

Zaid Abdo's will be visiting on February 20, 2012 to give the next ecolunch.

Zaid is an associate professor of mathematics, statistics and bioinformatics at the University of Idaho. His projects are driven based on biological questions and he addresses them with a combination of mathematical modeling and statistical analysis including computationally intensive methods and simulations.

<http://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/~zabdo/>

He has multiple research areas but to give an example, Zaid is part of the human microbiome project, an NIH funded push to understand the microbial communities in the human body and it's impact on human health and disease. You may think based on this that his work has nothing to do with your interests but his models are applicable to all kinds of different environments. For example, he uses hierarchical bayesian models to understand the temporal dynamics of the microbial communities in the human vagina and how these dynamics are effected by factors such as life history and behavioral characteristics. These models can be applied to any system in which communities change due to essentially any fixed or variable characteristic.

So if you would like to meet with him, please fill out the doodle below.

The link to the poll is the following:

<http://doodle.com/vw9xvkveiam8m76b>