



ASSOCIATION OF THE CHEMICAL
PROFESSION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

2020 Undergraduate Student Member Scholarship awarded to

Ryland Giebelhaus

UBC - Okanagan



I am now in my 4th year of my Chemistry degree at UBC Okanagan (UBCO). My roles with the Chemistry Course Union (CCU) and as a teaching assistant (TA) led to positive impacts on the chemistry community, both on and off campus. From April 2019 to May 2020 I was the President of the CCU. In the spring of 2019, the CCU hosted the Western Canadian Undergraduate Chemistry Conference. As the head organizer, I had leadership and administrative duties. The CCU provides academic support to our over 400 members through midterm study sessions and tutoring services, as well as professional support with our new initiative of career nights. I have been a TA for the past two years, allowing me to gain experience as both a teacher and a mentor to younger students. I am a member of the PlantSMART laboratory at UBCO under the supervision of Dr. Susan Murch, working on analytical methods utilizing UPLC coupled to a triple quadrupole mass spectrometer for the use in quantification of plant analytes. My research interests are probing plant secondary metabolites, specifically those downstream from tryptamine. My 2019 research was supported NSERC and this year by the Barber School of Arts and Sciences, studying the role that tryptamine and other indolamines play in the biosynthesis of alkaloids in plants. Next year I plan to go complete my honours degree and apply to graduate studies in the areas of analytical and phytochemistry.