

ILSI Research Foundation Hires Dr. John Teem as a New Senior Scientific Program Manager



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Dr. Teem's experience with genetic biocontrols will contribute to the ILSI Research Foundation's growing scientific portfolio



The ILSI Research Foundation is pleased to announce that Dr. John Teem has joined the foundation as Senior Scientific Program Manager. In this role, Dr. Teem will contribute to the design and implementation of our growing portfolio of applied research and capacity building programs in environmental risk assessment, with an emphasis on the use of gene drives in biotechnology.

Dr. Teem comes to the ILSI Research Foundation with a wealth of experience in genetic biocontrol. Prior to joining the foundation, Dr. Teem worked at the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services where he specialized in genetic biocontrol of invasive species. He has significant lab experience as well as strong skills in molecular biology, data analysis, and risk assessment. Dr. Teem has published more than 20 peer-reviewed articles related to molecular biology and genetics, reaching international audiences.

Dr. Teem received his doctorate in Biology from Brandeis University. Following post-doctoral fellowships at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, and the University of Iowa, he was an Assistant Professor at Florida State University where he used yeast genetics to conduct research on the human genetic disease, cystic fibrosis.

Dr. Teem will contribute to the Research Foundation's new programs which are helping establish a framework for risk assessment of gene-drive mosquitos engineered to fight devastating vector-borne diseases like malaria. This scientific work will help inform how governments may apply these novel technologies as part of disease management programs. Additionally, Dr. Teem will take the lead on efforts to translate the Research Foundation's conceptual framework for data transportability into practical application.

"It's exciting to see how the ILSI Research Foundation's internationally recognized program in environmental risk assessment is now being applied to important human health challenges, like genetic management of mosquito vectors of diseases such as malaria, dengue and zika. In looking for an addition to our team, we wanted a scientist with proven experience and a passion for bridging human health and environmental applied research. Dr. Teem more than meets these criteria, and we are very pleased to have him join us." -Dr. Adam Drewnowski, Chair, ILSI Research Foundation Board of Trustees

The ILSI Research Foundation improves environmental sustainability and human health by advancing science to address real world problems.

The ILSI Research Foundation's programs in nutrition, toxicology, risk assessment and agriculture are informed and strengthened by the deliberate inclusion of international, multi-sectoral expertise and perspectives.

For more information, please visit: www.ilsirf.org or contact rf@ilsirf.org.