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Department of Marine Sciences
Presents a Seminar by

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The Non-Visual Sensory Biology of Very Colorful Fishes

Fishes, like all vertebrates, have a suite of sensory systems that help them “navigate” their world. The bright coloration of coral reef fishes and the production of bioluminescence by deep sea fishes has traditionally drawn the attention of sensory biologists who seek to understand the often remarkable visual systems of these fishes. However, no species depends on only one sensory modality to detect prey, avoid predators, communicate and navigate in their diverse aquatic habitats. This seminar will explore the mechanosensory lateral line system, which mediates the detection of short-range unidirectional and low-frequency oscillatory water flows in all fishes, with a focus on two very different groups: coral reef fishes (butterflyfishes [Fam. Chaetodontidae] and gobies [Fam. Gobiidae]) and deep-sea fishes (hatchetfishes, bristlemouths and dragonfishes [Order Stomiiformes]). It will reveal how the study of the anatomy and functional organization of lateral line sensory receptors (neuromasts), using multiple classic and cutting-edge imaging methods, can shed light on hydrodynamic flow sensing capabilities, thus providing a perspective on the sensory ecology of marine fishes.

Host: Hannes Baumann

Time & Date: 11:00 am, Friday, October 15, 2021

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