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## Isolation and Characterization of Six Novel *Rhodobacter Capsulatus* Bacteriophages

Addison Ely Illinois Wesleyan University

Alexandria Paradis Illinois Wesleyan University

Brook Koebele
Illinois Wesleyan University

Richard Alvey, Faculty Advisor *Illinois Wesleyan University* 

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## Poster Presentation P9

## ISOLATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF SIX NOVEL RHODOBACTER CAPSULATUS BACTERIOPHAGES

<u>Addison Ely, Alexandria Paradis, Brook Koebele,</u> and Richard Alvey\* Biology Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

Rhodobacter capsulatus is a photosynthetic bacterium that is used frequently as a model system in studying the genetics of photosynthesis, but historically has not been used in bacteriophage studies. In order to broaden our knowledge of phages that infect R. capsulatus six new bacteriophages were isolated, expanding the total number of RC-bacteriophages to twelve. Although these new phages were found in various but similar freshwater environments, each displayed unique characteristics. These included plaque morphology, host range infectivity, and immunity. After isolation and purification of the bacteriophages, DNA was obtained from three, and sent to North Carolina State University for sequencing.