

**PLANT SOIL
& MICROBIAL
SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT**



Seminar / Webinar Announcements

2020 Vision: MSU Extension in the Next Decade, Room 110 - Radiology Building
All presentations will begin at 4:00 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, 2020: Amy Pienta**, research scientist with the University of Michigan Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research
- **April 20, 2020: 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, 2020: David Mortenson, PhD**, professor of Weed and Applied Plant Pathology, Penn State University

February 24, 2020 at 1:30 PM in 247, Plant Biology Building
Plant Pathology Special Seminar, Sponsored by SPORE
Derrick Grunwald, PhD candidate, 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 4:00 PM
Dr. Karen Cichy, Plant, Soil & Microbial Sciences, Michigan State University
Title: *Genetic Control of Cooking Time in Dry Beans*

February 27, 2020 at 3:30 PM in 1420, Biomedical Physical Science
Brian D. Wisenden, Department of Biosciences, Minnesota State University
Title: *“Scents of Danger: “Chemically-mediated predator-prey interactions in aquatic habitats”*

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*

Seminar / Webinar Announcements

March 12, 2020 at 4:10 PM in A149, Plant and Soil Sciences Building
Refreshments served at 4:00 PM
Dr. Eliza Halcomb, Bayer
Title: *“Extra, extra - Read all about It” Pesticides are Critical for Public Health*

March 16, 2020 at 1:30 PM in Room 247, Plant Biology Building
Drew Paton-Glassbrook
Title: *“Investigating the Wheat Microbiome, and Interactions between Fusarium graminearum and Wheat Bacterial Endophytes”*

March 19, 2020 at 4:10 PM in A149, Plant and Soil Science Building
Refreshments served at 4:00 PM
Dr. Astrid Volder, UC Davis
Title: *“Perennial root systems: exploring belowground dynamics”*

March 23, 2020 at 1:30 PM in Room 247, Plant Biology Building
Emma Schlachter
Title: *“Survey of post-harvest potato tuber storage disease in Michigan”*

March 26, 2020 at 4:10 PM in A149, Plant and Soil Science Building
Refreshments served at 4:00 PM
Dr. James Simon, Rutgers University
Title: *“Progress and Challenges in Breeding for Natural Products: From a Case Study in Developing Downy Mildew Resistance in Sweet Basil, to Aromas and Insect Repellency”*

March 30, 2020 at 1:30 PM in Room 247, Plant Biology Building
Alex Hernandez
Title: *“Improving predictive disease modeling, assessing alternative management strategies, and understanding fungicide resistance for Cercospora leaf”*

Career Fairs

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

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 25 - March 13, 2020

Window Inspection will be taking place in Plant and Soil Science from 6:00 AM-4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, beginning February 25 through March 13.

An Infrastructure Planning and Facilities staff member will coordinate with building occupants to minimize disruptions of the building's operations. For additional information contact **Mark Lutkenhoff**, Manager-Structural Services at 517-432-0537 or lutkenh1@msu.edu or **Matt Vohwinkle** at 517-432-0575, or IPF at 517-353-1760.

February 26, 2020

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

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>

February 29, 2020

The Mid-Michigan chapter of Graduate Women in Science is hosting Girls' Math and Science Day at MSU on Saturday, February 29th. This is a fantastic opportunity for middle school-aged girls to participate in STEM demonstrations led by some of MSU's enthusiastic and knowledgeable graduate students and researchers. The day for each participant will consist of keynote speaker talk, four individual STEM-themed activities, an afternoon snack, and an ice cream social with a gift bag giveaway and thank-you note signing.

Girls must register for this event using the following link:

<https://midmichigan.wixsite.com/gwis/girlsmathscienceday>

Registration is now open and FREE of cost!

Additional Questions: Karla Vasco gmsd.gwis.msu@gmail.com

March 9, 11 & 13, 2020

We welcome you to the first installment of **Bioinformatics & Computational Biology Co-work Sessions** where you can share a social working space with members of the Krishnan Lab to consult & brainstorm on *your* bioinformatics/computational analysis or research project. There will be 3 sessions from 10:00 AM-12:15 PM on March 9, 11 & 13 in Holmes Hall, Classroom W5.

Register: <http://bit.ly/compbio-cowork>

Website: thekrishnanlab.org

Email Arjun Krishnan (arjun@msu.edu) for additional information

Announcements

March 10, 2020

PSM Postdocs are invited to **nominate a speaker for the Molecular Plant Sciences seminar series** for next year. Hosting a speaker is a great opportunity to get to know a scientist whose work interests you, expand your work, and participate in an activity important to the broad community of plant scientists at MSU. Please send your nominations **by March 10th** to committee chair **Kathy Osteryoung** (osteryou@msu.edu) or fill out a sheet available at the MPS seminars. Please contact **Kathy Osteryoung** with any additional questions.

March 13, 2020

MSU Ballroom in the Union from 9:00 AM-5:00 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/>

Announcements

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.

April 17, 2020

MSU will hold the annual **Student Memorial Tribute** on Friday, April 17th to honor students who have died during the past academic year. Family, friends, faculty, students and community members are invited to gather at 2:30 PM in the tent behind the Student Services Building in the fountain area. In case of rain, an alternative location will be announced. For additional information, contact the Office of the Vice President and Associate Provost for Student Affairs and Services at 517-355-7535.

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 PhD 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

The latest coronavirus updates will be posted to MSU Office of International Health and Safety's dedicated FAQ page at <https://oihs.isp.msu.edu/index.php?cID=420>

- For the next eight weeks (as of January 30, 2020), MSU is suspending all nonessential MSU-sponsored travel to mainland China.
- At present, MSU is not restricting travel to countries other than China due to coronavirus. MSU high-risk destination policy remains in force. <https://oihs.isp.msu.edu/faculty-and-staff/high-risk-destinations/>
- Since this is a rapidly evolving situation, MSU is unable to offer travel recommendations beyond the end of March at this time. Campus experts including the University Physician and the Office of International Health and Safety are meeting regularly to monitor coronavirus. If you are planning future travel to China, we strongly recommend keeping your travel plans as flexible as possible.
- Students and program directors intending to participate in education abroad programs in China should have received direct communication from the Office for Education Abroad. Please monitor your email for further updates and contact the Office for Education Abroad if you have questions in the meantime. <https://educationabroad.isp.msu.edu/>

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 25	Capital Asset Management
February 25	Certified Human Resources Specialist
February 26	Accounting in EBS
March 11	Communicating and Influencing Up
March 11	Fundamentals of Supervision
March 12	Communication Strategies for Supervisors
March 12	Manager as Coach
March 17	Creating an Inclusive Environment
March 18	Payments Non-Res Aliens & Foreign Vendors
March 18 & 19	Crucial Conversations
March 24	Everything DiSC: Behavior Styles at Work
March 24	Implicit Bias and Microaggressions
March 26	Managing Difficult Customers
March 31	EBS Financial System-Roles/Onboarding
March 31	Leading Change

HR / Health

Learn more about the following optional benefits options that are available to help eligible employees at <https://hr.msu.edu/benefits/healthcare/index.html>

Best Doctors: Find expert second medical options and access to coaching and online educational tools. <https://hr.msu.edu/benefits/healthcare/best-doctors.html>

Livongo: A diabetes management program to help you feel empowered to take control of your health and save money on necessary medical supplies.

<https://hr.msu.edu/benefits/healthcare/livongo.html>

Teladoc: An online medical care service that gives you 24/7 access to a health care professional via web, phone or mobile app in minutes.

<https://hr.msu.edu/benefits/healthcare/teladoc.html>

TruHearing: Some benefit providers offer discounts on hearing aids.

<https://hr.msu.edu/benefits/healthcare/truhearing.html>

HR / Payroll Notices

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.
- Time (both attendance and absences) should be reported using the HR/Payroll system.
- For the **3/13/2020 pay date** covering the 2/16-2/29/2020 pay period, all time must be approved by 4:00 PM Friday, **3/6/2020**.
- For the **3/27/2020 pay date** covering the 3/1-3/14/2020 pay period, all time must be approved by 4:00 PM Friday, **3/20/2020**.
- **Special Payment Authorization forms are due Monday** following the pay period end date.

Due Date Reminders for **salary payroll**

- Absences and Additional Hours worked should be reported using the HR/Payroll system.
- For the **3/31/2020 pay date** covering the 3/1-3/31/2020 pay period, all absences and additional hours must be approved by 4:00 PM on **Tuesday 3/24/2020**.
- Special Payment Authorization and Additional Payment forms are due by **Friday 3/13/2020**. Forms received after that date will be process for payment with the April 30, 2020 pay.

Please refer to the Payroll Schedules posted at

<http://ctrl.msu.edu/COPayroll/payrollSchedules.aspx>

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