

Agenda: SPAN Leadership Committee/Training Core Leaders WebEx

Tuesday March 3, 2020 3:00 PM-4:30 PM ET

WebEx Information:

<https://nih.webex.com/nih/onstage/g.php?MTID=ea1bea50519bc094efdd281ea544858dc>

Participants:

Ian Blair (University of Pennsylvania)
Danielle Carlin (NIEHS)
Yinwen Cheng (University of Iowa)
Subham Dasgupta (Oregon State University)
Michael Duffel (University of Iowa)
Rocio Estrella (University of Arizona)
Kristin Hicks (Northeastern University/PROTECT SRP)
Priyanka Kushwaha (University of Arizona)
Adeline Lopez (MDB)
Raina Maier (University of Arizona)
Katlyn McGraw (University of Louisville)
Denise Moreno (University of Arizona)
David Purdy (The University of Iowa)
Prarthana Shankar (Oregon State University)
Alysha Simmons (Brown University)
Lura Slowinski (Northeastern University)
Brittany Trottier (NIEHS)
Jean van Seventer (Boston University School of Public Health)
Hao Wang (University of Washington)
Theodore Wensel (Baylor College of Medicine)
Zhengui Xia (University of Washington)
Jamie Young (University of Louisville)
J. Zach Hilt (University of Kentucky)
Duo Zhang (University of Iowa)

Agenda Items:

- **Elevator Pitches from Trainees Attending SOT**
 - **Alysha Simmons (Brown):** Presented on Pulmonary Fibrosis and Engineered Nanomaterials.
 - **Hao Wang (UW):** Presented on Genetic and Conditional Stimulation of Adult Neurogenesis Rescues Mice from Cadmium-Induced Impairments of Hippocampus-Dependent Learning and Memory.
 - **Duo Zhang (Iowa):** Presented on A Broadly Applicable Method for Identification and Analysis of Polychlorinated Biphenyl Sulfates in Human Serum.
 - **Lindsay Wilson (OSU):** Presented on Exposure Conditions Can Alter the Sensitivity of the Early Life Stage Zebrafish Embryo Assay.
 - **Prarthana Shankar (OSU):** Presented on The Discovery and Characterization of a Novel Biomarker for Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor (AHR) Activation.

- **Brianna Rivera (OSU):** Forming and Evaluating Toxicity of an Environmentally Relevant Representative Mixture.*

*Unable to present due to technical issues.

- **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) and Addie Lopez (alopez@michaeldbaker.com) at least 2 weeks before the next scheduled SPAN WebEx.

- PROTECT (Kristin Hicks)
 - On February 21 and 22, PROTECT had a Planning Retreat in San Juan, PR. 17 trainees were able to attend. It was a great opportunity for planning and networking.
 - On March 2 there was an Enrichment Core Meeting with RETCC, CEC, Admin (RT) to discuss trainee events and activities. These meetings make sure all Cores are coordinated in designing events for trainees.
 - In March there was a trainee call on community outreach development plans. They challenged trainees to work collaboratively on an outreach activity.
 - Trainee programs @ SRP Annual Meeting in November and upcoming Northeast SRP Annual Meeting on March 26 and 27, 2020 offer unique networking opportunities. For example, at the SRP Annual Meeting, trainees from all PROTECT institutions got together to go bowling.
 - IDPS and Completion Awards, similar to KC Donnelly award, for trainees professional development. Trainees with highest scores on IDPS are awarded funds for travel to conferences or to do research at a member institution.
 - The Trainee Advisory Board includes trainees from each partner university to discuss trainee activities and upcoming initiatives.
 - Professional development webinars for trainees:
 - 2/24 – LinkedIn Profile and Network Accelerator,
 - 3/23 – Visual Design in Oral Presentations, and
 - April – PROTECT Alumni Career Advice Panel.
 - Ongoing Trainee Fellowship & Proposal Support
- UW (Zhengui Xia)
 - All trainees helped with and participated in the SRP annual meeting. Jacqueline Garrick organized the trainee session.
 - Sponsored KC Donnelly Externship for Jogen Atone from UC Davis for 2020.
 - Hao Wang submitted a KC Donnelly Externship application and has been invited as a speaker at CDC-NIOSH TRAC 2020. He was featured as the trainee spotlight in the October SRP E-Posted newsletter, and his research was featured in a recent Research Brief.
 - Megumi Matsushita will be presenting at the Collaborative on Health and the Environment-Washington Partnership meeting in March 2020. She also volunteered and recruited other volunteers from the department to participate in a work party to help maintain a Green Wall in Seattle's Georgetown neighborhood.

- Margaret Mills was first author on a paper in press with Chemical Research in Toxicology titled "The role of Nrf2 mutations on gene expression and survivorship in zebrafish exposed to industrial compounds.
 - Chase Williams, a former postdoc, is a co-author on a paper in press with the J.Exp.Biol. titled "A sense of place: pink salmon use a magnetic map for orientation."
 - Samantha Fung presented a poster on how biogeochemical and hydrodynamic factors work together to release arsenic from lakebed sediments in Lake Killarney, Federal Way at the 2019 SRP meeting and two other meetings. She won best poster award at the 2019 meeting of the WA State Lake Protection Association. She also wrote a newsletter story about her work for the Washington State Lake Protection Association. Her research was featured in a story by UW news.
 - A profile of former trainee Marco Barajas was elected as one of the best stories of 2019 from UW Tacoma.
 - Judit Marsillach, a former trainee, is starting a collaboration with 5 other investigators to put together an NIEHS ViCTER proposal related to environmental exposures and adverse birth outcomes. This collaboration comes out of the 2019 Data Science Innovation Lab and Marsillach's SRP-supported Ph.D. work on pesticides. She has been invited to attend the upcoming Michael J Fox Foundation's 2020 Researcher Hill Day on March 3rd-4th in Washington DC.
- University of Arizona (Raina Maier)
 - Thesis Thursday on local KXCI radio station was initiated by Monica Ramirez-Andreotta. She co-hosts the show and interviewed a number of UAZ trainees about their research. Some of them are in Spanish. The segment is available online at: <https://kxci.org/programs/thesis-thursday/>
 - An online continuing education course called Transdisciplinary Environmental Science for Society (TESS) was developed by faculty to close the gap between scientific information generated by researchers and the needs of society to address complex environmental problems. It is available to any SRP trainees across centers. For more information see: <https://ce.arizona.edu/tess>
- Louisville (Jamie Young)
 - Adam Stienberg gave a talk on the art of science at the annual meeting. Their group reached out to him to give a more detailed talk for the trainees. Interested in a joint workshop with the University of Kentucky.
 - The first integrated international workshop on acetyltransferases, sulfotransferases, and UDP-glucuronosyltransferases brings world leaders together to communicate recent and new advances in the field as well as to determine and communicate gene nomenclature rules and guidelines for each individual enzyme. The workshop will gather investigators from research centers around the world to enhance global scientific understanding of the importance of xenobiotic metabolizing enzymes in environmental health as well as genomic approaches to environmental health. The workshop is scheduled for April 1-3 in Louisville hosted by the key Centers, Institutes, Departments, and Programs at the University of Louisville (UofL) which focus upon the importance of environmental health. These include the Christina Lee Brown [Envirome Institute](#), the [Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology](#), the Center for Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, the [Superfund Research Program](#), the T32 and T35 [Training Programs in Environmental Health](#)

[Sciences](#), the [Hepatobiology and Toxicology Center](#), the [Center for Integrated Environmental Health Sciences](#), and the [Center for Healthy Air, Water and Soil](#). Further details are available at the workshop website: <http://louisville.edu/envirome/fii-workshop-2020>

- Sustain Magazine featured the SRP Research Training Core and highlighted their interactions with trainees at UKY and offsite events.
- OSU (Craig Marcus)
 - Recruited new trainees after several matriculated.
 - Trainees authors on 30 publications.
 - Prarthana Shankar won best ESE poster at the SRP Annual Meeting.
 - Developed three new workshops for trainees:
 - Environmental and Human Health Impacts of Micro- and Nanoplastics,
 - Collaborative Data-Driven & Deep-Thinking Decisions, and
 - Evidence, Reproducibility, and Justifying Policy in Environmental Health.
 - Revised core requirement to include new courses on Scientific Skills and Ethics, and Molecular Mechanisms of Environmental Disease.
 - Trainee outreach, engagement, and research translation activities included hosting high school students from regional tribal nations as part of the Third Annual Tribal Youth Campus Tour at OSU. They visited the Swinomish Reservation for a Sense of Place Tour and toured the Tribal Air Monitoring Station. They met with community stakeholders from the Portland Harbor Superfund site to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of OSU SRP infographics.
 - Conducted focus groups to develop a report for returning personal exposure results for participants studied in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.
 - Conducted engagement events for 1000 K-12 students using interactive, participatory demonstrations developed by trainees to teach students about environmental health and toxicology.
 - Hosted trainees from UCD and UCB for Research Day to share projects and foster collaborations for pilot projects.
- Iowa (David Purdy)
 - Christian Bako was selected to give an oral presentation of his work at the Superfund Annual Meeting in Seattle. Christian has been nominated for a Hancher-Finkbine award, one of the most prestigious student awards at the University of Iowa.
 - Jessica Ewald published her first first-author paper (and second paper as ISRP trainee): Ewald JM, Humes SV, Martinez A, Schnoor JL, Mattes TE, Growth of Dehalococcoides spp. and increased abundance of reductive dehalogenase genes in anaerobic PCB-contaminated sediment microcosms. Environmental Science and Pollution Research, 2019 Jun 17. PMID: PMC6918016. In 2019 the quality and importance of her research was rewarded with two best poster awards (NIEHSSRP Annual Meeting 2019 in Seattle and the Center for Bioprocessing and Biocatalysis Usha Balakrishnan 2019 poster award). She is also the point of contact for their data supplement with Duke University.
 - Three trainees will be presenting their posters at the SOT meeting in Anaheim in March.

- Connor Johnson, Project 4 trainee with Dr. Keri Hornbuckle, as part of his Honors Thesis is analyzing data from PCB data points from across the world. He is reviewing data collected by previous trainee Nick Herkert: Herkert, N.J., S.N. Spak, A. Smith, J.K. Schuster, T. Harner, A. Martinez, and K.C. Hornbuckle, Calibration and evaluation of PUF-PAS sampling rates across the Global Atmospheric Passive Sampling (GAPS) network. Environmental Science: Processes & Impacts, 2018. 20(1): p. 210-219. PMC5783774. He is also working with staff from Environment and Climate Change Canada to analyze issues with wind speed and air pressure.
- Recent trainee publications:
 - Dhakal, R., S. Parkin, H.-J. Lehmler, 3,5-Dichloro-3',4'-dimethoxybiphenyl. IUCrData, 2019: Volume 4, Part 4, x190518.
 - Dhakal R, Li X, Parkin SR, Lehmler HJ, Synthesis of mono- and dimethoxylated polychlorinated biphenyl derivatives starting from fluoroarene derivatives. Environ Sci Pollut Res Int. 2019 Dec 31. doi: 10.1007/s11356-019-07133-3. [Epub ahead of print]
 - Janecheck, N.J.; Marek, R.F.; Bryngelson, N.; Singh, A.; Bullard, R.L.; Brune, W.H.; Stanier, C.O. Physical properties of secondary photochemical aerosol from OH oxidation of a cyclic siloxan. Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics, 2019.19, 1649-1664. DOI: 10.5194/acp-19-1649-2019
 - Saktrakulka P, Dhakal RC, Lehmler H, Hornbuckle KC. 2019. A semi-target analytical method for quantification of OH-PCBs in environmental samples. Environmental Science and Pollution Research International. 1-13. PMID:31359319

- **Reminder to use the SRP Data Collection Tool (DCT) to submit Trainee Highlights!**
- **Reminder to update CareerTrac**
- **KC Donnelly Externship**
 - Applications were due **January 31**.
 - Brittany Trottier is the contact for the KC Donnelly Externship (brittany.trottier@nih.gov)
 - <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/supported/centers/srp/training/donnelly/index.cfm>
- **Wetterhahn Award**
 - The winner of the 2019 Wetterhahn Award was announced at the SRP Annual Meeting in Seattle.
 - Congratulations to Elana Elkin from the University of Michigan, a trainee with the Northeastern University PROTECT Center!
 - Nominations for the 2020 Karen Wetterhahn Memorial Award will be accepted from July 1st until August 1st.
 - <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/supported/centers/srp/training/wetterhahn/index.cfm>
- **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 current status of the new member (e.g., graduate student or Post-Doc)
 - Membership on the SPAN Leadership Committee is a two-year term.

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 (adeline.lopez@nih.gov) any news items of interest to trainees (e.g., trainee success stories, pictures, job announcements).
 - SRP e-posted: Trainee Highlights

- **SRP/NIEHS on Linked In:** <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8565066>