

**Yale** SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
*Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases*

**EMD Seminar Series**

**Michael Begon, PhD**  
**Professor**  
**Department of Evolution, Ecology**  
**and Behaviour**  
**University of Liverpool**

**"Predicting Plague Outbreaks in  
Kazakhstan: Epidemiological  
Models in the Service of Public  
Health"**

Bubonic plague is not only of historical interest; it is a public health problem still in many parts of the world, typically as a zoonosis endemic in wild rodents. In Kazakhstan and many other parts of Central Asia, the great gerbil is the main reservoir host, within which the prevalence of plague is highly variable both spatially and temporally. Determining the risk of plague to humans requires the dynamics of plague in the gerbils to be monitored and indeed predicted. Epidemiological models, well known in theory but rarely applied in practice, are proving valuable in developing such predictive protocols.

**Thursday, March 7, 2013**

**12:00 PM, LEPH 101**

**Host: A. Ko**