

# DEPARTMENT NOTES

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Updates,  
Awards, Grants,  
& Accolades



Promotions and  
Appointments



Popular Press:  
Translating Our  
Science



In Other News



### Updates, Awards, Grants, and Accolades

#### Acknowledging Commitment and Excellence (ACE) Award

Winter 2018 EH Nominees: JEFFERY ADAMS, MARTY ALVAREZ, KIM NGUYEN, JOSE VALLARINO, BARBARA ZUCKERMAN

The ACE Award acknowledges Harvard Chan School of Public Health staff who have made exceptional efforts at work. They have shown their ability to accomplish something extraordinary that aligns with the School's mission. This award is also a way to acknowledge those who demonstrate their ability to lead by example and recognize them for their efforts.

#### 2018 Dean's Fund for Scientific Advancement Awards (DFSA)

The DFSA launched in December of 2018 with over \$800,000 invested to support twelve awards to both individuals and interdisciplinary teams to advance innovative research, pedagogy, and development of cross-cutting scientific platforms. The funding is split into four mechanisms: Activation, Incubation, Acceleration, and Transformation, which are highlighted in the pipeline below. Please find all EH Awardees within each category below.

Activation Awardees: JOSEPH ALLEN, KRISTOPHER SAROSIEK

Joe Allen - *"The Case for Healthy Buildings"*

Kristopher Sarosiek - *"Mapping Cell Death Regulation in the Lung to Address Global Health Challenges"*

Incubation Awardee: JACK SPENGLER

*"Children's Developmental Status in Relation to Solid Fuel Use in Low and Middle Income Countries"*

Acceleration Research Awards / Awardees: MARC WEISSKOPF

*"Augmentation of the Beiwe Platform for Smartphone-based Digital Phenotyping"*

Transformation Award: This will be awarded in 2020

For more information click here: [The Dean's Fund for Scientific Advancement](#)

#### American Journal of Epidemiology 2018 Article of the Year

The paper *"Live-Birth Bias and Observed Associations Between Air Pollution and Autism"* was recently voted as one of the top 10 2018 Articles of the Year by the American Journal of Epidemiology. Authors of this paper include Raanan Raz, Marianthi-Anna Kioumourtzoglou, and Marc Weisskopf. All top 10 articles will be released online in April and will appear in the April 2019 issue.

You can find the abstract on PubMed here: [PubMed Article](#)

## **Parker B. Francis Fellowship Award**

Awardee: JENNIFER MITCHEL

Jennifer Mitchel has been awarded a Parker B. Francis Fellowship in Pulmonary Research. As a PBF Fellow she will receive 3 years of support while working under the mentorship of Jeff Fredberg and Jin-Ah Park on the project titled "Cell Jamming in Airway Homeostasis and Repair". The Francis Family Foundation is focused upon developing the next generation of leaders in the study of pulmonary sciences and lung disease and has provided more than \$66 million in support of career development 1976. Jennifer is joining a prestigious class of Parker B. Francis fellows for 2019.

## **HSPH ANNIVERSARIES**

JEAN LAI - 25 years of service

ANDREA SHAFER - 20 years of service

CHOONG-MIN KANG & ANNA KOSHELEVA - 15 years of service

CAROLYN LANGER - 10 years of service

IRINA MORDUKOVICH - 5 years of service

## **Promotions and Appointments**

### **NEW GRANTS IN THE DEPARTMENT**

<b>Principal Investigator</b>	<b>Award Title</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Type</b>
Gary Adamkiewicz	Environmental determinants of long-term respiratory morbidity in children with bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD)" study	NIH/Boston Children's Hospital	Federal Grant
Gary Adamkiewicz	Ecological Assessment of Health Interventions to Achieve Communities of Opportunity in Affordable Housing Settings	Columbia University/JPB Foundation	Non-Federal Grant
Ari Bernstein	C-CHANGE - Healthy Kids and Climate	Heising-Simons Foundation	Non-Federal Grant
Joseph Beyene	Elucidating a physiological role for ARRDC-1 Mediated Microvesicles (ARMMs): A versatile platform for the delivery of biological therapeutics	NIH/NIGMS	Federal Grant
Jonathan Buonocore	Tracking Oil and Gas Pollution and Understanding Health Benefits of Reducing Methane	Overlook International Foundation	Non-Federal Grant
Eileen McNeely	The Impact of new work designs on worker wellbeing - Plock, Poland Factory Workers	Levi Strauss Foundation	Non-Federal Grant
Jennifer Mitchel	Cell Jamming in Airway Homeostasis and Repair	Parker B. Francis Fellowship	Non-Federal Fellowship
Ramon Sanchez	Innovation and Sustainability in Guadalajara	Universidad de Celaya	Non-Federal Grant
Kris Sarosiek	Role of apoptosis in childhood traumatic brain injuries: blocking cell death to improve outcomes	Charles H. Hood Foundation	Non-Federal Grant
Kris Sarosiek	Dynamic regulation of apoptosis as a driver of therapy-induced infertility in pediatric cancer patients	Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation	Non-Federal Grant
Joel Schwartz	Particulate Air Pollution, Cardiovascular Events, and Susceptibility Factors (PACES)	NIH/NIEHS/Kaiser Foundation Research Institute	Federal Grant
Jack Spengler	How the Natural, Built and Social Environments of Cities Influence Human Health	Wellcome Trust/Imperial College London - Science, Technology and Medicine	Non-Federal Grant
Akira Tsuda	Manipulating Tissue Strain in Surgical Repair	NIH/NIHLB/Brigham & Women's Hospital	Federal Grant

## EVENTS

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH RETREAT.** The first annual Environmental Health Research Retreat was held on December 10th at the Joseph B. Martin Conference Center. The event brought together Environmental Health faculty, staff, researchers, postdoctoral fellows, and students to showcase their research, make new connections, and brainstorm about new initiatives and research directions. Overall, this event was a huge success. Special thanks goes to the team leaders (Bernardo Lemos, Quan Lu, Jin-Ah Park, Gary Adamkiewicz, Joe Allen, Zac Nagel, Tamarra James-Todd, Phil Demokritou, Kris Sarosiek) for putting together the program content and to Barbara Zuckerman, Lauren McCalla, Glenn Stern, Cori O'Brian Chisholm and Emily Drake for making it all happen so smoothly.

**WINTER HOLIDAY PARTY.** The annual EH winter holiday party, on February 5, was a huge success, as always. Lauren McCalla, Barbara Zuckerman and Cori O'Brien Chisholm did an amazing job turning the Kresge cafeteria into a winter wonderland, complete with good food and drink, games, and a selfie station with props.



**WHY WE CYCLE** is a film screening and panel discussion on bicycle urbanism that is co-sponsored by the EH Department. The event will take place on March 11th at 6:30pm in the Piper Auditorium at Harvard GSD.

For more information on upcoming events, please refer to the Department of Environmental Health Calendar: [EH Calendar](#)

## Popular Press: Translating our Science

### Controversy over e-cigarette flavorings heats up

Researchers from four EH labs - Joe Allen, Quan Lu, David Christiani, and Jin-ah Park - collaborated to find that two chemicals commonly used to flavor e-cigarettes were linked to impaired function and production of cilia by changing gene expression which could potentially lead to lung diseases such as asthma and COPD. This study was the first

of its kind to consider the impacts of flavoring chemicals in relation to human epithelial cells. You may read more about this article in both the Harvard Gazette as well as the HSPH website found here: [Gazette Article](#)



### Drop and give me 40

Justin Yang, Stefanos Kales, Coastas Christophi and Dorothee Baur found that middle-aged men who were able to complete over 40 push-ups had a 96% lower risk of developing cardiovascular disease compared to those that could do less than 10 push-ups. They also found that this push-up test was even more effective than the submaximal treadmill tests previously performed. You can read the full article here:

[Gazette Article](#)



## Finding our genomic clockwork

This Harvard Gazette article highlighted recent research from Bernardo Lemos' lab that was published online in Genome Research in mid-February. The study found a ribosomal DNA clock that can help determine someone's biological and chronological age. This is important as it could potentially lead to giving us a better understanding of the impact environment and lifestyle choices have in relation to a person's risk of death or disease. You can find the full article in the [Harvard Gazette](#).

## In Other News

### NEW ADDITIONS TO EH FAMILIES



Over the past few months Doug Dockery welcomed two more grandchildren into his family. Please find a photo to the left of his two granddaughters, Nora and Loretta.



Diane Gold welcomed a grandson, Raphael Erley-Hodgkin, who was born in early morning of December 16, 2018.



Akira Tsuda became a grandfather to a grandson on January 8th, 2019. His name is Imre Tsuda-McCaie.

### EER Student Decorating Competition

EER held a student decorating competition during the holiday party on December 12, 2018. The four teams (PhD, SM2, MPH65 and SD) each decorated a pole with a holiday and environmental health theme in Landmark 4W. Although the competition was very close, the ScD team pulled ahead and won the prize of a gift card to Lucky Struck Bowling.

#### Pole 1: PhD Team

Team Members:  
ADJANI PERALTA,  
MYDZUNG CHU, JIE  
YIN

#### Pole 2: SM2 Team

Team Members:  
SARAH ZELASKY,  
VERONICA WANG,  
CALLAN KREVANKO

#### Pole 3: MPH65 Team

Team Members:  
LARISSA  
MCDONOGH-WONG,  
MAIA GOKHALE,  
LINNEA CHAMP,  
EMMA POLLACK,  
JUAN REYNOSO

#### Pole 4: SD Team

Team Members:  
ERIKA EITLAND,  
EMILY SPARER,  
JONATHAN  
BUONOCORE,  
ANNELISE  
BLOMBERG



SD Team enjoying their bowling.