

Science Research Conferences

The Mechanisms of Plant Development Conference

Organizer Bio: Kimberly Gallagher, PhD

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Kimberly Gallagher is a plant cell biologist studying the mechanisms of protein trafficking in plants. Her research focuses on understanding how cytoplasmic proteins interact with the endomembrane to access plasmodesmata and transport between cells. Her research is motivated by a deep interest in the mechanism of development and understanding how protein trafficking contributes to cellular patterning, cell differentiation, developmental plasticity, and robustness.

Gallagher began her career as a technician working with Dr. Gloria Coruzzi and Dr. Philip Benfey at New York University (NYU) where she studied nitrogen metabolism and root development. She completed her graduate study in Dr. Laurie Smith's laboratory (at the University of North Carolina and the University of California, San Diego) working on the role of the cytoskeleton in asymmetric cell divisions in the maize leaf. For her post-doc, Kim returned to Dr. Benfey's lab (at NYU and then Duke University) to work on root development in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. In 2006 she joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania where she has continued her research on the *Arabidopsis* root.