



Department of  
& Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology

## Jointly Presents



*Guest Speaker*

**Maria C. Rivera, PhD**

Associate Professor of Biology  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Richmond, Virginia

### **“The Ribosome Structure, the Ecdysozoa and Lophotrochozoa Phyla, and the Rings of Life: Highlights of Jim Lake’s Contributions to Biology”**

Throughout his career, Professor James A. Lake has been a highly original thinker who has made great headway in solving seemingly intractable questions. His scientific inquiries have shed light on fundamental evolutionary questions expanding all kingdoms of life. Via methodological innovations, his research has successfully connected phylogenetic inference to the molecular, cellular, and developmental events that shaped genome evolution. His ideas are now broadly accepted by the scientific community; including laying the foundation of the “New Animal Phylogeny” by defining the Ecdysozoa and Lophotrochozoa phyla; identifying the informational and operational genes leading to the complexity hypothesis; and proposing the ring of life hypothesis to describe the symbiosis resulting in the origin of the eukaryotes. This talk will touch on Dr. Lake’s past and recent contributions and the impact of his work to current biological thought.



James A. Lake, PhD  
Distinguished Professor Emeritus

**Monday, June 3, 2019**

**11:00am – 12:00pm**

**Gonda Building 1st Floor Conference Room, 1357**

*Light snacks will be provided*