

## **Agenda: SPAN Leadership Committee/Training Core Leaders Teleconference**

**June 17, 2014 (1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time)**

### **Call Information:**

Easy-Access Number: 800 509-6344

7 Digit Access Code: 9960087

- **Introductions**
- **Annual Meeting**
  - **University of California-Berkeley, November 12-14, 2014, San Jose, CA**
    - Venue: <http://www.hayesmansion.com/>
    - Updates from Bill Brockett and Berkeley Trainees
  - **Berkeley SPAN Leadership Committee Representatives** to serve as points of contact for other trainees to address questions pertaining to the trainee events scheduled at the meeting (badges at meeting will designate representatives).
    - Berkeley Trainees will be highlighted in the e-posted notes newsletter
    - Berkeley Trainees will be handling updates on Linked-In
  - **Name Badges:** will have SPAN Leadership Committee Member on them
  - **Trainee Events**
    - Trainee Ice Breaker Event
    - Opening Reception
    - Trainee Breakfasts with SRP staff/Speakers
    - Trainee Lunch with SRP PIs/Center Directors
      - a. An announcement will also be made during the meeting to encourage the PIs to attend.
    - Wetterhahn and KC Donnelly Winners to have lunch with Dr. Gwen Collman (TBD)
    - Poster Session/Poster Competition (Graduate Students only)
      - a. SRP's contractor MDB, Inc. usually helps with poster session
      - b. Poster awards will be awarded to biomedical and environmental science and engineering projects – winners asked to give 3 min “lightening” talks about their posters or present in Jan/Feb 2015 using EPA's Clu-In to reach a broader audience (TBD)
      - c. Posters left up during duration of meeting
      - d. Clear poster guidelines will be sent out when registration opens soon.
    - Training Core Leader Lunch with Danielle Carlin (TBD)
      - a. Opportunity for the Training Core Leaders to meet and greet each other, discuss any topics with NIEHS staff
      - b. Discussion workshops/short courses/activities that the Training Cores could offer to all SRP trainees
      - c. Discussion of next SPAN Leadership Committee members and web seminars
    - Award Announcement/Presentations (Wetterhahn, KC Donnelly, and Student Poster Winner) – Dr. Gwen Collman (NIEHS) typically announces all the winners

- a. Wetterhahn Announcement and Presentation (30 min seminar; 15 min questions)
- b. KC Donnelly Award Presentations from 2013 Recipients
  1. They will be presenting their externship experiences at the 2014 SRP annual meeting (10 min. with 2 min for questions)
    1. Vanessa De La Rosa (Graduate Student at the University of California-Berkeley)
    2. Audrey Bone (Graduate Student at Duke University)
    3. James Rice (Post-Doctoral Research Associate at Brown University)
    4. Leah Chibwe (Graduate Student at Oregon State University)
    5. Shohreh Farzan (Post-Doctoral Researcher at Dartmouth)
    6. Erin Madeen (Graduate Student at Oregon State University)
  2. Announcement of 2014 KC Donnelly winners
- c. Announcement of Graduate Student Poster Award Winners (Biomed and Environmental Science & Engineering)
- **Other announcements/items for discussion**
  - Tom Sheahan: work from Northeastern's Training Core about Citizen Scientists
    - Action Item: Danielle to look into survey of trainees
  - Jay Goodman Training Core Leader, MSU: Convergence, the 3rd revolution in the biological sciences: applying this to training in toxicology
  - Alberts et al paper: Rescuing US biomedical research from its systemic flaws (PNAS, April 22, 2014, vol. 111, no. 16, 5773–5777)
    - Discussion:
      - Hennig – the SRP is lightyears ahead. Broadening the career path for young scientists section explains some of the things that SRP is already doing.
      - CareerTrac and similar databases will give us the information we need to see future directions (where trainees are going).
      - Tukey – Agrees with Bernie from the trainee perspective. Expertise in the funding program and the review programs are lacking in the areas of science that SRP programs are involved in. NIEHS should put more effort to get expert reviewers on the panels that review SRP grants. The programs are being hurt because of it.
      - Raina agrees with Bob. Reviewers are often younger and don't understand the effort that it takes to put together an SRP. Require reviewers to review the overview and perhaps give a score for it. It would help the projects they are reviewing in a better context.
      - Tukey - Need to get expert reviewers. Sat on a panel recently and was shocked at what the reviewers didn't know.
      - Raina – at NSF grantees can suggest reviewers.
      - Danielle – will gladly take names of people the programs recommend.

- Danielle – suggested conducting a mock review for the trainees and seeing the reviews done on YouTube.
  - Craig Marcus – does mock reviews for OSU’s Training Core
  - Ericka Fritsch – liked the article and thought it was helpful in trying to decide what direction your career path is going.
  - The paper has triggered discussion among trainees. The fact that trainees are interested and involved in policy development shows that the SRP is headed in the right direction.
- Maud Walsh (LSU RTC Leader): Here’s a chart showing PhD paths: “Where will a biology PhD take you?” <http://www.ascb.org/ascbpost/index.php/compass-points/item/285-where-will-a-biology-phd-take-you>
  - Kristin Hicks (Training Core, Northeastern): link to Northeastern’s Trainee page on which we encourage our PROTECT Trainees to share their LinkedIn profiles as a professional networking option. This was primarily the work of one of our Trainees, Lily Rajic (you will see her on the page) and Melanie Smith (Training Core Assistant): <http://www.northeastern.edu/protect/about-protect/investigators-and-staff/trainees/>
    - No Facebook page this year for the SRP annual meeting, will use LinkedIn instead. Bill Brockett is still developing it, and trying to set it up so it can be passed on to the next group. Would be great to connect CareerTrac and LinkedIn.
  - Brown University: Yale Environment Review (a student-run publication) wrote up a nice summary of Knowledge Broker article <http://environment.yale.edu/yer/article/a-new-environmental-profession-the-knowledge-broker>
    - Jim Rice (author on the paper) – State agencies liaison. Used vapor intrusion as a case study.
  - SRP Training Webinars; examples include (for more information, please contact Dr. Michelle Heacock ([HeacockM@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:HeacockM@niehs.nih.gov)):
    - R2RA Mutual Learning Webinars
      - So... "What IS a Superfund Site Anyway?"What makes a site a Superfund site (What triggers an HRS NPL listing)
      - IRIS
      - How critical is Exposure Assessment at Superfund sites and how it has been conducted at Superfund sites
      - How Risk Assessment and Health Assessments are conducted at Superfund sites – Practitioners’ perspectives
      - PPRTV
      - Risk Management
    - Danielle will work with Michelle Heacock to send out more information about future webinars and archives for previous webinars.
  - SRP trainee gathering at National Meetings (i.e., SOT, ISEE, AIChemE, AAAS, smaller meetings)
    - Action Item: Danielle to touch based with Luis about SRP grantees attending ISEE
    - Action Item: Brad Newsome to look into SRP trainees attending AAAS meeting.

- Updates to SPAN Leadership Committee?
- Future On-line Meetings/Teleconferences – idea: highlight trainees that have played a role in the RTC or CEC
  - Action Item: Danielle to look into developing a webinar with the RTC/CEC and trainees that have conducted RT/CE activities

**Additional Information:**

- **SRP Website – for SPAN/Training**
  - <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/supported/srp/training/index.cfm>
  - Training Core Leaders, please send Justin Crane ([cranej2@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:cranej2@niehs.nih.gov)) any news items of interest to trainees (e.g., trainee success stories, pictures, job announcements, etc).

**Current SPAN Leadership Committee Members (last updated 2/3/14):**

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