

PLANT & MICROBIAL BIOLOGY

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ACADEMICS. RESEARCH. DISCOVERIES.

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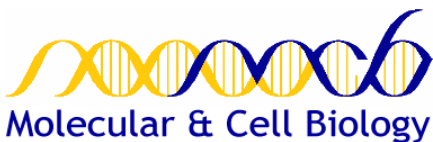
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Genetics, Development and Evolution Symposium



Don't miss the [Genetics, Development and Evolution Symposium](#) from 9 am - 4:30 pm on Wednesday, May 29.

Postdocs and grad students are particularly invited to present their research, either as a talk or during the poster session.

The goal is to showcase research in genetic mechanisms of development and/or evolution, and to foster interactions among different research groups and departments. Lunch, refreshments and prizes for the best talk and best poster.

Visit <http://mcb.berkeley.edu/groups/gdmess/> for registration information. **Abstract submissions are due Friday, May 17.**

Energy Biosciences Institute Calls for New Research Proposals

The Energy Biosciences Institute has issued a call for new research proposals for funding available for the period 2014-16. **Three-page pre-proposals are due from faculty no later than May 31, 2013.**



Eligibility: Faculty must have primary appointments at one of the partner EBI institutions - UC Berkeley, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign or Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

The Institute has ongoing interest in novel areas of research relating to bioenergy - feedstock development, biomass depolymerization, biofuels production, fossil fuel bioprocessing, and the environmental, social and economic impacts of a biofuel industry.

To apply please visit: <http://www.energybiosciencesinstitute.org/content/proposal-process>

Mary Wildermuth Profiled in International Innovation



Associate Professor Mary Wildermuth was recently profiled in International Innovation (Disseminating science, research and technology). The article focuses on pest control, and discusses her research approach and interests, fascination with the intertwined nature of host-microbe interactions and what they reveal about shared biological control points and host biology.

Download the full article (PDF) or stop by 111 Koshland Hall to read the magazine.

Download the PDF here: [International Innovation](#)

Read more about the [Wildermuth Lab Research](#)

Lab Fundamentals Bootcamp for Undergraduates



QB3 is now accepting applications for a five-day Lab Fundamentals Bootcamp for undergraduates participating in summer research projects. The course is a molecular biology experimental primer, covering the basics of microbiology and molecular biology, research methods, safety and human practices, experimental design, and demonstrations of basic techniques likely to be encountered in a molecular biology lab. The course will be offered for two sessions, May 20-24 and June 17-21, 2013 in the Stanley Hall instructional lab.

It is taught by UC Berkeley graduate students and postdocs. There is no charge or credit offered for the course, but participants who successfully complete the course receive a certificate of completion.

The bootcamp is open to both Berkeley and non-Berkeley students. Students must be available for a full five-day session – late starts and early finishes cannot be accommodated.

[Click here for the application](#)

Tobacco Project Continues to get Media Exposure

Researchers who are looking for ways to modify

tobacco to produce biofuels are continuing to get media interest, including a University of California "Green" blog and the Los Angeles Times.

Peggy Lemaux, UC Cooperative Extension specialist, and Anastasios Melis and Krishna Niyogi, professors in PMB, are the lead researchers in the project.

The research consortium also includes Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the University of Kentucky.

The research group is taking genes, primarily from algae, that produce oil and inserting them into tobacco plants to make oils in leaves. The research is funded with a three-year \$4.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Read more about it at:

ucanr.edu - UC Green Blog, which profiles work in natural resources, pest management, climate change and sustainable agriculture and the Los Angeles Times.

See a video about the project on our website at pmb.berkeley.edu/videos



Professor Lemaux discusses tobacco.

Lemaux Lab Featured in KQED Documentary

The Lemaux was included in a recently public television documentary. [*"Next Meal: Engineering Food."*](#) investigates genetically engineered crops and explores how they are made, their pros and cons, and what the future holds for research and regulations. Cooperative Extension Specialist Peggy Lemaux and members of her lab are featured.

View the video and more about the show at pmb.berkeley.edu

Re-writing Genomes: A New Era in Genome Editing and Engineering

A one-day symposium hosted by QB3-Berkeley
245 Li Ka Shing Center for Biomedical and Health Sciences
University of California, Berkeley
SAVE THE DATE – August, 26, 2013

Leading experts in genomics and molecular biology will explore how an integrated view of genome-editing technologies promises to transform basic research as well as biomedical engineering. The event is free and open to the public, but space is limited.

[Click here to add your name to an event mailing list](#) - we'll send you a message when registration opens.

Organizers:

Jennifer Doudna, MCB, UC Berkeley
Dirk Hockemeyer, MCB, UC Berkeley

Confirmed speakers:

Dana Carroll, University of Utah

David Drubin, UC Berkeley
Dirk Hockemeyer, UC Berkeley
Maria Jasin, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
Martin Jinek, University of Zurich
Keith Joung, Massachusetts General Hospital
Barbara Meyer, UC Berkeley
Fyodor Urnov, Sangamo
Dan Voytas, University of Minnesota
Feng Zhang, Broad Institute, MIT



**Jennifer Doudna,
MCB, UC Berkeley**



**Dirk Hockemeyer,
MCB, UC Berkeley**

Et cetera ... Important News and Tidbits of Information

The Spring 2013 issue of [Breakthroughs](#) is now available

College of Natural Resources Magazine includes features on climate change, research in obesity, endowing cells with a magnetic personality, and much more. Check it out at [Breakthroughs Magazine](#).

Important dates:

May

Mon. 5/13 - Fri. 5/17 - Finals Week

Sun. 5/19 - CNR Commencement

Mon. 5/27 - Memorial Day Holiday

Thur. 5/30 - PMB Faculty Meeting

Future

Aug. 26-28 - Incoming Grad Students Orientation

Fri. 9/13, 2013 - PMB Retreat, Clark Kerr

Fri. 12/6, 2013 - PMB Holiday Party, Alumni House

Fri. 1/30 - 2/2 - PMB Graduate Program Recruitment Weekend (candidate interviews 1/31)

Fri. 5/2, 2014 - PMB Spring Social, Alumni House

9/5 - 9/7, 2014 - PMB Retreat, Asilomar

Finishing Talks

1. Nicholas Justice – Friday, 5/17/13, 338 Koshland Hall, 4 pm

TITLE: "Unraveling the Ecological Knot: Analyzing Microbial Physiology and Community Interactions Using Mass-spectrometry Based Methods and Stable Isotope Probing"

2. Juliana Cho (Lindow Lab) -- 5/20/13, 338 Koshland Hall, Noon to 1 pm

TITLE: "The Contributions of Motility to the Behavior of *Pseudomonas syringae*: Phenotypes and Genetics"

Read all the details at pmb.berkeley.edu

The PMB newsletter is produced by the Department of Plant & Microbial Biology, UC Berkeley.
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Rocio Sanchez, Graduate Program
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