



7TH ANNUAL

BIOLOGY GRADUATE RESEARCH FORUM



AGENDA

PRESENTED BY
THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

THURSDAY OCTOBER 13TH – FRIDAY OCTOBER 14TH, 2016
WESTERN UNIVERSITY



Biology Graduate Research Forum 2016 Agenda

Thursday October 13th - Friday October 14th, 2016

Thursday October 13th

- 4:00 – 5:00 pm **Poster setup**
PAB Atrium
- 5:00 – 5:30 pm **Pre-lecture reception**
PAB Atrium
- 5:30 – 5:45 pm **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Dr. Mark Bernards – Chair, Department of Biology
Matheus Sanita Lima – Chair, BGRF 2016
PAB 148
- 5:45 – 7:00 pm **David Laudenbach Public Lecture**
Dr. Rachael Morgan-Kiss – Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, Miami University (*introduced by Dr. Norman Hüner – Professor, Department of Biology*)
PAB 148
- 7:00 – 9:00 pm **Post-lecture reception**
Grad club

Friday October 14th

- 8:30 – 9:30 am **Poster setup / Registration**
PAB Atrium
- 9:30 – 11:00 am **Standard talks**
Concurrent sessions – AHB 2B02 & 2B04
- 11:00 - 11:15 pm **Coffee break**
AHB Atrium
- 11:15 – 12:35 pm **Lightning talks**
Concurrent sessions – AHB 2B02 & 2B04
- 12:35 – 1:15 pm **Lunch break**
PAB Atrium
- 1:15 – 2:30 pm **Poster session**
PAB Atrium
- 2:30 – 4:00 pm **Panel discussion**
PAB Atrium
- 4:00 – 5:00 pm **Awards and closing remarks**
PAB Atrium
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Biology Graduate Research Forum 2016

Schedule of Talks

AHB 2B02

10 minute talks – Concurrent session A1

9:30 – 9:45 am

S1A. Mapping Patterns of Phosphorylation of Proteins Important in *Drosophila melanogaster* Development

Anirban Banerjee

9:45 – 10:00 am

S2A. Plant-Herbivore Interaction: Dissection of the Cellular Pattern of *Tetranychus urticae* Feeding on the Host Plant

Nicolas Bensoussan

10:00 – 10:15 am

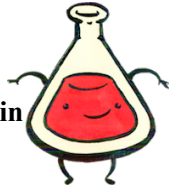
S3A. *MiR156* OE improves drought resilience in *Medicago Sativa* in a SPL13-dependent manner

Biruk A. Feyissa

10:15 – 10:30 am

S4A. Long-term salinity stress leads to attenuation of state transition response in *Chlamydomonas spp.*

Isha Kalra



10:30 – 10:45 am

S5A. The adaptor protein p66SHC regulates metabolism, ROS production, and Amyloid-beta sensitivity in CNS cells

Asad Lone

10:45 – 11:00 am

S6A. Antarctic *Chlamydomonas spp.* exhibit differential restructuring of the photosynthetic apparatus in response to iron

Gregory Cook

AHB 2B04

10 minute talks – Concurrent session B1

9:30 – 9:45 am

S1B. Tracking behavioural and neuronal responses to social pheromones: Insight from a pre-social model

Justin Croft

9:45 – 10:00 am

S2B. Plant traits elucidate ecosystem engineering in peatlands

Julia Palozzi

10:00 – 10:15 am

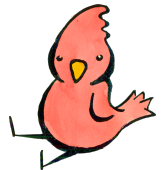
S3B. Phylogenetic analysis of the *Rhodniini* tribe (*Insecta: Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Reduviidae: Triatominae*)

Carlos Barreto

10:15 – 10:30 am

S6B. Chemical composition of preen oil reflects MHC similarity in songbirds

Joel Slade



10:30 – 10:45 am

S5B. Energetics of Migratory Bats during Stopover: A Test of the Torpor-Assisted Migration Hypothesis

Dylan Baloun

10:45 – 11:00 am

S6B. Water-Fat MRI Suggests an Endogenous Rhythm of Brown Adipose Tissue Proliferation in a Hibernator

Amanda MacCannell



AHB Atrium

11:00 – 11:15 am


Coffee break



AHB 2B02**Lightning talks – Concurrent session A2**

- 11:15 – 11:23 am **L1A. Characterizing the genetic basis of behavioural isolation in *Drosophila simulans* using CRISPR/Cas9**
Jalina Bielaska Da Silva 
- 11:23 – 11:31 am **L2A. All you need is cryoprotectants: Cold tolerance of the Colorado potato "Beetle"**
Jacqueline Lebenzon
- 11:31 – 11:39 am **L3A. The association between oxidative stress and cellular differentiation with upregulation of galectins in HL-60 cells**
James Vinnai
- 11:39 – 11:47 am **L4A. Sequence-function relationships of AROGENATE DEHYDRATASE promoters from *Arabidopsis thaliana***
Emily Cornelius
- 11:47 – 11:55 am **L5A. Gatekeepers of rhizobia entry: cytokinin-ethylene crosstalk might take us towards nitrogen-fixing crops**
Mandana Miri
- 11:55 – 12:03 pm **L6A. Expression Studies of Human Metallothionein Isoform 2a**
Devika Jayawardena
- 12:03 – 12:11 pm **L7A. The SWI/SNF chromatin remodeling complex is essential in the regulation of *Drosophila* short-term memory**
Max Stone
- 12:11 – 12:19 pm **L8A. Detection of de novo somatic mutations arising with normal development, tumorigenesis and metastasis achieved with cost efficiency and high resolution**
Maja Milojevic
- 12:19 – 12:27 pm **L9A. Detecting arogenate dehydratase activity *in vivo***
Emily Clayton 
- 12:27 – 12:35 pm **L10A. Spirodiclofen resistance in Ontario greenhouse populations of two-spotted spider mite**
Hooman H. Namin

AHB 2B04**Lightning talks – Concurrent session B2**

- 11:15 – 11:23 am **L1B. Thermal tolerances of Arctic spiders**
Susan Anthony
- 11:23 – 11:31 am **L2B. Unravelling organelle genome evolution architecture using RNA-sequencing data**
Matheus Sanita Lima
- 11:31 – 11:39 am **L3B. MHC diversity, parasitism, and olfactory-based mate choice in a migratory songbird**
Leanne Grieves
- 11:39 – 11:47 am **L4B. Frost Stress in an Old Field Plant Community**
Curtis Lubbe
- 11:47 – 11:55 am **L5B. The Genetic and Environmental Basis for CHC Biosynthesis in *Drosophila***
Heather Ward 

11:55 – 12:03 pm

L6B. Effect of thiamine deficiency on reproductive traits in three populations of Atlantic salmon

Kimberly Mitchell

12:03 – 12:11 pm

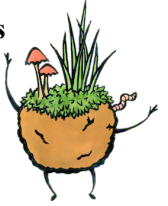
L7B. Vertical distribution of fungi in hollow and hummock of boreal peatlands

Asma Asemaninejad

12:11 – 12:19 pm

L8B. The young progeny of aged parents are less social

Dova Brenman



12:19 – 12:27 pm

L9B. Assessing the long term effects of perceived predation risk on the avian brain

Lauren Witterick

11:27 – 12:35 pm

L10B. Fatal attraction: the volatile influences that will lead whiteflies to deadly encounters and the dsRNA responsible

Kaitlyn Ludba

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