



# Genome Sciences Seminar

Wednesday, 10.30.19 | 3:30 | Foege Auditorium

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## Dr. Erik Andersen

Associate Professor of Molecular Biosciences  
Northwestern University

## “Wild *C. elegans*: niche specification, natural diversity, and genome evolution”

Model organisms provide the opportunity to experimentally test the correlations between genes and disease-related processes because of the high-level of conservation and the ease of manipulation. However, most model organism research is based on a single wild-type strain background with little connection to natural variation, which is like studying a single person to make conclusions about the entire human species. *C. elegans* is isolated worldwide and has genetic variation comparable to that of humans. Therefore, *C. elegans* provides the opportunity to identify the genes that vary among individuals and the molecular mechanisms for how genetic variation causes phenotypic differences. Our lab uses a variety of genetic and genomic tools to investigate the molecular, evolutionary, and quantitative genetics of *C. elegans* natural populations.

<http://andersenlab.org/>

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Refreshments served outside the Auditorium at 3:20pm

Questions? Contact Brian Giebel at [bgiebel@uw.edu](mailto:bgiebel@uw.edu) or visit the Seminar website at <http://www.gs.washington.edu/news/seminars.htm>

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