A peek inside the black box of ecosystems: Fungal communities and belowground dynamics

Eric Treseder, University of California, Merced

Professor Kathleens K. Treseder

Presented by:

A peek inside the black box of ecosystems: Fungal communities and belowground dynamics

Eric Treseder

UC Berkeley

Building: Room 4110

Valley Life Sciences

3-4 pm (prompt)

Monday, January 27

Within ecosystem ecology, the soil microbial community has frequently been considered a "black box". This is because it is difficult to observe and understand how the vast diversity of microorganisms works together to drive ecosystem processes. However, recent advances in molecular biology and genetics have allowed researchers to gain insights into the structure and function of these communities.

Professor Kathleen Treseder, a leading expert in this field, will provide an overview of her research on fungal communities. Her work involves studying the interactions between fungi and plants, as well as the impacts of climate change on these systems.

Treseder completed her Ph.D. in 1999 and her Doctoral Degree in Biology from the University of California, Berkeley. She then conducted postdoctoral research at Stanford University and the University of California, Merced. In 2007, she joined the faculty at the University of California, Merced, where she currently maintains field sites in Alaska and Chile, and in the past she has worked in Hawaii, Borneo, and New Mexico.

Treseder currently studies the role of fungi in ecosystems, and her research focuses on understanding how fungal communities interact with plants and other organisms. She is particularly interested in the roles of fungi in nutrient cycling and carbon sequestration.

This seminar will provide an opportunity to learn about Treseder's work and the challenges she faces in understanding the complexity of fungal communities. It will also highlight the importance of interdisciplinary approaches to studying these systems.
For Further Information Contact Sandy Rodriguez (209) 724-4411 or sandy.rodriguez@ucop.edu