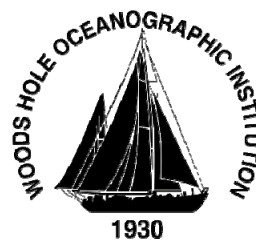


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Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution  
**Biology Department Seminar**



Thursday, March 20, 2014  
Redfield Auditorium – 12:00 Noon

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## **Biodiversity in ciliate microzooplankton: deep-sequencing the oligotrichs**

**Dr. George McManus**  
**Professor, Department of Marine**  
**Sciences, University of Connecticut**

Ciliates in the clades Oligotrichia and Choreotrichia are dominant grazers in many plankton communities. Despite over 100 years of microscope studies, we are still not confident in the level of diversity present in these two groups. Along with colleagues at Smith College, I have been using DNA-based methods to evaluate cryptic and rare species from coastal waters and to try to relate changes in ciliate assemblages to water column properties. As with many other contemporary studies, we are finding very high levels of diversity in these microbial eukaryotes. Some caveats are in order, however, and impediments to a true understanding of biodiversity in these groups will be discussed.