

Welcome!

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Spring 2025 Commencement Recognition
Ceremony

May 9, 2025

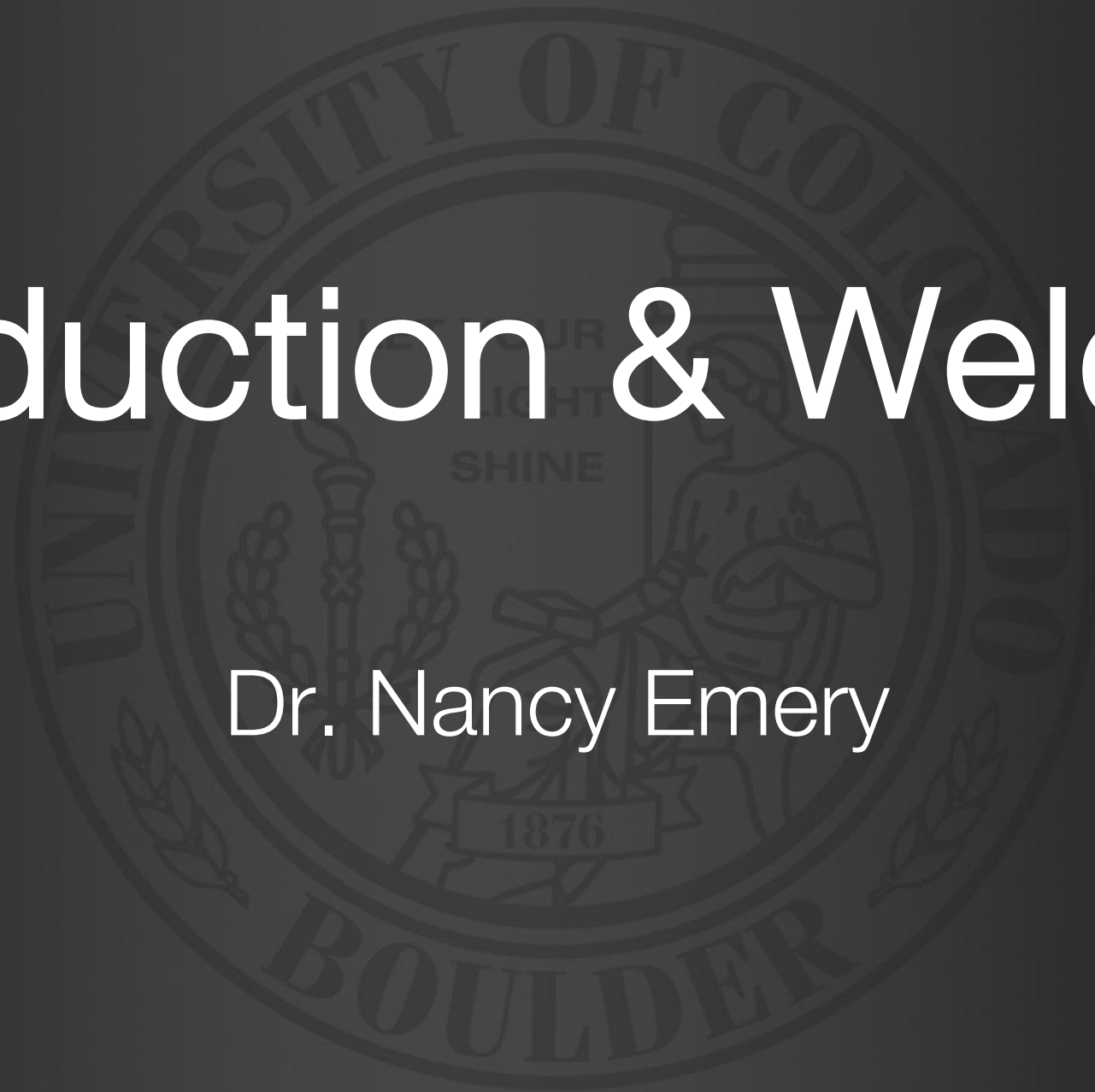
Ceremony will begin at 1:30



SCAN ME FOR
DIGITAL PROGRAM

Introduction & Welcome

Dr. Nancy Emery



The background of the slide features a large, faint, circular watermark of the University of Colorado Boulder seal. The seal contains the text "UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO" at the top, "BOULDER" at the bottom, and "1876" in the center. It also includes a torch and the words "LIGHT SHINE".

Introduction to the Graduate Program

Dr. Valerie McKenzie

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Graduate Student Degree Conferral

Dr. Valerie McKenzie
PhD and Master's Students

Fostering Scientific Civic Engagement in STEM Undergraduate Education: A Multimethod Investigation into Identity, Belonging, and Social Responsibility

Irfanul Alam, PhD
Dr. Lisa Corwin



The Power of People, Places, and Pedagogical Practices

Amy Dunbar-Wallis, PhD
Dr. Lisa Corwin



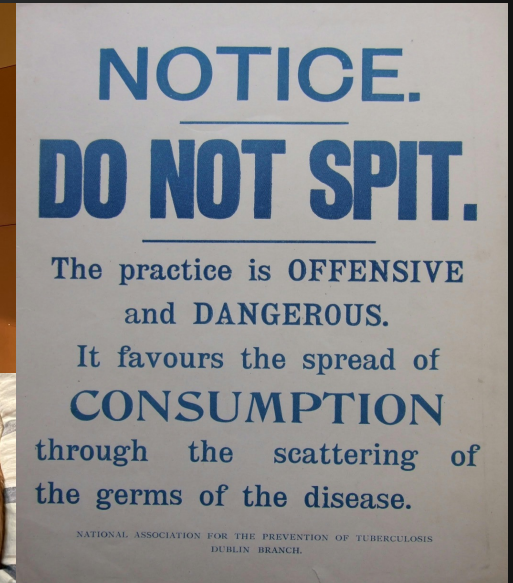
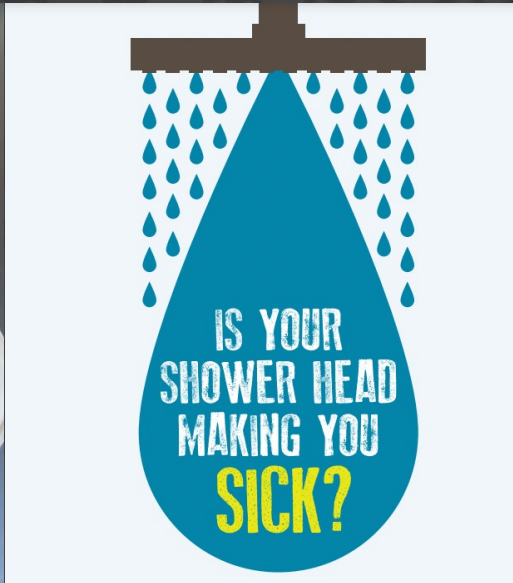
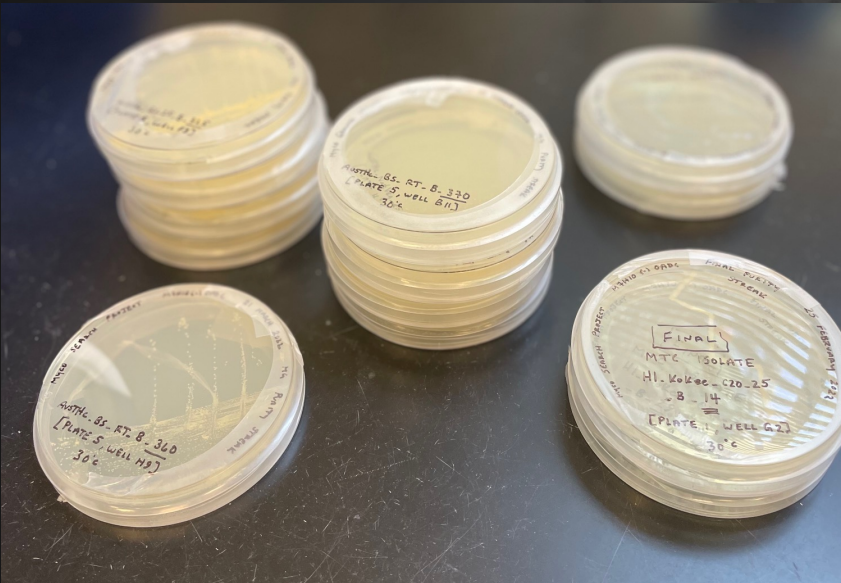
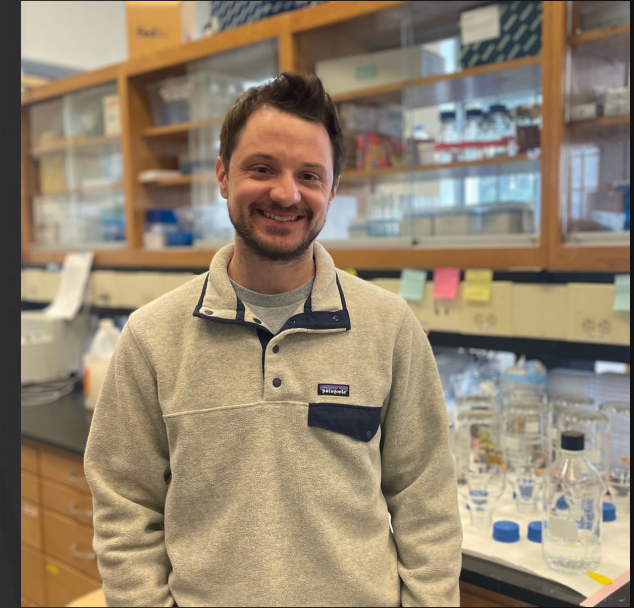
When Life Gives You Data: Leveraging Existing Data Sources to Inform Future Management of Pinyon–Juniper Woodlands

Alyson Ennis, PhD
Dr. Nichole Barger



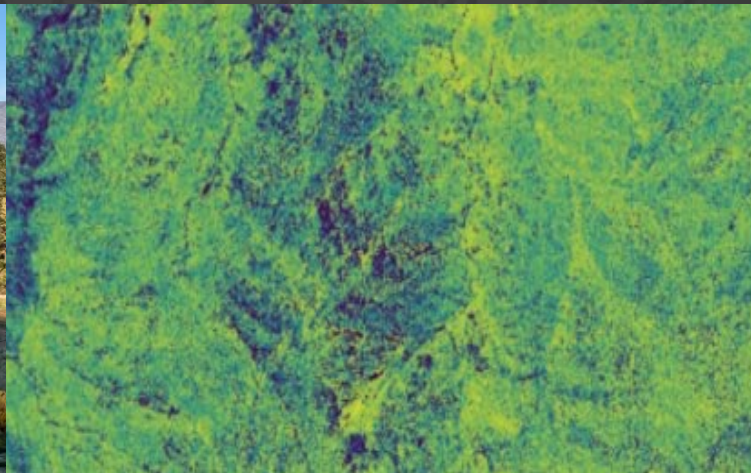
Nontuberculous Mycobacteria in the Natural and Built Environment: Their Ecology and Implications for Human Health

Matthew J. Gebert, PhD
Dr. Noah Fierer



From Canopy to Community: Integrating Remote Sensing, Observational Data, and Global Change Experiments to Understand Biodiversity Change

Meghan Hayden, PhD
Dr. Laura Dee



Mercury Cycling in the Rocky Mountains: Sources, Fates, and Climate Change Impacts

Hannah Miller, PhD
Dr. Eve-Lyn Hinckley



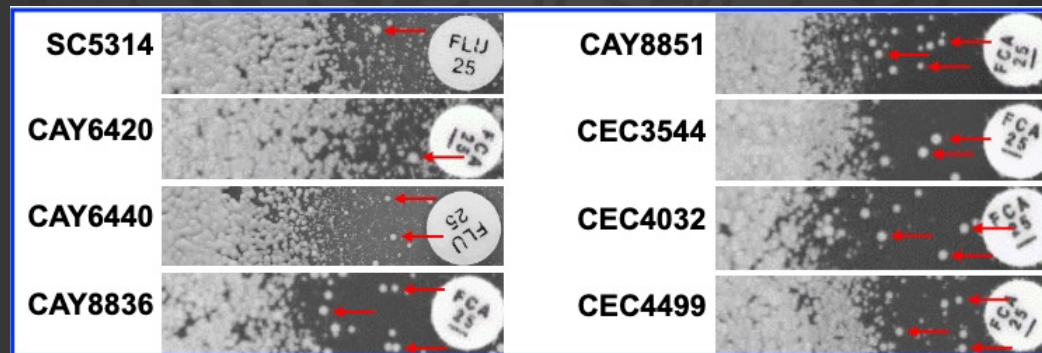
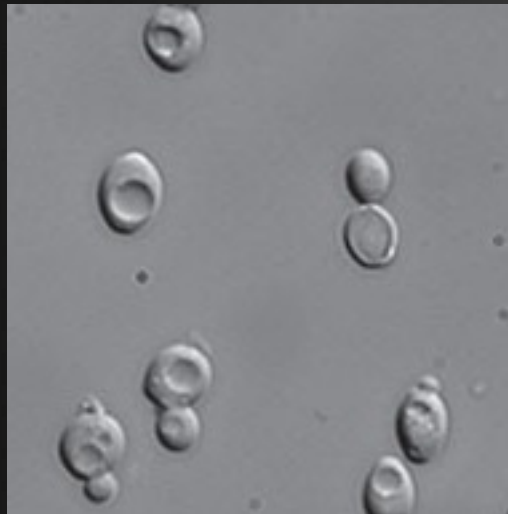
Ant Communities in Montane Ecosystems: Distributions, Thermal Physiology, and the Impacts of Climate Change

Anna Paraskevopoulos, PhD
Dr. Julian Resasco



Genomic and Evolutionary Mechanisms of Environmental Adaptation and Antifungal Resistance in *Candida* Yeasts

Kyle Schutz, PhD
Dr. Stacey Smith



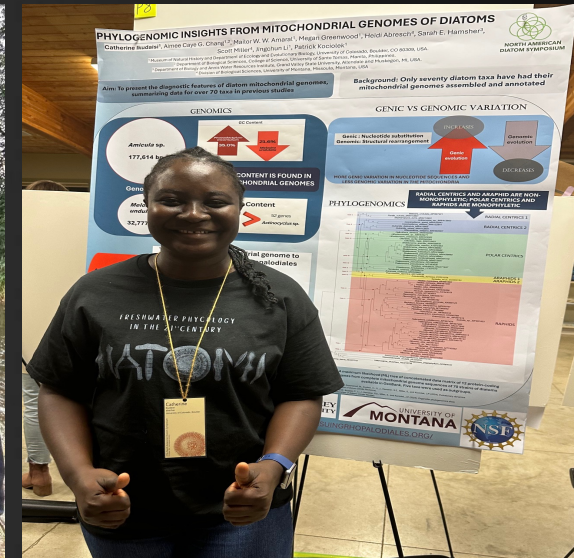
New Bioinformatic Approaches Reveal Genomic Basis Underlying Shifts in Breeding Systems

Kristin White, PhD
Dr. Nolan Kane



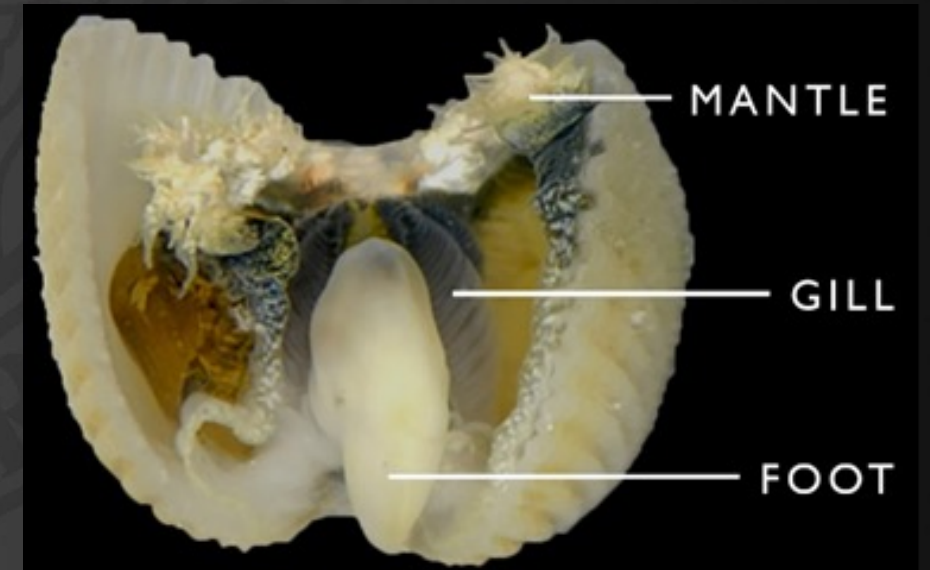
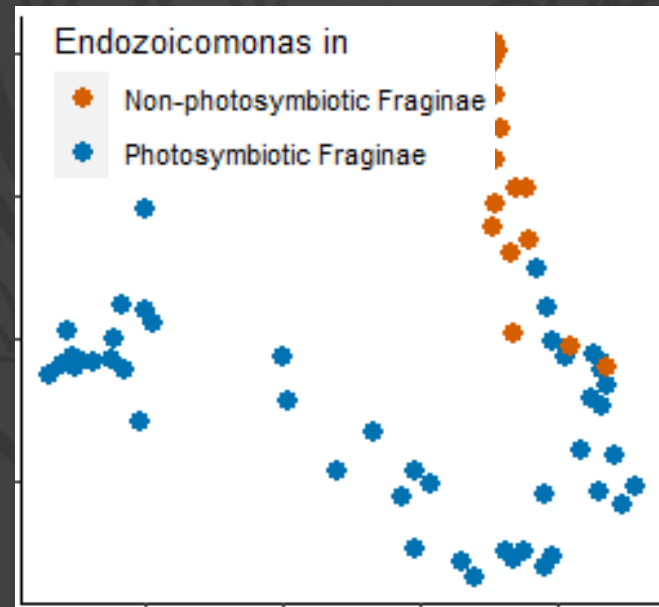
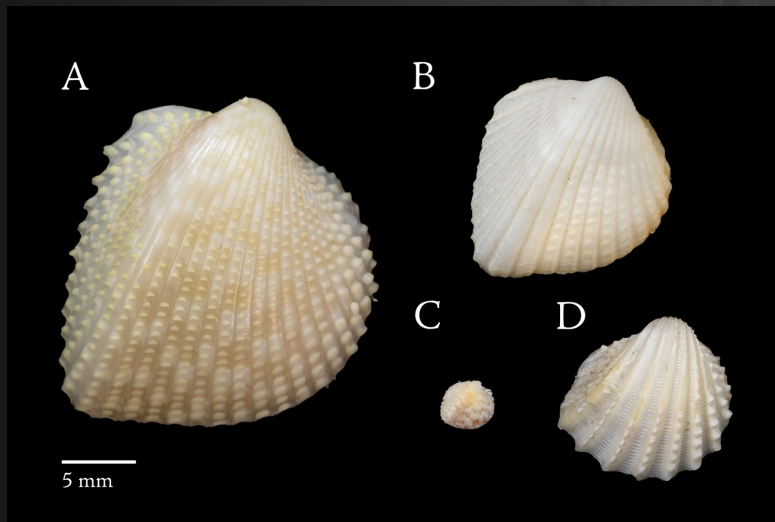
Mitochondrial Genomes of Rhopalodiales Diatoms

Catherine Ikudaisi, Master's
Dr. Patrick Kociolek



Differences in Microbiomes Between Photosymbiotic and Non-photosymbiotic *Fraginae*; Do *Endozoicomonas* Light the Way for Photosymbiosis?

Maya Shaulsky, Master's
Dr. Jingchun Li



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Introduction to the Undergraduate Honors Program

Dr. Pieter Johnson

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Undergraduate Honors Student Degree Conferral

Dr. Pieter Johnson

Projecting Habitat Occupancy and Population Stage Structure in a Climate-Sensitive Species Using Markov Chain Analysis

Van Baronofsky, *magna cum laude*
Dr. Chris Ray



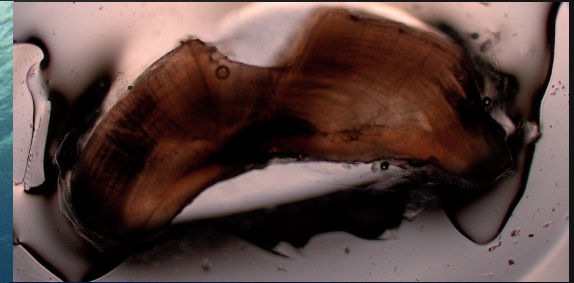
Changes in Plant Diversity and Functional Traits due to Drought in Colorado

Ava Boettiger, *magna cum laude*
Dr. Laura Dee



Using Otolith Aging Techniques to Compare *Acanthurus tractus* Age and Length with Infection Load of *Scaphanocephalus* spp.

Mackenzie Campbell, *summa cum laude*
Dr. Pieter Johnson



Barn Swallows Size Across Elevation and Latitude: Testing Bergmann's Rule

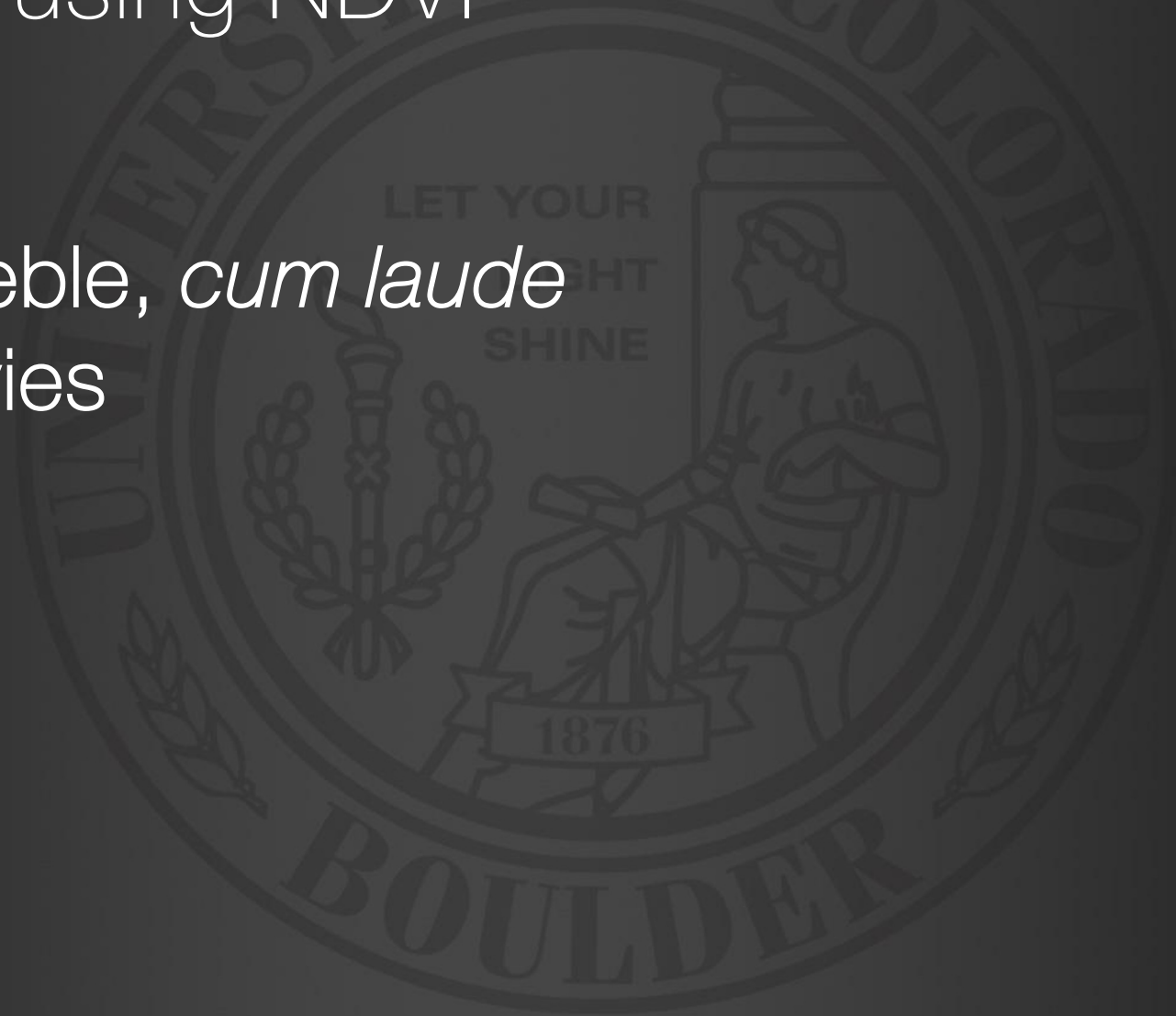
Salomé Carrasco, *magna cum laude*
Dr. Rebecca Safran



Analysis of the Interaction of Habitat Fragmentation and Wildfire using NDVI

McKenna Deeble, *cum laude*

Dr. Kendi Davies



Using Stream Outflow Data to Hindcast Ice Dynamics for a Subalpine Lake in Colorado

Bryan Gager, *summa cum laude*
Dr. Isabella Oleksy



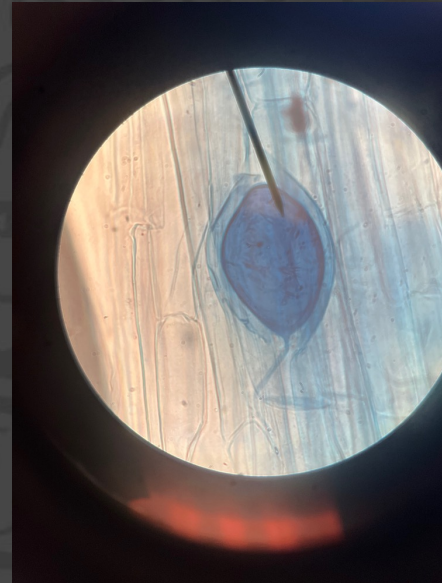
Testing Hypotheses for Temperament and Coat Color– The Case of Grey Wolves (*Canis lupus*) in Yellowstone National Park

Catherine R. Grady, *summa cum laude*
Dr. Joanna E. Lambert



The Effects of Plant-Soil Feedbacks on Native Growth in Competition with an Introduced Grass

Catalina Johnson, *magna cum laude*
Dr. Katharine Suding



The Impacts of Urbanization and Nest Temperature on Nestling Plumage Color in a Population of North American Barn Swallows

Julia Kelley-Kern, *magna cum laude*
Dr. Rebecca Safran



Effects of White Spruce Mast Crop on Female Red Squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) Nest-site Selection

Kaitlyn Mikell, *magna cum laude*
Dr. Andrew McAdam



Bold and Timid Temperaments in Polymorphic North American Gray Wolves

Jenna Porter, *cum laude*
Dr. Joanna Lambert



The Role of Social Information in Predator Avoidance: How Group Size and Composition Influence Individual and Collective Flight Responses

Abigail Schmidt, *summa cum laude*

Dr. Mike Gil



Investigating the Fate of Redox-Active Organic Matter in High-Elevation Wetlands of the Colorado Rocky Mountains, U.S.

Annalise Schroeder, *cum laude*
Dr. Eve-Lyn Hinckley



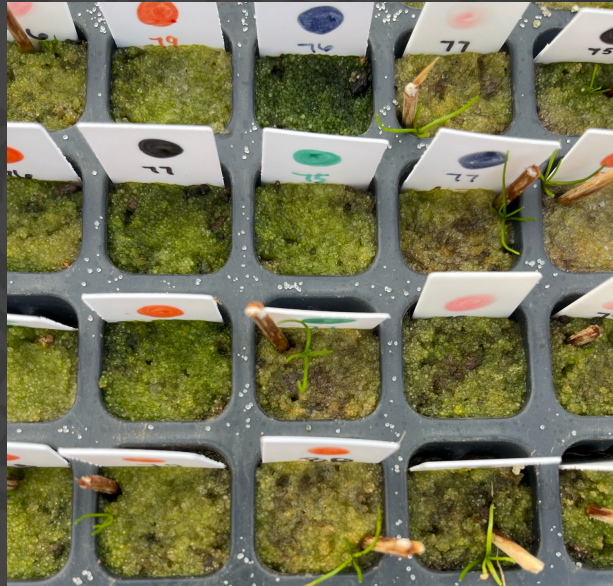
Early Snowmelt and Microclimate Variability Drive Alpine Arthropod Diversity and Community Structure

Isabelle Sease, *summa cum laude*
Dr. Warren Sconiers



Early Life History Responses to Varying Hydrological Regimes in Two Endangered Vernal Pool Species

Audrey Solis, *magna cum laude*
Dr. Nancy Emery



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Introduction to the Undergraduate Program

Dr. Eve-Lyn Hinckley

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Undergraduate Student Degree Conferral

Dr. Eve-Lyn Hinckley

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Introduction of Graduate Student Commencement Address

Dr. Stacey Smith



Science with Grace: Affirmations for the Future of Biology Research

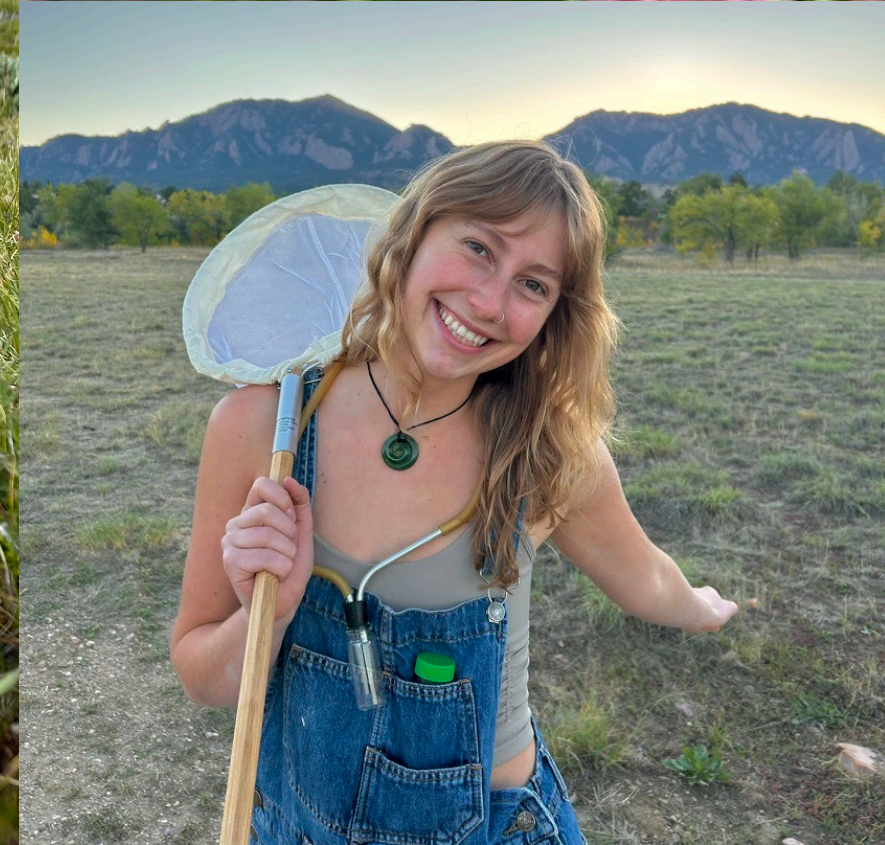
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Introduction of Undergraduate Student Commencement Address

Dr. Warren Sconiers

Isabelle Sease

Ecology and Resilience



Closing Remarks

Dr. Nancy Emery

