In addition to genetic alterations, intercellular interactions in the tumor microenvironment significantly influence cancer progression in ways we don’t fully understand. Oncogenic Ras mutations give rise to aggressive cancers that are difficult to treat. While some of the underlying intracellular signals have been elucidated in exquisite details, much less is known about cell-cell interactions promoting Ras cancers. The characterization of these signals will broaden our cancer biology perspectives and potentially lead to novel targeted therapy strategies. Here I will discuss some of our ongoing efforts to delineate cell-cell signaling dynamics in the Ras tumor milieu using *Drosophila* and mouse tumor models. Finally, I will briefly discuss our work on a microbial-based tumor targeting approach.

If you would like to visit with Dr. Chiswili Chabu, please contact Jocelyn McDonald at jmcdona@ksu.edu.

*Coffee & cookies served preceding the seminar in Ackert Hall, Room 225*