

CICLO
DE CONFERÊNCIAS

ISPA
INSTITUTO
UNIVERSITÁRIO

27 ABR

12.30 > AUD. 1

2012

ENTRADA LIVRE
INFO: CII@ISPA.PT
WWW.ISPA.PT

NATURAL SUNSCREEN COMPOUNDS IN 3 SPECIES OF CORALS AND THEIR FISH PREDATOR

Dr. FREDERIQUE KANDEL

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawaii



Mycosporine-like amino acids (MAAs) are a family of Ultraviolet radiation (UVR) absorbing compounds ubiquitous in the aquatic environment. Some metazoans appear to obtain them from their diet or from symbiotic microorganisms. The seminar presents recent findings of a study looking at MAAs in a reef fish, *Chaetodon multicinctus*, and its coral prey, *Pocillopora meandrina*, *Porites compressa* and *Porites lobata* in the wild. Comparing the type and abundance of MAAs amongst the four species at three depths with different levels of UVR revealed intriguing differences between the coral species as well as between the corals and their fish predator. The results taken in the context of previous work lead to various hypotheses about the processes involved.

ISPA



CII

CENTRO
DE INVESTIGAÇÃO
E INTERVENÇÃO