

Danielle Vlaho is an Academic Associate at McGill University, where she teaches and manages organic chemistry laboratories at all levels, supervising up to 30 teaching assistants and supporting over 700 students across four courses each term. She excels in developing innovative laboratory experiments and integrating sustainable practices into chemistry education and is dedicated to creating resources for her classes that enhance student learning and lab safety. Her contributions to science education have been recognized with the SALTISE Best Practices & Pedagogical Innovators Award (2023). She holds a Ph.D. in Chemistry from McGill University. She is passionate about fostering a collaborative and engaging learning environment in the sciences and sharing her love of chemistry with her students.



Danielle Vlaho
Academic Associate
McGill University



Celestine Hong
Post Doctoral Fellow
University of Toronto

Celestine Hong is a postdoc at the University of Toronto working on the identification of protein binding partners through the use of deep learning and molecular modeling software, as well as their functionalization onto hydrogels for protein stabilization and controlled release. She is broadly interested in the development of polymers and biomaterials for drug delivery and translational medicine. Outside of the lab, Celestine is passionate about teaching and scientific outreach. She has taught graduate-level polymer synthesis as an instructor at MIT, led calculus tutorials for six semesters at McGill University, and developed science programs and guest lectures for K-12 students, with the ultimate goal of fostering inclusive environments for improved learning.

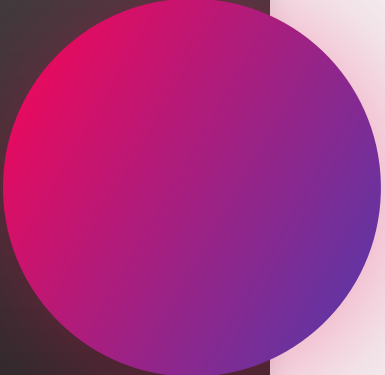


Erin McConnell
Research Scientist
Carleton University

Erin M. McConnell is a research scientist and coordinator in the Laboratory for Aptamer Development and Discovery of Emerging Research (LADDER) facility at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. Under the direction of Principal Investigator Prof. Maria DeRosa, the LADDER is focused on the selection, characterization, and application of a DNA nanotechnology called aptamers, molecular recognition tools for diverse applications. Erin is involved in multiple science outreach initiatives, including the Canadian Association for Girls in Science. In her spare time, she volunteers with Girl Guides of Canada, and teaches Scottish Highland dancing.



Christianne Loupelle
Science Teacher
Trafalgar High School



Christianne Loupelle is a science teacher at Trafalgar School for Girls (Montreal) for the past 20 years. She is also the science department head and STEAM Project Coordinator at Trafalgar. Her STEAM work has been recognized both nationally and internationally. For the past eight years, Christianne has been collaborating with researchers from McGill University (DISE) and Bishop's University on research in student-directed inquiry in STEAM, which continues to serve as a catalyst for change and innovation in the junior school curriculum at Trafalgar. She is also in her second year of the Doctorate in Educational Studies at McGill University, where she is researching the longer-term impacts of student-directed inquiry in students.