Grad Students

1. Introductions
2. Creating community
Kristin Olson  
*Ph.D. Student*  
Carbon  
Headwater streams  
Terrestrial linkages

Frances Iannucci  
*M.S. Student*  
Stream metabolism  
Permafrost  
Carbon
Turetsky/Kane Lab

Matthias Fuchs  
Postdoc

Permafrost  
Geospatial  
Methane

Will Cox  
Ph.D. student

Plants  
Permafrost  
Carbon

Hailey Webb  
Ph.D. student

Permafrost  
Carbon  
Geospatial

Nor Serocki  
Ph.D. student

Peatlands  
Flux  
Remote Sensing
Mack & Walker Lab

Dylan Baldassari  
*Ph.D. Student*

Nick Link  
*Ph.D. student*

Jonas Noomah  
*M.S. student*

Anastasia Pulak  
*M.S. student*

Fungi  
Biogeochemistry  
Range Expansion

Fire  
Climate Adaptation  
Succession

Bark Beetles  
Carbon  
Disturbances

Carbon  
Climate Change  
Ecosystem Ecology
Schuur Lab

Craig See
Postdoc

Allison Kelley
Ph.D. Student

Stephanie Kadej
Ph.D. student

Emma Lathrop
Ph.D. student

Megan McGroarty
Ph.D. student

Permafrost
Biogeochemistry
Belowground ecology

Radiocarbon
Biogeochemistry
Permafrost hydrology

Plant ecology
Carbon cycling
Arctic ecology

Permafrost
Soil biogeochemistry
Carbon

Permafrost
Decomposition
Nutrient cycling
NorthCore Lab Group

Victoria Robertson

MES

Permafrost
Vegetation
Nitrogen
Goetz & Berner Lab

Katie Orndahl
Postdoc
Remote Sensing
Vegetation
Consumers

Shelby Sundquist
PhD Student
Ecological Modeling
Forests
Drought
Lucash Lab

Gabriel Abreu-Vigil
Masters Student

Modeling
Climate change
Permafrost
Creating Community
Broader Goals

- Building student community
- Professional networking
- Collaborative projects
  - i.e., larger synthesis paper
  - Adewopo et al. (2014) was carried out as collaboration led by graduate students

Top-Ranked Priority Research Questions for Soil Science in the 21st Century

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Soils provide critical support essential for life on earth, regulate processes across diverse terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, and interact with the atmosphere. However, soil science is constrained by a variety of challenges including decreasing funding prospects and a declining number of new students and young professionals. Hence, there is a crucial need to revitalize the impact, relevance, and recognition of soil science as well as promote collaboration beyond traditionally defined soil science research disciplines.

Such revitalization and collaboration may be fostered by a shift from discipline-focused soil science research to cross-disciplinary research approaches and issue-driven research. In this paper, we present the outcomes of an initiative to identify priority research questions as a tool for guiding future soil science research. The collaborative approach involved four stages including (i) survey-based solicitation of questions; (ii) criteria-based screening of submitted candidate questions, (iii) criteria-based ranking of screened questions, and (iv) final revision of top ranked questions. The 25 top ranked research questions emerged from 140 submitted candidate questions within five predetermined thematic areas that represent current and emerging research areas. We expect that the identified questions will inspire both existing and prospective researchers, enhance multi-disciplinary collaboration both within and outside soil science, draw the attention of grant-awarding bodies, and guide soil science research to address pressing societal agricultural, and environmental challenges. Furthermore, we hope that the approach and findings presented in this paper will advance soil sciences by fostering improved collaboration among soil science practitioners and researchers, as well as with other sciences, policy experts, and emerging professionals (including students) to meet societal needs.

Abbreviations: CWG, core working group; EC, expert committee; GHG, greenhouse gases; GIS, geographical informational system; NAS, National Academy of Science, SSSA, soil science society of America; SSSA

“The initiative, led by graduate students, was administratively supported by the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA)”
Graduate Student Poll Results

On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate your sense of belonging to the LTER community?
12 responses

On a scale of 1 to 5, how connected do you feel professionally to other graduate students in the LTER?
12 responses
Graduate Student Poll Results

“What would you like to see more of in BNZ LTER?”

- Opportunities for community building
- Inter-group collaboration and de-isolating labs
- Grad student meetups
- Informal opportunities to hang out (outside of Zoom)
- Clearer avenues for graduate student engagement
Ways Forward- how to reach our broader goal?

Communication

- LTER listserv
- Grad Student Slack
  - https://join.slack.com/t/slack-qxf3850/shared_invite/zt-1s1k8mo1s-SQqHxg~A1P8v9fCieW2MU

Connections

- Informal weekly meetups (probably involving food)
- Field work collab
- Local field trips
Additional ideas? Let’s Discuss!

- What are other ways to foster personal and professional community?
- Graduate student events
- Field/lab work help
- Field safety training
- Collaborative project ideas?