

start his PhD as he knows that there is so much for him to learn before he begins his career outside of school. At CSU he plans to try and use fungal and bacterial endophytes of the common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) found in ancestral varieties to convey resistance to abiotic or biotic stresses in commercial varieties. While not working he enjoys hiking, fishing, snowboarding, martial arts, and video games.

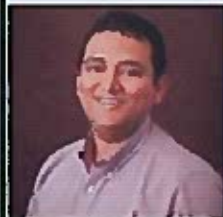
Welcome to the Department!

For current information about the department, visit the department website at bspm.agsci.colostate.edu. Also, if you have something fantastic to share about yourself, your professor, your students, post docs or others, please send pictures and stories to Shannon.Clark@colostate.edu.

BSPM NEW DEPARTMENT HEAD AND FACULTY

Dr. Pankaj Trivedi

Dr. Pankaj Trivedi will join BSPM as Assistant Professor of Microbiome of Plant System in September 2016. Pankaj is originally from India. He received his Ph.D. degree in Microbiology from Kumaun University, India where he studied the ecological specificity of microbial traits in beneficial plant-microbe interactions with an aim to reduce fertilizer inputs in highland farming systems of Himalayan Region. His post-doctoral research at University of Florida examined the association of plant microbiome and invading pathogens with respect to the behaviour and survival of participating organisms. Pankaj most recently was a Research Fellow at Western Sydney University, where he studied the functional and structural basis of plant microbiomes to address frontier research questions related to global changes, carbon sequestration, agricultural practices, and ecological theories. Pankaj's research at Colorado State University will utilize innovative cutting-edge 'omics' and modelling approaches to elucidate and exploit the multi-trophic interactions among and between microorganisms and their hosts for an environmental friendly and competitive agriculture. In collaboration with other members of "Microbiome System Cluster", he plans to implement and develop bioinformatics pipelines that support and integrate microbiome research. For enjoyment Pankaj likes to watch English Premier League Soccer and College Football. His other interests include travelling, biking, dancing, and cooking with his wife, Chanda.



Dr. Amy Charkowski

The following is a statement released by the Dean of the College of Agriculture on Dr. Charkowski's acceptance of the Department Head position:

Dear Colleagues,
I am delighted to inform you that Dr. Amy Charkowski will be joining our College of Agricultural Sciences as the next Department Head of Bioagricultural Sciences and Pest Management effective **October 1, 2016**. Amy is currently a professor and associate chair in the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Wisconsin Madison. Her experiences of mentoring graduate students and junior faculty, leading a successful research group, working with individual farmers and industry groups, and assisting with college and department level leadership are impressive. I am confident that Amy's personal style, commitment to student development, strong research record and high performance standards will help her succeed as an administrative leader within our college. Complementing the collective work we currently have underway within our college to make food healthier, safer, and more readily available on a global scale, Amy's research will contribute to advancing our reputation across the U.S. and around the world. Her research efforts have focused on molecular plant-microbe interactions to address disease control; developing inexpensive methods of pathogen detection; and innovations in seed potato production. Importantly, Amy has established a number of industry connections through her research and as the administrative director of the Wisconsin Seed Potato Certification Program. I look forward to working with Amy to continue the journey of excellence and progress we have underway within our college. In the meantime, please join me in welcoming Amy Charkowski to our CSU family and as the newest member of the College's administrative team. Until next time, I hope your summer months have been productive interspersed with opportunities for relaxation and rejuvenation.

Warmest regards,
-Ajay



Fall 2016
9th Edition

Entomology, Plant Pathology, and Weed Science



Upcoming Events

- **September 7**
Back to School Picnic. The College of Agricultural Sciences hosts this annual event from 11:30am-1:30pm in the Monfort Quad. Free food and prizes!
- **September 17**
The 35th Ag Day Barbecue at Hughes Stadium. Featuring Colorado fare such as lamb, beef, pork, beans, potatoes, apples, dairy, melons, beer, and flowers. BBQ runs from 11:00am-1:30pm, with the football game against the University of Northern Colorado kicking off at 2:00pm.
- **Ongoing**
Gillette Entomology Club. This student club has been around since 1912! Contact Ryan Paul at rlpaul@rams.colostate.edu for more information.

Introducing 17 BSPM Graduate Students

Please take a moment to learn more about our 17 new BSPM students and help make them feel welcome next time you see them.



Abigail Barker is a M.S. student working with Franck Dayan on the mechanism of dual targeting associated with the enzyme PPO and its relation to herbicide resistance. She recently graduated with her B.S. in biochemistry from CSU. She has been awarded a University PRSE Fellowship for wheat research, outreach and education. During the last two years she had the privilege of working in the lab of Todd Gaines where she found an interest in the study of herbicide resistance in weeds. Her personal interests include triathlon, mountain biking, and board games.



Hannah Berry is a second year graduate student in the Cell and Molecular Biology Program. After rotating through three labs last year, she's excited to be in Dr. Cris Argueso's lab. She will be studying growth defense tradeoffs in *Arabidopsis thaliana* through gene expression in the shoot apical meristem as well as working on other side projects in the lab. After only a year of living in Colorado, Fort Collins and the CSU community really feels like home. She is

looking forward to her research and getting to know more people in BSPM!



Raven Bough was born and raised in Fayetteville, AR, where she attended the University of Arkansas for a BS in Horticulture. In August 2013, she moved to Fort Collins for a MS program in the Department of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture at Colorado State University, with a concentration on potato breeding and postharvest flavor quality. Her primary research interests have shifted from breeding to plant biochemistry, particularly the utilization of gas and liquid chromatography to explore metabolism, prompting the initiation of a PhD program in BSPM under Franck Dayan. Outside of Graduate School, Raven enjoys rock climbing, rollerskating, cross country skiing, tending to houseplants, and board games, typically accompanied by Effie, her dog child. She is also a big fan of nearly anything sci-fi related.

Samia Elghair is a Ph.D. student in Plant Pathology being advised by Dr. Kirk Broders.



Dawn Hajdu is really excited for her first year of graduate school. She will be working with Dr. Cris Argueso for her graduate study. Dawn just graduated as an undergraduate from CSU this summer and

has been working with Dr. Cris Argueso as an undergraduate research assistant for a few years now. She loves Fort Collins, and she loves working in the Argueso lab. She is thrilled to be able to continue to do research here. She is also looking forward to interacting with all the friendly faculty and students in this department.



Allison Hogeboom is an M.S. student working with Dr. Arathi Seshadri and Dr. Andrew Norton.



K.A. Ledy in 2013, Ledy received her B.S. Biology and B.A. Chemistry at the University of New Mexico. Her research with Dr. Jane Stewart is focused on white pine blister rust disease, caused by an invasive fungal pathogen affecting North American white pines. She works in collaboration with the USFS Forest Health Protection and USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station to apply molecular and bioinformatics techniques to study the evolutionary relationship between pines conferring resistance to the exotic pathogen and various fungal populations across the Rocky Mountains. In Ledy's free time, she enjoys talking about music, wildlife, plants, art, a good brew, and any outdoor activity. Inspired by nature, her love of camping, hiking, backpacking, climbing, bouldering and backcountry skiing allows her to ski the mountains ranging from New Mexico to Canada.

She graduated from Smith College in 2013, and went on to work for the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON). She is particularly interested in pollination ecology, and her current research is focused on how floral compounds impact pathogen tolerance in honeybees and bumblebees. Outside of research her interests include fly fishing, trail running, and nordic skiing.



Bradley Lalonde recently received a B.S. in Forest Biology at CSU to add to his B.A. in Molecular Biology from Concordia University-Portland. He realized that he wanted to work outdoors during his final semester at Concordia while identifying epiphyte species near Portland, OR, which is why he received a second Bachelor's in forestry. Since living in Colorado, he has worked for the Colorado State Forest Service performing Forest Inventory and Analysis field plots and providing assistance to the Forest Management Division, which he will continue throughout his M.S. degree in Plant Pathology. Brad will be advised by Jane Stewart and be working on the metagenomics of *Armillaria* root disease and the



Katy McIntyre is originally from Nashville, Tennessee but moved to Fort Collins six years ago for her undergraduate degree here at CSU. She received her Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and business administration. After working on the metagenomics of *Armillaria* root disease and the

she was given the opportunity to work in the Weed Lab with Dr. Todd Gaines. During this time, she was working on a TILLING by sequencing project in sorghum. She's excited to start a new journey to receive her PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology working with Dr. Cris Argueso and her lab. In her free time she enjoys riding her horse, playing with her dog, and snowboarding as much as possible!



Stephan Miller is a master's student in plant pathology working with Dr. Jane Stewart on *Cyrtospora canker* disease on peach orchards in the western slope of Colorado. He received his B.S. in Agricultural Science and Technology from the University of Maryland, College Park. After working on several family coffee plantations in Costa Rica, he became interested in agriculture and more specifically in plant-pathogen interactions. During his undergraduate studies, he also worked at the USDA, Beltsville MD in the systematic mycology and microbiology laboratory where his interest in plant pathogens grew. Stephan will be studying how the different species of *Cyrtospora*, on reach remote wilderness and climb/ski the mountains ranging from New Mexico to Canada.

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Mirella Ortiz is originally from Brazil. She received her B.S. in Agronomy last Fall from University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. She came to CSU as an undergraduate student and worked with Dr. Scott Nissen, at the

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Weed Lab for over a year. During this one year at CSU she worked really close with aquatic weeds and Identification Aids to assist in the identification of important pests at ports around the country. She spends her free time exploring the city with her dog and making beer.



Ian Sexton earned his B.S. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Kansas in 2009. Since then he has worked as a field technician surveying tributaries of the Missouri River, monitoring migratory birds in Southern Arizona, mapping invasive snails throughout Colorado, and treating exotic invasive plants in Rocky Mountain National Park. Most recently he has been leading the vegetation monitoring crew at Rocky Mountain National Park. Starting fall 2016, he will begin working with Dr. Cynthia Brown to obtain his M.S. in Ecology. In his free time he enjoys wondering around outside looking for things to munch on.

Mary Ortiz-Castro is from Barranquilla, Colombia. She received her undergraduate degree in Biological Engineering from the National University of Colombia-Medellin where she studied the potato powdery scab. She then moved to Canada to obtain a Master of Biochemistry from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. She is now working on her PhD with Dr. Broders and will study plant pathogens that affect crops in Colorado. She plans on developing management strategies to improve crop production in developing countries using what she learns at CSU. She is excited to live in Colorado and be part of the team!



Hannah Royals is a Fort Collins native pursuing a Masters in entomology. She received two bachelor's degrees from CSU in Biological Sciences and Spanish. In the last two years she has worked with the USDA photographing museum insect specimens for an identification database focusing on plant pests. While working here she has developed a love for insects big and small, so for the next three years she will be working with Boris Kondratieff and Todd Gilligan on

where she studied the potato powdery scab. She then moved to Canada to obtain a Master of Biochemistry from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. She is now working on her PhD with Dr. Broders and will study plant pathogens that affect crops in Colorado. She plans on developing management strategies to improve crop production in developing countries using what she learns at CSU. She is excited to live in Colorado and be part of the team!



Brittany Smith is a GDPE M.S. student being advised by Dr. Paul Ode in BSPM. Although originally from California, she was able to expand her love of nature into a passion for Ecology and Plant Science. Having worked within the realm of chemical ecology and mycorrhizal root colonization in Porter's Lovege at UCCS, she became enthralled with studying species interactions, Community Ecology. She also has studied pollen limitation and

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Olivia Todd is from Loveland, CO and received her B.S. in Soil and Crop Science from CSU in 2015 with a concentration in Plant Biotechnology, Genetics and Breeding. After working as a research assistant for the last two years in the Weed Lab, she has decided to join the BSPM Graduate program as an M.S. student under Todd Gaines' advisement in the Weed Science program. Her projects involve developing herbicide tolerance traits in sorghum through mutagenesis and investigating metabolic resistance to ALS herbicides in kochia. In her free time, she is part of CSU's rock climbing team, and enjoys snowboarding and videogames.



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