

## Welcome to PLPA 6820, Graduate Research Reports!

Please read the following announcement carefully as several changes have been made to the course from previous years.

Organizational details:

- PLPA 6820 is a **required course** in the Field of Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology. All Plant Pathology graduate students, *including first-year students*, are required to register and attend.
- PLPA 6820 is largely a student-generated course. Grading is S/U only. Dr. Kerik Cox (in Geneva) and Dr. Steve Beer (in Ithaca) serve as Course Coordinators. They ensure that the efforts of students are recognized by award of course credit.
- During the Fall Semester the class will meet **Thursdays from 12:20 to 1:10 PM** in Room 336 Plant Science Building (Ithaca), and in A-134 Barton Lab (Geneva). [Occasionally, the Ithaca group might meet in Room B-22, located in the basement of the PSB and the Geneva group will meet in A-137.]
- Students may miss up to **3 sessions per semester**. The attendance requirement is waived if other course schedules or teaching responsibilities conflict with the PLPA 6820 schedule. Waivers for other circumstances require written or e-mailed permission from Field Director of Graduate Studies. Opportunities to view “missed” presentations will be provided via YouTube in cooperation with the Graduate Student Association.
- The speaking requirement (**but not the attendance requirement**) is satisfied if a student schedules **and presents** a departmental “exit seminar” during the 2013-2014 academic year. Thus, students who have informed the Coordinators they plan to present “Exit Seminars” during the year will not be listed as speakers during 2013-2014. The Spring Semester schedule will be finalized after the Departmental Seminar schedules (PLPA 6810) at both Geneva and Ithaca are developed for the Spring Semester. Those students not listed on one of those schedules (or the previous Fall schedules) will be scheduled for a Spring Presentation in PLPA 6820.
- ***With the exception of first-year students, and those who have obtained waivers, all students of the Field will present a THIRTY-MINUTE (30-minute) talk on her/his proposed research or work in progress, once per academic year.***
- **The Field requires students starting their second-year to present seminars during the Fall Semester describing proposed thesis research**

**or work in progress. Presentations that emphasize possibilities for research are encouraged because they often elicit helpful suggestions for the presenter from those in the audience. Science clearly benefits from discussion!** More advanced students may be scheduled during the Fall or the Spring semesters.

- First year students are welcome to present seminars. Please contact Steve Beer for an opportune date.
- Each Semester, one or two more senior students will be asked to present **EXEMPLARY PACE-SETTING** seminars. **EXEMPLARY PACE-SETTERS** are chosen based on the quality of their past presentations in PLPA 6820. It is important to begin the semester with seminars that are presented in a clear and exemplary manner, both orally and visually. Thus, they serve as examples for newer students.
- Presentations should be planned in consultation with the student's Special Committee Chair. ***We strongly encourage students to schedule meetings of the entire Special Committee in conjunction with presentations in PLPA 6820.***
- **Each presenting student must prepare and distribute a Seminar Announcement comprised of a descriptive title and a summary of one or two paragraphs.** The Announcement should be sent via e-mail no later than 8:00 AM on the Monday preceding her/his presentation. Send your announcement to Jackie Armstrong ([ira7@cornell.edu](mailto:ira7@cornell.edu)) and Alicia Caswell ([amd33@cornell.edu](mailto:amd33@cornell.edu)) for distribution in Ithaca and Geneva and to the course co-coordinators, Steve Beer ([svb1@cornell.edu](mailto:svb1@cornell.edu)) and Kerik Cox ([kdc33@cornell.edu](mailto:kdc33@cornell.edu)). The Course Coordinators will send students reminders, along with other details, several days before the deadline for submitting the Announcement.
- Because of technical limitations in teleconferencing, audiences in both Geneva and Ithaca will view local copies of projected PowerPoint files. Presenters need to send Steve Beer (svb1) and Kerik Cox (kdc33) a copy of the **final version** of the presentation **at least 24 hours in advance** of the scheduled presentation using the Cornell Dropbox system (<https://dropbox.cornell.edu>). Be conservative with animation or other special effects as it can introduce problems and make synchronization between locations difficult. It is helpful if slides are numbered to aid simultaneous projection at both Ithaca and Geneva.
- Presentations will be recorded so that students can view and critique their own performances. Recordings will be available a few days after the presentation to the presenter and others with legitimate interests in the

presentations. Students that miss a presentation may watch the presentation on YouTube at their leisure. Credit for YouTube watching will be awarded ONLY based submission of a filled-out Feedback Form.

- Seminars are open to the Cornell community. Please encourage others to attend. Members of the audience are strongly encouraged to fill out Feedback Forms. Hard copies will be available in the presentation rooms and will be sent to all students via e-mail. The point of the forms is to offer constructive comments to the presenter and the host. Forms should be sent to Steve Beer within 1 week of the presentation. He will collate them and provide the forms to presenters in an anonymous manner. **Participants in the course are required to complete Feedback forms;** presenters value feedback.
- All speakers will also “host” one seminar by introducing the speaker and moderating the discussion.
- The Student Host will introduce the Presenter and moderate discussions. Students in the audience have priority during the question-and-answer period that follows the presentation . The Host will open the floor to the general audience later. Give-and-take discussions are encouraged. **Presenters should solicit a host early and identify her/his host to the coordinators. A host may serve only once per year, so all students will have a hosting opportunity.**
- A tentative schedule of speakers is attached. Students may swap presentation dates. However, second-year students must stay within Fall Semester. Students should contact each other directly to arrange for a swap. **Please inform the Course Coordinators immediately of any schedule change.** Except for dire situations, changes should be made within the first three weeks of the semester so that the semester’s schedule need not be revised multiple times.
- The seminar schedule for 2013-2014 will be available online. Any schedule changes will be posted there:

<http://www.cals.cornell.edu/cals/plpath/about/news-events/gradseminars.cfm>

Comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Steve Beer (svb1) and Kerik Cox (kdc33)  
Faculty Course Coordinators for PLPA 6820

# PLPA 6820 CLASS SCHEDULE

## Graduate Student Research Reports

**Fall Semester 2013 (Thursdays from 12:20 to 1:10 PM)**

Room 336 Plant Science Building (Ithaca), and in A-134 Barton Lab (Geneva). [Occasionally, the Ithaca group might meet in Room B-22, located in the basement of the PSB and the Geneva group will meet in A-137.]

*TENTATIVE, September 5, 2013*

Student	NetID	Study Began & Location	Chair	Seminar Date	Host
NO Meeting				Sept 5	
S. Beer and K. Cox	<a href="#">svb1</a>	<a href="#">kdc33</a>		Sept 12	
<b>Giovanna Danies T. **</b>	<a href="#">gd243</a>	2011 I	Fry	Sept 19	
<b>Tien Tran **</b>	<a href="#">ttd47</a>	2009 I	Wang	Sept 26	
Fishman, Max	<a href="#">mf622</a>	2012 I	Filiatrault	Oct 3	
Hansen, Zachariah	<a href="#">zrh5</a>	2012 G	Smart	Oct. 10	
Shan Qi	<a href="#">sq53</a>	2012 I	Bogdanove	Oct 17	
Villani, Sara	<a href="#">smv8</a>	2012 G	Cox	Oct 24	
Small, Ian	<a href="#">ims56</a>	2012 I	Fry	Oct 31	
Drott, Milton	<a href="#">mtd66</a>	2012 I	Milgroom	Nov 7	
Vargas, Jose A.A.	<a href="#">jav236</a>	2012 I	Perry	Nov 14	
Patev, Sean P.	<a href="#">spp57</a>	2012 I	Fry	Nov 21	
THANKSGIVING				Nov 28	
Bekoscke, Kiersten	<a href="#">kab426</a>	2012 G	Seem	Dec 5	

**\*\* EXEMPLARY PACE-SETTER**

2012 Student held over to Spring 2014: Wilkins, Katherine