



GDPE Weekly Digest



September 20th, 2021

Dear GDPE Community,

We are rotating who writes our note to you each week - up this week is Alan Knapp, our Senior Ecologist.

In a recent [essay published in Nature](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-02480-z) (Vol 597, 16 September 2021), Paul Nurse, Director of the Francis Crick Institute in London, quotes a molecular biologist who laments that “We are drowning in a sea of data and starving for knowledge”. He then relates how when he goes to research talks, speakers unleash a tsunami of data “but the framing is neglected, along with why the data are being collected; what hypotheses are being tested; what ideas are emerging.” Thankfully, this is not yet a problem for ecologists (especially GDPE ecologists!), but it’s worth noting that we too are entering the era of “Big Data” with NEON, NASA, and even Google (to name just a few) now providing massive amounts of observations of our global environment. Big data are not a bad thing (quite the opposite actually). But this essay, while not aimed at ecologists, can serve as a reminder for us to keep ecological concepts, theory and novel ideas at the forefront of our ecological research. As noted in the sub-title of this essay, “Data should be a means to knowledge, not an end in themselves.” It’s worth a read (<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-02480-z>).

Also, don’t forget Courtland Kelly’s PhD defense next week September 29, Plant Sciences E-005 and via Zoom!

Alan Knapp
Your GDPE Senior Ecologist

GDPE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PhD Dissertation Defense Seminar
Courtland Kelly
Exploring the role of planned and unplanned biodiversity in the soil health of agroecosystems

Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 29, 2021
8:00 AM

Zoom Presentation: [Link](#)

The flyer features a portrait of Courtland Kelly on the left. The background is a mix of light blue, green, and orange, with a close-up of wheat stalks on the right. Text includes the seminar title, date, location, advisor name, and a Zoom link. Logos for the Soil and Crop Sciences and Graduate Degree Program in Ecology at Colorado State University are also present.

Courtland Kelly
PhD Defense Seminar

Exploring the role of planned and unplanned biodiversity in the soil health of agroecosystems

Advisor
Steven Fonte

Date + Location
Sept. 29th 8:00 AM
Plant Sciences E-005

SOIL AND CROP SCIENCES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM IN ECOLOGY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Livestream via zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/98252266711>

Graduate Student Council (GSC) Travel Grants

Application Due Date: Wednesday, September 22 at 5:00 p.m. MT

Travel grants can be applied towards costs related to presenting at a professional conference, including registration, travel, and accommodation costs. Both in-person and virtual conferences can be funded through this grant program. More information [here](#).

DEADLINES

GDPE Fall Small Research Grant Call for Students

Application Deadline: October 4

This is competitive funding to support research based on merit and quality of a research proposal. Please send your materials to (jennifer.neuwald@colostate.edu) by that date (including your advisor's letter). [Application form](#)

Tuition & Fee Adjustments

Students can receive a full or partial (based on the percentage rates of assessment below by date) reduction in tuition and fees as show below. After September 19, students will be assessed full tuition and fees for any courses for which they are enrolled:

- September 5: Last day for 0% assessment of tuition and general fees.
- September 12: Last day for 25% assessment of tuition and general fees.
- September 19: Last day for 50% assessment of tuition and general fees.
- September 20: through the last day of classes (before Final Exam Week): No tuition/fees reductions; 100% assessment of tuition and general fees.

Other Deadlines

Find all of the deadline details on the CSU Graduate School's website [here](#).

Find all of the registration details on the CSU Registrar's website [here](#).

Field and Fun Photos!



Stacy Lynn, Sukuroi Field Camp Tanzania



Michael Kosoy, Colleen Webb, and Joe Von Fischer at the famous Noy brandy factory in Armenia this summer.

Send us your photos! Now more than ever, it's important for us to keep in touch. Send us your photos from the field, or just photos of you relaxing, enjoying your summer and your back to campus

Submit Photos

All paperwork: Please email forms to Dawn at ecology@colostate.edu to coordinate signatures and processing. Thanks!

We want your feedback! Do you have comments or suggestions about how your GDPE experience can improve? Let us know! Contact your ExCom Student Representatives, [Katie Rocci](#) and [Dani Lin Hunter](#) to provide your feedback.

Stay in touch by tagging GDPE in your posts and photos on Twitter - @CSU_Ecology and use hashtags #GDPE and #CSU_Ecology. We'd be happy to help highlight your research!

[General Student Resources](#)
[COVID Resources for Grad Students](#)
[CSU COVID Recovery Resources](#)

GRANTS & JOBS

Postdoc Appointment: Turkey Population Modeling

Application Due Date: September 30

The Pennsylvania Game Commission is initiating long-term research on wild turkey in Pennsylvania to develop a decision model for setting fall harvest regulations, develop an integrated population model to monitor population trends, and investigate ways to improve population monitoring and the decision process. There will be mentoring opportunities as the project will support a PhD and MS student beginning in Fall 2022. More information [here](#).

Postdoctoral Researcher: Climate Change Impacts on Agriculture and Water Resources

Application Due Date: October 1

The Department of Ecosystem Science & Sustainability and the Department of Soil & Crop Sciences at Colorado State University (CSU) invite applications for a Postdoctoral Scholar to analyze climate change impacts on agriculture and water resources. The postdoc's primary mentor will be Dr. Nathan Mueller. Resources are available for conference and workshop travel. The ideal candidate will have demonstrated success in academic publishing, relevant domain expertise, excellent written and oral communication, and considerable experience with quantitative data analysis of environmental and spatial datasets (e.g., using Matlab, R, or Python). A PhD in environmental science or a related discipline is required at the start of the appointment. The start date is flexible. More information [here](#).

The Nature Conservancy - Claire M. Hubbard Young Leaders in Conservation Fellowship

Application Due Date: October 1

The Nature Conservancy is the leading conservation organization working to make a positive impact around the world in more than 60 countries, all 50 United States, and your backyard. Founded in 1951, the mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. One of our core values is our commitment to diversity therefore we are committed to a globally diverse and culturally competent workforce.

Visit www.nature.org/aboutus to learn more. Join the Nebraska team and bolster your conservation and leadership experience through the Hubbard Fellowship. The work of this position will help build a healthy future for grasslands, rivers, and people through land management and restoration, science, outreach, fundraising, and other conservation activities. More information [here](#).

John J. and Katherine C. Ewel Postdoctoral Fellowship in Ecology and Environmental Science in the Tropics and Subtropics

Application Due Date: January 9, 2022

The John J. and Katherine C. Ewel Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in Ecology and Environmental Science in the Tropics and Subtropics will enable a recent doctoral recipient to study tropical or subtropical ecology and environmental sciences at the University of Florida (UF). The Fellow will conduct research for two years with a UF faculty member in any department, in any subdiscipline of ecology or environmental science. The fellowship is intended to advance science and enrich the scope and depth of research credentials of both the Fellow and the faculty mentor. A successful application will be based on a partnership

between the applicant and the mentor that builds on the strengths of both. Evidence of joint development of the research proposal is key. More information [here](#).

[Submit Job Announcement](#)



**GRADUATE DEGREE
PROGRAM IN ECOLOGY**
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

