
Chair Chatter
November 4, 2022

From the weather you wouldn't think it is November and the start of the Fall 2 semester, but the calendar doesn't lie. Enjoy the warm autumn weather this weekend. Two things to keep in mind. This weekend we turn the clocks back to standard time; remember you can sleep an extra hour on Saturday night/Sunday morning. Second, remember that the school will be closed next Friday, November 11 for Veterans Day, so that Chair Chatter will most likely only include upcoming events. Also, give a thought to what Veterans Day is all about; it falls on the day the armistice was signed to end World War I, and is meant to honor and thank U.S. military personnel that served the U.S. in all wars.

Congratulations to the Planetary Health Alliance team that put together an exceptional hybrid meeting here in person at the Martin Center and virtually for several thousand people from all over the world. This three-day event presented a unique global perspective to our planet's daunting environmental issues. With the theme of "Building the Field and Growing the Movement," it consisted of a series of [presentations](#), [panel discussions](#), [posters](#), and [breakout sessions](#) that gave multiple opportunities for people to share and learn from each other. Congratulations to Sam Myers and the whole PHA team for organizing such an inspiring and successful event!

Locally the MEMCARE Superfund community engagement team participated at this year's annual Zoo Howl at Franklin Park Zoo this past weekend. Their booth contained a water filter experiment, which emphasized the importance of filtered water to kids. They handed out stickers, clementines, coloring pages, and informational fact sheets surrounding clean drinking water and PFAS. They were able to reach a wide audience within the greater Boston community and gather information surrounding their concerns around metal exposure and environmental health. Many thanks to the community engagement team and volunteers who helped staff the booth!



Turning to the future, this period before Thanksgiving is jam packed with all kinds of terrific academic, social, and cultural events. I particularly encourage our trainees and students to have lunch with our Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center's colloquium speaker, Dr. Laura Crotty Alexander on Wednesday, and for everyone to come see her presentation. Other notable events are the EH student advisory committee's Trivia Night (open to the whole EH community), and the Alice Hamilton Award Ceremony honoring our own Tamarra James-Todd.

Please send any news or upcoming events to sh-chatter@hsph.harvard.edu. And just for fun I'd like to introduce a new feature called "Photos of the Week." Feel free to send me something or someone that means something to you. As a reward for reading this whole Chatter, below the upcoming events you will find this issue's inaugural **Photos of the Week** after the list of upcoming events.

Upcoming Events

Friday, November 4, 2022, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Harvard Chan South Asian Students Association: Light it up - Diwali Dinner at Harvard Chan

We cordially invite you to join us for Diwali dinner and celebrations on November 4, 2022 at 6 pm in Kresge Cafeteria! We will have multiple courses of hot Indian food with snacks, decorations, music, and rangoli (art-making) activities. We also plan to run a Diwali quiz with prizes for the winners. The evening will be topped off with some Bollywood music and a dance floor. The event will be held on November 4th at 6pm in the Kresge Cafeteria and we would love to have you join us! Non-Harvard family and friends are also welcome to join the celebration.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/light-it-up-diwali-dinner-at-harvard-chan-tickets-445568596667>

More Information: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/india-center/>

Monday, November 7, 2022, 1:10-1:50 PM

Title: Quantitative Performance Assessment of a Ventilated Respiratory Aerosol Containment Device

Speaker(s): Katrina Cernucan, BS, PhD student and NIOSH trainee in Biomedical Engineering, University of Utah.

Details: This is a Monday ERC Seminar featuring an ERC trainee from the Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, the NIOSH-funded ERC at the University of Utah.

Location: HSPH FXB G12

For more information contact: abackus@hsph.harvard.edu

Follow this link for registration: <https://proxy.qualtrics.com/proxy/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fharvard.az1.qualtrics.com%2Fjfe%2Fform%2F%2F3wLxu0kv0q8nMmq&token=JLZ4dbEaNBDTVBBgoXvsjuUgFmr2%2BG2hOpXBIHXhg9U%3D>

More information: hsph.harvard.edu/erc

Tuesday, November 8, 2022; 9:30 AM-10:30 AM ET

MIPS Work-in-Progress Seminar Series

Extracellular vesicles for regenerative medicine and drug delivery applications

Speaker: Ke Cheng, PhD, Professor, Regenerative Medicine, North Carolina State University

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96260666705?pwd=enJWVXVLSGJlVjBuWnhFUGVTL0tMZz09>

Wednesday, November 9; 1:00-2:00pm ET

Harvard Chan-NIEHS Colloquium Series

Speaker: Laura Crotty Alexander, MD

Title: Evolving understanding of the impact of e-cigarette use on airway and systemic inflammation

Location: HYBRID – Building 1, 1302 and via Zoom

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/91536097719?pwd=MW9QSGFza3RkSVlNU3owZVZAzE43Zz09>

Description: Join us for our 2022-2023 colloquium series on *Environmental Health in Action*. This month, we welcome Laura Crotty Alexander, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of California at San Diego. Dr. Crotty Alexander completed her undergraduate and medical education at Duke University prior to completing her Internal Medicine residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. She completed her Pulmonary Critical Care Fellowship training at Harvard, followed by a postdoctoral

research fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Disease at UC San Diego. She is an Associate Professor of Medicine at UCSD and Section Chief of Pulmonary Critical Care at the VA San Diego. Her research focuses on the health effects of e-cigarettes, as well as molecular pathways in asthma and lung inflammation in general.

More Info: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/niehs/event/hsph-niehs-colloquium-series-laura-crotty-alexander-md/>

Wednesday, Nov 9; 12:00-12:45pm ET

Trainee Lunch with Guest Speaker

Speaker: Laura Crotty Alexander, MD

Location: Will be sent out to registrants 1 day before the event

Description: Students and postdocs are invited to join Dr. Crotty Alexander for lunch before her presentation. This is a chance for trainees to meet privately with our speaker to discuss research interests, career advice, funding opportunities, etc. Free box lunch provided. RSVP required for the Trainee Session (not required for the main presentation).

RSVP now: https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6MxNUxaDiV4IXY2

Thursday, Nov 10; 1:00-2:00pm ET

South Asian Students Association and India Research Centre Fall Mixer

The Harvard Chan South Asia Students Association (SASA) goal is to collaborate with students, staff, faculty, and alumni at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health to bring to attention the health issues affecting people of South Asian origin, and use this organization as a platform to explore new ideas and interests. The India Research Centre (IRC) is designed to broaden and coordinate the School's existing collaborations and create new relationships with organizations and agencies across India. The Center is engaged in a number of diverse projects with the ultimate goal to improve health in India and around the world. We invite you to join us for a Fall mixer hosted by SASA and the IRC! The mixer is aimed at providing a space where students and faculty can interact with each other, and learn more about upcoming SASA events and any ongoing and potential projects at the IRC.

Location: Kresge 200

RSVP: <https://engage.sph.harvard.edu/event/8559449>.

More Information: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/india-center/>

Monday, November 14, 2022; 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

The Environmental Health Student Advisory Committee Presents: Department of Environmental Health Trivia Night

All members of the Department of Environmental Health are invited to join us for a night of trivia and fun. Light snacks and beverages will be provided. Please RSVP by November 7th using the link below. Prizes for the winners.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

RSVP: https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cuK4hoXG41rBcDI

Tuesday, November 15, 2022; 9:30 am – 10:30 am

MIPS Work-in-Progress Seminar Series

Development of pathway specific reporters for nucleotide excision repair

Speaker: Turner Pecan, Graduate Student, JBL, HSPH

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96260666705?pwd=enJWXXVLSGUjVjBuWnhFUGVTL0tMZz09>

Tuesday, November 15, 2022; 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm ET

Pediatric Environmental Health Grand Round Series

Pollution, Climate Change, and Children's Health

The Pediatric Environmental Health Center at Boston Children's Hospital and the New England Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (Region 1 PEHSU) are launching an inaugural monthly virtual Pediatric Environmental Health Grand Rounds series. The PEH Grand Rounds will held on Zoom and the link will be provided upon registration. We will be offering both CME & CNE credits to participants who register and choose to earn credits during the registration process. Presented by Phil Landrigan, MD, MSc.

Location: Zoom

To register for this training session go to: <https://bostonchildrens.cloud-cme.com/HealthyHomesNov>

Wednesday, November 16, 2022; 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm ET

Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center SPARC Session

Putting Environmental Health Into Action

Join us for the first SPARC session of the year! We're getting together in-person [finally!] to chat about how to use technology, community engagement, and research-informed interventions to optimize the impact of our work. No registration required; all are welcome.

Location: 4th floor West Common area, Landmark Center, 401 Park Drive

More Information: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/niehs/event/sparc-putting-environmental-health-into-action/>

Thursday, November 17; 2:00 – 4:00 PM

12th Annual Alice Hamilton Award Ceremony

"Environmental Reproductive Justice: The Importance of Scholarly Advocacy in Reducing Health Disparities"

Speaker: Dr. Tamarra James-Todd, Mark and Catherine Winkler Associate Professor of Environmental Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology

Details: This award ceremony honors women faculty at the Harvard Chan School of Public Health who have shown incredible strides in service, mentoring, and research. Dr. Tamarra James-Todd, Mark and Catherine Winkler Associate Professor of Environmental Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology, has been selected as this year's recipient for the Alice Hamilton Award and will deliver the 2022 Alice Hamilton Award Lecture.

The Alice Hamilton Award recognizes the achievements of a promising early-career woman investigator in public health. Dr. James-Todd was one of the first researchers to evaluate the role of phthalates in relation to risk of diabetes and metabolic syndrome among women. Her research integrates environmental and epidemiologic methods together with biomarkers to address unmet public health needs. Dr. James-Todd's research is leading the way in the understudied area of effects of environmental exposures on women's health. She has become a leader in the field of environmental health and women's health.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

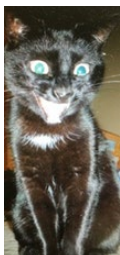
To RSVP for the on-campus event please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/451753525957>

To RSVP for the virtual event please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/451751018457>

Photos of the Week

In honor of Halloween this past week, here are pictures of:

Ninnymuggins, friend of Cori O'Brien Chisholm:



Mia, friend of Kaitlin Breen:



Sparky, friend of Rose West:



Chair Chatter

November 10, 2022

As I mentioned last week, we'll make this a brief chatter because the school is closed tomorrow. However, I do want to mention Dean Williams' announcement this morning that she will be stepping down at the end of this academic year. Michelle has been a great friend and colleague to me and our department. We are grateful for her service as Dean, and we are looking forward to continuing partnerships with her as a member of our Harvard Chan faculty.

For Veterans Day, we join in remembering our fallen, missing, or imprisoned military service members with this virtual [Missing Man Table](#).



Enjoy the long weekend. As you can see below, we have a very active week of events next week starting on Monday with the EH Trivia night. Hope to see you there.

As always please send any news or upcoming events to ch-chatter@hsph.harvard.edu.

Upcoming Events

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Chair Chatter
November 18, 2022

As we head into the Thanksgiving holiday, rarely have there been so many accomplishments in the department to report as we have this week. Where to begin?

Let's start with promotions. Congratulations to Zac Nagel, who was promoted to Associate Professor of Genomics and Cancer Biology. Zac has been an Assistant Professor with us since 2016. He leads a team that uses novel multiplex, cell-based DNA repair assays (FM-HCR) together with biochemical and biophysical approaches to understand DNA repair at the molecular, cellular and population levels, with the long-term goal of advancing personalized prevention and treatment of disease.

Congratulations also to Kris Sarosiek, who was promoted to Associate Professor of Radiation Biology and Cell Death. Kris also joined us in 2016. He leads a team that pursues research focusing on a fundamental question that has broad implications for health and disease: What determines whether a cell will live or die in response to damage or stress?

Not only do Kris and Zac perform groundbreaking research, they also mentor students and serve on many important departmental and school committees. They both richly deserve these promotions to associate professor.

Yesterday many of us had the pleasure of attending the 12th Annual 2022 Alice Hamilton Award Ceremony which honored two of our star faculty members. Tamarra James Todd received the 2022 Alice Hamilton Award, which recognizes an especially promising woman tenure-track faculty member whose work has already made a significant impact and who demonstrates exceptional future promise. It also honors the memory of [Alice Hamilton](#), a pioneer in the fields of toxicology and occupational health, who was the first woman appointed to the Harvard faculty. Tamarra's lecture, entitled "Environmental Reproductive Justice: The Importance of Scholar Advocacy in Reducing Health Disparities", brilliantly linked Alice Hamilton's legacy to Tamarra's own research journey which focuses on environmental justice and hormonal disruptors in personal care products.

Francine Laden received the Marianne Wessling-Resnick Memorial Mentoring Award. The Committee on the Advancement of Women Faculty (CAWF) makes this award annually to recognize members of the Harvard Chan School community who have significantly contributed to the advancement of women faculty and researchers at the School. Incidentally, Francine was the winner of the first Alice Hamilton Award in 2011.

Congratulations to Francine and Tamarra who so deserve the accolades they received!



Our EH team was runner up in the humanitarian and social justice category in the [2022 ArcGIS StoryMaps Competition](#), which invites storytellers globally to build stories about an idea, challenge, or solution through innovative data visualization techniques. Congratulations to Lisa Frueh, former research assistant and now doctoral student at Drexel University, who was ably assisted by current doctoral students Marissa Chan and Jahred Liddie. This project, entitled "[Racial Residential Segregation in Greater Boston](#)", was overseen by Tamarra James-Todd and Gary Adamkiewicz. The work was funded by the GCMC of the NIEHS Center, which is run by Jaime Hart and Francine Laden. Congratulations all!

President Bacow has invited Joe Allen to join his Presidential Committee on Sustainability, which is the group that advises on [Harvard's sustainability strategy](#) and progress on our institutional climate change and sustainable development goals. The PCS is co-chaired by Professor Jody Freeman (HLS), Professor Mike Toffel (HBS), and Executive Vice President Meredith Weenick, and convenes expert faculty, senior administrators, and students to advise President Bacow and University leadership on Harvard's sustainability vision and implementation strategy.

After some administrative delays, the GEOHealth India grant is now active. This NIH-funded project is a joint research/training grant designed to build capacity in environmental health research and teaching in India. Co-PIs Nancy Sieber and Joel Schwartz will be traveling to Delhi during the week after Thanksgiving to attend meetings of CHAIR-India (Consortium for Climate, Health And Air pollution Research in India) and to meet with their Indian collaborators to kick off the first year of the grant. In addition, Dr. Petter Ljungman will be teaching the grant's first environmental health short course, entitled "Environmental Epidemiology and Cardiovascular Health". This [abstract](#) has more information about CHAIR-India.

Many of us had a lot of fun at Monday's EH Trivia Night. Our thanks to the EH Student Advisory Committee (SAC) for all their organizing efforts that made the night such a wonderful success: Amanda Hernandez, Claire Dinehart, Damini Singh, Kate Hardock, Lissah Johnson, Maddie Wissoker, Shuxin Dong, and William Borchert. If you are interested in joining SAC to help plan more events, please email Barbara (bzuckerm@hsph.harvard.edu).

And lastly, congratulations to Liana Lawrence and baby Liam, born November 1. They get to be in this week's photo of the week!



The Alice Hamilton Award recognizes the achievements of a promising early-career woman investigator in public health. Dr. James-Todd was one of the first researchers to evaluate the role of phthalates in relation to risk of diabetes and metabolic syndrome among women. Her research integrates environmental and epidemiologic methods together with biomarkers to address unmet public health needs. Dr. James-Todd's research is leading the way in the understudied area of effects of environmental exposures on women's health. She has become a leader in the field of environmental health and women's health.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

To RSVP for the on-campus event please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/451753525957>

To RSVP for the virtual event please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/451751018457>

Friday, November 18; 1:10 – 1:50 PM

Title: A New Face on an Old Disease: Monkeypox in Occupational Health Settings

Speaker: Rachael Zacks, MD, MPH, Chief Resident, Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Harvard Chan School of Public Health Erimi Iliaki, MD, MPH, Infectious Disease Specialist-Occupational, Immigration and Travel Health Clinician, Cambridge Health Alliance; Instructor in Medicine, Harvard Medical School.

Location: HSPH Kresge 502

This is a Grand Rounds provided by the Harvard Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency. For more information contact: abackus@hsph.harvard.edu or visit <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc/>.

Follow this link for registration: https://proxy.qualtrics.com/proxy/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fharvard.az1.qualtrics.com%2Fjfe%2Fform%2Fsv_29KzxfCj5nKe4Au&token=0aW6kSh3yh6HSaI3SDtySCZkvZBdg4Azo4455RYlv%3D

Monday, November 21; 1:10 – 1:50 PM

Title: Implementation Science Approaches for Occupational Safety and Health Research

Speaker: Rebecca J. Guerin, PhD, Chief, Social Science and Translation Research Branch, Division of Science Integration, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); Coordinator, NIOSH Implementation Research Program.

Location: HSPH FXB G12

Details: This is a Monday ERC Seminar Series. We welcome faculty and students.

For more information contact: abackus@hsph.harvard.edu, or visit <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc/>

Follow this link for registration:

https://proxy.qualtrics.com/proxy/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fharvard.az1.qualtrics.com%2Fjfe%2Fform%2Fsv_5hi7eJPqmYnKEDA&token=pQMzgEXv9sbVDSwY9yawAIdvtDR7KKFvpu0zZtwxEy8%3D