



**March 18, 2024**

Dear all,

I hope you had a lovely break from classes and meetings. We have a big week this week, with our second Distinguished Ecologist seminar of the semester from the renown [Jack \(Jianguo\) Liu](#), an ecologist, human-environment scientist and sustainability scholar. He has done some amazing work on some charismatic species, including giant pandas. In his work he makes some fascinating links, like how troubles in human relationships (manifesting in divorce) increase numbers of households and therefore consumption rates. Co-housing thus offers more than community - it's also environmentally sound. Please come out to see Dr. Liu's seminar (fear not, Mitskie has increased the food order over last time!), and sign up to meet with him with [Anping Chen](#). Grad students - there is room to join lunch on Wednesday! And they say there's no free lunch...

Given spring break, we are extending the deadline to [apply for GDPE student awards](#) until March 29th. Are you proud of your mentoring or teaching, of a publication, of broadening participation or contributing to policy decisions? You deserve recognition! These awards come with a \$500 scholarship. It's time to apply! Please just ask me or [Alan Knapp](#) if you have any questions about them.

Best wishes, and I'll see you all Wednesday at seminar if not before.  
Ruth

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***A Note About the Digest:*** *Since this digest comes from a non-CSU email address, you may need to click "trust content from this external sender" in Outlook to see images, or you could be missing important information each week!*



GDPE Event Calendar

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## DEADLINES

### **GDPE Deadlines**

**March 29** - Applications for GDPE Student Awards [due](#). Get recognized and rewarded (\$500) for your contributions!

*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](#).*

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# GDPE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Distinguished Ecologist Seminar

Our next **Visiting Distinguished Ecologist**, Dr. Jianguo Liu, will be giving his seminar "*Systems Integration for Global Sustainability*" this **Wednesday, March 20th at 4:00pm** in the LSC University Ballroom. Once again, refreshments will be served from 3:30-4:00pm and there will be a reception directly following the seminar at 5:00pm. We hope to see you all there!



SPRING 2024  
**DISTINGUISHED  
ECOLOGIST  
SEMINAR**

*"Systems Integration for Global Sustainability"*

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM IN ECOLOGY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

**JIANGUO LIU**  
Michigan State University  
Professor  
Center for Systems Integration and Sustainability

20 March 2024 4:00pm LSC University Ballroom

Tea and Cookies at 3:30pm  
Reception at 5:00pm

## 30th Annual FRSES Celebration & Info Session

Our 30th Annual FRSES event was a huge success and we think it's time to celebrate! Please join us from 5:30-8:30pm-ish on **March 28th, 2024** at Avogadro's Number for socializing, snacks, and music by local band Swamp Candle. A short presentation regarding positions within FRSES's organizing committee will also be given in the hopes of stoking interest for next year's event.

RSVP [here](#) by March 21st (this Thursday!)



**FRSES  
Celebration!**

March 28th, 2024  
5:30 - 8:30 pm  
Avogadro's Number  
RSVP BY MARCH 21

Live music by  
Swamp Candle!

FRSES  
FROM NICHES TO NETWORKS  
2024



**GRADUATE  
STUDENT  
AWARDS**  
DUE MARCH 29

OUTSTANDING PUBLICATION AWARD	EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING OR TEACHING AWARD	OUTSTANDING IMPACT AWARD	BROADENING PARTICIPATION IN ECOLOGY AWARD
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## GDPE Student Awards: Call for Nominations

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. Awardees will receive a plaque recognizing their accomplishments and \$500.

The award categories are: Outstanding Publication, Excellence in Mentoring or Teaching, Broadening Participation in Ecology, and Outstanding Impact. Applications are due on **March 29th**. Please click [here](#) for descriptions of each award, and to apply.

**GDPE in the Conversation:**

GDPE student Matt Sturchio recently published an article in the Conversation. In the article, he explores the advantages and challenges of solar power and the exciting potential of agrivoltaics. Great work, Matt!



**Solar power occupies a lot of space – here’s how to make it more ecologically beneficial to the land it sits on**

Matthew Sturchio, Colorado State University

Check out the full article [here!](#)

**STUDENT DEFENSES**

Disturbance effects on tree level resistance in ponderosa pine trees along the Colorado Front Range

**Kelby Woodard**  
Master's Thesis Defense  
March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
2pm MT in NR 142  
Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/96682279492>  
Advisor: Camille Stevens-Rumann  
Committee: José Negrón, Monique Rocca

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM IN ECOLOGY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

FOREST AND RANGELAND STRATEGIC COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

**M.S. Defense Seminar**  
Kelby Woodard

*Disturbance Effects On Tree Level Resistance in Ponderosa Pine Trees Along the Colorado Front Range*

March 20, 2024  
2:00 p.m.  
WCNR 142

**Ph.D. Defense Seminar**  
Nathan Teich

*Exploring the Importance of Abundance Governing Factors for Invasive Plant Species Distribution Models*

March 20, 2024  
1:00 p.m.  
AgBio Room E005

Exploring the importance of abundance governing factors for invasive plant species distribution models

**Nathan Teich**  
PhD Defense Seminar

Advisor: Cynthia S. Brown, PhD  
Committee: Ian Pearse, PhD, USGS - Catherine Jarnovich, PhD, USGS - Paul Evangelista, PhD, NREL

March 20th, 2024  
1pm @ CAS AgBio Classroom E005

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM IN ECOLOGY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Plant-mediated interactions between herbivory and soil microbial communities in biocontrol programs of Russian knapweed

**Giovana Matos Franco**  
Advisor: Dr. Paul Ode

Committee members:  
Dr. Ian Pearse  
Dr. Melinda Smith  
Dr. Pankaj Trivedi

March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
10am  
Natural Resources  
Building 345

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM IN ECOLOGY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

**Ph.D. Defense Seminar**  
Giovana Matos Franco

*Plant-Mediated Interactions Between Herbivory and Soil Microbial Communities in Biocontrol Programs of Russian Knapweed*

**New Date:** March 21, 2024  
10:00 a.m.  
WCNR 345

## Being in the Field Workshop Series (Sponsored by SoGES)

Being in the field is an integral part of sustainability and environmental sciences, yet are such experiences inclusive? If so, which elements are critical to inspiring persistence for underrepresented groups? This learning experience seeks faculty, researchers, undergraduate students, and graduate students involved in or interested in fieldwork. In this workshop, we will focus on how to respond to biases and microaggressions in the field. For those now submitting Safe and Inclusive Fieldwork Plans for NSF, this workshop will present some ideas on how to address the SAIF requirements. [Register](#) early to be counted for lunch!



Date & Time: Friday, April 12th from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm  
Location: On campus (location TBD)



## UCSB Seminar Series: DEIJ in Environmental Data Science

This series, which is recorded and open to the public, features three speakers who share their research approaches and findings as they relate to the intersections of ecology, environmental data science, equity, and environmental justice. For more details and to register click [here](#).

Lourdes Vera - March 14th, 1pm MT

Keara Lightning - May 23rd, 1pm MT

Eric Nost - May 30th, 1pm MT

## NREL Writes Spring 2024

NREL Writes is designed for researchers (faculty, graduate students, soft money research associates, postdoctoral fellows) to facilitate collaborations and writing productivity. NREL Writes provides topical presentations, weekly writing sessions, that create low-stakes accountability to enhance individual and collaborative writing success.

Weekly Writing Sessions:  
Thursdays from 9 AM - 12PM (hosted on Teams)

Writing Retreat:  
April 29 - May 3, 9 AM - 12 PM  
(+ optional afternoon 1 - 4 PM)



Share your Recent Publication or Research Highlight

## JOBS, GRANTS, & INTERNSHIPS

### **Postdoc Position - Princeton Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology**

The [Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology \(EEB\) at Princeton](#) is seeking Postdoctoral Research Fellows in any area of ecology, evolution, and behavior. The EEB Postdoctoral Fellows work on their chosen projects independently, with collaboration and support from any member(s) of our faculty. Please see details of the posting [here](#), and reach out to me or my EEB faculty colleagues with any questions. Review of applications will begin after 5 April.

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### **Postdoc Position - Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University**

The [Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University](#) in Palisades, New York invites applications for a Postdoctoral Research Scientist position to conduct collaborative research under the mentorship of Lamont-Doherty researchers with expertise in climate dynamics, climate modeling, and geochemical proxy reconstructions. The NSF-sponsored research will focus on understanding how orbital insolation changes influenced the climate of the Mediterranean, as reflected in paleoclimate archives and global climate model simulation, and on the implications of past mechanisms for understanding and sharpening climate projections for the region. Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.

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### **Water Use and Natural Capital Accounts Research Positions**

Northern Arizona University in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey is searching for team members to support a new effort to produce an accounting of the role of water use in the United States within the nation's Natural Capital Accounts. This scientific effort will utilize tools and methods including distributed national scale hydrologic modeling, national water use data, and the System of Environmental Economic Accounting. Positions will be advertised soon for a Postdocs, Research Assistant Professor, Research Analyst (BS/MS), and/or Ph.D. Graduate Research Assistants. Please direct inquires to Dr. Ben Ruddell at [benjamin.ruddell@nau.edu](mailto:benjamin.ruddell@nau.edu). See [here](#) and [here](#) for more information.

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### **Montana Cooperative Fishery Research Unit Program Manager**

The Program Manager administers and executes all day-to-day operations of the MT Cooperative Fishery Research Unit (MTCFRU). These include financial management (grant and non-grant, resources and budgets), personnel management (hiring and payroll for research scientists, graduate students, and technicians), fleet management (10 vehicles, 11 research vessels), purchasing management (95% of federal and MSU Unit purchasing), and reporting, record keeping, and inventory (federal and state) associated with Unit. Click [here](#) for details.

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### **Assistant Professor of Applied Quantitative Ecology**

The Ecology Department at Montana State University seeks applicants for a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Applied Quantitative Ecology whose research uses cutting-edge quantitative approaches, including decision science, to address conservation challenges and who can contribute to undergraduate and graduate education. Click [here](#) for details.

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Submit a Job Announcement

**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 Student Teams Channel** - Join our Teams Channel [here](#) for all GDPE-related questions, ideas, and discussions with fellow students.

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Submit Photos

We want your photos! What are you up to, how is your field and lab work? Share them with us here.



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CSU Graduate Degree Program in Ecology | Colorado State University, Johnson Hall rm 102,  
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1021

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