



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual CEPCEB Postdoc Symposium

**12<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

Genomics Auditorium  
UC Riverside

## SESSION I

Session Chair : Anna Locke

- 9:00 am Opening Remarks
- 9:05 am **Maria Irigoyen**, Postdoctoral Scholar  
Botany and Plant Sciences  
*Cassava-Whitefly Project:  
Identifying the genes that underlie  
whitefly resistance*
- 9:25 am **Yina Wei**, Postdoctoral Scholar  
Cell Biology & Neuroscience  
*Memory consolidation during slow  
sleep oscillations*
- 9:45 am **Greg Pask**, Postdoctoral Scholar  
Entomology  
*How to smell your sisters: the  
molecular basis of pheromone  
detection in ants*
- 10:05 am **Adler Dillman**, Assistant Professor  
Nematology  
*Host-parasite interactions and  
insect-parasitic nematodes*

10:30 am COFFEE BREAK

## SESSION II

Session Chair : Inge Verstraeten

- 10:45 am **Aaron DeVries**, Graduate Student  
Botany and Plant Sciences  
*Cytokinin signaling and control of WUS  
gradient in Arabisopsis SAM*
- 11:05 am **Anna Locke**, Postdoctoral Scholar  
Botany and Plant Sciences  
*Sub1 rice: Reprogramming of  
transcription and metabolism upon  
desubmergence is linked to  
photosynthetic recovery*
- 11:25 am **Maryam Sanei**, Postdoctoral Scholar  
Botany and Plant Sciences  
*Investigating the role of the  
Arabidopsis Rrp44 exosome subunit in  
miRNA degradation*
- 11:45 am **Jaimie Van Norman**, Assistant Professor  
Botany and Plant Sciences  
*Cell polarity and tissue patterning in  
roots*

12:10 pm LUNCH BREAK  
POSTER SESSION

## SESSION III

Session Chair : Dezi Elzinga

- 2:15 pm **Ashley Cacho**, Graduate Student  
Statistics  
*A comparison of base-calling  
algorithms for Illumina sequencing  
technology*
- 2:35 pm **Meenakshi Kagda**, Graduate Student  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics  
*Metabolic adaptations in Phytophthora  
infestans*
- 2:55 pm **Elizabeth McCarthy**, Postdoctoral Scholar  
Botany and Plant Sciences  
*Functional divergence of APETALA1 and  
FRUITFULL following gene duplication*
- 3:15 pm **Carolyn Rasmussen**, Assistant Professor  
Botany and Plant Sciences  
*Division plane orientation in plant cells*

3:40 pm COFFEE BREAK

4:00 pm **Keynote Speaker presentation**



**Sean Cutler**, Associate Professor  
Botany and Plant Sciences

5:00 pm CLOSING RECEPTION



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual CEPCEB Postdoc Symposium

10<sup>th</sup> June 2016  
Genomics Auditorium  
UC Riverside

## SESSION I

Session Chair : Maria L. Irigoyen

- 9.25 am** Opening Remarks
- 9.30 am** **Ricardo Mir**, POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW  
*Botany and Plant Sciences*  
Characterization of a DII-based auxin reporter in maize
- 9.50 am** **Kevin Rodríguez**, GRADUATE STUDENT  
*Botany and Plant Sciences*  
Threshold contingent transcriptional discrimination underlies stem cell homeostasis
- 10.10 am** **Pablo Martínez**, GRADUATE STUDENT  
*Biochemistry*  
TANGLED1 function in maize
- 10.30 am** **Tianran Jia**, GRADUATE STUDENT  
*Botany and Plant Sciences*  
Dissecting the functions of a potential RNA helicase in small RNA biogenesis

**10:50 am** COFFEE BREAK

## SESSION II

Session Chair : Brandon Le

- 11:10 am** **Zied Gaieb**, GRADUATE STUDENT  
*Chemical engineering*  
Molecular mechanism of biased ligand conformational changes in CC chemokine receptor 7
- 11:30 am** **Rohith Mohan**, GRADUATE STUDENT  
*Bioengineering*  
Interplay between ionic strength, association rates and electrostatic interaction in the C3d:CR2 complexes
- 11:50 am** **Jie Zhu**, GRADUATE STUDENT  
*Biochemistry*  
Understanding short and medium chain volatile ester biosynthesis by AATase activity in yeast
- 12:10 pm** **Wei Cui**, POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW  
*Statistics*  
Metagenomics binning via sequential Monte Carlo (SMC) method

**12:30 pm** LUNCH BREAK

## SESSION III

Session Chair : Mauricio A. Reynoso

- 2:00 pm** **Zhongxin Guo**, POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW  
*Plant Pathology and Microbiology*  
Phospholipid flippases regulate siRNA-mediated antiviral innate immunity in *Arabidopsis thaliana*
- 2:20 pm** **Xueqing Lu**, GRADUATE STUDENT  
*Cell Biology and Neuroscience*  
An exploration of gene expression and regulation mechanisms in the malaria causing parasite, *Plasmodium falciparum*
- 2:40 pm** **Travis Lee**, GRADUATE STUDENT  
*Botany and Plant Sciences*  
Nuclear dynamics of transcriptional regulation in response to hypoxia stress in *Arabidopsis thaliana*
- 3:00 pm** **Ka-Wai Ma**, POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW  
*Plant Pathology and Microbiology*  
Structure of a pathogen effector reveals enzymatic mechanism of a novel acetyltransferase family
- 3:20 pm** **Arun Kumar**, POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW  
*Entomology*  
The detection of bitter and sweet compounds by the evolutionarily conserved sweet clade in *Drosophila*

**3:40 pm** COFFEE BREAK

**4:00 pm** Keynote speaker introduction  
Cecilia Rodríguez-Furlán

**5:00 pm** CLOSING RECEPTION

## 4:05 pm Keynote speaker presentation



**Frank G. Harmon**, ADJUNCT ASSOCIATE  
PROFESSOR  
*Department of Plant and Microbial Biology  
UC Berkeley*

The green watch: mechanisms and impacts of circadian timing in plants