
Department of Environmental & Plant Biology
Colloquium

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and
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Friday, October 29, 2021 11:50am – 12:45 pm
Streamed via Zoom
(optional in person viewing in Porter 104)

*“Divergent and convergent floral
evolution in *Dalechampia* vines:
A pantropical perspective on euphorb
pollination”*

Floral morphology and plant chemistry mediate ecological and evolutionary relationships between plants and their mutualists and enemies. This common “currency” can lead to conflicting selection on the same traits being exerted by pollinators and herbivores. But the common “currency” can also promote evolutionary novelty via exaptive changes in function. Floral evolution is thus both historically and geographically contingent. While small “quantitative” shifts in pollination relationships are often predictable, major “qualitative” transitions are mostly not. These generalizations will be derived from, and illustrated by, examining the pollination ecology, biogeography, and evolution of *Dalechampia* vines worldwide.



*Dalechampia
aristolochiifolia* (from Peruvian Andes)