

BIG seminar

Biology and integrative genetics

**Monday,
April 4
17h**

**Auditorium Bâtiment Biophore
Unil-Sorge at Dorigny**

Niko Geldner
Unil



“The endodermis – how plants build a protective, yet selective, barrier to the soil “

The endodermis is a fundamental, epithelium-like cell layer found in the root of all vascular plants. Its defining features are ring-shaped cell wall modifications that efficiently block diffusion of solutes. The endodermis is thought to be of crucial importance for nutrient uptake and as a barrier during pathogenic and symbiotic interactions. However, the molecular mechanisms underlying its differentiation are essentially unknown, preventing a rigorous testing of its various supposed roles. I will report on our recent identification of some central players of endodermal differentiation and on how we are currently using them to better understand the role of this evolutionary conserved cellular barrier in root function.

BIG is an initiative of the Faculty of Biology and Medicine, University of Lausanne, and is organized by Uta Paszkowski, Laurent Keller, Henrik Kaessmann and Jan Roelof van der Meer.

Info: www3.unil.ch/fbmens/reve/evenement_bigseminar_public.php contact: uta.paszkowski@unil.ch, janroelof.vandermeer@unil.ch