

## 2025 SPEAKERS

### **Christina Grozinger**

Christina Grozinger is Publius Vergilius Maro Professor of Entomology, director of the Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences, and founding director for the Center for Pollinator Research at Penn State University. She is a Fellow of the Entomological Society of America and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and received the 2021 National Academy of Sciences Prize in Food and Agriculture Sciences and 2022 Penn State President's Award for Excellence in Academic Integration. Christina received her bachelor's degree in chemistry and biology at McGill University, and her master's and doctoral degrees from Harvard University. The Penn State Center for Pollinator Research includes members from 9 Colleges across Penn State, and uses an integrative approach – from genes to spatial ecology to artificial intelligence – to support the health of bee populations.

### **David Peck**

Dr. Peck is the Director of Research and Education at Betterbee in Greenwich, NY, where he assists in product development and research, and also teaches classes and develops scientifically-sound educational materials. His ongoing research includes testing new miticides and miticide formulations, as well as testing new prototypes of beekeeping products.

His doctoral work in Cornell University's Department of Neurobiology and Behavior was supervised by Professor Tom Seeley. His dissertation research focused on the transmission of mites between bee colonies, as well as the mite-resistance traits of the untreated honey bees living in Cornell's Arnot Forest. After earning his degree, he conducted additional fieldwork in Newfoundland, Canada (where varroa still have not arrived) and Madagascar (where varroa arrived only in 2010 or 2011). He served as a Teaching postdoctoral fellow in Cornell's Department of Entomology, and maintains an affiliation with Cornell through the Honey Bee Health program of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Peck has kept bees for more than a decade, though his home apiary is often full of mite-riddled research colonies so he doesn't usually produce much honey.

Since 2024, he has served as the Academic Advisor for the Eastern Apicultural Society's Certified Master Beekeeper program, the oldest such program in the country.