

## HEADLINES

### 2015 SRP Annual Meeting Information is Now Online

Visit the 2015 [SRP Annual Meeting website](#) for information about the meeting this year, including hotel information and abstract submission. This year's host, the Northeastern University SRP Center, is hard at work planning a wonderful meeting, which will be on November 17-20 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

We are happy to announce that Phil Bourne, the associate director for data science at the National Institutes of Health, will be one of the invited speakers at the meeting. More information about speakers and sessions will be posted on the website as it becomes available.

**Abstracts are due July 17 for oral and poster presentations.** Registration will open later this summer. For more information, visit the [SRP Annual Meeting website](#).

### Integrating Data from Multidisciplinary Research, Session I: Introducing the Big Picture

Join us for the next SRP Risk eLearning webinar series, which will explore challenges and opportunities for integrating datasets related to complex environmental health problems. In the first session on **June 24, 2015, 1-3 pm ET**, speakers will introduce the concept of big data as it relates to environmental health science and provide examples of current initiatives.

- William Suk, Ph.D., director of the SRP, will describe data diversity within the program and the prospect of integrating multidisciplinary research data to better understand human exposure and health outcomes, and to reduce hazardous exposures.
- Allen Dearry, Ph.D., director of the Office of Scientific Information Management at NIEHS, will discuss moving biomedical research toward a digital enterprise, including the trans-NIH Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K) initiative and steps being taken by NIEHS.
- Steven DiMarco, Ph.D., professor of oceanography and ocean observing lead at Texas A&M University, will explain how international initiatives in ocean observing systems are producing data at unprecedented rates in the geoscience disciplines. He will also describe how these data are being used to address ocean impacts on human health and society like harmful algal blooms, coastal hypoxia, ocean acidification, oil spill response, and hurricane preparedness.
- David Kaeli, Ph.D., director of the Computer Architecture Research Laboratory at Northeastern University, will describe his work to manage and integrate data from the Puerto Rico Testsite for Exploring Contamination Threats (PRoTECT) to study the transport, exposure, health impact, and remediation of contaminants.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Postdoctoral Associate - Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

A full time postdoctoral position is available in the Genitourinary (GU) Oncology Research Laboratory to study molecular mechanisms underlying tumor aggressiveness. The Laboratory focuses on preclinical studies, correlative science with archived clinical trial specimens and prospective specimen collections and analyses to further understand the biology underlying GU malignancies and to discover better treatment options for patients. The group seeks a highly motivated scientist with a Ph.D. in a biology-related discipline. Experience with molecular biology and genomic profiling assays are desirable. Critical thinking and scientific writing skills are essential. To apply, please email a cover letter, including a brief statement of research interests, CV and the contact information for three references to Jennifer Freedman at [jennifer.freedman@duke.edu](mailto:jennifer.freedman@duke.edu).

### Silent Spring Institute Opportunities

Silent Spring Institute is hiring at all levels - including experienced PhD, postdoctoral fellow, masters level, or research assistant- for projects that involve environmental health and community-engaged research. Researchers will work in teams that integrate social science and communications with environmental science and health research.

Use your data science expertise to improve environmental health! [Silent Spring Institute](#) is also hiring at all levels for projects that involve data management, analysis, and visualization for novel studies of chemical exposures and toxicity. The positions require great versatility and transdisciplinary thinking. Researchers work in teams and are also involved in public communications and proposal development.

Visit the [Silent Spring Institute opportunities page](#) for more information on the job openings.

### Postdoctoral Position - University of California, Davis

A post-doctoral scholar position is available immediately in the laboratory of Michele A. La Merrill at the [University of California, Davis](#). This position will support the La Merrill lab investigation in gene x environment interaction in the etiology of insulin resistance utilizing 1)

To register, visit the [SRP Risk eLearning website](#).

## Save the Dates: SRP Progress in Research Webinars

To highlight promising research from recently funded SRP grantees, the SRP has kicked off a Progress in Research webinar series. The webinars will be held via the [EPA Clean-up Information](#) webcast system and later archived. These webinars aim to reach an audience interested in innovative treatment and hazardous waste site characterization technologies. We hope that holding these webinars in the early stages of research will help initiate dialogue between researchers and current and/or newly identified stakeholders. The Progress in Research webinars this summer will feature Centers that received new funding in 2014.

The session on **July 9, 1-3 pm ET**, will feature the Dartmouth College and University of Pennsylvania SRP Centers. On **August 25, 1-3 pm ET**, we will hear from the University of Kentucky and Northeastern University SRP Centers. Stay tuned for more information about the upcoming webinars.

## IN THE NEWS

### NIEHS SRP News Stories

In this month's NIEHS newsletter, read about UC San Diego project leader Julian Schroeder, who was awarded one of the highest honors in science -- membership in the prestigious National Academy of Sciences!

- [SRP researcher, Julian Schroeder, elected to National Academy of Sciences](#)

Visit the SRP News Page for more stories about the Program:

- [Henry Discusses Innovative SRP Small Business Research at Water Clusters Meeting](#)
- [Schlenk Presents in Duke University Seminar Series](#)
- [SRP Investigator Elected to National Academy of Sciences](#)
- [Duke SRP Center Visits ATSDR](#)
- [Northeastern SRP Center Trainee Engages Stakeholders](#)

### SRP Researchers Contribute To VA Clinical Guidance for Camp Lejeune Veterans

Between 1957 and 1987, the drinking water at U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina was carelessly contaminated with industrial chemicals, including the solvents trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene (PCE). It is estimated that between 500,000 and 1 million people may have used the contaminated water. Acting largely on the basis of SRP studies, an Institute of Medicine committee has recommended that the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) expand the range of conditions covered by legislation, providing health benefits to veterans and their families who were exposed to the contaminated drinking water.

To make their recommendations, the committee drew from studies conducted at Boston University by Patricia Janulewicz, assistant professor of environmental health and former SRP-trainee, and SRP project leader Ann Aschengrau. The committee, which also includes Janulewicz, recommended that the VA consider adding several neurobehavioral effects to the clinical guidance, including those due to neural tube birth defects, adolescent and adult illicit drug use, bipolar disorder, and problems with

experimental genomics, 2) molecular biology, and 3) molecular epidemiology. The scholar will work on the UC Davis genomics and/or molecular biology aims to identify mechanisms underlying insulin resistance. Application review began on April 30 and will remain open until the position is filled. See the [job description and candidate qualifications](#) for more information.

### Postdoctoral Position - University of California, San Francisco

The UCSF Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment is seeking a Postdoctoral Scientist in environmental epidemiology and biostatistics. This training opportunity is designed to give the postdoctoral scientist experience in all aspects of the research process from design, implementation, to publication. The successful candidate must have a PhD in epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, risk assessment, or other environmental health related field. Candidate must have statistical experience and experience with R, Stata or SAS. For more information see the [job announcement](#).

### Professor of Environmental Health - University of North Carolina

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering is seeking applicants to fill a tenure-track position in environmental health at the rank of Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor. The Department seeks to advance its well-established research and educational programs in environmental health sciences. The successful candidate will demonstrate strong potential for interdisciplinary collaboration within the Department, the School of Public Health, the curriculum in toxicology, and the scientific community at large. For more information, visit the [UNC jobs page](#).

### Postdoctoral Research Fellow - Brown University

A postdoctoral research fellow position is available to study the **basic mechanisms of disease related to environmental exposure to metals** in the laboratory of Tom Bartnikas, M.D., Ph.D., in the Brown University department of pathology and laboratory medicine. Emphasis will be placed on career development, communication skills, grantsmanship, interdisciplinary research, and implications of basic research for diagnosis and prevention of human disease. The candidate is expected to have a Ph.D. in toxicology, molecular or cell biology, biochemistry or a related field. For more information and to apply, see the [job description](#).

## CURRENT RESEARCH BRIEF

Research Brief 246: [River Algae Affects Mercury Pollution at Superfund Site](#) (Celia Chen, Dartmouth SRP Center) is available online.

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

contrast sensitivity and color discrimination. See the [BU website](#) for more information.

### **Penn REACH Ambler Website Launched**

The Resources for Education and Action for Community Health in Ambler (REACH Ambler) project explores the history, environmental health, and community identity of Ambler, Pennsylvania, through a partnership between the University of Pennsylvania's School of Medicine (including the Penn SRP Center) and the Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF). Ambler, Pennsylvania, a vibrant commuter town 20 miles from Philadelphia, is close to one of the largest asbestos Superfund sites in the country. It is also the community of primary interest to the Penn SRP Center. The [REACH Ambler website](#) was launched in May, which contains oral histories, historical information, legislative information, and information about asbestos.

### **Northeastern Holds Successful Social Science-Environmental Health Conference**

Co-sponsored by the Northeastern SRP Center, the 2015 Social Science-Environmental Health Interdisciplinary Collaborations Conference, held in Boston May 21-22, brought together people from academia, government, and community-based organizations who are working at the intersection of social science and environmental health. Participants reviewed the field and discussed best practices for future research and training in transdisciplinary environmental health research.

### **UA SRP Develops Bulletins for Arizona Well Owners**

The University of Arizona (UA) SRP Center teamed up with UA Cooperative Extension to publish a bulletin, "[How to Lower the Levels of Arsenic in Well Water: What Choices do Arizona Consumers Have?](#)" The peer-reviewed bulletin provides readers with an overview of arsenic in well water and discusses home water treatment options. This bulletin meets a critical information need in Arizona, where naturally high levels of groundwater arsenic are found in many areas. Expanding on the popular two-page factsheet, "[Arsenic in drinking water: what you need to know](#)," the new 10-page bulletin weighs the pros and cons of popular treatments, based on water use needs and water quality parameters. See the [UA SRP Center website](#) for more information.

### **Dartmouth SRP C-MERC Special Issue Selected as Editor's Choice**

In 2010, the Dartmouth College SRP Center brought together a group of 50 scientists and policy stakeholders to form [C-MERC](#), the Coastal and Marine Mercury Ecosystem Research Collaborative. The collaborative resulted in a [Special Issue of Environmental Research](#) with articles discussing the key processes related to the inputs, cycling, and uptake of mercury in marine ecosystems, effects on human health, and policy implications. The C-MERC Special Issue was selected to be one of the publications chosen by J.L. Domingo, Editor of *Environmental Research* to be highlighted in [Editors' Choice](#).

### **Stone Selected to Join Oregon Air Quality Advisory Committee**

Oregon State University SRP Center grantee Dave Stone (co-leader of the Research Translation Core) began a two-year term on the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Air Toxic Science Advisory Committee to provide scientific advice on the state air toxics program. The committee will be providing expertise related to reviewing ambient benchmarks for the state's air toxics program as well as reviewing and revising short-term guidelines.

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

If you have ideas for future Research Briefs, please submit them to: [HeacockM@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:HeacockM@niehs.nih.gov).

## **SRP-SUPPORTED EVENTS**

**14th International Congress on Combustion By-Products and their Health Effects**  
Co-Sponsored by the Louisiana State University SRP  
June 14-17, 2015  
Umeå, Sweden  
[Website](#)

**Solutions for a PCB-Contaminated Sediment Pond: Altavista's 6-Acre Petri Dish**  
Grantee Event: Featuring the University of Iowa SRP  
June 17-18, 2015  
Danville, Virginia  
[Website](#)

**Risk e-Learning Web Seminars: Integrating Data from Multidisciplinary Research**  
June 24, 2015, 1:00-3:00 p.m. EDT  
Online  
[Website](#)

**Webinar Border 2020 Arizona-Sonora Mining Symposium**  
Grantee Event: Co-Sponsored by the University of Arizona SRP  
June 25, 2015  
Tucson, Arizona  
[Website](#)

**Biomedical and Engineering Entrepreneurship Academy**  
Co-Sponsored by the University of California, Davis SRP  
July 7-9, 2015  
Davis, California  
[Website](#)

**SRP Progress in Research Webinar**  
Dartmouth College and University of Pennsylvania  
July 9, 2015, 1:00-3:00 pm ET  
Online

**FLUOROS 2015: An International Symposium on Fluorinated Organics in the Environment**  
July 12-14, 2015  
Golden, Colorado  
[Website](#)

**Statistical Approaches to Epidemiological Studies of Combined Exposures/Mixtures**  
July 13-14, 2015  
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina  
[Website](#)

**2015 Community Involvement Training Conference**  
August 4-6, 2015  
Atlanta, Georgia

## Smith Selected as Member for IARC Monograph on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has invited UC Berkeley SRP Center Director Martyn Smith to be a participating member of the committee on the *Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans*, Volume 113: Some Organochlorine Insecticides and Some Chlorophenoxy Herbicides, to be held in Lyon, France, June 2-9, 2015. The IARC monographs review chemicals, mixtures, occupations, physical agents, biological agents, and lifestyle factors suspected of causing cancer in humans.

## Aschengrau Named Associate Editor of Environmental Health

Boston SRP Center project leader Ann Aschengrau is now an associate editor of the journal *Environmental Health*. Aschengrau has conducted epidemiologic research on environmental pollution and the risk of disease for the past 25 years. In particular, she has led investigations on the relationship between drinking water contaminants and abnormal pregnancy outcomes, neurological disorders, and cancer, and on the impact of lead hazard reduction measures among inner-city children.

## Lorah Presents in USGS Water Science Seminar Series

Michelle Lorah, a co-PI on the SRP-funded *Johns Hopkins individual research project*, presented as part of the U.S. Geological Survey Maryland-Delaware-District of Columbia Water Science Center Seminar Series in May. She described her work on the fate and remediation of chlorinated benzenes and benzene in a wetland at a Delaware Superfund site.

## TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT

### James Watt - Boston University SRP Center

James Watt is a doctoral student at the Boston University (BU) SRP under the guidance of SRP project leader Jennifer Schlezinger. He is identifying and modeling the role of nuclear receptors to better understand environmental chemical-induced toxicity in bone.

His recent work, which you may have seen at both the SRP and the SOT meetings, deals with modeling chemical mixtures. In collaboration with Tom Webster at BU, he is developing predictive models of nuclear receptor activation by chemical mixtures using single chemical dose-response data. The chemicals he is studying fall into a category of endocrine disruptors, called obesogens, which are capable of perturbing fat metabolism.

Environmental obesogens are thought to contribute to rising rates of obesity in the United States. While obesity is typically regarded as an increase in visceral fat, adipocyte accumulation in bone has been linked to increased fracture risk, lower bone density, and osteoporosis. In a recent *paper* by Watt and Schlezinger in the journal *Toxicology*, he describes some of his research on how several structurally-diverse obesogens, such as the organotin tributyltin and the flame retardant tetrabromobisphenol-a, can promote fat growth while suppressing bone growth. According to Watt, the fact that multiple



### [Website](#)

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

August 10-13, 2015

Depok, Indonesia

[Website](#)

#### SRP Progress in Research Webinar Northeastern University and University of Kentucky

August 25, 1:00-3:00 pm ET

Online

#### Collaborative on Food with Arsenic and Associated Risk and Regulation Workshop

Grantee Event: Hosted by the Dartmouth SRP Center

November 2-3, 2015

Hanover, NH

#### 2015 Annual Meeting of the Superfund Research Program

November 18-20, 2015

San Juan, Puerto Rico

[Website](#)

#### The International Chemical Congress of Pacific Basic Societies

December 15-20, 2015

Honolulu, Hawaii

[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. Check it out to

see the latest SRP news!

To see the latest SRP grantee publications, visit the [SRP publications page](#).

Visit the [SRP Materials for Grantees page](#) for information intended to assist grantees, such as SRP administrative supplements information, SRP best practices, NIEHS logo use, and the Data Collection Form.

The [SRP Events page](#) contains up-to-date SRP grantee and staff events.

The SRP website also has [Search Tools](#) to help you learn more about projects funded by the Program.

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

NIEHS uses Twitter, a popular social media tool, for information sharing. A "microblogging" service, Twitter allows users to distribute substantive content through messages called Tweets. Many SRP Centers also have accounts,

toxicants are capable of suppressing bone formation supports the hypothesis that environmental PPAR<sup>β</sup> ligands represent an emerging threat to human bone health.

For his innovative research, Watt is racking up the awards at BU. He recently won the BU School of Public Health Dean's Award at the Annual Boston University Scholars Day, which celebrates research conducted by graduate students at the university. Watt also won first place in the PhD/DrPH category at the 2014 BU School of Public Health Research Day.

When he isn't doing research, Watt is very active and enjoys running, playing soccer, and skiing, to name a few activities. He also plays the drums.

## HOT PUBLICATION

### Mechanism-Based Classification of PAH Mixtures to Predict Carcinogenic Potential

Oregon State University SRP Center scientists have developed a "source-to-outcome" model that could be used to predict PAH interactions during tumorigenesis and provide an example of how mode-of-action-based risk assessment could be employed for environmental PAH mixtures. Researchers found that they could analyze the immediate genetic responses of the skin cells of exposed mice and apply statistical approaches to determine whether or not those cells would eventually become cancerous. For at least some PAH mixtures, the new method is not only quicker but produces more accurate cancer-risk assessments than are currently possible, according to Susan Tilton, the lead-author in the new *study* in the journal *Toxicological Sciences*. Visit the [Oregon State University press release](#) for more information about the new study.

## AWARD WINNERS

### Fader Awarded Prestigious Fellowship

Congratulations to MSU trainee Kelly Fader, who received a Doctoral Foreign Study Award (DFSA) from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), which provides special recognition and support to students who are pursuing a doctoral degree in a health-related field abroad and show exceptionally high potential for future research achievement and productivity. Fader, a Canadian citizen, is a graduate student under the guidance of Tim Zacharewski at MSU. Her work focuses on mechanisms related to AhR-dependent alterations in mice from TCDD exposure.

### Phil Brown Receives Prestigious ASA Practice and Outreach Award

Northeastern SRP Research Translation and Community Engagement Core leader is the 2015 recipient of the American Sociological Association's Environment and Technology Section Practice and Outreach Award. Over the past 25 years, Brown has worked with community groups, environmental justice advocates, non-governmental and governmental organizations, graduate students, and academics from a variety of disciplines to document and draw attention to "contested illnesses" from environmental pollutants. For more on Brown and the award, see the [Northeastern SRP Center website](#).

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### The Pacific Basin Consortium for Environment and Health

and it would be great if all participated! Follow us [@SRP\\_NIEHS](#) to instantly hear news about the Program, noteworthy 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](#).

Abstracts are being accepted for the *16th International Conference of the Pacific Basin Consortium*, hosted by the University of Indonesia, City of Depok, West Java, August 10-13, 2015. The Pacific Basin Consortium for Environment and Health (PBC) provides a forum for individuals and organizations to come together and discuss the most pressing environment and health issues of our time, engage in cooperative research, and develop and disseminate innovative strategies for addressing these issues and creating sustainable, affordable alternatives. Traditional areas covered by PBC conferences include: hazardous waste management and remediation, e-waste, air pollution, persistent toxic substances, emerging pollutants, global climate change, and children's environmental health. There will also be an e-waste workshop following the PBC meeting related to prevention and intervention strategies to reduce exposure to e-waste.

Abstracts are due **June 30, 2015**. For more information on the conference and abstract submission, visit the [PBC website](#).

### **Geological Society of America Annual Meeting**

The *2015 Geological Society of America (GSA) Annual Meeting* will be held in Baltimore, Maryland November 1-4, 2015. As part of the meeting, SRP individual project grantees Michelle Lorah and Upal Ghosh, along with Isabelle Cozzarelli, have a session focused on processes controlling fate of organic and metal contaminants in shallow groundwater and sediment, including in wetlands, estuaries, and lakes, and their application to remediation.

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations are due by **August 11, 2015**. If you are interested in submitting to the session on fate and remediation of organic and metal contaminants in wetlands and sediments, your abstract can be submitted by specifying session T105. For more information and to submit an abstract, visit the [GSA Annual Meeting website](#).

## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **2015 Biomedical and Engineering Entrepreneurship Academy Accepting Applications**

Entrepreneurship Academies, offered at the University of California, 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. Each academy is a three-day intensive program integrating lecture, exercises, and individual projects. Participants work to identify, design, and validate new business opportunities for their research. Applications are currently being accepted for the *Biomedical and Engineering Entrepreneurship Academy July 7-9* (apply by June 12).

**Travel support is available to all national Superfund researchers.** To qualify for support, participants must also fill out the [Travel Support Request Form](#) in addition to the application to the academy.

## **INTERAGENCY NEWS**

### **EPA-Expo-Box: A Toolbox for Exposure Assessors**

EPA's EXPOSure toolBOX (*EPA-Expo-Box*) is a toolbox created to assist individuals from within government, industry, academia, and the general public with assessing

exposure. It is a compendium of exposure assessment tools that links to guidance documents, databases, models, reference materials, and other related resources. Exposure assessment resources are organized into six Tool Sets, each containing a series of modules. If you haven't done so before, we encourage you to learn more about the EPA-Expo-Box on the [EPA website](#) and search the toolbox to quickly identify relevant resources related to your research by key words or topics.

### **IRIS Bimonthly Public Science Meeting: PCBs - Effects Other Than Cancer**

The IRIS program announced a public meeting on scoping and problem formulation materials that are specific to the IRIS assessment for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (effects other than cancer). The meeting will be held June 17-18, 2015. Registration is free and can be attended in Arlington, Virginia, or via webinar. Information on how you can participate in the meeting and meeting materials are available on the [EPA IRIS website](#). For grantees involved in PCB research, this is an excellent opportunity to be involved in the risk assessment process.