



# UCR Microbiome Initiative Inaugural Symposium & Datablitz

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m

Genomics Auditorium

**CAFÉ** California Agriculture  
and Food Enterprise



## PROGRAM

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11:15 a.m. Registration and Lunch

11:50 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

**Norm Ellstrand** – Distinguished Professor of Genetics, Director California Agriculture Food Enterprise (CAFÉ), and Johnson Endowed Chair in Food and Agriculture

**Frances Sladek** – Divisional Dean of Life Sciences, and Professor of Cell Biology and Toxicologist, College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences

11:55 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Session I: Microbiomes in Human Health and Disease**

1. Session Introduction – Frances Sladek
2. **Donovan Argueta**, Graduate Student, Bioengineering - *Gut-brain endocannabinoid control of hedonic eating*
3. **Huinan Liu**, Associate Professor, Department of Bioengineering - *Antimicrobial Biomaterials for Medical Devices and Implants*
4. **David Lo**, Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Sciences and Senior Associate Dean - *Bridging Regional Ecology, Aerosolized Toxins, & Health Effects: Inflammation & Immunity*
5. **Poonamjot Deol**, Assistant Project Specialist, Department of Molecular, Cell & Systems Biology - *Does Intestinal Dysbiosis Contribute To Soybean Oil Induced Colitis?*
6. **James Borneman**, Professor, Department of Microbiology & Plant Pathology - *Gut Microbiomes Associated with Diet Induced Obesity and Chemotherapy Induced Pain*
7. **Marilyn Fogel**, Wilbur W. Mayhew Professor of Geo-Ecology and Director, EDGE - *Stable isotope tracers of the importance of gut microbes to protein homeostasis*

12:30 – 1:15 p.m. **Session II: Microbiomes in Managed and Natural Plant Populations**

8. Session Introduction – Milt McGiffen
9. **Milt McGiffen**, Plant Physiologist, Department of Botany and Plant Sciences - *Soil Food Web, Microbiome, Then What?*

10. **Michael Piña**, Graduate Student, Plant Biology - *Biochar and Cover Crops Shift Microbial Communities & Improve Soil Fertility in a Southern California Organic Mango Orchard*
11. **Camille Wendlandt**, Graduate Student, Plant Biology - *Host & symbiont contributions to nodule occupancy in the legume-rhizobium interaction*
12. **Kenjiro Quides**, Graduate Student, Evolution, Ecology & Organismal Biology - *Host control over rhizobial symbionts by the legume *Lotus japonicus**
13. **Joel Sachs**, Associate Professor, Dept. of Evolution, Ecology & Organismal Biology - *Can we harness symbiont epidemics?*
14. **Caroline Roper**, Associate Professor, Dept. of Microbiology & Plant Pathology - *Understanding plant-associated microbiomes in the context of disease outcomes*
15. **Ella Deyett**, Graduate Student, Genomics, Genetics, and Bioinformatics - *Identifying Grapevine Microbial Endophytes for Control of Pierce's Disease*
16. **Courtney Collins**, Graduate Student, Botany and Plant Sciences - *Examining the role of soil microbiomes in mediating plant responses to global change*

1:15 – 1:30 p.m.      **Break**

1 :30 – 1 :50 p.m.                      **Session III : Environmental Microbiomes**

17. Session Introduction - Jason Stajich
18. **Jason Stajich**, Professor and Director, Microbiology Graduate Program - *Environmental Mycobiome from fruits to deserts*
19. **Holly Bik**, Assistant Professor, Department of Nematology - *Free-living nematodes in marine sediments: linking molecules with morphology in the -Omics age*
20. **Deborah Pagiaccia**, Assistant Project Scientist and Managing Director of CAFÉ - *Creating a Circular Economy: From Food Waste to Sustainable Food Production through Microbe-Mediated Processes*

1:50 – 2:25 p.m.                      **Session IV: Animal Microbiomes in Natural and Lab Systems**

21. Session Introduction – Quinn McFrederick
22. **Quinn McFrederick**, Assistant Professor, Department of Entomology - *Toxins and the microbiome*
23. **Jason Rothman**, Graduate Student, Microbiology - *The Bumblebee Microbiome Protects Against Selenium Toxicity*
24. **Margaret Thairu**, Graduate Student, Entomology - *Small RNAs regulate gene expression in the reduced-genome of a mutualistic endosymbiont of insects*
25. **Amanda Hale**, Graduate Student, Microbiology - *Gut Microbiome Plasticity in Invasive vs. Native Ants*
26. **Monica Louis**, Graduate Student, Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology - *Evaluating gut microbiome changes in a selectively bred high runner mouse model*
27. **Dohyup Kim**, Graduate Student, Entomology – *Genes involved in aphid symbiosis respond to host plant specialization*

2:25 p.m.                      **Wrap-up/Next Steps – Joel Sachs**