

**PLANT SOIL
& MICROBIAL
SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT**



Seminars / Webinars

May 12, 2021 at 11:30 AM

Women's Networking Association Spring 2021 Virtual Event Series

Processing Change through Reflective Writing

Dr. Denise Acevedo, MSU Writing Rhetoric and American Culture

Register: <https://msu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0kc-qrqD0tHNQBOX9wigfclt9wF-Fz-kz0>

MSU Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives Events

May 19, 2021 from 6:00-7:00 PM

Please join an online conversation between **MSU President Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.** and newly appointed **Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer Jabbar R. Bennett, Ph.D.** This live, interactive discussion will address current events and the future of Michigan State University, especially focused on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives. [Register Here](#)

Announcements

Updated PSM Key Authorization and PSSB Autoclave Access Forms

Both the PSM Key Authorization and PSSB Autoclave Access Forms have been updated. They are now in a fillable PDF format and will require both the faculty/staff member's signature and the signature of their PI/supervisor to process the request. For the PSSB Autoclave Access form, you will need to provide the front and back of your MSU ID card so that card reader access can be issued. The new forms have been attached to this newsletter. These forms are only for new requests. If you have a form on file, you do not need to resubmit. Once forms are completed, send to **AnnMarie Guldner** at guldner1@msu.edu.

PSM Drivers Certification Forms have been Updated

The PSM Drivers Certification Forms have also been updated to a fillable PDF format. The updated version of this form is attached to this newsletter. If you have a form on file for 2021 you do not need to resubmit your form. Once forms are completed, please send to **AnnMarie Guldner** at guldner1@msu.edu.

Announcements

IPF Building Notice: Fire Alarm Testing

Where?

Auditorium, Biochemistry, Central Services, College of Law, Communication Arts & Sciences, Data Center, Farrall Ag Hall, Food Science, Hannah Administration, Human Ecology, Library, Marshall Adams Hall, Molecular Plant Science (PSS), MSUFCU/IBM, MSU Museum, Packaging, **Plant and Soil Science**, Spartan Village Community Center, Surplus Store and Recycling, T.B. Simon Power Plant, Wells Hall, and Wharton Center

What is happening and why?

Testing of life-safety fire alarm systems. During the first hour of each test, technicians will test the speakers and strobes to ensure functionality. Technicians will then bypass the speakers and strobes in the facility to test all initiation devices on the fire alarm silently. Testing is an annual requirement of the National Fire Protection Agency.

When will this occur?

Between the hours of 6:00 AM and 4:30 PM, daily, Monday through Friday, beginning Monday, May 3 and lasting through Friday, May 28. Specific building dates can be found here: [Monthly Fire Alarm Testing - May to July 2021 | Infrastructure Planning and Facilities \(msu.edu\)](#)

How will this impact me?

IPF will come through the building and test all the fire alarm devices throughout the facility. Please be aware they may need to access offices, closets, and laboratories during these inspections. Building evacuation will not be required.

What do I need to do?

Please notify all personnel in your department. Your cooperation during this time is appreciated.

Who can I contact for more information?

Corey Morris, Planner/Inspector/Analyst-Life Safety Systems at 517-898-6632 or morri504@msu.edu

Brian Powe, Supervisor-Life Safety at 517-899-7197 or powebria@msu.edu
IPF at 517-353-1760

IPF Building Notice: Red Water Alert

What is happening and why?

The water tower will be taken offline so work can be performed on the interior of the tank, possibly resulting in water discoloration.

When will this occur?

Noon, Friday, April 23 through May 13.

How will this effect me?

During this work, water discoloration and pressure fluctuations may occur throughout campus. This discoloration is harmless in terms of sanitation and safety, but could affect clothing if used in laundry.

To find out more about how IPF is working to improve campus water quality and reduce the amount and severity of discoloration events, please read more about the water treatment plant at https://ipf.msu.edu/water-quality-updates?utm_source=email&utm_medium=cmps wd&utm_campaign=rdwtralrt.

Upcoming MSU Professional Development Opportunities

The Power of Habit - Limited Space Available!

May 19, 2021 from 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

Habits are predictors of long-term performance, but many of us struggle to manage our habits and achieve the outcomes we want. Discover how habits are created and how to replace undesirable habits with productive ones.

[The Power of Habit \(msu.edu\)](https://msu.edu)

Maximizing the Spartan Experience

May 20, 2021 from 9:30-11:30 AM

Whether your customers are students, colleagues, or vendors, providing a high level of service - also known at MSU as Delivering Outstanding Spartan Experiences - is key. In this updated version of the popular *The Spartan Experience* training, participants will learn how to plan, develop, and maintain high customer service standards.

[Maximizing the Spartan Experience \(msu.edu\)](https://msu.edu)

Crucial Conversations

Multi-day course begins May 24, 2021

Learn step by step tools for promoting open, honest dialogue around high-stakes, emotional, or risky topics - at all levels of your organization.

[Crucial Conversations \(msu.edu\)](https://msu.edu)

Query Studio

June 9, 2021 from 1:30-4:30 PM

An adhoc reporting tool, Query Studio can be used to produce queries against data. After receiving this training, participants will have access to the query Studio tool.

[Query Studio \(msu.edu\)](https://msu.edu)

Job Announcements

Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences

Professional Aide

Pesticide Applicator Coordinator

Job # 704411

<https://careers.msu.edu/en-us/job/506524/professional-aide>

Professional Aide

Plant Pathology Summer Research Assistant

Job # 705753

<https://careers.msu.edu/en-us/job/506577/professional-aide>

Professional Aide

The Wheat Breeding and Genetics program is seeking a highly motivated individual to work as a member of the wheat variety development and research program.

Job #706153

<https://careers.msu.edu/en-us/job/506587/professional-aide>

Job Announcements

Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences

Professional Aide

Professional Aide - MSU Agronomy Farm

Job # 702666

<https://careers.msu.edu/en-us/job/506422/professional-aide>

Professional Aide

Wheat Research Assistant

Job # 702668

<https://careers.msu.edu/en-us/job/506421/professional-aide>

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/en-us/job/506404/research-associatefixed-term>

COVID-19 Updates

- The walk-up clinic will resume Pfizer vaccines for the MSU community at the north end of the Pavilion on May 11. They also can schedule an appointment at any time for the county vaccination drive-thru clinic at the Pavilion, which runs Monday-Friday each week. That clinic, also providing the Pfizer vaccine, is open to all Michigan residents. [Schedule Appointment with Ingham County Health Department \(acuityscheduling.com\)](http://acuityscheduling.com)
- On Tuesday, May 11th, MSU Health Care will begin providing vaccines to its patients, students, faculty, staff, and retirees at the MSU Health Care Pharmacy located at 4660 S. Hagadorn Road, Suite 100. Appointments are available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00-4:00 PM and on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. [MSU Health Care Pharmacy Covid-19 Vaccine - MSU Health Care Pharmacy](#)
- The Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) is providing free transportation to and from appointments 7 days a week to these and other vaccine locations throughout Ingham County. Call 517-394-2282 to schedule your trip, which must be scheduled at least 24 hours before your appointment.
- The campus wide Spartan Health Screening form can be found at <https://covidresponse.msu.edu/health-screening>.

Vehicle Use Policy

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

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](#).

The city of East Lansing has informed the university it will potentially be changing its face covering policy as well. The East Lansing City Council is set to consider a policy resolution Tuesday that, if approved, would eliminate the requirement to wear masks in downtown outdoor public spaces, beginning Wednesday, May 12.

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.

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>

Travel

Christiina Donley and AnnMarie Guldner will be holding 2 more travel training refresher sessions this month. Please feel free to join in if you have any travel questions that you would like answered. It would be helpful if we they were listed as your travel delegates prior to the meetings (see attached). This will allow them to log into your travel profiles if needed. Please review (and save for future reference) the attached travel references sheets.

Wednesday, May 19 from 2:00-3:00 PM
<https://msu.zoom.us/j/96670950274>
Meeting ID: 966 7095 0274
Passcode: 467217

Tuesday, May 25 from 12:00-1:00 PM
<https://msu.zoom.us/j/93315747481>
Meeting ID: 933 1574 7481
Passcode: 688000

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.

Assistance Resources

Travel policy and travel program support: travel@ctrl.msu.edu or 517-355-5000
Concur: concurhelp@msu.edu

PSM Travel Contact

AnnMarie Guldner is the contact for PSM travel questions. AnnMarie can be reached at either 517-353-0120, guldner1@msu.edu, PSM.HR@msu.edu, or on Teams chat. If you would like AnnMarie to review your travel profile, please make sure that you have her added as your travel delegate. Instructions will be attached to this newsletter.

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 4th pay date (for time worked from May 9-22) your time is due by 5:00 PM on Monday, May 24th (**Early Due Date**).
- For the June 18th pay date (for time worked from May 23-June 5) your time is due by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, June 8th.
- For the July 2nd pay date (for time worked from June 6-19) your time is due by 5 PM on Tuesday, June 22nd.

MSU Academic Calendar

Summer 2021

May 17	Classes Begin
May 31	Holiday - University Closed
July 2	Middle of Semester
July 5	Holiday - University Closed
August 19	Classes End
Last Class Day	Final Exams

Summer 2021

May 17	Classes Begin
May 31	Holiday - University Closed
June 9	Middle of Semester
July 1	Classes End
Last Class Day	Final Exams

Summer 2021

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

AnnMarie Guldner	guldner1@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	7 AM-3 PM
Brian Horgan	horganb@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM
Christiina Donley	tymoszew@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM
Dominic Colosimo	colosi14@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM
Emily Williams	emilywil@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM
Gina Centeno	centeno@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8:15 AM-2:45 PM
Hannah O'Mara	omarahan@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM
Lee Duynslager	duynslag@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12:30 PM & 1-4:30 PM
Lisa Bowen	bowenli1@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8 AM-4 PM
Mackenzie Graham	graham2@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8 AM-12 PM & 12:30-4:30 PM
Rachel Jorgensen	eschrach@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	6:30 AM-3:00 PM

Newsletter Submissions

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