

Biology Seminar



Western
UNIVERSITY · CANADA

12:30 - 1:30 pm
Friday, October 4, 2019
BGS 0165



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The evolution of cooperation between hosts and microbes

I study the ecology and evolution of reciprocally beneficial interactions between species, or mutualisms. My lab at the University of Toronto works on a wide range of plant-animal and host-microbe mutualisms, including ant-plant symbioses in tropical rainforests, legumes and rhizobia, plant and insect microbiomes, and seed dispersal. We are interested in many 'big questions' about mutualisms, including: how partners in mutualism (co)evolve, whether mutualists "cheat," why mutualism evolves between some taxa and not others, and how mutualisms amplify or dampen the effects of anthropogenic environmental change.

