February 27, 2023

Happy Monday, GDPE Community!

Thank you to all GDPE faculty, staff, and students who participated in and volunteered to help put on a fantastic Front Range Student Ecology Symposium. FRSES 2023 showcased 21 oral and poster presentations and reached 400 registrants! Congratulations to the following GDPE students who won awards for best oral or poster presentations or best photo: Bennett Hardy, Emma Svatos, Sam Smith, Brooke Berger, Gina Cerimele, Erica Patterson, Anna Wright, and Sarah Albright.

More photos from FRSES 2023 can be found in the Submit Photos section of this week’s Digest.

In case you missed it, we have more social platforms! Sci Comm coordinators Mikko and Josie are now adding content to Instagram and Slack! Click our social links below to see what GPDE is up to!

Hope you all enjoy our last days of February!
Josie

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GDPE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Call for Distinguished Ecologist nominations**
The GDPE Executive Committee invites nominations for our Distinguished Ecologist series for 2023-2024. Please submit nominations by March 22 to be evaluated by the GDPE Executive Committee the following week. This is an amazing opportunity to bring extraordinary ecologists to campus! We define “distinguished” broadly (exemplary, outstanding, highly respected) and seek a diverse group of speakers with clear potential to engage GDPE students and faculty.

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**Call for Applications or Nominations for GDPE Graduate Student Awards**
GDPE offers four merit-based awards to graduate students. GDPE students are encouraged to apply directly for these awards. Additionally, GDPE students or faculty members may nominate
students. Applications and nominations will be evaluated equally. All graduate students enrolled in the GDPE program at the time of application/nomination are eligible and awards will be given for activities occurring during the two years prior to the application date.

- Outstanding Publication Award
- Excellence in Mentoring/Teaching Award
- Outstanding Impact Award
- Broadening Participation in Ecology Award

Please also see the GDPE website for more information. Packets are due March 24.

GDPE Event Calendar

Student Defenses

Masters Thesis Defense
Caitlin Miller
Genomics-informed conservation units reveal spatial variation in climate vulnerability in a threatened migratory bird

March 1, 2023
12:00 pm MT
Biology 113
Zoom link

PhD Defense Seminar
Sarah Whipple
Where have all the pollinators gone? An analysis of the shifts in climate and phenology that have altered pollinator diversity in the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem

March 2, 2023
9:00 am MT
Room TBD
Zoom link

PhD Defense Seminar
Olivia Hajek
Grassland Responses to Seasonal Shifts in Water Availability

March 21, 2023
2:00 pm MT
Yates 304
Zoom link
DEADLINES

GDPE Deadlines
February 28 - GDPE Travel & Professional Development Grants due
March 22 - Distinguished Ecologist Nominations
March 24 - Graduate Student Awards Applications and Nominations

Other Deadlines
March 2 - Deadline for SUMMER 2023 GRADUATES to apply for graduation and be listed in the Spring Commencement program.

Graduate School
If you plan on celebrating at the Graduate School Commencement Ceremony on May 12, you may order your cap, gown, and tassel in advance online via the University Commencement webpage. The deadline for ordering regalia is March 28.
Please visit the Graduate School Commencement webpage for further details about preparing for your big day.

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.

ECOLOGY & CSU EVENTS

Ecological Society of America 2023 Annual Meeting
ESA invites abstracts for contributed presentations (talks and posters) for the 2023 Annual Meeting, which will take place August 6-11 in Portland, Oregon.

Inclusive STEM Teaching Project
The Inclusive STEM Teaching Project is designed to advance the awareness, self-efficacy, and ability of STEM faculty, postdocs, graduate students, and staff to cultivate inclusive learning environments for all their students and to develop themselves as reflective, inclusive practitioners. Sessions will be held on Mondays March 6 - April 17 from 4:30-6. Learn more and register here.

Warner College of Natural Resources
If you are a GDPE student with an affiliation in the Warner College of Natural Resources, we want to make sure you are able to apply for WCNR scholarships. Academic Works is not able to allow GDPE students to submit their letter of recommendation, vita, etc. as part of the Warner College of Natural Resources application.
Natural Resources application, so we would like to ask that you submit this information manually to my attention. You will still need to complete the CSU scholarship application (deadline is March 1, by 11:00 pm). Please email to my attention a PDF document which will include a letter of recommendation, your vita, a paragraph about how your degree will further your career upon graduation, and documentation of any assistantship you will have for the 2023-24 academic year. If you won’t have an assistantship, there is no need to complete this. Please email the PDF to me by March 3. Please feel free to contact Sharmini Nair with any questions.

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**Webinars**

**STEM Education: Productive Tensions Between Disciplinary and Transdisciplinary Reasoning and Practice**  
Thursday, March 2 | 2:00 PM

Australia STEM Education has become widely advocated globally, spurred in part by nations’ concerns for the wealth creation implications of a STEM-literate citizenry. In Australia as elsewhere, many local models of STEM Education have developed in the absence of clear policy framings around its disciplinary/interdisciplinary character. In this webinar, Professor Tytler will draw on a STEM Country Comparison study from 2014, and more recent research into significant Australian STEM initiatives, to explore the drivers for STEM and the tensions created between disciplinary and interdisciplinary epistemological framings, and between distinctive subject pedagogies. They will argue that interdisciplinary STEM represents both a challenge and an opportunity for science education. Register [here](#).

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**ESA Statistical Methods Series: State-space Models and the Template Model Builder (TMB) R package**  
Monday, March 6 | 10:00 AM

Marie Auger-Méthé from the University of British Columbia will present about State-space Models and the Template Model Builder (TMB) R package. Register [here](#).

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**ESA Introducing the USGS Climate Research & Development Program**  
Tuesday, March 7 | 2:00 PM

Want to know more about how researchers at the USGS are studying glacier mass balance change, or about how scientists are incorporating indigenous knowledge with paleodata to develop a more robust understanding of the past? Interested in knowing more about how land cover affects urban temperatures and nature-based solutions to climate warming, or about what the future of coastal wetlands in the U.S. may look like?  
Dr. Ariana Sutton-Grier, the Program Coordinator for the Climate R&D program, will introduce the broad variety of climate and environmental change research supported by the program followed by lightning talks from four program scientists, Drs. Caitlyn Florentine, Clarke Knight, Peter Ibsen, and Glenn Guntenspergen, about their respective research. There will be plenty of time for discussion and questions as well. Register [here](#).

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**Let us know about your recent publications!**

We are trying to highlight the great and diverse science that our faculty and students are doing. If you have recently published an article, please fill out the form linked below and our SciCom Fellow, Josie Otto, will add you to our new Recent Publications section above. We can also feature your work on our website!

*Please note that inclusion of events and publications in the Digest is not an endorsement by GDPE.*
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, Mel Morado and Erin Weingarten to provide your feedback.

Stay in touch by tagging GDPE in your posts and photos on Twitter (@CSU_Ecology) and Instagram (@CSU_GDPE). Use hashtags #GDPE and #CSU_Ecology. We’d be happy to help highlight your research!

GDPE Social Listserv - Please make sure to sign up here for the GDPE Social Listserv to keep up with all the fun events we have planned this year!

GDPE Slack Channel - Join our GPDE Slack channel here.

Kord Dicke's oral presentation "Slow-fast differences in physiology, behavior and life history in honeybees". Photo taken by Anna Wright.

Mikko Jimenez' workshop "Birdcurious: Birding for Beginners". Photo taken by Anna Wright.

Brynn Crosby's oral presentation "Subalpine seed dispersal capacity: understanding the influence of spatially independent disturbance interactions on post-fire regeneration". Photo taken by Anna Wright.

Nelson Mwangi's poster presentation "Drivers of Home Range Size and Shifts in African Savannah Elephants (Loxodonta africana africana)". Photo taken by Anna Wright.

Alex Siggers' poster presentation "The long-term recovery of tallgrass prairie communities following the removal of co-dominant species, Andropogon gerardii and Sorghastrum nutans". Photo taken by Anna Wright.
We want your photos! What are you up to, how is your field and lab work? Share them with us here.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & JOBS

**USDA Biologist**  
**Position open March 1-7**  
The position is a non-research grade Wildlife Biologist/Support Scientist and is located at the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) Field Station in Barrigada, Guam. The program is multifaceted and is directed at the reduction of wildlife damage as it relates to agriculture, human health and safety, public and private property, and natural resources.

**SoGES Sustainability Leadership Fellows program**  
**Deadline March 6**  
The School of Global Environmental Sustainability (SoGES) Sustainability Leadership Fellows program prepares future innovators and thought leaders with state-of-the-art science communication and career development training. Over the course of one year, Fellows develop new skills, interact with a wide variety of experts from different disciplines, and learn strategies to build successful careers that incorporate meaningful science communication, engagement, and interdisciplinarity.

**Dual LTE Natural Resource Research Scientist- Senior (Rhinelander, WI)**  
**Deadline March 7**  
The Office of Applied Science within the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) seeks to hire 1 – 2 scientists to join the Large Carnivore and Elk Team. Our team has an assortment of exciting projects designed to directly inform wildlife management decisions in the state. The position will be based out of Rhinelander, WI and can begin as early as May. More information [here](#).

**Office for Undergraduate Research and Artistry (OURA) Mentored Scholars Matching Funds**  
**Deadline March 10**  
OURA is soliciting applications from faculty and graduate students looking to recruit undergraduate research/artistry assistants. Matching grants of up to $1000 are available to faculty or their graduate students mentoring students in their research/artistry groups during the summer of 2023. More information [here](#).

**Grant Announcement - Western North American Naturalist**  
**Proposal deadline March 17**  
Western North American Naturalist will award at least 5 individual potential authors a grant of up to $2,500 each to fund their natural history research. Our intent in providing this grant is to help authors who may not have adequate funding to complete their research in natural history. We especially encourage individuals who are at institutions of higher learning that do not focus on research but where research is still possible. More information [here](#).