



MSA STUDENT AND POSTDOC SECTION

Mycological Society of America



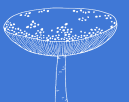
Polyporus squamosus, Photo: Thomas Roehl

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General Announcements

MSA SPS Exec. Board Nominations Deadline: May 12

Nominations for the 2023-2024 MSA SPS executive board are now being accepted [here!](#)

Are you a graduate student or postdoc who studies mycology and is interested in serving MSA, making new connections, and being a leader in your scientific community? Consider joining the MSA SPS executive board! Positions that are accepting nominations are:

- Communication chair
- Merchandise chair
- Secretary
- Post-doc representative
- Treasurer
- Webmaster
- Vice-chair (must have previous experience on the MSA SPS board)

Descriptions of the position responsibilities can be found in the [MSA SPS bylaws](#).

MSA Student Spotlight

We are accepting nominations for our

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Get featured in our monthly newsletter – it is free and open to everyone!



02



General Announcements

Intro to Spalted Wood (ONLINE), Dr. Seri Robinson

Driftless Folk School ~ August 20, 2023 1pm - 3pm

SPS & Friends Discount: enter code **MSASTU5** for \$5 off registration

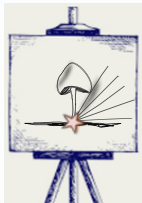
The technique of using pigments of wood decaying fungi (spalting fungi) has a long history in woodcraft. Spalted wood use has been traced back as far as the 1400s, but is also prevalent in modern woodwork and is experiencing a surge in renewed popularity. The pigments themselves have potential as thin films for photovoltaic cells, textile dyes, and much more. Join Dr. Spalting on a journey tracing spalted wood through cultures, time, art, and science, and learn how you too can work with this dynamic art form. [Register here.](#)



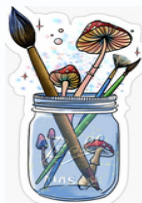
Theme: Elevating Mycology

Entries due: May 12, 2023

Prize: \$50 award or your design on a product of your choice



More information [Here](#)
Submit your artwork [Here](#)



Your design could be this year's
2023 MSA SPS design!

For questions email: Fabiola Pulido-Chavez * mpulid011@ucr.edu



SYNMYCANTHOSIUM

Tom Volk Memorial
Symposium
May 21-22, 2023

Registration Open Thru May 12

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

UWLAX.EDU/EX/MYCOLOGY-SYMPOSIUM/



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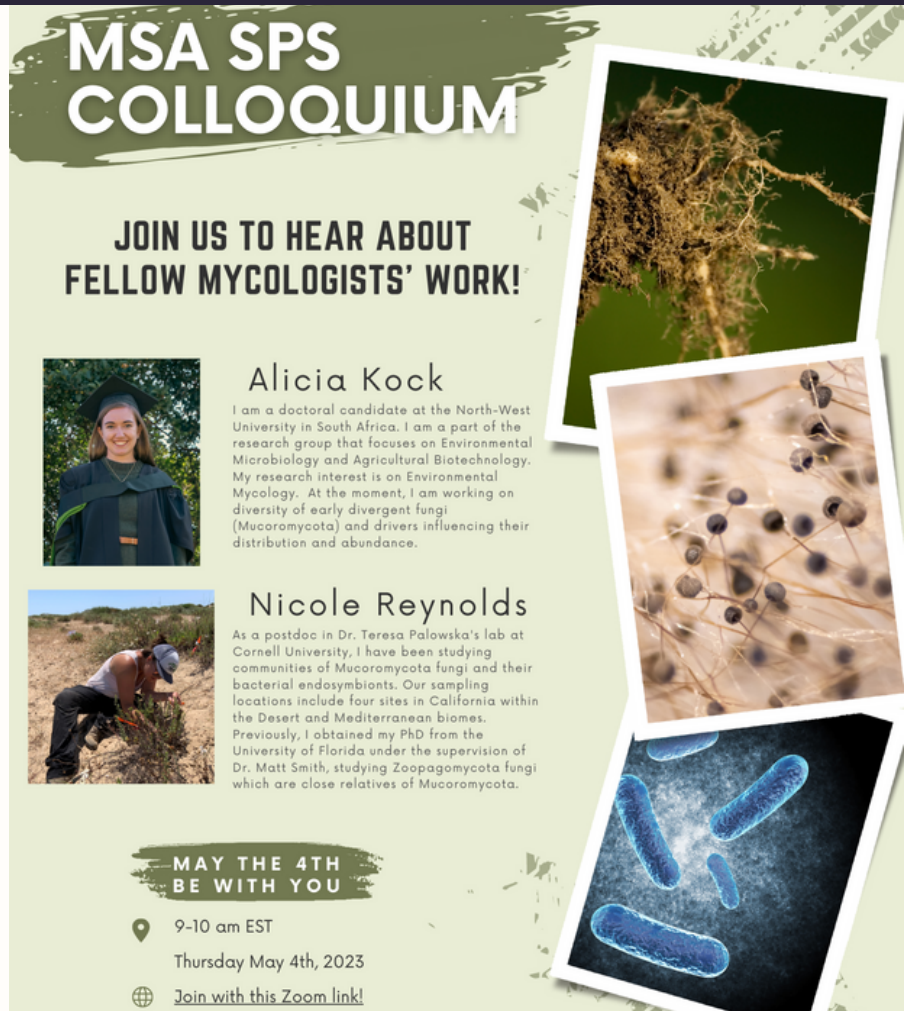
Events

MSA SPS Colloquium: Mucoromycota

May 4, 2023
9-10 am, EDT

[Zoom link](#)

Join mycologists **Alicia Kock** (PhD candidate, North-West University, South Africa) and **Nicole Reynolds** (postdoc, Cornell University, USA) as they share their research on the **Mucoromycota**. Alicia is studying diversity of early-diverging Mycoromycota and Nicole's research focuses on Mucoromycota communities and their endosymbionts.



MSA SPS COLLOQUIUM

JOIN US TO HEAR ABOUT FELLOW MYCOLOGISTS' WORK!

Alicia Kock
I am a doctoral candidate at the North-West University in South Africa. I am a part of the research group that focuses on Environmental Microbiology and Agricultural Biotechnology. My research interest is on Environmental Mycology. At the moment, I am working on diversity of early divergent fungi (Mucoromycota) and drivers influencing their distribution and abundance.

Nicole Reynolds
As a postdoc in Dr. Teresa Palowska's lab at Cornell University, I have been studying communities of Mucoromycota fungi and their bacterial endosymbionts. Our sampling locations include four sites in California within the Desert and Mediterranean biomes. Previously, I obtained my PhD from the University of Florida under the supervision of Dr. Matt Smith, studying Zoopagomycota fungi which are close relatives of Mucoromycota.

MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU

9-10 am EST
Thursday May 4th, 2023

Join with this [Zoom link!](#)

Review: March Symposium

Last March, the MSA SPS hosted a symposium focusing on the real research into fungal pathogens recently highlighted by the hit TV series *The Last of Us*. João Araújo, Matt Kasson, and Bridget Barker shared their research into *Ophiocordyceps* diversity, *Massospora* pathogenicity, and *Coccidioides* ecology.

Missed the symposium? Watch the recording, [linked on this page!](#)



04



Student Spotlight

Cedar Sekorski

Pronouns: It/Its or They/Them

Where did you grow up?

I grew up near Elkland, Missouri

Current research location

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

Current adviser

Anita Davelos

Current project description

I am currently looking at microbial sediment community structure and composition in an urban freshwater marsh.

Any good stories from field work?

As far as I know, my cat, Gratch, is the only cat to ever go in a foray with Tom Volk.

Who is your mycology role model?

Tom Volk

What have you learned from studying fungi?

Don't lose sight of the larger ecosystem

What are your career goals/plans for after you're done your current position?

I am going to save the Earth



Awards you'd like to brag about

So many! I guess my REU in mathematical ecology and my Summer Graduate Fellowship are the two most prestigious so far.

What is your favorite fungus?

Ganoderma applanatum because it's a very handsome fungus and I have a thing for shelf mushrooms.

What is your favorite fungus fact?

I find their dikaryon phase quite fascinating. And also how they can be such good buddies to plants.



05



MSA 2023 Annual Meeting

FLAGSTAFF, AZ

MSA JULY 2023



ELEVATING MYCOLOGY

We are looking forward to connecting with you at the 2023 MSA annual meeting Elevating Mycology in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Registration for the conference is now open! Register online by 5/31 to get a discounted registration.

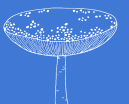
STUDENT & POSTDOC SECTION EXCLUSIVE

Get a **FREE** meeting t-shirt!

Register as "Early In-Person MSA Student Member w/ T-shirt" and enter the code **23MTGSHIRT**

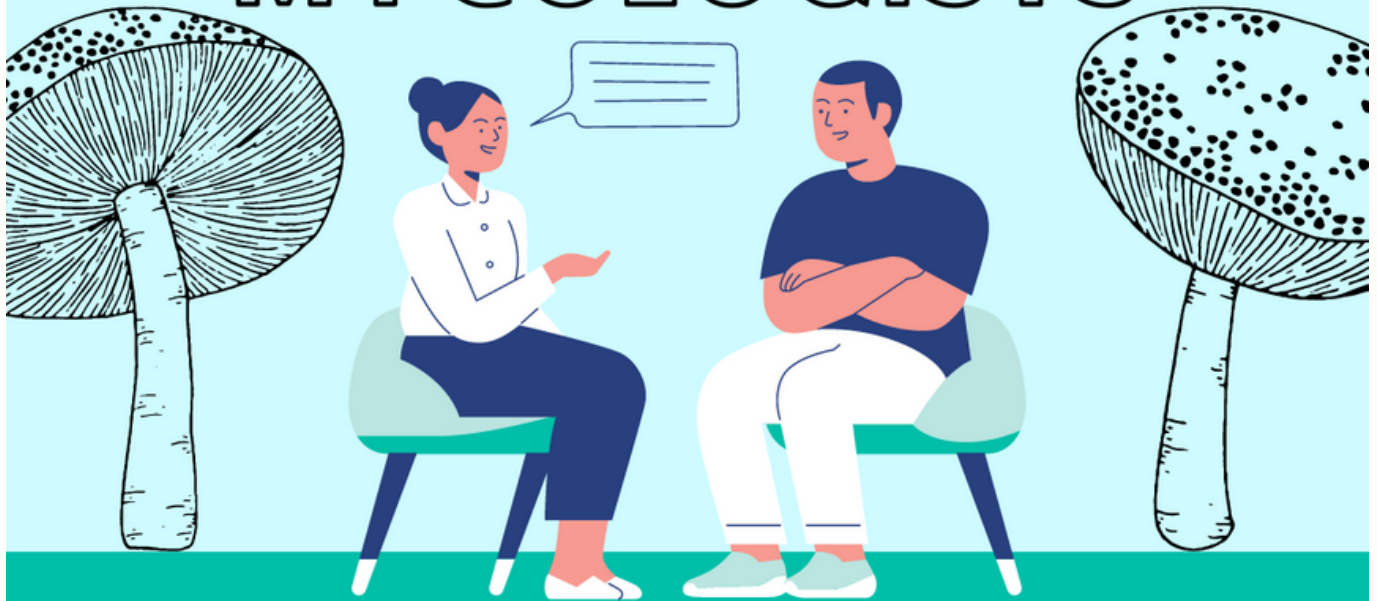


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Musings &

MYCOLOGISTS



WE ARE SEEKING NOMINATIONS TO INVITE MYCOLOGISTS TO SHARE THEIR CAREER JOURNEYS IN A COFFEE HOUR

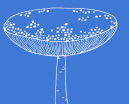
*Is there a mycologist
you look up to?*

After a successful panel at the MSA 2022 Meeting, we are happy to host this event for a second time!

Nominate your favorite mycologist if you want to know more about their career path!



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Resources

Mycological Society of America

[MSA membership portal and renewal](#)

[MSA awards](#)

Student and Postdoc Section

[Mycology colloquium signup form](#)

[Student spotlight signup form](#)

[Mycology group spotlight signup form](#)

[Musings and Mycologists \(MnMs\) nomination form](#)

[Photos of the month submission form](#)

[MSA SPS swag](#)

[Check out our new merch here!](#)



MSA SPS Social Media

