SPRING
2011

Faculty Lecture Series

Sharing Our Work and Knowledge

Thursday, January 20

The spectacular diversity & vulnerability of Hawaii's native insects

Daniel Rubinoff

Plant and Environmental Protection Sciences

Hawaii is the most isolated landmass on the planet which is likely the reason for very rare evolutionary phenomena such as predatory caterpillars and carnivorous ice-dwelling Wekiu bugs. Hawaii's unusual influence is also manifested in unprecedented diversity of evolutionary permutations in what are, elsewhere, usually unremarkable lineages. Unfortunately, Hawaiian insects have suffered from the destruction of native habitats and introduction of invasive species, losing much of their diversity. Saving what remains of Hawaii's amazing endemic insects should be a priority and is something in which everyone can take part.

Daniel Rubinoff is an Associate Professor at the University of Hawaii, Manoa and the Director of the University of Hawai'i Insect Museum. He has authored more than 40 scientific papers and book chapters including work in internationally recognized journals like Science and The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. His research has been covered in dozens of newspapers including the New York Times and Los Angeles Times, as well as prominent newspapers, websites, magazines and television stations in the U.S. and more than 20 foreign countries. In addition to teaching at the graduate and undergraduate level, Dan leads a molecular systematics and ecology lab that focuses on the use of DNA sequence data to understand evolutionary relationships in both threatened and invasive insects, with the intention of applying this research to practical problems in conservation and agriculture.

UH Hamilton Library, Room 301
3:30 – 4:30 PM
Admission free
Refreshments provided
Doors open at 3:15 PM

Presented by:

- Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education
- Office of Research Relations
- UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA LIBRARY

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