



Superfund Research Program *e-Posted Notes*

August 6, 2021 (Issue 211)

HEADLINES

2021 K.C. Donnelly Externship Awards

Congratulations to 14 exceptional SRP trainees who received a 2021 K.C. Donnelly Externship Award Supplement! This year's awardees are Christian Bako, Victoria Colvin, Alexandra Cordova, Subham Dasgupta, Matthew Dunn, Luisa Feliciano, Molly Frazar, Kamila Murawska-Wlodarczyk, Ariel Robinson, Bridger Ruyle, Brittany Saleeby, Breandon Taylor, Skarlet Velasquez, and Guobin Xia. Learn more about the trainees and their research projects on the [2021 Winners webpage](#).

The [annual awards](#) allow trainees to work side-by-side with experts at another SRP-funded institution, government laboratory, or other agency to learn new methods and techniques to enrich their research. Applications are accepted between January 1 and January 31 of each year.

SRP Presence at ISES/ISEE Events

Several SRP staff members will be in attendance for the [International Society of Environmental Epidemiology \(ISEE\) annual conference](#), **Aug. 23-26**, and the [International Society of Exposure Science \(ISES\) annual meeting](#), **Aug. 30-Sept. 2**.

To kick-start the event, NIEHS hosted a pre-conference workshop titled "Demystifying the NIEHS Grant Process to Attract and Retain Diverse Talent for the Environmental Health Sciences" July 30. The workshop featured former SRP trainees Andres Cardenas and Tiffany Sanchez in a panel on strategies to address challenges that minorities experience in science. SRP Program Officer Heather Henry also led a panel discussion on strategies to recruit and retain diverse candidates.

In a special 90-minute session **Aug. 30**, ISES and ISEE will come together for a panel discussion titled [Systemic Racism Environmental Health Disparities Research](#). The joint session will feature federal government leaders, including NIEHS Director Rick Woychik, and environmental health researchers, such as University of Arizona SRP researcher Karletta Chief.

ISES is also hosting a [Sensor & Technology Fair](#) **Aug. 31** and **Sept. 1**. Several NIEHS grantees will be in attendance and SRP's Heather Henry and Sara Amolegbe are part of the planning committee.

If you are presenting during any of these events, please let us

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Postdoctoral Fellowship - University of Rochester

The University of Rochester Medical Center is accepting applications for a postdoctoral fellow in environmental and perinatal epidemiology. The fellow will analyze and publish data from a prospective pregnancy cohort study to examine adverse pregnancy outcomes from maternal air pollution exposure. Applicants should have knowledge of epidemiology and biostatistics and must have a Ph.D. or Sc.D. in a related field. To apply, please submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, two names for letters of reference, and 1-2 representative publications to David Rich (David_Rich@urmc.rochester.edu).

Northeastern Seeks Postdoctoral Fellow

Northeastern University's Social Science Environmental Health Research Institute in collaboration with Silent Spring Institute seek a postdoctoral research associate to conduct research in the social study of environmental health issues. This is a two-year postdoctoral position supported by [Northeastern's NIEHS T32 training grant](#). The successful candidate will start on **Sept. 1** and will spend 2/3 of their time at Northeastern and approximately 1/3 at Silent Spring Institute. For more information, and to apply, please contact Phil Brown (p.brown@northeastern.edu).

know by sending an email to SRPInfo@mail.nih.gov. We would love to check out your presentations!

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:

- [K.C. Donnelly Externship Awards celebrate 10 years](#): SRP recently marked the 10th anniversary of the K.C. Donnelly Externship Award Supplement. In the past decade, 72 NIEHS Superfund Research Program trainees were able to conduct research beyond their own institutions

Visit the SRP page for more stories about the program:

- [HHEAR Grantee Meeting Highlights Resources for Researchers](#): SRP-funded researchers from all over the country tuned in for the Human Health Exposure Analysis Resource (HHEAR) June 2021 Virtual Grantee Meeting. The event was hosted by the HHEAR Coordinating Center and the NIEHS Exposure Science and the Exposome Webinar Series.
- [Trainees Get Creative During the Pandemic](#): When in-person events, classes, and research activities were put on hold, SRP-funded trainees got creative and identified unique opportunities to pursue safely during the pandemic.
- [UW SRP Researchers Work with Agency Partners to Communicate Risk](#): Researchers from the NIEHS-funded University of Washington SRP Center found new evidence of environmental contamination in urban lakes and worked to coordinate risk communication strategies with agency partners.

Heiger-Bernays Talks Superfund Site Cleanup

Boston University SRP Center researcher Wendy Heiger-Bernays was recently quoted in a [news story](#) about the New Bedford Harbor Superfund site. For over 20 years, the Boston SRP Center has been involved in helping understand and address exposures to the chemicals found in and around the New Bedford Harbor Superfund site. The article discusses some positive results from cleanup strategies and future plans for the site. According to Heiger-Bernays, cleanup efforts have been tremendous, but years of continued monitoring are needed to ensure the health of those living nearby.

TAMU SRP Center Hosts Local Vaccination Events

The Texas A&M University (TAMU) SRP Center partnered with community leaders to host events to address disinformation surrounding COVID-19 vaccines. In partnership with the TAMU College of Medicine, vaccinations are offered at these events. TAMU SRP Center researcher Weihsueh Chiu was recently quoted in a [local news story](#) about the importance of these events.

Postdoctoral Opportunity at Harvard

The Department of Biomedical Informatics in collaboration with the Center for Computational Biomedicine (CCB) at Harvard Medical School is seeking a Postdoctoral Fellow with experience in biomedical data science. The successful candidate will work with Chirag Patel, the executive director of the CCB, to build tools and computer infrastructure to enhance the use of large datasets from the domains of biology and population health. For more information, contact Nichole Parker (nichole_parker@hms.harvard.edu).

EPA Postdoctoral Fellowship

A postdoctoral opportunity is available at the EPA to conduct research related to analytical chemistry and PFAS in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to gain experience in the acquisition and modeling of empirically derived PFAS bioavailability data and will present this research through a combination of reports, presentations, and manuscripts. Applications are due **Oct. 12**. See the [job posting](#) for more information.

Postdoctoral Position at NIEHS

A postdoctoral position is available in the Mechanistic Toxicology Branch in the [Division of the National Toxicology Program \(DNTP\)](#) at the [National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences \(NIEHS\)](#), Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. The successful candidate will participate in a project that is focused on investigating environmental health disparities in cardiovascular disease. The preferred start date is **Sept. 13**. To apply, email David Crizer (david.crizer@ih.gov) a single PDF containing your cover letter, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references.

Reams Featured in PBS Episode

Margaret Reams, leader of the Louisiana State University (LSU) SRP Community Engagement Core, was interviewed in an episode of [Litter in Louisiana](#). The episode examined environmental pollution and its effect on increasing government spending. In the interview, Reams spoke about her earlier research on littering and recycling behavior and spoke about how pollution affects the overall well-being of neighborhoods.

Reif Interviewed in ABC11 News Story

North Carolina State University (NCSSU) SRP Center Data Management and Analysis Core (DMAC) leader, David Reif, was recently interviewed by ABC11 News for a segment titled "[How do vaccines impact an area's risk for Covid-19?](#)" He identified reasons for decreased vaccination rates and increased hesitancy for the story.

TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT

Understanding and Remediating PCBs in Classrooms

Moala Bannavti is a trainee at the University of Iowa (UI) SRP Center studying the characterization and potential remediation pathways of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in low-income public middle schools. PCBs are a large and complex group of chemicals that often occur in mixtures. These chemicals can be found in old insulation, electrical equipment, and as the byproducts of pigments used in paint colorants and building materials.



As a first-generation Cameroonian immigrant raised in suburban New Jersey, Bannavti identifies with the issues in minority-predominant low-income school districts. This sparked her interest in investigating PCBs in schools and made her determined to bridge the gap in environmental justice experienced by those of low socioeconomic status.

Bannavti's research can be summarized in two parts. First, Bannavti and team believe it is possible to understand where PCBs come from in a schoolroom based on the age of the room, the overall air profile, and the visible materials within the room. Second, based on these factors, they believe they could determine whether it is best to remediate by replacing certain materials or tearing down the entire school. A related [NIEHS-funded study](#) by Bannavti and team suggests this noninvasive targeted source testing could lead to more cost-effective prioritization of materials remediation in schools as it is less expensive compared to tearing down the entire school and rebuilding. Bannavti explained encouraging low-income school districts to test and remediate PCBs would help improve the health of their students.

Bannavti has helped create presentations, flyers, press releases,

Postdoctoral Opportunity – University of Michigan

The University of Michigan seeks a postdoctoral research fellow in environmental toxicology and epidemiology. A doctoral degree from an accredited domestic or foreign institution is required at the time of appointment. For more information, see the [job posting](#) or email Gramm Drennen (drenneng@umich.edu).

CURRENT RESEARCH BRIEF

[SRP Research Brief 320:](#)

Characterizing Arsenic Exposure Through Public Water Supplies and Private Wells (Navas-Acien, Columbia 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).

Video summaries of the SRP Research Briefs are available on the [NIEHS Social Media Shorts YouTube page](#).

EVENTS

[Big Data in Environmental Science and Toxicology Series 2021](#)

Sponsored by the Texas A&M SRP Center July through December 2021: 6 Months- 6 Sessions
Virtual

[ISEE Annual Conference](#)

August 23-26, 2021
Virtual

[ISES/ISEE Joint Session Pre-Conference Workshop](#) – An

Introduction to Implementation Science for Environmental Health
August 30, 2021
Virtual

[ISES & ISEE Joint Session](#) –

Systemic Racism Environmental Health Disparities Research
August 30, 2021
Virtual

and other resources of report-back for UI SRP Center research regarding PCBs in school air to the community. She also converses with local stakeholders, such as district superintendents, before deploying any PCB samplers.

Recently, Bannavti was elected president of the UI Graduate and Professional Student Government. The student government represents UI's nearly 10,000 graduate and professional students and advocates on their behalf to university administrators, the Board of Regents, and state and federal legislators. She is also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the first sorority established for women of color, and is the chaplain of the Tau Psi Omega Chapter in Iowa City. She loves to eat with friends, binge watch reality television, and since November has been an avid weight-lifter.

Check out Bannavti's [UI SRP Center video](#) describing her research, for which she was awarded first place in UI's [Three Minute Thesis](#) competition.

If you are trainee who has developed a video describing your research, please submit it via the [Data Collection Tool](#) so you can be featured in an upcoming e-Posted newsletter!

HOT PUBLICATION

Study Sheds Light on Hormone Disruptors in Sewage Sludge

Many compounds used in households persist past their period of intended use, with significant fractions reaching wastewater treatment plants. Researchers at University of California (UC) Davis SRP Center identified several contaminants in sewage sludge in California. Specifically, the researchers noted that these contaminants have the [capability to disrupt the normal activity of estrogen](#). Sewage sludge is used in agricultural lands and gardens as a soil enrichment or to replace commercial fertilizers.

Many synthetic chemicals have been found to mimic, block, and interfere with hormones, such as estrogen, in humans and in wildlife. Exposure to these chemicals, called endocrine disruptors, has been linked to increased risk of diseases like diabetes, obesity, cancers, and reproductive disorders.

The researchers used an approach called nontargeted analysis, which allows identification of unknown chemicals in the environment. They used this approach to measure contaminants in samples from several wastewater treatment plants in California. They then used a bioassay with cells that respond to estrogenic activity in chemicals to determine which of the contaminants measured could be estrogen disruptors.

The team found 31 compounds from anthropogenic origin with estrogenic activity. These compounds consisted of fragrances, antibiotics, synthetic hormones, pain medication, and plasticizer metabolites. They identified diisobutyl phthalate, a chemical used in soft plastics such as shower curtains, and levorphanol, an opioid pain medication, to be the most abundant chemicals found in 75% of samples, signifying their widespread use and

[ISES Annual Meeting](#)

August 30-September 2, 2021
Virtual

[ISES Sensor & Technology Fairs](#)

August 31, 2021
September 1, 2021
Virtual

[NIEHS Environmental Health Language Collaborative Workshop](#)

Sept. 9-10, 2021 Virtual

[International Data for Policy Conference](#)

September 14-16, 2021
Raleigh, North Carolina

[International Conference on Biomedical Ontologies](#)

September 15-18, 2021
Bozen-Bolzano, Italy and Virtual

[FLUOROS 2021 Symposium](#)

Sponsored by the University of Rhode Island SRP Center
October 3-7, 2021 Providence, Rhode Island

[SRP 35th Anniversary Annual Meeting](#)

December 15-17, 2021
Raleigh, North Carolina

[International Data Week](#)

June 20-23, 2022
Seoul, South Korea and Virtual

[SETAC 8th World Congress](#)

September 4-8, 2022
Singapore

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

October 16-19, 2022
Montreal, Canada

GET UPDATES FROM OTHER SRP GRANTEES

To see the latest SRP grantee publications, visit the [SRP Grantee 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.

persistence in California.

The researchers were also interested in evaluating how wastewater treatment mechanisms affect the activity and abundance of these chemicals, so they analyzed samples before and after different treatment processes.

They observed that water treatment techniques decreased the abundance of chemicals that speed up estrogenic activity but increased the abundance of chemicals that block estrogen. According to the authors, little research has been done on estrogen blocking compounds in sludge, and these findings show that further work is needed to identify and characterize contaminants with these capabilities.

AWARD WINNERS

SRP-funded Publication Wins Best Student Paper of 2020

A paper reporting findings from a [previously-funded SRP individual research project](#), led by Upal Gosh from the University of Maryland - Baltimore County, was recognized as the [best student paper of 2020](#) by the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. SRP-funded trainee, James Sanders, is lead author on the [publication](#), which described the development of their novel device used to sample methylmercury in sediment and soil.

TAMU Trainee Receives Scholarships

Kelly Rivenbark, a TAMU SRP Center trainee, was awarded the [TAMU Walter W. Lechner Estate Scholarship](#). She also received the TAMU Graduate Merit Fellowship for the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 semesters. Rivenbark's SRP-funded research studies how broad-acting ingestible materials like clay can mitigate the effects of chemical mixtures.

Duke SRP Trainee Receives Video Presentation Award

Prabha Ranasinghe, a postdoctoral fellow at the Duke University SRP Center, recently won the Most Engaging Video Presentation award at the [2021 NC State Graduate School's Postdoc Research Symposium](#). Ranasinghe's talk was titled "[Single and Interactive Effects of Nanoplastics and Rotenone on Mitochondrial Function in Developing Zebrafish](#)." As a part of the Di Giulio Lab, Ranasinghe's research focuses on how environmental pollution can affect adaptation and toxicity in aquatic organisms.

Richmond-Bryant Invited to WHO Technical Advisory Group

Jennifer Richmond-Bryant, from the LSU SRP Center, has been invited to serve on the World Health Organization's [Global Air Pollution and Health Technical Advisory Group](#). The appointment began in June 2021 and will last two-years. This position will involve reviewing and analyzing current health impact assessment methods as well as interventions and policies to

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.

address the health impacts of air pollution.

Reif Appointed to Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals

Reif was appointed to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals](#). He will serve a four-year term and assist in providing expert advice and recommendations to the EPA. This includes risk assessments, models, tools, guidance documents, chemical category documents, and other chemical assessment and pollution prevention products as deemed appropriate.

Waters Elected to Washington State Academy of Sciences

Oregon State University SRP Center DMAC leader, Katrina Waters, was [elected to the Washington State Academy of Sciences](#). Waters was recognized for her leadership and innovation in data integration and its application to biomarker discovery, infectious disease, and toxicology.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Artisanal Mining Grand Challenge: The Amazon

The [Artisanal Mining Grand Challenge](#) seeks innovations that improve the environmental and social outcomes of artisanal and small-scale gold mining in the Amazon region. All proposed innovations should demonstrate measurable, attributable impact on reducing, mitigating, or eliminating harm to water resources, soil, biodiversity, and/or human health and well-being. Winners from previous years include SRP-funded small business, [Picoyune](#). Applications are due **Nov. 10**.

Virtual Consortium for Translational/Transdisciplinary Environmental Research

NIEHS issued a [Notice of Intent](#) to reissue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for the Virtual Consortium for Translational/Transdisciplinary Environmental Research (ViCTER). The ViCTER program fosters and promotes early-stage transdisciplinary collaborations and/or translational research efforts among fundamental, clinical, and population-based researchers in the environmental health field. A FOA will be posted in the fall, with an estimated application due date for **February 2022**. For more information, please contact Heather Henry (henryh@niehs.nih.gov).

Data Generation Projects for the NIH Bridge to Artificial Intelligence Program

The [Bridge to Artificial Intelligence \(Bridge2AI\)](#) Program plans to support several interdisciplinary Data Generation Projects ([OTA-21-008](#)) and one complementary cross-cutting Integration, Dissemination and Evaluation (BRIDGE) Center ([NOT-RM-21-021](#)) to produce datasets for use in biomedical and behavioral science discoveries driven by applications of artificial intelligence and machine learning. Applications are due **Aug. 20**.

Bridge2AI is designed to help propel biomedical research forward by setting the stage for widespread adoption of artificial intelligence and machine learning that tackles complex biomedical challenges beyond human intuition. Read more about the vision for this new program in a recent [National Library of Medicine Director's blog](#).

DoD Minerva Research Initiative

The Department of Defense (DoD) seeks proposals for the Minerva Research Initiative, which aims to increase DoD's intellectual capital in the social sciences and improve its ability to address future challenges and build bridges between the Department and the social science community. The initiative is for research related to nine interest areas, including Social Implication of Environmental Change. Applications are due **Sept. 29**. For more information, see the [Grant Opportunity Notice](#).

Understanding and Addressing the Impact of Structural Racism and Discrimination on Minority Health and Health Disparities

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, with other NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices is soliciting applications for (1) observational research to understand the role of structural racism and discrimination in causing and sustaining health disparities, and (2) intervention research that addresses structural racism and discrimination to improve health in minority populations or reduce health disparities. An FOA will be published soon with an estimated application deadline of **Aug. 20**. For more information, see the [Notice of Intent to Publish](#) for this funding opportunity. Please contact Lindsey Martin (lindsey.martin@nih.gov) if you have questions about NIEHS areas of interest.

NIH Support for Research Excellence

NIH has released two funding opportunities for a new program titled Support for Research Excellence (SuRE). SuRE is a research capacity building initiative designed to develop and sustain research excellence in higher education institutions that receive limited NIH research support and serve students who are underrepresented in biomedical research.

- [PAR-21-173](#): First Independent Research (SuRE-First) Award (R16 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed). Applications are due **Sept. 28**.
- [PAR-21-227](#): Resource Center for the Support for Research Excellence (SuRE) Program (U24 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed). Applications are due **Sept. 24**.

Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health

This FOA invites [research grant applications](#) that will identify, develop, test, evaluate, or refine strategies to disseminate and implement evidence-based practices into public health, clinical practice, and community settings. Applications are due **Oct. 5**. A letter of intent must be submitted 30 days prior to the application due date.

Addressing Health Disparities Among Immigrant Populations Through Effective Interventions

NIEHS seeks to support innovative research to understand factors that contribute to health disparities among U.S. immigrant populations. This FOA ([PAR-21-080](#)) calls for multidisciplinary research focusing on the design and implementation of effective interventions that will address immigrant-specific factors to reduce health disparities. Projects should involve collaborations among relevant stakeholders in U.S. immigrant population groups, such as researchers, community organizations, public health organizations, consumer advocacy groups, faith-based organizations, and health care providers. Applications are due **Oct. 5**.

Smart Health and Biomedical Research in the Era of Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Data Science

NIH announced a collaboration with the NSF on an interagency funding opportunity, [Smart Health and Biomedical Research in the Era of Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Data Science](#). The solicitation aims to address technological and data science challenges that require fundamental research and development of new tools to address pressing questions in the biomedical and public health communities. Traditional disease-centric medical, clinical, pharmacological, biological, or physiological studies and evaluations are outside the scope of this solicitation. Applications are due **Nov. 10**. For more information, refer to the [NSF Smart Health website](#).

DATA SCIENCE AND DATA SHARING

Classification Method for Metabolism-Disrupting Chemicals

Researchers at the Boston University SRP Center developed a [classification method](#) to predict and identify adipogenic chemicals, which can disrupt the expression of genes involved in metabolism and metabolic disorders such as type 2 diabetes and fatty liver disease. The team developed a [web portal](#) to facilitate the exploration of their classification results, which includes 38 known and four suspected adipogenic chemicals.

SRP Researchers Establish a Naming System for VOCs

In a [recent publication](#), researchers at the University of Louisville SRP Center established a standardized naming system that provides unique, systematic, and structurally informative acronyms for volatile organic contaminant (VOC) metabolites. Their goal was to provide guidance for creating acronyms and abbreviations for newly identified VOC metabolites.

UC Berkeley and Columbia SRP Centers Merge Datasets

Researchers from the UC Berkeley and Columbia University SRP Centers leveraged data from their epidemiological studies conducted in Chile and Bangladesh to compare arsenic exposures at different life stages from two continents. In a [recent publication](#), the team describes how they developed a common

data processing and analysis pipeline.

Making Your Code Citable

GitHub now supports software citation based on the [Citation File Format](#) so researchers can easily be acknowledged for their contributions to software. GitHub users can now just push a CITATION.cff file and the software citation widget will be added to the repository sidebar.

NIH Data Science and Reuse Seminar Series

The NIH Office of Data Science Strategy hosts a monthly seminar series to highlight researchers who have taken existing data and found clever ways to reuse the data or generate new findings. The seminar is open to the public and registration is required each month. The next seminar will be **Aug. 13** and will feature Arjun Krishnan from Michigan State University, who will discuss tackling incomplete data and unstructured metadata. To register and access recordings from previous webinars, see the [seminar series webpage](#).

Metagenomics Benchmarking Codeathon

The NIH Office of Data Science Strategy, the National Center for Biotechnology and Information at the National Library of Medicine, and the Department of Energy's Office of Biological and Environmental Research are hosting a virtual [Metagenomics Benchmarking Codeathon](#) **Sept. 27-Oct. 1**. The codeathon will focus on creating publicly available resources that make it easy for scientists to compare sequence search methods across a standardized set of benchmarks and datasets. This event is part of a series bringing together a diverse group of collaborators to develop and test new approaches for sequence search. If you are interested in attending, please apply by **Aug. 20**.

Integrated Data Analysis in Prevention Science

NIH is hosting a webinar series, titled [Methods: Mind the Gap](#), to explore research design, measurements, intervention, data analysis, and other methods of interest in prevention science. The next session will be **Aug. 26** and will focus on the use of integrated data analysis in prevention science. The talk will feature Rashelle Musci, an expert in prevention science, child mental health, and quantitative methods and measurement in public health from Johns Hopkins University. For more information, and to register, see the [webinar webpage](#).

Decoding Maternal Morbidity Data Challenge

The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development is hosting a competition to help advance research on maternal health and promote healthy pregnancies. Their goal is to devise innovative data solutions to analyze the [Nulliparous Pregnancy Outcomes Study: Monitoring Mothers-to-be \(nuMoM2b\)](#) dataset. Submissions are due **Oct. 15**. For more information, see the [challenge webpage](#).

NIH Requests Input for Data Science

NIH recently released the following Requests for Information:

- [Streamlining Access to Controlled Data from NIH Data Repositories](#): Responses are due **Aug. 9**.
- [Developing Consent Language for Future Use of Data and Biospecimens](#): Responses are due **Sept. 29**.
- [NIH Programs to Increase Access to Cloud Computing to Diverse Biomedical Research Institutions](#): Responses are due **Sept. 30**.

TAMU Big Data in Environmental Science and Toxicology

The TAMU SRP Center is hosting a free, virtual learning series focused on techniques to analyze and share data for environmental and toxicology research. Through the course of six sessions, held once a month from July through December, attendees will engage with SRP researchers and other data science experts to learn about handling data and placing research into context. The second session, titled [New Approach Methods - What is That?](#), will be held **Aug. 18**. For more information about specific sessions, please see the [course website](#).

Register Now: Open Science FAIR Conference

Registration is now open for the third Open Science FAIR Conference, an international event for all topics related to open science that will be held **Sept. 20-23**. The event will include keynotes by distinguished speakers, roundtable discussions, workshops, and training sessions. For more information, and to register, see the [event website](#).

Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Symposium

The NIH Library Bioinformatics Support Program will host a free virtual [Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Symposium](#) **Sept. 9**. The event will feature keynote lectures, presentations on bioinformatics techniques, and research talks from authors of bioinformatics proceedings. The morning sessions will focus on epigenomics, protein structures, and proteomics. Afternoon sessions will feature genomics and single cell sequencing.

Reproducible Research Techniques for Synthesis Workshop

On **Nov. 12-13** and **17-18**, the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis and DataOne will hold a five-day immersion workshop into widely adopted R-based tools for open science. The workshop will focus on improving researchers' data science skills to share data with the scientific community effectively and efficiently. For more information, see the [event website](#).

Supercomputing Conference

The International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage, and Analysis will be held **Nov. 14-19** in St. Louis, Missouri. The event will focus on learning how high-performance computing is empowering innovations to improve everyday life across the globe. For more information, and to

register, see the [conference website](#).

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



University of New Mexico SRP Center project leader, Jose Cerrato, and Isabel Meza, a graduate student in Cerrato's lab, found ways to safely run laboratory experiments during the pandemic. Cerrato's SRP-funded research focuses on developing remediation strategies to immobilize metals found in mine waste sites.

