

Biology Seminar



Western
UNIVERSITY · CANADA

12:30 - 1:30 pm

Friday, January 15, 2021

Seminar to be held via ZOOM



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The University of Chicago

Finding Your Inner Fish: From Expeditions to Enhancers

Studies of fossils, embryos and genes can tell us surprising new things about the great transformations in the history of life. Here we will show how we designed expeditions to search for fish with arms, legs, and wrists. Using those discoveries, we can make hypotheses about the relationship between limbs and fins. Analyses of fin and limb development reveal that many of the genes involved in patterning the wrists, and digits of tetrapods are present not only in fish, they are active in specifying the pattern of the distal segment of fins. Together, analyses of fossils, embryos and genes reveal the deep antecedents of tetrapod novelties in fish.

