

DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY AND PLANT PATHOLOGY FACULTY RECRUITMENT CANDIDATE SEMINARS:

Assistant Professor in Fungal Biology

In-Person Seminar Location: Genomics Auditorium 1102A



ZOOM Link for Seminar: https://ucr.zoom.us/j/99712157515 **Meeting ID:** 997 1215 7515

Louis Berrios, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Stanford University

Research Seminar:

Monday, March 4, 2024 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Seminar Title: "Bacteria-mycorrhizal fungi-plant interactions – a neglected field with critical ecosystem implications"

Abstract: About 98% of plant species form symbiotic relationships with mycorrhizal fungi (myco = fungus, rhiza = root), and all known land plants associate with bacteria. For decades, however, these plant-microbe relationships had been viewed primarily through a bipartite lens (i.e., bacteria-plant or fungiplant interactions). Yet emerging evidence has begun to reveal that bacteria and mycorrhizal fungi also interact – and understanding their interactions can help us explain plant growth responses. Here I provide a glimpse into the world of bacteria-mycorrhizal fungi-plant interactions, revealing evidence that positive interactions among these three organisms are widespread and that viewing mycorrhizal symbioses through a bacterial lens can clarify our picture of nature.