



Katherine Donald  
2020 Biology Department Collins Award Winner

It is with tremendous pleasure that we present the Collins Award in Biology to Kate Donald. When choosing the Collins Award winner, we ask faculty in the department to nominate students and we discuss the merits of each student for the final selection. This year Kate was nominated by five faculty in our department so there was no need for further discussion.

Dr. Yuqi Wang and Dr. Blythe Janowiak had Kate as a student in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. As a student, Kate had the BEST performance among more than 3000 students over the past decade, and she scored a perfect 100 on every test. Many students attributed their success in Biochemistry to Kate's help as a Supplementary Instructor.

At the School of Medicine Kate worked in Dr. Lynda Morrison's lab. She applied herself to research with skill, careful observation, and dedication. Her capstone work examined the suppression of herpes simplex virus replication by hydroxypyridione compounds, determining how their chemical structure relates to activity versus cytotoxicity. This work will form the basis of Kate's first peer-reviewed manuscript.

Kate is forging her own path as a budding scientist. After reading the book *The Whole Body Microbiome* by Dr. Brett Finlay she wrote him directly and he offered her a position in his lab. We're excited to report that she will begin her PhD in Dr. Finlay's lab at the University of British Columbia in the Fall.

We couldn't be prouder of Kate, and we can't wait to see what she does next!