

# John A. Lynch Lecture Series

## Regulatory Cascades Controlling Mosquito Reproduction



**MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 4:00PM**

**283 GALVIN LIFE SCIENCES**

**Alexander S. Raikhel, Ph. D.**

*Distinguished Professor at University of California Riverside  
Mir S. Mulla Chair in Entomology  
University of California's President's Chair  
Member of the National Academy of Sciences*

### Abstract:

Mosquitoes rely on blood for nutrition, putting them in position to transmit some of the world's deadliest diseases, like malaria and Dengue fever. Alexander S. Raikhel, elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2009, believes that preventing the mosquito from carrying the pathogen in the first place is the key to vector control. Raikhel has been studying the connection between blood meals and egg production in *Aedes aegypti* in hopes of co-opting egg production signals to activate the mosquito's immune system against incoming pathogens. In his Inaugural Article, Raikhel, a distinguished professor at the University of California, Riverside continues an investigative strategy that has served him well throughout his career: using the latest research in established model organisms to hammer out methods for the mosquito, this time looking for microRNAs active in the egg production cycle.

