

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY SEMINAR**

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***“Mycoplasma in the Vaginal Microbiota and Risk
of Persistent Human Papillomavirus Infection”***

Recent studies have suggested that the vaginal microenvironment plays a role in persistence of high-risk human papillomavirus (hrHPV) infection and thus cervical carcinogenesis. Furthermore, it has been shown that some mycoplasmas are efficient methylators and may facilitate carcinogenesis through methylation of hrHPV and cervical somatic cells. We examined associations between prevalence and persistence of *Mycoplasma* spp. in the vaginal microbiota, and prevalent as well as persistent hrHPV infections. The relationship between *Mycoplasma genitalium* and *Mycoplasma hominis*, and the risk of prevalent and persistent HPV infections, in a longitudinal study will be discussed as well as potential factors that may affect the relationship between Mycoplasma and HPV infection.

**TUESDAY November 7, 2017
3:00-4:15 PM
Innovation Hall Room 207**