

Friday, August 21st, 2026

Location: Burge Union Forum CD

Opening Activities

8:30 AM	Poster set-up & refreshments
9:00 AM	Welcome

Faculty Talks

9:10 AM	Dr. Allie Graham Tales of Loss: understanding the role of Pseudogenization in adaptation to environmental pressures
9:40 AM	Dr. Hans Dalton Robust or bust: studying rare diseases and gene duplications in fundamental pathways
10:10 AM	Dr. Rosana Ferriera Microbial competition on the skin: limiting pathogen virulence
10:40 AM	Break

Keynote Speaker

11:00 AM	Dr. Brian Lazzaro, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Cornell University Antimicrobial peptide function and control
12:00 PM	Lunch

Student Talks

1:00 PM	CJ Gormly A novel non-apoptotic role of core programmed cell death pathway components to direct Q neuroblast migration
1:20 PM	Tolulope Iorwuese Ade Defining the mpt phosphotransferase system of <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>
1:40 PM	Macie Proctor-Roser <i>Ptpn22</i> regulates B cell antiviral response by modulating IFN γ signaling
2:00 PM	Pradtahna (Elle) Saenjamsai Mac1 deletion creates a live-attenuated SARS-CoV-2 vaccine with broad protection
2:20 PM	Break

Poster Sessions

2:30 – 3:15 PM	Poster Session I
3:15 – 4:00 PM	Poster Session II

Picnic & Social

5:30 PM	Picnic & Social at Holcom Park
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