



Seminar Series

Winter 2024

Hybrid
Alex 265

Friday,
April 19

12 – 1pm

Dr. Rosalind Murray

Department of Biology, University of Toronto Mississauga

Mating system evolution and female ornamentation in the dance flies (Diptera: Empididae)



Light refreshments
will be served

Dr. Rosalind Murray is an evolutionary ecologist with a research program investigating how the environment influences sex differences. Her lab uses several insect systems (including mosquitoes, dragonflies and dance flies) to investigate how stressors across life stages can shape life history evolution.

Sexual selection can drive changes in behaviour, morphology, and physiology across taxa. While many foundational studies in sexual selection emphasize conventional sex roles, with males exhibiting ornaments and females being the choosy sex, our research group focuses on understanding the **implications of female-specific ornamentation in dance flies** (subfamily: Empidinae). Through the integration of empirical evidence and evolutionary theory, we investigate the ecological and evolutionary significance of these ornaments, particularly in shaping mating systems within and across taxa.

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