



ses

school of environmental sciences

The Research Seminar Presentation by

Travis Mazurek

will be held on

Tuesday November 21, 2017

At 2:30 pm

ALEXANDER HALL 337

**Title: Effects of Increasing Cover Crop Diversity on the Microbial
Communities of Corn Roots**

Abstract

Conventional, agricultural cropping systems are degrading soils. This is due to the economic incentives for continuously growing corn and soybean crops. There are, however, management strategies to help minimize these soil degrading effects. These include the following: Incorporating winter wheat into the crop rotation, returning winter wheat residue to the field, and reducing tillage. Unfortunately, these strategies also increase the susceptibility of the following corn crop to *Fusarium* spp. related root diseases. The research presented here will use a PCR-based approach to explore how incorporating aboveground diversity, by means of a cover crop, influences belowground diversity. It will also explore the potential for this relationship to affect the susceptibility of corn to *Fusarium* spp. related diseases.

Everyone is welcome to attend

(This is a Research Proposal presentation by students in ENVS*6900)