

# Superfund Research Program *e-Posted Notes*

April 3, 2020 (Issue 195)

## HEADLINES

### New Multicenter Project (P42) Grants Announced

The SRP is pleased to welcome new Multiproject Center grantees to the program!

Our new Centers are at Baylor College of Medicine, Harvard School of Public Health, North Carolina State University, University of Alabama, and University of North Carolina.

We are also excited about renewed Centers at Louisiana State University, Northeastern University, Oregon State University, University of Arizona, University of Kentucky, and University of Iowa.

Information about each Center is available on the [SRP Currently Funded Multiproject Center Grants site](#).

Congratulations to the new and returning grantees!

### SRP Risk e-Learning Series: Exposures and Latent Disease Risk

The SRP is hosting a Risk e-Learning webinar series focused on understanding the health effects of exposures when there is a lag between exposure and the onset of the disease.

The first session, [Linking Exposures to Diseases with Long Latency Periods](#), will be held May 11, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. EDT. Speakers include **Rebecca Fry**, from the University of North Carolina SRP Center, **Brian Berridge** from the NIEHS National Toxicology Program, **Heather Stapleton** from the Duke University SRP Center, and **Seth Kullman** of the North Carolina State University and Duke SRP Centers.

In the second session, [Identifying Hallmarks and Key Characteristics](#), which will be held May 28, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. EDT, presenters will discuss new methods to understand potential disease risk by identifying hallmarks or key characteristics associated with disease. Speakers include **Martyn Smith** from the University of California, Berkeley SRP Center, **Michele La Merrill** from University of California, Davis, and **Ron Kohanski** from the NIH National Institute on Aging.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Nanosensor Engineer Position and Engineering Intern Positions – NanoAffix Science, LLC

[NanoAffix Science](#) is a spin-off company from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) located on the UWM Innovation Campus. The company is currently seeking a Nanosensor Engineer with expertise in nanosensor development and characterization. The engineer will work with the R&D team to accelerate commercialization of sensor products, including a novel sensor for heavy metal detection in drinking water. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in engineering, materials science, chemistry, physics, or a related field. The candidate should be able to function in a fast-paced research environment, multi-task, and adapt to changing needs.

NanoAffix Science is also seeking full-time and part-time engineering interns to work on federally-funded R&D projects. The positions are available for engineering graduate and undergraduate students. Five different intern positions are available in the following areas: material characterization, electronic device testing, prototyping with 3D printing, electronic circuit design, and electrochemistry. Intern positions are available immediately, in the summer, and in the fall and spring semesters.

In the third session, [Arsenic as a Case Study](#), which will be held June 8, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. EDT, presenters will describe studies linking early-life arsenic exposure and later-life disease risk. Speakers include **Yu Chen** from New York University, **Maria Argos** from the University of Chicago, **Fenna Sille** from Johns Hopkins University, and **Erik Tokar** from NIEHS.

In the fourth and final session, [Moving Forward](#), which will be held June 16, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. EDT, presenters will discuss emerging toxicology and modeling methods, as well as needs, to better link exposure to latent disease risk. Speakers include **Stefano Monti** from the Boston University SRP Center, **Manish Arora** from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and **Stephen Ferguson** from NIEHS.

More information, including presentation abstracts, will be added to the [Exposures and Latent Disease Risk webinar series webpage](#) as it becomes available.

### **New SRP Publication Focuses on Improving Children’s Health in the Asia-Pacific Region**

SRP Health Specialist Brittany Trottier [published a summary](#) on a recent meeting in Bangkok, Thailand that appears in the most recent issue of [Reviews on Environmental Public Health](#). The meeting was convened by NIEHS in collaboration with the Chulabhorn Research Institute, the World Health Organization South-East Asia Regional Office, and the United Nations Children’s Fund East Asia and Pacific Regional Office. Scientists, researchers, policy makers, and practitioners identified threats to children’s environmental health in the Asia-Pacific region as well as possible ways to increase public awareness and manage exposures.

### **NIEHS Releases Notice of Interest for Hurricane Harvey Administrative Supplements**

On March 24, NIEHS released [NOT-ES-20-012](#): “Notice of Special Interest: Hurricane Harvey Administrative Supplements.” NIEHS is accepting Administrative Supplements to active research projects focused on understanding the longer-term consequences of Hurricane Harvey. These studies can include currently funded NIEHS projects focused on Hurricane Harvey as well as NIEHS grants funded to study a population in the Hurricane Harvey impacted area. Proposals must be within the scope of the parent grant but may build off initial findings.

Applications are due on **May 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.** local time of applicant organization. Inquiries about the supplements should be directed to Claudia Thompson ([thomps14@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:thomps14@niehs.nih.gov)).

### **NIEHS Releases RFA for SRP R01 Program**

On February 13, NIEHS released [RFA-ES-20-004](#): “Optimizing Natural Systems for Remediation: Utilizing Innovative Materials Science Approaches to Enhance Bioremediation (R01 Clinical

Questions, as well as resume and contact information for both positions should be sent to [nanoaffix.jobs@gmail.com](mailto:nanoaffix.jobs@gmail.com).

#### **Director, Center to Advance Predictive Biology – Brown Institute for Translational Science**

The Brown Institute for Translational Science is seeking a director for its [Center to Advance Predictive Biology](#), a new multi-disciplinary center. The center focuses on state-of-the-art approaches to understanding the basis of human health and disease, especially the identification of alternatives to animals for the testing of environmental toxicants and the discovery of new drugs and therapeutics. Examples include research using spheroids/organoids/microtissues, iPSCs and other reprogramming techniques, and high throughput and computational approaches. Automation and new big data analytics of these platforms will help usher in a new era of predictive biology.

The director will lead a community of faculty, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and undergraduates from across Brown University’s departments in the Division of Biology and Medicine, the School of Engineering, and affiliated hospital partners. This is an open-rank tenure-track position with potential for endowment in a center-affiliated department in the Division of Biology and Medicine at Brown University. Applicants must have a Ph.D. and/or M.D. to be considered. Interested candidates can [learn more and apply online](#). Inquiries about the position should be directed to Jonathan Kurtis, M.D., Ph.D., at [jonathan\\_kurtis@brown.edu](mailto:jonathan_kurtis@brown.edu).

#### **Education Program, Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment – U.S. EPA**

Trial Not Allowed).” Letters of intent were due March 20, 2020 and applications are due **April 20, 2020**. It is recommended that you submit the application at least three days early to allow for correcting any errors. For additional information, including suggested resources, see the [Individual Research Grants \(R01\)](#) page.

Questions about the scope and science of a proposal should be directed to Heather Henry ([heather.henry@nih.gov](mailto:heather.henry@nih.gov)).

## IN THE NEWS

### NIEHS SRP News Stories

Take a moment to read about some of our colleagues' latest activities in this month's [Environmental Factor](#), the NIEHS newsletter:

- [Bangladeshi Officials Learn How NIEHS Research Helps Their Country](#): Bill Suk, director of the SRP, spoke to a group of officials from the Bangladesh Ministry of Public Administration about arsenic exposure and the Health Effects of Arsenic Longitudinal Study. The officials visited to learn about NIEHS research and how they might apply it in their country.
- [Environmental Risks Visualized Through New Online Tools](#): Researchers from the University of California at Berkeley and Texas A&M University SRP Centers developed online tools to inform local community about potential environmental health risks.
- [Plants Take Up Heavy Metals, May Reduce Pollution](#): As part of the NIEHS Keystone Lecture Seminar Series, Julian Schroeder, researcher at the University of California at San Diego SRP Center, spoke about his research on how plants respond to environmental stress from toxic metals.

Visit the SRP news page for more stories about the program:

- [New Tool Combines Exposure Data to Identify Vulnerable Communities](#): A new online tool combines environmental and health data to identify communities vulnerable to negative effects of environmental exposures and other stressors in the Houston region. The tool was developed by Texas A&M University SRP Center, in partnership with the Environmental Defense Fund.
- [Plant Testing Informs Safe Community Gardening Practices](#): A new study from University of California, San Diego SRP Center revealed elevated levels of heavy metals and arsenic in produce grown on a Brownfields site. The researchers found that through the use of raised beds, they could grow produce that did not accumulate contaminants.

### Brewer Featured in University of Kentucky News Video

University of Kentucky SRP Center Community Engagement Core leader, Dawn Brewer, was [featured on UK's internal news](#)

[The Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment's \(CPHEA\)](#) Education Program provides participants with educational and professional opportunities in the development of human health and ecological risk assessments, using robust scientific processes to determine how pollutants or other stressors may impact human health and the environment. The student will work with CPHEA staff as part of a team conducting an assessment. These non-laboratory positions are ideal for students interested in learning more about the application of toxicological, epidemiological, and environmental research to support science decisions related to risk assessment.

The program will last for a minimum of 10 weeks, 10-15 hours per week. This is an unpaid educational opportunity for academic credit. Students may work at one of EPA's research facilities in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina; Cincinnati, Ohio; Washington, D.C.; or from a remote location with prior approval. Students will be assigned a mentor for the duration of this educational opportunity.

Interested students should email a statement of interest/cover letter (no more than one page), proof of enrollment, and resume/CV to: Amanda Persad ([persad.amanda@epa.gov](mailto:persad.amanda@epa.gov)) or Dahnish Shams ([shams.dahnish@epa.gov](mailto:shams.dahnish@epa.gov)). In the subject line, reference 'CPHEA Education Program.' The statement of interest should clearly identify your academic and professional interests. EPA will accept applicants on a rolling basis.

**Data and Technology Advancement (DATA) National Service Scholar Program**

The Office of Data Science Strategy

[source, UKNOW](#), for her effort to translate Center research to improve the health of Kentuckians. Center research suggests that a healthy diet could reduce negative health effects associated with environmental pollutants. Brewer is translating the research into messages that community audiences can understand to promote increased consumption of fruits and vegetables.

### **PFAS Research at SRP Centers Featured in News Stories**

University of Rhode Island (URI) Community Engagement Core co-leader Laurel Schaidler was [quoted in an Inverse article about PFAS](#). The article provides general information about what PFAS are, where they can be found, and how to avoid them. Schaidler is a leader in characterizing sources and exposures related to PFAS, pharmaceuticals, and other unregulated emerging contaminants.

Duke University SRP Center researchers Heather Stapleton and Lee Ferguson were [featured in the North Carolina News & Observer](#) for their research on the Haw River in Pittsboro, North Carolina.

### **Rappaport Writes Commentary for Alternatives to Animal Experimentation Journal**

University of California (UC), Berkeley SRP Center co-leader Stephen Rappaport is one of several authors of [a commentary in the journal, Alternatives to Animal Experimentation](#). The paper describes how the exposome can help identify exposures and their health effects to prioritize more relevant chemicals for risk assessment. At the Center, Rappaport evaluates long-term chemical exposures and develops biomarkers to indicate exposure.

### **Texas A&M SRP Center Researchers Work to Improve Life in Disadvantaged Communities**

Texas A&M University SRP Center Community Engagement Core leader Galen Newman was [interviewed for This Town Won't Die](#), a documentary that takes place in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The film examines how a disadvantaged community, which has faced major floods in its history, can become more resilient. The Center's Community Engagement Core focuses on solving environmental issues and building resilient communities in industrial areas.

Garrett Sansom was [quoted in the Vital Record: News From Texas A&M University Health Science Center](#) about a [recent study from the Center](#), which used citizen science to inform community planning in an environmental justice community east of downtown Houston. The Center worked with local organizations, centers and institutes, and residents to develop a master plan for increasing flood resilience and decreasing exposure to contaminants.

at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is pleased to announce a new opportunity for experienced data and computer scientists and engineers to tackle challenging biomedical data problems with the potential for substantial public health impact. This one- to two-year position will be based in one of the NIH institutes or centers or in the Office of the Director, located in Bethesda and Rockville, Maryland, or Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. During this period, DATA Scholars will lead exciting, high-profile, transformative NIH projects that leverage large datasets to advance knowledge in areas of high biomedical research impact. They will engage with policymakers, top researchers at NIH and other institutions, and industry partners at the cutting edge of data science.

Applications are being accepted until **April 30** for start dates in summer 2020. The program contacts are Jessica Mazerik ([jessica.mazerik@nih.gov](mailto:jessica.mazerik@nih.gov)) and Wynn Meyer ([wynn.meyer@nih.gov](mailto:wynn.meyer@nih.gov)). See the [DATA National Service Scholar Program](#) page for more details.

### **Economic Analysis of Remediation/Restoration Outcomes at Great Lakes AOCs and Superfund – U.S. EPA**

A postdoctoral research opportunity is currently available at the Environmental Protection Agency , Office of Research and Development, Center for Environmental Measurement and Modeling, Watershed & Ecosystem Characterization Division, Watershed Management Branch, in Cincinnati, Ohio. The research will apply a variety of economic approaches to quantify the benefits and costs of remediation and restoration projects in Great Lakes Areas of Concern (AOCs) and Superfund sites. The participant may

## TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT

### Novel Toxicity Test Measures Harmful Effects of Contaminants

Former [Massachusetts Institute of Technology \(MIT\) SRP Center](#) postdoctoral trainee Lizzie Ngo [helped create MicroColonyChip](#), a novel toxicity test capable of measuring cell survival more efficiently than other tests. This patent pending technology can be used to test thousands of chemicals, such as N-nitrosamine (NDMA), for possible harmful effects on humans



The MicroColonyChip could also be beneficial in the pharmaceutical field to test drugs for efficacy and adverse effects in humans.

The MIT SRP Center develops novel sensors and tools to predict distribution and composition of pollutants. The Center is mainly concerned with NDMA and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) contamination in Maine and Massachusetts.

After earning her doctorate in biological engineering at MIT, Ngo worked with Bevin Engelward and Leona Samson on the Center's genetic susceptibility project. In a Massachusetts community near an NDMA-contaminated Superfund site, this project examines how genetic factors and NDMA exposure contribute to disease development in some people.

Today, Ngo [works for Flagship Pioneering](#), a Boston-based venture capital firm that develops life science companies focused on human health and sustainability. At the firm, Ngo works with a team to drive development of technology and other business components for startups.

## HOT PUBLICATION

### Researchers Provide New Insights in Gene Expression Regulation

Researchers from the Texas A&M SRP Center [examined how estrogen regulates gene expression at the cell level](#) and found that individual cells in a population respond differently to estrogen stimulation at both the single cell and allele level. Their work provides novel insights about the complexity of gene regulation in mammals.

The researchers treated human breast cancer cells with estrogen in the lab and looked at expression of two well-characterized genes, GREB1 and MYC, whose activity is regulated by estrogen. As expected, they found that estrogen activated GREB1 and

collaborate with a multidisciplinary group of individuals, including but not limited to water quality modelers, engineers, economists, ecologists, and social scientists evaluating remediation, restoration, and revitalization (3Rs) outcomes that are central to attaining healthy and resilient communities. Potential endpoints of analysis could include improved water quality, restored designated uses, and/or ecosystem services.

The qualified candidate should be currently pursuing or have received a doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields. The degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date. Applications are due **June 30**. For further details and to apply, [visit the job posting](#).

### Faculty Positions in Environmental Health – Duke University

The Nicholas School of the Environment (NSOE) at Duke University invites applications for a faculty position in Environmental Health and Toxicology. This is one of four areas of interest for two tenure-track assistant professorships that NSOE plans to fill in the natural sciences. The school seeks an outstanding and visionary candidate whose research focuses on environmental health, broadly defined to include one or more of the following areas: (1) environmental toxicology and investigations of toxic modes of action, (2) environmental exposures and health outcomes (with an emphasis on health disparities and environmental justice issues), and (3) connections between ecological systems and human health. Successful candidates are expected to develop an externally funded and nationally recognized research program, teach and mentor undergraduate, professional, and graduate students,

MYC genes within 15 minutes. However, unexpectedly, there were large differences in the level of gene activation between different individual cells and even between alleles within the same cell.

They explored the possibility that estrogen receptor regulators were involved in modifying the response to estrogen. Using automated high throughput technologies, they tested a collection of small molecule inhibitors of the estrogen receptor regulators and identified one, called MS049, that markedly increased the response of individual alleles to estrogen.

The researchers altered estrogenic response by inhibiting estrogen receptor regulators, establishing a previously unrecognized regulation path for estrogen to activate genes at the single cell level. According to the authors, the findings provide novel insights into the complex ways that cells maintain variability in response to stimuli, an important adaptation strategy for cell populations.

## AWARD WINNERS

### Roman-Hubers Abstract Selected in Top Three for SETAC Meeting

Texas A&M University SRP Center trainee Alina Roman-Hubers received a travel award to present at [SETAC Young Environmental Scientists](#), where her abstract was selected as one of the top three in the Environmental and Analytical Chemistry session. Her paper focused on forensic fingerprinting, which involves tracing contaminants back to their specific source.

### Meyer Lab Paper Named an Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry Top 10 Exceptional Paper

A [study from Joel Meyer](#)'s lab at Duke University SRP was named one of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry's Top 10 Exceptional Papers of 2019. The paper, "Linking Mitochondrial Dysfunction to Organismal and Population Health in the Context of Environmental Pollutants: Progress and Considerations for Mitochondrial Adverse Outcome Pathways," included contributions from postdoctoral trainee Danielle Mello. Meyer studies how early-life exposures may impact epigenetics and the functioning of mitochondria in developing organisms. The full list of papers will be in the July 2020 issue of the journal.

### Texas A&M SRP Center Trainees Receive American Society of Landscape Architects Awards

Texas A&M University SRP Center trainees Aubrey Hemphill, Dakota Fernandez, Yue Zhang, Wuqi Lyu, and Julio Villalobos-Torres received the 2020 Award of Excellence from the [American Society of Landscape Architects, Texas Chapter](#), for "Revitalize Rescue: Addressing Vacancy with Smart Decline Techniques." The Center's Community Engagement Core leader, Galen Newman, mentors the students.

and engage in service within NSOE, the university, and in the broader scientific community. Successful candidates are also expected to demonstrate a commitment to diversity, inclusivity, respect, and excellence. For further details and to apply, [see the NSOE Jobs page](#).

### NIEHS Training Program in Environmental Pathology Postdoctoral Fellow – Brown University

Brown University is seeking applicants for a postdoctoral fellow position through the NIEHS Training Program in Environmental Pathology. The fellow will develop an independent research project using the tools of cell biology, biochemistry, and molecular biology to study basic mechanisms of disease related to environmental exposures. He/she will also have opportunities for clinical and translational research collaborations at Rhode Island Hospital and Women and Infants Hospital, as well as field work and community outreach in Rhode Island and collaboration with the Brown Superfund Research Program. The faculty have active, well-funded research programs and access to modern research facilities equipped for quantitative imaging; genomics, epigenomics, and proteomics; flow cytometry; transgenic animal models; and alternative approaches to toxicity testing.

The candidate is expected to have a Ph.D. in toxicology, molecular or cell biology, or biochemistry. Candidates must be eligible for training grant support provided by the NIEHS Training Program in Environmental Pathology. To apply, [visit the job posting](#) and upload a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation.

## CURRENT RESEARCH BRIEF

Two of Newman's other students, Karishma Joshi and Jilali Liu, received the 2020 Merit Award from the American Society of Landscape Architects, Texas Chapter for "Tena'City: Combating Sea Level Rise in Florida."

## Webinars and Trainings

### Columbia Mailman School of Public Health Hosts Summer 2020 Trainings

Registration is now open for Columbia Mailman School of Public Health's [Skills for Health and Research Professionals \(SHARP\) training program](#), which is offering short, intensive boot camps led by field experts. The trainings will teach in-demand skills across a variety of topics.

The [Epigenetics Boot Camp](#) was very popular last year and will be held again from June 22-23. Instructors from Columbia University, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, University of California-Berkeley, and Albert Einstein College of Medicine will be leading the session.

Each training has [scholarships available](#) for early-stage investigators. Some deadlines have already passed, but others have deadlines of **April 15, 2020** and **May 17, 2020**.

### MDI Applied Bioinformatics Course

Mount Desert Island (MDI) Biological Laboratory's Applied Bioinformatics Course, in collaboration with the Dartmouth Lung Biology Center and the Maine IDEa Network of Biomedical Research Excellence, will be held **July 11-18, 2020** in Bar Harbor, Maine. Applied Bioinformatics is a hands-on course for advanced graduate students, post-doctoral trainees, and researchers at all levels interested in incorporating bioinformatics into their research. Scholarships are available. For more information, please see the [course website](#) and the [course flyer](#).

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Biomedical Knowledgebase (U24 – Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

The funding opportunity announcement for [Biomedical Knowledgebase \(U24 – Clinical Trials Not Allowed\)](#) has been published, with an open date of August 25, 2020. Please see the announcement for due dates.

This funding opportunity supports biomedical knowledgebases with the primary function to extract, accumulate, organize, annotate, and link growing bodies of information related to core datasets. Support for data curation should include efficient and effective methods that scale to the needs of the community and include semi-automated methods. Support for software and tool development must be limited to that which provides essential

### [SRP Research Brief 304:](#)

Electrochemical System Degrades PCE in Groundwater (Akram N. Alshawabkeh, Northeastern University)

Past [Research Briefs](#) are available on the SRP website. To receive the monthly Research Briefs or to submit ideas, email Michelle Heacock ([heacockm@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:heacockm@niehs.nih.gov)).

## SRP EVENTS

### [Epigenetics Boot Camp](#)

June 22-23, 2020  
New York City

### **Risk e-Learning Seminar: Exposures and Latent Disease Risk**

#### [Session I – Linking Exposures to Diseases with Long Latency Periods](#)

May 11, 2020  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. EDT  
Webinar

#### [Session II – Identifying Hallmarks and Key Characteristics](#)

May 28, 2020  
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. EDT  
Webinar

#### [Session III – Arsenic as a Case Study](#)

June 8, 2020  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. EDT  
Webinar

#### [Session IV – Moving Forward](#)

June 16, 2020  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. EDT  
Webinar

### [SETAC 8th World Congress](#)

September 6-10, 2020  
Singapore

### [11th Conference on Metal Toxicity and Carcinogenesis](#)

October 18-21, 2020  
Montreal, Canada

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OTHER SRP GRANTEES**

functions or significantly increases the efficiency of operation of the knowledgebase. Applications that have a significant focus on software or tool development are not appropriate for this activity.

## Biomedical Data Repository (U24 – Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

The funding opportunity announcement for [Biomedical Data Repository \(U24 – Clinical Trials Not Allowed\)](#) has been published, with an open date of August 25, 2020. Please see the announcement for due dates.

This funding opportunity is designed to support biomedical data repositories with the primary function to ingest, archive, preserve, manage, distribute, and make accessible the data related to a particular system or systems. Support for data curation must be limited to that which improves the efficiency and accessibility of data ingestion, management, and use and reuse by the user communities. Support for software and tool development must be limited to that which provides essential functions or significantly increases the efficiency of operation of the repository. Applications that have a significant focus on software and tool development are not appropriate for this activity.

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### 11th Conference on Metal Toxicity and Carcinogenesis

The [11th Conference on Metal Toxicity and Carcinogenesis](#) will be held October 18-21, 2020 in Montreal, Canada. The interdisciplinary international workshop focuses on the mechanisms of metal-induced toxicity, strategies for intervention and prevention, and the potential for translation from basic bench science to population studies to clinical trials or public policy.

[Abstracts for poster and oral presentations](#) are being accepted through **August 21, 2020**.

## DATA SCIENCE AND DATA SHARING

### New SRP Paper Explains How Data Sharing Can Reduce Environmentally Associated Disease and Promote Transdisciplinary Research

In a [new paper](#), SRP staff discuss how the program is well positioned to combine and integrate diverse datasets from engineering, biomedical, and environmental fields to better understand the interplay between exposures and health. SRP supports [sharing research data](#), as it accelerates new discoveries, stimulates new collaborations, and increases scientific transparency and rigor. The program also encourages researchers to make data available through public repositories.

### SRP Centers Create Tools to Predict Environmental Health Impacts

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

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

See the [SRP Science Digest](#) to read more about recent SRP research highlights and activities.

The [SRP Events page](#) contains information about upcoming meetings, seminars, and webinars.

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 through tweets. Many SRP Centers also have accounts, 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

Need to get in touch with an NIEHS SRP staff member? Check out our [Contact Staff](#) page.

The University of California, Berkeley SRP Center collaborated with the Community Water Center to [release the Drinking Water Tool](#), an interactive website that provides information about how California communities might be vulnerable to groundwater challenges that affect access to drinking water. The tool allows users to select data layers containing information on demographics, land use characteristics, wells, and more, to learn about drought risk and water quality. The Center led the Drinking Water Tool [launch webinar](#), which had more than 150 remote participants.

Researchers from the Texas A&M SRP Center project, “Inter-tissue and -Individual Variability in Response to Mixtures,” [created a framework to optimally group complex substances](#) based on their analytical features. The group tested two datasets of oil-derived substances using the framework, demonstrating the effect of different grouping methodologies, dataset size, dimensionality reduction on the grouping quality, and different analytical techniques on the characterization of the substances.

### **Iowa SRP Center Releases Datasets**

Iowa SRP Center researchers published eleven datasets including data from its projects and cores on PCBs in air, soil, and water. Links to the datasets can be [found on the Center's website](#).

### **HHEAR is Now Accepting Applications**

Applications are now being accepted for the [Human Health Exposure Analysis Resource \(HHEAR\)](#) program, which provides health researchers access to laboratory and data analysis services to add or expand assessment of environmental exposures in their existing NIH-funded epidemiological and clinical health studies. Through the application process, HHEAR evaluates eligibility and feasibility of projects and prioritizes them based on their alignment with HHEAR priorities. Accepted applicants have the opportunity to work collaboratively with analysts and scientists in at least one HHEAR National Exposure Assessment Laboratory Network facility and the HHEAR Data Repository, Analysis, and Science Center.

You can learn more about HHEAR's goals, application processes, and laboratory and data analytic capabilities through the [NIEHS Exposure Science and the Exposome Webinar Series on HHEAR](#). You can access the webinar archive on the [Seminar Series YouTube Channel](#). If you have any questions regarding the information shared in the webinar series, please contact Michelle Heacock ([heacockm@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:heacockm@niehs.nih.gov)).

To [check your eligibility](#), visit the program website. SRP grantees are eligible for targeted and untargeted analysis of environmental samples, and untargeted analysis of biological samples.

To apply to HHEAR, visit the [How to Apply](#) page. The [next submission deadline is April 24](#). For questions related to the

application process, contact [HHEARHelp@Westat.com](mailto:HHEARHelp@Westat.com).

## Interagency News

### EPA Seeks Nominees for TSCA Scientific Advisory Committee on Chemicals

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency invites nominations of scientific experts for an appointment to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC). SACC provides independent advice and expert consultation on the scientific and technical aspects of implementing TSCA.

Nominees should have expertise in one or more of the following areas: human health and ecological risk assessment, biostatistics, epidemiology, pediatrics, physiologically based pharmacokinetics, toxicology and pathology, and chemical exposures of sensitive population. Nominations must be received by **April 20, 2020**. For more details on the call for nominations and instructions for submitting nominations, see the [notice on the Federal Registrar's website](#).

## PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Cyclopure, currently in phase two of its SBIR grant, is a leading innovator of drinking water purification technologies. The company had a booth at the Emerging Contaminants Summit in Westminster, Colorado, a conference that addresses ways to mitigate the presence of contaminants in surface water, groundwater, drinking water, wastewater, recycled water, and soils and sediments. (Photo courtesy of Frank Cassou, Cyclopure.)