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Stalled Spliceosomes are a signal for RNAi-mediated genome defense

Small RNA pathways evolved to combat the existential threat of parasitic nucleic acids, but how self versus nonself is distinguished remains an outstanding question. Using the yeast *Cryptococcus neoformans*, we have discovered a novel role for the spliceosome in the recognition of RNAs destined to be targeted for small RNA-mediated genome defense. The evolution of this and other eukaryote-specific mechanisms for gene expression may have been driven by the need to defend cells from genomic invaders.

Monday, May 12, 2014

Hope 110

3:45 Tea 4:00 Seminar

Host: Joan Steitz

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