



# Voyages of Discovery

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**I**n crop physiology, we are applied plant scientists who like to think we have a foot in two worlds, basic science and the applied arena. We pride ourselves in finding out how the plant works, usually by explaining a function or mechanism. But we also have another agenda, to put some of these more basic science findings into real live applications. We want our efforts to go into something fantastic and widely used by everyone and anyone – like new and improved crop varieties. Lately we have been working on heat stress in pea crops. My lab and collaborators came to use the CLS as a side project, but quickly found CLS techniques informed us of new and inviting research areas. We have certainly improved our science and our understanding of heat stress biology from our interactions and research at CLS. In this talk I will illustrate typical approaches we take and pose some immediate and quite solvable obstacles for living material and temporally sensitive studies - problems that apply to many of us who could be using the CLS.