

# Beta Cell Interest Group (BIG) Seminar

Current and ongoing beta cell research is presented in this weekly seminar by faculty, postdoctoral fellows and students. If you are interested in attending the Beta Cell Interest Group (BIG) seminars and joining the BIG community, please contact [David Jacobson](#).

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## Meeting Details

Start Date / Time	June 10, 2015 at 9:00 AM
End Date / Time	June 10, 2015 at 9:55 AM
Duration	55 minutes
Location	512 Light Hall
Presenter Name	Christopher Reissaus (Piston's lab)
Presentation Title	Rescue of Glucose Inhibition of Glucagon Secretion by Clustering of Islet Cells
Status	This meeting has already occurred

## Meeting Agenda/Notes

Glucose homeostasis is maintained largely by hormones secreted from pancreatic islets. The mechanisms that regulate glucagon secretion from islet alpha cells are still being elucidated. Within an islet, alpha cells demonstrate glucose inhibition of glucagon secretion (GIGS), while dispersed alpha cells do not. This phenomenon is in part mediated by glucose, insulin, somatostatin, and cell-cell contacts, including ephrin/EphA signaling. The goal of this project is to determine the role of cell-cell contacts and certain aspects of the islet environment on GIGS in alpha cells. To test aspects of our model, new islet clusters, containing only certain cell types, will be created. This is possible by using fluorescence-activated cell sorting of transgenically labeled alpha, beta, and delta cell. Using this approach, it is possible to determine the minimum components required to maintain GIGS in alpha cells.