



PhD Position: Insect Neuroethology and Behavioral Ecology

The Invertebrate Neuroethology Laboratory at the University of Manitoba (*Winnipeg, MB, CANADA*) is seeking a talented PhD student to start in September 2025 (preferably) or January 2026. The minimum annual stipend will be \$26,000. The successful applicant will study aspects of sensory physiology and learning in the context of pollination ecology. The specific research topic will be decided in consultation with the Principal Investigator (Dr. Byron N Van Nest) and the student's advisory committee. Using honey bees and other arthropods, our laboratory employs immunohistochemistry, electrophysiology, microscopy, and a wide variety of behavioural assays. We have active collaborations with the University of Manitoba Departments of Entomology and Electrical & Computer Engineering, East Tennessee State University, and the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich.

Requirements:

- You must possess a research-based master's degree (prior to commencing the PhD).
- You must possess Canadian citizenship, PR, or a student visa (*or the ability to obtain one*).
- You must understand the importance of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in academia.

Preferred qualifications:

- Research experience with one or more of the following: honey bees or other arthropods, pollination ecology, behavioural ecology, sensory systems, neuroethology, immunohistochemistry, microscopy, electrophysiology, or software modelling.
- Experience in data analysis using *R*, *MATLAB*, or *Python*.
- Training (coursework) in statistics, animal behaviour, and neurobiology.

To apply:

Email the following documents to Dr. Van Nest (byron.vannest@umanitoba.ca) no later than **May 1st, 2025**:

- A cover letter (1 or 2 pages) that discusses how your background, educational and research experience, and research interests make you a strong candidate for a position in this laboratory.
- An informal research proposal (2 or 3 pages) relevant to our laboratory, with appropriate citations. (The exact topic of your actual PhD project will be decided later.)
- Curriculum vitae.
- Unofficial undergraduate and master's transcripts.
- Contact information for at least two academic references.

All qualified persons are encouraged to apply, and we particularly invite applications from persons who are a member of one or more marginalized communities: Indigenous, Black or racialized persons, persons with disabilities, and persons of all genders and sexual identities.

All submitted documents must be your own work. AI-generated documents will be discarded.

Invertebrate Neuroethology Laboratory:

<https://vannestlab.com>

Department of Biological Sciences:

<https://umanitoba.ca/science/biological-sciences>

Faculty of Graduate Studies:

<https://umanitoba.ca/graduate-studies>

University of Manitoba:

<https://umanitoba.ca>

Winnipeg, MB, Canada:

<https://tourismwinnipeg.com>

The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anisininewuk, Dakota Oyate and Dene, and on the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of Reconciliation and collaboration.