



COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES

APPLIED MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS (AMS)

E-NEWSLETTER

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AMS NEWSLETTER February 16, 2026

AMS WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week of February 16 - February 20

Monday 2/16/26

- Presidents Day Break
 - No classes, campus open

Tuesday 2/17/26

- Presidents Day Break
 - No classes, campus open

Wednesday 2/18/26

- Math Club with Dr. Padmini Nukala — 5-6pm, CH143
 - Topic: Finding Shape in Data, Theory and the Classroom

Friday 2/20/2026

- Math Bio Meeting — 12-1pm, CH156
- MODL Seminar — 1-2pm, CH143
- AMS Colloquium — 3-4pm, CH143
 - Speaker - Dr. Likun Zhang, MU

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Upcoming Events

March

Friday 3/20/2026

- MS Thesis Defense - Colin Fenster – 11am, GC 224

Don't stop here! Keep scrolling for campus news, events, and opportunities you won't want to miss!

General Announcements

New - Mines Foundation Highlights Excellence



Inaugural Joe and Jane Gray University Chair

Cecilia Diniz Behn, PhD, professor in applied mathematics and statistics at Mines, has been named the inaugural Joe and Jane Gray University Chair. A university chair is the highest level of distinction a Mines faculty member can hold.

Diniz Behn is an expert in the field of mathematical biology, which uses advanced mathematics to solve complex biological problems. She's known for her impactful interdisciplinary research, as a sought-after mentor for graduate students and as an innovator in building biomedical education at Mines.

"Holding this endowed chair is a huge honor," said Diniz Behn, who started the position in late fall 2025. "It will give me new flexibility to tackle bigger questions while they are in a more nascent state, opportunities to promote interdisciplinary biomedical research on campus and, importantly, additional funding to support my graduate students and postdocs."

Click [here](#) to view the whole article from the Mines Foundation.

Undergraduate Program Announcements

Reminder - Pathways in Genomics Data Science fellowship program

The University of Colorado Denver and Anschutz Medical Campus is seeking applications from undergraduate students. Students who apply by **February 22nd** will receive full consideration.

The program's benefits:

- **Fully-funded** 2-year Master's Degree fellowship to study the application of data science in genomics research.
- Earn an MS in Statistics or Applied Mathematics.
- No prior experience in genomics required.
- Students of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

team.github.io/PATHGDS.

- Application instructions are available at hendricks-research-team.github.io/PATHGDS/Apply.html.

Reminder - UMN NSF Summer School - AI for Earth Summer 2026

The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities (UMN) is excited to announce their second **AI for Earth Summer School**, which focuses on analyzing large datasets using *AI and Machine Learning for Earth and Environmental Science*. There will be lectures, hands-on tutorials, and group projects. Applications are open now through **March 1st, 2026**, at their website:

<https://z.umn.edu/ai4earth>

You can review the material from last year's summer school using this [link](#).

Here is a **summary** of the program's features:

- 8-week research program: **Jun 8th – July 31st, 2026**. The first 6 weeks will be virtual, and the last 2 weeks will be in person at the UMN campus.
- Participants receive a **\$2,000** stipend paid in installments throughout the summer. For the in-person weeks, students will be provided with housing in university dorms, meal plans, and reimbursement for travel expenses.
- The summer school is part of an NSF-funded research project led by Prof. Vipin Kumar in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, with day-to-day program direction and logistics coordinated by the program team.
- Participants will work in teams to **conduct research** using large-scale datasets and apply AI/ML techniques to address real-world societal challenges.

Logistics:

- Application deadline: **Sunday, March 1st, 2026** (see the website: <https://z.umn.edu/ai4earth>).
- Notification: **Monday, March 16th, 2026** (students will be notified whether they were accepted into the program).
- Program dates: **Jun 8th – Jul 31st, 2026**.
- We are having an **information session on Feb 16th at 1:00 PM MN Time**, which you can sign up for using this **RSVP Link**.

We look forward to receiving applications. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at: ai4earth@umn.edu.

For More Information and to Apply

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Seminars

New - Climate Series Reception and Lecture

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<https://cglink.me/2iH/r1601286>

Dr. Ryan Venturelli
Colorado School of Mines

Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Reception: 3PM in Marquez Atrium
Seminar: 4 PM in East Classroom Building 120

Drilling for Antarctica's Subglacial Secrets

Reconstructions of past ice sheet behavior enable us to refine physical models that predict how much, how fast, and from where Antarctic ice mass loss will contribute to future sea level rise. Geological constraints on paleo ice thickness obtained from above the modern ice surface (e.g., exposure age data from deglaciated nunataks) and on paleo ice extent obtained outboard from modern margins (e.g., sediment core and geomorphic data from the ice-free continental shelf) have served as the primary tools to decipher the topology of the Antarctic Ice Sheet from the Last Glacial Maximum to present. Recent efforts to recover sediment and bedrock from beneath grounded ice in Antarctica offer insight into the southernmost extent of grounding line retreat, yielding a more complete view of ice dynamics through the last deglaciation. In this talk, I will present results from recent subglacial access efforts that have provided direct constraints on a less extensive West Antarctic Ice Sheet in the Holocene compared to today. These new constraints on the timing and extent of grounding line retreat prior to the modern observational record allow for a mechanistic understanding of the drivers of marine ice-sheet evolution, subglacial ecosystem processes, and subglacial Antarctica's role in global biogeochemical cycling. I will conclude by presenting new geochemical and sampling tools under development to enable future work constraining ice-sheet history. By generating this process-to-paleo perspective on the co-evolution of cryospheric, geologic, biologic, and oceanographic systems and combining it with detailed ice-sheet modeling experiments, we can create the context required to reduce uncertainty in sea-level projections on societally relevant timescales.

Colorado School of Mines

CLIMATE

Seminar Series

In coordination with the Mines-USGS Partnership: <https://www.mines.edu/usgs-partnership/>

You are invited to the Spring Climate Series Reception and Seminar, presented by the Mines Climate Team in coordination with the Mines/USGS Partnership.

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about her recent trip to Antarctica and the research she's done on drilling for Antarctica's Subglacial Secrets".

Date: Wednesday, February 18

Reception: 3:00pm - Marquez Hall Atrium

Climate Seminar: 4:00-5:00pm - East Classroom Building, Room 120

Registration is greatly appreciated! (but not required) - Registration will result in a confirmation email that will have an invite attached that you can add to your calendar.

To register: <https://cglink.me/2iH/r1601286>

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Submit your events, announcements, and opportunities for the AMS Newsletter to amsoffice@mines.edu! Submission deadline is Monday morning at 10:00 AM.

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