

**Speaker:**

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**Date:** Monday, Oct. 19, 2020  
**Time:** 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm  
**Zoom:** 952-3324-4564  
**Passcode:** 835322

**Title:**

“Leveraging symbionts to protect pollinators”

**Abstract:**

The study of bee associated microbes - both beneficial and detrimental - is an important part of bee conservation. The McFrederick lab uses molecular and microbiological tools to understand these associations, with the ultimate goal of leveraging these associations to increase wild and managed pollinator populations and communities. In this talk, we will cover the data we have gathered that supports the hypothesis that flowers are hubs of microbial transmission, the novel microbes that we have described and our current understanding of their functional potential, how specialization and network position may affect microbial exposure and transmission, and interactions between bacterial symbionts, toxins, and pathogens.