The Purdue Institute of Inflammation, Immunology and Infectious Disease

Presents:

THE LECTURE HALL SERIES

Thursday, April 19th, 2018 @ 7pm

Purdue University, MTHW 210

(812 W. State St, West Lafayette, IN 47907)

Featuring: Microtubule Dynamics During Axonal Elongation

Guest Speaker: **Kristi McElmurry, Graduate Student**

Growth cones are highly motile structures at the tips of growing neurons. They are rich with filaments that provide skeletal support and proteins that push them toward precise targets. We study filaments called microtubules and the motor proteins that walk along them in growth cones from sea slugs. Our team combines cutting-edge imaging techniques and drug treatments to examine how microtubules and motor proteins drive growth cone movement in the developing nervous system to help improve treatments for injury and disease.

Background: Kristi is a PhD candidate at Purdue University where she researches in Dr. Daniel Suter's lab. Their group aims to define mechanisms driving cellular motility to help overcome neuronal degeneration and disease. Before graduate school, Kristi earned a B.S. in biology from the United States Air Force Academy and served in various roles as a military officer and aviator.

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