

# APPLIED MATHEMATICS COLLOQUIUM

## SURFACE TENSION IN BIOLOGY

**JOHN W. M. BUSH**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

### ABSTRACT:

We present the results of recent experimental and theoretical investigations of several biological systems dominated by the influence of surface tension. Particular attention is given to elucidating natural strategies for water-repellency, underwater breathing and fluid transport on a small scale. Examples are primarily taken from the world of insects, but capillary feeding in shorebirds is also highlighted.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2007**

**4:30 PM**

**Building 4, Room 270**

*Reception at 4:00 PM in Building 4, Room 174  
(Math Majors Lounge)*

Applied Math Colloquium: <http://www-math.mit.edu/amc/fall07>  
Math Department: <http://www-math.mit.edu>



Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Department of Mathematics  
Cambridge, MA 02139