

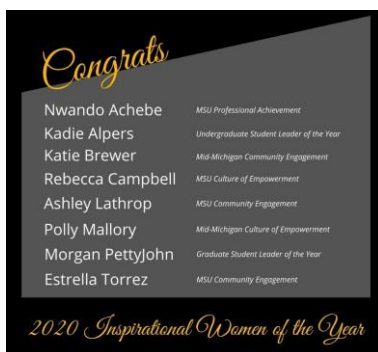
**PLANT SOIL
& MICROBIAL
SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT**



Congratulations to:

Ashley Lathrop has been awarded the 2020 Inspirational Woman of the Year for MSU Community Engagement. She will be recognized at an event at the Wharton Center on March 18th. Additional Information:

<https://gencen.isp.msu.edu/about/awards/inspirational-woman-award/>



Seminar / Webinar Announcements

2020 Vision: MSU Extension in the Next Decade, Room 110 - Radiology Building

All presentations will begin at 4 PM and will follow with a Q&A period at 4:45 PM.

A short networking reception with light refreshments will immediately follow.

Register here: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/2020Vision/>

➤ **March 5: Amy Pienta**, research scientist with the University of Michigan Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research

➤ **April 20: Keith Creagh**, former director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

➤ **May 5: David Mortenson, PhD**, professor of Weed and Applied Plant Pathology, Penn State University

February 17, 2020 at 1:30 PM in 247, Plant Biology Building

Nikki Lukasko

Title: *Fungicide Resistance to Botrytis cinerea in Michigan Floriculture Greenhouses*

February 20, 2020 at 4:10 PM in A149, Plant and Soil Sciences Building

Refreshments served at 4 PM

Dr. Julie Dawson, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Title: *Participatory variety trialing for direct-market vegetable growers in the Upper Midwest: the Seed to Kitchen Collaborative*

Seminar / Webinar Announcements

February 24, 2020 at 1:30 PM in 247, Plant Biology Building
Derrick Grunwald, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Graduate Student Exchange Seminar
Title: *Soybean SNAPs back: the role of vesicle trafficking in soybean cyst nematode resistance*

February 27, 2020 at 4:10 PM in A149, Plant and Soil Sciences Building
Refreshments served at 4 PM
Dr. Karen Cichy, Plant, Soil & Microbial Sciences, Michigan State University
Title: *Genetic Control of Cooking Time in Dry Beans*

March 9, 2020 at 1:30 PM in 247, Plant Biology Building
Viviana Ortiz
Title: *Adaptive differentiation in geographically structured populations of a broadly distributed fungal pathogen*

March 12, 2020 at 4:10 PM in A149, Plant and Soil Sciences Building
Dr. Eliza Halcomb, Bayer
Title: *"Extra, extra - Read all about It" Pesticides are Critical for Public Health*

Career Fairs

February 19, 2020 from 2:00-6:00 PM, Natural Resources Building, 1st Floor Hallways
Environmental Natural Resources & Sustainability Opportunity Fair
This event is open to all students with an interest in sustainability, the environment, natural resources, conservation and the out-of-doors. Alumni and industry professionals will be there to share information about internship, summer, temporary, entry level and volunteer opportunities.

March 11 & 12, 2020, 3:00-6:00 PM
MSU's largest spring semester career event representing all majors. Sponsored by Auto-Owners Insurance, this two-day event includes internship, summer job and full-time career opportunities for students. Day 1 session: Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 3-6 PM. Large companies with over 50 employees are encouraged to attend the Day 1 session. Day 2 session: Thursday, March 12, 2020, 3-6 PM. Companies with less than 50 employees are encouraged to attend the day 2 session. Location: Huntington Club, Spartan Stadium

Career Advising Appointments - all CANR students can register for one-on-one career advising appointments for resume & cover letter reviews, job or internship search or for career assessments in helping develop a focus for their career. To sign up - log in on Handshake, click on career center, then appointments.

Job & Internship Postings - If you have students still looking for summer 2020 internships or full-time jobs - please remind them to check for new postings on Handshake - msu.joinhandshake.com.

Announcements

The MSU Agronomy Club's annual merchandise sale is open! This year they have a web-based site where you can purchase and pay online. You can have orders shipped to your home or to PSS for pickup. Orders can be submitted **until 2/16/2020**. If you have any questions, please contact club president, **Brianna Wiemer** at wiemerbr@msu.edu
To order: https://gologoit.com/msu_crop_and_soil_sciences/shop/home

February 20, 2020

Save the Date - Michigan National Features Inventory Annual Slide Show and Networking will be held at the Hannah Community Center in East Lansing from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM on February 20th. For more information on Michigan Natural Features Inventory please visit their website at <https://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/>. For any additional questions regarding this event, please contact **Josh Gunn** at either gunnjosh@msu.edu or 517-355-2361.

February 20, 2020

February virtual office hour with Brad Day in the division of Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS)! Additional information: <https://iosblog.nsfbio.com/2020/02/04/february-virtual-office-hour-with-the-division-of-integrative-organismal-systems-ios/>

February 21, 2020

PSM International Dinner, 5:00-7:00 PM, MPS Atrium

We cordially invite all students and faculty in Plant Science and their families to the annual PSM International Potluck Dinner. The event will be in the MPS atrium on February 21st from 5-7 pm. If you would like to bring your own dish, please contact **Hannah Jeffery** (jeffer90@msu.edu) and she will send you a link to the registration form. We will have a best dish competition with prizes!

February 26, 2020

MSU Breathe Easy: Tobacco, Nicotine and Vaping Cessation Program Offered Free to Faculty and Staff

This program is the result of a partnership between Human Resources and the Office of the University Physician. Breathe Easy participants receive support to quit tobacco, nicotine and vaping products using prescription medications, nicotine replacement therapies or choosing not to use medication at all. The Spring Semester MSU Breathe Easy Program starts on Wednesday, February 26th. To register faculty, staff, graduate student employees, and their adult benefits-eligible family members should contact Health4U at 517-353-2596 or by email at health4u@msu.edu by 5:00 PM on Monday, February 24th. Employees are not required to use their own time to participate in the MSU Breathe Easy Program.

Additional information: <http://health4u.msu.edu/courses/breathe-easy-program>

March 6, 2020

The MSU Chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi is inviting nominations for two important distinctions: the 2020 Excellence Award in Interdisciplinary Scholarship (EAIS) and faculty and professional staff election to the Society. Nominations should be sent to the Chapter's office in 93 Kellogg Center. The deadline for all nominations is Friday, March 6th. Additional Information: <https://pkp.msu.edu/excellence-award-in-interdisciplinary-scholarship-eais>

Please contact **Burt Bargerstock** with additional questions at 517-353-8977 or bb@msu.edu

Announcements

March 13, 2020

MSU Ballroom in the Union from 9 AM-5 PM

POE Annual Summit “*Navigating Change: Building Our Future Together*”

The summit promotes and educates members of the MSU campus community on eliminating gender-based violence on campus, empowering the MSU community to become advocates for a non-violent community, and positively affecting social change.

Additional information: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_djzbCk27pFPI75z

Questions/Concerns: Contact **Rae Chaloult** at chaloul2@msu.edu

March 17, 2020

Michigan pesticide applicator certification exams will be given to **Howard Russell’s** ENT 111 class on March 17th. He has seating for an additional 10-12 people. The exams will be given in 352 Natural Science Building at 8:00 AM. Please contact **Howard Russell** at bugman@msu.edu if you are interested.

March 25, 2020

Conversation on MSU Strategic Planning Process

9:00-11:00 AM, Kellogg Center, Room Big Ten A

Registration https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6qW4EzHsrAbmnpX

President Stanley recently charged the Strategic Planning Steering Committee with gathering input from campus and external stakeholders, including alumni and community leaders, about the university’s vision, values and strategic direction. This will enable MSU to consider our current state and identify underlying themes, strengths and trends across campus as we consider new opportunities and respond to emerging challenges. Co-chairs **Vennie Gore** and **Joe Salem** will discuss the strategic planning process and options to offer input on creating a shared MSU vision.

March 30-31, 2020

USDA Rural Development, Montana State University, and Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (WSARE), is announcing the inaugural **Soil Health Innovations Conference**. This national conference will be held at Montana State University in Bozeman.

Conference registration (to attend in person):

<https://soilinnovations.ncat.org/register/>

Conference registration (livestream): <https://soilinnovations.ncat.org/universities/>

April 13, 2020

Conversation on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Planning at MSU

9:00-11:00 AM, Kellogg Center, Room Big Ten BC

Registration https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_emSupiTRbvNw9GB

President Stanley recently charged the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Steering Committee to examine, among other areas, the composition and success of our faculty, staff and student body; research and scholarship; curriculum and educational programs; community engagement; and the culture our community members live and experience each day. The committee will inventory efforts around diversity, equity and inclusion across campus; identify potential synergies; pinpoint existing gaps; and establish a framework for making MSU a national leader in this area. Co-chairs **Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore** and **Luis Garcia** will discuss the committee’s work and options to offer input on these critical issues.

Announcements

April 26-28, 2020

Conference on Applied Statistics in Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Florida (Gainesville). The abstract deadline has been **extended to Friday, February 14**.

Abstract submission information: <https://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/applied-stats/call-abstracts.html>

Registration: <https://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/applied-stats/registration-information.html>

May 7-8, 2020

Dimensions of Plant Resilience Inaugural Symposium

Submit abstracts by **March 31, 2020**

Additional information: <https://plantresilience.msu.edu/events/symposium-2020/>

May 30-June 13, 2020

2020 Practical Summer Workshop in Functional Genomics, Ohio State University
Now accepting applications for undergraduate, master's and new Ph.D. students.
The upcoming workshop will focus on plant-microbe interactions.

Further information regarding the workshop: <https://caps.osu.edu/FGW-2020>

Please contact **Jason Slot**, Coordinator, 2020 PSWFG at caps@osu.edu with any additional questions.

July 12-August 7, 2020

CANR is calling for summer mentors for the **2020 ANR Multicultural Apprenticeship Program (MAP)**. The program runs from July 12-August 7, 2020 and the mentor application is **due by April 10th**. Please see the MAP faculty information and participation form that was emailed out to faculty on January 28th. Further information regarding the program:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/academics/pre_college/multicultural_apprenticeship_program_map/index

Travel

What do you do if you need to change or cancel a flight due to an emergency?

Do not contact the airline, contact Conlin Travel directly. Conlin Travel is available 24 hours a day to help you with any travel issues that may occur.

Phone (24 hours): 517-884-9400 or MSU Campus 4-9400

Phone (Weekdays 8 AM - 8 PM EST): 844-434-5026

Phone International: 517-827-2719

Email: msu@conlintravel.com

Locating Requests and Expense Reports

The Travel@State team has developed a new document titled *Locating Requests & Expense Reports*. Please visit the Reference Library at

<http://ctlr.msu.edu/COTravelNew/Guides.aspx> for access to this document and other helpful guides.

The MSU Travel@State team reminds you, when completing Expense Reports in Concur, to please attach one receipt per expense. In other words, each expense should be listed separately with its corresponding receipt attached. Thank you.

HR / Professional Development Opportunities

Current Organization and Professional Development (OPD) courses are available this semester for yourself and/or faculty and support staff in your unit.

<https://hr.msu.edu/professional-development/courses/index.html>

If you are a support staff employee, be sure to use your Educational Assistance funds for career development opportunities such as OPD courses, attending conferences, and so much more. Learn about your Ed Assist benefit here <https://hr.msu.edu/professional-development/ed-assist/>

Upcoming Professional Development Courses

February 19 & 20	Crucial Accountability
February 19	Honing Your Emotional Intelligence
February 19	Emotional Intelligence in Leadership
February 20	Building Capacity for Resilience as a Leader
March 11	Fundamentals of Supervision
March 11	Communicating and Influencing Up

HR / Health

- Take a trip to your doctor and stay up-to-date on your health! Get your annual physicals, eye exams, and check-ups!
- Check out MSU Health4U courses! From learning how to cook quick and healthy meals, to participating in active stretching, MSU Health4U offers a variety of health and wellness programs. Additional information: <https://health4u.msu.edu/courses>
- Utilize discounts at local gyms offered through MSU Benefits Plus. Receive 5-20% off at various locations including LA Fitness, 24 Hour Fitness, Anytime Fitness along with regional chains, local gyms and specialty studios. Additional information: <https://www.msubenefitsplus.com/>
- Prioritize your mental health! MSU employees and their adult dependents who are currently enrolled in an MSU health plan have access to behavioral health services offered through Teladoc. Find support and receive 24/7 access to a healthcare professional conveniently online. Additional information: <https://hr.msu.edu/benefits/healthcare/teladoc.html>

HR / Money & Savings

- If enrolled in a flexible spending account this year, utilize those funds for eligible expenses such as band-aids, shoe insoles, and aspirin! Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) help you save money by allowing you to use pre-tax dollars to pay for eligible expenses. Discover various items that you can yours for FSA funds for at the FSA Store (fsastore.com)
- Put more towards retirement! Consider taking advantage of compounding retirement savings that will end up saving you more in the long run. Learn how compounding works and discover various retirement plans.
Additional information: <https://sourcelive.hr.msu.edu/?p=13743>

HR / Payroll Notices

Employees now have access to their **2019 W2s** in EBS. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Payroll at either payroll@ctrl.msu.edu or 517-355-5010.

HR / Payroll Notices

Changes to the Federal 2020 Form W4

Click here for further information

<http://www.ctrl.msu.edu/download/Payroll/Federal-2020-W4.pdf>

Payroll Time Reporting

Due Date Reminders for biweekly payroll (includes labor and student)

Reminder: If your employee's time is not submitted, they will not be paid.

- For the **2/28/2020 pay date** covering the 2/2/2020-02/15/2020 pay period, all time must be approved by **4:00 PM Friday, 2/21/2020**.
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MSU Academic Calendar

Wednesday, 2/26

Monday, 3/2 - Friday, 3/6

Friday, 4/24

Monday, 4/27 - Friday, 5/1

Friday, 5/1 - Sunday, 5/3

Middle of Semester

Spring Break

Classes End

Final Exams

Commencements

Send newsletter submissions to guldner1@msu.edu

Deadline: Thursdays by 10:00 AM