MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

Chemistry Departmental Seminar

Thursday, September 11th at 1:00 p.m. (Room: CSF-1302)

Dr. Ashlyn Swift-Gallant
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Building Brains Differently: How Sex Chromosomes and Hormones Shape Neurodevelopment via the Placenta-Brain Axis

Abstract

Males are more likely than females to be diagnosed with neurodevelopmental disorders, but the biological reasons remain unclear. One promising pathway involves the placenta - the first endocrine and immune organ of pregnancy - which mediates communication between mother and fetus. In this talk, Dr. Swift-Gallant will share her lab's work using the Four Core Genotypes mouse model, which dissociates sex chromosomes (XX vs. XY) from gonadal status (ovaries vs. testes), to examine how these factors influence placental and fetal development in a rodent model of maternal immune activation.