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10/15/2020

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bioinformatics.udel.edu

BIOINFORMATICS SEMINAR

SARAH SCHWENK

PhD Candidate, Allen Lab at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO AND THE J. CRAIG VENTER
INSTITUTE IN LA JOLLA

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO VIRAL BIOINFORMATICS AND ITS APPLICATIONS FROM LAB TO FIELD STUDIES

Sarah Schwenk's PhD research aims to further elucidate the impact of viral infection on biogeochemical cycling across various marine microbial communities. To that end, Schwenk applies multiple bioinformatic techniques to investigate diatom viral infection on a molecular level in the lab and at a community level through field experiments in the California Current Ecosystem.

BIOGRAPHY

Sarah Schwenk is a graduate student in the Allen lab studying viral impacts on the microbial community, with an emphasis on virus-phytoplankton interactions. Sarah completed her BS at the University of Arizona where she majored in biology and mathematics. While in Arizona, Sarah began studying ocean viruses as a member of the Tucson Marine Phage Lab and has not stopped since. Her undergraduate thesis focused on the impacts of physical gradients on viral community structure as she compared viral communities from an onshore and offshore station at eight depths throughout an oxygen minimum zone off the coast of Manzanillo, Mexico. She received a M.S. in Marine Biology from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Her PhD research aims to further elucidate the impact of viral infection on biogeochemical cycling across various marine microbial communities.

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