

Necrology

Alexandra (Xandra) Michelle Robideau Morris passed away on September 21 at age 33. She was born on April 17, 1990 to Michael and Margaret (nee Watt) Robideau.

In her early life, she was very active and participated in Indian Princess, was on several softball teams, and enjoyed horseback riding lessons. Xandra had a passion for insects, and writing poetry and short stories. She graduated from Seven Lakes High School in Katy, Texas where she was involved in theater and Comedy Sports. Xandra was highly talented and had a quick and clever wit about her.

She received her B.S. and M.S. degrees in Entomology from Oklahoma State University in December 2011 and May 2015, respectively, her M.S. under the direction of **Drs. Kris Giles** and **Tom Royer**.

Xandra was an Insectary Worker for the OSU Insect Adventure from August 2008 until August 2015. She was a Niblack Research Scholar during the fall semester of 2010. Xandra worked as an IPM Extension Agent for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Hillsboro, Texas beginning January 4, 2016, and then became an Entomology Rearing Specialist with Valent BioSciences in Osage, Iowa in November 2017. She and Cade moved back to Stillwater in October 2022, where they both worked in the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology.

At OSU, she met and fell in love with **Cade Morris**, and they were married in Stillwater on July 26, 2014. They shared their love for each other and insects. They were a beautiful example of a supporting, accepting, and loving marriage. They complimented each other well in their humor, shared interests, and hobbies. They had many wonderful adventures in Panama, Jamaica, and across the U.S. Xandra was endlessly creative in writing, sketching, graphic art, baking, Dungeons and Dragons, and jewelry making.

She is survived by her husband, Cade Morris; her parents, Michael Robideau and Margaret Predmore; her sisters, Rachael (Joshua) Eckert and Victoria Robideau; nephews Collin, Jacob, Dylan, and Otto; and aunts and uncles, Lisa (Al) Watt and James (Julie) Robideau.

A Celebration of Life was held on November 18 at Wings in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Sensilla

Editor: Edmond Bonjour

DECEMBER NEWS
Vol. 35 No. 12
December 2023

OSU

**Entomology and
Plant Pathology**



Noble Research Center for Agricultural
and Renewable Natural Resources

December Calendar of Events

Seminar - Dr. Barnhart	Dec	1
Pre-finals Week	Dec	4-8
Sanborn Entomology Club Christmas Party	Dec	5
Gumbo Potluck Hosted by Walker Jones 1:00-6:30 p.m.	Dec	6
Cookie Day	Dec	7
Faculty Meeting	Dec	8
Undergraduate Research Symposium	Dec	8
Departmental Christmas Party	Dec	9
Finals Week	Dec	11-15
Abstract Submission Due for Southern Division APS	Dec	13
Graduation Celebration for Fall 2023 Graduates	Dec	15
Graduate Commencement	Dec	15
Paper and Poster Submission Deadline for ICE	Dec	15
Early Bird Registration for ICE (Int. Congress of Ent.)	Dec	15
Undergraduate Commencement	Dec	16
Christmas Holiday	Dec	22-31

January Calendar of Events

New Year's Day – University Holiday	Jan	1
Martin Luther King Day - University Holiday	Jan	15
Classes Begin	Jan	16
Early Registration Deadline for Southern Division APS	Jan	18

Notice

Dr. Maira Duffeck will have her title changed from Research Assistant Professor to Assistant Professor effective December 1.

Departmental Seminar

The seminar will be held at 2:00 p.m. in Room 216-218 NRC.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Title</u>
Dec. 1	Dr. Chris Barnhart	Touched by Butterflies: Opportunities for Ecological Education

New Face

Dr. Mustafa Jibrin is the new Horticulture Plant Pathologist who began his position as an Assistant Professor on October 31. His appointment is 30% research and 70% Extension. He will focus on diseases of tree fruits, pecans, grapes, vegetables, ornamentals, and nurseries. He most recently was a Post-doctoral Research Associate at the Washington State University Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center in Wenatchee. Dr. Jibrin received his B.Agric. in Crop Science and M.S. in Crop Protection from Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria in 2010 and 2014, respectively, and his Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from the University of Florida in 2019.

Congratulations!

Abu Abir received the Burton/Fargo Scholarship during the Graduate Student Scholarship Luncheon on October 20. This scholarship honors the memory of **Dr. Robert Burton** and **Dr. W. Scott Fargo**.

Augustine Bosomtwe received the Whitehead/Walton Scholarship during the Graduate Student Scholarship Luncheon on October 20. This scholarship honors the memory of **Dr. Fred Whitehead** and **Dr. Robert Walton**.

Haley Butler received 2nd place for her poster in the P-IE: Biocontrol section during the Entomological Society of America annual meeting in National Harbor, Maryland on November 5-8.

Elizabeth Carlson is an OSU “Seniors of Significance” for 2023-2024.

Indira Lakkakula received the Outstanding M.S. Student Award for 2023 from the Association of Agricultural Scientists of India Origin, and she also won 2nd Place Graduate Student Poster at the “2023 Norman E. Borlaug International Dialogue” by the World Food Prize Foundation.

Rashmi Singla received 1st place for her poster in the P-IE: IPM-General section during the Entomological Society of America annual meeting in National Harbor, Maryland on November 5-8.

Departmental Christmas Party

The annual Departmental Christmas party will be held on Saturday December 9 beginning at 4:30 p.m., for those who want to interact with the horses, at the property of **Dr. Justin Talley’s** mother, 6206 South Western Road, Stillwater. Her property is south past the Trio Ranch Edition on the west side of the road at the gray gate. Dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. A donation of \$2.00 per person would be appreciated to help cover the cost of the meat. There will be a White Elephant gift exchange (please bring a wrapped gift of \$20 or less if you would like to participate - no gag gifts). If you plan to attend, please sign up on the sheet in the main office by Wednesday, December 6. We hope to see everyone there!

December Graduates Receiving Their B.S. Degree in Entomology

Maya Albert – Her plans are uncertain.

Mikaela Anderson – She is applying for jobs in Dallas, Texas.

Dakota Boren – He plans to work in a bicycle shop in Oklahoma City.

Jamie Eastep – He will begin his M.S. degree with **Dr. Bruce Noden** in January 2024.

Ashley Hall – She is applying to Teach America.

Billy Harsha – Her plans are uncertain.

Reese Trujillo – He is applying for graduate school.

December Birthdays

Astri Wayadande	Dec 1	Nikolai Thielepape	Dec 16
Meredithe Dailey	Dec 4	Nina Rudin	Dec 20
Larry Singleton	Dec 8	Rajat Sharma	Dec 21
Melissa Reed	Dec 10	Ashton McIntosh	Dec 25
Jakob West	Dec 12	Robin Hasbrouck	Dec 30
Kris Giles	Dec 13	Quinn Martin	Dec 30
Gabrielle Jones	Dec 14		