

# BIOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

Monday, September 14, 2009  
3:50 PM, Room 111, Life Sciences

*“Olfactory Sensation”*

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We are living in a sea of chemicals. Olfactory receptors in the nasal cavity consistently sample chemical components of our surroundings and consequently lead us to make conscious or subconscious decisions. Ample studies have shown that the olfactory system is critical for animal survival. Importance of olfactory sensation is reflected in the presence of a large multigene family encoding hundreds or thousands of olfactory receptors in the olfactory epithelium. Multiple steps and mechanisms are involved from receptor detection to olfactory sensation. In the seminar, I will introduce current understandings of fish odorants, fish olfactory receptors and odor detection.