

**Thursday, September 25, 1:00-1:30 p.m.**

*"All systems go: Uncovering the intricacies of host-pathogen interaction specificity"*

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Pathogen pathovar designation indicates the host from which a microbe was caught causing disease. While host - pathogen interactions are classically thought to be fairly specific, interactions with other hosts are rarely investigated. In the Bart lab, we are comparing three members of the Euphorbiaceae, cassava, castor bean and poinsettia, and their respective *Xanthomonas* pathogens. We have pursued a comparative genomics approach to understand the genetic differences that may explain host specificity from the bacterial side. As part of this work, we are working to develop additional phenotyping methods that will allow us to further understand the intricacies of host - pathogen interactions.