The Daily Collegian
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Distinguished lectures continue today

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Rafael A. Fissore, professor of veterinary and animal sciences at the University of Massachusetts, will give the second of four Distinguished Faculty Lectures today at 4 p.m. in the Massachusetts Room of the Mullins Center.

Fissore's talk titled, "Activating the Egg: A Tale of Mice, Pigs, and Men," will discuss how the egg, the female gamete, always emerges from the ovary arrested in its development.

Precisely how the sperm "activates" the egg has been a mystery for scientists for quite some time.

Fissore, who has been with UMass since 1993, will explain what his research team has discovered about mammalian fertilization. Their research has included the use of mice and pigs, and most recently studying infertile men.

He will also discuss what these findings mean for new treatments for infertility, as well as their ethical implications.

"His research looks at understanding the mechanism by which the sperm is able to induce activation and trigger development in mammalian eggs," said a statement from University spokesman Patrick J. Callahan. "This research has implications for understanding reproduction and the development of new treatments for infertility and the ethical questions such treatment will raise."

Fissore was an assistant professor from 1993 to 1998, an associate professor from 1999 to 2007 and has been a professor since then.

He also served as a visiting professor in the department of physiology at Katholieke Universiteit of Leuven in Leuven, Belgium in 2003.

Weibo Gong, electrical and computer engineering, is another participant in the lecture series, who will give a talk titled, "Will the Internet Soon Outsmart Humans?" on Monday, Feb. 23, 2009. Sally I. Powers, psychology, will conclude the series in her discussion, "Hormones and Lovers' Quarrels: How Stress Translates into Depression," on Monday, April 27, 2009.

There is a reception after each talk where faculty members in the series are given a Chancellor's Medal following their lecture.

Continued...

POLL

How will you cope with finals?

- Finals!? But it's only...oh holy crap finals are next week!
- Binge drinking
- Denial
- Positive thinking, lots of sleep and healthy studying
- Caffeine, caffeine and more caffeine
- Finals are a piece of cake for me

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Post

2008 Basketball Season Preview

Season Preview: Expectations uncertain for UMass
Q and A: Kellogg answers the tough questions
Roster Breakdown: In-depth look at the roster
FEATURE: Breaking down the dribble-drive motion offense
COMMENTARY: Xavier still class of A-10; Temple, Dayton strong again

News

UMass Democrats honored
UMass flunks affordability test
Amherst closes door on housing
Kwanzaa, topic of review and celebration in Campus Center

Arts & Living

Enigk returns to Iron Horse

Editorial / Opinion

Return to an American republic
Of food, fasting, fowl and pets
College, if you want to
A new New Deal? Try trains

Sports

Men's Basketball: Commonwealth crushed
Men's Basketball: Gaffney dominance still not enough
Hockey: Mass Attack downs Huskies
Hockey: Minutemen show effort in non-conference win
Women's Basketball: Minutewomen win Brown Classic

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