

## Participation:

The Symposium is open to all MSU faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students, as well as members of neighboring institutions and the community.

## Poster Session:

A poster session and open reception in the Molecular Plant Science atrium will immediately follow the talks. Light refreshments will be served. Those who wish to present a research poster (4'x4') are invited to do so, posters do not need to be related to the topic of Apoptosis. Graduate students and faculty associated with the Genetics Graduate Program are particularly encouraged to participate. Please RSVP with the title of your poster to reserve a poster space by email to Jeannine Lee: [genetics@msu.edu](mailto:genetics@msu.edu)

## Event Coordinators:

Dr. Brian Schutte, Genetics Program Assoc. Dir.  
-Microbiology & Molecular Genetics

Dr. R. Bradley Day  
-Plant Pathology

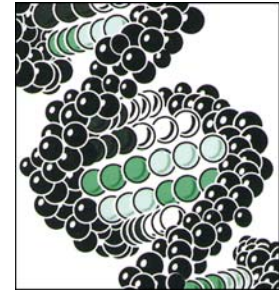
Dr. Alexander Shingleton  
-Zoology Natural Science

# GENETICS GRADUATE PROGRAM

The MSU Genetics Program is an interdisciplinary, degree-granting program that provides graduate education and training to students whose primary interest lies in the realm of modern genetics. The approximately 120 faculty members in the Genetics Program have academic appointments in 23 different departments, or work in affiliated institutions, such as the Van Andel Research Institute in Grand Rapids, or USDA facilities at MSU. Although these departments and units are affiliated with eight different Colleges, the College of Natural Science is the home and sponsor of the Genetics Program.

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# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



## Genetics PhD Program Mini-symposium

**“Apoptosis”**  
Programmed Cell Death

Michigan State University  
Molecular Plant Science Building  
Tuesday, May 7, 2013  
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

# Schedule:

- 8:30-9:30 **Registration and Poster Set-up**  
**Continental Breakfast - MPS**
- 9:30-9:35 **Brian Schutte, MSU**  
**Welcoming and opening remarks**
- 9:35-10:00 **Shahnaz Masani, MSU**  
**Apoptosis Introduction**
- 10:00-11:00 **Jody Rosenblatt, Ph.D.**  
Huntsman Cancer Institute  
University of Utah
- 11:00-11:15 **Break**
- 11:15-12:15 **Andreas Bergmann, Ph.D.**  
Department of Cancer Biology  
Univ. of Mass. Medical School
- 12:15-1:30 **Lunch, MPS Atrium**
- 1:30-2:30 **Cindy Miranti, Ph.D.**  
Center for Cancer and Cell Biology  
Van Andel Research Institute
- 2:30-3:30 **Anthony G. Letai, MD, Ph.D.**  
Hematologic Oncology,  
Harvard Medical School
- 3:30-4:15 **Poster Session I**  
**Reception, MPS Atrium**
- 4:15-5:00 **Poster Session II**  
**Reception, MPS Atrium**

# Speakers:

**Jody Rosenblatt, Ph.D.**



Associate Professor, Oncological Sciences  
Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

**Research:**

On apoptosis, we have discovered a process for how apoptotic cells are eliminated from the epithelium without compromising the epithelial barrier function. Here, the dying cell sends signals to its live neighbors, which respond by forming an actin and myosin ring that contracts to squeeze the dying cell out.

**Cindy Miranti, Ph.D.**



Associate Professor, Center for Cancer and Cell Biology  
Van Andel Research Institute

**Research:**

Studies the mechanisms through which a cell interacts with its environment and receives signals from other parts of the body, particularly, the study of integrins. How integrins receive and process signals that lead to the deregulation of cellular migration, survival and proliferation is a major question the lab is pursuing, in particular with regard to metastatic prostate cancer.

**Andreas Bergmann Ph.D.**



Professor, Department of Cancer Biology  
University of Massachusetts Medical School

**Research:**

Genetic Control of Programmed Cell Death (Apoptosis) in *Drosophila*. The *long-term objective* of our research is to gain a comprehensive understanding of the genetic control of apoptosis and cell proliferation, and their connection to human cancer and neurodegeneration.

**Anthony G. Letai, MD, Ph.D.**



Associate Professor of Medicine, Hematologic Oncology  
Harvard Medical School

**Research:**

Dr. Letai's research focuses on the mechanisms by which cancer cells evade death, and on the application of that knowledge to the selective killing of cancer cells.