



# Living Earth Collaborative Happenings

*Stay in the Loop with LEC News, Events, and Opportunities*

February 2025

## LEC February Events

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Feb

6

### WashU Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Seminar

Thursday, February 6, 4:00 pm

Rebstock Hall, Room 322, Danforth Campus

Speaker: [Dr. Nathan Lents](#), Professor of Biology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY, "Sex and Gender Diversity as a Framework for Social and Ecological Adaptation"

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Feb

13

### WashU Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Seminar

Thursday, February 13, 4:00 pm

Rebstock Hall, Room 322, Danforth Campus

Speaker: [Dr. Stephen Blake](#), Saint Louis University

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Feb

20

### WashU Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Seminar

Thursday, February 20, 4:00 pm

Rebstock Hall, Room 322, Danforth Campus

Speakers

- [David Hernandez](#) (WashU EEB)
- [Dr. Heng Liang](#) (WashU Biology), "Fitness and Social Consequences of Eating a Well-Defended *Pseudomonas* Bacterium in the Social Amoeba *Dictyostelium discoideum*"

- [Grace Copping](#) (WashU EEB), "Thamnophis and their Toxic Relationship: Testing for Intraspecific Venom Variation in Common Garter Snakes, *Thamnophis sirtalis*"

Feb  
27

## Tropical Forest February in the Climatron

Thursday, February 27, 9:00 am - 10:45 am

Bayer Event Center, Missouri Botanical Garden

Escape the winter chill and step into the only tropical forest in St. Louis: the Climatron at Missouri Botanical Garden. Hear from **Dr. Mónica Carlsen** on the Climatron, an architectural and botanical marvel, and its role in showcasing the wonders of tropical ecosystems.

This event is open to the public, but space is limited. [Registration is required](#).

Feb  
27

## Tropical Forest February with Dr. Lúcia Lohmann

Thursday, February 27, 5:00 pm

Bayer Event Center, Missouri Botanical Garden

Warm up the winter with an evening celebrating tropical forests, headlined by **Dr. Lúcia Lohmann**, Missouri Botanical Garden's new president and director.

Mingle with researchers from WashU, the Saint Louis Zoo, and Missouri Botanical Garden, and learn about ongoing tropical forest projects at a welcome reception. The evening will culminate with a talk on tropical forests by Dr. Lohmann, a world-renowned botanist and conservation researcher.

This event is invite only and registration is required. Please let us know if you did not receive your invitation.

## Opportunities



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

### Missouri Botanical Garden Open Positions

Come join the Missouri Botanical Garden! MBG is hiring multiple positions to work in the herbarium, as a

part of their new [\*Revolutionizing Species Identification\*](#) project.

Positions are available for a variety of career stages. The supervisor and digitization assistant positions would be great for recent graduates at the undergrad/masters level, while the postdoc would be well suited for doctoral students who recently finished or plan to finish within the coming year. Please share these opportunities with your networks.

For questions, please contact **Matt Austin** ([maustin@mobot.org](mailto:maustin@mobot.org)).

### Open Positions

- [Supervisor, Hyperspectral Scanning](#)
- [Postdoctoral Fellow, Biodiversity Data](#)
- [Herbarium Digitization Assistant](#)

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## Project Highlight



### Public Health Ideas: A Conversation with Lora Iannotti

**Lora Iannotti**, a Biodiversity Fellow and professor at Wahu's Brown School sat down with WashU's School of Public Health Dean Sandro Galea to discuss a paper Iannotti co-authored, "Wild Foods Are Positively Associated with Diet Diversity and Child Growth in a Protected Forest Area of Madagascar." This paper was co-authored with several Biodiversity Fellows from Missouri Botanical Garden: **Tabita Randrianarivony**, **Armand Randrianasolo**, **Robbie Hart** and originated from a Living Earth Collaborative Seed Grant project. Learn more about the project at <https://bit.ly/Wildfood>

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## Update Your LEC Profile

# Biodiversity Fellow Profile

To keep your [Biodiversity Fellow profile](#) up to date on the Living Earth Collaborative website, please take a few minutes to complete this **short update form**:

## Research Mentor Profile

Looking for WashU undergraduates to support your research? Create or update your research mentor profile on the [LEC website](#) by completing this **short form**.

[Fellow Update Form](#)

[Research Mentor Form](#)

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### Connect with LEC



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