



TICA

talks

THE INTERNATIONAL COMPOSITAE ALLIANCE

TICA Talks 2025 Schedule

(subject to change)

The International Compositae Alliance (TICA) is excited to announce the TICA Talks 2025 webinar series! These webinars will occur on the **second Monday of every month**—with the exception of February—at **11 am PT**. Each month will have two to three speakers presenting their research in Compositae.

February (2/24) – Intro to TICA/Synanthropy

- **Jennifer Mandel**, University of Memphis, USA – “Exploring the Future of Compositae: Advances in Genomics, Transcriptomics, and Functional Genetics”
- **Mauricio Bonifacio**, Universidad de la República, Uruguay & **Ilse Breitwieser**, Allan Herbarium, Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research, New Zealand – “TICA: a short history”

March (3/10)

- **Reid Selby**, Auburn University, USA – “Developmental transitions in *Lactuca sativa* and unique stem cell dynamics in the Asteraceae”
- **Yannick Woudstra**, Stockholm University, Sweden – “Plant adaptations to city life: lessons learnt from dandelions (*Taraxacum* agg.)”

April (4/14)

- **Carme Blanco Gavaldà**, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain – “Pleistocene glaciations triggered parallel worldwide mountain radiations in the HAP clade”
- **Paige Ellestad**, University of Memphis, USA – “Ancient hybridization and phylogenetic discordance: Exploring evolutionary complexity in Asteraceae”
- ⚡ **Isaac Lichter Marck**, California Academy of Sciences, USA – “Welcoming the wooly devil: the comp from another planet”

May (5/12) – Genomics

- **Anthony Melton**, University of Montevallo, USA – “Genomics of a keystone species of western North America”
- **Peter Innes**, University of Colorado Boulder, USA – “The gene regulatory landscape during ecotypic divergence of Great Sand Dunes prairie sunflowers”

June (6/9)

- **Lucía D. Moreyra**, Institut Botànic de Barcelona, Spain – “A thorny tale: The origin and diversification of *Cirsium*”
- **Brannan Cliver**, Auburn University, USA – “Exploring the evolutionary history of the Hawaiian *Bidens* radiation through genome assembly and pappus development”
- **Vinicius Bueno**, Universidade Federal de Uberlândia, Brazil – “Beyond Yellow Daisies: Dealing with Neurolaeneae Systematics as a Person with a Disability”

July (7/14)

- **Jaydeep Sharma**, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, India – “Incongruence Between Phylogeny and Identification in Asteraceae: A Case Study of Gujarat Composites”
- ⚡ **Erika Moore-Pollard**, University of Memphis, USA – “The missing link: Bridging evolutionary gaps in Asteraceae with a chromosome-scale assembly of *Schlechtendalia luzulifolia* (Barnadesieae)”

August (8/11) – Island biogeography

- **Bruce Baldwin**, University of California, Berkeley, USA – “Phylogenomic insights on evolution of the Hawaiian silversword alliance and relatives of the tarweed tribe (Madieae)”
- **Lizzie Roebble**, Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Netherlands – “Island biogeography of the diverse but threatened Hawaiian Asteraceae flora”

September (9/8) – Development

- **Paula Elomaa**, University of Helsinki, Finland – “Evolution of capitula - insights from gene functional studies”
- **Jakub Baczyński**, University of Warsaw, Poland – “Butting Heads on Syncephalia”

October (10/13)

- **Jairo Patiño**, Instituto de Productos Naturales y Agrobiología, Spain – “Deciphering oceanic island evolution through genomics: Lessons from the Compositae family”
- **Mariana Grossi**, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina – “Providing tools for the reassessment of Eupatorieae (Asteraceae): comparative and statistical analysis of reproductive characters in South American taxa”
- **Benoit Loeuille**, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK – “Compositae of the Flora Zambesiaca area”

November (11/10)

- **Diego F. Morales-Briones**, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany – “Exploring hybridization in *Flaveria* (Asteraceae), the prime model of C4 photosynthesis evolution”
- **Gonzalo Rivas-Torres**, Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Ecuador – “*Scalesia* biogeography, ecology and the threats posed by invasive species in the Galapagos”
- **Luis Palazzesi**, Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales, Argentina – TBD

December (12/8)

- **Carolina Siniscalchi**, Mississippi State University, USA – TBD
- **Vanina Salgado**, Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales, Argentina – “Factors influencing the global invasion of the South American weedy species *Praxelis clematidea* (Asteraceae): a niche shift and modeling-based approach”

To view TICA Talks from previous years, please visit our [TICA Talks YouTube channel!](#)

Registration: <https://forms.gle/KfQg5L7diWFZjUKS9>

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