

# Superfund Research Program *e-Posted Notes*

May 6, 2022 (Issue 220)

## HEADLINES

### Final SRP Progress in Research Webinar

There is still time to register for the [third and final session](#) of the SRP Progress in Research webinar series, Utilizing Innovative Materials Science Approaches to Enhance Bioremediation. The webinar will be **May 13, 1-3 p.m. ET**, and will focus on using plants and fungi, combined with materials science, to break down contaminants in the environment.

Speakers include:

- **Susie Dai**, Texas A&M Agrilife Research, Efficient Bioremediation of Environmentally Persistent Contaminants with Nanomaterial-Fungus Framework
- **Om Parkash Dhanker**, University of Massachusetts Amherst, A Novel Strategy for Arsenic Phytoremediation
- **Christy Haynes** and **Riley Lewis**, University of Minnesota, Understanding and Enhancing Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Phytoremediation Mechanisms Using Novel Nanomaterials
- **Sara Nason**, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Understanding and Enhancing PFAS Phytoremediation Mechanisms Using Novel Nanomaterials

If you missed the first two sessions, recorded archives will be available soon on the [Progress in Research webinar series](#) webpage.

### EHP Celebrates 50 Years

Environmental Health Perspectives celebrated its 50-year anniversary in April. Over the past five decades, the journal has been a leader in environmental health research and scholarly publishing. To celebrate this milestone, we shared some SRP-funded studies published in the journal over the years from our Twitter account, [@SRP\\_NIEHS](#). We encourage you to check out these tweets and engage in the conversation using the hashtag #EHP50.

### Revolutionizing Understanding of PCBs as Air Pollutants

Researchers at the University of Iowa SRP Center, led by Center Director Keri Hornbuckle, developed new methods to improve how we compare and quantify sources of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in air. Their work is informing policies and strategies to clean up these contaminants in air, including at

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### NIH Data Scholar Program

The NIH [Data and Technology Advancement \(DATA\) National Service Scholar Program](#) is now accepting applications for experienced data and computer scientists and engineers to tackle challenging biomedical data problems. DATA Scholars will lead high-profile, transformative NIH projects that leverage large data sets to advance knowledge in areas of high biomedical research impact. The one- to two-year position will begin remotely but may transition onsite, at one of the NIH institutes, at a later date. Applications are due **May 27**.

### Postdoctoral Position at University of California, Riverside

The [Microbe-Environment Nexus](#) research group, led by Yujie Men, at UC Riverside is seeking a postdoctoral researcher. The position will be involved in [projects](#) related to biodefluorination, electrochemistry, and environmental microbiology. Interested applicants can learn more via the [job posting](#) and should send their CVs to [y-men@enr.ucr.edu](mailto:y-men@enr.ucr.edu).

### University of Florida Toxicology Solicits New Director

The University of Florida Toxicology Program is seeking a new Director of the [Center for Environmental and Human Toxicology](#). The position is a state-funded, tenure-track faculty position. As Center Director, the successful candidate will facilitate

Superfund sites and in schools. Read more in the latest [Public Health Impact Story](#).

## SOT Funding 101 Webinar

The Society of Toxicology and NIH are hosting a [Funding 101 Webinar: Multiple Perspectives on the NIH Grant Process](#) on **May 26**. The purpose of the webinar is to provide an overview of the NIH grant funding process and insights from successful early-stage and established investigators. The session will feature Mike Humble and Carol Scheffler from NIEHS and Aishwarya Prakash from the University of Southern Alabama. Presentations will be followed by a Q&A panel with the speakers.

## 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:

- [Materials science and bacteria are key to remediation, experts say](#): During two recent NIEHS SRP Progress in Research webinars, grantees discussed innovative strategies for bioremediation — the process of using bacteria, fungi, and plants to break down contaminants.
- [Extramural Paper of the Month: Tropical cyclones linked to rise in U.S. deaths](#): Over the last three decades, tropical cyclones in the U.S. were associated with higher death rates in subsequent months, according to an NIEHS-funded study.
- [Extramural Paper of the Month: Link between placenta and fetal brain may predict neurodevelopment disorders](#): A new NIEHS-funded study in mice showed that prenatal exposure to polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) altered DNA methylation in both the placenta and fetal brain in a manner consistent with neurodevelopmental disorders.

Visit the SRP page for more stories about the program:

- [SRP Shines at SOT](#): SRP grantees from across the country gathered in person and virtually for the 2022 Society of Toxicology (SOT) Annual Meeting, held March 27-31 in San Diego, California.

### SRP-Funded Remediation Technology Implemented in Virginia

A technology developed by SRP-funded researcher [Upal Ghosh](#) and collaborators at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, is being implemented to [remediate a site in Virginia](#). The technology, called SediMite, consists of pellets of activated carbon that can absorb contaminants from sediment. This effort is part of the [Elizabeth River Project](#), which aims to clean up sediments contaminated with PCBs in the area. Another [full-scale project will be implemented](#) for sediments contaminated with dioxin in the Scanlon Reservoir in Minnesota.

### Duke Research Featured in Media

collaborative research, graduate research, and outreach in toxicology across multiple colleges within the university. For more information, please see the [job posting](#) and direct any questions to [Chris Vulpe](#).

### NCSU Seeks Exposure Research Scientist

The Comparative Toxicogenomics Database (CTD) at NCSU is seeking an exposure research scientist. The role will include, among other duties, acting as a knowledge leader for CTD's rapidly expanding exposure module and developing novel approaches to analyzing and visualizing exposure data. This is a full-time, fully funded position that can be done either remotely or at NCSU. Interested applicants can learn more via NCSU's [job posting](#).

### Postdoctoral Researcher Wanted at the University of Pennsylvania

A postdoctoral researcher position is available in the [Center of Excellence in Environmental Toxicology](#) at the University of Pennsylvania to work with Director Trevor M. Penning to study the metabolic activation of nitroarenes and the role of the NRF2-KEAP1 pathway. Applicants should send their resumes and contact information for three references to [gost@penncmedicine.upenn.edu](mailto:gost@penncmedicine.upenn.edu).

### Postdoctoral Opportunity at Emory University

The [Saikawa Lab](#) at Emory University is hiring a postdoctoral researcher with a passion for environmental justice and experience conducting community-engaged participatory research. The lab studies soil contamination, air pollution, and climate change. For more information and to apply, see the [job posting](#).

## CURRENT RESEARCH BRIEF

[SRP Research Brief 329](#): Protein Provides Insight into Respiratory

Duke University SRP Center Co-Director Heather Stapleton was interviewed for a [news story](#) about potential impacts of PFAS on household pets and people. Stapleton recommended installing home water filters to decrease exposure risks.

Chiara Klein, Duke SRP Community Engagement Core (CEC) coordinator, spoke on the [CoastLine](#) radio program about the center's work on [subsistence fish consumption](#). The interview covered the results of recent fish tissue sampling work as well as the origin and goals of the [Stop, Check, Enjoy campaign](#). The Duke team was also interviewed by [WRAL](#) about this campaign.

### Horney Cited About COVID-19

[Everyday Health](#) and [Delaware Public Media](#) cited Texas A&M University (TAMU) SRP CEC co-lead Jennifer Horney on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic after two years.

### Chief Interviewed About Academic Collaboration

[Native Science Report](#) interviewed Karletta Chief, University of Arizona SRP Center CEC lead, about the partnership between the university and Diné College. The two schools study the link between arsenic-contaminated drinking water and diabetes and work together to improve access to contaminant-free water.

### Srivastava Quoted on Styrene

University of Louisville SRP Center researcher Sanjay Srivastava spoke at a community meeting in Louisville and was quoted in [local news](#) on the possible negative health effects of exposure to the chemical styrene. An accidental spill of styrene, a liquid chemical used in manufacturing, occurred in March in the sewer system close to the neighborhood where the meeting was held.

### Hornbuckle Interviewed in Seattle Times

A [Seattle Times article](#) featured University of Iowa SRP Center Director Keri Hornbuckle in a story about health concerns of PCBs among students and teachers at a school in Monroe, Washington. Hornbuckle discussed recent research showing strong ties between PCB exposure and illness but noted the difficulty of pinning down the precise levels of PCB exposures that may lead to immediate harm.

### Berkeley Researchers Highlighted

Clare Pace, a trainee at the University of California (UC), Berkeley, was featured on the [TapTalk podcast](#), a podcast about drinking water in rural America, hosted by the Illinois State Water Survey. In the episode, Pace discussed data accessibility and issues related to safe water access and environmental justice affecting small communities in rural areas.

A [story in KQED](#) highlighted latest updates from the [Toxic Tides](#) project, led by Rachel Morello-Frosch. New models from the project show that around 900 toxic sites, including Superfund sites, could be impacted by sea level rise, and that contaminants could spill into communities up to three miles inland. Morello-Frosch leads the CEC at the center.

Toxicity of Cadmium (Veena Antony, University of Alabama Birmingham)

Past [Research Briefs](#) are available on the SRP website. To receive the monthly Research Briefs or to submit ideas, email Sara Amolegbe ([sara.amolegbe@nih.gov](mailto:sara.amolegbe@nih.gov)).

## EVENTS

SRP Progress in Research Webinar  
[Session III: Plant and Fungal-based Bioremediation](#)

May 13, 2022

Virtual

[SETAC Nontarget Analysis for Environmental Risk Assessment](#)

May 22-26, 2022

Durham, NC

[Third National PFAS Conference](#)

June 15-17, 2022

Wilmington, NC

[International Data Week](#)

June 20-23, 2022

Seoul, South Korea and Virtual

[Brownfields 2022 Conference](#)

August 16-19, 2022

Oklahoma City, OK

[SETAC Asia-Pacific Conference 2022](#)

September 5-8, 2022

Virtual

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

October 16-19, 2022

Montreal, Canada

[SRP Annual Meeting](#)

November 15-17, 2022

Raleigh, NC

## 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.

### Using Bioinformatics to Improve Health Equity

This month we spoke with Nnamdi Osakwe, a trainee at the North Carolina State University (NCSSU) SRP Center. Osakwe is mentored by David Reif, who leads the center's [Data Management and Analysis Core](#) (DMAC).



*Tell us about your work with the NCSU SRP Center.*

The purpose of my research is to understand the relationship between environmental exposures and human health outcomes in populations disproportionately exposed to poor environmental quality and social inequities, or environmental health disparities. By using bioinformatic techniques —collecting, storing, and analyzing biological data — I hope to provide affected communities and policymakers with data on environmental quality and its effects on human health.

*How did you become interested in this work?*

As an undergraduate at North Carolina Central University (NCCU), I had the opportunity to work under the guidance of ClarLynda Williams-DeVane to use bioinformatics to study the health disparities surrounding diseases like asthma, diabetes, and obesity. Recognizing the knowledge gaps in health disparities research and the lack of diverse researchers addressing these problems fueled me to pursue this area further.

*You recently received a [Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research](#). Tell us about it.*

This is a supplement to the center's DMAC grant and will provide me with the necessary resources to adequately target and study areas disproportionately exposed to contaminants of top priority to SRP, like PFAS. Receiving this supplemental grant confirmed and validated that my research is essential and meaningful to SRP — and to NIEHS as a whole.

*Tell us about a project that excites you.*

I am collaborating on a project to study the relationship between green spaces and their effects on biological aging, one of the risk factors for many human diseases. I get to combine many of my interests in this project: bioinformatics, environmental health, public health, and health disparities. I am thankful I can pursue my interests while helping to make positive change for often-ignored communities.

*What is one piece of advice that you want to share with other SRP trainees?*

Patience is key. There is no doubt that graduate school will test your patience in many ways but learning to persevere and take challenges one step at a time has helped me get through this experience. Although it can seem long and difficult, consistent, and gradual progress will eventually lead you to achieve your

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.

goals.

## HOT PUBLICATION

### Link Between PFAS and Liver Disease Revealed

Human exposure to PFAS may [affect biological pathways associated with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease](#) (NAFLD), according to SRP-funded research at Boston University.

PFAS are chemicals used in firefighting foams and in everyday products designed to repel stains, grease, and water. Humans are exposed to these substances mainly through diet and contaminated water. Exposure to PFAS has been associated with many negative health outcomes, including a possible link to NAFLD.

Researchers explored whether a causal relationship existed between PFAS exposure and specific NAFLD-related metabolic processes. They measured PFAS in the liver and blood of 105 individuals with NAFLD and observed that PFAS concentrations were associated with disturbances in certain metabolic pathways in the liver, such as lipid and bile acid metabolism. According to the authors, previous research has also documented changes to those pathways in patients with NAFLD.

The team then compared the results to [mice exposed to perfluorooctanoic acid](#) (PFOA), one of the most widely detected PFAS in humans. They observed that PFOA caused changes in mice that were similar to those found in humans. The findings suggest that PFAS exposure may increase the likelihood and severity of NAFLD by altering important metabolic pathways, say the researchers.

According to the authors, females may be more sensitive to the effects of PFAS, as the association between liver metabolism and PFAS exposure was stronger in females than males, even at lower exposure levels.

## AWARD WINNERS

### Baker Awarded Biemann Medal

Erin Baker, NCSU SRP Center Director, was awarded the [2022 Biemann Medal](#) by the American Society for Mass Spectrometry. The medal recognizes significant achievement in basic or applied mass spectrometry in the early stages of an academic career. The award will be presented at the American Society for Mass Spectrometry Conference in June.

### University of Rhode Island Trainees Honored

University of Rhode Island (URI) SRP Center trainee Erasme Uyizeye was elected to be the [International Delegate](#) for the Society of Freshwater Science by society members. Former trainee Emily Marques, who worked in the Angela Slitt laboratory, received the [Paper of the Year Award](#) from the Northeast Chapter of the Society of Toxicology for her research at URI.

### Recognition for Iowa Faculty and Trainees

Gerald Schnoor, a researcher at University of Iowa SRP Center, received the [2022 Outstanding Achievements in Environmental Science and Technology Award: The Americas Region](#) from the American Chemical Society. Schnoor was recognized for his leadership and expertise in phytoremediation technology, or the use of plants to treat pollution.

Keri Hornbuckle received an [Award for Faculty Excellence](#) from the Board of Regents, State of Iowa. The award honors exceptional contributions and sustained records of excellence in the recipient's field.

Trainee Panithi Saktrakulkla won a [Dare to Discover Award](#) from the University of Iowa, which recognizes exemplary student scholars. Winners will be displayed on a banner in downtown Iowa City during the spring. Saktrakulkla's SRP research focuses on the development of measurement techniques to determine contamination levels of PCBs.

Trainee Amanda Bullert received the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine Trainee Scholar Award for her [first-author publication](#) in Chemical Research in Toxicology. The award provides funding for registration or travel to a conference or to engage in an event used to collect data or advance an active research project.

### **Pistikopoulos Receives Achievement Award**

Stratos Pistikopoulos, who leads the DMAC at the TAMU SRP Center, was awarded the 2022 Association of Former Students [Distinguished Achievement Award](#) for highest standard of excellence in his area of research. The recipients are chosen by a campus-wide committee of faculty, staff, current students, and alumni.

## **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

### **Abstracts Requested for GSA Topical Session**

The fall meeting of the Geological Society of America (GSA) will feature a session related to public health and naturally occurring contaminants. Although GSA is focused on geology, the meeting welcomes researchers and talks from all disciplines. If you work with metals, radon, radioactivity, algae, bacteria, or similar topics, please consider submitting a talk for this session. More details will be on the [meeting website](#) soon; the abstract submission deadline is **July 19**.

## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Human Health Exposure Analysis Resource (HHEAR) Program**

Applications are being accepted for the [HHEAR program](#), which provides researchers free access to laboratory and data analysis services to expand the assessment of environmental exposures in their existing NIH-funded studies. Past and present SRP grantees with ongoing studies can apply for no-cost targeted and

untargeted analysis of environmental and biological samples. The next submission deadline is **May 13**. For questions related to the application process, visit the [How to Apply](#) page or contact [HHEARHelp@Westat.com](mailto:HHEARHelp@Westat.com). If you have any questions about the HHEAR program, please contact Michelle Heacock ([heacockm@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:heacockm@niehs.nih.gov)).

### **Supplements to Support Software Tools for Open Science**

NIH announced a [funding opportunity](#) for administrative supplements to invest in and support software tool development by researchers. Through these supplements, NIH aims to help researchers who have developed scientifically valuable software to make tools sustainable, contribute to open science, and take advantage of new data science and computing paradigms. The application due date is **May 15**.

### **Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity**

The NIH Common Fund has reissued a [funding opportunity](#) to support projects that propose innovative research intended to develop and implement effective interventions to address health disparities and advance health equity. For more information, please see the initiative's [website](#). The application due date is **May 23**.

### **Funding Announcement for Bioengineering Partnerships with Industry**

NIH [invites applications](#) to support research partnerships formed by academic and industrial investigators to develop bioengineering technologies to address biomedical research needs. The objective is to develop tools to enhance the practice of medicine. Applications are due **May 26**.

### **Supplements to Support Genotyping of Samples from Minority Populations**

The National Cancer Institute announced a [funding opportunity](#) for administrative supplements to process and analyze biospecimens from understudied minority populations. The aim is to leverage existing samples for genome-wide sequencing in order to enhance racial and ethnic minority representation in genetics data repositories. The application due date is **May 26**.

### **Funding Opportunity to Support Research Education and Enhance Diversity**

The NIH Research Education Program [invites applications](#) for short-term research education experience support from individuals with diverse backgrounds. Funds will support talented students from groups underrepresented in the biomedical sciences to pursue research experiences in biomedical informatics and data science. A letter of intent was due **April 28**. Applications are due **May 31**.

### **RADx Tribal Data Repository**

NIH released a [funding opportunity](#) to support a RADx Tribal Data Repository. This opportunity will provide a repository for American Indian and Alaska Native data, collected from projects supported by the [RADx Initiative](#). The aim is to better understand the impacts of COVID-19 on tribal communities and support research that informs policies to address current and future pandemics. The repository will enable responsible data sharing and access to researchers and their collaborators who generate RADx tribal research data, or who are interested in working with that data. A letter of intent was due May 1. The application deadline is **May 31**.

### **Leveraging Health IT to Address and Reduce Health Care Disparities**

NIH invites applications to support multidisciplinary research that examines the impact of [leveraging health information technology \(health IT\) to reduce disparities](#). Researchers evaluating access to and utilization of health care services, patient-clinician communication, and health outcomes for populations that experience health disparities in the U.S. are encouraged to apply. A letter of intent is due **May 6**. Applications are due **June 5**.

### **Funding Opportunity for Integration and Analysis of BRAIN Initiative Data**

The NIH has reissued a [funding opportunity](#) to develop tools for analyzing and integrating data related to the BRAIN Initiative. The aim is to develop new informatics tools to better access and visualize data across repositories. The application due date is **June 10**.

### **Technologies and Informatics Tools for Cancer Metabolomics**

The National Cancer Institute seeks to [support development of innovative technologies and informatics tools](#) for metabolomics research through the [Innovative Molecular Analysis Technologies \(IMAT\)](#) program and the [Informatics Technology for Cancer Research \(ITCR\)](#) program. Metabolomics is the study of chemical reactions occurring in organisms, cells, or tissues that involve products of metabolism, called metabolites. Both IMAT and ITCR support projects across the continuum of basic-translational-clinical cancer research. The first due date, to support informatics tools, is **June 14**.

### **Technologies for Cancer Research and Management**

The Informatic Technology for Cancer Research Program at the National Cancer Institute released several funding opportunities for technologies and bioinformatics methods to improve the analysis, visualization, and interpretation of cancer research data. The application deadline for all funding opportunities is **June 14**.

- [Development of Innovative Informatics Methods and Algorithms for Cancer Research and Management \(R21 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#)
- [Early-Stage Development of Informatics Technologies for Cancer Research and Management \(U01 Clinical Trial\)](#)

[Optional](#))

- [Advanced Development of Informatics Technologies for Cancer Research and Management \(U24 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#)
- [Sustained Support for Informatics Technologies for Cancer Research and Management \(U24 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#)

### Research Grants for INCLUDE Project

The NIH [Investigation of Co-occurring conditions across the Lifespan to Understand Down syndromE \(INCLUDE\) Project](#) seeks to support research projects to improve health and quality-of-life for individuals with Down syndrome. INCLUDE invites applicants conducting analyses of clinical and phenotypic datasets related to Down syndrome research, with an emphasis on elucidating the underlying etiologies of risk and resiliencies to co-occurring health conditions. A letter of intent must be submitted by **June 1**. Applications are due **July 1**.

### Somatic Mosaicism Across Human Tissues

The NIH Common Fund [Somatic Mosaicism Across Human Tissues](#) program aims to transform our understanding of how genetic variation in somatic cells influences biology and disease. The program released [five funding opportunities](#) to spur technological development that will enable researchers to detect different types of variation, including reproductive cell variants and rare mutations. For all funding opportunities, a letter of intent must be submitted by **June 8**, and applications are due **July 8**.

### Funding Opportunity for Data Science Education Hub

The National Human Genome Research Institute will offer a [funding opportunity](#) for an Educational Hub for Enhancing Diversity in Computational Genomics and Data Science. The Hub's goal is to improve access to cloud-based computational genomics and data science among students underrepresented in these areas. The estimated application due date is **July 27**.

### National Aquatic Resource Surveys Data Analysis Innovation Challenge

EPA is inviting students, scientists, and other stakeholders to [participate in a challenge](#) to use data from the [National Aquatic Resource Survey](#) to address key research questions relating to national priorities, including climate change, environmental justice, nutrient management, and other water quality topics. Individuals and teams of researchers that incorporate a variety of disciplines (e.g., environmental science, biology, ecology, geochemistry, statistics, economics, health, and social sciences) are invited to apply. A letter of intent must be submitted by **May 31**. Applications are due **September 30**.

## INTERAGENCY NEWS

### Federal Priorities for Information Integrity Research and Development

The Networking and Information Technology Research and

Development National Coordination Office and National Science Foundation seek comments to understand ways the federal government can enable research and development activities. Their aim is to advance the trustworthiness of information, mitigate the effects of information manipulation, and foster an environment of trust and resilience in which individuals can be discerning consumers of information. Interested individuals or organizations are invited to [submit comments](#) by **May 15**.

### **Feedback Sought on 2022 Environmental Justice Plan**

The Health and Human Services (HHS) Department is requesting input on a draft outline for the 2022 HHS Environmental Justice Strategy and Implementation Plan. This plan will guide multifaceted approaches to improving health among vulnerable populations and communities disproportionately impacted by environmental burdens. [Comments on the strategic plan](#) are requested by **May 19**.

### **Health Communication Research RFI and Workshop**

The NIH is [requesting information](#) on a potential Common Fund research program to support the development of novel approaches to address health and science communication. [Responses are requested](#) by **May 27**. In addition, the NIH Common Fund is hosting a public workshop to bring together key representatives from multiple sectors that are influenced by health and science communication research to identify research opportunities and gaps. [Registration](#) is open now for the workshop on **May 16**. For more information, please see the [website](#). If you have questions about the NIH Common Fund efforts, please contact [Sara Amolegbe](#).

### **ATSDR Toxicological Profiles**

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)'s [Toxicological Profiles](#) (ToxProfiles) are a unique and comprehensive compilation of available toxicological and epidemiological information on a given hazardous substance. Each year, the agency reviews high priority ToxProfiles, as well as new substances, and chooses several to update or create. ATSDR seeks public comment on the following new and updated profiles:

- [Beryllium](#), [Chlorodibenzofurans](#), [Chloromethane](#), [1,2-Dichloroethane](#), [Methyl-tert-butyl Ether](#), and [N-Nitrosodimethylamine](#) by **May 23**.
- [Copper](#), [Mercury](#), [Nitrobenzene](#), and [Nitrophenols](#) by **July 26**.

## **DATA SCIENCE AND DATA SHARING**

### **Integrating Environmental Data into the All of Us Research Program**

The NIH [All of Us](#) Research Program [seeks input](#) on how to best collect and integrate environmental health data. *All of Us* is a historic effort to collect and study data from one million or more people living in the United States to build a diverse database that can inform thousands of studies on a variety of health conditions.

The program requests input on valid and reliable measures to shape how environmental data, particularly when paired with other data types, can be most beneficial to researchers. Responses are accepted through **May 31**.

### **New Cloud-Based BLAST Tool**

[ElasticBLAST](#) is a new tool developed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information that runs BLAST searches on the cloud. ElasticBLAST can process large numbers of queries in shorter time than BLAST+, while also supporting most BLAST+ options and programs. It works on two of the current NIH Science and Technology Research Infrastructure for Discovery, Experimentation, and Sustainability partners: Amazon Web Services and Google Cloud Platform.

### **NIH Scientific Data Sharing Website Is Live**

The new [NIH Scientific Data Sharing website](#) is now available and serves as a central portal for resources on NIH data-sharing policies. The website helps users navigate NIH policies, providing step-by-step guides, infographics, tools, and resources. Users can find answers to common questions, such as which NIH sharing policies apply to a particular research project, how to share and submit data, how to access data from NIH-supported repositories, and more.

### **New Data-Sharing Guidance from NIAAA**

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) released a notice to inform prospective applicants of their latest data sharing guidance for human subjects grants research. Investigators and their institutions should provide plans for submitting their grant-related human subjects data to NIAAA repositories as part of their grant applications. For more specific information, including applicable data and types of applications, see [the notice](#).



TAMU SRP Center use a new vehicle to track air pollution. The vehicle has instrumentation to measure wind speed and direction, temperature, and humidity; a proton transfer reaction mass spectrometer; a GPS system; and other instruments. Pictured from left to right: Toriq Mustapha, Natalie Johnson, and Matiana Saitas. (Photo courtesy of the TAMU SRP Center)