Immunology at McGill as part of the department's graduate student association. I was the first postdoctoral representative for this department, and I developed a standard operating procedure for future representatives to follow.

Public Forum Lead Volunteer - Science & Policy Exchange (June 2022 – November 2022)

I was the lead volunteer organizing a public forum on how science policies affect food security in Canada. My roles included helping with logistical preparations and communicating with the panelists. During this time, I also wrote a [blog post](#) summarizing issues facing open access scientific publishing.

Graduate Studies Committee Member (September 2019 – August 2020)

I represented graduate students' perspectives in discussions related to graduate student program requirements, and funding. This was during my PhD in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Dalhousie University.

iGEM Mentor (May 2018 – October 2018)

I supervised the bioinformatics work of the Dalhousie University undergraduate team for the 2018 International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) competition. This involved helping students determine which hypotheses they should test and how to conduct the required statistical analyses. I also supervised the fundraising work for our team, which included creating a promotional video. Our team received a silver medal (which multiple teams could receive) at the annual competition.

Volunteer Research Assistant (January 2012 - May 2013)

I volunteered in Dr. Aneil Agrawal's lab (Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Toronto) during my undergraduate studies. I contributed to a PhD student's research projects by sorting and scoring fruit flies. One key project focused on testing theoretical predictions of the amount of genetic variation that is expected to be maintained under both migration and selection.

Genetic Counseling Clinic Volunteer (January - April 2012)

I volunteered at the Mount Sinai Hospital (Toronto, Ontario) Genetic Counseling Clinic directly with Seema Panchal, a genetic counsellor. I helped Ms. Panchal process patient data and to develop pedigrees displaying each family member's risk of developing breast cancer.

Scientific Peer-Reviewing (*Number of reviews, excluding revised versions*)

Annals NY Acad. of Sci. (1)	Frontiers in Microbiology (1)	Mol. Bio. and Evolution (2)
Bioinformatics (2)	G3: Genes, Genomes, Gen. (1)	mSystems (6)
BMC Genomics (1)	GigaScience (1)	Nature Ecology & Evol. (1)
BMC Microbiology (1)	Genome Bio. & Evolution (1)	npj Biofilms and Micro. (1)
BMC Supplements (1)	Gut Microbes (1)	PCI Genomics (3)
Comp. and Struct. Bio. J. (1)	Horticulture Research (1)	PLOS Comp. Biology (2)
Environ. Sci. and Poll. Res. (1)	ISME Communications (1)	PLOS Genetics (1)
Frontiers in Bioinformatics (1)	J. Open Source Software (2)	Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA (1)
Frontiers in Genetics (1)	Microbial Genomics (1)	Scientific Reports (5)