

The Spore Print (03/27/2023) Department of Plant Pathology March Newsletter

Nice to see you again and Welcome to our March departmental newsletter!

[Click here to access the past newsletters!](#) You will also be able to download the PDF version there.

Special thanks for those who provided feedback for the last newsletter! We can't grow or improve the newsletter without your help. So, please fill out the [questionnaire](#) for the Spore Print!

Please enjoy these updates from our department!

Best wishes

- Ko

Editor team:

Itsuhiro Ko, Elliott Marston, Kayla Spawton, Joseph Mellow, Ninh Khuu, Jessica Franco, Sam Jayasinghe, Tammy Cunningham, Cynthia Gleason

Student Spotlight



As of January, we are including a new section in this newsletter to introduce the graduate students in our department!

Scott Anderson



Biography

PhD (Advisor: Dr. Cynthia Gleason)

Expected Graduation: Summer 2023 Twitter: @Notaroundworm

Hometown: Everett, Washington

Graduate school involvement: Society of Nematologists Graduate Student Committee, Plant Pathology Graduate Student Organization secretary 2018-2022. Won the 3-minute thesis competition at the Society of Nematologists 2021 Conference in Alabama. Published "A molecular beacon real-time polymerase chain reaction assay for the identification of *M. chitwoodi*, *M. fallax*, and *M. minor*" in *Frontiers in Plant Sciences* in February, 2023.

Research Focus

My research is on root-knot nematodes, plant parasitic roundworms in the genus *Meloidogyne*. I am studying how to use molecular techniques to help quickly and cheaply identify these nematodes, as well as combat them without using harmful pesticides that are currently being phased out. Specifically, I

have developed a molecular beacon (qPCR) assay to identify three morphologically similar root-knot nematodes, *M. chitwoodi*, *M. fallax*, and *M. minor* from one another. I am also investigating how manipulating root-knot nematode fatty acid metabolism effects their fecundity, and how knock down of fatty acid metabolism genes effects their ability to reproduce in host roots.

Rapid Fire Questions

What drew you to the field of plant pathology? My background from undergrad was biochemistry, and after school I worked in an analytical chemistry lab studying trace metals in environmental samples. After a few years I realized I wanted to get back to doing lab work that had a biological basis, and I had done a molecular biology research project during my undergrad degree. I am an avid hiker and amateur botanist and realized I wanted to study something involving biology and plants long-term, so plant pathology was the perfect synthesis of my passion for plants with my ability to do molecular biology.

What is your favorite plant pathogen? Root-knot nematodes, of course! But really all plant parasitic nematodes.

What is something interesting that most people don't know about you? When I was in high school during a choir retreat, we were on a boat tour with a new captain in the San Juans that struck rocks and sank. We watched it slowly go down as busses came to take us to the hospital 3 hours away. More mundanely, I love singing, playing the ukelele, and acting, though I do all three poorly.

What are some of your hobbies outside of the lab? I took up the ukelele 2 years ago, and I have played soccer since I was in preschool; I played collegiately in undergrad and have been on the WSU club soccer team for 4 years. I also enjoy mushroom hunting, plant identification, hiking, bird watching, and backpacking. My partner and I both love to bake and cook.

Henry Hurt



1 - Henry displaying a potato with herbicide damage during Dr. Lindsey du Toit's field pathology class

Degree Sought: M.S.

Advisor: Kiwamu Tanaka

Expected Graduation: Summer 2023

Hometown: Roanoke, Virginia, USA

Academic Background: B.S. in Environmental Sciences from the University of Richmond

Research Focus: Investigating methods for the commercial cultivation of five different edible mushrooms, specifically evaluating the efficacy of different growing mediums.

Professional Activities: Recently participated in the 3MT competition (Won M.S. Division People's Choice Scholarship), will present at the upcoming GPSA Academic Showcase and Research Expo (See *Pullman Events section for Details*).

Favorite pathogen: Potato late blight causal agent, *Phytophthora infestans*

Hobbies: Dungeons and Dragons and playing guitar

Pets: Henry has two cats at home in Virginia, Harriet and Mo

Henry became interested in fungi and fungal biology during his undergraduate studies. When Henry decided to go to graduate school, he became interested in plant pathology when he realized most fungal research was on plant diseases. After graduation, he doesn't want to go straight for a PhD and would prefer to find a general plant pathology research position with a focus on fungi and fungal biology.

Department Updates



New students for Fall 2023!

We would like to welcome the following new students!

- 1) **Mary Steele.** She will be co-advised by Drs. Mattupalli and du Toit. Mary is currently an MSci in Ag student at Cal Poly, SLO. Mary will be joining us in Pullman this Fall so please keep an eye out for her!
- 2) **Megan Nickerson.** Megan is currently a student in Dr. Jana U'Ren's lab in Univ of Arizona, Tuscon. She will be joining Dr. U'Ren this Fall as a PhD student!
- 3) **Harpreet Kaur.** Harpreet will be joining Dr. Frank Zhao's lab this Fall. Harpreet is currently a graduate student at Tennessee State University.

Faculty, please let us know if you are expecting students this Summer/Fall or if you have prospective students who still had questions! We'd love to meet them and tell them about grad school at WSU.s

Upcoming 2023 Invasive Species Workshops and Webinars for Tribal Audiences (March 28th and 30th)

Next Tuesday, Dr. Joey Hubert and Dr. Marianne Elliott will share about their story in plant diseases. All are welcome to participate.

[Click here for more info](#)



2023 Invasive Species Workshop
and Webinars for Tribal
Audiences

 Join us for a two-day
workshop about invasive
species impacts, management,
and resources for tribes.

March 28 and March 30

8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

In April, weekly webinars (9 - 10:30 a.m. will
provide deeper dives:

- April 4 (wildlife & plant diseases)
- April 11 (aquatic invasives)
- April 18 (invasive insects)
- April 25 (invasive plants)

For more information
and to register, click:
bit.ly/3lPeg2w

WASHINGTON STATE
Washington
Invasive Species
Council 

News



Dr. Christmas Tree is now an APS Fellow



2 - PC: Joey Hulbert

Written by Marianne Elliott, Joey Hulbert, and Jenny Glass - WSU Puyallup REC

The WSU Puyallup Research and Extension Center is proud to recognize **Dr. Gary Chastagner** as a **2023 Fellow in the American Phytopathological Society**. In recognition of his distinguished contributions to plant pathology and APS, Gary will receive the Fellow award during the Plant Health 2023 meeting in Denver this August. Fellow recognition is based on significant contributions in original research, teaching, administration, professional and public service, and/or extension and outreach.

Gary has led a rich and diverse research program at WSU. He began at WSU Puyallup studying turf diseases in 1978, then branched out to diseases of bulb and flower crops, continuing WSU Puyallup's legacy in supporting the bulb and flower crop industry. Soon after, Gary also began research and extension efforts serving ornamental and conifer nurseries, including work with *Phytophthora ramorum* and the establishment of a biocontainment facility at WSU Puyallup. In addition to these programs, Gary is probably best known for his work on Christmas trees and the media has dubbed him 'Dr. Christmas Tree'. He is one of the world's leading experts on Christmas tree diseases, pests, and post-harvest characteristics and has probably researched every known issue for Christmas tree growers in the northwest. In the 40+ years since Gary started at WSU Puyallup, the ornamental plant pathology program has become one of the largest programs at the Center.

Gary's legacy has impacted many Northwest industries, growers, communities, and families. His dedication to the Christmas tree industry has helped growers overcome many challenges from diseases and pests, as demonstrated by his recent reception of the Scientific Achievement Award from the National Christmas Tree Association. He is well known by growers in the northwest, but he also has many international collaborators and has traveled to many countries to share his knowledge and expertise, sometimes returning with tens of thousands of seeds to test potential new Christmas tree hosts against northwest diseases. He is also well known within the bulb and cut flower industries and conifer nurseries. His research on disease management in ornamental crops, such as peonies, tulips and other bulbs, and woody ornamentals such as rhododendrons has undoubtedly supported many specialty crop producers.

Gary has also had many impacts within the WSU Puyallup community. He is an accomplished teacher and mentor, sharing his knowledge with many early career faculty, graduate students, postdocs, and interns. His students have graduated to work in major industries like Weyerhaeuser and agencies such as USDA Forest Service. Every summer Gary plants a large vegetable garden and generously shares the produce. He plays a mean game of volleyball. And he loves spending time with family over the years including bringing his sons along on international research trips and now visiting grandchildren in Arizona and Michigan in conjunction with professional meetings held nearby. He also has a wealth of information about the history of the Puyallup Research and Extension Center, as one can learn by walking around the property with him. Indeed, Gary has had a robust legacy and footprint on the communities and lands of WSU Puyallup and his recognition as an APS Fellow is another award demonstrating his impact.

The program Gary has established is an example of a land grant institution with a mission to provide knowledge to the people. His contributions to the field of plant pathology have had a lasting impact and continue to influence the way growers manage plant diseases today.



3 - PC: Marianne Elliott





Department of Plant Pathology presented at the CAHNRS Science and Research Fair, as well as the WSU Academic Fair and Showcase.

This semester, we have focused on participating more in undergraduate outreach and education in order to raise awareness about plant pathology and agriculture within Washington.



4 - Kristen Bullough and Elliott Marston at the WSU Academic Fair and Showcase.



5 - Aneeta Paneru, Sudha Upadhaya, and Elliott Marston at the CAHNRS Science and Research Fair.



6 - Aneeta Paneru, Sudha Upadhaya, and Dr. Xianming Chen tabling at the CAHNRS Science and Research Fair.

Photo Credit to Dr. Cynthia Gleason and Elliott Marston

Dr. Tim Paulitz awarded Senior Scientist Award!



7 - Dr. Tim Paulitz at the 2022 department Statewide Meeting poster event

by Hannah Rivedal, USDA ARS Forage Seed and Cereal Research Unit

Dr. Timothy Paulitz was recognized as **Senior Scientist of the Year for the Pacific West Area of the USDA-ARS**. He will be receiving the award in Beltsville, MD on **April 18**. Dr. Paulitz is being recognized for his outstanding research identifying innovative solutions to soilborne diseases of wheat and biofuel crops. Both within our department and in the broader PNW, Dr. Paulitz is a leading expert in soilborne pathogen management and organizes the highly regarded **Conference on Soilborne Plant Pathogens** annually and champions the mentorship of the next generation of plant pathologists. Well deserved!

Alumna wins the OWSD-Elsevier Foundation Award



Dr. Renuka Attanayake, former graduate of our Department, has recently been selected to receive the 2023 [OWSD-Elsevier Foundation](#) Award for Early-Career Women Scientists in the Developing World. The award program represents a longstanding partnership between the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) and the Elsevier Foundation. Renuka is currently a professor at University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka. Renuka did her graduate research in **Dr. Weidong Chen's** lab and received her MS and PhD degrees from our Department in 2008 and 2012, respectively.

Plant Pathology Students Sweep Three Minute Thesis Competition



8 - From left to right: Dr. Tim Murray (PLP Department Chair), Samodya Jayasinghe, Henry Hurt, Dr. Kiwamu Tanaka



9 - Sam and Henry receiving their awards at the 3MT competition

On March 20th, three Plant Pathology students presented in WSU's Three Minute Thesis competition. **Roshani Baral** and **Henry Hurt** competed in the MS section, while **Samodya Jayasinghe** participated in the PhD section. Henry and Sam both received the People's Choice Award and corresponding scholarship in their sections. Sam also received FIRST PLACE in the PhD section and received an additional scholarship. Congratulations to Sam and Henry for placing and to Roshani for participating virtually!

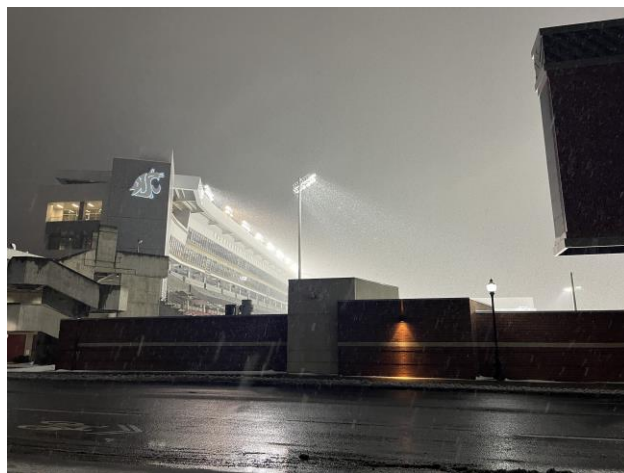
Watch Sam compete in the Three Minute Thesis Finals on Wednesday, March 29th at 1 PM in the Spark Building.

Events



Please contact the corresponding person for more details!

Pullman Events



By Elliott Marston <elliott.j.marston@wsu.edu>, Sam Jayasinghe <samodya.jayasinghe@wsu.edu>, and Itsuhiro Ko <itsuhiro.ko@wsu.edu>

Plant Science Day hosted by MPS!

Bring your families and children to participate in Plant Science Day with hands on, interactive demonstrations and exhibits. **Plant Science Day is April 15th from 11 AM - 2 PM in Vogel.**

If you're interested in volunteering to help with this event, please contact Janice Parks (janice.parks@wsu.edu). There will be an informational meeting with the planning committee on March 27th from 3 PM - 4 PM in PSB 405.

GPSA Academic Showcase and Research Exposition

There will be a joint poster and presentation session of research by graduate students competing for over \$9,600 in award on **March 30th from 9 am to noon in the CUB Senior Ballroom**. Multiple Plant Pathology students are presenting this year, including Henry Hurt, Joseph Mellow, and Jonathan Puglisi.

FUN Committee events

Learning Fridays (formerly known as brown bag lunches): Come join us in PSB 405 or via zoom between 12.00 pm to 1.00 pm, and listen to what research is happening in a fellow plant pathology lab. Participating labs will be announced monthly.

 **Fourth Learning Friday, April 21st: Dr. Scott Harper's lab** :

Join Zoom Meeting from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS, or Android:

<https://wsu.zoom.us/j/97754079925?pwd=dVpvKzRWT2xZR1dkT3p2U2lTMjJ0QT09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 977 5407 9925


Passcode: 767298

Monday, April 10th: The PPGSO is proud to announce another successful recruitment for our Student-Invited Speaker series. Dr. Adam Steinbrenner will be presenting a seminar on April 10th! Please see the announcement in the seminar section!

Monday Coffee hours

Join us every Monday at 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm in **Clark 299** for coffee and snacks before seminar. All are invited!!!

(please see the note below about the April 24th special event!)



 **Monday April 24th Spring Fling Event!** (See below) Funding provided through GPSA has allowed us to host a Spring Welcome event. This event will take place of the Monday Coffee hour from 3-4PM and will be at **11AM to noon**


Special event: Interdepartmental coffee hour!

Date: April 24th, 2023

Time: 11AM to Noon

Where: REC5/PSB Third Floor Kitchenette Area! An announcement will be sent out when we're able to secure it! (Follow the smell of donuts and the sound of fun!)

 To promote more interactions with other plant-related labs, the GSO and the FUN Committee will be joining forces to host an interdepartmental coffee hour to include grad students, staff, and faculty from Horticulture, Molecular Plant Sciences, and Crops and Social Sciences. Please join us for coffee, donuts, ice cream, and other light refreshments! 

 Special thanks to the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) and the Department of Plant Pathology for providing funding! Shout out to the FUN Committee folks (Tim Paulitz, Cynthia Gleason, Kiwamu Tanaka, Jessica Franco, Ninh Khuu, Sam Jayasinghe, and Elliott Marston), Tammy Cunningham, Katelyn Kiick, Huiting Zhang, Janice Parks, and Dylan Oates!

Wenatchee Events



by Joseph Mellow <joseph.mellow@wsu.edu>

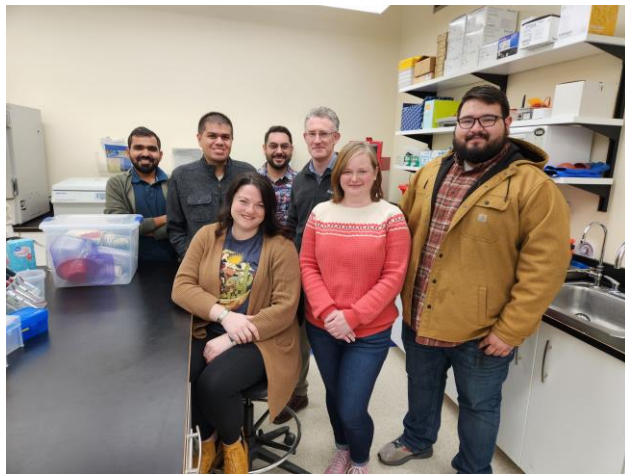
We welcome Madan Pandey to Wenatchee after his semester in Pullman. He will be starting his Masters research on fungicide resistance mechanisms on *Penicillium spp.* that affect pome fruit.

Mount Vernon Events



by Kayla Spawton <kayla.spawton@wsu.edu>

Prosser Events



10 - Celebrating tenure with the Clean Plant Crew plus friends!

by Ninh Khuu <ninh.khuu@wsu.edu>

Spring has sprung and research is taking off. Dr. Harper is attending National Clean Plant Network meetings in South Carolina. Dr. Gary Grove has recently started a new project. Dr. Lyndon Porter (USDA ARS) is continuing his Winter Pea crop trials in the Columbia Basin including field sites in Lind, Othello, and Prosser. Dr. Roy Navarre (USDA ARS), in continuing his work on projects related to the nutritional value of potatoes and factors that could contribute to discoloration.

University, International Programs, and CAHNRS leadership (Tammy Barry, Matthew Jeffries, Jenny Salingumba-Graham, Jenna Hyatt, Nancy Deringer, Nitivia Jones, and Hanna Gillingham) will be visiting Prosser on March 24th to participate in the "Send a Card Home Event" sponsored by the International Programs Office and to have lunch with the grad students.

Postdoc (PRPA) Happenings

The Postdoctoral and Research Professional Association (PRPA) hosts Moscow-Pullman Science Happy Hour every Friday at 5:30-7:30sh. The venue changes every week. To stay updated, sign up [here!](#)

To be a part of PRPA, go [here](#), and fill in your name and email.

Publications



--- Scott is a PhD candidate in Dr. Cynthia Gleason's lab studying root-knot nematodes.

Anderson S.D., Gleason C.A.. A molecular beacon real-time polymerase chain reaction assay for the identification of *M. chitwoodi*, *M. fallax*, and *M. minor*. (2023). *Frontiers in Plant Science*, Feb 22;14:1096239. doi: 10.3389/fpls.2023.1096239. PMID: 36909438; PMCID: PMC9994647.

Cooper, R.C., Walker III, W.B., Angelella, G.M., Swisher Grimm, K.D., Foutz, J.J., **Harper, S.J.**, Nottingham, L.B., Northfield, T.D., Wohleb, C.H., STrausbaugh, C.A. (2023). Bacterial Endosymbionts Identified From Leafhopper (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) Vectors of Phytoplasmas. *Environmental Entomology*, nvad015. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ee/nvad015>

--- Dr. Hulbert is a postdoc researcher in Dr. Gary Chastagner's Lab, studying Ornamental plant pathology at WSU Puyallup

Hulbert, J. M., Hallett, R. A., Roy, H. E., and Cleary, M. (2023). Citizen science can enhance strategies to detect and manage invasive forest pests and pathogens. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 11. Available at: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fevo.2023.1113978>

Tang, Z., Wang, M., Schirrmann, M., Dammer, K.H., Li, X., Breuggeman, R., Sankaran, S., Carter, A.H., Pumphrey, M.O., Hu, Y., **Chen, X.**, and **Zhang, Z.** (2023). Affordable High Throughput Field Detection of Wheat Stripe Rust Using Deep Learning with Semi-Automated Image Labeling. *Computers and Electronics in Agriculture*, (207) 107709. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compag.2023.107709>

Wen, T., Ding, Z., **Thomashow, L.S.**, Hale, L., Yang, S., Xie, P., Liu, X., Wang, H., Shen, Q., Yuan, J. Deciphering the mechanism of fungal pathogen-induced disease-suppressive soil. (2023). *New Phytologist*, Accepted Author Manuscript. <https://doi.org/10.1111/nph.18886>

White III, R.A.; Garoutte, A.; Mclachlan, E.E.; Tiemann, L.K.; Evans, S.; **Friesen, M.L.** (2023). Genome-Resolved Metagenomics of Nitrogen Transformations in the Switchgrass Rhizosphere Microbiome on Marginal Lands. *Preprints*, 2023030168. <https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202303.0168.v1>

Funding & Opportunities



WESKA 2023: WSU Entrepreneurship Skills and Knowledge Accelerator

Deadline: April 30th:

Are you a graduate student or postdoctoral associate who is working on an interesting project or innovation? Do you want to learn more about its scope and value in the market and the process of launching it? Check out the [WESKA website and application](#) for details on how to participate.

Testing4Ag 2023: Novel compounds for early biological screening cascades (For all)

Deadline March 31:

Through Bayer's Testing4Ag program, Bayer's team offers testing of your compounds using state-of-the-art phenotypical biological assays. Click this [Link](#) for more info

Grants4Ag 2023: Transformative approaches for next-gen Crop Protection(For all)

Deadline March 31:

For its third year, Bayer is partnering with Halo for Grants4Ag, an annual initiative providing funding and expertise to researchers developing novel solutions in agriculture. click this [Link](#) to get more info

Department of Plant Pathology travel grant (Open to all PLP students)

Please contact Tammy Cunningham (t.cunningham@wsu.edu) for more info.

FFAR Fellowship (Both US & International students)

Due dates in 2023:

- *April 15 for the Professional Development Category*

American Phytopathological Society Funding (US students)

APS has multiple applications for student fellowships open now. Student members are eligible to apply. Please find more information [here](#).

American Society of Plant Biologists (ASPB) Western Section

The American Society of Plant Biologists Western Section 2023 meeting will be held from Friday, Apr. 28 to Saturday, Apr. 29, 2023, at The University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington.

Abstracts are due April 1, 2023.

This gathering will be an opportunity for plant biologists from around the region to share their work and engage in conversations about research and teaching. We particularly encourage the attendance of early career scientists, undergraduates, and members of historically underrepresented groups in STEM.

[More information](#)

GPSA Travel Grants

GPSA travel grants are available all year round and are awarded as reimbursements post travel, for our of pocket travel costs. Pullman Service and Activity fee paying students are eligible to apply. Please see all information at GPSA grants website [here](#). Contact gpsa.granst@wsu.edu if you have questions.

GPSA Dissertation Grants - \$500

Ph.D. students who have completed their preliminary exams can apply for GPSA dissertation grants. Funding should be used for research related expenses. Applications open until funding runs out. To apply and for more information visit [here](#). Due **April 1, 2023**

Here is a website that has 572 funding sources you can look for

<https://research.jhu.edu/rdt/funding-opportunities/early-career/>

Seminars



Student-Invited Speaker Series: Dr. Adam Steinbrenner



11 - Adam Steinbrenner, Assistant Professor. University of Washington, Seattle, Department of Biology.

Through generous funding from the CougParents Foundation, the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) and The Department of Plant Pathology at WSU, the Plant Pathology Graduate Student Organization is able to recruit Dr. Adam Steinbrenner to deliver a seminar on **Monday, April 10th**. Dr. Steinbrenner will also be meeting with faculty and graduate students on one-on-one and group meetings throughout the day.

Title: Within Spitting Distance: A Plant Immune Receptor for Caterpillar Oral Secretions

Abstract: The plant innate immune system detects molecular patterns associated with diverse pests and pathogens. While plant mechanisms for recognition of microbial pathogens are well characterized, recognition of insect herbivores is less well understood. To address this gap, we have studied recognition of inceptin peptides found in oral secretions of Lepidopteran larval herbivores (caterpillars). Inceptins are only bioactive on specific legume species. We leveraged germplasm resources in cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata*) to identify an Inceptin Receptor (INR) able to bind inceptin peptide and activate signaling and defense responses against chewing herbivores. I will discuss functional aspects of INR as a means to both amplify and tune the plant wound responses. I will also describe a recent investigation of the evolutionary origin of INR in Phaseoloid legumes. Finally, I will describe ongoing efforts to restore INR to soybean to provide a novel pest resistance trait. I will argue that phylogenomic and functional characterization of key immune receptors provides a roadmap for durable pest resistance.

Department of Plant Pathology Seminar, Location: (Every Monday, 4:00pm to 5:00pm)

[Zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 955 0119 6325 Passcode: 5498

Clark 151

March 27th - *Hannah Merrill (MS Student) and Jon Puglisi (PhD Candidate)*

April 3rd - Richard Manasseh (PhD Candidate)-Exit Seminar

April 10th - **Dr. Adam Steinbrenner**, student invited speaker

Assistant Professor at University of Washington. Adam is one of the world leading scientist researching pattern recognition receptors (PRR) and discovered the first receptor of HAMP (herbivore-associated molecular patterns) from chewing insects.

Click this link to discover more his work: <https://steinbrennerlab.org/>

April 17th - Dr. Joey Hulbert

Dr. Joey Hulbert is a post-doctoral researcher with Dr. Gary Chastagner. Seminar Title: TBD

Molecular Plant Science seminar, Location: Todd 220 (Every Wednesday, 12:00pm to 1:10pm)

[Zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 954 9301 5354 Passcode: 365851

March 29th - Dr. Matthew Moscou

April 5th - Xin Xin

April 12nd - Luigi Peracchi

April 19th - Joel Sowders

April 26th - Dr. Roberto Gaxiola

Department of Horticulture seminar, (Every Thursdays, 2:55pm to 4:05pm)

[zoom link](#)

Locations: Pullman: 212 Sparks

Wenatchee: Stockwell room

Prosser: Multipurpose Building classroom

Mt. Vernon: Wiley Zoom room

March 30th – Alexa Hintze. Title: TBD

April 6th – Guest Speaker: **Loren Honaas**. USDA ARS, Research Molecular Biologist. Adjunct, WSU Dept. of Horticulture. Title: TBD

April 13rd – Alexa McDaniel, Title: TBD

April 20th – Geraldine Diverres. Title: TBD

April 27th – Morgan Danielle Southern. Title: TBD

Dept. of Crop and Soil Sciences Seminar, Location: Clark 149 (Every Monday, 2:10pm to 3:00pm)

[zoom link](#) Meeting ID: 948 3236 9338. Passcode: 349823

March 27 - Bill Kabasenche “Research Ethics and Institutional Review”

April 3 - Andrew Satterlee “Soil Microbial Community under Pennycress”

April 10 - Student Choice Seminar Dr. Carrie Laboski, Supervisory Soil Scientist, Research Leader, USDA-ARS

April 17 - Shahbaz Ahmed, CSS Ph.D. student proposal “Investigating the role of At-hook containing nuclear localized (AHL) genes in Arabidopsis and Brassica napus”

April 24 - Caitlin Price Youngquist and Stephen Bramwell “CSS Graduates, Where are They Now? University Extension as a Profession”

IBC seminar

Location: BLS 402, Friday 11:00am – 11:50am

April 21, 2023,: Dr. Cynthia Gleason, Associate Professor, Plant Pathology, Washington State University,: “The battle underground – insights into the plant-nematode interaction

May 19, 2023,: Dr. Jarmilla Pitterman, Professor, Biology Department, University of California, Santa Cruz,: “Title: TBD”,

MARILYN & JAMES HYDE SEMINAR SERIES, Department of Entomology, Location: FSHN 354 (Every Monday, 12:00pm to 1:00pm)

[Zoom Link](#) Meeting ID: 951 2845 3762. Passcode: 613032

March 27 – Judy Wu –

April 10 – Robert Wiedenmann –

April 17 – Chris Looney – WSDA

April 24 – David Onstad –

May 1 – Megan Asche – USDA

Events for graduate students hosted by Graduate and Professional Student Association



by Kayla Spawton (Plant Pathology GPSA senator) <kayla.spawton@wsu.edu>

Upcoming Professional Development Initiative Events:

- Apr 6, 11 am - 1 pm: [Developing your teaching statement](#). Facilitated by Amy Whitcomb over zoom. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- Apr 13, 10 am - 12 pm: [Applying for prestigious fellowships](#). Presented by Lisa Gloss over zoom. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- Apr 18, 1-3 pm: [Developing your DEI statement for academic job applications](#). Facilitated by Amy Whitcomb over zoom. [REGISTER HERE](#)

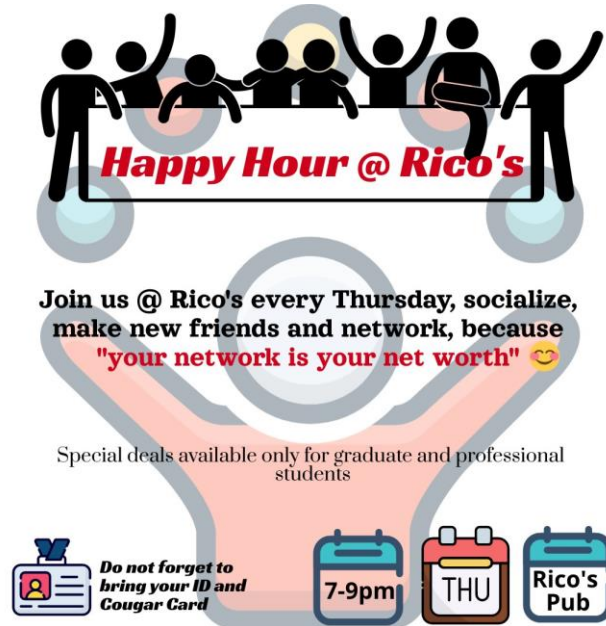
Upcoming GPSA social events:

- Mar 31~ GPSA Restaurant Friday at Mela
- Apr 4~ GPSA Ice cream Social
- Apr 8~ Swing Dance event (Collab with Swing Dance Club)
- Spring Festival (Potluck, traditional cloth, and music)
- May 5~ Ice Skating

More information on events and opportunities offered by GPSA can be found [here](#).

PLP graduate students, please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. Here is the [google form link](#) if you prefer to do so anonymously.

Graduate students, do you have ideas of how to improve the graduate student [Bill of Rights](#), especially on how to make it more inclusive? If so, please email Kayla with your ideas (kayla.spawton@wsu.edu)!



Happy Hour @ Rico's

Join us @ Rico's every Thursday, socialize, make new friends and network, because **"your network is your net worth"** 😊

Special deals available only for graduate and professional students

Do not forget to bring your ID and Cougar Card

7-9pm

THU

Rico's Pub



PARIS IS BURNING

Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre

Wed, Apr 5, 7:00 PM

Doors open at 6:00 PM

University of Idaho

Vox Populi GPSA

Jobs



An **Assistant/Associate Professor of Vegetable Crop Pathology** is available at **Ohio State University**. Laboratory and office space are located on the Wooster campus. This is a 9-month tenure-track position at the Assistant or Associate Professor level, with responsibilities for Research (50%), Extension (40%), and Teaching (10%). Interested applicants can learn more about the position and submit their applications [here](#).

Two full-time (12 month) **postdoctoral scholar positions** are open at the **Chang and Grunwald Labs at Oregon State University**. The positions are supported by multiple grants awarded to Drs. Chang and Grunwald (UDSA) and will provide a competitive stipend and health insurance for up to three years, subject to satisfactory performance. Successful applicants will join a group that researches diverse aspects of plant- microbe interactions. Please apply by emailing either Dr. Grunwald (niklaus.grunwald@oregonstate.edu) or Dr. Chang (jeff.chang@oregonstate.edu) with a cover letter, CV, and the name and contact info of three references. More information can be found [here](#).

The **Jerry Dimitman Diagnostic Laboratory in Riverside, CA** is hiring a **California Citrus Research Board Lab Manager**. Under the direction of the Citrus Research Board lab director, the incumbent in this position will supervise lab technologists, assistants, and lab aides in preparing samples for testing. View the full announcement [here](#).

The **Department of Agronomy, Horticulture and Plant Science (AHPS) at South Dakota State University (SDSU)** invites applications to fill a nine-month, full-time, benefit eligible, **tenure-track Assistant Professor of Quantitative Genetics and Genomics** with teaching (20%) and research (80%) responsibilities. This position is supervised by the department head of Agronomy, Horticulture and Plant Science and is open until filled. To apply, visit: <https://yourfuture.sdbor.edu>, search by the position title, view the job announcement, and click on “apply for this job.”

The **Cereal Genetics and Genomics group** located at **KAUST (Thuwal, Saudi Arabia)** is looking for an **early career scientist** with a strong background in computational biology and comparative genomics. Post remains open until filled, is for one year initially with the possibility of an extension for an additional two years. Please email your application (CV, full publication list, statement of research interests not exceeding a single page, and three academic references) as a single pdf to Dr. Simon Krattinger (simon.krattinger@kaust.edu.sa).

Dr. Xin Zhao with the **Horticultural Sciences Department of University of Florida** is seeking a **Post-Doc** to assist with a multidisciplinary project that focuses on watermelon grafting and nutrient management. The start date is May, 2023 and will continue for two years. Applicants should provide a cover letter, CV, and three references to Dr. Xin Zhao via email (zxin@ufl.edu).

USDA-APHIS is hiring a **Plant Pathology (Mycology) Identifier** at two separate ports: **San Juan, Puerto Rico** and **Orlando, Florida**. The announcement is expected to open Tuesday, February 28 and can be found once open with the keywords "Plant Pathologist (Mycology) Identifier" at <https://www.usajobs.gov/>.

The **University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR)** in collaboration with the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (CNAS) at UC Riverside, invites applicants for an **Assistant Professor of Cooperative Extension in the area of Food Safety**, with an emphasis on microbial contamination of crops. The position is 80% Extension and 20% Research with an academic career-track, 11-month appointment in the Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology at Riverside (<https://microplantpath.ucr.edu/job-opportunities>), and is available after January 1, 2023. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Dr. Wanlong Li from the **Department of Biology and Microbiology at South Dakota State University** is seeking a **Postdoc** to lead wheat/barley genome editing projects aiming to improve nitrogen use efficiency and scab resistance. Please send a cover letter and CV with your contact information to Dr. Li directly at wanlong.li@sdstate.edu.

Dr. Steve Fennimore and Dr. Frank Martin are looking to fill a **postdoctoral position** to work on strawberry and vegetable related projects at UC Davis. The position will be based at the **UC Davis Vegetable Research and Extension Center in Salinas, CA**. Contact Dr. Fennimore (safennimore@ucdavis.edu) or Dr. Martin (frank.martin@ars.usda.gov) for more details on how to apply.

The **USDA Wheat Health, Genetics, and Quality Research Unit in Pullman, WA**, is seeking a **Postdoctoral Research Associate**. This is a full-time, temporary appointment Not-To-Exceed 2 years, in the Excepted Service. The researcher will jointly work with Dr. Xianran Li (<https://compbiolab.org/>) and Dr. Kimberly Garland-Campbell (Wheat breeder in the Unit) to explore the impact of climate change on crop performance. Position is open until filled. Send application materials and references to Dr. Xianran Li, USDA/ARS at xianran.li@usda.gov or xianran.li@wsu.edu.

Carnation Farms in Carnation, WA is seeking a **Director of Regenerative Agriculture**. Responsibilities for the role include developing and directing farm strategy and partnerships, working in a leadership and management role, and directing farming activities and land use. Please send your resume, along with a cover letter explaining how your qualifications are a fit and why you are passionate about this leadership role opportunity, to our HR Manager, Marie Hartung at marieh@carnationfarms.org.

A **postdoctoral research fellow position** is available in the laboratory of **Dr. Ayele at the University of Manitoba** to investigate hormonal regulation of traits of economic importance including abiotic stress tolerance in cereals. Knowledge in bioinformatics such as transcriptome and next generation sequence data analysis and online database usage is required. Interested candidates should send (1) cover letter explaining the research interests, (2) CV, and (3) contact information including phone numbers for 3 references by email to Dr. Ayele at belay.ayele@umanitoba.ca.

North Dakota State University is seeking an **Assistant Professor and Extension Plant Pathologist - Sugarbeet Specialist**. Prior experience with sugar beets is not required. The position is for a 12-month, tenure track faculty plant pathology position with responsibilities for sugarbeet Extension (90%) and applied research (10%). The position is located in Fargo, ND and is funded jointly by NDSU and the University of Minnesota (UMN). To apply or for more information, [click here](#).

Washington State University has an open position for an **Associate Dean and Director of the Office of Research** within **CAHNRS** with the rank of **Professor**. This is a 12-month, tenure-eligible at time of hire, full-time faculty position to begin July 1, 2023, or as negotiated at the Pullman, WA campus.

Screening of application materials begins April 10, 2023, and will continue until position is filled. To apply, visit <https://hrs.wsu.edu/jobs> (search [R-8830](#)) and applications must include the following materials: 1) A letter of application describing your professional goals, relevant academic and administrative preparation, and experience in leadership positions; 2) A statement of your contributions

to diversity, equity, and inclusion that describes your understanding of these issues, your record of activities to date, and plans and goals for advancing equity and inclusion if selected; 3) A current curriculum vitae; and 4) Name, title, organization, phone number, and e-mail address for four people willing to serve as employment references.

Ongoing Job postings:

[ASPB Job Board](#)

[Plantae Jobs](#)

Contact us



If you have an item you would like included in the newsletter, email it to Itsuhiko.ko@wsu.edu.

Also, please complete this questionnaire to help us improve our newsletter. We appreciate your feedback!

<https://forms.gle/DubmGBiAjbEfyeqW9>