 MMI 291 Seminar Series
Current Theme: Interdisciplinary Research
Winter Quarter 2022 – CRN 33311

Friday Seminar – 12:10-1 p.m.

“Microbiome variation and function in wild and domestic mammals”

Research / Bio

Dr. Connie A. Rojas, a researcher in the laboratory of Jonathan Eisen, is among this year’s Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellows. She is intrigued by the ecology of some of the smallest organisms on the planet: microbes. She is broadly interested in investigating the correlates and functional consequences of microbiome variation in wild and domestic mammals. Her researcher incorporates field work, laboratory work, and computational and statistical tools to analyze -omics datasets. Rojas is working with the Eisen lab to expand their research on the scent glands of domestic cats. Mammals, including hyenas and cats, often leave evidence of their presence via secretions sprayed from their scent glands, which are situated around the anus. Rojas will analyze samples from the scent glands of domestic cats to build microbial and chemical profiles to better understand the variation present in these communities, and their contributions to cat health and behavior.

Publications


We hope to see you there!