



Upcoming Events

- **September 25**
Ag Day 2010 BBQ at Hughes Stadium. A wide array of Colorado products will be served and the *Gillette Entomology Club (GEC)* will have a booth from 10:30am—1pm before the football game.
- **September 29—October 20**
3rd Annual Cat Faced Spider Contest. The person who brings in the heaviest spider will take home a fabulous prize. Contact Maggie Jordan for more details.
- **October 18**
BSPM Scholarship Applications Available.
- **October 29**
GEC Halloween Craft and Bake Sale. A variety of goodies will be for sale outside the BSPM main office in the Plant Science Building from 9am to 3pm.
- **November 12**
BSPM Scholarship Applications Due!
- **November 22-26**
Fall Break—No Classes.
- **TBD**
BSPM Winter Award Ceremony.

Fourteen Graduate Students Join BSPM in 2010

BSPM brought fourteen new students to the department in 2010. As in the past, a picture along with some information about each student follows. Please join us in making them feel welcome.

Sheri Hessler is originally from central Illinois. She attended Western Illinois University and received her B.S. in zoology with a minor in Botany. It was at that time she discovered her



love for field work, and took part in an undergraduate research opportunity surveying thread-waisted wasps. After graduation, she decided to continue her education at WIU as a teaching assistant, and received her M.S. from WIU in 2009. Sheri's thesis work was centered around ecological studies on riparian orb-weaving spiders.

Sheri started working as a lab assistant for Dr. Frank Peairs in the spring, and is pursuing her PhD. She is currently working with the brown wheat mite (*Petrobia latens* [Muller]), which is a pest of crops that include winter wheat and barley. Her studies center around understanding the complex life cycle of *P. latens*, as well as determining infestation techniques, rearing viable non-diapause populations in the lab, and determining at which life stage plants are more prone to infestation.

Emily Peachy is a master's student in

Entomology advised by Dr. Whitney Cranshaw and Dr. Ned Tisserat. She joined BSPM in the spring and recently gave birth to a beautiful baby boy, Apollo Angelo Luna, in August.



Mariana Chapela is an Agronomic Engineer and graduated in 2008 from the Universidad Nacional de Luján, Buenos Aires, Argentina. After graduating, Mariana worked in a certifying agency for organic agricultural and cattle products, and also at Dirección Nacional de Vialidad, as a consultant in environmental management of road work.

Mariana moved to Fort Collins in May 2010 to work toward an MS degree in Integrated Pest Management with Dr. Frank Peairs as her advisor. The theme for her thesis is to



determine the biotypes of Russian Wheat Aphids that inhabit montane environments and compare them to the one's that inhabits the plain. For that, she worked in the Insectary analyzing

samples and conducting the lab experiments for her research project. Mariana likes hiking, outdoor activities, bike riding, fitness (loves the REC Center!!), walking, watching movies, dancing, and parties!!!

Jorge Ibarra (not pictured) is a master's student in Plant Pathology advised by Dr. Ned Tisserat. He joined BSPM this summer and can usually be found working in the lab.

Craig Beil is a master's student in Weed Science, and will be advised by Dr. Phil Westra in BSPM and Dr. Dale Shaner from the USDA. His research will be focused on preliminary trials of a new organic herbicide.

Craig was born in St. Louis, MO and



received his B.S. in Agriculture from Truman State University in Kirksville, MO. He also had the

opportunity to study ecology and agriculture systems for a semester at the University of Limerick in Ireland. Craig was a four year varsity soccer player at the division II level at Truman. He takes criticism for playing soccer quite well and still enjoys playing and coaching. He is looking forward to the upcoming ski season.

Christopher Davis is a PhD student starting his studies this fall in Dr. Cini Brown's lab.

Chris is a native of Scranton, Pennsylvania and has also lived in New



York City as well as Phoenix, Arizona. He graduated with his BS from Arizona State University where he conducted undergraduate research in molecular ecology and plant physiology. This summer he lived and worked at Rocky Mountain National Park where he monitored the effectiveness of the revegetation efforts of the restoration crew. His broad research interests include the invasion of disturbed habitats by exotic plant species, range expansion of exotic species, and the restoration of areas that have been invaded by exotics. His research in the Brown lab will involve cheatgrass invasion.

In his free time, Chris likes to hike, bike, and brew beer. He's really looking forward to experiencing all that graduate school and Colorado has to offer.

Darci Giacomini recently graduated from CSU with a degree in Soil and Crop Science and is continuing at CSU this fall, working towards a master's degree in Weed Science.

Her research will focus on herbicide resistance in weeds, specifically looking at the inheritance of

glyphosate resistance in several *Amaranthus* weed species. This research will take place under the advisement of Dr. Philip



Westra and Dr. Sarah Ward.

When Darci is not working on her research, she enjoys softball, hiking, and immersing herself in various art projects.

Alan Helm graduated from Texas Tech University in 2002 with a MS in Crop Science. He has been with CSU since December of 2002 as an Extension Agent and Area Weed Specialist in the Golden Plains Area.

Allen's current research focuses on



weed management in various crops, range lands, limited irrigation weed management, and cropping systems.

Along with managing his own active research program he has been the county liaison for Sedgwick Co. managing the daily administration.

Allen will be working with Drs. Scott Nissen and Neil Hansen on his Ph.D. His research will focus on weed management in cropping systems and weed shifts. Since joining CSU, Allen has been active in the Western Society of Weed Science and in 2009 was awarded the Outstanding Early Career Weed Scientist. He has also been active in the Colorado Conservation Tillage Association and The Weed Science Society of America. Allen enjoys hunting, fishing, and just plain relaxing.

Cheryl Lindsay is a PhD student in entomology under the direction of Dr. Paul Ode. She is from Kentucky where she obtained her BS degree from the University of Kentucky in biology. Cheryl went on to get her MS degree in entomology at the University of Georgia under the direction of Dr. Mike Strand. Her project focused on the polyembryonic parasitoid

wasp, *Copidosoma floridanum*, so it was only natural to join Dr. Ode's lab where she plans to study the tritrophic interaction of plant (parsnip), herbivore (parsnip webworm), and parasitoid (*Copidosoma sosares*).



Cheryl began her focus on insects as an undergraduate worker in the entomology department at the University of Kentucky where she got to work in Hymenopteran systematics, bed bug behavior, and more recently endosymbionts. She has since ruled out systematics (it's beyond her) and bed bug research (they are very disgusting creatures) as a career, but she's open to other avenues of research.

Rebecca Powell received her B.S. in Forest Biology in 2005 from CSU. Since then she has spent the last four



years working for the U. S. Forest Service in Afton, WY just south of Jackson Hole. Rebecca is a first year MS student in Entomology

working with Dr. Bill Jacobi. Possible research studies are cytospora cankers on Aspen.

Rebecca moved back to Colorado in August of this year with her husband, 2 year old daughter, and black lab. She is getting used to the traffic and is very excited to be back in a learning environment.

Rashad Reed entered Colorado State University as an IGERT scholar in the BSPM PhD program, pursuing a degree in genomics and molecular

biology. He has a bachelor's of science degree from the University of Memphis and a



master's of agricultural science from Florida A & M University. Rashad will be working in an

interdisciplinary manner to not only complete a dissertation, but to have a better understanding of what it takes to create policy and infrastructure pertaining to increasing Bioenergy use in America. He has not yet chosen a major professor, however, his rotation will begin in Dr. Jan Leach's laboratory.

Jessica Schurich is pursuing a master's degree in the BSPM program. She obtained a BS in Environmental Studies at East Stroudsburg University in Pennsylvania in 2003. Searching for the next step, Jessica spent 5 months working at a camp in PA educating adults & children in environmental awareness. She decided to venture west to Colorado from her home town of New Jersey in 2003.

Jessica began working for Colorado Mosquito Control in 2004 as a field technician. She was promoted to Operations Manager for Colorado Mosquito



Control in 2006, and oversees the staffing, development, implementation, and execution of all components of the Integrated Mosquito Management Programs (IMM) for Northern Colorado. Her job experience has sparked an extreme interest in insects and their relationships in the environment. Jessica's project will be aimed at utilizing spatial analysis and satellite imagery to develop a predictive model which can evaluate West Nile Virus risk based on mosquito densities and numerous environmental variables. She is looking forward to working with Dr. Kumar (NREL), Dr. Eisen (CVMBS) & Dr. Kondratieff (BSPM) to evaluate possible models

to assess risk for the northern Front Range.

Steven Spriggs (not pictured) is a master's student specializing in Pest Management and advised by Dr. Ned Tisserat.

Graham Tuttle is a Master's student



working with Dr. Andrew Norton on a study of the impacts of Russian Olive on vegetation and soil nitrogen levels. After graduating from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in May 2007, he has held a variety of temporary positions around the country, including: working for the SCA and Forest Service in Leavenworth, WA; substitute teaching in Portland, ME and Beulah, MI; and working for the Audubon Society in Rancho Santa Margarita, CA. When he is not on campus, Graham enjoys playing ultimate Frisbee, mountain biking, hiking and camping.

Meet Nick Parachini

Nick Parachini is BSPM's new student intern.

He is beginning his MA in Economics with an emphasis in International Economics. Nick is



particularly interested in foreign affairs and politics. He obtained his undergraduate degree from CSU in Business Administration. He enjoys skiing, traveling, and scuba diving.

Congratulations!



International Education Awards Two in BSPM

Dr. Andrew Norton and Research Associate, Matt Camper were recognized this past spring for their contribution to internationalizing education at Colorado State.

Dr. Norton teaches AGRI/IE 116 – Plants and Civilization to approximately 270

undergraduate students every spring and fall semester. This past spring, with Dr. Norton on sabbatical, Matt Camper stepped in to teach the class which covers the worldwide origin of

plants and products and their relationship with cultures and civilizations as a basis for food, spices, perfumes, medicine, art, mythology, religion, wars, exploration, slavery, etc.

AGRI/IE 116 is an AUCC class fulfilling the Global and Cultural Awareness requirement and is one of only a handful of

International Education classes on campus. Martha Denney, Director of International Education, was pleased to present both Matt and Andrew with a special glass “Globie” for their contributions. They were recognized at the International Education Awards Reception in April.



More BSPM Winners



Mr. John Lovell

Winner of the 2010 College of Agricultural Sciences Graduate Student Teaching Award

&

Dr. Whitney Cranshaw

Winner of the 2010 Student Organization and Advisor

Recognition (SOAR) Award for Outstanding Advisor



Farewell, Bon Voyage, Arrivederci, Adios!

With every new semester and new students to welcome, there are also those that graduate, retire, or move on. For those affiliated with BSPM, we would like to recognize, congratulate, and bid them farewell with our best wishes!

2009 - 2010 Graduates:

James “Jim” Bromberg, Brian Heinold, Sydney Reed, Sherri Pucherelli, Jacob Snelling, Joseph “Joe” Vassios, and Dan West.

Moving On:

Hiromichi “Hiro” Ishihara and Jan Stephens.

Retirement: Rajinder Ranu

retired in May 2010 after more than 30 years of service at Colorado State University.

