

## HEADLINES

### R2RA Information Exchange Webinar: So...What IS a Superfund Site Anyway?

The SRP applies a multidisciplinary approach to research focused on providing a solid foundation that environmental managers and risk assessors can draw upon to make sound decisions related to Superfund and other hazardous waste sites. But as a grantee or partner of the SRP, have you ever wondered what a Superfund site really involves? Are you interested in understanding how Superfund sites are selected and dealt with?

Please join us for the first SRP Research to Risk Assessment (R2RA) Information Exchange webinar on **May 20, 2:00-3:00 pm ET**. It is intended to help SRP grantees gain a better perspective on how EPA implements the Superfund program at hazardous sites around the country. This session will provide insight into how Superfund sites are selected, the process that leads to site remediation, and the scientific issues involved. Grantees will have an opportunity to ask questions about the EPA national program as well as site assessment and remediation.

The presenter, Jennifer Wendell, will outline these topics and share some of her experiences in the field. She is the National Priorities List coordinator from EPA's Atlanta Regional Office, which is responsible for the eight states in the Southeastern US.

Visit the [GoTo Webinar page](#) to register for the webinar on May 20, 2:00-3:00 pm ET. For a bit of background about the Superfund program, check out the [This is Superfund](#) video. We look forward to hearing from Jennifer and encourage you all to join us!

### NIH and AHRQ Announce Updated Policy for Application Submission

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) announce a change in policy on application submissions. Effective immediately, for application due dates after April 16, 2014, following an unsuccessful resubmission (A1) application, applicants may submit the same idea as a new (A0) application for the next appropriate due date.

The NIH and AHRQ will not assess the similarity of the science in the new (A0) application to any previously reviewed submission when accepting an application for review. Although a new (A0) application does not allow an introduction or responses to the previous reviews, the NIH and AHRQ encourage applicants to refine and strengthen all application submissions. For more on this new policy, see the [NIH Notice](#) and the [NIH blog post](#) on the topic.

### Population Health Branch, DERT, NIEHS â€™ Health Science Administrator Position Available

The Population Health Branch (PHB) in the Division of Extramural Research and Training (DERT) of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) will have a position opening in mid-May/early June for a Health Science Administrator trained in epidemiology with research experience in the application of study designs, methods and technologies used in epidemiologic or other types of clinical studies relevant to the environmental health sciences. The position holds responsibilities for the development, management, administration and reporting of NIEHS extramural program activities relating to environmental epidemiology, in areas such as respiratory and/or cardiovascular diseases.

Candidates should have doctoral level training (Ph.D., Sc.D., M.D. or equivalent) in the clinical and/or public health sciences. For additional information please contact: Claudia Thompson, Ph.D. (919-541-4638, [thomps14@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:thomps14@niehs.nih.gov)).

## IN THE NEWS

### SRP in the Environmental Factor

This month, the NIEHS E-Factor featured two stories about the SRP and its grantees! Take a moment to read about

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Join CDC's Leadership Team

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is actively recruiting for the executive position of Director for the National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). The selectee will lead public health actions to promote health and safe environments and prevent harmful exposures and diseases related to toxic substances.

Desirable candidates should possess broad, proven knowledge in the field of environmental health, proven managerial experience in public health administration, and the ability to advance the scientific and public health impact of NCEH/ATSDR. NCEH/ATSDR has an annual operating budget of over \$254 million and a diverse workforce of approximately 1,000 employees and contract staff. The incumbent will be physically located in CDC's Atlanta Headquarters. For more information on NCEH and ATSDR, visit [www.cdc.gov/nceh](http://www.cdc.gov/nceh) and [www.atsdr.cdc.gov](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov).

Applications are NOT accepted via email. **To be considered, apply before midnight ET on May 27, 2014** at: [USAJobs \(MD's only\)](#) or [USAJobs \(MD's, Ph.D.'s, and equivalent\)](#).

### Biology Research Positions at NIEHS

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences is recruiting for multiple full-time appointments at either the tenure-track or tenure-eligible level in the areas of molecular and cellular signaling, neuroscience, and developmental or reproductive biology. The successful candidates are expected to lead innovative, independent research programs on any fundamental aspect of research in the above three areas of interest which form a basis for understanding the effects of the environment on human health. Investigators in the NIH intramural program have no formal teaching duties and minimal administrative responsibilities.

The vacancies will remain open until they are filled. Visit the [NIEHS](#)

some of our colleagues' latest activities.

- [Wetterhahn seminar highlights research on PCBs and type 2 diabetes](#)
- [Arsenic in well water may diminish intelligence in children](#)

Check out the [SRP news page](#) for additional stories about SRP researchers from April, including stories about grantees from Brown, LSU, MSU, Dartmouth, and Duke!

### Guerinot featured in The New York Times Well Blog

Dartmouth SRP grantee Mary Lou Guerinot, Ph.D. was recently featured in the New York Times Well Blog for her work on arsenic and cadmium in rice. The article, written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Deborah Blum, discusses how rice is particularly prone to absorbing certain toxic metals from the soil. Check out the [NYTimes Well Blog](#) to read the article and learn more about Guerinot's research.

Nice work, Mary Lou!

### UC Davis Grantee Business Announced in Class of Startups by Davis Roots

UC Davis SRP Investigator, Ian Kennedy and post-doctoral trainee Sudhee Lackshmana founded a food-tech startup that was selected by Davis Roots, a non-profit start-up business accelerator, to be part of their mentoring program. Kennedy and Lackshmana participated in Davis Roots' inaugural Demo Day to discuss their company, [SonanuTech](#) that has spun out of the UC Davis SRP. They expanded their biosensor technology to enable rapid and ultrasensitive pathogen detection for cheese manufacturers. See the [Davis Enterprise](#) for more on the Davis Roots Demo Day.

Congratulations on taking research-derived technology from the lab to the field!

### Trainee Highlights From Dartmouth SRP

Some SRP trainees are moving on to new things! Check out the Dartmouth [What's New](#) page for info about some of their recent graduates. Dawoon Jung, Ph.D., recently began a position as a Research Associate Professor at the School of Public Health at Seoul National University in Seoul, Korea. Emily Notch, Ph.D., accepted a position as an Assistant Professor of Biology at Western New England University in August.

Congratulations on your new positions, Dartmouth SRP trainees!

### UC Davis Picnic Day Provided Opportunity for Connection and Engagement

OSU SRP joined UC Davis SRP to engage with the public at the annual UC Davis Picnic Day. Picnic Day is an annual open house event held in April at UC Davis. It typically draws more than 50,000 visitors to the campus to learn about the research and engage in family fun activities. OSU and UC Davis SRP trainees presented posters about their research. The UC Davis SRP "Toxin Hunt" was also a part of the activities, which provided an excellent platform to engage with the more than 125 children to teach participants about biomagnification. See posts from [OSU](#) and [UC Davis](#) for more on the outreach day.

Great collaboration and community engagement, UC Davis and OSU!

### Seminar Series Promotes the Exchange of Scientific Information: New Methods to Measure Toxicants and their Effects on Human Cells

On April 21, the Superfund Research Programs at the University of Arizona (UA) and UC Davis collaborated to showcase cell-based tools for environmental assessment in the "Live at EPA Region 9" lecture series, New Research on Toxicity Screening Methods. Scott Boitano (UA) described how he conducts Real Time Cell Analysis (RTCA) using the XCELLigence system, while Michael Denison (UC Davis) explained his technology called the Chemically-Activated Luciferase Expression (CALUX) Bioassay. Both technologies are radically new means in which scientists can measure human cell responses after exposure to varying levels of environmental toxins.

The lecture series provides a platform for NIEHS Superfund Research Program (SRP) researchers to share their research findings with scientists in the Pacific Southwest (EPA Region 9). The lecture is presented at Region 9 headquarters in San Francisco to EPA staff and invited attendees, and is coordinated by Michael Gill, Superfund and Technology Liaison, in collaboration with UA and UCD Research Translation Core Leaders. Approximately one month after the live seminar at Region 9, the researchers will publically broadcast another live presentation via webinar through the EPA CLU-IN website (date: TBD; check the [CLU-IN website](#) for the most recent information).

Fantastic research translation, UA and UC Davis!

[website](#) for more information.

### Assistant Professor in Environmental Health at University of Iowa Department of Occupational and Environmental Health

The University of Iowa, College of Public Health invites applications for a tenure track faculty position at the level of Assistant Professor in Environmental Health with an emphasis in water and global sustainability. The successful candidate for this position will be expected to participate actively in an ambitious new multidisciplinary initiative in sustainability as well as teach courses, direct graduate thesis research, and develop an extramurally funded research program. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. or other doctorate in a relevant science or engineering field.

Position is open until filled. For more information and to apply, visit the [Iowa Job posting](#), requisition #63494.

### Professor and Chair at Bioengineering Department at Northeastern

Northeastern University's College of Engineering seeks outstanding candidates for the position of Chair of Bioengineering.

Building on existing strengths, Northeastern University has recently formed the [Bioengineering Department](#). The Chair will be expected to provide a vision to direct the hiring of faculty, the creation of research foci, and the development of educational curricula. Qualified candidates will have demonstrated strategic vision through leadership of a well-established, well-funded and internationally recognized research program, as well as demonstrated excellence and significant experience in teaching (a minimum of five years) at both the undergraduate and graduate level. A doctoral degree in Bioengineering or another closely related field is required. For more information, visit the [Northeastern jobs page](#). Position is open until filled.

### CURRENT RESEARCH BRIEF

Research Brief #233: "[Investigating the Newborn Proteome: Prenatal Arsenic Exposure and Altered Protein Expression](#)" (Rebecca Fry, UNC SRP) is available online.

Past [Research Briefs](#) are available on the SRP's website.

To receive the monthly Research Briefs in your e-mail, please send your e-mail address to [beth.anderson@nih.gov](mailto:beth.anderson@nih.gov).

If you have ideas for future Research Briefs, please submit them to:

## TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT

### Leslie Knecht, University of Miami (University of Kentucky SRP)

Leslie Knecht is a senior Ph.D. student at the University of Miami working with Dr. Sylvia Daunert. You may have met her at the SRP annual meeting last October, where she received an award for her poster on sensing environmental contaminants with paper-based platforms! We look forward to hearing from her in the last of three [2014 SRP trainee webinars](#) on **May 13, 1:00-2:00 pm ET** ([Registration](#)).



Detection of environmental contaminants on-site is important in areas where resources are limited. Remote site detection requires that the sensors employed are selective, sensitive, rugged, and amenable for use by untrained personnel. Knecht has developed cell-based sensors for environmental contaminants encapsulated within *Bacillus subtilis* spores. These spores are robust and able to withstand harsh environmental conditions which make them ideal whole-cell biosensors for field work.

To enhance the portability of the spores, Knecht employed filter paper-based platforms on which detection of a target contaminant in environmental samples can be performed. The paper-based platform is inexpensive and simple to design, making it amendable for a variety of applications. Specifically, she has utilized *B. subtilis* cells for the detection of arsenic and organoarsenicals on paper-based platforms.

Knecht has been the recipient of numerous fellowships including a National Science Foundation Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship. She was also the recipient of the 2014 University of Miami Graduate Student Exemplar Award.

In her spare time, Knecht enjoys reading, running, and spending time with her husband and one year old son, Tobin. Knecht has also overcome a number of challenges, including a stroke her first semester of graduate school, and strives to help others through community service, which was highlighted on the [NSF Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship website](#). For more on Knecht's story, passion, and challenges check out the [LabTV short video showcasing Knecht](#). The video won the "Outstanding Role Model Award" at the Tribeca Film Festival.

## HOT PUBLICATION

### Spatial Analysis of Adherence to Treatment Guidelines for Advanced-stage Ovarian Cancer

A recent [paper](#) led by Veronica Vieira at Boston University SRP investigates the effects of geographic barriers to ovarian cancer treatment and the impact of race and socioeconomic status on adherence to treatment.

Patients diagnosed with stage IIIC/IV epithelial ovarian cancer were identified from the California Cancer Registry. The researchers developed generalized additive models to assess the effect of spatial distributions of geographic location, proximity to a high-volume hospital, distance traveled to receive care, race, and socioeconomic status on adherence to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) guidelines for treatment.

The investigators found that geographic proximity to a high-volume hospital and travel distance to receive treatment are independently associated with NCCN guideline adherent care for advanced-stage ovarian cancer. Geographic barriers to standard ovarian cancer treatment also disproportionately affect racial minorities and women of low socioeconomic status.

The paper, published in *Gynecologic Oncology*, was chosen as the #1 abstract at the Annual Meeting of Women's Cancer and first author Robert Bristow was chosen as a scientific plenary speaker to discuss the novel findings at the meeting.

## AWARD WINNERS

### Raina Maier and Colleagues Honored with Catapult Award

UA SRP Director and investigator Raina Maier was recently honored with a Catapult Award developed to recognize and honor the application of innovative UA research to improve the lives of people in Arizona and around the world. Maier and her UA colleagues, Drs. Jeanne Pemberton, Cliff Coss, and Robin Polt were honored with the Catapult Award for Chemistry and Physical Sciences for their work developing microbially-produced surfactants (biosurfactants), which they are commercializing through a start-up chemical company, "GlycoSurf."

[beth.anderson@nih.gov](mailto:beth.anderson@nih.gov)

### 2014 Trainee Webinar Series

Session III: May 13, 2014; 1:00-2:00 pm ET  
Online [Website](#)

### R2RA Information Exchange Webinar: "So...What IS a Superfund Site Anyway?"

Jennifer Wendel, National Priorities List Coordinator, U.S. EPA Region 4  
May 20, 2014, 2:00-3:30 p.m. EDT  
Online [Website](#)

### SRP Arsenic Panel Discussion Webinar Series

Part 3: Global Environmental Cycling and Bioavailability of Arsenic  
Moderator: David Thomas, U.S. EPA  
Panelists: Margaret Kurzius-Spencer, Albert Juhasz, Mary Lou Guerinot, Mark Kay O'Rourke, Scott Fendorf, Matthew Polizzotto  
May 22, 2014, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EDT  
[Online Registration](#)

### The Central and Eastern European Conference on Health and the Environment

Date: May 25-30, 2014  
Location: Cluj-Napoca, Romania  
[Website](#)

### SRP Arsenic Panel Discussion Webinar Series

Part 4: Prevention and Remediation Strategies for Arsenic Exposure  
Moderator: Heather Henry, NIEHS  
Panelists: Mary Gamble, Megan Hall, Lex van Geen, Julie Zimmerman, Raina Maier  
June 3, 2014, 3:00-4:30 p.m. EDT  
[Online Registration](#)

### Ag Innovation Entrepreneurship Academy

Grantee event: Co-sponsored by the University of California, Davis SRP  
June 24-26, 2014  
Davis, California  
[Website](#)

### Health Perspectives Study in the Marcellus Shale

Co-Hosted by the Harvard School of Public Health SRP  
Date: June 26, 2014, 12:00-1:30 p.m. ET  
Location: Boston, Massachusetts  
[Website](#)

### Biomedical and Engineering Entrepreneurship Academy

Grantee event: Co-sponsored by the University of California, Davis SRP  
July 9-11, 2014  
Davis, California  
[Website](#)

### The Eight International PCB Workshop: Exposure Effects, Remediation, and Regulation Co-Hosted by the University of Iowa SRP and the Boston University SRP

Date: October 5-9, 2014

Maier's early research on biosurfactant-metal interactions was funded by the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences Superfund Research Program. This research was focused on microbial glycolipids and the results were foundational for current GlycoSurf endeavors. Read more on the [UA SRP website](#).

Congratulations, Raina!

### Kaminski Honored with Senior Investigator Award

MSU SRP Center Director and investigator Norbert Kaminski received the Senior Investigator Award from the Immunotoxicology Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology. The award is for scientists in academia, industry, or those who have had an impact on regulatory issues whose work has made significant contributions to the field of immunotoxicology. Kaminski's work is in general areas of immunopharmacology and immunotoxicology with a major emphasis on the elucidation of the molecular mechanisms for impairment of signal transduction cascades and gene expression during lymphocyte activation by drugs and chemicals.

Congratulations, Norbert!

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### 2014 AIChE Annual Meeting: Transport of Environmental Contaminants Related to Energy Process

At the 2014 American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) *Annual Meeting*, November 16-21, 2014, the Brown University SRP is holding a session, "Transport of Environmental Contaminants Related to Energy Processes."

Abstracts are invited on topics including the physical, chemical, and biological processes that pollutants undergo upon release; the effects of interacting mixtures and complex systems on contaminant fate and transport; remediation methods; release prevention; and other issues, challenges, and solutions on which laboratory, pilot, or field-scale studies shed light.

**Abstracts are due May 12, 2014.** Please submit abstracts using the AIChE Abstract Submission system on the [AIChE Annual Meeting website](#). If you have any questions, please contact the session organizers: Jim Rice ([James\\_Rice@brown.edu](mailto:James_Rice@brown.edu)) and Megan Creighton ([Megan\\_Creighton@brown.edu](mailto:Megan_Creighton@brown.edu)).

### SETAC Conference Session Abstract Submission

At the next Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Conference in Vancouver, BC (November 9-13, 2014), colleagues from EPA and USGS (Amy Mucha, Marc A. Mills and David Walters) are chairing a session entitled "Remedy effectiveness assessments and monitoring of contaminated sediment remediation" and encourage SRP investigators to consider submitting an abstract. The sessions is in the Risk Management, Remediation, or Science Policy category.

**Abstracts are due May 28.** To see all of the sessions and categories and to submit an abstract, please visit the [SETAC meeting website](#).

### The Eighth International PCB Workshop: PCBs in Schools, Exposures, Effects, Remediation and Regulation

A primary objective of the PCB Workshops is to provide a unique, single forum for the world experts on issues of analysis, fate and transport, exposure assessment, metabolism and disposition, toxicity, and public health policy to come together and learn from each other. The Eighth International PCB Workshop in 2014 will include presentations on basic aspects of PCB chemistry, biology and toxicology, as well as a new emphasis on specific sites that are highly contaminated, including New Bedford Harbor, Indiana Harbor, and the issue of PCBs in schools. There will be broad input from scientists both within and outside of the Superfund Research Program.

The Workshop will take place in Woods Hole, MA. **October 5-9, 2014.** Abstract submissions close on **July 25, 2014.** Visit the [PCB Workshop website](#) for more information and to register.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### University of California, Davis: 2014 Entrepreneurship Academies

Entrepreneurship Academies, offered through the Child Family Institute at UC Davis, are designed for science and engineering graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and university faculty who want to explore the commercial, real-world application of their work. It combines seminars and networking sessions in an innovative format to help you learn how to commercialize your technology.

Location: Woods Hole, Massachusetts  
[Website](#)

### SRP Annual Meeting (Save the dates!)

Date: November 12-14, 2014  
Location: San Jose, California

### 14th International Congress on Combustion By-Products and their Health Effects

Co-Sponsored by the Louisiana State University SRP  
Date: June 14-17, 2015  
Location: UmeÅ, Sweden  
[Website](#)

## OTHER CONFERENCES OF INTEREST

### SETAC Asia Pacific and Australasia Conference

Date: September 14-17, 2014  
Location: Adelaide, South Australia  
[Website](#)

## UPDATES FROM OTHER SRP CENTERS

The e-Posted isn't the only way you can find out about news and events from the SRP Centers. The [SRP Grantee Newsletters and Pages website](#) has links to SRP Center electronic newsletters and Facebook pages and the [SRP News Page](#) has recent grantee news. Check them out to see the latest SRP news!

## JOIN THE @SRP\_NIEHS KNOWLEDGE NETWORK ON TWITTER

NIEHS uses Twitter, an increasingly popular social media tool, for information sharing. A "microblogging" service, Twitter allows users to distribute substantive content through messages called Tweets. SRP has escalated its Twitter posts and hope that you will join us as a follower. You will get routine Program updates and announcements.

Several SRP Centers are leading the way, and it would be great if all participated! Follow us: [@SRP\\_NIEHS](#) to instantly hear about news around the Program, key publications, events, and job opportunities for trainees.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Information on NIEHS SRP Program Contacts can be found here: [NIEHS SRP Program Staff and Contacts](#).

Each academy is a three-day intensive program that integrates lectures, exercises, and individual projects. Participants work to identify, design, and validate new business opportunities for their research. Sessions are taught by venture capitalists, angel investors, entrepreneurs, and industry executives.

*[Ag Innovation Entrepreneurship Academy](#)* - June 24-26, 2014 (Apply by May 23)

*[Biomedical and Engineering Entrepreneurship Academy](#)* - July 9-11, 2014 (Apply by May 16)

Registration waivers are available to all national SRP students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty members who attend a workshop. In addition to the application to the specific academy, participants must also fill out a *[Registration Waiver form](#)*.

If you have any questions about the request process, please contact Candace Bever for assistance at (530) 752-8465 or [crspier@ucdavis.edu](mailto:crspier@ucdavis.edu).

## Centers for Children's Environmental Health Funding Opportunity

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the Environmental Protection Agency intend to publish a joint Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to solicit applications for *[Children's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research Centers](#)*. The purpose of this program is to support a multidisciplinary program of applied and basic research along with an active community outreach translation effort to examine and translate the effects of early exposure to environmental hazards on children's health and wellbeing.

*[This Notice](#)* is being provided to allow potential applicants sufficient time to develop meaningful collaborations and responsive projects and cores. The FOA is expected to be published in spring 2014 with an expected application due date in summer 2014.

## WEBINARS

### Join us for the 2014 Trainee Webinar Series

Just one session left of the 2014 trainee webinar series! This webinar series features the outstanding work of graduate and postdoctoral students conducting SRP-funded research. This year's series consists of presentations from Poster Award Winners from the previous SRP Annual Meeting and is an excellent opportunity for peers, SRP researchers, SRP alumni, and SRP's partners to hear the poster winners describe their current research/activities.

**Session III:** Leslie Knecht (University of Miami) and Daniel Gusenleitner (Boston University), **May 13, 2014; 1:00 - 2:00 pm EDT**, *[Registration](#)*

For more information, visit the *[SRP trainee webinar page](#)*.

### PEPH Webinar: Microbes, the Environment, and You

Thanks, in part, to the NIH-funded Human Microbiome Project, researchers are learning quite a bit about the normal human microbiome and its functions and how disrupting the microbiome may be associated with disease. Environmental health researchers are becoming interested in the microbiome and how it interacts with our environment.

This webinar will feature talks from two researchers who are using model systems to investigate how the microbiome responds to environmental exposures, as well as its relationship to environmentally induced disease states. **This webinar will be held May 21, 2014, 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET.** *[Register online](#)*.

### SRP Webinars on Arsenic Panel Discussions

The SRP is hosting a webinar series of expert panel discussions focusing on the current state of knowledge and data gaps in the field of arsenic environmental health research. Topics include exposure sources and mitigation, remediation, bioavailability, contributions of advanced techniques, and susceptibility.

These panel discussions stem from the "*[Health Effects and Mitigation of Arsenic: Current Research Efforts and Future Directions Workshop](#)*" that was held in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. The panel discussions, originally scheduled to be held at that workshop, were postponed due to inclement weather.

Join us for the last two parts of these excellent expert panels that were scheduled for the *[original workshop](#)*:

**Part 3: Global Environmental Cycling and Bioavailability of Arsenic**  
(Formerly Session 1)

Moderator: David Thomas, Ph.D. *U.S. EPA*

May 22, 2014, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm ET

Panelists: Margaret Kurzius-Spencer, Albert Juhasz, Mary Lou Guerinot, Mark Kay O-Rourke, Scott Fendorf, Matthew Polizzotto

[Registration](#)

#### **Part 4: Prevention and Remediation Strategies for Arsenic Exposure**

(Formerly Session 4)

Moderator: Heather Henry, Ph.D. *NIEHS*

June 3, 2014, 3:00 - 4:30 pm ET

Panelists: Mary Gamble, Megan Hall, Lex van Geen, Julie Zimmerman, Raina Maier

[Registration](#)

Please contact me ([danielle.carlin@nih.gov](mailto:danielle.carlin@nih.gov)) if you have any questions.

### **INTERAGENCY NEWS**

#### **IRIS Public Science Meeting (June 2014)**

EPA has released the preliminary materials associated with the IRIS assessments of inorganic arsenic (iAs) and hexavalent chromium (Cr(VI)) for public comment and discussion. The scientific issues to be discussed at the meeting have been posted under meeting materials on the [EPA IRIS website](#) and meeting registration is now open. EPA will hold the June IRIS Public Science Meeting in **Arlington, VA on June 25-27, 2014. The meeting will also be available by webinar/ teleconference.**

The preliminary materials include information about: the uses and occurrence of iAs and Cr(VI) in the environment; why EPA is developing the assessments; the approaches for selecting primary studies to be included in the evidence tables; and the approach for evaluating methodological features of studies that will be important for the subsequent development of the draft IRIS assessments. In addition, the IRIS Program is using a new meeting format intended to promote public discussion. This format is designed to explore varying scientific perspectives from a diverse set of stakeholders on key science issues for the assessments in question. Stakeholders may also suggest additional key science issues to discuss at the meeting.

For more information and to view the meeting materials, visit the [EPA IRIS website](#).

#### **EPA Releases EnviroAtlas Ecosystem Mapping Tool**

On May 6, the EPA released the [EnviroAtlas](#), a web-based interactive tool that integrates more than 300 separate data layers, helps decision makers understand the implications of planning and policy decisions on ecosystems and the communities who depend on goods and services from these ecosystems. EnviroAtlas is designed for people from all levels of government, professionals, researchers, educators, non-governmental organizations, and anyone interested in considering the benefits or impacts of a decision, such as siting a new road or city park.

EnviroAtlas integrates geospatial data from a variety of sources to allow users to visualize and analyze how decisions impact ecosystems and their ability to provide goods and services. Communities are often faced with difficult decisions, such as trade-offs between transportation, residential or commercial development and maintaining local wetlands, urban greenspaces, or urban forests. EnviroAtlas helps communities better understand the potential benefits and drawbacks of their decisions by providing data, maps, information and tools to analyze relationships between nature, health and well-being, and the economy.

EnviroAtlas is available to anybody with access to a computer and an internet connection. No special software is needed.

We encourage you to check out [EnviroAtlas](#) to see how it may benefit your work!

#### **EPA Adds Seven Hazardous Waste Sites to Superfund's National Priorities List**

On May 8, the EPA added seven hazardous waste sites that pose risks to people's health and the environment to the National Priorities List (NPL) of Superfund sites. EPA is also proposing to add another five sites to the list. The new sites include former oil refinery sites, former chemical manufacturer sites, and ground water plumes in Arkansas, Maine, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, and Tennessee. With all NPL sites, EPA first works to identify companies or people responsible for the contamination at a site, and requires them to conduct or pay for the cleanup. For the newly listed sites without viable potentially responsible parties, EPA will investigate the full extent of the contamination before starting significant cleanup at the site. For more information, visit the [EPA website](#).