**ERI Status Report:**

**What have you accomplished since your arrival?**

* Obtained and cultured all fungal samples that will be used in this research.
* Compiled a literature review and identified specific gaps in the research that can be addressed as part of this research. Cultivation techniques and substrates that yield optimal production have yet to be identified for many species.
* Established the procedures that will be used for substrate preparation, growing conditions, and sporocarp harvesting.
* Several scientific journals that specialize in mycological and agricultural research have been identified as potential publishing destinations, e.g., *Mycosphere, Bioresource Technology,* and *Acta Mycologica*.

**What do you plan to accomplish this coming year?**

* April 2022: Start cultivation trials.
* May/June 2022: Continue cultivation. Collect data regarding mushroom yields and quality.
* Multiple flushes of mushrooms will be collected during the summer and early fall.
* Early Fall 2022: Analyze the total mushroom yield and growth as a function of species x substrate combination.
* Fall 2022: Compile an economic analysis of mushroom yields. The costs, labor inputs, and market prices will be compared to the other mushroom species/strains that are already in wide cultivation.
* Fall 2022/Spring 2023: If the economic analysis indicates that cultivation the selected species/strains is economically feasible, a workshop presenting our findings will be hosted.