

DEPARTMENT NOTES

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Updates, Awards,
Grants, and
Accolades



Promotions and
Appointments



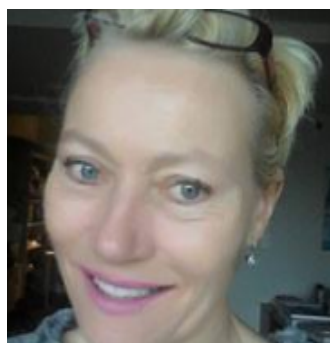
Popular Press:
Translating Our
Science



In Other News



IN MEMORIAM OF ALICE SMYTHE



Our dear friend and colleague, **Alice Smythe**, passed away on October 8th, 2018. Alice worked at Harvard for over 20 years and, most recently, was Project Coordinator for Professor Petros Koutrakis. We had a celebration to honor Alice on October 25th in Landmark where family, alumni and friends came to share stories of Alice.

Individuals within the EH Department donated \$600 to Southern Poverty Law Center in memory of Alice. If you were not able to donate and would still like to, you may do so here: [Southern Poverty Law Donation](#)

Updates, Awards, Grants and Accolades

2018 Postdoc Mentor of the Year Award

MARC WEISSKOPF

Marc was awarded the 2018 Postdoc Mentor of the Year on September 20th at the Postdoc Appreciation Reception. The award recognizes outstanding mentorship of postdoctoral fellows from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

If you would like to learn more about this award and Postdoctoral Appreciation Week at Harvard, please click the link below.

[National Postdoc Appreciation Week](#)





Marcolongo Prize and NIOSH Award

DAVID C. CHRISTIANI

David was awarded a \$2.3 million R01 by NIOSH to continue the Shanghai Textile Worker Cohort Study.

The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Health awarded David with the Marcolongo prize. He gave the keynote address at their annual meeting on October 29th titled *Non-communicable environmental disease in the Tropics*.

Pilot Project Program

AWARDEES: JOSEPH ALLEN | JAIME HART | ROSS OSGOOD | SNEH TOPRANI | ZHAOZHONG ZHU

Grants of up to \$25,000 for pilot studies in environmental health research are available to Center Members, their trainees and collaborators. Pilot awards are meant to encourage innovative lines of inquiry, foster new collaborations and provide preliminary data to make future applications for external funding more competitive. We call for proposals twice each year and the top projects are selected for funding. We award 3-6 for each round. Our Fall 2018 deadline was September 7th. Applications were sent to outside experts in the field for review and winners were picked on October 24th.

Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center for Environmental Health

"...aims to encourage innovation and creativity in environmental health science research..."

Health Policy Research Scholars

ASHLEY GRIPPER

Ashley Gripper, PhD Student in the Environmental Health Department, has been selected to participate in one of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's leadership development programs, designed to equip leaders across the country—in every sector and field—to collaborate, break down silos, and use their influence to make communities healthier and more equitable.

Specifically, Ashley Gripper was selected for the Health Policy Research Scholars program. Designed for second-year doctoral students from underrepresented populations and disadvantaged backgrounds, Health Policy Research Scholars helps researchers from all fields—from economics to epidemiology—apply their work to policies that advance equity and health while building a diverse field of leaders who reflect our changing national demographics.

Health Policy Research Scholars



Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellowship Award

AUGUSTA WILLIAMS

Augusta Williams has been awarded a 2019 Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellowship. This Fellowship award, sponsored by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, is a 12-week program at the Academies' offices in Washington, D.C., providing hands-on training and educational experience designed to engage Fellows in the process that informs U.S. science and technology policy—it helps to develop their basic skills and know-how essential to working or participating in science policy at the

federal, state, or local level. Augusta will be working with the Board on Environmental Change and Society on a variety of projects related to climate change communication and resilience.

Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellowship Program

Hannah Laue successfully defended her doctoral dissertation entitled *Environmental Chemicals, the Microbiome, and the Developing Brain*.

Service Anniversaries

JOHN S. EVANS

In the month of December 2018 John S. Evans will be celebrating his 40 Year service anniversary at Harvard.

ROSE WEST

In the month of December 2018 Rose West will be celebrating her 20 Year service anniversary at Harvard.

NEW GRANTS IN THE DEPARTMENT

Principle Investigator	Award	Sponsor
David Christiani	Lung Disease in Chinese Textile Workers	CDC/NIOSH
Phil Demokritou	Green, nature inspired nano-sanitizers for enhancing safety of ready-to-eat fruits and vegetables	US-Israel BARD Fund
Phil Demokritou	Evaluating the Efficacy of Exposure to Engineered Water Nanostructures (EWNS) on Hand Hygiene	Sloan Valve Company
Doug Dockery	Historical analysis of air quality-related health benefits in the population in Mexico City from 1990 to 2012. Phase III b	Ministry of the Environment (Federal District, Mexico)
Francine Laden	Nurses' Health Study 3: A multiple exposure environmental epidemiology cohort of young adults	NIH/NIEHS
Quan Lu	SPP1, Oxidative Stress, and Lead Toxicity	NIH/NIEHS
Eileen McNeely / Shine Program	A Blockchain-based indexing system for factories	New America Foundation/Department of State-Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
Eileen McNeely	Follow up of Well-being measures in Mexico, China, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka	Levi Strauss Foundation
Zac Nagel	Multi-Pathway DNA Repair Capacity Measurements in Lung Cancer Patients and Healthy Controls	NIH/NIEHS

Rick Rogers	Development Platform for Analysis of NIR-mediated Exosomal Micro Carriers	Office of Naval Research
Marc Weisskopf	A big data approach to phthalates, hormones, and ADHD	NIH/NIEHS
Marc Weisskopf	Validation of Portable XRF for Invivo Measurement of Heavy Metal Exposures	NIH

EVENTS



SHINE SUMMIT / The SHINE program, led by **Eileen McNeely**, held its 4th Summit titled *Why Well-being Matters: Meaning and Metrics for 21st Century Business Leaders*, in October at Google Headquarters in Cambridge, MA. Sustainability and health leaders from over 60 organizations, from Amazon to Yamaha Motors, attended to learn about the latest in visionary thinking, innovative research, and practical solutions for fostering well-being throughout the business value chain.



WORLD WIDE WEEK was a celebration of the international cultures of the people that make up the Harvard University community, and the work that the University engages in around the world. This event featured three sessions featuring distinguished speakers that are performing environmental research in Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East/Africa. The events took place in October and were a huge success. We would like to thank **Doug Dockery** for organizing this event, and to all of the presenters who participated.

MPH FIELD PRACTICE E-POSTER NIGHT took place on November 13th, 2018 in the Kresge Cafeteria. The event featured 28 MPH-45 and MPH-65 students who presented their field practice work from this past summer to 12 judges made up of faculty, doctoral students, and alumni. **Jessica Kilpatrick** from EH won 3rd place at this event with her E-Poster titled *Near Roadway Air Pollution Hazard Assessment for Proactive Early Care & Education Location Screening*. Others who participated in this event included **Darya Minovi**, poster titled *Assessing Health Data in Chicago's Environmental Justice Communities*, **Abhiyant Tiwari**, poster titled *Advancing Environmental Heat Wave and Health Work in Ahmedabad, India*, and **John Nagao**, poster titled *Salutogenic Iterations: Context-Specific Architecture for Vulnerable Populations*.



For an updated list of events please visit the EH Department Calendar: **Department of Environmental Health Events**

PRESENTATION

Joel Schwartz gave a keynote address at the First WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health on October 30th, 2018.

World Health
Organization - WHO
Global Conference



NOMINATION

Jaime Hart has been nominated as a candidate for Secretary-Treasurer of ISEE. Please help Jaime and vote in late November.

You can find out more here:
International Society
for Environmental
Epidemiology



Promotions and Appointments



Maitreyi Mazumdar was promoted and has a secondary appointment in the Department as Associate Professor



Annette Peters was promoted to Adjunct Professor of Environmental Health



Dania Valvi was promoted to Research Scientist at the School of Public Health

Popular Press: Translating our Science



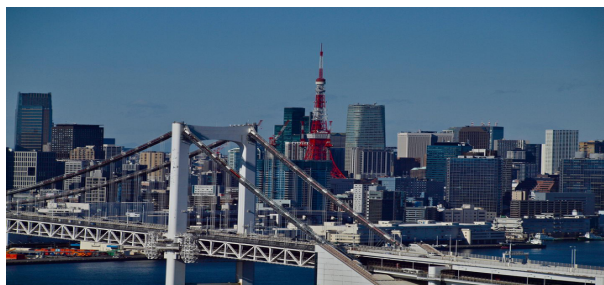
At Harvard Chan School, nano safety is no small concern

Philip Demokritou, associate professor of aerosol physics and director of Center for Nanotechnology and Nanotoxicology at Harvard, discusses new concerns in environmental health.

"There are close to 4,000 chemicals entering the market every year in the United States; only 2 to 3 percent of those go through toxicological testing."

Preventing a dengue outbreak at the 2020 Summer Olympics

Naoki Yanagisawa, Jack Spengler and Ramon Sanchez-Pina wrote in PLOS that mosquito-borne disease was found to be expanding into temperate areas, like Japan. This may be a cause of concern for the 2020 Summer Olympics.



Credit: Alejandro, Flickr, 2015



Breathing uneasily

Joe Allen, assistant professor of exposure science and head of the Healthy Buildings Program, sat down with the Harvard Gazette to discuss the California Camp Fire and the dangerous effects of wildfire smoke. In this interview Joe mentions what you can do to protect yourself against this type of air pollution.

In Other News...

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE STUDENT ORGANIZATION



HARVARD CHAN
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
STUDENT ORGANIZATION



The Environmental Justice Student Organization is excited to be in our second year!

Our mission is to create space for students, faculty, staff, and the larger Boston area community to discuss, raise awareness, and work towards addressing environmental justice (EJ) issues in our communities at Harvard, locally, and beyond. Some topics we would like to tackle this year are: food justice, climate change, community land use/access, hazardous workplace and residential exposures, and their interconnections. We are planning an EJ conference for spring 2019 as well as other events throughout the year.

Board members: **Anna Iokheles, Ashley Gripper, Kathryn Tomsho, MyDzung Chu**

Faculty advisors: **Dr. Gary Adamkiewicz, Dr. Tamarra James-Todd**

Please reach out if you'd like to join or connect in any way.

Our contact: EJstudent.harvardchan@gmail.com