

## **Tkach, Colleen**

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**From:** Inform  
**Subject:** EM: Dept. of Natural Sciences Seminar Friday 10/11

**From:** Lauran Soto

### **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL SCIENCES SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT:**

*"Growing up in a social world: Insights on the mechanisms of development from a highly social fish"*

Tessa Solomon-Lane  
Assistant Professor of Neuroscience  
Dept. of Natural Sciences

Friday, October 11th, 2024  
Burns Lecture Hall (NS E007)  
12:15-1:15 PM

Abstract: Early-life social environments can have strong and lasting impacts on organismal phenotype. Although such developmental plasticity has been documented across diverse species, strikingly little is known about the specific attributes of the social environment that drive plasticity and shape adult phenotype. My lab studies the development of social behavior and its regulation by behavioral, hormonal, and neural mechanisms in the highly-social African cichlid fish, Burton's Mouthbrooder (*Astatotilapia burtoni*), a model system in social neuroscience. Our overarching goal is to uncover the behavioral mechanisms – the causal attributes of social experience – that shape behavioral phenotype via persistent changes in underlying neural and hormonal mechanisms. We use a variety of scientific approaches to do this work, including direct social manipulations, detailed behavioral observations, hormone measurements, *in vivo* pharmacological manipulations, and measures of brain gene expression. Here, I will share research that 1) identifies mechanisms of behavioral development; 2) uncovers the causes and consequences of social status; and 3) investigates early-life roles for the neuroendocrine stress axis.

Find additional seminar information here: <https://www.kecksci.claremont.edu/seminars/>

Best,  
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