

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research The Swiss Institute for Dryland Environmental and Energy Research Mitrani Department of Desert Ecology

Seminar

Oren Levy

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Tuesday, December 27, 2016, 12:00

Seminar Room, Old Administration Building

Participants are invited to meet the seminar speaker at the MDDE meeting room immediately after the seminar ($^{\sim}$ 13:00). Please bring your lunch; snacks will be provided.

Some tales about biological clocks and cnidarians

In this talk I will present some the current knowledge regarding the cnidarians endogenous biological clock. In the last years our team have examined the evidence from behavioral, physiological, molecular, and evolutionary perspectives in regarding to the role of the clock machinery in some key cnidarians such as corals, the sea anemone Aiptasia and *Nematosella vectensis* the new model organism. Our research is mainly focus on symbiotic corals that are an interesting model to study the complexities and evolution of the metazoan circadian clock. A deeper understanding of this complex issue can help explain coral mass spawning, and how symbiotic organisms measure time and synchronize themselves to their environmental conditions. Of particular relevance is how two pacemakers, the host and the symbiont, function together in one organism.