



Mainstream

President's Message

Brian Nerbonne

Awards

It is time again to recognize the excellent work being done by our members and chapters! An announcement will be coming out soon via email and on the NCD website for how to nominate individuals for our awards of excellence and meritorious service, as well as for chapters to nominate themselves for Most Active Chapter and Best Communications awards. Winners will be announced at the 2023 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.

NCD leadership nominations

We are currently seeking nominations for people to join the leadership of the North Central Division. This is a three-year time commitment, moving from president-elect to president to past-president during the term. This is a great way to learn more about AFS and influence the direction of the society. It is also a way to develop broader networks within our profession. The time commitment isn't as big as you might think; quarterly NCD excom meetings are virtual, as are quarterly meetings with chapter presidents and technical committee chairs. In-person attendance at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference and the parent society conference are strongly encouraged, and NCD funding is available to assist officers with travel when needed. Interested people can discuss it with current past-president Mark Fincel, who chairs our nominations process.

NCD online store for t-shirts and other swag

We will soon launch an online store that does on-demand printing of shirts and other swag with the NCD logo. We will also offer the same service to NCD chapters, technical committees, and student subunits. Groups can upload an image and let the company handle printing and shipping. No need to order huge quantities and hang onto them for years trying to sell them at meetings! An announcement will be coming soon once the store is officially open!

2023 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

The 2023 conference will be held February 12-15 in Overland Park, Kansas. The meeting returns to an in-person format after two years of virtual or hybrid formats. I hope you consider making the trip to take in talks and reconnect with colleagues you have not seen face to face in a few years.

The NCD annual business meeting will be held on February 13 at 10:30 a.m. following the morning plenary. Several NCD technical committees will meet following the business meeting. Please plan to attend if you are at the Midwest!

There will be a limited number of travel grants from NCD for students and early-career professionals to attend the meeting. An email announcing that process will be coming soon. State chapters will also be giving Joan Duffey travel awards to students. Application processes for those awards will be announced by chapters, and NCD provides a financial match up to \$200 per chapter.

2023 Parent Society Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan

Planning is well underway for the 2023 parent society meeting in Grand Rapids, MI. The theme is "Adaptive Approaches to Understand and Manage Changes in Fisheries", and this will be an excellent opportunity to learn about current research and management projects when professionals from around the country come to our region for the annual meeting. It is also a great time to give a talk or organize a symposium to share the great work happening here in the Midwest. The call for symposia is open until December 19. Start making plans to attend and participate!



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This newsletter is published twice a year. Deadlines for submission are April and September 1st. The views and opinions expressed herein and not necessarily those of NCD.

Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Updates



The 83rd Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference will be held in Overland Park, Kansas on February 12-15, 2023.

As host, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks/KDWP understands the importance of working landscapes and how they can provide habitat for fish and wildlife and also recreational opportunities for people. This year's conference theme is "Changing Conservation" and will focus on how the Midwest agencies need to and are breaking down barriers and adapting to become a more cohesive agency.

Special Symposia Announced! 11 organized symposia will be offered as part of the technical program at the annual conference. An Organized Symposium is a series of integrated presentations that address aspects of a single topic or theme. Read the [organized symposia overviews](#).

Conference Schedule: View the preliminary [schedule of events](#).



Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Updates

The North Central Division awards are now seeking nominees!

Most Active Chapter Awards

Two awards will be given to the North Central Division Chapters that have carried out the most active programs of enhancing professionalism and fisheries science, relative to its size and the geographic distribution of its membership. Most often, members will nominate their own chapter. Nomination materials should include the number of members, names of officers, number and type of meetings, special activities, recruitment activities, and a brief (1 page) description of what makes this chapter an active and important contributor to the NCD, AFS, and fisheries profession. Additional materials of support may also be included. Large Chapters include Illinois, Mid-Canada, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Ontario, and Wisconsin, and small Chapters include Dakota, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska.

Most Active Student Subunit Award

This award will be given to the North Central Division student subunit that has carried out the most active program in developing interest among undergraduate and graduate students in fisheries science and fulfilling the mission of the American Fisheries Society. Most often members will nominate their own subunit.

Best Communications Awards

This award will be given to the North Central Division Chapter that has developed the most efficient, useful, and attractive newsletter and website to disseminate information to its members. Both printed and electronic newsletters will be considered. Submissions should include copies of two or three of the Chapter's most recent newsletters and a brief description of the newsletter, including frequency of publication, readership, and primary means of distribution.

Fisheries Excellence Award

This award will be given to a North Central Division member who has made an outstanding contribution to the fisheries profession. This contribution may be a single activity or a collection of achievements over the individual's career. Former Division members may be nominated if most of their work occurred while they were NCD members. Nominations should include the names and signatures of at least 2 nominators, a brief (1 page) biographical sketch of the nominee, a brief (1 page) narrative of significant contributions made by the nominee, and copies of any additional materials to support the application.

Applications for all 2022 awards are due December 4, 2022.

Nomination materials can be found [HERE](#) and should be sent to the current NCD President Elect, which right now would be Sara Thomas (ThomasS35@michigan.gov).



Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Updates

2023 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award for Outstanding Students

Sponsored by:

North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society
Iowa and Michigan Chapters of the American Fisheries Society
Iowa and Michigan Chapters of The Wildlife Society
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Steering Committee

We are pleased to accept applications for the Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award from fisheries and wildlife undergraduate and graduate students who are planning to attend the 2023 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Overland Park, Kansas.

Up to 25 students will be selected and formally recognized for their achievements during the Tuesday morning virtual plenary session. Two students, one focusing on fisheries management and one focusing on wildlife management, will be presented with the Fenske Memorial Award that includes a scholarship of \$750.

The winners of the Fenske Memorial Award will be selected based on the characteristics that made Jan Fenske a remarkable fisheries biologist. For more information on Jan Fenske and the history of the award, please visit <https://michigan.fisheries.org/awards-and-grants/fenske-award/>.

To apply, please submit:

- A resume that includes your GPA.
- A one-page cover letter that discusses your future career goals and reasons for attending the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.

One letter of recommendation submitted directly from either an academic advisor or a professional in fisheries or wildlife management.

Application materials should be sent by email to Jo Ann Alexander at AlexanderJ7@michigan.gov. Please indicate in the email subject line either "Fenske Award- fisheries" or "Fenske Award- wildlife" (depending on your focus area).

The deadline for submission is Wednesday, January 4, 2023, and all applicants will be notified of their selection by Wednesday, January 25, 2023.

Questions regarding the award should be sent to Jessica Mistak, Fenske Award Committee Chair, at mistakj@michigan.gov.

Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Updates

With support from the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, American Fisheries Society, North Central Division and The Wildlife Society, North Central Section invite applications for registration grants to attend the 2023 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. These grants will cover 100% of early registration costs for the 82nd Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, to be February 12-15, 2023.

Students and early career professionals (≤ 5 years of service) from states in the North Central Section or North Central Division, and who hold state, regional, or national society membership, are eligible. For the American Fisheries Society, depending on the number of applications, preference may be given to individuals with national society membership.

Please provide a statement (150-250 words) that addresses your: 1) financial need, 2) conference participation plan (e.g., workshop, presentation, meeting), 3) anticipated impact on future work within organization and professional society, and 4) intended plan to relay experience gained to others (e.g., post-conference presentation, newsletter article).

More information and applications can be found
[HERE](#)



MIDWEST
Association of
Fish & Wildlife
Agencies



NCD Committees



Interested in getting involved with NCD? Please consider helping with any of the NCD committees listed below!

Standing Committees

Auditing Committee

Continuing Education Committee

Membership Committee

Newsletter Committee

NCD Nominating Committee

Resolution Committee

Student Affairs Committee

Communications Committee

AFS Nominating Committee

AFS Meritorious Service Award

Special Committees

Strategic Plan Update

Technical Committees

Centrarchid

Esocid

Ictalurid

Rivers and Streams

Salmonid

Walleye

Urban & Community Fisheries

Undervalued Fishes

NCD Chapters—Ambassador Program



The NCD Ambassador Program is a way to encourage more communication and collaboration between our AFS Chapters. The Ambassador Program encourages chapters to “invite over a neighbor” from one of your neighboring states to give a presentation at your annual meeting.

State Chapters

Dakota

Illinois

Indiana

Iowa

Kansas

Michigan

Mid-Canada

Minnesota

Missouri

Nebraska

Ontario

Ohio

Wisconsin

For more information, follow the link below where you will find a list of previous state chapter meeting agendas and programs.

[NCD Ambassador Program](#)

As 2023 meetings are being planned please consider sharing your agenda.

NCD Merchandise shop



The NCD shop is officially open!

It took a little longer than expected but the NCD shop is up and running. This print-on-demand digital storefront will allow the NCD and its chapters the option to sell logo merchandise without the overhead.

There are a variety of customizable items to choose from with varied profit margins.

There will be product examples available to view at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife meeting in the tradeshow hall.



If any chapter would like more information please contact store manager—Drew Holloway
dholloway@msdeng.com



threadless®

[NCD of AFS on Threadless](#)

COLOR



Committee Reports

Walleye Technical Committee:

Jason DeBoer – WTC Chair

The Walleye Technical Committee (WTC) has been busy during the past year. We returned to the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory on Lake Okoboji for an in-person joint summer meeting with the Esocid Technical Committee (ETC) and Centrarchid Technical Committee (CTC) on July 18-20, 2022. We finished publishing a special section in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management from our virtual 2021 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference symposium entitled “Effects of System Change on North American Percid Populations.” Efforts to raise financial support to help cover publication costs were successful, totaling \$15,550 from state AFS chapters, DNRs, and the AFS Education Section, with additional funds from the NCD. We’re planning for our joint WTC/ETC/CTC business meeting (Feb 12) at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Overland Park, KS on February 12-15, 2023. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the WTC should contact myself (jadeboer@illinois.edu) or our committee secretary Joe Rydell (joe.rydell@nebraska.gov).

The Walleye Technical Committee is now seeking applications for our annual student travel grant: the Percid Award



Purpose: To financially assist one or more students conducting research of interest to the Walleye Technical Committee (WTC).

Description: A travel grant of \$300 from the WTC of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society for up to three students to attend the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.

Eligibility Criteria: The recipient(s) of this award must be currently enrolled in a college or university for an undergraduate or graduate degree program. Preference will be given to those involved in research of interest to the WTC.

Documentation required: An application letter that includes: student's name, address, telephone number, educational institution, department, degree level, a short description of current research, reasons for wishing to attend the meeting (paper or poster presentation, pertinent paper session, sub-unit business and/or technical meetings), and reasons why financial assistance is needed.

Selection Criteria: The Executive Committee of the WTC will evaluate applicants based on the following criteria:

- a. AFS involvement (reasons for attending the meeting).
- b. Relevance of research to the goals of the WTC.
- c. Number of applications and current funding levels.

Frequency of Award: The WTC will select up to three recipients each year. Multiple applicants from the same state will be handled at the WTC's discretion, given the student's state/province AFS chapter will be asked to match the award, but is under no obligation to do so.

Deadline: The deadline for receipt of completed applications by the WTC Chair is December 31, 2022.

E-mail application materials to: Jason DeBoer at jadeboer@illinois.edu with the subject line

Committee Reports

Centrarchid Technical Committee:

Will Radigan – CTC Chair

The Centrarchid Tech Committee held quarterly meetings on Feb 13, May 25, and July 20 in 2022. Our next meeting will be held next Wednesday, November 2. We are working with Matt Diana to participate in the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership 6-hour virtual webinar in February 2023. Further, we are planning on requesting funds from NCD to pursue various means of increasing membership in the CTC, to include more student travel grants for students presenting centrarchid-related research and money for production of merchandise to increase visibility of the CTC. At our next quarterly meeting we are voting on designs provided by a volunteer artist for our CTC-specific t-shirts that will be printed using the NCD Merchandise “Store” set up by Drew Holloway. We will hold our annual meeting at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in February both virtually and in-person.

NCD Chapter Reports

Missouri Chapter Update

Jacob Westhoff—President

The most active committee with MOAFS over the last year was the Rivers and Streams Technical Committee. In January, they assisted Stream Teams United with a stream advocacy workshop where they were able to interact with 30+ interested stakeholders. Members also participated in the Clean Water Day at the Capitol, which provides a platform for interacting with partner organizations and legislators at the state level. In March, members participated in the “Dome Life” event which involved river cleanup of 26 miles of the Meramec River and allowed us to interact with more than 100 people through our informational booth where we displayed live fish and crayfish. In September, members attended the River Soundings Conference to interact with partners and share the message about what AFS does. Finally, there was a committee meeting where local biologists, researchers, and university faculty presented information on recent stream-related efforts in Missouri.

The MOAFS President also meet with two student subunits in October to share a presentation on the benefits of AFS involvement and all the opportunities it provides. The other significant update is that our outreach and education effort to produce a series of posters displaying all 220+ fish species found in Missouri is nearing completion. Posters should be ready to distribute and sell in early winter of 2023.



NCD Chapter Reports

Michigan Chapter Update

Kevin Kapuscinski—President

The Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (MI AFS) held an in-person meeting in March at Lake Superior State University that included a workshop on careers in natural resources, a plenary presentation by Dr. Bo Bunnell on restoration of coregonines in the Great Lakes, contributed oral presentations, and a poster presentation social.

More recently, MI AFS established a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. Inaugural committee members include Tracy Galarowicz (co-chair), Dana Castle (co-chair), Kyle Brumm, and Lydia Doerr. The MI AFS Executive Committee and DEI Committee are currently working together to establish a mission statement for the committee and procedures to facilitate communication between the Executive and DEI committees.

The next AFS conference will be held in Grand Rapids, MI, August 20-24, 2023. Thankfully many members of the AFS Michigan Chapter have volunteered to make this meeting a success! Jennifer Johnson, President-Elect, is co-lead on Project and Program Management along with her colleagues Doug Larson (Past President) and Patrick Hanchin. Critical lead positions have been graciously filled by Stacey Ireland (Continuing Education), Jesse Wesolek and Jessica Mistak (Spawning Run), Jason Fischer and Shaley Valentine (Student Activities), Jory Jonas and Dana Castle (Diversity & Inclusion), and Tracy Claramunt (Fundraising). Of course, many more have stepped up and volunteered and the MI Chapter would like to thank each member for their time! MI AFS will gladly accept additional volunteers if members are interested.

MI AFS provided two student travel awards to Ben Kline (MSU) and Kelly Hoyer (CMU) to attend and present at the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting held in Grand Rapids, MI, in May. Each student was awarded \$1,000 to offset travel and registration fees associated with the conference. Annual awards including the Leonard, Hazzard, Grayling, and Cisco were all awarded at the annual MI AFS meeting held in early 2022. Jessica Mistak (MI DNR), the 2021 recipient of the MI AFS Cisco Award, also received a Meritorious Service Award from North Central Division of AFS and the 2022 Emmeline Moore prize, which she was awarded in Spokane, WA, at the annual meeting. Our Continuing Education Committee has granted three travel awards totaling \$350 in addition to free registration so far in 2022. The Continuing Education Committee holds up to 25% of seats for free student registration. If you are a student, please consider applying for these awards!

The Continuing Education Committee of MI AFS has organized three workshops since our natural resource careers workshop in March. First, a Freshwater Mussel Sampling and Identification Workshop was held 7-8 September Grand Rapids. The course was instructed by Joe Rathbun (retired aquatic biologist), Scott Hanshue (retired fisheries biologist), Dr. Renee Mulcrone (ASTI Environmental), Jessica Pruden (USFWS), Elle Gulotty, Kesiree O'Brien, and Cleyo Harris (MI DNR), and drew 16 attendees including 3 students. The workshop included classroom and field instruction to allow students to practice identification on live specimen and to see examples of sampling techniques and designs.

Continued on next page...

NCD Chapter Reports

Michigan Chapter Update

Kevin Kapuscinski—President

A Smith-Root Electrofishing Principles and Safety Workshop was held in Gaylord on 27-28 September. The course, instructed by Patrick Cooney, drew 16 participants including 3 students. This workshop included classroom instruction held at the University Center of Gaylord and field instruction at the Michigan DNR Gaylord fish shop with an overview of boat electrofishing followed by backpack and barge electrofishing in the Sturgeon River near Wolverine.

Data Manipulation and Visualization Fundamentals using the Tidyverse in R is a 2-day virtual workshop to be held 7-8 November, instructed by Shaley Valentine (SIU) and Garrett Johnson (USFWS).

MI AFS business has also been focused on planning a 2023 joint chapter meeting with the Michigan Chapter of The Wildlife Society, updating committee appointments, migrating our website to AFS hosting, and revising our chapter's bylaws.



NCD News

Lee Charles Redmond, of Lohman, Missouri, passed away at the age of 83 due to heart failure on September 20, 2022.

He worked for the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) for 37 years as a fishery research biologist, fisheries management supervisor, and as an assistant fisheries division chief, before his retirement in 2000. He was widely recognized as an expert in the art and science of warm water fisheries management.

He implemented size limits on lakes throughout Missouri and played a major role in establishing one of the first urban fishing programs in the nation. He also drafted the original Municipal Lakes Program for the state of Missouri, which evolved into the highly successful Community Assistance Program. He worked successfully to provide additional federal funds to states for sport fishing and used those funds for Missouri to initiate a new stream program that became known as Streams for the Future.

Lee authored and co-authored several papers as well as organizing national symposia on the subject, and contributed a chapter in a book entitled, "Reservoir Fisheries Management – Strategies for the 80's," a summary of a National Symposium on the Managing of Reservoir Fishery Resources.

Meanwhile, he practiced what he preached--and went fishing.

Lee was also a leader in the American Fisheries Society (AFS).

He joined the Society in 1962, became a certified Fisheries Scientist in 1972, and a Lifetime member in 1981.

He was a Charter Member of the Missouri Chapter, where he served as Secretary Treasurer for two years.

He served as President of the North Central Division from 1989-1990 where he established an Urban Fishing Committee. And was President of AFS from 1994-1995.

He served two years as Associate Editor of the North American Journal of Fisheries Management.

One of his lasting legacies as President was to establish three new awards to recognize individuals, groups, agencies, or companies that advanced aquatic resource conservation at the national or international level.

He was rewarded by the American Fisheries Society for his time and efforts by many awards, including: an Award of Excellence, a Distinguished Service Award, a Meritorious Service Award, and the Fisheries Management Section's Award of Merit. And he was elected to the Fisheries Management Hall of Excellence in 2001.



Continued on next page...

NCD News

In his circle of friends, employees and cohorts, he became known as “Mr. Fish Management.”

In Missouri, the local chapter of AFS renamed their one of their awards the “Lee Redmond Citizen’s Award,” which is given annually to persons who make substantial contributions to Missouri’s aquatic resources.

This “pat on the back” echoed Lee’s philosophy of freely dispensing wisdom and encouragement, and giving credit where credit is due. It’s a lasting message to all of us.

Lee was a good administrator with a couple of quirks. For instance, he was not an advocate of the clean desk group, but just like me, stacked his papers high. To the point that a visitor said to him, “Is this a recycling center?!”

Lee Redmond was: a good friend to us all; a gentle and kind person; a true, great, and successful conservation warrior; a good example for his employees of service, scientific rigor, and friendly, gentlemanly conduct; a leader in the field of fisheries management in Missouri, throughout the Midwest, and anywhere warm water fishes swim; and a leader in the American Fisheries Society.

And, on top of all that, he was a really fun person to be around.

Submitted by Joe Dillard dillardj@missouri.edu



NCD News

Special symposium/workshop on Human Dimensions at AFS Grand Rapids

Rebecca Krogman Rebecca.krogman@gmail.com

Inviting presentations to a special symposium/workshop on Human Dimensions at AFS Grand Rapids!

Building on a successful innovative symposium at AFS Spokane, we are hosting another "Fisheries Biologist's Guide to Using Human Dimensions Data" and want you to be a part of it!

This symposium is a combination of structured introductory talks about human dimensions methods, illustrative case examples, and breakout discussions on real-world application. In Spokane, we had excellent participation over two days and got feedback on topics to expand. Our goal is to provide practical training for fisheries professionals who may not have a formal social science background, using an interactive knowledge-building symposium approach.

If you are working on a human dimensions-oriented project, **we invite you to prepare a methods-oriented talk** as part of the symposium! We are especially interested in presentations on 1) interpreting open-ended responses from a survey, 2) mining text from places like forums, 3) combining biological and HD data in the management decision-making process, and 4) quantifying opinions on a proposed policy/regulation change.

The symposium will also feature case examples, so please reach out if you are interested in our symposium topic at all! We hope to submit presenting author names as part of the symposium proposal in January. Thank you!

Announcing the Iowa Chapter Logo Contest!

Now that our members have identified their preference for Iowa's state fish, we are happy to announce the Iowa Chapter Logo Contest!



Many units of AFS have recently updated their logos, including both the North Central Division (NCD) and the overall Society (see below). The purpose of updating is to stay **relevant** to current and potential members and reflect **priorities** of the membership. For example, the NCD logo encompasses symbolism for both the U.S. and Canada, as well as highlighting major species of management interest.

Please consider incorporating the following concepts into a new logo design for the Iowa Chapter:

- Iowa Darter
- Color scheme or elements of the American Fisheries Society logo
- Elements important to Iowa's fisheries research, management, and education

Submissions will be accepted [online through the Iowa Chapter's website here](#), and there is a prize for the winner! **Non-members are welcome to submit**, and there is no limit to the number of submissions per person.

NCD News

Biological and Water Quality Assessment the Middle Scioto River, Lower Olentangy River, and Selected Olentangy Tributaries 2020: Including a 50 Year Retrospective Analysis of Available Biological and Water Quality Data. Franklin and Pickaway Counties, Ohio



Chris Yoder cyoder@mwbinst.com

MBI announces the release of a major report on the historical ecological success story of Central Ohio's two major rivers. This report, entitled *Biological and Water Quality Assessment the Middle Scioto River, Lower Olentangy River, and Selected Olentangy Tributaries 2020: Including a 50 Year Retrospective Analysis of Available Biological and Water Quality Data. Franklin and Pickaway Counties, Ohio* (MBI Technical Report MBI 2022-4-6), is a major milestone in the management and assessment of rivers and streams as affected by 50 years of the implementation by the Clean Water Act (CWA) by private, local, state, and federal agencies and organizations. The scope of the report's 2020 biological and water quality assessment, included the Scioto River mainstem between Griggs Dam in Columbus to Canal Park in Circleville, the Olentangy River mainstem from Powell Rd. to the mouth in downtown Columbus, and three Olentangy River tributaries in Columbus, two of which are part of Project Blueprint.

[Click here to view report](#)

[Important Considerations for Establishing a Biological Assessment Capability at the Miami Conservancy District \(midwestbiodiversityinst.org\)](#)

NCD Announcements



North Central Division of the
American Fisheries Society

Be on the look out for #FieldworkFriday !
Returning May 2023



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY 153rd Annual Meeting

AUGUST 20-24, 2023 | GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Upcoming NCD Meetings

2024
South Dakota

Co-hosted by the North Central Division AFS and the Michigan AFS Chapter

ADAPTIVE APPROACHES TO UNDERSTAND AND MANAGE CHANGES IN FISHERIES

Preliminary Call for Proposals – Symposia and Workshops

Formal Symposium Submission Opens: **19 December 2022**

Proposal Deadline: **27 January 2023**

<https://afsannualmeetingclone.fisheries.org/>

Have something you would like featured in a future NCD
Mainstream?

Contact Brittany Harried
blhf39@missouri.edu