

**PLANT SOIL
& MICROBIAL
SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT**

Effective March 24, 2020 the PSM Administration Offices are closed.

During this time of uncertainty, please be patient with any request you may have placed with a PSM support staff member. Know that PSM support staff will get to your request as quickly as possible.

AnnMarie Guldner [guldner1@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM

Ashley Lathrop [danas@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM

Brian Horgan [horganb@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 8 AM-12PM & 1-5 PM

Christiina Donley [tymoszew@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM-12:00 PM & 12:30-5:00 PM

Debbie Williams [williade@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 7 AM-3 PM

Dominic Colosimo [colosi14@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM

Gina Centeno [centeno@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 8:15 AM-2:45 PM

Lee Duynslager [duynslag@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 8 AM-12:30 PM & 1-4:30 PM

Linda Colon [colon@msu.edu] Monday-Thursday from 8 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM, Fridays from 8 AM-12 PM

Lisa Bowen [bowenli1@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 8 AM-4 PM

Mackenzie Graham [graham2@msu.edu] Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 8 AM-12:30 PM & 1-4:30 PM (off Wednesdays)

Rachel Esch [eschrach@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 7 AM-3 PM

Sandie Litchfield [litchfi9@msu.edu] Monday-Friday from 7:30 AM-12 PM & 1-4:30 PM

Resources

MSU latest coronavirus updates

<https://msu.edu/coronavirus/latest-updates/>

MSU Coronavirus response website

msu.edu/coronavirus

CANR Coronavirus response website

canr.msu.edu/coronavirus

Employment related questions

<https://hr.msu.edu/news/coronavirus-faqs.html>

MSU WorkLife Programs

<https://worklife.msu.edu/campusflex>

MSU travel guide

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/coronavirus/travel>

MSU events updates

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/coronavirus/events>

Messages from President Stanley

<https://president.msu.edu/communications/messages-statements/index.html>

Messages from Dean Ron Hendrick & from Extension Director Jeff Dwyer

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/coronavirus/index>

MSU Guide to remote teaching

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/coronavirus/teaching-working>

MSU Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities

<https://www.rcpd.msu.edu/>

Because of technology gaps or different abilities, some students, faculty and staff may have difficulty learning or working remotely. Please use the MSU resources at the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities and our local administrators, chairs and faculty members to assist in getting word to the right group for help with these issues.

A Resource to Help to Learn How to Work Remotely

<https://michiganstate.sharepoint.com/sites/Spartan-365-Help-FAQ>

Guide to web accessibility

https://webaccess.msu.edu/Help_and_Resources/checklist.html

Student Resources

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/coronavirus/student-resources>

How to cancel or postpone events

Cancel: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/how-to-cancel-an-event-in-dotcms-due-to-novel-coronavirus>

Postpone: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/how-to-postpone-an-event-in-dotcms-due-to-novel-coronavirus>

MSU fireside chats and teaching services

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/coronavirus/teaching-working>

Congratulations

Congratulations to the KBS LTER 2020 Fellowship Recipients!

With support from the MSU Graduate School and the National Science Foundation, each year the KBS LTER program awards MSU students' fellowships to further our research of the ecology of agricultural landscapes. Congratulations to all awardees! Ten funded proposals represented seven Departments and three Colleges: Agriculture and Natural Resources, College of Engineering, and Natural Science.

Semester Fellowships

- **Oishi Bagchi:** Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences: Microbial dormancy and resuscitation in response to stress-associated phytohormones
- **Isabela Lima Borges:** Kellogg Biological Station, Integrative Biology: Testing the effects of inbreeding and soil legacy on legume-rhizobia mutualisms
- **Grant Falvo:** Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences: Resilience of microbial communities and soil organic matter formation to more extreme precipitation regimes across agricultural landscapes
- **Veronica Frans:** Fisheries and Wildlife, Environmental Science and Policy Program: New era, new niche, new theory: revising ecological niche theory to account for human influence in the Anthropocene
- **Jinho Lee:** Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences: Long-term effect of plant diversity on soil C dynamics and C-based interactions between plant diversity, physical micro-environment and microorganisms
- **Daniel Hoffman:** Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences: Plant diversity Ecosystem Services and Resiliency
- **Vidhya Ramalingam:** Environmental Engineering Department: Evaluation of 1,4-Dioxane Biodegradation Using Various Soil Inocula and Biomolecular Tools
- **Doug Slater:** Department of Community Sustainability: Farmer Mental Models of Nutrient Management Decisions
- **Allison Zahorec:** Entomology: Does prairie strip establishment alter the vertical stratification of microarthropod communities?
- **Xinyi Tu:** Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences, Environmental Science and Policy Program: Translating Science to Practice: Soil Health Assessment Adoption by Farmers in Michigan

Webinars

April 7, 2020 at 12:00 PM

CANR Webinar: Practicing Inclusion During Times of Ambiguity and Turbulence
Several members of our CANR community will be discussing inclusive practices in research, teaching and extension during these difficult times.

To Register: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/ODEIwebinars/>

Career Fairs

The Career Services Network has transitioned all career advising appointments to virtual format, and they have also launched a new **Virtual Career Center** (<https://careernetwork.msu.edu/resources-tools/virtual-career-center/index.html>) for students to access many other key resources to support their needs.

There are 3 **Virtual Career Fairs** (<https://careernetwork.msu.edu/jobs-internships/Career-Fairs/index.html>) scheduled that replace two previously scheduled on-campus career fairs: Spring Career Fair and Teacher and Administrator Fair. These career fairs will now be online using a virtual career fair technology, and the new dates are as follows:
April 23: Spring Career Fair - Large Employers
April 24: Spring Career Fair - Small Employers and Non-Profits
May 11: Teacher and Administrator Fair (a collaboration among all Michigan public universities and led by MSU Career Services)

We are continuing to promote **MSU Connect** (<https://msuconnect.msu.edu/>), the new online career mentoring and alumni networking community for students. More campaigns are planned for yet this week to increase awareness and participation. At the same time, we are in the process of adding 10 more college-level sites that will go live on the system in the coming weeks. These secondary hubs will help drive additional alumni support for students seeking jobs and internships and needing guidance or advice related to their career goals.

Announcements

PSM Summer Hours

PSM summer hours will be in effect from May 11th through August 3rd. During that time, the PSM office will be open from 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Zoom Passwords

To restrict unauthorized access to Zoom meetings (Zoom-bombing), effective April 1, 2020 all new Zoom meetings will require passwords in order to gain access to the meeting room.

If you have an already scheduled Zoom meeting without a password, you are **strongly encouraged** to edit it to include one.

University Stores Modified Business Operations

Distribution and Delivery

Service updates are listed at <https://usd.msu.edu/university-stores/>

Temporary Exception Mobile Communications and Residential Internet Connectivity Policies

We recognize that some of you have had increased expenses associated with working remotely in order to continue normal operations. Those incremental cost increases should not be your responsibility. Therefore, if you have had to increase your internet speed or change your data plan on your cell phone, please contact Debbie Williams at williade@msu.edu with your intent to seek reimbursement.

Announcements

KFS Project Code for Coronavirus Expenses

This message is for all persons involved in accounting transactions in the MSU financial system (including Fiscal Officers, Fiscal Officer Delegates, and Accounting Document Preparers).

Many units are incurring extraordinary expenses for things related to the Coronavirus. It is important that we keep track of these expenses in the event that there may be emergency funds available from the federal or state government in the future.

To facilitate this tracking, a new accounting strip Project Code has been created in the MSU financial system (KFS) to track expenses related to addressing the Coronavirus. The Project Code is COVID19. This new Project Code COVID19 should be used university-wide on the accounting string of all expenses related to the Coronavirus on any MSU account.

Please use the COVID19 Project Code for expense related to the Coronavirus so that MSU can accurately track and report on these costs. Use of the Project Code will not preclude units from reporting on other accounting string attributes (e.g., sub-account) as may be the routine.

If you have any questions about how to use this Project Code, please contact your MAU Budget Officer/Fiscal Officer.

April 5-May 17, 2020

Red Water Alert

Hydrant flushing across the entire campus. Flushing will take place from 9 PM to 5:30 AM on weekdays. During this work, some discoloration of the water supply may occur throughout campus. However this discoloration is harmless in terms of sanitation and safety. Contact **Sam Fortino**, skilled trades supervisor, at 517-432-0505 or fortin17@msu.edu, or IPF at 517-353-1760 for additional information.

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 April 24th pay date your time is due by 5:00 PM, Tuesday, April 14th
- For the May 8th pay date your time is due by 5:00 PM, Tuesday, April 28th

MSU Academic Calendar

Spring 2020

Friday, April 24 Classes End

Monday, 4/27 - Friday, 5/1 Final Exams

Friday, 5/1 - Sunday, 5/3 Commencements - **POSTPONED** (until a later date TBD)

Travel

ACTION REQUESTED: Please Cancel Travel Plans

As you are aware, the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak is dramatically impacting international and domestic travel and we imagine that you may have already canceled or postponed your trips. The U.S. State Department, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and White House have all issued travel advisories or declarations during the past few months urging people not to travel.

All university-sponsored international travel is suspended until May 15. The current end date will be reevaluated and likely extended. This includes new travel as well as any currently booked trips between now and then. Faculty, staff, and graduate/professional students currently abroad should contact the Office of International Health and Safety for further guidance.

We thank you for canceling travel Requests and trip reservations that were scheduled during this travel suspension. If you have not taken these actions, please do so at your earliest convenience. For those who registered their international travel in the Global Travel Registry, we also request that you or your travel arranger cancel any international travel in the Global Travel Registry, or send an email to the Office of International Health and Safety (OIHS) at oihs@msu.edu requesting that your trip be deleted.

Action is required if you have any MSU Agency Card (billed airfare/rail) transactions: You or your travel arranger are requested to file an Expense Report so that this expense is charged to an MSU account.

➤ **U.S. State Department**

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/covid-19-information.html>

➤ **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

➤ **Office of International Health and Safety**

<https://oihs.isp.msu.edu/>

Please visit **Travel@State** for additional guidance.

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