

The background features a large, faint watermark of the University of Colorado seal. The seal is circular and contains the text "UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO" around the top edge and "LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE" in the center. It also depicts a figure holding a staff and a book, surrounded by various symbols.

# Welcome!

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
Spring 2024 Commencement Recognition  
Ceremony

May 10, 2024

Ceremony will begin at 1:30

# Introduction & Welcome

Dr. Julian Resasco

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# Introduction to the Graduate Program

Dr. Valerie McKenzie

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# Graduate Student Degree Conferral

Dr. Valerie McKenzie  
PhD and Master's Students

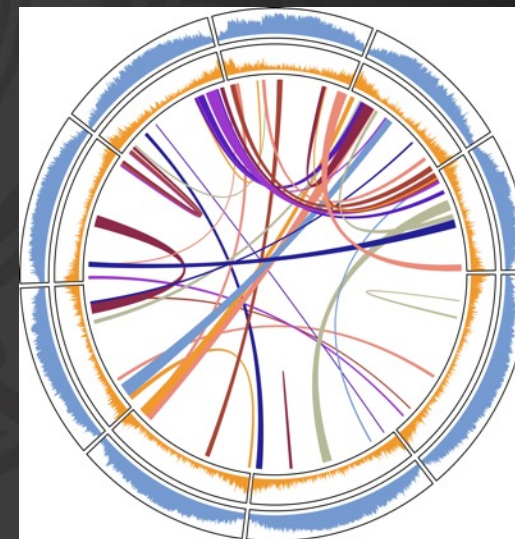
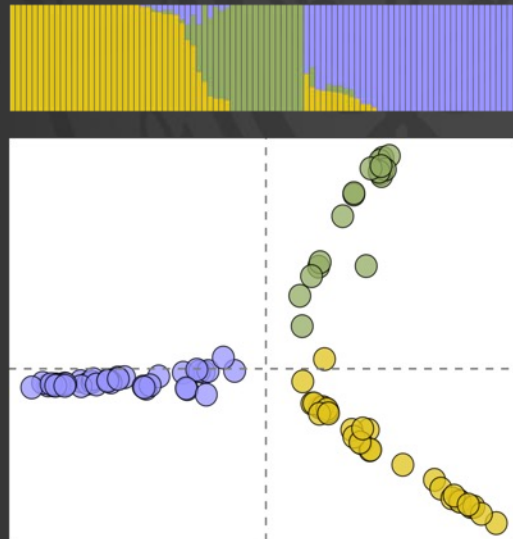
From snails to sagebrush: Leveraging field data to better understand the causes and consequences of infection and invasion in diverse systems

Brendan Hobart, PhD  
Dr. Valerie McKenzie



# Evolution, diversity, and domestication of North American blue flax

Peter Innes, PhD  
Dr. Nolan Kane



# Inoculation as a Biocrust Rehabilitation Strategy

Sierra Jech, PhD  
Dr. Nichole Barger



Leveraging expertise in functional  
plant biology for innovative education

Stephanie Polutchko, PhD

Dr. Barbara Demmig-Adams & Dr. William Adams





# The Spatial and Temporal Effects of Vegetation on the Urban Heat Island


Rebecca McHugh, Master's  
Dr. Laura Dee



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# Introduction to the Undergraduate Honors Program

Dr. Barbara Demmig-Adams

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# Undergraduate Honors Student Degree Conferral

Dr. Barbara Demmig-Adams

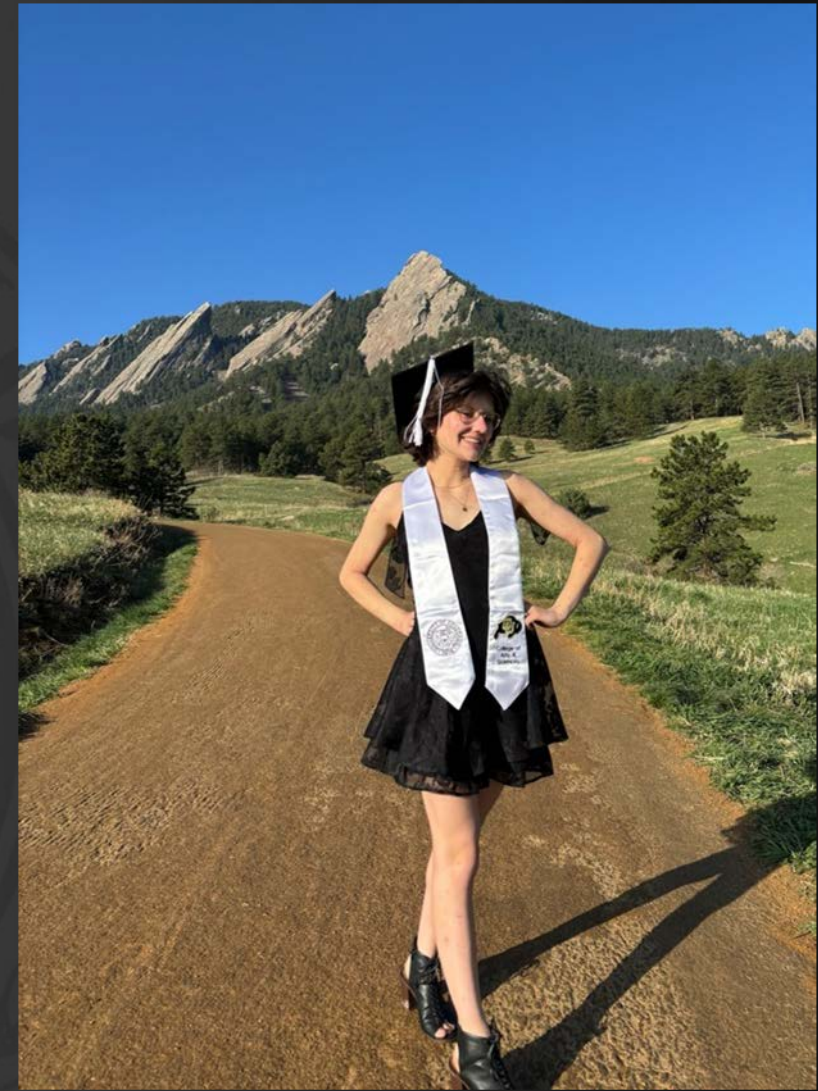
Who's Watching the Kids: The Importance of Vocalizations in Coordinating Parental Care During Incubation in North American Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica erythrogaster*)

Natalie Cloutier Chaine, *magna cum laude*  
Dr. Rebecca Safran



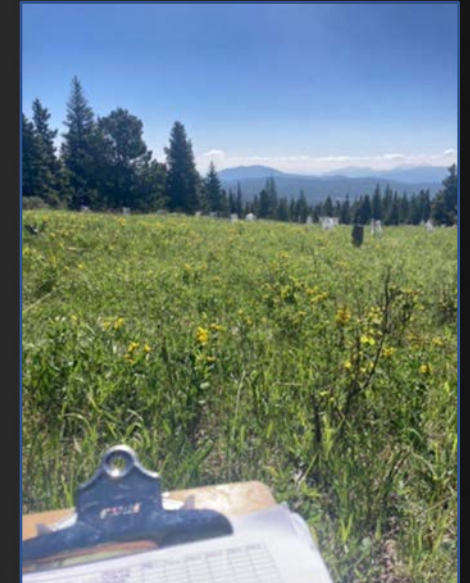
# Nicotine Addiction: Challenges and Recommendations

Dom Garr, *magna cum laude*  
Dr. Barbara Demmig-Adams



# Impacts of Sampling Effort on Seasonal Plant-pollinator Interaction Turnover Over Eight Years

Isabella Manning, *summa cum laude*  
Dr. Julian Resasco



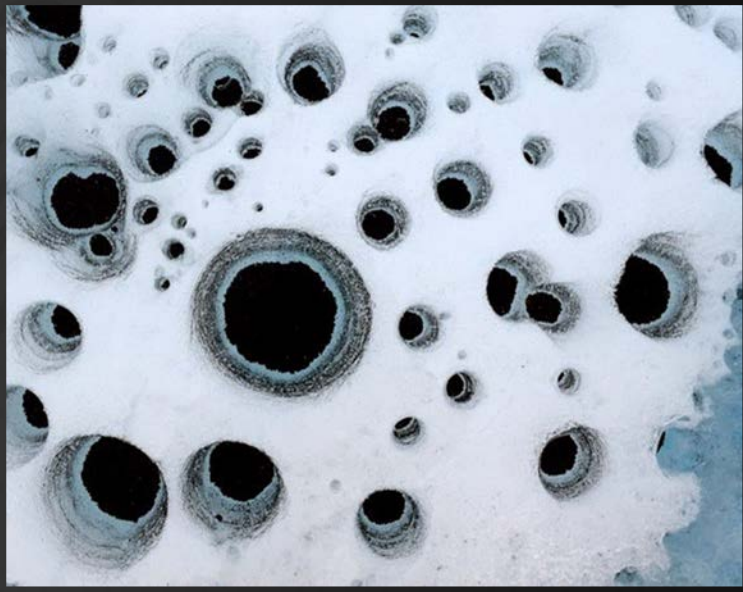
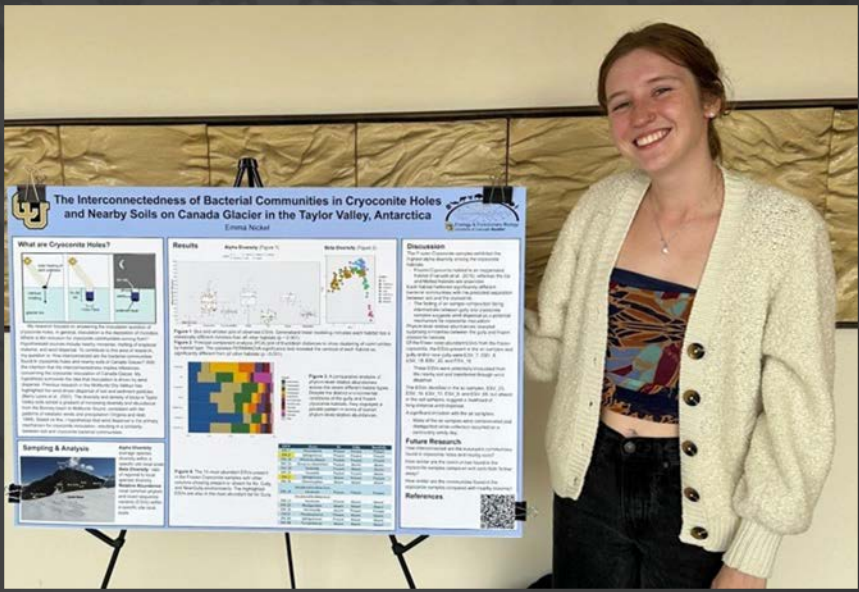
# The Effects of Pair Bond Strength on Reproductive Success in North American Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica erythrogaster*)

Grace Murdoch, *summa cum laude*  
Dr. Rebecca Safran



# The Interconnectedness of Bacterial Communities in Cryoconite Holes and Nearby Soils on Canada Glacier in the Taylor Valley, Antarctica

Emma Nickel, *summa cum laude*  
Dr. Steve Schmidt





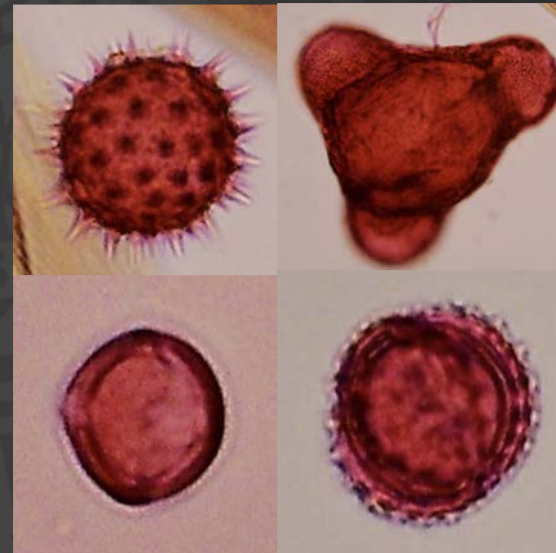
# Evaluating Biogeochemical Interactions in Barker Reservoir

Bhawana Paudel, *summa cum laude*  
Dr. Eve-Lyn Hinckley



# The Difference is Day and Night: Comparing Diurnal and Nocturnal Pollination Networks in a Subalpine Meadow

Janelle Paul, *summa cum laude*  
Dr. Julian Resasco



# An Investigation of Nocturnal Activity in American Pikas (*Ochotona princeps*) Using Camera Traps Along a Temperature Gradient

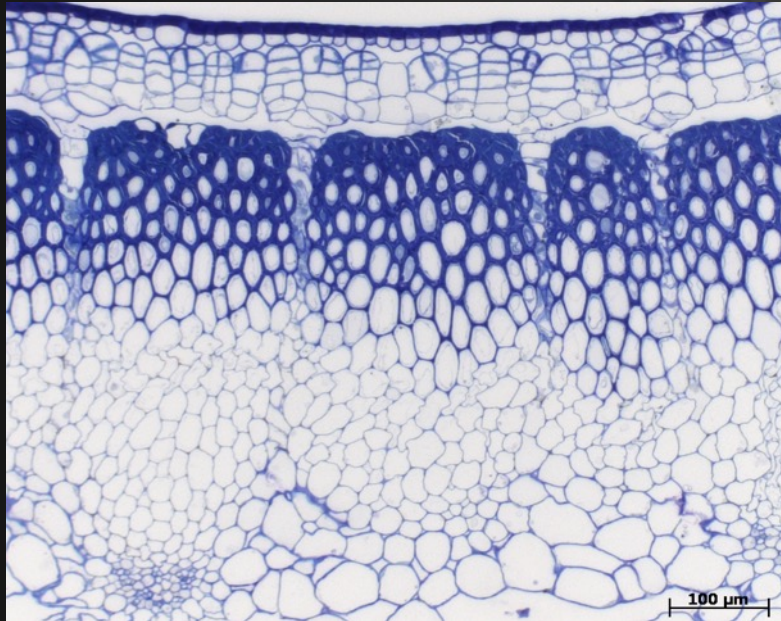
Alessia Serra, *summa cum laude*

Dr. Chris Ray



# QTL Mapping of Pericarp Strength in Sunflower: Overcoming Tradeoffs Between Seed Quality and Insect Resistance

Joey White, *summa cum laude*  
Dr. Nolan Kane



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# Introduction to the Undergraduate Program

Dr. Teresa Bilinski

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# Undergraduate Student Degree Conferral

Dr. Teresa Bilinski



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# Introduction of Graduate Student Commencement Address

Dr. Nichole Barger



A large, semi-transparent watermark of the University of Colorado seal is centered in the background. The seal features the text "UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO" in an arch at the top, "LET KNOWLEDGE BE YOUR LIGHT" in a smaller arch below it, and a central emblem depicting a mountain peak and a sun. The background image shows a landscape with a green field of purple flowers in the foreground, a line of trees, and a rocky mountain peak in the distance under a dark sky.

# Graduate Student Commencement Address

Sierra Jech, PhD

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# Introduction of Undergraduate Student Commencement Address

Dr. Chris Ray



# Knowledge: the Kindling of Hope

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Alessia Serra



# Closing Remarks

A large, faint watermark of the University of Colorado Boulder seal is centered in the background. The seal features a central figure holding a torch and a book, surrounded by the text 'UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER' and the year '1876'. The motto 'YOUR LIGHT SHINE' is also visible within the seal's design.

Dr. Julian Resasco

