

**PLANT SOIL  
& MICROBIAL  
SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT****Seminars / Webinars****Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Summer Workshop Series**

These workshops serve as an opportunity for faculty and staff to strengthen dialogues and collaborations among the MSU Community in the pursuit of developing a more inclusive MSU environment

**ODEI Summer Workshop Dates:**

- Thursday, June 10, 2021, from 12:00-1:15 PM  
**Melissa Elischer & Laurie Rivetto**, Exploration of the MSU Extension Inclusion Guidebook
- Wednesday, June 16, 2021, from 12:00-1:00 PM  
**Jon'a Joiner**, Reframing Wellness in the Workplace
- Wednesday, July 14, 2021, from 11:00 AM-1:30 PM  
**ADVANCEGeo Partnership**, Bystander Intervention Workshop
- Wednesday, July 28, 2021, from 11:00 AM-1:30 PM  
**ADVANCEGeo Partnership**, Code of Ethics Workshop

Registration for the ODEI Summer Workshop Series is currently open and closes at 11:59 PM on July 27, 2021. [Register Here](#). A Zoom link will be sent to attendees prior to each Workshop Session.

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**Reflect and Connect Session: Stretching Out of Our Pandemic Posture****Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>****Reflect & Connect 3:00-4:30 PM****Chair Yoga 4:30-5:00 PM**

The Reflect & Connect series provides an opportunity for MSU faculty, staff, and graduate students to come together to examine the personal and professional impacts of contemporary national and global events/tragedies and provides a space to explore best self-care/work-effectiveness strategies.

For this session: Join other MSU colleagues as we explore how we have been impacted by pandemic stress, the posture we took as we learned to cope with all we experienced, and how that “posture” is serving us as we begin to re-engage socially, personally, and professionally.

[Register Here](#)

Follow this link for more details: <https://worklife.msu.edu/events/reflect-connect-stretching-out-our-pandemic-posture>

## Announcements

### Internal Grant Call: Policy-Relevant Research

MSU's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR) is now accepting proposals through the Michigan Applied Public Policy Research (MAPPR) grant program. We apologize for the budgeting delay but are pleased to announce that the program has returned. Please send the attached guidelines to faculty with a recommendation for participation.

We expect to distribute \$150,000 in total for MSU grants up to \$30,000 each for applied research on current policy-relevant issues in Michigan. Grant recipients are expected to submit a written report on their research findings pertinent to policymakers. Three-page proposals and budgets are due July 15th, 2021. Recipients will be announced in early August.

IPPSR also offers survey research services through the Office for Survey Research, the State of the State Survey, and the Michigan Policy Insiders Panel and can assist with related budget preparation. For comparing Michigan to other states, IPPSR also maintains the Correlates of State Policy dataset with thousands of variables measured for all states by year. IPPSR also conducts regular trainings and forums for state policymakers and can assist faculty in presenting research to policymakers.

Additional information, as well as a list of previously funded MAPPR projects and reports, is available at:

<http://ippsr.msu.edu/public-policy/michigan-applied-public-policy-research-mappr>

Questions regarding the proposal or grant process may be directed to **Arnold**

**Weinfeld:** [weinfeld8@msu.edu](mailto:weinfeld8@msu.edu). Questions regarding budgeting can be submitted to **Iris Taylor Harper:** [taylori@msu.edu](mailto:taylori@msu.edu).

Additional information attached to this newsletter

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### Call for Hosts - Honors College Fireside Chats

For over 25 years, the Honors College (HC) has organized a series of student-faculty events for HC first year students called "Fireside Chats." In addition to providing a venue for informal interaction between faculty and new Honors students, the Fireside Chats serve to welcome the students to MSU and promote their participation in our scholarly community.

#### What is an HC Fireside Chat?

A typical Fireside Chat features a faculty member hosting six to twelve first-year Honors students on campus on an early fall evening or afternoon usually over a meal. Virtual Chats may be proposed as well. In some instances, faculty members invite colleagues or upper-level students. Again this year we will have an upper level Honors peer mentor meet with the students before and after your Chat to help to facilitate connections and conversation.

**In planning for fall semester 2021, I am writing to ask whether you and/or faculty in your department/college would consider hosting a Chat between September 7 and October 22 on a date convenient for you.** New and returning hosts are welcome. Based on many years of feedback, students and faculty alike value this time to get to know each other in a more informal setting.

**Please let Dr. Bess German** ([germanr@msu.edu](mailto:germanr@msu.edu), 355-2326) **know by June 15** if you are willing to host a Fireside Chat or if you would like to discuss the possibility of doing so. Our staff would be happy to work with interested individuals on the details.

## MSU Staff and Faculty Development/Training

### elevateU

Free online training for MSU faculty and staff

[Access elevateU here](#) or [log into EBS](#) and look for the "elevateU" tile under the "My Career & Training" tab.

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### Staff Development Programs

Organization and Professional Development (OPD) offers a wide range of learning opportunities to help support staff meet their professional development goals.

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

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### Faculty/Academic Staff Development Programs

The Academic Advancement Network (AAN) works with all faculty, academic staff, and academic administrators at MSU as they join the university, establish professional trajectories, and move through various stages of review, promotion, and growth.

<https://hr.msu.edu/professional-development/faculty-academic-staff/index.html>

## Job Announcements

### Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences

#### Unit Human Resources Coordinator

The Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences is seeking a dynamic addition to our HR team.

Job # 711135

<https://careers.msu.edu/cw/en-us/job/506821/unit-human-resources-coordinator>

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#### Research Technologist I

The Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences at Michigan State University, College of Ag and Natural Resources is seeking a Research Technician in the Douches Lab.

Job # 710676

<https://careers.msu.edu/cw/en-us/job/506827/research-technologist-i>

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#### Assistant Professor - Tenure System

The Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences invites applications for a 9-month academic year, tenure-track Assistant Professor, in Soil Science with experience and special emphasis in soil genesis and classification.

Job # 706037

<https://careers.msu.edu/cw/en-us/job/506718/assistant-professortenure-system>

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#### Research Associate - Fixed Term

The Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences invites applications from outstanding candidates for a fixed term Research Associate position in the area of plant responses to nutrient deficiency, with a main focus on phosphorus starvation.

Job # 700439

<https://careers.msu.edu/cw/en-us/job/506404/research-associatefixed-term>

## COVID-19 Updates

- Leaders from MSU, Ingham County Health Department and Sparrow Hospital answered employee questions on local vaccine distribution efforts in a virtual town hall. If you missed the town hall, you can [re-watch it here](#).
- The MSU Health Care Pharmacy is now offering the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to employees, students, and patients. Appointments are available and open to all individuals 12 years of age and older. [Additional Information](#)
- All employees who have been working remotely should continue doing so until told otherwise by their supervisor.
- As we plan for more in-person work, face coverings, health screening forms and other mitigation strategies (such as physical distancing) still are required by MIOSHA emergency rules and will continue.
- Thursday, the state announced that in June all outdoor gathering restrictions will be lifted and on July 1, the state's indoor and outdoor gathering restrictions and mask orders will all be rescinded. [Read more here](#)
- The campus wide Spartan Health Screening form can be [Found Here](#).

### Protocol - MSU COVID 19 Testing and Reporting

Please see this link <https://msu.edu/together-we-will/students-parents/> and <https://msu.edu/together-we-will/faculty-staff/> for current COVID-19 testing and reporting protocol.

MSU Faculty, Staff, and Students with COVID-19 health-related questions, please call the MSU Health Care COVID-19 Triage line at 855-958-2678. The MSU Health Care COVID-19 Triage line is available 6:00 AM to 12:00 AM (Midnight), 7 days a week.

Campus Information and Updates: <https://msu.edu/coronavirus/>  
CDC guidance regarding COVID-19 <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>

### Face Coverings

Effective May 10, 2021, masks will no longer be needed in outdoor settings on campus or MSU-affiliated properties for individuals or small gatherings. Per the MDHHS order, masks are not required outdoors unless a gathering has 100 or more people. **This change is for outdoors only.** Face coverings are still required while indoors on campus or MSU-affiliated properties. Off campus, the university continues to urge Spartans to follow [CDC guidelines](#).

Face coverings should:

1. be non-medical grade to maintain supplies for health care use,
2. fit snugly against the side of your face,
3. cover your nose and mouth,
4. be secured with ties or ear loops **and**
5. allow for breathing without restriction.

Cloth face coverings should only be worn for one day at a time, and they must be properly hand washed or laundered with soap/detergent before subsequent use. Face coverings may vary (for example, disposable non-medical masks or neck gaiters are acceptable).

## Food and Drink Policy

### Food and Drink Policy - Addendum to the PSSB Reopening Plan 7/23/2020

Based on the changing Executive Orders and needs of the MSU community, food consumption will be allowed in PSSB in posted designated areas. Please keep in mind that this change in policy may pose an increased risk of exposure and it is important to observe physical distancing, follow disinfecting protocols and spend minimal time in the room.

To meet these goals and maximize safety, the PSSB building SOP plan has been modified to:

- Note that it is always preferable to eat outside of the building when possible
- Conference and break rooms on the second floor will be open for food consumption. Please limit your time to 30-min to accommodate colleagues/other building occupants.
  - A279 - Horticulture conference room - maximum occupancy is 5
  - A271 - PSM conference room - maximum occupancy is 6
  - A246 - Break room - maximum occupancy is 5
- Maximum occupancy signs will be posted on each door. If the room is fully occupied, please check another designated space. If all conference and break rooms are fully occupied, check back later.
- Masks must be worn in each room unless actually consuming food.
- Kitchenettes will continue to be closed. There is no microwave or refrigerator usage allowed.
- Everyone should bring and remove all personal supplies for eating.
- The user is required to disinfect the space before and after each use following EPA approved guidelines (70% alcohol for 5-min; Sani-wipes for 3-min). Disinfectants will be present in the room.
- Snacks and community food to share should not be brought to work.

## Vehicle Use Policy

Please see the attached COVID-19 Vehicle Occupancy Guidance. (Sept 2020)

## PSM 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 June 18<sup>th</sup> pay date (for time worked from May 23-June 5) your time is due by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- For the July 2<sup>nd</sup> pay date (for time worked from June 6-19) your time is due by 5 PM on Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- For the July 16<sup>th</sup> pay date (for time worked from June 20-July 3) your time is due by 5 PM on Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Travel

MSU's Office for Global Health, Safety, and Security has issued new guidelines and procedures for MSU-sponsored travel. Effective May 14, 2021:

- MSU-sponsored domestic travel authorizations will return to the processes used prior to the pandemic.
- Employees, students, and approved guests seeking to engage in MSU-sponsored international travel, must submit a [Waiver Application Form](#) for review at least 3 weeks prior to departure. A streamlined review process exists for those fully vaccinated.

For additional travel guidance, please visit the Office for Global Health, Safety and Security website at <https://globalsafety.isp.msu.edu/travel-during-covid-19-pandemic>. MSU encourages all travelers to stay informed about health and safety conditions at their destinations, policies on border closings, quarantine on arrival, and airline policies.

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For MSU's most current **Domestic Travel** information go to <https://globalsafety.isp.msu.edu/travel-during-covid-19-pandemic/domestic-travel/>

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### Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic

For the most current MSU information regarding travel during the COVID-19 pandemic go to <https://globalsafety.isp.msu.edu/travel-during-covid-19-pandemic/>

Contact the Office for Global Health, Safety, and Security with questions at either 517-884-2174 or [globalsafety@msu.edu](mailto:globalsafety@msu.edu)

[Contact Us - MSU Office for Global Health, Safety and Security](#)

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### **UPDATED:** Blanket Travel Request Forms

PSM has updated our policy on blanket trip request forms. Previously, we submitted our blanket request forms by fiscal year. **We have updated this policy to calendar year.** Please update your blanket request forms to reflect this change.

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### Assistance Resources

Travel policy and travel program support: [travel@ctrl.msu.edu](mailto:travel@ctrl.msu.edu) or 517-355-5000  
Concur: [concurhelp@msu.edu](mailto:concurhelp@msu.edu)

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### Travel@State - Frequently Asked Questions

<https://ctrl.msu.edu/COTravelNew/FrequentlyAskedQuestions.aspx>

- [Getting Started](#)
- [Concur Mobile](#)
- [My Travel Network, Triplt Pro](#)
- [Travel Bookings](#)
- [Connections](#)
- [Request](#)
- [Delegates](#)
- [Approvals](#)
- [Expense Reports](#)
- [Receipts](#)

## MSU Academic Calendar

**Summer 2021 Full Session**  
July 2 Middle of Semester  
July 5 Holiday - University Closed  
August 19 Classes End  
Last Class Day Final Exams

**Summer 2021 Session One**  
June 9 Middle of Semester  
July 1 Classes End  
Last Class Day Final Exams

**Summer 2021 Session Two**  
July 6 Classes Begin  
July 28 Middle of Semester  
August 19 Classes End  
Last Class Day Final Exams

**Fall 2021**  
September 1 Classes Begin  
September 6 Holiday - University Closed  
October 20 Middle of Semester  
October 25-26 Break Days  
November 25-26 Holiday - University Closed  
December 12 Classes End  
December 13-17 Final Exams  
December 24-27 Holiday - University Closed  
December 17-18 Commencements  
Dec 31 - Jan 3 Holiday - University Closed

### PSM Office Contact Information / Hours

<b>AnnMarie Guldner</b>	<a href="mailto:guldner1@msu.edu">guldner1@msu.edu</a>	Monday-Friday	7 AM-3 PM
<b>Brian Horgan</b>	<a href="mailto:horganb@msu.edu">horganb@msu.edu</a>	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM
<b>Christiina Donley</b>	<a href="mailto:tymoszew@msu.edu">tymoszew@msu.edu</a>	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM
<b>Dominic Colosimo</b>	<a href="mailto:colosi14@msu.edu">colosi14@msu.edu</a>	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM
<b>Emily Williams</b>	<a href="mailto:emilywil@msu.edu">emilywil@msu.edu</a>	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM
<b>Gina Centeno</b>	<a href="mailto:centeno@msu.edu">centeno@msu.edu</a>	Monday-Friday	8:15 AM-2:45 PM
<b>Hannah O'Mara</b>	<a href="mailto:omarahan@msu.edu">omarahan@msu.edu</a>	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM
<b>Lee Duynslager</b>	<a href="mailto:duynslag@msu.edu">duynslag@msu.edu</a>	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12:30 PM & 1-4:30 PM
<b>Lisa Bowen</b>	<a href="mailto:bowenli1@msu.edu">bowenli1@msu.edu</a>	Monday-Friday	8 AM-4 PM
<b>Mackenzie Graham</b>	<a href="mailto:graham2@msu.edu">graham2@msu.edu</a>	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 12:30-4:30 PM

### Newsletter Submissions

Send newsletter submissions to AnnMarie Guldner at [guldner1@msu.edu](mailto:guldner1@msu.edu)  
Deadline: Thursdays by 10:00 AM