Dr. Richard Latin was awarded a very prestigious honor on February 6th at the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America meeting in San Antonio, TX. He received the 2018 Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award from the GCSAA. This award is given to the individual(s) who have made an outstanding, substantive and enduring contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent profession. Congratulations to Dr. Latin for his contributions to turf grass pathology, golf course management, and educating numerous superintendents and students! Please visit the following url to read Rick’s contributions and service to the GCSAA.


The Purdue Extension E-News Blog weekly Digest recently featured Dr. Janna Beckerman, Dr. Tom Creswell and Gail Ruhl. This weekly blog, The Purdue Landscape Report provides science-based, timely information for Midwest landscapes. This information is intended to benefit commercial growers, garden centers, landscapers, arborists, or others who want to keep up with current landscape issues.

To view this online, go to www.purduelandscapereport.org
PUBLICATIONS


STAFF RECOGNITION

Cheri Janssen received a “high five” in the Purdue Extension E-News Blog Weekly Digest. Cheri has worked hard to accommodate ANR educators in approving PARP programs and has provided timely updates for such programming. Cheri was nominated by Jim Luzar, Director, Purdue Extension.

UNDERGRADUATE RECOGNITION

Each year the department selects an outstanding freshman, sophomore, junior and senior from among our undergraduate students. Each student’s nomination packet is forwarded to be entered into the college-wide competition. All students nominated by their departments will be recognize at the Annual Spring Awards Banquet on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. Congratulations Students!

2017-2018 Department of Botany and Plant Pathology Outstanding Students are:

Outstanding Senior: Cade Kane
Outstanding Junior: Jingyu Lucy Liu
Outstanding Sophomore: Emily Miller
Outstanding Freshman: Aileen Frazier
GRADUATE STUDENT RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Jorge Diaz –Valderrama on receiving the 2018 Teaching Academy Graduate Teaching Award. His efforts in both BTNY11000 and BTNY20700 are remarkable! He will receive an award and much deserved recognition on April 24th at the Celebration of Teaching Excellence, Ceremony.

Did you know that Brent Mansfield is a Purdue Graduate Student Senator for our department? His role as senator is to communicate between the graduate students in the department and the Purdue Graduate Student Government (PGSG). PGSG is compromised of members from all departments across campus. The students work together to provide a stimulating environment of discussion and debate in order to address any concerns or ideas of fellow graduate students at Purdue University. Among this role, Brent also works together with the Botany and Plant Pathology Graduation Student Organization (BPP-GSO). BPP-GSO is compromised of graduate students within our department. The primary goal of the organization is to provide a platform for networking and sharing of ideas between students with diverse backgrounds. The organization also offers travel grants to students to allow them the opportunity to present their research at academic conferences to help build their professional and leadership abilities. Feel free to reach out to him with any questions or concerns at mansfieb@purdue.edu.

Congratulations to Chao Cai on passing his final exam for his PhD defense! Chao Cai is a student with Dr. Jody Banks. Congratulations Chao!

MARCH SEMINARS

Botany and Plant Pathology Seminars are held on Wednesday at 3:30pm in WSLR, Room 116 (unless noted)

March 14  No Seminar—SPRING BREAK
March 21  Dr. Emmanuel Byamukama, Rutgers
March 28  No Seminar—COA Faculty Meeting
Keenan Mighell is a Master student working under Dr. Terry Henkel at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California. His research involves formally describing several new, undescribed species of fungi in the Basidiomycete genus Amanita from Guyana and Cameroon. While at Purdue he will be working with the Aime Lab to extract and sequence DNA from our fruiting body collections. He will be using these sequences to build phylogenies that inform the infrageneric placement of these new species.

Luis Alberto Ramirez Camejo joined our department as a Visiting Scholar from Panama. He will be working in the Aime Lab focusing on the genetic diversity and population genetics of the coffee rust pathogen in Latin America.