

**GRADFEST 2006**  
**Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**UCR Extension Center - Conference Room E**

**MORNING SESSION**

7:30 -8:15 am      Continental Breakfast

8:20 am            Welcome

**SCHEDULE OF TALKS**

8:24 am            Laurel Salzman: Toward an understanding of epiphyte establishment: *Epiphytes in the Yucatan Peninsula*

8:36 am            Dr. Nathan Bailey: *Differences in dispersal behaviour predict population genetic structure in Mormon crickets*

8:48 am            Alejandro Cortez: *The role of speract derivatives in physiology and their evolution*

9:00 am            Scott Kelly: *Experimental evolution and phenotypic plasticity of hindlimb bones in high-activity house mice*

9:12 am            Jutta Berger: *Evidence of rapid evolution in a weed: The case of feral rye*

**9:24 am            BREAK**

9:36 am            Kristin Hepper: *Spatial and temporal analysis of Mesozoic hydrocarbon seep faunal communities, Great Valley Group, Northern California, USA*

9:48 am            Laramy Enders: *Determining the effects of inbreeding on population persistence: Does the environment influence inbreeding depression?*

10:00 am          Karen Lesser: *Natural genetic variation in age-specific immune response of *Drosophila melanogaster**

10:12 am          Martin Turcotte: *The role of gene flow in parallel evolution: Morphology of lake and stream stickleback*

10:24 am          Quresh Latif: *Searching for the ghost of natural selection past: are avian nest habitat preferences still adaptive when no longer under selection?*

10:36 am          Greg Russell: *Summit metabolism and organ mass in deer mice*

**10:48 am          BREAK**

11:00 am          Autumn Thompson: *Spatial analysis of morphological variation in *Flexicalymene granulosa* (Trilobita) in the Cincinnati Series*

11:12 am          Rodrigo Vargas: *Biomass and carbon sequestration in a tropical seasonal forest*

- 11:24 am Rocky McGowen: *Phylogeny and evolution of mysticete whales*
- 11:36 am Chris Oufiero: *Comparative analysis of the locomotor costs of sexual ornamentations in the Poeciliidae*
- 11:48 am Janet Garcia: *Origin and evolution of artichoke thistle populations in California*
- 12:00-1:00 pm LUNCH**
- 1:00-2:00 pm KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. Leonard Nunney – “And now for something completely different: linking conservation and cancer”.**
- 2:00 pm BREAK**

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

- 2:12 pm Byron Weckworth: *A phylogeographic perspective on endemism and conservation in southeast Alaska*
- 2:24 pm Matthew Collin: *Embioptera and their silk*
- 2:36 pm Libby King: *The quantitative genetics of wing morphology in *Aquarius remigis**
- 2:48 pm Genet Tulgetske: *Gynandromorph production in *Trichogramma* species*
- 3:00 pm Jason Hlebakos: *Biodiversity of cenotes in Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula*
- 3:12 pm BREAK**
- 3:24 pm Senanu Pearson: *Habitat corridors in conservation genetics: assessing*
- 3:36 pm Matthew Van Sant: *Heat loss from the legs of mallard ducklings*
- 3:48 pm Gabriel Gartner: *Adaptation in snake feeding*
- 4:00 pm Robert Steers: *Local scale vegetation mapping and ecotone analysis*
- 4:12 pm Susan Gershman: *Material girls: direct and indirect benefits of multiple mating for *Gryllus vocalis* vocal field cricket females*
- 4:24 pm Alisha Glass: *Seasonal variability in host specificity for endo- and ectomycorrhizal fungi in a mixed forest environment*
- 4:36 p.m. Juan J. Fraire-Zamora: *Cell physiology and the involvement of "Lipid rafts" during spermiogenesis in the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans**
- 4:48 p.m. Mauricio Torres: *Dry-season reproduction of a characin in a neotropical mountain river*