



**You are cordially invited to attend the following seminar sponsored by  
the Department of Mechanical Engineering:**

**Friday, March 16, 2007  
114 Spencer Lab, 12:15 P.M.**

*Dr. James Iatridis  
University of Vermont*

**“ROLE OF MECHANICAL LOADING IN DAMAGE AND REPAIR  
IN THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISC”**

**Abstract:**

Intervertebral disc degeneration is commonly associated with low back pain with huge social and economic impacts. Mechanisms for intervertebral disc degeneration include mechanical damage, cell apoptosis, loss of nutritional pathways, and pathological remodeling. The first purpose of this talk is to provide a brief overview of research areas in the Spine Bioengineering Lab. This will be followed by a brief background on intervertebral disc degeneration. The main emphasis of the seminar will be to describe several investigations exploring interactions of mechanical loading with intervertebral disc degeneration, remodeling and repair.

**Refreshments will be served**