

Agenda: SPAN Leadership Committee / Training Core Leaders WebEx

May 18, 2017 (3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

Introductions / Roll Call

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Danielle	Carlin	NIEHS
Felicia	Castriota	University of California, Berkeley
Rocio	Estrella	University of Arizona
Britton	Goodale	Dartmouth College
Angela	Gutierrez	University of Kentucky
Heather	Henry	NIEHS
J. Zach	Hilt	University of Kentucky
Agnes	Kane	Brown University
Adeline	Lopez	MDB, Inc.
Gabriele	Ludewig	University of Iowa
Raina	Maier	University of Arizona
Craig	Marcus	Oregon State University
Mike	McClean	Boston University
Cliona	McHale	University of California, Berkeley
Pamela	Mellon	University of California, San Diego
Jennifer	Moore	University of Kentucky
Denise	Moreno	University of Arizona
Colleen	Murphy	University of Puerto Rico
Victoria	Parker	University of Iowa
Mike	Petriello	University of Kentucky
David	Purdy	University of Iowa
Ruthy	Rickenbacker	Boston University
Tom	Sheahan	Northeastern University
Melanie	Smith	Northeastern University
Bruce	Stanton	Dartmouth College
Ivan	Titaley	Oregon State University
Jonathan	Toro	University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Luoping	Zhang	University of California, Berkeley

- **SRP Annual Meeting** - Dec. 6 - 8, 2017 (hosted by University of Pennsylvania, Dartmouth College, and Northeastern University)

Brainstorming about Trainee Events:

- Northeastern is taking the lead. They're in the preliminary stages for planning activities for trainees. Right now, they are creating a "menu" of ideas to show the planning team and then discuss best options without repeating previous activities.
 - Past Wetterhahn and KC Donnelly award winners are invited and encouraged to attend. They will receive the Save-the-Date for the meeting and many will be invited.
 - A key focus of trainee activities will be to connect trainees with mentors.
 - Raina Maier discussed a risk assessment role-playing training activity where trainees act as community members and identify perceived risk and societal risk at large. The exercise will include practicing risk calculations with real world data (90-minute session total), and mentors moderate the session.
 - Others agreed it was a great idea for both trainees and investigators. Comments included:
 - This is a good way to get the mentors involved in the exercise, connect and network, and increase collaborations amongst the grantees.
 - It is like experiential learning (e.g., field trip) except they are going through an exercise and living the experience of a different group rather than visiting a site.
 - It would be good to tie it in with RTC and CEC sessions, if it is possible with timing. Alternatively, it might be possible to do it over the lunch hour.
 - Basic science researchers are interested in getting involved in community engagement. They want experience with communities and want to get out of the lab to see the real-world impact of bench work in communities. They also want to learn how to communicate risk/science to make it effective for community engagement and public policy. A session like this addresses that issue and pushes the importance of the interdisciplinary nature of SRP projects.
 - Danielle will also talk to Brittany Trottier about building it in to the CEC session.
 - Other ideas for the session included:
 - A session on developing research ideas and writing proposals,
 - A session on communicating your science (e.g., Deborah Blum at MIT),
 - A session on developing and presenting your CV for industry and academia (e.g., Maria McCarthy at BU).
 - "It's just lunch" (meet with alumni or mentors for informal career development or networking lunch)
 - Past trainee events have included: interviewing skills and a career panel, etc.
 - UPenn is working on the website and the abstract submission deadline will be determined soon. The location has been set and hotel information is now available on the [SRP events page](#).
- **KC Donnelly Applications**
 - Decisions were made in May 2017.
 - The E-posted newsletter will officially announce the winners, though unofficial word has gone out to awardees.
 - New applications will be due December 31st (moved up a month)
 - Plan to get your application in a day or two before then due to the holiday.
 - The deadline was moved to give more time to winners to plan and make arrangements.

- We highly recommend working with you PI and mentors to get the application in to your business office at least a few weeks before the deadline to allow for any changes to budget, etc.
 - We can't accept late applications.
 - We want the application to come from the trainees. Letters of support come from mentors, and the application can be reviewed by mentors who suggest edits, but overall this should be the trainees' application.
 - Make sure the letters of support are strong, not just a few sentences. Be more detailed about your experience with the trainee and your plan to train/mentor them.
 - Program Lead will be Brittany Trottier (SRP Health Specialist) starting in 2018.
 - She will be the new point of contact.
 - Please make sure to contact your Program Administrator before applying to ensure that proposal is within scope of the grant.
 - Brittany will oversee review, acceptance, and summarizing the applications.
 - Last year's winners will be presenting at the annual meeting (10 minute presentations). Guidelines for presentations will be sent out soon.
- **Wetterhahn Applications**
 - Applications will be due August 31st (not August 1st). Please contact Danielle Carlin (danielle.carlin@nih.gov) with any questions
 - Website says August 1st (normal deadline)
 - Feel free to contact your program officer if you have questions - they know what makes a successful application and it is a highly competitive award. Make sure all the elements are there, and getting as much input as possible will help.
 - All Wetterhahn awardees have been top notch scientists, but also work with communities, mentor, and give back to their communities.
- **CareerTrac** - looking for SRP Annual Updates and NIH Progress Reports (Type 5s)
 - Brittany Trottier will be following up with SRP Training Core Leaders regarding missing trainees from CareerTrac
 - CareerTrac captures data about trainees, including accomplishments.
 - You need an ERA account to be in CareerTrac.
 - Centers should make sure trainees are in applications and CareerTrac.
 - We ask the Centers to fill in data on trainees (pubs, awards, jobs, etc.).
 - It is also a resource for grantees and trainees for future competing grant applications.
 - Data collection tool captures all the activities of what the grantees/trainees are doing. We cross reference that with CareerTrac to make sure everything is entered.
- **SRP/NIEHS now on LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8478977/profile>
 - Danielle will still send emails, but will also post job postings on LinkedIn
 - You can sign up at any time.
 - For Trainees only.

- **Reminder to send updates to SPAN Leadership Committee**
 - These will be taken September/January of each year (please limit to 1 – 2 graduate students/Post-Docs per Center to keep up with the listserv)
 - Please email your nominations to danielle.carlin@nih.gov and indicate the status of the new member (e.g., graduate student or Post-Doc)
 - Membership on the SPAN Leadership Committee is a two-year term.

- **Round-robin / sharing**
 - **BU:** Trainee with RTC recently completed MPH. New [trainee blog](#) on their website highlights trainee work from their perspective.
 - **Brown:** Recent Environmental justice workshop – keynote speaker was Dr. Morello-Frosch – followed by other sessions led by SRP including a debate about use of genetic data/GWAS data in susceptibility studies and an open discussion about community concerns about environmental pollution.
 - **UC Berkeley:** Trainees went to OSU to share their research. They are planning to have more inter-center training opportunities. Cal Day at Berkeley showcased SRP research at an informational booth. This was a collaboration between biomedical scientists and engineers that included hands-on activities and pamphlet.
 - **Dartmouth:** New feature on their website features short trainee videos highlighting their research interests.
 - **Northeastern:** Collaboration with other SRPs (Brown, Columbia UPenn) for meeting and a lot of trainees participated. One trainee was awarded the Williams Wilson scholarship from the Karst Water Institute. Linda Birnbaum and Danielle Carlin visited and participated in a community forum, which had a lot of great dialogue.
 - **Oregon State:** Three trainees matriculated since last call. Recently had an Annual research day. Trainees from UC Berkeley came and gave presentations, and there was a pilot project of trainee-initiated projects with OSU and UCB. Trainees presented at ACS, SOT, and SETAC Regional (trainee won an award at SOT, and poster award at SETAC). Workshop on omics and bioinformatics coming up in Sept, but it may only be open to OSU students. Recent work sharing research with children from Native American communities.
 - **University of Arizona:** New 1 credit course offered to SRP trainees. Includes making a video showing their research interest, writing abstracts, developing elevator talks, etc. There are also activities with the RTC/CEC to learn how to write highlights, which will be posted on their website soon. They plan to extend the course more widely to graduate students (not just trainees) if resources allow.
 - **UC San Diego:** Recently had meetings with trainees where they got to present to each other and PIs to get feedback. They also had lectures on how to write a K99 and NRSA.
 - **Iowa:** Iowa SRP had a get together during the SOT meeting (including former and current trainees). It was a great networking opportunity and a chance for current trainees to see different career opportunities that may be available to them. Students from Columbus Junction visited and learned about SRP activities including air sampling, experimental techniques, etc.
 - **University of Kentucky:** A former trainee who currently works at EPA gave a webinar/workshop to trainees as an overview of human health risk assessment. They also held an outreach event – “expanding your horizons” for middle school girls to learn about SRP research and exciting outcomes. Trainees gave presentations at SOT and ACS. One trainee won a poster prize at the UK Graduate symposium. Trainees attended

metabolomics/diet symposium and presented their work to increase visibility in other universities in the area.

- **Training Core Activities**
 - From SRP Data Collection Tool
 - Other updates

Additional Information:

- **SRP Website – for SPAN/Training**
 - <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/supported/srp/training/index.cfm>.
 - Notes from all previous SPAN Teleconferences/WebEx Discussions are posted here.
 - Training Core Leaders, please send Adeline Lopez (alopez@michaeldbaker.com) any news items of interest to trainees (e.g., trainee success stories, pictures, job announcements, etc.).
 - SRP e-posted: Trainee Highlights