

**PLANT SOIL
& MICROBIAL
SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT**



Congratulations!

MSU plant biologist **Frances Trail** is the recipient of two prestigious honors in her field of study - mycology. Trail was recently named a Fellow of the American Phytopathological Society (APS) and was awarded the 2021 Mycological Society of America (MSA) Weston Award for Excellence in Teaching. <https://plantbiology.natsci.msu.edu/posts/msus-frances-trail-lands-two-prestigious-honors-in-her-field/>

Payton Perkinson is the winner of the Mendenhall Award of \$6,000 in the 2021 Scholars Competition offered through the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). <https://www.gcsaa.org/media/news/2021/09/07/payton-perkinson-wins-top-award-in-gcsaa-scholars-competition>

Seminars/Webinars

September 13, 2021, at 4:00 PM

Katayoon (Katie) Dehesh

University of California Riverside

Title: How the retrograde signal triggers diametrically opposed growth and systemic stress responses”

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95996313892>

Password: 862930

September 14, 2021

Workplace Harassment and Policy

MSU Faculty and Staff: 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Graduate Students: 4:00-5:30 PM

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/kdNRXi9YH6Fdthqq5>

Direct any comments, questions or concerns to ODEI at ANR.DEI@MSU.EDU

Seminars/Webinars

September 16, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM

2021 Fall Seminar Series

Jaime Willbur, Ph.D.

PSM, P&T Seminar

Title: From the Ground Up: An Integrated Potato and Sugar Beet Pathology Program

Location: A149 PSSB, with hybrid online option

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/96750048949>

Passcode: seminar

September 22, 2021

Workplace Harassment Seminar

Climate and Bystander Intervention

MSU Faculty and Staff 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Graduate Students: 4:00-5:30 PM

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/kdNRXi9YH6Fdthqq5>

Direct any comments, questions or concerns to ODEI at ANR.DEI@MSU.EDU

September 23, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM

2021 Fall Seminar Series

Andrey Guber, Ph.D.

PSM, P&T Seminar

Title: Quantifying the invisible: a journey to soil structure, functions, and processes

Location: A149 PSSB, with hybrid online option

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/96750048949>

Passcode: seminar

September 29, 2021

Virtual Department Reunion

Join department leaders to hear unit updates, plus connect and network with fellow alumni and friends. Registration required by September 22nd.

➤ Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences from 1:00-1:45 PM

[Additional Information and Registration](#)

September 30, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM

2021 Fall Seminar Series

Addie Thomson, Ph.D.

PSM, P&T Seminar

Title: Genomics and phenomics of quantitative traits in maize and related crops

Location: A149 PSSB, with hybrid online option

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/96750048949>

Passcode: seminar

October 1, 2021, 1:00-2:00 PM

CANR Lunch with the Leaders

Join **Interim Dean Kelly Millenbah** and other members of the college's leadership team to hear what's happening on campus (around the state and across the world), how our students are doing, and how you can help. There will also be an opportunity for registrants to submit questions for the leadership team to address, including **Laura Bix, Doug Buhler, and Quentin Tyler**. [Registration Required](#)

Seminars/Webinars

October 7, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM

2021 Fall Seminar Series

Eric Patterson, Ph.D.

PSM, P&T Seminar

Title: Genomics *in the weeds*

Location: A149 PSSB, with hybrid online option

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/96750048949>

Passcode: seminar

October 14, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM

2021 Fall Seminar Series

Cholani Weebadde, Ph.D.

PSM, P&T Seminar

Title: Twenty years at MSU and counting...

Location: A149 PSSB, with hybrid online option

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/96750048949>

Passcode: seminar

October 21, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM

2021 Fall Seminar Series

Hashini Dilrukshi, Ph.D.

PSM, Appointment Seminar

Title: Human-Centered Design and Innovation for Agricultural Development

Location: A149 PSSB, with hybrid online option

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/96750048949>

Passcode: seminar

October 28, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM

2021 Fall Seminar Series

Michael Kantar, Ph.D.

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Title: Where do crop wild relatives live and how do you pick the one to use?

Location: A149 PSSB, with hybrid online option

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/96750048949>

Passcode: seminar

November 4, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM

2021 Fall Seminar Series

Jennifer Kimball, Ph.D.

University of Minnesota

Title: Domestication and Breeding of a North American Grain, Northern Wild Rice
(*Zizania palustris* L)

Location: A149 PSSB, with hybrid online option

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/96750048949>

Passcode: seminar

November 18, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM

2021 Fall Seminar Series

Tammy Long, Ph.D.

MSU Department of Plant Biology

Title: What can modeling-based instruction teach us about student thinking?

Location: A149 PSSB, with hybrid online option

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/96750048949>

Passcode: seminar

Seminars / Webinars

December 2, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM

2021 Fall Seminar Series

Michael Gore, Ph.D.

Cornell University

Title: Building a nutritious and resilient food system through advances in crop genomics and phenomics

Location: A149 PSSB, with hybrid online option

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/96750048949>

Passcode: seminar

Announcements

Plant Science Graduate Student Welcome Picnic

September 18, 2021, 1:00-4:00 PM

Come connect with your fellow plant science grad students! Fill out poll to attend

<HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/ABDTWGBY9CDZZBJ78>

Hawk Island, Peregrine Shelter

\$5.00 Parking

Improved Process for Ordering Gas Cylinders

At MSU, compressed gases are widely used for everything from welding to research, as both pure gasses and gas mixtures. At any given time, there are over 5,000 gas cylinders on campus.

Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) has worked with the University Procurement and Logistics (UPL) to improve ordering and tracking processes for MSU, as compressed gasses -by their nature- can be toxic, flammable, or otherwise hazardous. To mitigate these risks, the current process for ordering and tracking cylinders is being updated to help keep our MSU community and first responders safe.

New Airgas catalog in Spartan Marketplace: This fall, Airgas- the largest supplier of compressed gases on campus- will have its own catalog in Spartan Marketplace. Orders and returns will no longer be placed through University Stores. The changeover will occur on October 1, 2021.

For additional information, please see the flyer attached to this newsletter.

Magnetic Ag at Michigan State University

Carly Claucherty is an ambassador for Magnetic Ag at MSU. Magnetic Ag is a newsletter that is sent to your email twice per week that gives ag industry updates, up and coming technology, and also has a job board. Click on this link (<https://sparklp.co/03efdeb5>) to sign up. If you would like a “Magnetic” sticker, please contact Carly (clauch14@msu.edu) to pick one up.

Announcements

New Process! To request keys, building and/or autoclave access, and office space, please use the link below to direct you to the PSM HR page on our website.

The PSM HR page can be found at [Human Resources - Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences \(msu.edu\)](https://www.msu.edu/human-resources)

Scroll down to “Access and Keys”

There are buttons for the following:

- Key Authorization Form
 - Building Access Form
 - Autoclave Access Form
 - Office Space Request Form
 - PSM Drivers Certification Form
-

Career Services Network - Fall 2021

Visit Handshake (msu.joinhandshake.com), search for CSN Fall Series, and select event to register and receive Zoom link for each workshop.

Workshop Times: EDT.

Navigating Virtual Career Fairs

- September 27, 4:00-4:45 PM
- October 5, 6:00-6:45 PM
- October 11, 12:00-12:45 PM
- October 14, 12:00-12:45 PM

Writing Resumes and Cover Letters

- September 10, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
- October 20, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

How to Find Part-Time Jobs and Internships

- September 14, 4:00-4:30 PM

Navigating Hybrid Recruiting

- September 22, 3:00-3:30 PM

Grad and Professional School: Preparing, Exploring and Applying

- September 28, 11:30 AM-12:00 PM

Navigating Identity in the Job and Internship Search

- October 5, 11:30 AM-12:15 PM

Preparing for Interviews

- October 7, 4:00-5:00 PM

More than a Major

- October 20, 7:00-8:00 PM

10 Tips for LinkedIn: Social Media for Work

- October 28, 11:30 AM-12:20 PM

Job Search Workshop

- November 10, 12:00-12:45 PM

Fall 2021 Learning & Development Opportunities

Upcoming Virtual OPD Courses

Select Organization and Professional Development (OPD) courses are available in a live, online format. The following courses are open for registration in the EBS Portal. Employees may use available educational assistance funds to pay for these programs.

New! Building Cohesive Teams

September 15, 2021, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Geared toward supervisors and employees in management-level positions, this course explores strategies to increase team cohesiveness and establish positive day-to-day interactions to enhance communication, build team awareness and cultivate trustworthiness in the work culture.

[Building Cohesive Teams \(msu.edu\)](https://msu.edu/building-cohesive-teams)

Everything DiSc: Behavior Styles at Work

September 22, 2021, 8:30 AM-12:00 PM

Using a simple tool designed to help you understand yourself AND other people. *Everything DiSC®* allows you to build more effective working relationships based on an understanding of different behavioral styles. **Everything DiSC: Management is also available for registration.**

[OPD Course Spotlight - Everything DiSC®: Behavioral Styles at Work - SourceLive Home \(msu.edu\)](https://msu.edu/opd-course-spotlight-everything-disc-behavioral-styles-at-work)

Grammar Refresher

September 28, 2021, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Strengthen your grammar and usage skills and present a more polished, professional image. Topics covered include common grammar errors, punctuation pointers, and correct verb forms.

<https://hr.msu.edu/professional-development/courses/communication/grammar-refresher-september.html>

Maximizing the Spartan Experience

September 30, 2021, 9:30-11:30 AM

No matter who your customer may be - students, colleagues, or vendors - providing a high level of service is key. Learn how to plan, develop, and maintain high service standards.

<https://sourcelive.hr.msu.edu/?p=15559>

Job Announcements

Research Associate

Job # 717388

The Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences at Michigan State University, in collaboration with the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station, is seeking a highly motivated Research Associate for a project investigating interactions between biotic and abiotic controls on assisted migration in northern forests.

<https://careers.msu.edu/en-us/job/507365/research-associatefixed-term>

Research Associate - Fixed Term

Job # 700439

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.

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

COVID-19 Updates

The University is requiring all MSU students, faculty and staff to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and wear appropriate face coverings indoors. [Learn More](#)

Free, COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic at Breslin Center September 22 & 23, 2021, from 8:00 AM-8:00 PM

By getting a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine, Spartans can protect themselves, each other and our communities. MSU Health Care Pharmacy is hosting a free, COVID-19 vaccination clinic for faculty, staff, and students at Breslin Center from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, September 22-23. [Read More](#)

What you need to know

- All individuals are **required to wear masks indoors** in all campus buildings and other MSU facilities in East Lansing and throughout the state. This requirement will be in place for at least the first weeks of the fall semester.
- All students, faculty and staff are **required to be vaccinated against COVID-19** with an FDA-authorized or WHO-approved vaccine. Limited exemptions for medical or religious reasons will be provided.
- All employees who have been working remotely should continue doing so until told otherwise by their supervisor.
- Human Resources keeps [an updated FAQ website](#) for employees as well as [resources for returning to work](#).
- [This checklist will help staff returning to campus](#) review their workspaces and request service if needed.
- With more students returning this fall, we expect that people who have student-, faculty- or public-facing roles will be returning to in-person positions in some capacity.

COVID-19 Updates

Self-Monitoring

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Using whichever tools and processes are made available by the university, pay attention for the appearance of possible flu-like symptoms, including:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore Throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list may not include all possible symptoms. Public health officials, including the CDC, will continue to update the list as they learn more about COVID-19. If you begin exhibiting symptoms, stay home and contact the Olin Health Center's 24-hour nurse line at 517-353-5557 or your personal health care provider.

Exposure to COVID-19

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus. If you believe you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should self-quarantine and monitor your symptoms. If feeling ill, students should contact MSU's COVID-19 hotline at 855-958-2678 or contact their health care provider. Faculty and staff should contact their primary care physician.

MSU will test any faculty, staff, or student who becomes symptomatic after returning to campus. You may also get tested through the State of Michigan Coronavirus Testing Hotline. Call 888-535-6136 from 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, Monday-Friday, and press 1 to be connected to an operator who can help you find a nearby location and schedule an appointment. Or visit Michigan.gov/CoronavirusTest to find locations near you. There are many locations where you can get tested at no cost.

COVID-19 Vaccine

If you haven't already received a COVID-19 vaccine, it is time to take that critical and important step to protect yourself and our communities. All members of the MSU community can receive a free COVID-19 vaccination through the [MSU Health Care Pharmacy](#). For those not in the East Lansing area, visit vaccines.gov to find a U.S. vaccination site near you. International students and scholars should seek out a [WHO-approved vaccine](#).

Additionally, free COVID-19 vaccination clinics leading up to and following the vaccination requirement deadline are available to all students, faculty and staff seeking to begin or complete their vaccine regimen.

COVID-19 Updates

MSU Health Care Pharmacy (Pfizer) Vaccination Clinic

- 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22, at the Breslin Student Events Center, 534 Birch Rd., East Lansing
- 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23, at the Breslin Student Events Center, 534 Birch Rd., East Lansing

COVID-19 frequently asked questions

FAQs regarding the COVID-19 mandate, face coverings and questions specific to students and employees are available on the Together We Will website. [Read more](#)

- All individuals are required to wear masks indoors beginning August 1st in all campus buildings and other MSU facilities in East Lansing and throughout the state. This requirement will be in place for at least the first weeks of the fall semester.
- All students, faculty and staff are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 with an FDA-authorized or WHO-approved vaccine by August 31st. Limited exemptions for medical or religious reasons will be provided.
- Students, faculty and staff will submit verification of their vaccination status using MSU's Vaccine Form, which will be made available to all students, faculty and staff in the coming weeks. During the verification process, students and employees will be asked to provide the dates of their vaccination, the manufacturer of the vaccine and the location where vaccines were administered.

Those who received one dose of a two-dose series are expected to complete their vaccination series according to the recommended schedule and must report when they have done so via the Vaccine Form. Additionally, those who are not fully vaccinated by Aug. 31, are required to participate in the [Early Detection Program](#) until they are fully vaccinated and follow the [Face Coverings Directive](#).

- Due to the MSU indoors ask requirement, masks are required in MSU vehicles with more than one occupant, whether the vehicle is on or off campus. A vehicle is considered indoor space.
- The state of Michigan held a town hall for the state's Gen-Z population to help answer questions on the COVID-19 vaccine. Recent Spartan graduate, **Ally Telfor**, joined the panel. MSU encourages departments to share the [recording](#) of the town hall in communications to students.
- Consistent hand hygiene (cleaning and disinfection) is always a good practice.
- Information on building preparations, air circulation, cleaning protocols and other IPF building services can be found [here](#).
- MSU Returning To On-Site Work website [Coronavirus Updates \(msu.edu\)](#)

Travel

MSU Concur Kick-Start Reintroduction Webinar: Request, Travel, Expense Session 1

https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/MSU+Concur+Kick-Start+Reintroduction+Webinar+-+Request+%7C+Travel+%7C+Expense/1_yj5018bi

MSU Concur Kick-Start Reintroduction Webinar: Booking Travel and Triplt Pro App Session 2

https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/MSU+Concur+Kick-Start+Reintroduction+Webinar+-+Booking+Travel+and+Triplt+Pro+App/1_zy9owobv

MSU Concur Kick-Start Reintroduction Webinar: Groups and Guests Tools Session 3

https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/MSU+Concur+Kick-Start+Reintroduction+Webinar-Guests+and+Groups/1_4r9e8ake\\

MSU's domestic travel policy has returned to normal. For international travel, the level of review is dependent on vaccination status. Please visit the [Office for Global Health, Safety and Security COVID webpage](#) for further guidance.

Download and view all of the **Concur User Training Guides** from this page:

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

Want the latest news in regard to travel and Concur? Register for the Travel Listserv at: https://ctrl.msu.edu/Join_Listserv.aspx?id=UNIVTVL

MSU's Travel Policy is published at: <http://ctrl.msu.edu/COMBP/mbp70ebs-July2019.aspx>

Assistance Resources

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

Concur: concurhelp@msu.edu

Travel@State - Frequently Asked Questions

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

MSU Travel@State Videos

Getting Started

- [Concur Request - How To Create a Request](#)
- [Zoom Session - Getting Started](#)
- [Updating Your Travel Profile](#)
- [How to Enroll in My Travel Network](#)
- [Activating E-Receipts](#)
- [Receipt Management](#)

New! PSM Staff will be holding office hours. Please see hours listed below.

PSM Chairperson

Brian Horgan	horganb@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8:00 AM-5:00 PM
AnnMarie Guldner	guldner1@msu.edu	Assistant to the Department Chairperson	

PSM Accounting Team psm.accounting@msu.edu

Emily Williams	emilywil@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8:00 AM-5:00 PM
	Office Hours:	Monday	10:00-11:00 AM
		Wednesday	2:30-3:30 PM
Lisa Bowen	bowenli1@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	7:00 AM-4:00 PM
	Office Hours:	Tuesday	1:00-2:00 PM
		Thursday	1:00-2:00 PM
Gina Centeno	centeno@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8:15 AM - 2:30 PM
	Office Hours:	Tuesday	10:00-11:00 AM
		Wednesday	1:30-2:30 PM
Kim McClung	mcclungk@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	7:00 AM-4:00 PM
	Office Hours:	Tuesday	2:00-3:00 PM
		Thursday	10:00-11:00 AM

PSM Human Resources Team psm.hr@msu.edu

Hannah O'Mara	omarahan@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8:00 AM-5:00 PM
	Office Hours:	Monday	10:00-11:00 AM
		Wednesday	2:30-3:30 PM
Jordan Davis	davis432@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8:00 AM-5:00 PM
	Office Hours:	Tuesday	2:00-3:00 PM
		Thursday	3:00-4:00 PM
Christiina Donley	tymoszew@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8:00 AM-5:00 PM
	Zoom Office Hours:	Wednesday	10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Mackenzie Graham	graham2@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	7:00 AM-4:00 PM
	Office Hours:	Tuesday	1:00-2:00 PM
		Thursday	1:00-2:00 PM
AnnMarie Guldner	guldner1@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	7:30 AM-4:00 PM
	Office Hours:	Monday	2:00-3:00 PM
		Wednesday	9:00-10:00 AM

PSM IT Team

Dominic Colosimo	colosi14@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8:00 AM-5:00 PM
Lee Duynslager	duynslag@msu.edu	Monday-Friday	8:00 AM-4:30 PM

MSU Academic Calendar

Fall 2021

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 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 September 24th pay date (for time worked from August 29-September 11) your time is due by 5 PM on Tuesday, September 14th.
- For the October 8th pay date (for time worked from September 12-25) your time is due by 5 PM on Tuesday, September 28th.
- For the October 22nd pay date (for time worked from September 26-October 9) your time is due by 5 PM on Tuesday, October 12th.

NEW! Payroll Assistance with Christiina at 12:00 PM on the following Mondays:

September 13, 20, 27 October 4, 11, 18, 25
November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 December 6, 13, 20, 27

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/98549666083>

Meeting ID: 985 4966 6083

Passcode: 001550

Newsletter Submissions

The next **Weekly Beet** will be on **Friday, September 24th**

Send newsletter submissions to **AnnMarie Guldner** at guldner1@msu.edu

Deadline: Thursdays by 10:00 AM