SEMINAR TITLE
“Surveillance without borders: New directions in the informatics of real-time global infectious disease monitoring”

SEMINAR SPEAKER
John Brownstein, PhD
Harvard Medical School
Children’s Hospital Informatics Group

PROGRAM
11:50 - 1:00 p.m. Lecture
12:50 - 1:00 p.m. Q&A and Discussion
1:00 – 1:30 p.m. Pizza

ABSTRACT
The talk will outline novel statistical modeling and medical informatics approaches for obtaining, analyzing and visualizing public health surveillance data. In particular, the development of several early warning systems, including the HealthMap.org epidemic intelligence system, will be explored. The talk will also address the application of such systems for predicting patterns of epidemics and pandemics, with specific interests in the efficacy of disease control strategies including vaccination, quarantine, and travel restrictions.

BIOGRAPHIC PROFILE
Dr. John Brownstein is an Assistant Professor Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, and has joint appointments in the Children’s Hospital Boston Informatics Program and Division of Emergency Medicine. He was trained as an epidemiologist in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at Yale University where he received his PhD. His research has focused on spatial modeling of a variety of infectious disease including malaria, dengue, West Nile virus, Lyme disease, RSV and influenza. He is also leading the development of several novel surveillance systems, including the HealthMap.org initiative. His work has been reported on widely including pieces in Science, Nature, New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, CNN and the BBC.

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