MCB Seminar SPEAKER SERIES

2023 - 2024

Summerlee Science Complex SSC 2315

DR. SPENCER FREEMAN

Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, University of Toronto

COLLEGE of

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE

MAR 20 1030 AM

DEPARTMENT OF MOLECULAR

AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY

UNIVERSITY FGUELPH

> Know when to hold 'em, know when to run: How immune cells undergo a critical switch between dynamic and quiescent states by controlling their feet (podosomes)



Spencer Freeman received his Ph.D. from the University of British Columbia. Since then, he has investigated basic immunobiology, first as a post-doctoral fellow at the Hospital for Sick Children, then as faculty in the Peter Gilgan Research Institute and the University of Toronto where he holds a Tier II CIHR Research Chair in Immune Surveillance. He has made key contributions to understanding specialized types of endocytosis in myeloid cells including phagocytosis and macropinocytosis using largely imaging-based approaches that range from single molecule tracking to intravital microscopy. Recently, his laboratory has explored the mechanisms by which immune cells control organelle volume and sense mechanical perturbations on these organelles. As such, he is working to understand the movement of ions and solutes across the limiting membrane of endosomes, lysosomes, and phagosomes in macrophages using multidisciplinary approaches. A second line of research relates to the cytoskeleton in immune cells, how it supports mechanisms of their surveillance, and how dysregulation of genes that control the cytoskeleton lead to immune related diseases. In the 4+ years since starting his research group, he has received funding from 5 independent sources and trained more than 20 students and postdoctoral fellows.

All welcome to attend Light refreshments will be served

More information on MCB's website: www.uoguelph.ca/MCB