

PLANT SOIL
& MICROBIAL
SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT

A message from the Chair...

I imagine that with the continued spread of the coronavirus, we must have PSM students, staff and faculty impacted through their families and friends around the world. If you and yours are affected, please know that we stand together as a PSM community, we send positive thoughts, and offer our support.

Brian Horgan

Congratulations

MSU students, faculty and staff members who have led and supported diversity and inclusion efforts on campus and beyond were recognized during the 2020 All-University Excellence in Diversity Awards on February 11th. **Ashley Lathrop** received this award with the Women's Advisory Committee for Support Staff.

Organization Award: *Excellent Progress Toward Advancing Diversity Within Community*



Seminar / Webinar Announcements

February 28, 2020 at 10:45 AM in Stack 237

W.K. Kellogg Biological Station, Spring 2020 Seminar

Adam Davis, University of Illinois

Title: *"An ecological perspective on managing weeds during the great selection for herbicide resistance"*

March 5, 2020 at 4:00 PM in Room 110, Radiology Building

2020 Vision: MSU Extension in the Next Decade

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

Amy Pienta, research scientist with the University of Michigan
Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research

Seminar / Webinar Announcements

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 9, 2020 at 4:00 PM, in MPS 1200, Molecular Plant Sciences
Refreshments at 3:45 PM

Yinong Yang, Department of Plant Pathology and Environmental Microbiology,
Penn State University

Title: *“Improving CRISPR/Cas genome editing for precision breeding and disease management”*

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 13, 2020 at 10:45 AM in Stack 237

W.K. Kellogg Biological Station, Spring 2020 Seminar

Sasha Kravchenko, Michigan State University

Title: *“Switchgrass and soil carbon sequestration”*

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 20, 2020 at 10:45 AM in Stack 237

W.K. Kellogg Biological Station, Spring 2020 Seminar

Emma Rosi, Cary Institute

Title: *“Our rivers on drugs: Pharmaceuticals and personal care products as ecological disruptors”*

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”*

Seminar / Webinar Announcements

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

March 12, 2020, 3:05-6:00 PM, Spartan Stadium Office Tower, 4th floor

LinkedIn Photo Booth at the Spring Career Fair

Drop by our LinkedIn photo booth to get a free professional headshot photo. Open to all students, all majors and grade levels. You don’t have to participate in the career fair to get your free headshot photo.

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

Multicultural Center Feasibility Study Website

Recently a website has been launched for the Multicultural Center Feasibility Study that provides a brief history of student activism and advocacy for such a facility, information on the project background, names of the members of the steering and planning committees, and an opportunity for members of the campus community and beyond to provide comments, questions or feedback.

Additional information: <https://mccenter.msu.edu>

Announcements

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 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 2-6, 2020

Debbie Williams will be out of the office March 2-6. If you have any issues that require Debbie's attention, they will be looked into upon her return on Monday, March 9th.

March 3-6, 2020

Red Water Alert

From 5:00 AM Tuesday, March 3rd through 6:00 PM on Friday, March 6th there will be campus-wide testing of fire pumps for annual certification requirements. During this work, some discoloration of the water supply may occur throughout campus; however this discoloration is harmless in terms of sanitation and safety. For additional information contact Brian Powe, Skilled Trades Supervisor at 517-899-7197 or powebria@msu.edu or IPF at 517-353-1760.

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 12, 2020

Nominations requested by March 12th for NCFDD Faculty Success Program

Each year, the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD) hosts several iterations of the Faculty Success Program, a 12-week online program to support tenure-system faculty with the goals of increasing research and writing productivity, gaining control of their time, and balancing personal and professional responsibilities. This year's summer program runs May 17th-August 8th. Please help us to identify tenure-system faculty who could most benefit from this type of opportunity. We are committed to diversifying our faculty ranks, retaining our diverse faculty and eliminating barriers to faculty success. This program provides additional support for achieving those goals.

Additional Information: <https://www.facultydiversity.org/fsp-bootcamp>

The provost has agreed to support the program costs (~\$4750 per participant) for approximately 10 selected faculty. Upon successful completion of the program, each faculty member will be requested to provide a brief description about how the experience affected their professional development.

For each nomination, please include the following:

- A) A one-page letter of support from the applicant's direct supervisor (department chair, school director, or dean)
- B) A one-page letter from the applicant indicating why this program would be beneficial to them, including the specific ways it will make a difference in their work
- C) Applicant CV

Send nominations to leeteb@msu.edu by Thursday, March 12.

Contact Cindi Leverich at youngcin@msu.edu 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.

Announcements

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 26, 2020

International Networking Breakfast, 8:30-10:30 AM at the Kellogg Center in Big Ten C

Additional Information: <https://worklife.msu.edu/news/international-networking-breakfast-serves-conversations>

To register for the breakfast or to schedule a consultation, visit: <http://bit.ly/contact-worklife>

March 27, 2020

The 2020 Plant Sciences Graduate Student Research Symposium (PSGSRs) will be held on Friday, March 27th. All graduate students in the plant sciences at MSU are encouraged to submit up to 2 abstracts for poster and/or oral presentations. Abstracts under 250 words should be submitted by 5 PM on Friday, March 13th.

Additional Information: canr.msu.edu/psgsrc/

Questions: msu.psgsrc@gmail.com

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 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

Coronavirus

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>

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/>

HR / Professional Development Opportunities

Upcoming Professional Development Courses

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

MSU Payroll

Due to renovations on the 3rd floor of the Hannah Administration Building, the Payroll office has been temporarily relocated to Room 110 (first floor) of the Administration Building.

PSM Payroll Time Reporting

Please disregard last week's payroll due dates as they are different than the PSM payroll schedule. Please see the updated schedule below.

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 March 13th pay date your time is due by 5:00 PM, Tuesday, March 3rd.
- For the March 27th pay date your time is due by 5:00 PM, Tuesday, March 17th.
- For the April 10th pay date your time is due by 5:00 PM, Tuesday, March 31st

MSU Academic Calendar

Monday, 3/2 - Friday, 3/6	Spring Break
Friday, 4/24	Classes End
Monday, 4/27 - Friday, 5/1	Final Exams
Friday, 5/1 - Sunday, 5/3	Commencements

Send newsletter submissions to guldner1@msu.edu
Deadline: Thursdays by 10:00 AM