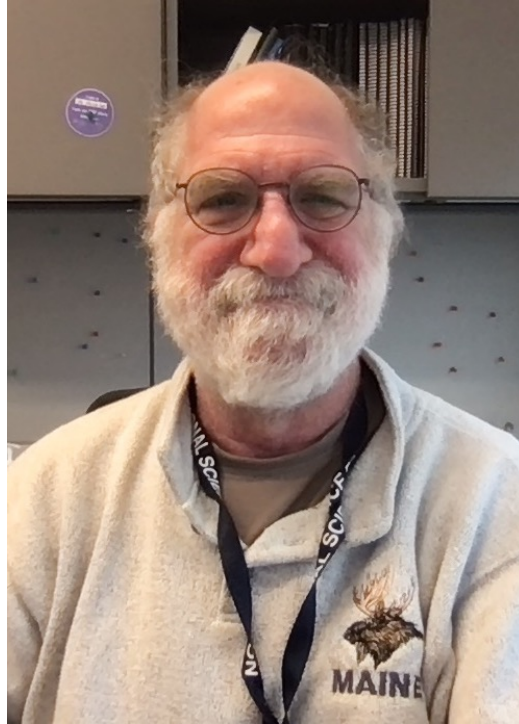


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**Bio:** Cliff Weil is a Program Director at NSF in the Genetic Mechanisms program, part of the Molecular and Cellular Biosciences Division. Formerly at Purdue University, he worked on the genetics and genomics of crop plants like maize and sorghum, with particular emphasis on transposable elements, nutritional quality traits, the development, characterization and community usage of large mutant populations, and the use of novel technologies to phenotype plants in the field. His background also includes work on the cell biology of the cytoskeleton, the microbiology of archaea, and the use of yeast as a synthetic biology system. In addition, he has a longstanding interest in the interface between biology and engineering to develop novel approaches and biomaterials.