Welcome to MEPS

Experience the excitement and intellectual stimulation of study and original research in Molecular and Environmental Plant Sciences (MEPS) at Texas A&M University, the largest research university in the Southwest! The MEPS program prepares professionals for careers at academic institutions, government agencies, and private companies. Students can pursue research ranging from molecular to ecosystem levels for species as diverse as algae, agronomic, and horticultural crops, native plants, and trees.

Ph.D. and M.S. degrees are offered by a 50+ member faculty located in two colleges and nine departments. This diverse group provides academic training and research experiences beyond those offered by traditional departments.

Join the Revolution in Plant Biology! Our intercollegiate faculty is seeking to understand the behavior of plants and the molecular basis for their functions in natural environments.

2009 MEPS Symposium Members
Kendal Hirschi - Chair
Sonia Irigoyen
Hisashi Koiwa
Keyan Salzman
Alan Pepper
Wayne Versaw
Joshua Yuan
Xiuren Zhang
http://meps.tamu.edu

MEPS SYMPOSIUM
2009

Wednesday March 4, 2009
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Reed Arena
3rd Floor Ballroom (301B)
Thank you Sponsors

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics

Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering

Department of Ecosystem Science and Management

Department of Horticulture Sciences

Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology

Department of Soil and Crop Sciences

Institute for Plant Genomics and Biotechnology

College of Science

Department of Biology

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Schedule

8:00 - “Plant Defense Signaling: Moving Forward with Reverse Genetics”
Jane Glazebrook - Associate Professor, Microbial and Plant Genomics Institute, University of Minnesota

8:55 - “A Highly Interconnected Plant Defense Signaling Network”
Fumiaki Katagiri - Associate Professor, Microbial and Plant Genomics Institute, University of Minnesota

9:50 - 10:15 Morning Break

10:15 - “Deceiving Your Host: Stealthy Feeding and Mixed Messages”
Linda L. Walling - Professor, Botony and Plant Sciences, University of California, Riverside

11:10 - 11:30 Award Presentations
MEPS Outstanding Student Awards
MEPS Outstanding Young Faculty Award
MEPS Dedication & Outstanding Service Award

11:30 - 1:00 Lunch (on your own)

1:00 - “Biosynthesis and Metabolic Engineering of Phenylpropanoid-Derived Compounds for Plant Quality Trait Enhancement”
Richard A. Dixon - Senior Vice President and Plant Biology Division Director, Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation

1:55 - “Glucose and Energy Signaling Networks in Plants”
Jen Sheen - Professor, Department of Molecular Biology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Department of Genetics, Harvard Medical School

2:50 - 3:05 Afternoon Break

3:05 - “Using Arabidopsis to Find New Roles for Peroxisomes and Peroxins”
Bonnie Bartel - Professor, Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Rice University

4:00 - “Matrix Genetics: Arabidopsis Chloroplast Functional Genomics”
Robert L. Last - Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Plant Biology, Michigan State University