



SPRING 2026

PLANT BIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES

FRIDAYS | 2:30 PM | PBL 247

Jan

16 Dani Eshel | Volcani Institute

“Carbon allocation rewiring in potato plant: A novel physiological route to enhanced drought tolerance and dormancy control”

March

13 Binney Girdler | Kalamazoo College

“Dune thistle demography: the perils of life on the shores of Lake Michigan”

20 Elena Kramer | Harvard University

“Exploring weird and wonderful petals in the Ranunculaceae”

27 Christoph Benning | Michigan State University

This seminar will be held in MPS 1200 | Followed by a reception in the MPS Atrium from 3:30–5 PM

April

3 Michelle Weston & Ben Feld | Michigan State University

Weston: “Exploring AI feedback on undergraduate research proposals: Student experiences, perceptions & engagement”

Feld: “High throughput phenotyping of switchgrass allows identification of senescence candidate genes”

17 Mike Grillo | Loyola University

“Coevolutionary diversification in Astragalus, the most species rich genus of plants”

24 Brad Ruhfel | University of Michigan

“Imperiled plants of tropical rivers: phylogeny, biogeography, and systematics of Podostemaceae”

May

8 Ian Gilman, Outstanding Postdoc Awards Seminar | Michigan State University

“There and back again: traveling between scales and across clades to understand photosynthetic evolution”