

HEADLINES

SRP Welcomes New Grantees!

The Superfund Research Program is pleased to welcome newly funded Small Business Innovation Research / Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) and Individual Research Project (R01) grantees!

The SRP SBIR/STTR grants were awarded to small businesses to develop innovative applications to translate and communicate environmental health research to improve public health. The recently funded SBIR/STTR grantees are [BioCement Technologies, Inc.](#), [Cambrian Innovation, Inc. \(Huang\)](#), [Cambrian Innovation, Inc. \(Buck\)](#), [Lynntech, Inc.](#), [Microvi Biotechnologies, Inc.](#), [Morphix Technologies, Inc.](#), [OndaVia Inc.](#), [Pollution Control Technologies, LLC](#), [TDA Research, Inc.](#), and [Zansors LLC](#).

The R01 grants were awarded to academic institutions that are working to better understand biogeochemical interactions affecting bioavailability for *in situ* remediation of hazardous substances. The recently funded R01 grantees are [Colorado School of Mines](#), [Duke University](#), [Johns Hopkins University](#), [University of California - Berkeley](#), [University of Maryland - Baltimore County](#), and [University of Tennessee](#).

Congratulations and welcome to the Program, new grantees!

Porewater Concentrations and Bioavailability: How You Can Measure Them and Why They Influence Contaminated Sediment Remediation

NARPM Presents and [Risk e-Learning](#) are offering a four-part webinar series to help you understand why, how, and when to measure porewater concentrations and bioavailability as part of contaminated sediment assessment and management. Hosted jointly by the EPA Contaminated Sediments Forum and the SRP, this webinar series will also focus on the use of passive sampling devices (PSD) and what they tell us about contaminant bioavailability. Previously held as a course at the [National Association for Remedial Project Managers \(NARPM\) Training Program](#) meeting, the webinar series features experts in the field of porewater and bioavailability and includes lectures and case studies, including practical tips to maximize the utility of porewater and bioavailability measurements.

Session 1 - Introduction to Porewater, Bioavailability, and PSDs will be held on **October 6, 2014, 12:30-2:30 p.m. EDT**. For more information about all four parts in the series and to register for each webinar, visit the [SRP Risk e-Learning website](#).

Arsenic Workshop Report is Now Online

Many of you attended and participated in the [NIEHS Health Effects and Mitigation of Arsenic: Current Research Efforts and Future Directions Workshop](#) and the subsequent panel discussion webinar series. The workshop summary report is now posted on the NIEHS website, which includes a summary of the presentations and panel discussions. Topics included exposure sources and mitigation, remediation, bioavailability, contributions of advanced techniques, and susceptibility. The goal of these panel discussions was to highlight new techniques and identify data gaps to help guide future research directions. Visit the [NIEHS website](#) to read the report!

Date Change: SRP KC Donnelly Award Supplement Deadline is January 31st

Beginning in 2015, the receipt date for the KC Donnelly Award Supplements will be January 31st. In future years, if the 31st falls on a weekend, applications will be due the next business day.

For those of you not familiar with the KC Donnelly Award Supplements, they are for current SRP-funded graduate students and postdoctoral researchers at P42 Center grants and SRP R01 grants. The intent is to provide translational/transdisciplinary opportunities and experiences within other SRP-funded centers/institutes, government laboratories (EPA, ATSDR, NIEHS), or other agencies (state, local, Tribal).

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

EPA Postdoctoral Positions

The U.S. EPA Office of Research and Development has announced positions for 40 postdoctoral researchers, including four for the National Center for Environmental Assessment. **The positions are open through October 31**. For more information, visit the [EPA Postdoctoral Research Program website](#).

Baylor University - Assistant or Associate Professor of Environmental Science

Baylor University is seeking an Assistant or Associate Tenure Track Position in the Department of Environmental Science, beginning August 2015. A successful candidate will be expected to develop and maintain a nationally competitive research program, while teaching at the undergraduate and graduate level. Rank and salary are dependent on qualifications and experience. See the [Baylor University Department of Environmental Science website](#) for more information about the department and the position.

Deadline: October 24, 2014

Stowers Institute for Medical Research - Assistant Investigator in the Life Sciences

The Stowers Institute for Medical Research in Kansas City, Missouri is inviting applications for faculty positions at the level of Assistant Investigator in the Life Sciences, starting in 2015. The successful candidate is expected to develop a groundbreaking, innovative, and independent research program while complementing the institution's existing strengths in genetics and epigenetics, cell and chromosome biology, stem cells and regenerative biology, developmental biology and evolution, and biochemistry and neuroscience. Candidates must have a Ph.D. or equivalent degree and postdoctoral experience demonstrating innovation and excellence in their field. Candidates are expected to have a long-term vision for their research program and to actively contribute to the Institute's mission and collegiality. The position is fully funded throughout the candidate's appointment. See the [job announcement](#) for more information.

Deadline: October 31, 2014

Dartmouth College - Community Engagement Coordinator

The purpose of this position is to build bi-directional partnerships with diverse communities in Northern New England to

Please see the KC Donnelly [webpage](#), [guidelines](#), and [current winners](#) for more information. This is an excellent opportunity for trainees to gain a new experience and expand their network, and it will look great on a resume!

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 some of our colleagues' latest activities.

- [Oregon State University Superfund program completes pilot assistance project](#)
- [Compatible mining to protect vulnerable populations and the environment](#)

Stapleton Featured in The Atlantic

Duke SRP researcher Heather Stapleton was highlighted in an article in [The Atlantic](#) on the Duke SRP service to collect household furniture samples and measure them for flame retardant chemicals. The [article](#), which discusses the prevalence of flame retardants in household furniture and the potential health effects, also features NIEHS Director Linda Birnbaum. Since February, Stapleton's group has been sampling up to 50 pieces of foam each month. By crowdsourcing her research, Stapleton has uncovered a flame retardant that academic literature has yet to identify. The flame retardant is a chlorinated organophosphate, like TDCPP, and its health effects are currently unknown.

Great work, Heather!

Northeastern SRP in the Washington Post

Northeastern SRP researcher John Meeker (University of Michigan) and Community Engagement Core member Julia Brody (Silent Spring Institute) were quoted in [The Washington Post](#) on parabens and phthalates in personal care products and their health effects in humans. Northeastern SRP PROTECT researchers collect data, such as personal product usage habits, to assess participants' exposure to these potentially toxic chemicals.

The article links to Meeker's [2012 piece](#) on the effects of endocrine disruptors (including parabens and phthalates) on human health and a [personal care product purchasing guide](#) published by Brody's group at Silent Spring Institute with PROTECT.

Interesting information, Northeastern SRP!

Brown SRP Staff Talk with Environment and Energy Leaders

Faculty and staff from the Brown University SRP presented their work to policymakers, regulators, and community groups at the Fifth Annual Rhode Island Energy and Environmental Leaders Day on September 5. Brown SRP was invited by Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), who convened the annual meeting. SRP grantees Jim Rice, Eric Suuberg, and Marcella Thompson presented information about Brown SRP, including their work on vapor intrusion. They discussed how Brown SRP research focuses on toxicity of environmental contaminants and the technical challenges associated with this work. For more on the event, visit the [Brown University news page](#).

Nice research translation, Brown SRP!

Kentucky SRP Featured in a Radio Spot during Football Game

University of Kentucky SRP was highlighted during "UK at the Half" during the second Kentucky football game of the season on September 6. The 3-minute radio spot aired on the UK radio network during halftime and featured UK SRP grantees Bernie Hennig and Lindell Ormsbee.

Great publicity, UK SRP!

enhance their ability to understand and address the health risks posed by toxic metals, especially arsenic and mercury; to reveal the information needs and research priorities of these target communities, as well as assist our partner organizations in building capacity to carry out their mission as it pertains to community awareness and reduction of risk; and to assist in the preparation of papers for publication in peer-reviewed journals. For more information, see the [job announcement](#).

Arizona State University â€ Postdoctoral Positions

Two postdoctoral positions are available through the Toxicology Training Program at the University of Arizona. This training program titled "Training in Environmental Toxicology of Complex Diseases" is supported by NIEHS and administratively housed within the Center for Toxicology. Students who have graduated with a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in basic or applied chemical or biomedical sciences may apply for this position. Only U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible for support through the NIEHS Training Grant. Candidates with solid graduate training and a strong background in biochemistry, molecular biology, systems biology, or chemistry are encouraged to apply. Please submit a letter of interest and CV to brodie@pharmacy.arizona.edu. For programmatic or scientific questions, please contact Dr. Serrine Lau, Director, Center for Toxicology (lau@pharmacy.arizona.edu). See the [Toxicology Training Program website](#) for faculty research interests and details about the program.

Oregon State University â€ Postdoc Scholar Position

A postdoctoral scholar position is open at Oregon State University in Environmental and Molecular Toxicology â€ Analytical and Environmental Chemistry, under the guidance of Staci Simonich. The successful candidate will mentor undergraduate and graduate students working in the laboratory, maintain and repair laboratory instrumentation, and conduct analytical chemistry, environmental chemistry, and/or environmental engineering research on organic compounds. The candidate should have experience in the statistical treatment of large datasets, the writing and editing of scientific manuscripts, and communication of results to the scientific community. To apply, please send a cover letter, CV, and 3 references to Staci Simonich (staci.simonich@orst.edu). See the [OSU Open Postdoc Positions](#) page for more information.

CURRENT RESEARCH BRIEF

Research Brief #238: [Measuring Vapor Intrusion to Estimate Underground Contamination](#) (Eric Suuberg, Brown University SRP) is available online.

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

To receive the monthly Research Briefs in your e-mail, please send your e-mail address to beth.anderson@nih.gov.

Megan Creighton, Brown University SRP

Megan Creighton is a fifth year Ph.D. student in chemical engineering at Brown University, under the guidance of Robert Hurt. Megan's research focuses on potential applications for graphene-family nanomaterials (GFNs). She explores the relationship between the risk of exposure to nanomaterials and material properties so that the materials can be intelligently designed for both function and safety.

Megan is investigating the effects of particle size and geometry of GFNs, which will have implications in cellular interactions (such as recognition and uptake) as well as the transport, deposition, and exposure pathways relevant for a given material. Understanding the primary influences guiding the interactions of these materials with their surroundings will eventually lead to more accurate information for environmental decision-making, allowing for the safe and sustainable development and incorporation of GFN technology into society.

With six peer-reviewed publications, Megan's most recent [publication](#) in Environmental Science & Technology explores the use of surface-engineered nanoparticle-based dispersants for marine oil spills. The study was an interdisciplinary effort with Agnes Kane's research group at Brown, and the focus was on designing and evaluating a new class of high-efficiency, low-toxicity, particle-based alternative dispersants to replace the synthetic chemicals currently deployed.

For her innovative research, Megan received an EPA STAR award in 2013. She also has four best paper / best poster awards and is a finalist for the Carbon Nanomaterials Graduate Student Award from the Nanoscale Science and Engineering Forum of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers for her work on the barrier properties of GFNs in liquid systems.

When she isn't in the lab, Megan likes to be outdoors, especially skiing and fly-fishing. She enjoys reading, baking, and drinking coffee. She is also a fan of craft beer and thinks of microbreweries as local chemical engineering enterprises worthy of support!

Look out for Megan at the annual meeting this year, where she will be presenting a poster based on her work on nanoparticle dispersants for marine oil spills. She is also co-hosting a session at the 2014 American Institute of Chemical Engineers Annual Meeting with Jim Rice on the transport of environmental contaminants related to energy processes.



Monitoring of Dioxin-like PCBs in Aquatic Environments

UC Davis SRP project leader Michael Denison partnered with colleagues in Italy and Belgium to improve monitoring for dissolved dioxin-like PCBs in urban and industrial wastewater. In a new [study](#), the research team used ceramic passive samplers or toximeters packed with 1% activated carbon in combination with the CALUX bioassay, developed by Denison and his research team, to monitor dissolved PCBs.

The technique was shown to be reliable during laboratory experiments and was then applied in the field at two sampling sites in Egypt. Two samplers were collected weekly from each site to monitor the increase in target analytes over time. Extracts were analyzed using the CALUX bioassay, and the total dioxin-like PCB toxicity was reported for the aqueous phase (water column), as well as the solid phase (sediment and sludge) in both sampling sites. The study was the first in Africa to monitor dissolved PCBs in aquatic environments.

Anderson Receives Grant from Air Force for Passive Sampling

OSU SRP grantee Kim Anderson has received a research award from the Air Force for a new project: "Evaluation of a Novel Passive Dosimeter: Detection of Aircraft Exhaust Compounds." The goal of the project is to optimize and evaluate the performance of her novel passive wristband for Air Force applications, initially focused on JP-8 fuel and phosphates and poly- α -olefins proprietary military fuel additives. The project will also be comparing the effectiveness with conventional sampling media via field studies.

If you have ideas for future Research Briefs, please submit them to beth.anderson@nih.gov.

SRP-SUPPORTED EVENTS

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

Location: Woods Hole, Massachusetts

[Website](#)

Risk e-Learning Webinar Series: Porewater Concentrations and Bioavailability

Session I â€ˆ Introduction to Porewater, Bioavailability, and PSDs

Date: October 6, 2014, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

EDT

[Website](#)

Fourth Conference of Prenatal Programming and Toxicity (PPTOX IV)

Date: October 26-29, 2014

Location: Boston, Massachusetts

[Website](#)

Risk Assessment: How It Works and How Your Research Can Help

Research to Risk Assessment Interagency Working Group - Information Exchange Webinar

Date: November 5, 2014, 1:00-3:00 pm

EDT

Online

[Website](#)

SRP Annual Meeting

Date: November 12-14, 2014

Location: San Jose, California

[Website](#)

Risk e-Learning Webinar Series: Porewater Concentrations and Bioavailability

Session II â€ˆ PSDs for Organic Contaminants

Date: November 19, 2014, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

EST

[Website](#)

Risk e-Learning Webinar Series: Porewater Concentrations and Bioavailability

Session III â€ˆ Metals and PSDs

Date: December 1, 2014, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

EST

[Website](#)

Risk e-Learning Webinar Series: Porewater Concentrations and Bioavailability

Session IV â€ˆ Case Studies: PSDs for Organic Contaminants

Date: December 15, 2014, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

EST

[Website](#)

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](#)

Nice work, Kim!

Cotto Ramos Receives Outstanding Poster Award

Northeastern SRP trainee Irmarié Cotto Ramos (University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez) received an outstanding poster award for her presentation on "Detection and Monitoring of Phthalates in Source Groundwater" at the Fourth International Conference on Emerging Contaminants in the Environment, held in Iowa City, August 19-22.

Congratulations, Irmarié!

Harper Wins Best Postdoctoral Presentation

OSU SRP trainee Tod Harper won the "Best Postdoctoral Presentation" at the Pacific Northwest Association of Toxicologists Annual Meeting. At the recent Environmental Mutagenesis and Genomics Society meeting, he also won runner up (second place) for New Investigator Poster Presentation for "Analysis of dibenzo[def,p]chrysene adduct formation in a transplacental chemoprevention model using stable isotope dilution UPLC-MS/MS."

Great work, Tod!

Sharma Wins Award at EMGS

UNC trainee Vyom Sharma won a Student and New Investigator Travel Award from the Environmental Mutagenesis and Genomics Society (EMGS). At the EMGS meeting in September, Sharma presented her work on "Low-Dose H₂O₂ Induced Clustered DNA Lesions and Mutagenesis: Contribution of Error-Prone NHEJ Repair Pathway."

Congratulations, Vyom!

Call for Poster Abstracts for the SRP Annual Meeting

The planning team encourages senior investigators, new investigators, and trainees (including postdocs and students) to present posters. We want to see the most important and cutting edge work presented during the poster sessions.

The format for abstracts is a bit different this year, as we are emphasizing understandable styles of communication in all aspects of the annual meeting. Poster abstracts that are written in technical language and jargon must be accompanied by a "lay" abstract and title that would be understandable to an engaged lay audience. We are not requiring that the posters themselves be in non-technical language, though we encourage this.

There will also be an RT/CE Poster Session for which each Center is invited to present one poster. The topic for this session is how SRP investigators have partnered or engaged with stakeholders concerned with or affected by toxic chemicals. Each poster is to present one story about a partnership built around investigator-initiated research translation and/or community engagement.

Please see the [SRP Annual Meeting posters page](#) for more information about the poster abstracts and please read the instructions carefully before completing the submission form. The RT/CE abstracts are to be submitted via e-mail to Amy Kyle (adkyle@berkeley.edu) and Beth Anderson (beth.anderson@nih.gov). The submission deadline for all posters is **October 15, 2014**.

SOT Best Postdoctoral Publication Awards

The Postdoctoral Assembly (PDA) of the Society of Toxicology is pleased to announce the availability of the 2015 Best Postdoctoral Publication Awards. These awards recognize outstanding postdoctoral researchers who have recently published papers in the field of toxicology as a result of postdoctoral research. All qualified postdoctoral scholars are encouraged to apply.

Applications are due October 9, 2014. Visit the [SOT award website](#) for more information and application materials.

OTHER CONFERENCES OF INTEREST

Eighth Conference on Metal Toxicity and Carcinogenesis

Date: October 26-29, 2014
Location: Albuquerque, New Mexico
[Website](#)

16th International Conference of the Pacific Basin Consortium for Environment and Health

August 10-13, 2015
Depok, Indonesia
[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 [Center Outreach: Websites, Multimedia, and Newsletters](#) page has links to the latest content and social media from SRP Centers, and the [SRP News Page](#) has recent grantee news. Check them out!

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 we 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](#).

GeoHealth Program Funding Opportunity

The Fogarty International Center, in partnership with the National Cancer Institute, the NIEHS, and CDC's National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, issued two linked Funding Opportunity Announcements for the Global Environmental and Occupational Health (GEOHealth) Program. The overall objective of the GEOHealth program is to support the development of institutions in the Low- or Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) that will serve as regional hubs for collaborative research, data management, training, curriculum and outreach material development, and policy support around high priority local, national, and regional environmental and occupational health threats. Hubs are supported by **two coordinated linked awards to 1) an LMIC institution for research and 2) a U.S. institution to coordinate research training**. Together all regional hubs supported will form the GEOHealth Network, a platform for coordinated environmental and occupational health research and research training activities.

For more information, visit the [Frequently Asked Questions for GEOHealth Hubs](#) and the funding opportunities ([RFA-TW-14-001](#) and [RFA-TW-14-002](#)). **Applications are due November 19.**

Home Invaders: Are Flame Retardants Fattening Us Up and Harming Our Bones?

Flame retardants are chemicals that are used in consumer products ranging from furniture to electronics. On **Thursday, October 9 at 1:00 p.m. EDT**, Boston University SRP with the Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE) will host a webinar to discuss this topic. Speakers will focus primarily on flame retardants used in polyurethane foam in furniture and related products and will discuss briefly the changing California regulations. They will review exposure and health effects of these flame retardants (PentaBDE) and the main replacements ("chlorinated tris" and Firemaster 550). They will also discuss recent findings showing potential effects of components of Firemaster 550 on obesity and bone health.

The call will feature SRP grantees Tom Webster (BU SRP), Jennifer Schlezinger (BU SRP), and Heather Stapleton (Duke SRP). For more information and to RSVP for the call, visit the [CHE website](#).

Risk Assessment: How It Works and How Your Research Can Help

The Research to Risk Assessment Interagency Working Group (R2RA) Information Exchange Webinar, [Risk Assessment: How It Works and How Your Research Can Help](#), was designed for SRP trainees and grantees to help answer questions about what is involved in the EPA human health risk assessment process and how toxicological research, including study design and evaluation, is used in this assessment.

The webinar is on **Wednesday, November 5, 1:00-3:00 p.m. EST**. This is a great opportunity for you to learn how to make your research even more relevant to the protection of human and environmental health.

There is no registration for this event so please mark your calendars! More information and a link to the webinar meeting room are available on the [SRP R2RA website](#).

Take a Look at the Science Research Supported by Federal Funders

Many of you may know that [NIH RePORT](#) is your first stop on the way to finding information about NIH-funded research, as well as data on trends in NIH funding and the biomedical workforce. But did you know NIH is collaborating with other agencies to create [Federal RePORTER](#), a single Web portal that allows you to search federally funded science projects across multiple agencies? Just like in NIH RePORTER, you can conduct advanced text searches, search across all or only a few agencies of your choice, pick your fiscal years of interest, and more.

For more information about the new resource, visit the [NIH Rock Talk blog](#).

EPA Adds Five New Sites to the National Priorities List

In September, the U.S. EPA added five hazardous waste sites that pose risks to human health and the environment to the National Priorities List (NPL) of Superfund sites. The new sites are located in Indiana, Louisiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Vermont and include groundwater plumes, former boat cleaning sites, and chemical and capacitor manufacturers. For more information about the sites and Superfund cleanup, see the [EPA Press Release](#).