NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Shayenna Nolan
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Healthy Headwaters Lab x Heath Research Group, University of Windsor

About my work

Aaniin, I am a first year MSc student studying microbes and carbon in impacted headwaters across Ontario in the Great Lakes basin. Specifically I am using eDNA metabarcoding to relate bacterial and fungal communities to dissolved organic matter pools, characterized with EEM-PARAFAC.

Favorite part of work

I love every part! As scientists there are different seasons of what we do (a favourite analogy of my supervisor)—fieldwork in spring/summer, analyses and deep work in winter and fall. I love spending time in the water and then getting to explore the unseen (microorganisms and DOM) in the lab, trying to make sense of it all.

Something else about myself

In addition to stream ecology, I am a photographer and graphic designer, always looking for new ways to make science accessible to everyone! I also use Anishinaabe cultural principles to guide the philosophy behind my sci-comm work: including all generations in outreach and helping people build relationships with the land.





Tongyao Pu
MSc Student, Water Resources Science
Large Lakes Observatory, University of Minnesota, Duluth

About my work

My research interests center around the stratification of meromictic lakes and their redox chemistry. I use hydrodynamic models to simulate the physical properties of lakes. Additionally, I apply the hydrodynamic conditions to chemistry models to model the change in concentrations of redox species (e.g. oxygen, Fe(II) and sulfide).

Favorite part of work

My favorite part of the work is putting ideas into the computer. This opens up possibilities for me to do all sorts of things without the limitation of laboratory work. Models also allow us to investigate different possibilities and see the big picture of science.

Something else about myself

Growing up, I resided near Lake Tai. Although seemingly small, Lake Tai is one of the largest freshwater lakes in China and is of great importance to the neighboring four cities and 20 million people. However, human activities disturbed its morphology and chemistry. This was my motivation to do freshwater research. My greatest hope is to have people appreciate our freshwater resources and try our best to protect them.