

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

**Wednesday, May 30 from 2 -3 pm ET.**

### **Attendees:**

Ian Blair, University of Pennsylvania  
Andrew Buermeyer, Oregon State University  
Danielle Carlin, NIEHS  
Felicia Castriota, UC Berkeley  
Rocio Estrella, University of Arizona  
Breanna Ford, UC Berkeley  
Andrew Hawkey, Duke University  
Michelle Heacock, NIEHS  
David Hein, University of Louisville  
Zach Hilt, University of Kentucky  
Jenny Kay, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Stephanie Kim, Boston University  
Adeline Lopez, MDB  
Craig Marcus, Oregon State University  
Pamela Mellon, UC San Diego  
Denise Moreno Ramírez, University of Arizona  
Colleen Murphy, UPR-School of Public Health  
Mike Petriello, University of Kentucky  
Kevin O'Donovan, MDB  
David Purdy, The University of Iowa  
Courtney Roper, Oregon State University  
Melanie Smith, Northeastern University, PROTECT  
Judlyn Telesford-Checkley, Texas A&M University  
Brittany Trottier, NIEHS  
Jean van Seventer, Boston University  
Zhengui Xia, University of Washington

### **Agenda Items:**

- **KC Donnelly Externship**
  - Applications were due January 31, 2018
  - Applications have undergone review. Awardees have received notice of awards
  - Brittany Trottier is the contact for the KC Donnelly Externship
  
- **Wetterhahn Award**
  - The applications for 2018 will be due August 1<sup>st</sup> rather than August 31<sup>st</sup> because the SRP Annual Meeting will take place earlier this year
  
- **CareerTrac Update: Brittany Trottier**
  - Introduction to CareerTrac
    - Provides searchable outcome data on trainees

- Only PI/Admin can see data, as well as NIH Program Officers
    - Leverages but doesn't duplicate existing data sources
  - Training is an important goal for NIEHS
  - SRP aims to maximize training effort and leverage resources
  - Updates to CareerTrac:
    - Converting trainee data form to Excel (~1 month)
      - Contains existing trainee data
      - New data can be entered
      - Data entry still by hand by PIA
    - Will include undergraduate students and track them as well (~2 months)
  - Task Flow Chart (1 – 2 months)
    - New task flow chart where information can be added by a PO or admin
    - PIA can check it off when added to trainee profile in accomplishments
  - New Trainee Interface (~18 – 24 months)
    - Trainees can insert their own information with Commons ID log in
    - View/update information
    - Submit to PI/PIA to review
    - Added to record with approval
  - CareerTrac Outcome measures
    - Career Highlight
    - Posters
    - Honors and awards
    - Publications
    - Fellowships
    - Later NIH grants
    - Employment data
  - Accomplishment Reports
    - Send ideas for reports that would be of interest to [CareerTrac@mail.nih.gov](mailto:CareerTrac@mail.nih.gov)
    - Current examples include employment and publications
    - If you have any questions about CareerTrac, contact Brittany Trottier at [brittany.trottier@nih.gov](mailto:brittany.trottier@nih.gov)
  - Center administrators, Center Directors, and Training Core Leaders should have accounts in CareerTrac. Any other project or core leaders who are interested in access to CareerTrac should have their Center Directors contact Brittany Trottier for permission
- **Question for Trainees: What is the best way to get updates?**
  - Some examples of how information is shared include E-Posted, emails, science digest, LinkedIn, and Twitter
  - Two attendees suggested having a central page with information for trainees rather than multiple sources of information
  - PROTECT uses BlackBoard Core Sites that trainees can sign up for and see some posted information (required in some cases)
  - An attendee commented that it is sometimes difficult to ensure trainees check it consistently
  - Mike Petriello suggested monthly trainee highlights in a newsletter similar to the E-posted that includes collated emails from the prior month
  - Jean van Seventer mentioned it may be useful to have an employment opportunity page for trainees to get ideas

- Kevin O'Donovan gave a brief summary of SRP's twitter activities and mentioned that grantees can send items they'd like to have tweeted
  - Another comment was to have information available for students who are not part of SRP but are interested in opportunities (e.g., post-docs)
  - Another attendee noted that their postdoc services has a bare bones weekly email that is always titled '[date] Jobs, Fellowships & Announcements of Interest for Duke Postdocs' that includes numbered lists of three categories: job postings, fellowship positions being recruited for, and announcements of professional development opportunities
  - Danielle asked attendees to send along items to share with the group (e.g., meetings/conferences, job/student opportunities)
- **Brainstorming: Trainee Session at the SRP Annual Meeting (November 28 – 30, 2018)**
    - Meeting will be in Sacramento, CA
    - Heather Henry had an idea related to focusing on technology transfer (building off strengths of the three SRP Centers in CA)
    - Example ideas include tabletop demonstrations, sensor fair, career panel with small business grantees or spin-off businesses
    - Another idea was a session on communicating with the media, perhaps a joint session with trainees and RTC/CECs
    - Jean van Seventer described their recent "Difficult Conversations with Communities" workshop and how trainees really got a lot out of it
    - Another suggestion was to include more information for trainees about non-academic careers
- **Reminder to send updates to SPAN Leadership Committee**
    - These will be taken in September and 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](mailto:danielle.carlin@nih.gov) and indicate the current status of the new member (e.g., graduate student or Post-Doc)
    - Membership on the SPAN Leadership Committee is a two-year term.
- **Training Core Activities and Round-robin/sharing** of highlights from all of you (i.e., the Superfund Centers and R01 grantees)
    - **Reminder:** If you'd like your activities included, please send them to Danielle Carlin ([danielle.carlin@nih.gov](mailto:danielle.carlin@nih.gov)) and Addie Lopez (<mailto:adeline.lopez@nih.gov>) at least 2 weeks before the next scheduled SPAN WebEx.
      - Danielle suggested having training core leaders submit 1 -2 slides with updates for SPAN calls, and suggested rotating centers for presentations
      - Another participant noted enjoying hearing about other trainee activities with communities to get ideas; suggestion to focusing on community outreach and unique activities rather than awards and publications
      - Another participant agreed keeping it shorter would be good, so rotating updates might help
      - Another participant emphasized focusing on unique activities, and saving awards, publications, and presentations for a more condensed format, like an email

- Danielle noted that updates should focus on unique activities, collaborative research projects, professional development, and maybe employment in unique sectors
- **Boston University Updates:**
  - BU SRP hosted the 2018 Northeast SRP Symposium
    - Fourth annual Northeast SRP meeting, specifically focusing on trainee development
    - Over 110 attendees, including 47 trainees
    - Opportunities for Trainees
      - Elevator talks
      - Mentoring
      - Creating IDPs
  - BU SRP Trainees presented at the Society of Toxicology Meeting
  - Trainee Publication
    - Basra K, Scammell MK, Benson EB, Heiger-Bernays W. 2018. Ambient air exposure to PCBs: Regulation and monitoring at five contaminated sites in EPA Regions 1, 2, 4, and 5. *New Solutions: A Journal of Environmental and Occupational Health Policy*. DOI: 10.1177/1048291118763620
  - BU SRP Trainee Workshop: Difficult Conversations Involving Superfund Chemicals
    - Objective: For trainees to learn basic tools to use in facilitating difficult discussions as they might encounter in conversations concerning Superfund chemical-affected, environmental justice communities
    - Focused on New Bedford Harbor communities
  - BU SRP Trainees Take Part in What's In Your Fish? Forum 2.0 with the Museum of Science (MoS) Boston
    - The Fish Forum- a BU SRP (RTC, CEC, TC) / MoS program engaged citizens, policymakers, and scientists about fish consumption
    - Held May 22, 2018, Museum of Science Boston
    - Trainee Komal Basra and MoS partners reviewed Fish Forum 1.0, held in 2016
    - Lightning talks and discussion
    - Trainee Kate Crawford gave background for a case study of local Chelsea Creek
- **UC Berkeley Updates:**
  - UC Berkeley Superfund Program 30th Anniversary
  - Cal Day 2018 SuperFUN booth caters to kids and community members
  - Group Training on Responsible Conduct in Research (RCR) Trainee Updates:
    - Carsten Prasse and Breanna Ford published a paper in PNAS on the transformation of dissolved phenols to toxic dicarbonyls
    - Grigoryan published a paper in *Carcinogenesis* on the adductomic signatures of benzene exposure
    - Laura Magaña started collaboration with OSU SRP in December and will build upon it for her KC Donnelly Externship
    - Phum Tachachartvanich published a first author manuscript on the endocrine disrupting effects of TCE

- Trainees Rosemarie de la Rosa, Felicia Castriota, and Linda Rieswijk, presented posters at the SOT meeting
- Rosemarie de la Rosa organized a Speed Networking Event with professionals from industry, academia, and governmental agencies on campus
- **Texas A&M**
  - Trainee Awards:
    - Abhishek Venkatratnam: Society of Toxicology Student Travel Award (2018); SOT Molecular and Systems Biology Specialty Section (MSBSS) Graduate Student Research Award (2018); SOT 2018 Association of Scientists of Indian Origin (ASIO) Graduate Student Best Abstract award (2018)
    - Pablo Alvarez: 2018 Margaret Rudder Community Service award from Texas A&M University for the work he has done in Houston following Hurricane Harvey and development of an environmental justice resource database
    - State Level, Galen Newman's Students: 2018 TX-ASLA Awards:
      - 4 graduate student teams of 9 trainees won awards
      - One undergraduate student team of 5 trainees also won an award
- **University of Washington**
  - Pamela Barrett completed KC Donnelly Externship at Dartmouth; she also published a first author paper in Sci Total Environ about arsenic in plankton; Barrett started a new post-doc position in Australia in May
  - Hao Wang published a first author paper in Toxcol Sci about cadmium exposure and olfactory memory; he was invited to present his findings by the Chinese Biomedical Association
  - Welcoming 2 new trainees in Project 1 and Project 4
  - UW graduate students are unionized, and postdocs will be unionized also following a recent strike
  - ☒ Kevin Heffern, a recent trainee, has a first author in press in Aquatic Toxicology about cadmium on olfactory-mediated neurobehavior and gene expression in larval zebrafish
- **From SRP Data Collection Tool (examples to get the ball rolling):**
  - **Columbia University:**
    - Poojitha Balakrishnan gave a talk at the American Women's Association Conference about cardiometabolic genes associated with arsenic metabolism from the Strong Heart Family Study
    - Athena Nghiem was selected to receive 2018 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
  - **Duke University:**
    - Jessica Hartman won the Gabriel L. Plaa Education Award at SOT
    - Danielle Mello and Rashmi Joglekar led outreach activities at a Carolina Friends School science day in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, related to their research
  - **MIT:**
    - CEC director Kathy Vandiver, RTC director Jenny Kay, and trainees Irene Hu and Tchelet Segev visited classes at Malden High School, an Environmental Justice

community in the Mystic River Watershed; They are developing courses to teach students about how to develop app and sensors

- Helene Angot was invited to present a seminar at NOAA about toxic air pollutants and her ongoing Superfund research aimed at mapping the spatiotemporal dynamics of PAHs in the atmosphere
- Trainee Maggie He coauthored a publication describing development of carbon nanotube sensors in ACS Sensors
- Irene Hu presented a poster at the Ocean Sciences Meeting and gave a talk at MBARI, both regarding development of the benthic flux sensor she is designing

▪ **Oregon State University:**

- Holly Dixon is an ARCS Foundation Scholar; she was highlighted on their website for her work with Hurricane Harvey disaster response
- EMT Trainee awards at PNW SETAC meeting: Lauren Crandon - First Place PhD Poster (Harper); Matt Slattery - First Place Ph.D. Platform (Harper); Justin Rewerts - Second Place PhD Platform (Field and Simonich)
- EMT Trainee awards at SOT: Yvonne Chang - 2018 Sheldon D. Murphy Travel Award from Mechanisms Specialty Section and Best Abstract Award from Mixtures Specialty Section (Tilton); Makeba Walcott - 2018 Pfizer Undergraduate Travel Award (Summer Undergraduate Intern) (Tilton); Courtney Roper - Best Abstract Award (overall best abstract for the Mixtures specialty section) (Tanguay); Prarthana Shankar - Graduate Student Award from Molecular and Systems Biology Specialty Section (Tanguay)
- This term, OSU added an 8-hour workshop on social justice, diversity, and bias in STEM
  - There were sessions on implicit bias, and regional issues in Oregon
  - The final workshop session is how to communicate with multicultural audiences and address gender issues in STEM fields
  - OSU will share the syllabus and SRP will send around
  - This might be relevant for the trainee session at the SRP annual meeting

▪ **University of Kentucky:**

- Brittany Rice
  - Received the 2018 University of Kentucky Inclusive Excellence Award
  - Recognized as the Essence Honoree for the UK Graduate Diversity and Professional Initiatives Fierce Award
  - Participated in a community "Everything is Science" Festival, which is a unique event that bridges people involved in science and innovation with the general public
- Hongyi (Derek) Wan presented "Iron/Palladium Nanoparticles Immobilized Membrane Platforms for Chlorinated Organics Treatment," at the Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute 2018 Annual Symposium
- Jessie Hoffman was chosen as a finalist to participate in the Emerging Leader in Nutrition Science Poster Competition at Nutrition 2018 in Boston, MA

- Undergraduate Trainee Joshua Preston received a summer research grant award from the Bucks for Brains program at UKY
- Mohammadyousef (Amir) Roghani presented a poster of his research, Vapor Transport through Sewer Systems: Mechanisms and Variables at Battelle 2018
- Mike Petriello recently presented about the interaction between chemical stressors and diet at a NIEHS workshop on understanding the combined effects of chemical and nonchemical stressors
- **University of Iowa:**
  - Eric Uwimana was an organizer for the University of Iowa Graduate College Jakobsen Conference and presented along with several other trainees
  - Brought in students from Columbus Highschool to learn about PCBs; the largely minority high school students were excited to see the diverse SRP trainees and see opportunities for minorities in science fields

**Additional Information:**

- **SRP Website – for SPAN/Training**
  - Notes from all previous SPAN Teleconferences/WebEx Discussions are posted on the [SRP Training website](#).
  - Training Core Leaders, please send Adeline Lopez ([alopez@michaeldbaker.com](mailto:alopez@michaeldbaker.com)) any news items of interest on trainees (e.g., trainee success stories, pictures, job announcements, etc).
  - SRP e-posted: Trainee Highlights
  
- **SRP/NIEHS now on LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8565066>