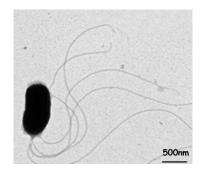
STUDENTS OF THE MICROBIOLOGY GRADUATE GROUP PRESENT:



"The squid-vibrio symbiosis: thinking about bacteria as individuals"



Wednesday, May 2nd 4:10pm in LSA 1022



One of the long-term objectives of Dr. Ruby's research is to define the bacterial basis for biochemical and molecular events that characterize colonization of animal epithelial tissue using the symbiotic association of the light-emitting organ of the squid *Euprymna scolopes* by the luminous bacterium *Vibrio fischer*i. This system provides a simple, experimentally accessible, paradigm for studying specific, beneficial, host-bacterial interactions. Recent investigations have centered on the events characterizing the initiation, colonization, and persistence of the symbiotic infection in newly hatched juvenile squids. Bacterial mutants are used to manipulate and assay the complex succession of signaling and responses through which the host and bacterium communicate. This natural biological system serves as a model of pathogenic vibrio infection and, perhaps, of the evolution of the virulence state in vibrios.