

Dear Maine Faculty and Students:

The 37th Maine Biological and Medical Sciences Symposium will be held Friday and Saturday, April 23-24, 2010 at the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory in Salisbury Cove, Maine. **We are now accepting abstracts for short platform talks (12 min.) and poster presentations. The abstract deadline is March 19, 2010.**

All Maine scientists, faculty, and students are invited to attend and participate in the Symposium. **Any abstract in the biological and medical sciences is welcome.** The following topics serve as a general framework into which some talks might be organized and outside speakers chosen:

1. **Genetics and Genomics**
2. **Neuroscience**
3. **Developmental Biology**
4. **General Biology** - other research areas as determined by submitted abstracts such as evolution, ecology, marine biology, epigenetics, systems biology, physiology, etc.

In addition to invited speakers, speakers (including a mix of faculty and students) will also be selected from the submitted abstracts. Due to time constraints, we will probably not be able to accommodate everyone who would like to give a platform presentation. We hope that anyone who can't be fit into the platform sessions will present their work in a poster session (see below).

The MBMSS is an excellent forum for young scientists or junior faculty to present and discuss their research. Students who participated in summer research in 2009 and students who will complete a thesis in 2010 are especially encouraged to submit an abstract. Abstract formatting guidelines are available at the symposium website.

POSTER SESSION

The poster session is a highlight of the Symposium. It is a wonderful opportunity for one-on-one scientific interaction and networking. All participants, even those giving platform presentations, are encouraged to present their research in the poster session. We expect a large crowd and lively conversation. One or more poster sessions will be scheduled, depending on the number and quality of the submitted abstracts. Poster formatting guidelines are available at the symposium website.

KEYNOTE

The keynote speaker will be Kevin Strange, Ph.D., Professor and Director, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory. Dr. Strange was named MDIBL's first resident director in July 2009. Dr. Strange is a comparative physiologist who utilizes *C. elegans*, a small roundworm or nematode, as a model organism to study the effects of osmotic stress on cells and their proteins.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION and PRE-REGISTRATION

To submit your abstract and/or pre-register for the meeting, please visit the symposium website. People wishing to register, but not submit an abstract, should also use the link below.

http://www.mdibl.org/symposia/37th_Maine_Biological_and_Medical_Sciences_Symposium/17

FEES and HOUSING

Faculty: Registration is \$40 and includes meals (served in the MDIBL dining hall) and symposium materials. Reduced-rate hotel rooms are blocked at the Atlantic Oceanside Hotel in Bar Harbor – call 207-288-5801.

Students: Registration for all Maine undergraduate and graduate students is FREE (student fees are fully sponsored by Maine INBRE). On-campus housing is available to students free of charge. First-come-first-served reservations must be made by contacting Judi Medlin judi.medlin@mdibl.org, 207-288-9880 x100

More information on housing and fees is available at the symposium website (above).

Contact:

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for the Organizing Committee:

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John Macauley, Ph.D., The Jackson Laboratory

Michael McKernan, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory

Chris Petersen, Ph.D., College of the Atlantic

Rebecca Sommer, Ph.D., Bates College

Judy Stone, Ph.D., Colby College

Charlie Wray, Ph.D., Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory

Bonnie Wood, Ph.D., University of Maine Presque Isle

The Maine Biological and Medical Sciences Symposium is supported by the Maine IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE). The Maine IDeA Network for Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) is an NCRR/NIH supported network of Maine institutions including Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, The Jackson Laboratory, The University of Maine, Bates College, Bowdoin College, Colby College, College of the Atlantic, Southern Maine Community College, The University of Maine Honors College, The University of Maine at Farmington and The University of Maine at Machias. Maine INBRE outreach institutions include The University of Maine at Fort Kent and The University of Maine at Presque Isle.