

IBIOL Seminar Series



25 March 2026



12:15-13:30 PM



ROOM F200

Come for cool science,
stay for cookies and
coffee!



Carlos Lax

Branching Out: What Early-Diverging Fungi Teach Us About Genetic Regulation

I am Carlos Lax, a fungal geneticist interested in studying gene regulation mechanisms, genome evolution, and epigenetics. I will share insights from various projects conducted before joining the Laboratory of Evolutionary Genetics as a postdoctoral researcher regarding the genetic regulation of molecular pathways involved in fungal-bacterial interactions, large-scale epigenetic studies, and the molecular basis of fungal pathogenesis.

TALK n°1



Marius Malai

Cell Fate Plasticity During Lateral Root Formation in Grasses

Root system architecture depends on how and where new lateral roots form. During this process, inner root tissues must reorganize to allow new organs to emerge. We aim to understand how specialized root cells, particularly the endodermis, can change their identity and contribute to lateral root formation in grasses. Using *Brachypodium distachyon* as a model system, and combining fluorescent lineage tracing with single-cell sequencing, we investigate the cellular dynamics, molecular pathways, and key genetic regulators underlying this developmental flexibility.

TALK n°2



Greg Egloff

River Revitalisation for Swiss Wild Bees

In my first PhD chapter, we investigate how ongoing river revitalisation efforts in the Swiss lowlands influence wild bees. By comparing restored river sections with channelised control sites, we assess wild bee diversity and link these patterns to habitat structure and floral resources. Our results provide evidence that river revitalisation supports wild bee conservation and offer guidance for integrating pollinator-friendly elements into future river restoration projects.

TALK n°3