

2003 Entomology Graduate Student Forum

Minnie Belle Heep Center, Room 101

August 27, 2003



- 8:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast**, 1st Floor Atrium
- 8:30 **Welcome**, Dr. Patricia Pietrantonio, Associate Professor, Department of Entomology, TAMU
- 8:35 **Opening Remarks**, Dr. Kevin M. Heinz, Interim Head, Department of Entomology, TAMU
- 8:45 **Keynote Speaker**, Dr. Dorothy Shippen, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, TAMU

Student Presentations Group I

- 9:30 **Suraj Saksena**, "Molecular Mechanism of Targeting and Integration of AcMNPV-ODV E66."
- 9:45 **Lucille Benavides**, "RNA Interference of the 5HT₇-like Serotonin Receptor of the Mosquito *Aedes aegypti*, a Vector of Dengue and Yellow Fever."
- 10:00 **Joe Gillespie**, "A Predicted Structure for the Expansion Segments D2 & D3 of the LSU 28S rRNA from Chrysomelid Beetles: Applications for Homology Assignment and Maximum Likelihood Modeling of rRNA Molecules."
- 10:15 **Mei-Er Chen**, "cDNA Cloning and Transcriptional Regulation of the Vitellogenin Receptor from the Imported Fire Ant, *Solenopsis invicta* Buren (Hymenoptera: Formicidae)."
- 10:30 **Jeremiah Dye**, "Implications of Natural Enemy Strain Differences for Biological Control of Aquatic Weeds (*Salvinia spp.*)."
- 10:45 **Coffee Break**, 1st Floor Atrium

Student Presentations Group II

- 11:00 **Jared Burks**, "BV/ODV E26 Localization in *Spodoptera frugiperda* Cells Suggests Two Models for Protein Trafficking."
- 11:15 **Darren Hagen**, "Assessment of the Use of Endogenous and Exogenous Germline Tissue-specific Promoters Within the Mosquitoes, *Anopheles gambiae* and *Aedes aegypti*."
- 11:30 **Matt Yoder**, "The Role of Diapriid (Hymenoptera: Diapriidae) Phylogenetics in Hymenopteran Systematics"
- 11:45 **Amy Bader**, "Parasitoid Invasive Ability: Its Importance to Leafminer Biological Control in Chrysanthemum."
- 12:00 **Lunch (ON YOUR OWN)**

Student Presentations Group III

- 1:30 p.m. **Shawn Williamson**, "AcMNPV ODV-E66 Encodes a Nuclear Targeting Sequence that is Sufficient for Nuclear Envelope and Microvesicle Localization of Integral Membrane Proteins."
- 1:45 **Lara Lewey**, "Identifying the Genetic Basis for Varroa mite Resistance in the Honey Bee, *Apis mellifera*."
- 2:00 **Christine E. Gray**, "Cloning of Mosquito CTCFs and PCR-assisted *in-vitro* Identification of Their DNA binding Sites."
- 2:15 **Jessica Usener**, "Phylogenetic Revision of Desert Fireflies (Coleoptera: Lampyridae: *Microphotus*)."
- 2:30 **Brandon Ripple**, "Screening for Resistance to Whiteflies in Cotton Race Stocks."
- 2:45 **Johnny Chen**, "Effects of *Thelohania solenopsae* (Microspora: Thelohaniidae) on Profiles of Hemolymph Proteins of Queens in Red Imported Fire Ants, *Solenopsis invicta* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae)."
- 3:00 **Coffee Break** 1st Floor Atrium

(Continued on reverse)

Student Presentations Group IV

- 3:20 p.m. **Paul D. Barron**, "Differential Gene Expression Among *Amblyomma americanum* Nymphs in Response to Feeding."
- 3:40 **Andrea Julian**, "Use of Bioinformatics to Investigate and Analyze Transposable Element Insertions in the Genomes of *Caenorhabditis elegans* and *Drosophila melanogaster*, and Into the Target Plasmid pGDV1."
- 3:55 **Ryan Caesar**, "Population Structure of Featherwing Beetles (Coleoptera: Ptiliidae) in the Klamath Ecoregion of Northern California: Implications for Conservation Practices."
- 4:10 **Michael (Walker) Hale**, "Host/parasite Relationship Between Microsporidia, *Thelohania solenopsae* and Host, *Solenopsis invicta*."
- 4:25 **Brian K. Urbain**, "A Comparison of Ichneumon Wasp (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae) Species Diversity Between Two Habitats in Western Washington: The Latitude Issue, or Lack of, Revisited."
- 4:40 **Closing Remarks and Adjourn**