**Biology Department Events Fall 2021 / Spring 2022**

*Spring 2022 Monday seminars are combined with Graduate Seminar and will be from Noon to 12:50 pm Mountain Time in Jones-Annex 101 unless otherwise noted. Speakers may be in person or remote.*

**10/4/2021 Seminar, Robert "Bob" McLean, PhD 3:40-4:30 pm MSEC 105**

Dr. Bob McLean is a Regent's professor, Department of Biology, Texas State University. He will be joining us remotely. His title is *“Polymicrobial Biofilm Growth and Control During Spaceflight”*

This blog post on NASA's page introduces the experiment he placed on the SpaceX-21 flight in December 2020 <https://www.nasa.gov/ames/research/space-biosciences/bacterial-adhesion-and-corrosion-spacex-21>

**10/11/2021 Seminar, Michael A Bauer, PhD 3:40-4:30 pm MSEC 105**

Dr Bauer is a dual Biology and Computer Science alumni of NMT and now an assistant professor at the Univerty of Arkansas, Department of Biomedical Informatics, Myeloma Center.

His title is “Selection of Bioinformatics analyses: Differential Splicing, Differential Methylation and Novel Long non-Coding RNA”

He will be joining us remotely.

**10/18/2021 Seminar, Jesus Valenzuela, PhD 3:40-4:30 pm MSEC 105**

Chief of the Vector Molecular Biology Section of the NIH National Institute of Allergy and Infections Diseases, and a memebr of the NIH Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Dr Valenzuela will be joing us remotely. Title "Impact of immune responses to insect salivary proteins on pathogen establishment and disease progression."

**10/19/2021 MS Defense, Betty Fish 5:00 pm Zoom**

Betty Fish will be defending her thesis  "Determining the Effect of Pineal Melatonin on Estrogen Receptor Positive Breast Cancer"

Research advisor Dr. Stewart Thompson, Psychology. Zoom invitation by request.

**11/1/2021 Bradley Stevens, St. Jude 3:40-4:30 pm**

NMT Biology Alumni and PhD student at St. Jude Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Bradley's title is: "What the FLOX is up with SOX8? Understanding the role of SOX8 in both myogenesis and sarcomagenesis"

**2/28/2022 MS Progress Updates, Hannah Lambertson & Kasandra Velarde**

Hannah Lambertson "The effect of select genes on radiation resistance in Halobacterium salinarum". Kasandra Velarde "Neutralization of pathogens through electron beam irradiation, and pathogens."

**3/7/2022 MS Progress Updates, Marina Hein & Catherine Batchelder**

Marina Hein , title TBD. Catherine Batchelder "Genomic Controls of Cytonuclear Interactions"

**3/21/2022 Seminar Dr. Kurt Williamson**

Dr. Williamson, a Professor at the College of William and Mary, presents "Pulse disturbances and the viral ecology of stormwater retention ponds.”

**3/28/2022 Seminar Dr. Indranil Malik**

Dr Malik, NMT Biology MS alum and now a Fellow at U of Michigan, Department of Neurology presents "Nucleotide repeat expansions in Neurodegenerative diseases."

**4/4/2022 Seminar Dr. Phil Nelson**

 Dr Phil Nelson of the U of Pennsylvania department of Physics presents "Inference in Biological Physics."

**4/8/2022 MS Thesis Defense, Kasandra Velarde 2:00 pm, MSEC 105**

Biology MS Student Kasandra Velarde defends her thesis “Neutralization of pathogens through electron beam irradiation and phages”

 **4/11/2022 Seminar Dr. Benjamin Sullivan**

Dr. Sullivan, an associate Professor at the University of Nevada - Reno presents "Small and mighty: montane meadows are disproportionate carbon storage hotspots"

**4/18/2022 Seminar Dr. Karen Barnard-Kubow**

Dr. Barnard-Kubow, Genomics Research Director at James Madison University in VA. "Cytonuclear coevolution a sa potential driver of reproductive isolation"

**4/25/2022 Seminar Dr. Katie Hossler**

Dr Hossler, Asst Professor at Wright State University in OH presents "A soil bulk density metric to improve rapid assessments of wetland condition"

**5/9/2022 MS Thesis Defense - Catherine Batchelder Noon, MSEC 105**

Catherine Batchelder, Biology Masters student, will be defending her thesis "The Effects of Polyploidy on Cytonuclear Interactions''

**5/10/2022 MS Thesis Defense - Bridie Alexander-Lawrie 9 am, MSEC 105**

Bridie Alexander-Lawrie, Biology Masters student, will be defending her thesis “Recombination and Inheritance in Mitochondrial Genomes of a Freshwater Gastropod”

**5/20/2022 MS Thesis Defense - Ankita Schwarting 1 pm, MSEC 105**

Z. Ankita Schwarting, student in the Accelerated Biology Masters Program, will be defending her thesis "Determining the Acute Effects of Melatonin on Reproductive Cancers"