



# Colorado Scientific Society Lecture Announcement

Thursday, April 16, 2026, Calvary Church Golden

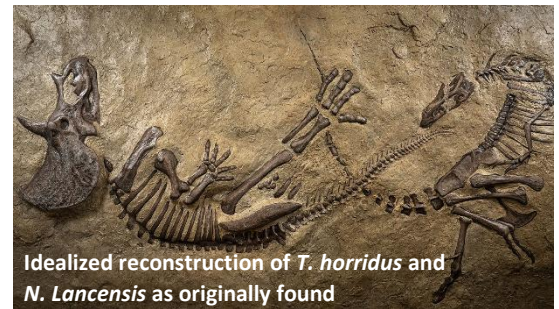
Hell Creek Fm at McGinnis Butte, Edwards, MT

## The Dueling Dinosaurs: Putting the science back into one of the most intriguing dinosaur discoveries of this century

- **Eric Roberts**, Colorado School of Mines, Dept. Geol. & Geol. Engineering

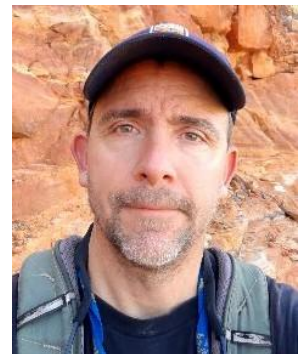
### Lecture Highlights:

“Duelling dinosaurs” refers to the articulated fossils of a *Triceratops horridus* and *Nanotyrannus lancensis* entombed together in a putative death scene preserved in Late Cretaceous Hell Creek formation sandstones in Montana. The geology of the rare find, made in 2006 will be presented along with backstories of the original 2006 discovery, ownership battles, auction sagas, and the specimens’ ultimate home at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. The presentation will focus on the author’s efforts to reconstruct the geological context of the site over multiple field seasons studying the sedimentology, stratigraphy, and age of these two iconic fossils to better understand when and why they died and ended up together, as well as the broader geology of the famous Hell Creek Formation that records the end of the age of dinosaurs. The talk will conclude with a cameo from PhD student, Dorian Gursky, whose project is focused on high-precision radiometric dating the acme of Dinosaur evolution and diversity in western North America.



### Speaker Background:

Dr. Eric Roberts is currently a professor at CSM who specializes in sedimentary geology of Mesozoic and Cenozoic basins. He maintains close links with the O&G industry, and with vertebrate paleontologists to better place sedimentary records into robust stratigraphic and tectonic contexts. He’s held lectureships at Idaho State Univ. (Pocatello) and University of Witwatersrand (Johannesburg) prior to serving as Department Head at James Cook University (Townsville, NZ) for 13 years. Eric also serves as president-elect for the Colorado Scientific Society.



### Education

BS: Cornell College, 1996; MS: University of Montana, 1999; PhD: University of Utah, 2005

### Keywords

Hell Creek Formation, dinosaur fossils, sedimentary rocks, stratigraphy, dating

