

8:00–9:00

**REGISTRATION AND LIGHT BREAKFAST**

9:00–9:15

**WELCOMING REMARKS**

9:15–9:30

**DEPLETION OF MITOCHONDRIAL DNA POLYMERASES DRIVES LIFE CYCLE DIFFERENTIATION IN *TRYPANOSOMA BRUCEI***

Samuel E. Kamlarz, David F. Bruhn, Sylvia Rivera, Juemin Luo, **Stephanie Delzell\***, and Michele M. Klingbeil

Department of Microbiology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts.

9:30–9:45

***TRYPANOSOMA BRUCEI*'S UNUSUAL CYCLIN-DEPENDENT KINASES CRK9 IS INDISPENSABLE FOR THE PARASITES' UNIQUE WAY OF GENE EXPRESSION**

Nitika Badjatia, Daniela L. Ambrósio and **Arthur Günzl**

Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences, University of Connecticut Health, Farmington, Connecticut.

9:45–10:00

**NATURAL KILLER CELLS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN *TRYPANOSOMA BRUCEI* INFECTION INDUCED LOSS OF B2 B CELLS IN MICE AND CATTLE**

**Deborah Frenkel**<sup>1</sup>, Liam Morrison<sup>2</sup>, Ivan Morrison<sup>2</sup>, John M. Mansfield<sup>3</sup>, and Samuel J. Black<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts; <sup>2</sup>The Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland; <sup>3</sup>Department of Bacteriology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

10:00–10:15

**RECENT PROGRESS AND DISCOVERY IN THE CESTODE ORDER RHINEBOTHRIIDEA**

**Florian Reyda**

Biology Department, State University of New York College at Oneonta, Oneonta, New York.

10:15–10:45

**COFFEE BREAK I**

10:45–11:00

SKIN SCARIFICATION WITH *PLASMODIUM FALCIPARUM* PEPTIDE  
VACCINE USING SYNTHETIC TLR AGONISTS AS ADJUVANTS ELICITS  
MALARIA SPOOROZOITE NEUTRALIZING IMMUNITY

**Robert Mitchell\***, Rita Altszuler, Ute Frevert, and Elizabeth H. Nardin

Department of Microbiology, New York University School of Medicine, New York, New York.

11:00–11:15

SCHISTOSOME TEGUMENTAL ALKALINE PHOSPHATASE, SMAP,  
CLEAVES KEY HOST IMMUNE AND HEMOSTATIC REGULATORS

**Manal Elzoheiry**, Akram A. Da'Dara, Qiang Wang and Patrick J. Skelly

Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University, North Grafton,  
Massachusetts.

11:15–11:30

COMBINING MOLECULAR AND MORPHOLOGY TO UNDERSTAND  
DIVERSITY IN *NEOECHINORHYNCHUS* (ACANTHOCEPHALA)

**Margaret Doolin<sup>1\*</sup>**, Florian Reyda<sup>1</sup>, and Kyle Luth<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Biology Department, State University of New York College at Oneonta, Oneonta, New York; <sup>2</sup>Department of Biology, Wake Forest University, Wake Forest, North Carolina.

11:30–12:00

KEYNOTE TALK

**Kirsten Jensen**

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Kansas, Lawrence,  
Kansas.

12:00–1:00

LUNCH

1:00–1:45

BUSINESS MEETING

1:45–2:00

EXAMINING MORPHOLOGICAL NOVELTY IN AN ENIGMATIC  
TAPEWORM USING A COMPARATIVE GENOMIC AND  
TRANSCRIPTOMIC APPROACH

**Kaitlin A. Gallagher**, Janine N. Caira, Jill Wegrzyn, and Elizabeth Jockusch

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut, Storrs,  
Connecticut.

2:00–2:15

UNEXPECTED TAPEWORM FORAYS INTO SKATE HOSTS

**Veronica Bueno\*** and Janine N. Caira  
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut, Storrs,  
Connecticut.

2:15–3:15

## POSTERS AND COFFEE BREAK II

3:15–3:30

ADVANCED DIAGNOSTICS FOR NEMATODE PARASITES CAUSING  
NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

**Steven A. Williams**<sup>1,2</sup>, Nils Pilotte<sup>1,2</sup>, Weam I. Zaky<sup>1</sup>, Marina Papaiakovou<sup>1</sup>, and Jessica  
R. Gant<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biological Sciences and Biochemistry, Smith College, Northampton,  
Massachusetts; <sup>2</sup>Biology Department, University of Massachusetts, Amherst,  
Massachusetts.

3:30–3:45

A NOVEL APPROACH TO GENERATING SENSITIVE DIAGNOSTICS:  
QUANTITATIVE REAL-TIME PCR OF SEAL HEARTWORM  
(*ACANTHOECHEILONEMA SPIROCAUDA*) REVEALS FIRST REPORTED  
INFECTION IN THE GREY SEAL (*HALICHOERUS GRYPUS*)

**Caroline Keroack**, Kalani M. Williams, Kate Fessler, Xela Miller, Kaela DeAngelis,  
Eirini Tsekitsidou, Carla M. Velez, Morgan S. Schwartz, Katrina G. Anderson, Jullian  
Tozloski, and Steven A. Williams

Department of Biological Sciences and Biochemistry, Smith College, Northampton,  
Massachusetts.

3:45–4:00

## AWARDS

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2:15–3:15

## POSTER PRESENTATIONS

1

TWO NEWLY IDENTIFIED RNA POL II-ASSOCIATED PROTEINS ARE  
REQUIRED FOR SL RNA GENE TRANSCRIPTION AND MAY  
CONSTITUTE THE MISSING GENERAL TRANSCRIPTION FACTOR TFIIF  
OF *TRYPANOSOMA BRUCEI*

**Ankita Srivastava**, Nitika Badjatia, Ju Huck Lee and Arthur Günzl

Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences, University of Connecticut Health,  
Farmington, Connecticut.

2

CHARACTERIZATION OF CPCLEC, A C-TYPE LECTIN OF  
*CRYPTOSPORIDIUM PARVUM* THAT MEDIATES INFECTION IN VITRO

**Katherine Yanes\***, Jacob Ludington, and Honorine Ward

Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, Massachusetts.

3

PARASITE HOTELS: FULL NECROPSIES OF *PERCA FLAVESCENS*  
(YELLOW PERCH) FROM CANADARAGO AND OSEGO LAKES, NEW  
YORK

**Margaret Doolin\***, **Elise Iwanycky\***, **Sisina Macchiarelli\***, Zach Piper, Sam VanDemark,  
Jill Darpino, Florian Reyda<sup>1</sup>, and Kyle Luth<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Biology Department, State University of New York College at Oneonta, Oneonta, New  
York.

4

MULTIPLE MECHANISMS OF KDNA MAINTENANCE BY POLYMERASE  
IC IN *TRYPANOSOMA BRUCEI*

**Jonathan C. Miller\***, Loan Vuong, and Michele M. Klingbeil

Department of Microbiology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts.

5

PLANT EXTRACTS: NATURAL REMEDIES FOR *CRITHIDIA* INFECTIONS  
IN *APIS MELLIFERA*

**Parker Choplin\*** and Michele M. Klingbeil

Department of Microbiology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts.

6

PROTEOMIC ANALYSIS OF CELL SIGNALING MOLECULES IN  
*ENTAMOEBAS* SPP.

Avelina Espinosa<sup>1</sup>, Guillermo Paz-y-Mino-C<sup>2</sup>, **Meagan Hackey<sup>3\*</sup>**, and Scott Rutherford<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biology, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island; <sup>2</sup>New England  
Science Public; <sup>3</sup>Department of Chemistry, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode  
Island.

7

*ENTAMOEBAS* SPP. AS MODELS TO EXPLORE THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE  
CHANGE ON PATHOGENESIS

**Matthew Gabrielle<sup>1\*</sup>**, Meagan Hackey<sup>2</sup>, and Avelina Espinosa<sup>1</sup>,

Department of Biology, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island; <sup>2</sup>Department  
of Chemistry, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island.

8

EXAMINATION OF A NEW SPECIES OF RHINEBOTHRIIDEAN  
CESTODE FROM *FONTITRYGON MARGARITELLA* (PEARL STINGRAY)

Elsie Dedrick\* and Florian Reyda

Biology Department, State University of New York College at Oneonta, Oneonta, New  
York.