

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENTAL SEMINAR

Speaker: Dr. Valentina Caputi

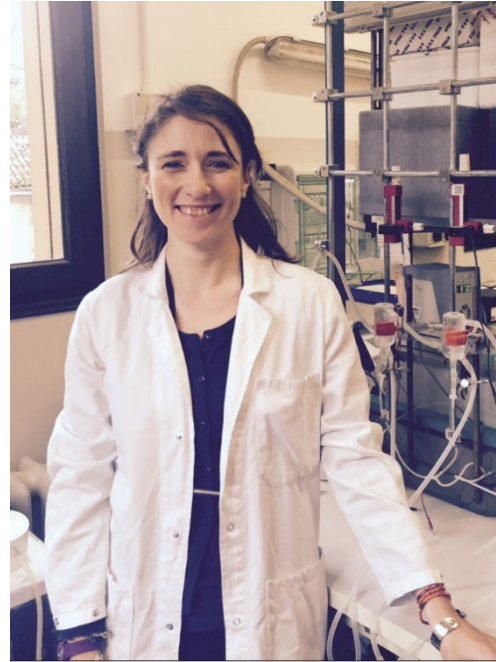
Title: "Exploring the crosstalk between the gut microbiota and the enteric nervous system in animal models of gut-brain axis dysfunction"

Thursday April 29, 2021, 3:30 PM

Brief Bio:

Dr. Valentina Caputi is a new post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Poultry Science at the University of Arkansas. Her research focuses on how sources of stress that arise during pre-harvest stages of production affect the development of the avian enteric nervous system (ENS) to ultimately contribute to mechanisms of action that underlie neurochemical-based host-microbe interactions. Previously, her research focused on the role of the gut microbiota in modulating the development and function of the ENS, and to better understand how changes in gut microbiota composition, induced by infections, antibiotic therapies, stress and diet can perturb ENS leading to the onset of functional gastrointestinal disorders such as Irritable Bowel Syndrome. Dr. Caputi investigated structural and functional alterations of the ENS in several animal models of altered microbiota-neuroimmune crosstalk such as i) TLR2 or TLR4 knockout mice; ii) antibiotic- or high fat diet-induced dysbiosis in adolescent mice; iii) mice heterozygous for catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) enzyme.

Dr. Caputi obtained her PhD in the University of Padova, Italy where she gained strong expertise in using several *in vitro* (isolated intestinal organ functional assays; primary cell cultures) and *in vivo* (transgenic and chimera mice) models integrated with biomolecular assays, histology and immunohistochemistry on gut wholemount preparations as well as frozen sections. Dr. Caputi has a research background in the field of neurogastroenterology pharmacology, with 16 publications in peer-reviewed journals (5-first author), which have received to date over 100 citations.



Seminar link:

Topic: BISC Spring Seminar Series

Time: Apr 29, 2021 03:20 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Thu, until May 6, 2021,

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