



**SPRING 2024**

**Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
Brown Bag Series**

**S. Dean Rider Jr.**

**Research Assistant Professor**

*“Die harder - addressing the mechanisms of  
dominance in the blue death feigning beetle”*

**Tuesday, January 16, 2024**

**11:00 AM**

**Location 125 Medical Sciences Building**

**Lab: Mike Kemp, Ph.D.**



Boonshoft  
**School of Medicine**  
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY



<https://science-math.wright.edu/biochemistry-and-molecular-biology>

## **Abstract**

*“Die harder - addressing the mechanisms of dominance in the blue death feigning beetle”*

The blue death feigning beetle is the longest-lived beetle in the world and the dominant animal in the hottest, driest place on earth. The ability to rear this extremophile in captivity has facilitated understanding of its biology and behavior. Recent observations on behavior identify adaptive mechanisms promoting this organism's success. I will present current knowledge on the behavior of the beetle, an overview of its genome, a newly identified genetic pathway that regulates important behaviors, and the three genetic mechanisms that contribute to this insect's longevity.