The Department of Chemistry and Biology Celebrate Student Research and Present Inaugural Award.

Outstanding Presentors. Left to Right: Shannon, Monica, Amir, Zach, Shane, Devin, Rob, Khrystyna, Jamie, Borhan, Nande, Amra, Camilo, Tracy, Agnes, Yulia, and Anna

C&B Press – The second annual Chemistry and Biology Research Symposium: Science at the Interface opened with Dean Coe telling the largely student audience that "...science was not completed until it was communicated."

"The quality of the student presentations, both the student talks and the poster presentations, were outstanding. The judges repeatedly expressed how difficult their task was to choose winners in the poster categories." said Dr. Costin Antonescu (Chair of the Departmental Recognition and Advancement Committee, DARC, and Symposium Organizer)
One of those judges was keynote lecturer and UofT Professor Reinhart Reithmeier. Reinhardt gave an informative lecture about membrane transport proteins and their role in human health and disease. "Every time I walk through Ryerson’s campus I am continually impressed. The University is very entrepreneurial." Dr. Reithmeier said. It was a keen observation. On this day, Dr. Reithmeier also ended his talk with a very fitting anecdote and tribute to his grade 13 Biology teacher. He credited Mr. Gibson as the one who inspired him and set him on his research career. It was particularly fitting, because the day ended with the Department of Chemistry and Biology honouring one of its late faculty members with the "William (Bill) Cott Award for Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching." This annual award serves to inspire and recognize the outstanding graduate student educators within the Department of Chemistry and Biology, while honouring the commitment to student education that Bill demonstrated over his fantastic career.

"I think that a teaching award on Bill's name is most appropriate and I am certain that he would ecstatic to have his name associated with an award that recognizes teaching excellence." said former Ryerson faculty member and close friend Dr. John Easton. "That was an activity in which he took great pride. Students often commented to me about his thorough and professional presentation of his course material, his penchant for answering questions immediately and his humour during his classes, and his compassion for student issues whether academic or personal. Bill was a consummate human being and he was well-liked by students, staff, and his faculty colleagues."

After 33 years of service at Ryerson, Professor Emeritus William (Bill) J. Cott passed away with family at his side on October 20th, 2009 at 76 years of age. Bill was a great teacher and a wonderful family man. “Bill would have been thrilled with this honour,” said Nancy Howe-Cott, Bill’s widow.

**The Bill Cott inaugural winners, with the extended Cott Family. Left to right: Judy Grah (Bill’s Daughter), Sarah Patten (Nancy’s Daughter), Robert Denning, Jaimie Dufresne, Nancy Howe Cott (Bill’s widow)**

Presentation Winners 2013

Devin Machin (Koivisto Group), Zachary Teitel (Campbell group), Amra Saric (Botelho group) & Tracy Lackraj (Foster group) were the recipients of the 2013 Molecular Science Graduate Student Society Award Lectures. These students were chosen for talks based on their submitted abstracts as selected by a committee of graduate students and the Departmental Advancement and Recognition Committee.
"We want to promote that ability and competency in all of our students. Presenting their posters and presentations to a friendly and supportive group is a good way to start and practice. It is also fun!" said Dean Coe. In total there were 56 student posters, 1 keynote lecture, 4 student award lectures and over 130 participants. "I'm impressed again, as I was last year, at the professional and the comfortable confidence of many of graduate students..." continued Dean Coe, “and the growing abilities of many of our undergraduates.”

The poster prize winners and runners-up chosen by the judges in each category were as follows:

**UGrad Chemistry**
Winner: Shane Harrypersad  
Runner-up: Nande Wright

**Grad Chemistry**
Winner: Rob Denning  
Runners-up: Khrystyna Herasymchuk and Justin Kosalka

**UGrad Environmental Biology**
Winner: Amir Tehrani  
Runner-up: Agnes Klimowski

**Grad Environmental Biology**
Winner: Yulia Markunas  
Runner-up: Borhan Uddin

**UGrad Molecular/Cell Biology & Biochem**
Winner: Monica Dayam  
Runner-up: Anna Sorensen

**Grad Molecular/Cell Biology & Biochem**
Winner: Camilo Garay  
Runner-up: Shannon Ho

"Thank you to all of you who contributed to the success of our Department’s Second Annual Research Symposium," added Dr. Antonescu, "either by contributing to its organization, attending, judging posters, making a financial contribution for the student awards, and/or encouraging your students to attend and present their work."