

From: [Nadeau, Kari C](#)
Subject: Chair Chatter - April 7, 2023
Date: Friday, April 7, 2023 3:07:17 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Chair Chatter April 7, 2023

Did you know this is [National Public Health Awareness Week](#)? It's a chance to champion the health of all Americans, no matter who they are or where they live, work, or come from, and to show support for policies that are fair, inclusive, and accessible to all communities in the U.S. Now for news for this week:

Congratulations to Adam Haber, who was one of five early career researchers selected for the [William T. Grant Scholars Class of 2028](#). This five year grant will enable Adam to study whether predictive modeling can identify dangerous housing that puts low-income children at greater risk for asthma disparities. Well done Adam!

Marc Weisskopf, Elissa Wilker and Marwa Osman got a lot of attention in the popular press for their article in *BMJ* entitled "[Ambient air pollution and clinical dementia: systemic review and meta-analysis](#)". This study, which was covered by the *Washington Post*, the *Harvard Gazette*, and the [school's website](#), provides evidence that increased PM2.5 air pollution may be linked to increased cases of dementia, and it suggests that stricter controls may be needed.

This past February I took part in an excellent joint NCI/NIEHS two-day workshop entitled "[Integrating environmental data with other omics for cancer epidemiology](#)." I was honored to have moderated the closing session which summarized the four themes that were presented and the field's future directions. For those interested, a recording of the entire workshop was just released and can be found [here](#), with the summary session [here](#).

A reminder that an upcoming Oracle upgrade means that purchasing and other systems will be down from **Tuesday, April 18th, at 5:00 pm through Monday April 24th, at 8:00 am**. Please remember to order supplies and shipping labels in advance. More information can be found [here](#).

Our finance team reminds us in its first **Weekly Policy Snippet**: "University funds may not be spent in recognition of personal events or achievements unrelated to work, such as birthdays, weddings, baby showers, housewarming, etc., or for gifts in recognition of holidays rather than work-related achievement". For more information, please see the [Gifts and Celebratory Events policy](#).

I was happy to hear that the Last Friday Social went well, with about 35 colleagues celebrating the end of March. We'll do it again at the end of April.

On Thursday, April 13 at 2:30 on Landmark 4 we will have an extra special EH Tea to celebrate Dr. Ari Bernstein. Ari - who has been leading Harvard Chan C-CHANGE since 2019 and has been with the Center since 2001 - will join the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and serve as the new Director of the National Center for Environmental Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. He will start on May 21, 2023, and will be taking a leave from his appointments at Harvard Chan and Harvard Medical School.

He will be the nation's highest-ranking public health official focused on environmental health, which is an incredible honor. Please come join us for cake and to wish Ari well in his new position!

Lastly, as mentioned last week, EH had several nominees for the Harvard Heroes Award. We were delighted that the school chose to honor one of our own, Midge Van Aller, to be one of four people to represent Harvard Chan at the university event to take place at Sanders Theater in June. Midge is widely seen to be an example of a person who routinely goes above and beyond to help others. Congratulations Midge!



There are still many exciting events scheduled in EH in April; please take advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

Please continue to send news and events to EH-Chatter@hsph.harvard.edu.

Best,

Kari

Upcoming Events

Save the dates:

May 8-10: [Salata Institute for Climate and Sustainability](#) – see details!

June 2: Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center retreat

September 29: EH Department retreat/ Whittenberger lecture

Chair Open Office Hours

Building 1, Mondays 1:00 –2:00 PM, Room 1301

Landmark, Wednesdays 2:00-2:30 Room 404

Tea Time – Take a break and just stop by

Building 1, Wednesdays 2:00-3:00, 13th floor kitchen area

Landmark, Thursdays 2:30 – 3:30 Room 404

Friday, April 7, 2023, 1:10 pm-1:50 pm EST

Title: Going in Blind: what to Know about ADA and GINA Governing PPEs and Accommodations

Speaker(s): Matthew Hamm, MD, first-year resident in the HSPH Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency Program. Carolyn Langer, MD, JD, MPH, Instructor, HSPH and Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts Medical School and a retired

Colonel and Flight Surgeon in the US Army.

Details: The April 7th Grand Rounds will feature Drs. Matt Hamm and Carolyn Langer discussing the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA). They will explain how the ADA governs medical testing during pre-placement exams (PPEs) and how GINA impacts PPEs. They will also discuss how to interpret the requirements of the ADA when making workplace accommodations.

Location: Kresge 502

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

Follow this link for registration:

https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4VL44Vk8Dsnmg8m

Join by Zoom: will be sent after pre-registration

More information: www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc

Monday April 10, 2023, 1:10 pm- 1:50 pm EST

Title: Photodynamic Nasal SARS-CoV-2 Decolonization Shortens Infectivity and Influences Specific T-Cell Responses

Speaker(s): Alejandro Fernandez Montero, MD, PhD, is a department associate in the Department of Environmental Health and Associate Professor in the Faculty of Medicine as well as medical officer in Occupational Medicine at the Universidad de Navarra.

Details: Dr. Montero will describe the steps necessary to conduct a clinical trial with nasal photodynamic therapy (PDT) and discuss the results of the PDT on Covid-19 infectivity. He will also discuss the effect on the immune response of patients with Covid-19 infection and describe the general safety of nasal PDT in this population.

Location: FXB G12

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

Follow this link for registration:

https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8307F4lvRgvRvjE

Join by Zoom: sent upon pre-registration

More information: www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc

Thursday, April 13; 12:00PM – 1:30 PM

Title: Specific Aims Review Session

Details: The NIEHS Center's Specific Aims Session is open to investigators at all levels with upcoming grant submissions. A panel of faculty members offer their critique of and suggestions for improving Specific Aims sections for junior faculty and post docs in a friendly, constructive, open session. Open to all members, collaborators and their trainees. To participate in this review session, please submit your document (MS word preferred) by Monday, April 10 at 5pm.

Location: Zoom only

For detailed instructions, visit <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/niehs/event/specific-aims-review-session-2/2023-04-13/>

More Info: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/niehs/event/specific-aims-review-session-2/2023-04-13/>

Thursday April 13; 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Event: EJSO Interdisciplinary Discussion: Perspectives on Housing Justice

Hosted by: HSPH Environmental Justice Student Organization & Harvard Law School Environmental Law Society

Details: A discussion with environmental justice experts on what housing justice means, the health impacts of poor quality housing, how policy can promote housing justice, other ways to

address this issue, and how students/young professionals can drive change.

Location: Kresge Atrium at HSPH

Friday, April 14; 9:00 am – 1:00 PM EST

EVENT: Health Equity and Leadership (HEAL) Conference

THEME: The Magnifying Glass on Health Disparities: Racial Equity in the COVID Era.

Details: This half-day conference will be held in person in the Kresge Building and Longwood campus. **Admission is free, and lunch will be provided.** And please share with others in your community!

Location: Kresge Building, Longwood campus

[Go here to register for HEAL!](#)

Friday, April 14, 2023, 1:10 pm - 1:50 pm ET

Title: Predicting Soldier Readiness Using the Soldier Performance, Health, and Readiness (SPHERE) Database

Speaker(s): Anna Oppenheimer, PhD, MPH, ORIESE Postdoctoral Epidemiologist, US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (USARMIE) and Co-Instructor in HSPH EH236.

Details: Anna Oppenheimer, PhD, MPH, will identify gaps in the current measure of Soldier readiness and describe potential factors indicative of Soldier readiness available in the Soldier Performance, Health, and Readiness (SPHERE) Database. She will also explain how machine-learning techniques can be used to predict Soldier readiness.

Location: Kresge Room 502

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

Follow this link for registration:

https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5AsDd8WnH57FmSi

Join by zoom: available after pre-registration

More information: www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc

Monday, April 17, 2023, 1:10 pm - 1:50 pm ET

Title: Interdisciplinary Research Collaborative: A Case in Exploring the Health and Well-being of Maine's Coast Communities

Speaker(s): Tara V. Casimir, PhD, RN, assistant professor of nursing, School of Nursing, University of Southern Maine and a Visiting Scholar in the Harvard Education and Research Center (ERC) Outreach Program.

Details: Tara V. Casimir, PhD, RN, will discuss the interdisciplinary approach to collaborative research partnerships in the development of the Downeast Health Research Collaborative and describe the components of the study, "Understanding Injury, Pain, and Substance Use among Shellfish and Lobster Harvesters in Downeast Maine." She will also explain the benefits and barriers of student engagement in community-level research on rural health and well-being.

Location: FXB G12

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

Follow this link for registration:

https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ebxORU8uVVICyxxg

Join by zoom: sent after pre-registration

More information: www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc

Tuesday, April 18; 4:00 – 5:00 PM EST

Event: Climate Action Must include Mental Health – panel discussion and Q&A

Speakers: Ari Bernstein (HSPH), Sarah Newman (Climate Mental Health Network), Kristy

Drutman, and Isaias Hernandez (moderator)

Description: The climate crisis is degrading our mental health. Join us to discuss who is bearing the greatest burden and what tools and resources we have and need to cope.

Tuesday, April 18; 4:00 – 5:00 PM EST

Event: Special Lecture, Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center for Environmental Health

Title: Niels Bohr: Life Behind the Physics, War and Peace

Description: Join us for a special event about the life of Niels Bohr, who was awarded the [Nobel Prize](#) in Physics in 1922 “for his services in the investigation of the structure of atoms and of the radiation emanating from them.” His grandson, Vilhelm (Will) Bohr, will talk about his grandfather’s life and achievements. A small reception with snacks and drinks will be provided. Free to attend, RSVP required.

Location: Harvard Science Center Room 469 (Cambridge campus) and via Zoom **RSVP**

Now: <http://hsph.me/bohr>

More info: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/niehs/event/niels-bohr-life-behind-the-physics-war-and-peace/>

Wednesday, April 19; 5:00 – 6:30 PM EST

Event: The Future of Climate Action – A conversation with Gina McCarthy

Speakers: Gina McCarthy, the first-ever White House National Climate Advisor and former US EPA administrator. James Stock, Vice Provost for Climate and Sustainability, Harvard University; the Harold Hitchens Burbank Professor of Political Economy, Harvard University.

Details: Free and open to the public. No tickets required. Masking is encouraged. This event will be in person and streamed live on our [YouTube channel](#). Please plan on being seated by 4:45 p.m. as the event will start promptly at 5:00 p.m.

Location: Smith Campus Center – 1350 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA

Thursday, April 20; 8:45 AM – 1:45 PM EST

Event: The Atlantic Health Equity Summit

Speaker(s): Renee Salas, Emergency Medical Physician, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School

Description: For many Americans, health care is determined by where they were born, what they look like, or how much they earn, meaning that too many lack access to affordable and quality care. Everyone deserves a fair chance to lead a healthy life. For its annual Health Equity summit, *The Atlantic* is convening medical experts, health-care leaders, and community advocates for crucial conversations about creating and sustaining an equitable health system for all.

Location: Virtual & WBUR CitySpace – 890 Commonwealth Ave., Boston

Register here: https://registration.hopin.com/widgets/registration/health-equity-2023?widget_id=17kNftFHVSVyhYAi17Vj4Tygg

Thursday, April 20; 3:00 – 7:00 PM EST

Event: Film Screening + Panel Discussion, Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center for Environmental Health

Title: Descendant Netflix Documentary

Location: MassArt Tower Auditorium, 621 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02115

Description: Join the Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center for a screening of ‘Descendant’, a Netflix documentary film that follows the descendants of the survivors of the last known slave ship to transport human beings as cargo from Africa to America. After a century of secrecy and

speculation, the 2019 discovery of *The Clotilda* ship turns attention toward the descendant community of historic Africatown and presents a moving portrait of a community actively grappling with and fighting to preserve their heritage while examining what justice looks like today. The film models the sorts of questions that community health care practitioners should consider when serving environmental justice communities, which will be discussed during the panel discussion. Space is limited; **RSVP is required**. Please bring your ID to the event

RSVP Now: <http://hsph.me/descendant>

More info: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/niehs/event/film-screening-descendant/>

Friday, April 21; 10:00AM-12:00PM

Event: Charles River Clean-up

Details: Take action on Earth Day and join your Harvard community members and friends for a Charles River Clean-up. The Charles River Conservancy will be providing a brief education on the local watershed and provide tools and training for the morning. All Harvard community members and their family and friends are welcome to participate!

Location: Cambridge

Please register yourself and any non-Harvard guest that you are bringing to receive the meeting invite and information! Limited to the first 75 people, so please sign up by Friday, April 14!

Sign up here: hrvd.me/cleanup2023

Saturday, April 22; 10:00AM – 12:00PM EST

Event: Muddy River Cleanup

Details: The Muddy River Cleanup is a part of the Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup; this event takes place throughout the Charles River Watershed and builds on a national effort as part of American Rivers' National River Cleanup® which, to date, has removed over 25 million pounds of trash from America's waterways. From 2016 to 2019, the Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup was recognized by American Rivers for the [Most Pounds of Trash Collected](#) and [Most Volunteers Mobilized](#). The Charles River Cleanup brings together over 3,000 volunteers each year to pick up litter, remove invasive species and assist with park maintenance along all 80 miles of the Charles River.

Location: multiple locations in the Emerald Necklace

Registration: [2023 Muddy River Cleanup - The Emerald Necklace Conservancy](#)

More info: Once your registration is confirmed for a specific site and date, you will be sent an email on details of your specific cleanup site, including public transit and vehicular navigation, the best areas to park, where to meet, and general health and safety guidelines. If you need specific information prior to registration, please email volunteer@emeralnecklace.org and include "Muddy River Cleanup Question" in the subject line.

April 25 – 27; 12:00 – 4:00 PM EST

Event: The 2nd Annual National Integrated Heat Health Information System (NIHHIS) National Meeting

Details: The NIHHIS National will be a virtual meeting through Zoom, and will take place from April 25th-27th, 2023. The meeting includes keynote speakers, presentations and panels on heat and health topics, and more. The meeting will also include virtual networking opportunities.

More information, including registration, will be available soon!

More info: <https://www.heat.gov/pages/nihhis-national-meeting>

Monday, May 8; 1:00PM – 5:30PM EST

Event: Climate, Health & Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future

Details: Climate change is actively harming human health — not in some distant future, but now, in communities around the globe. The more we understand these harms, the better we can confront and overcome them. That’s our goal in this symposium, which brings together leading scientists, policy makers, and activists to examine our most urgent challenges and explore promising solutions in the fields of climate, health, and environmental justice. We expect the afternoon to spark innovative ideas and seed exciting collaborations.

Location: Spangler Center - Harvard Business School Campus **(Free shuttles from Harvard Chan will be provided)**

More Info: [Climate, Health & Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future | Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#)

Register: [Online Survey Software | Qualtrics Survey Solutions](#)

From: [Eh_chatter](#) on behalf of [Nadeau, Kari C](#)
Subject: [Eh_chatter] Chair Chatter - April 14, 2023
Date: Friday, April 14, 2023 11:58:29 AM

Chair Chatter

April 14, 2023

What a lovely warm week this has been in Boston! It seems that spring has blossomed – or is it summer? In any case, I want to remind everyone that although the school is open on Monday, commuting to and from school may be a challenge due to Patriots Day festivities, including the Boston Red Sox game and especially the Boston Marathon. For those of you who are new to Boston, you may want to check out the marathon route and cheer on the runners as is an iconic Boston tradition. Here is more information about the events and traffic: <https://www.boston.gov/news/2023-boston-marathon-traffic-advisory> <https://www.meetboston.com/events/festivals-and-special-events/boston-marathon/traffic-advisory/>.

Now on to news of the department:

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We had a couple of EH faculty members and researchers who were mentioned in the *Harvard Crimson* this past week. David Christiani and Xinan Wang were quoted in an article entitled “[‘A million data points’: A 30-year long lung cancer study meets AI](#)”, which explains how artificial intelligence is transforming how data collected over decades from lung cancer patients can be used to help diagnose, evaluate and determine the efficacy of various lung cancer treatments.

In a separate *Crimson* article entitled “[Hair today, gone tomorrow: Tamarra James-Todd on the hidden toxins in Black hair care](#)”, Tamarra focuses on understanding how environmental exposures adversely affect women’s reproductive health with a particular focus on pregnancy and postpartum maternal health. The article also goes on to explain how Tamarra sees her research as contributing to both community outreach and education, and to addressing issues related to environmental justice and health disparities.

The Harvard Environmental Economics Program (HEEP) is holding a contest to identify the best student research papers addressing topics in environmental, energy, and natural-resources economics. More details can be found [here](#).

Gary Adamkiewicz was one of the panelists on this week’s first annual Environmental Justice Student Organization’s “Perspectives on Housing Justice” event. This panel brought together faculty and students from Harvard and MIT who are concerned about environmental issues.

The NIH’s Office of NIH History and Stetten Museum conducted a fascinating interview with Shruthi Mahalingiah and colleague Anne Marie Jukic from the Epidemiology Branch and Fertility and Reproductive Health Group at the NIEHS who discussed the tremendous value that the Apple Women’s Health Study brings to exploring women’s reproductive health, particularly as it relates to the effects of COVID-19. You can read a [transcript of the conversation here](#).

Weekly Policy Snippet: “Harvard defines lowest economy class airfare (sometimes called coach, standard economy fare class or base airfare) to include a reserved seat, one personal item, one carry-on bag, and one checked bag.” For more information on why this is important, please see [Harvard’s Travel Policy](#).

LAST REMINDER: The upcoming Oracle upgrade means that **purchasing and other systems will be down from Tuesday, April 18th, at 5:00 pm through Monday April 24th, at 8:00 am.** Please remember to order supplies and shipping labels in advance. More information can be found [here](#).

Looking ahead, Earth Day is April 22. There are so many opportunities this coming week for us to participate and learn. For example, C-CHANGE Student Ambassadors will host an Earth Day table from 12-2pm on Thursday, April 20 in Kresge. They'll have information about the Center and climate-related events happening across Harvard. Stop by their table. Also, see our upcoming events section for opportunities to help clean up Boston’s neighborhoods, or volunteer to help our Superfund’s community engagement core at their booth at the Franklin Park Zoo’s Howl Earth Day Event on April 22. (For more zoo information email Gerardo at gerardorodriguez@hsph.harvard.edu or [sign up here](#).)

This is also the time of year when many of our graduating doctoral students defend their dissertations, so come support them and learn about what they have been working so hard on! As always, please send news of your events to eh-chatter@hsph.harvard.edu.

Have a great week!
Kari

Upcoming Events

Save the dates:

May 8-10: Harvard’s Climate Action Week

To kick off Harvard’s Climate Action Week, we’re bringing together veteran community organizers and government partners for a student workshop over lunch on **May 8**. Our panelists will talk candidly about the challenges and rewards of partnering with academics and will give you an inside look at the work they’re doing to fight for climate justice, economic equity, and sustainable neighborhood development. Then they’ll take your questions. Seats are limited, so to secure your spot in the lunch workshop, [please register](#) by **April 21**. Workshop will be held in the Spangler Center on the Harvard Business School campus; we will have shuttles running back and forth from Harvard Chan. There are many other presentations planned as part of the [Salata Institute for Climate and Sustainability](#) – [see details here](#) and below!

June 2: Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center retreat

September 29: EH Department retreat/ Whittenberger lecture

Chair Open Office Hours

Building 1, Mondays 1:00 –2:00 PM, Room 1301
Landmark, Wednesdays 2:00-2:30 Room 404

Tea Time – Take a break and just stop by

Building 1, Wednesdays 2:00-3:00, 13th floor kitchen area

Landmark, Thursdays 2:30 – 3:30 Room 404

Friday, April 14; 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

EVENT: Health Equity and Leadership (HEAL) Conference

THEME: The Magnifying Glass on Health Disparities: Racial Equity in the COVID Era.

Details: This half-day conference will be held in person in the Kresge Building and Longwood campus. **Admission is free, and lunch will be provided.** And please share with others in your community!

Location: Kresge Building, Longwood campus

[Go here to register for HEAL!](#)

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Title: Predicting Soldier Readiness Using the Soldier Performance, Health, and Readiness (SPHERE) Database

Speaker(s): Anna Oppenheimer, PhD, MPH, ORIESE Postdoctoral Epidemiologist, US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (USARMIE) and Co-Instructor in HSPH EH236.

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Location: Kresge Room 502

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

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https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5AsDd8WnH57FmSi

Join by zoom: available after pre-registration

More information: www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc

Saturday, April 15, 2023; 3:00 PM

Event: Mattapan Community Tree Walk

Location: 640 River Street, Boston 02136

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

Monday, April 17, 2023; 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: Interdisciplinary Research Collaborative: A Case in Exploring the Health and Well-being of Maine's Coast Communities

Speaker(s): Tara V. Casimir, PhD, RN, assistant professor of nursing, School of Nursing, University of Southern Maine and a Visiting Scholar in the Harvard Education and Research Center (ERC) Outreach Program.

Details: Tara V. Casimir, PhD, RN, will discuss the interdisciplinary approach to collaborative research partnerships in the development of the Downeast Health Research Collaborative and describe the components of the study, "Understanding Injury, Pain, and Substance Use among Shellfish and Lobster Harvesters in Downeast Maine." She will also explain the benefits and barriers of student engagement in community-level research on rural health and well-being.

Location: FXB G12

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Event: Special Lecture, Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center for Environmental Health

Title: Niels Bohr: Life Behind the Physics, War and Peace

Description: Join us for a special event about the life of Niels Bohr, who was awarded the [Nobel Prize](#) in Physics in 1922 “for his services in the investigation of the structure of atoms and of the radiation emanating from them.” His grandson, Vilhelm (Will) Bohr, will talk about his grandfather’s life and achievements. A small reception with snacks and drinks will be provided. Free to attend, RSVP required.

Location: Harvard Science Center Room 469 (Cambridge campus) and via Zoom **RSVP**

Now: <http://hsph.me/bohr>

More info: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/niehs/event/niels-bohr-life-behind-the-physics-war-and-peace/>

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Speakers: Gina McCarthy, the first-ever White House National Climate Advisor and former US EPA administrator. James Stock, Vice Provost for Climate and Sustainability, Harvard University; the Harold Hightings Burbank Professor of Political Economy, Harvard University.

Details: Free and open to the public. No tickets required. Masking is encouraged. This event will be in person and streamed live on our [YouTube channel](#). Please plan on being seated by 4:45 p.m. as the event will start promptly at 5:00 p.m.

Location: Smith Campus Center – 1350 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA

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Event: The Atlantic Health Equity Summit

Speaker(s): Renee Salas, Emergency Medical Physician, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School

Description: For many Americans, health care is determined by where they were born, what they look like, or how much they earn, meaning that too many lack access to affordable and quality care. Everyone deserves a fair chance to lead a healthy life. For its annual Health Equity summit, *The Atlantic* is convening medical experts, health-care leaders, and community advocates for crucial conversations about creating and sustaining an equitable health system for all.

Location: Virtual & WBUR CitySpace – 890 Commonwealth Ave., Boston

Register here: https://registration.hopin.com/widgets/registration/health-equity-2023?widget_id=l7kNftFHVSVyhYAi17Vj4Tygg

Thursday, April 20; 12:00 – 2:00 PM

Event: Earth Day Table

Details: C-CHANGE Student Ambassadors will host an Earth Day table. They will have information about the Center and climate-related events happening across Harvard.

Location: Kresge lobby by cafeteria

Thursday, April 20; 3:00 – 7:00 PM

Event: Film Screening + Panel Discussion, Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center for Environmental Health

Title: Descendant Netflix Documentary

Location: MassArt Tower Auditorium, 621 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02115

Description: Join the Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center for a screening of ‘Descendant’, a Netflix documentary film that follows the descendants of the survivors of the last known slave ship to transport human beings as cargo from Africa to America. After a century of secrecy and speculation, the 2019 discovery of *The Clotilda* ship turns attention toward the descendant community of historic Africatown and presents a moving portrait of a community actively grappling with and fighting to preserve their heritage while examining what justice looks like today. The film models the sorts of questions that community health care practitioners should consider when serving environmental justice communities, which will be discussed during the panel discussion. Space is limited; **RSVP is required**. Please bring your ID to the event
RSVP Now: <http://hsph.me/descendant>
More info: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/niehs/event/film-screening-descendant/>

Friday, April 21; 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Event: Charles River Clean-up

Details: Take action on Earth Day and join your Harvard community members and friends for a Charles River Clean-up. The Charles River Conservancy will be providing a brief education on the local watershed and provide tools and training for the morning. All Harvard community members and their family and friends are welcome to participate!

Location: Cambridge

Please register yourself and any non-Harvard guest that you are bringing to receive the meeting invite and information! Limited to the first 75 people, so please sign up by Friday, April 14!

Sign up here: hrvd.me/cleanup2023

Friday, April 21 @ 11:00 - 1:00 PM

Event: Dissertation Defense

Title: Household, Housing, and Neighborhood Drivers of Environmental Health Disparities

Presenter: Futu Chen

Location: Kresge G2 and Zoom

Details: Join us for PhD Candidate Futu Chen’s dissertation defense

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99349160136?pwd=ZlF2R1lScG2d2VWRWpCcVArQVNiUT09>

Password: Spring

Saturday, April 22; 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Event: Franklin Park Zoo Howl

Details: The community engagement core for Superfund will be attending this year’s Franklin Zoo Howl’s Earth Day Event on April 22. We will have a demonstration that displays our water system and how we get water into our homes. We will also be engaging with the community to get more information on how they feel about their water quality and any environmental health issues. We need volunteers! For more information, please email Gerardo or [sign up for a shift here](#).

Saturday, April 22; 9:00 AM

Event: Earth Day Cleanup along the Neponset River

Register here: neponset.org/cleanup

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

Saturday, April 22; 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Event: Muddy River Cleanup

Details: The Muddy River Cleanup is a part of the Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup; this event takes place throughout the Charles River Watershed and builds on a national effort as part of American Rivers' National River Cleanup® which, to date, has removed over 25 million pounds of trash from America's waterways. From 2016 to 2019, the Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup was recognized by American Rivers for the [Most Pounds of Trash Collected](#) and [Most Volunteers Mobilized](#). The Charles River Cleanup brings together over 3,000 volunteers each year to pick up litter, remove invasive species and assist with park maintenance along all 80 miles of the Charles River.

Location: multiple locations in the Emerald Necklace

Registration: [2023 Muddy River Cleanup - The Emerald Necklace Conservancy](#)

More info: Once your registration is confirmed for a specific site and date, you will be sent an email on details of your specific cleanup site, including public transit and vehicular navigation, the best areas to park, where to meet, and general health and safety guidelines. If you need specific information prior to registration, please email volunteer@emeraldnecklace.org and include "Muddy River Cleanup Question" in the subject line.

Tuesday, April 25 @ 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Event: Dissertation Defense

Title: Environmental radiation and fetal outcomes: from the ground to the sky

Presenter: Veronica Wang

Location: Zoom

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96167692375?pwd=Vy9CeWtMYnRSaGQ3NEZrUFhKNTE5dz09>

Password: Spring

Tuesday, April 25 @ 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Event: Dissertation Defense

Title: Sifting through surveys: Leveraging satellite data for improved understanding of crop yields and food insecurity in Sub-Saharan Africa and beyond

Presenter: Caro Park

Location: Haller Hall, Geological Museum, Cambridge

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/97178310749?pwd=WGRBL1d-5NWRZVHhGQzRWVIZWQjEzQT09>

Password: Spring

April 25 – 27; 12:00 – 4:00 PM

Event: The 2nd Annual National Integrated Heat Health Information System (NIHHIS) National Meeting

Details: The NIHHIS National will be a virtual meeting through Zoom, and will take place from April 25th-27th, 2023. The meeting includes keynote speakers, presentations and panels on heat and health topics, and more. The meeting will also include virtual networking opportunities.

More information, including registration, will be available soon!

More info: <https://www.heat.gov/pages/nihhis-national-meeting>

Wednesday, April 26 @ 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Event: Dissertation Defense

Title: Interaction Between Folate and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances on Birth Outcomes and Immune Health in Children

Presenter: Yu Zhang
Location: Zoom only
Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/93513749503?pwd=WVpkNWRZemFsdFM4V2F5SDI0K2FJUT09>
Password: Spring

Thursday, April 27 @ 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Event: Dissertation Defense
Title: Environmental Exposures, Mental Health Outcomes and Connections to the metabolome: An Exposomics Framework
Presenter: Unnati Mehta
Location: Building 1, Room 1302 & Zoom
Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/98098958212?pwd=YmRoYW5pVHRNeGhOYzJNOUNTYmZTUT09>
Password: Spring

Friday, April 28 @ 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Event: Dissertation Defense
Title: The mechanisms underlying tissue factor and tenascin-c production by airway epithelial cells during airway constriction and SARS-CoV-2 infection
Presenter: Chimwemwe Mwase
Location: FXB G13 & Zoom
Zoom: <https://bit.ly/43q8SUM>
Password: 350682

Thursday, May 4 @ 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Event: Dissertation Defense
Title: Risk, Uncertainty and Decision Making: Insights from Ambient PM2.5 and COVID-19 Case Studies
Presenter: Kyle Colonna
Location: Kresge G3 and Zoom
Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99778427574?pwd=YXhQVm5Qbkx6RDhCVHltZE5hbINhQT09>
Password: Spring

Thursday, May 4 @ 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Event: Dissertation Defense
Title: Long- and medium-term ubiquitous environmental exposures and sudden cardiac death
Presenter: William Borchert
Location: HSPH Building 1, 1302 and Zoom
Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96826847828?pwd=bjF5clY3QU9jSUDmTlh0TVQySmxnZz09>
Password: Spring

Monday, May 8; 11:30 AM– 12:45 PM

Event: Student Lunch Workshop: Best Practices in Community-Engaged Research
Details: To kick off Harvard's Climate Action Week, we're bringing together veteran community organizers and government partners for a student workshop over lunch on **May 8**. Our panelists will talk candidly about the challenges and rewards of partnering with academics and will give you an inside look at the work they're doing to fight for climate justice,

economic equity, and sustainable neighborhood development. Then they'll take your questions. Seats are limited, so to secure your spot in the lunch workshop,

Registration: Limited seating; [please register](#) by April 21.

Location: Spangler Center on the Harvard Business School campus; we will have shuttles running back and forth from Harvard Chan.

Monday, May 8; 1:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Event: Climate, Health & Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future

Details: Climate change is actively harming human health — not in some distant future, but now, in communities around the globe. The more we understand these harms, the better we can confront and overcome them. That's our goal in this symposium, which brings together leading scientists, policy makers, and activists to examine our most urgent challenges and explore promising solutions in the fields of climate, health, and environmental justice. We expect the afternoon to spark innovative ideas and seed exciting collaborations.

Location: Spangler Center - Harvard Business School Campus **(Free shuttles from Harvard Chan will be provided)**

More Info: [Climate, Health & Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future | Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#)

Register: [Online Survey Software](#) | [Qualtrics Survey Solutions](#)

From: [Eh_chatter](#) on behalf of [Nadeau, Kari C](#)
Subject: [Eh_chatter] Chair Chatter - April 21, 2023
Date: Friday, April 21, 2023 12:11:02 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Chair Chatter April 21, 2023

What an exciting week this has been! To name just a few highlights, we had talks from the grandson of Nobel Prize winner Neils Bohr, White House National Climate Advisor (and former C-CHANGE Director) Gina McCarthy, and a panel discussion after a viewing of the documentary 'Descendant', which was attended by local community members as well as Harvard Chan members. This is also Earth Week, which featured a table where our C-CHANGE student ambassadors gave out information and small tokens to celebrate the many blessings and challenges that we share on this precious planet of ours. Thanks to our ambassadors for volunteering!

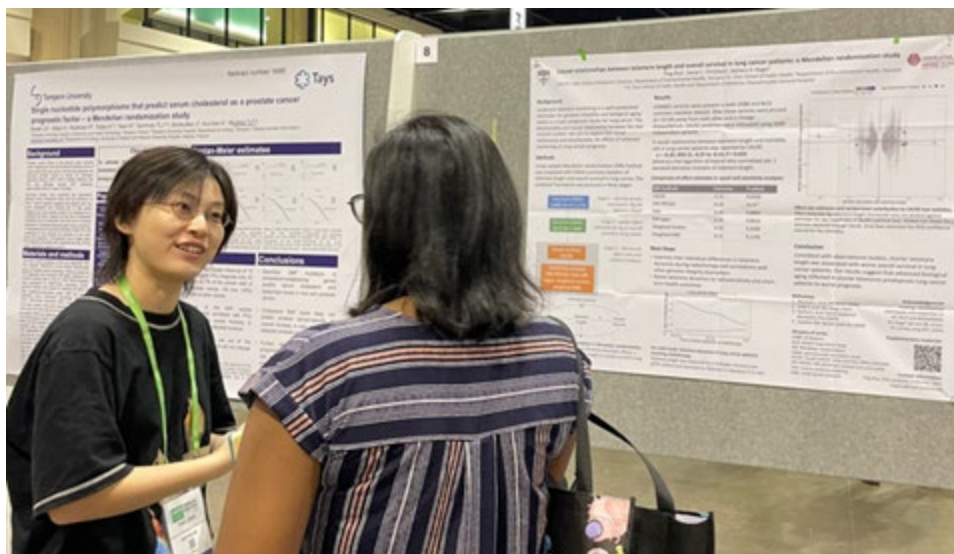




In other news, at the AACR annual meeting in Orlando, post-doc Xinan Wang's work on "Impact of individual level uncertainty of lung cancer polygenic risk score on risk stratification and prediction" was selected for oral presentation in the mini symposium of Beyond GWAS: understanding etiologic heterogeneity". Xinan's work is the first to characterize the individual level uncertainty of lung cancer PRS and to shed light on the modest correlations of lung cancer PRS-based risk stratification among different PRS estimators and its impact on subsequent risk stratification and prediction, using genotype data from 31000 European population in the international lung cancer consortium. This work highlights the importance of taking individual level PRS uncertainty into account as well as the urgent need for developing stable and reproducible PRS at the individual level and reporting guidelines before its reliable and equitable applications in personalized precision medicine.



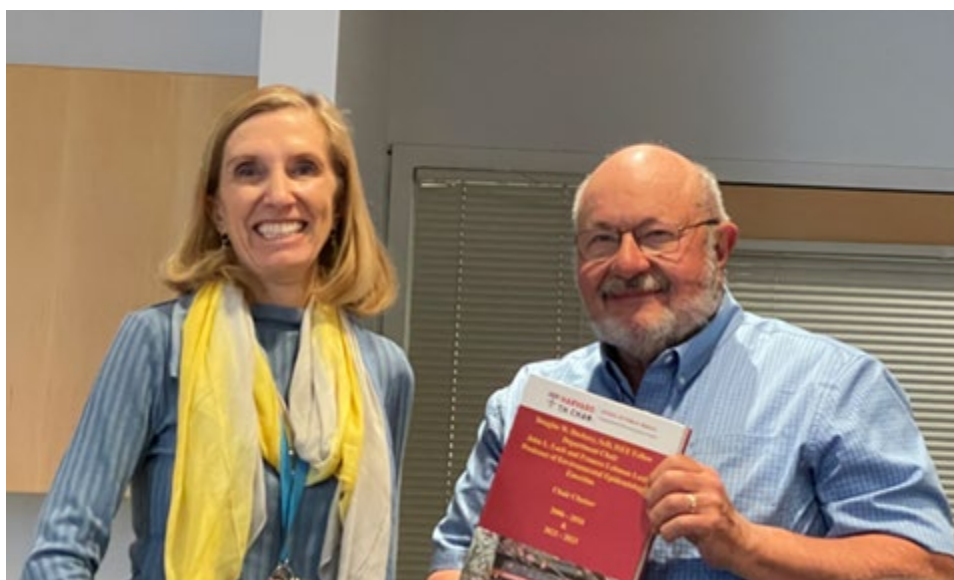
In addition, PhD student Ting Zhai presented her work on "Association between telomere length and overall survival in lung cancer patients: a mendelian randomization study" in the poster session of Novel factors associated with cancer mortality. Ting performed a two-stage Mendelian randomization analysis to investigate the association between telomere length and lung cancer survival and found that shorter telomere length is associated with worse prognosis, using data from UK biobank and Boston Lung Cancer Survival Cohort. Congratulations to Xinan, Ting, and mentors David Christiani and Zac Nagel!



Congratulations to Marcy Franck, whose C-CHANGE newsletter *The Climate Optimist* was featured in [Forbes](#) magazine. It talks about the work C-CHANGE is doing to change the narrative on climate by shifting the language from doomism to hope.

I want to call your attention to a new [Salata Institute seed grant program to drive collaboration on climate and sustainability](#). This is an opportunity for full-time Harvard faculty to apply for a program that fits one of four categories; it's well worth checking out. There will be three rounds of funding, with the next deadline coming on May 12.

At this week's faculty meeting I presented previous chair Doug Dockery with a bound copy of all the Chair Chatters that he wrote during his tenure. Yes, we had presented this to him at our winter party but this was the bound copy that we had promised him.



I hope you enjoy Earth Day is tomorrow. Why not join a neighborhood cleanup event today or tomorrow, or volunteer at our booth at the Franklin Park Zoo Howl event tomorrow? See the

upcoming events section below. Also, I hope you have marked May 8 for the kickoff of Harvard's Climate Action Week. I'll speak more about that in future chatters, but a reminder to students that today is the deadline to sign up for a special student lunch workshop that will feature community organizers and government partners; truly a not-to-be missed opportunity! Lastly, we have several dissertation defenses coming up so please show up to support our talented doctoral students.

Please send news of your events to eh-chatter@hsph.harvard.edu.

I wish you all a peaceful and happy Earth Day!

Kari

Upcoming Events

Save the dates:

May 8-10: Harvard's Climate Action Week

To kick off Harvard's Climate Action Week, we're bringing together veteran community organizers and government partners for a student workshop over lunch on **May 8**. Our panelists will talk candidly about the challenges and rewards of partnering with academics and will give you an inside look at the work they're doing to fight for climate justice, economic equity, and sustainable neighborhood development. Then they'll take your questions. Seats are limited, so secure your spot in the lunch workshop, [please register by April 21](#). Workshop will be held in the Spangler Center on the Harvard Business School campus; we will have shuttles running back and forth from Harvard Chan. There are many other presentations planned as part of the [Salata Institute for Climate and Sustainability](#) – [see details here](#) and below!

June 2: Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center retreat

September 29: EH Department retreat/ Whittenberger lecture

Chair Open Office Hours

Building 1, Mondays 1:00 –2:00 PM, Room 1301

Landmark, Wednesdays 2:00-2:30 Room 404

Tea Time – Take a break and just stop by

Building 1, Wednesdays 2:00-3:00, 13th floor kitchen area

Landmark, Thursdays 2:30 – 3:30 Room 404

Friday, April 21; 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Event: Charles River Clean-up

Details: Take action on Earth Day and join your Harvard community members and friends for a Charles River Clean-up. The Charles River Conservancy will be providing a brief education on the local watershed and provide tools and training for the morning. All Harvard community members and their family and friends are welcome to participate!

Location: Cambridge

Please register yourself and any non-Harvard guest that you are bringing to receive the meeting invite and information! Limited to the first 75 people, so please sign up by Friday, April 14!

Sign up here: hrvd.me/cleanup2023

Friday, April 21 @ 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Title: Household, Housing, and Neighborhood Drivers of Environmental Health Disparities

Presenter: Futu Chen

Location: Kresge G2 and Zoom

Details: Join us for PhD Candidate Futu Chen's dissertation defense

Zoom: [https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99349160136?](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99349160136?pwd=ZlF2R1lScG2d2VWRWpCcVArQVNiUT09)

[pwd=ZlF2R1lScG2d2VWRWpCcVArQVNiUT09](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99349160136?pwd=ZlF2R1lScG2d2VWRWpCcVArQVNiUT09)

Password: Spring

Friday, April 21; 1:10 PM – 1:50 PM

Event: Occupational and Environmental Medicine Grand Rounds

Title: Glove-related Dermatitis

Presenter: Saad Salman, MD, MPH, First year resident, Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Discussant: Rose H. Goldman, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Associate Professor of Environmental Health Sciences, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Details: Drs. Salman and Goldman will discuss the causes of dermatitis from occupational exposure to glove use and describe the pathophysiology of various types of occupational dermatitis. They will also cover appropriate testing for diagnosis of glove-related dermatitis.

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

Register: https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9XfmnVK21RwCPVY

Join by Zoom: sent upon registration

More information: www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc

Saturday, April 22; 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Event: Franklin Park Zoo Howl

Details: The community engagement core for Superfund will be attending this year's Franklin Zoo Howl's Earth Day Event on April 22. We will have a demonstration that displays our water system and how we get water into our homes. We will also be engaging with community to get more information on how they feel about their water quality and any environmental health issues. We need volunteers! For more information, please email Gerardo or [sign up for a shift here](#).

Saturday, April 22; 9:00 AM

Event: Earth Day Cleanup along the Neponset River

Register here: neponset.org/cleanup

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

Saturday, April 22; 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Event: Muddy River Cleanup

Details: The Muddy River Cleanup is a part of the Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup; this event takes place throughout the Charles River Watershed and builds on a national effort as part of American Rivers' National River Cleanup® which, to date, has removed over 25 million pounds of trash from America's waterways. From 2016 to 2019, the Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup was recognized by American Rivers for the [Most Pounds of Trash Collected](#) and [Most Volunteers Mobilized](#). The Charles River Cleanup brings together over 3,000 volunteers each year to pick up litter, remove invasive species and assist with park maintenance along all 80 miles of the Charles River.

Location: multiple locations in the Emerald Necklace

Registration: [2023 Muddy River Cleanup - The Emerald Necklace Conservancy](#)

More info: Once your registration is confirmed for a specific site and date, you will be sent an email on details of your specific cleanup site, including public transit and vehicular navigation, the best areas to park, where to meet, and general health and safety guidelines. If you need specific information prior to registration, please email volunteer@emeraldnecklace.org and include "Muddy River Cleanup"

Question” in the subject line.

Tuesday, April 25 @ 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Title: Environmental radiation and fetal outcomes: from the ground to the sky

Presenter: Veronica Wang

Location: Zoom

Zoom: [https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96167692375?](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96167692375?pwd=Vy9CeWtMYnRSaGQ3NEZrUFhKNTE5dz09)

[pwd=Vy9CeWtMYnRSaGQ3NEZrUFhKNTE5dz09](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96167692375?pwd=Vy9CeWtMYnRSaGQ3NEZrUFhKNTE5dz09)

Password: Spring

Tuesday, April 25 @ 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Title: Sifting through surveys: Leveraging satellite data for improved understanding of crop yields and food insecurity in Sub-Saharan Africa and beyond

Presenter: Caro Park

Location: Haller Hall, Geological Museum, Cambridge

Zoom: [https://harvard.zoom.us/j/97178310749?pwd=WGRBL1d-](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/97178310749?pwd=WGRBL1d-5NWRZVHhGQzRWVIZWQjEzQT09)

[5NWRZVHhGQzRWVIZWQjEzQT09](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/97178310749?pwd=WGRBL1d-5NWRZVHhGQzRWVIZWQjEzQT09)

Password: Spring

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Title: Biodiversity Metric to Support Decision-Making Following COP15, HSPH-NIEHS Chalk Talks Series

Speaker(s): Katherine von Stackelberg, ScD

Details: Our monthly Center Chalk Talks series (4th Wednesdays) is a chance for members and affiliates to showcase the exciting research they are working on and solicit collaboration. This month’s guest speaker is Katherine von Stackelberg, ScD, director of research translation and senior research scientist in the Department of Environmental Health. This event will be held via Zoom. It will be recorded and made available on [our website](#).

Location: Zoom only

Join by Zoom: [https://harvard.zoom.us/j/93854403999?](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/93854403999?pwd=L3Nvbml2bnQyT3ZObi9BQmxGN3VZZz09)

[pwd=L3Nvbml2bnQyT3ZObi9BQmxGN3VZZz09](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/93854403999?pwd=L3Nvbml2bnQyT3ZObi9BQmxGN3VZZz09)

More information: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/niehs/event/center-chalk-talks-katherine-von-stackelberg-scd/>

April 25 – 27; 12:00 – 4:00 PM EST

Event: The 2nd Annual National Integrated Heat Health Information System (NIHHIS) National Meeting

Details: The NIHHIS National will be a virtual meeting through Zoom, and will take place from April 25th-27th, 2023. The meeting includes keynote speakers, presentations and panels on heat and health topics, and more. The meeting will also include virtual networking opportunities.

More information, including registration, will be available soon!

More info: <https://www.heat.gov/pages/nihhis-national-meeting>

Wednesday, April 26 @ 2:20 PM – 4:20 PM

Title: Interaction Between Folate and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances on Birth Outcomes and Immune Health in Children

Presenter: Yu Zhang

Location: Zoom only

Zoom: [https://harvard.zoom.us/j/93513749503?](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/93513749503?pwd=WVpkNWRZemFsdFM4V2F5SDI0K2FJUT09)

[pwd=WVpkNWRZemFsdFM4V2F5SDI0K2FJUT09](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/93513749503?pwd=WVpkNWRZemFsdFM4V2F5SDI0K2FJUT09)

Password: Spring

Thursday, April 27 @ 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Title: Environmental Exposures, Mental Health Outcomes and Connections to the metabolome: An Exposomics Framework

Presenter: Unnati Mehta
Location: Building 1, Room 1302 & Zoom
Zoom: [https://harvard.zoom.us/j/98098958212?](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/98098958212?pwd=YmRoYW5pVHRNeGhOYzJNOUNTYmZTUT09)
[pwd=YmRoYW5pVHRNeGhOYzJNOUNTYmZTUT09](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/98098958212?pwd=YmRoYW5pVHRNeGhOYzJNOUNTYmZTUT09)
Password: Spring

Friday, April 28 @ 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Title: The mechanisms underlying tissue factor and tenascin-c production by airway epithelial cells during airway constriction and SARS-CoV-2 infection
Presenter: Chimwemwe Mwase
Location: FXB G13 & Zoom
Zoom: <https://bit.ly/43q8SUM>
Password: 350682

Friday, April 28, 2023, 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and Cancer Risk
Speaker(s): Jongeun Rhee, ScD, MS, research fellow, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch, Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Cancer Institute.
Details: Our graduate, Jongeun Rhee, ScD, MS, will present a seminar on her PFAS research. She will describe different concentrations of some PFAS by race/ethnicity and discuss the relationships between PFAS and the risks of different cancers. She will also describe the metabolites related to PFAS. Dr. Rhee will present remotely.
Location: HSPH, Kresge Building, Room 502
For more information contact: abackus@hsph.harvard.edu
Register: https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3HQ7ebso2NkHgIm
Join by zoom: will be sent upon registration
More information: www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc

Thursday, May 4 @ 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Title: Risk, Uncertainty and Decision Making: Insights from Ambient PM2.5 and COVID-19 Case Studies
Presenter: Kyle Colonna
Location: Kresge G3 and Zoom
Zoom: [https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99778427574?](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99778427574?pwd=YXhQVm5Qbkx6RDhCVHltZE5hbINhQT09)
[pwd=YXhQVm5Qbkx6RDhCVHltZE5hbINhQT09](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99778427574?pwd=YXhQVm5Qbkx6RDhCVHltZE5hbINhQT09)
Password: Spring

Thursday, May 4 @ 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Title: Long- and medium-term ubiquitous environmental exposures and sudden cardiac death
Presenter: William Borchert
Location: HSPH Building 1, 1302 and Zoom
Zoom: [https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96826847828?](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96826847828?pwd=bjF5clY3QU9jSUdmTlh0TVQySmxnZz09)
[pwd=bjF5clY3QU9jSUdmTlh0TVQySmxnZz09](https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96826847828?pwd=bjF5clY3QU9jSUdmTlh0TVQySmxnZz09)
Password: Spring

Monday, May 8: 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

Event: Student Lunch Workshop: Best Practices in Community-Engaged Research
Details: To kick off Harvard's Climate Action Week, we're bringing together veteran community organizers and government partners for a student workshop over lunch on **May 8**. Our panelists will talk candidly about the challenges and rewards of partnering with academics and will give you an inside look at the work they're doing to fight for climate justice, economic equity, and sustainable neighborhood development. Then they'll take your questions. Seats are limited, so to secure your spot in the lunch workshop,
Registration: Limited seating; [please register](#) by April 21.

Monday, May 8; 1:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Event: Climate, Health & Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future

Details: Climate change is actively harming human health — not in some distant future, but now, in communities around the globe. The more we understand these harms, the better we can confront and overcome them. That's our goal in this symposium, which brings together leading scientists, policy makers, and activists to examine our most urgent challenges and explore promising solutions in the fields of climate, health, and environmental justice. We expect the afternoon to spark innovative ideas and seed exciting collaborations.

Location: Spangler Center - Harvard Business School Campus (**Free shuttles from Harvard Chan will be provided**)

More Info: [Climate, Health & Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future | Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#)

Register: [Online Survey Software](#) | [Qualtrics Survey Solutions](#)

From: [Eh_chatter](#) on behalf of [Nadeau, Kari C](#)
Subject: [Eh_chatter] Chair Chatter - April 28, 2023
Date: Friday, April 28, 2023 12:25:14 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Chair Chatter

April 28, 2023

This past Wednesday was Administrative Professionals Day. I want to acknowledge how critical our EH administrators' efforts are for our department's success. On behalf of the EH Department, we thank all of our administrators for the work that they do!

This is the time of year when our graduating doctoral students defend their dissertations. Each dissertation represents an enormous amount of work that contributes to an important aspect of environmental public health. Congratulations to the following people who successfully defended their dissertations:

Yu Zhang dissertation entitled *Interaction Between Folate and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances on Birth Outcomes and Immune Health in Children*. (Advisor: Carmen Messerlian).

Caro Park dissertation entitled *SIFting through surveys: Leveraging satellite data for improved understanding of crop yields and food insecurity in Sub-Saharan Africa and beyond* (Advisor: Sam Myers).

Veronica Wang, dissertation entitled *Environmental Radiation and Fetal Outcomes from the Ground to the Sky* (Advisor: Petros Koutrakis).

Futu Chen dissertation entitled *Household, Housing, and Neighborhood Drivers of Environmental Health Disparities* (Advisor: Gary Adamkiewicz).

Unnati Mehta, dissertation entitled *Environmental Exposures, Mental Health Outcomes and Connections to the Metabolome: An Exposomics Framework* (Advisor: Jaime Hart).

Well done Yu, Caro, Veronica, Futu and Unnati!

In a previous chatter I mentioned a Harvard Chan-NIEHS event where we showed a viewing of the Netflix documentary *Descendant*, about the descendants of the last known slave ship that brought slaves from Africa to America. It was followed by a panel discussion that brought together both the Harvard Chan and local Boston communities. Here is a photo of the participants and organizers of the event.



The *New York Times* ran a story entitled “[American Road Deaths Show an Alarming Racial Gap](#)”. They cited a 2022 study by Ernani Choma and a colleague from Boston University in the *American Journal of Preventative Medicine* entitled “[Disparities in Activity and Traffic Fatalities by Race/Ethnicity](#)”. This study and its subsequent publicity may hopefully influence how public investment is directed.

Ana Cheong from the JBL Center was recognized by the editors of the *[Journal of the Endocrine Society](#)* for her professional service as a reviewer.

Last weekend the Memcare Superfund community engagement core participated in the Franklin Park Zoo’s Spring into Action: Earth Day Event. The CEC team (Gerardo Rodriguez and Katie Von Woert), with the help of Marshae Nickelberry and Glenn Stern, had a demonstration that showed community members how Boston gets its tap water. They handed out informational fact sheets focusing on water quality and other resources. They reached a wide audience of the Boston community and gathered information on how residents felt about their water's quality. Here’s a picture of the team in action:



The school website ran a feature entitled “[How building design can improve people’s well-being](#)” that features SM student Flora Xu. The article traces Flora’s journey of when she became interested in pollution as a small child in northern China to her work here at Harvard Chan which was greatly inspired by Jack Spengler and Joe Allen. We wish Flora well as she pursues her doctorate at my old stomping ground, Stanford University!

The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) has released its proposed revisions to OMB Circular No. A-4: *Regulatory Analysis*. Circular A-4, which provides guidance to agencies on how to conduct regulatory analysis, has not been revised since it was first issued in 2003. OIRA is accepting comments now. The [draft for public review is here](#), [the preamble is here](#), and the [place to comment is here](#).

Our **Weekly Policy Snippet**: “Travel-related employee reimbursement requests received up to 90-days after the trip end date can be reimbursed via Concur. Requests received 91–182 days after trip end date must be processed as taxable additional pay via payroll. Requests received beyond 183 days after the trip end date cannot be reimbursed with university funds. For more detail and for information for extended trips (>30 days), please see [Travel Policy - 90 Day Travel Policy for Employees only](#).

I hope you are all registering for the May 8 Harvard Chan afternoon symposium entitled “[Climate, Health and Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future](#)”. I will be among several EH and Harvard Chan faculty members that will be participating in dialogues with some of the leading luminaries from academia, government, and local and international community groups. Parking and shuttle buses to the HBS campus will be available.

Thank you for the comments and suggestions that you have given me for our department over the past few months. I want you to know I take them seriously. We have already implemented several changes thanks to your ideas. I thought I would highlight one in each chair chatter in a section I call, “I hear you!”

Today's I hear you: People have expressed an interest in having more informal, in-person social time with each other.

We have established several social events, including weekly tea times in Building 1 and Landmark, Last Friday Socials (today!!), and our upcoming Cinco de Mayo event. I welcome your ideas for more social events, or other ideas that will make our department better. Keep those ideas coming!

As always, please also keep sending your news and upcoming events to eh-chatter@hsph.harvard.edu.

Have a great weekend!
Kari

Upcoming Events

Save the dates:

May 8-10: Harvard's Climate Action Week

Check out the agenda and register for the May 8 symposium entitled "[Climate, Health and Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future](#)". Join leading scientists, policy makers and activists to learn about our challenges and solutions.

June 2: Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center retreat

September 29: EH Department retreat/ Whittenberger lecture

Chair Open Office Hours

Building 1, Mondays 1:00 –2:00 PM, Room 1301

Landmark, Wednesdays 2:00-2:30 Room 404

Tea Time – Take a break and just stop by

Building 1, Wednesdays 2:00-3:00, 13th floor kitchen area

Landmark, Thursdays 2:30 – 3:30 Room 404

Friday, April 28 @ 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Title: The mechanisms underlying tissue factor and tenascin-c production by airway epithelial cells during airway constriction and SARS-CoV-2 infection

Presenter: Chimwemwe Mwase

Location: FXB G13 & Zoom

Zoom: <https://bit.ly/43q8SUM>

Password: 350682

-

Friday, April 28 @ 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Title: Last Friday Social

Details: Please join the Department of Environmental Health in the Landmark 4 West Common Room! Unwind with a cold beverage and enjoy some light snacks. Socialize and play games with your colleagues.

Location: Landmark 4 West common room

Sorry, non-Landmark people that have not previously RSVP'd will not be able to access this event.

Monday, May 1, 2023, 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: Occupational Health Surveillance in Massachusetts: Data for Action

Speaker(s): Emily Sparer-Fine, ScD, MS, director, occupational health surveillance program (OHSP), Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) James Laing, BS, Workplace Fatality Coordinator, OHSP, MDPH Kathleen Fitzsimmons, PhD, MPH, senior epidemiologist, OHSP, MDPH

Details: Staff from the Occupational Health Surveillance Program at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health will present a Monday ERC Seminar on the Massachusetts Occupational Health Surveillance Program. They will discuss public health surveillance of workers in Massachusetts and describe work-related respiratory illness in the cannabis industry as an emerging surveillance priority.

Location: HSPH, FXB G12

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

Register Here: https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2t9yoHVAic506Vg

Join by zoom: sent after registration

More information: www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc

Tuesday, May 2; 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Event: MIPS Work-in-Progress Seminar Series

Title: New tools reveal surprising mechanisms for correcting DNA replication errors

Speaker: Zachary Nagel, PHD, Associate Professor of Genomics and Cancer Biology, JBL, HSPH

Location: HSPH Building 1, Room 1302 and Zoom

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96260666705?pwd=cnJJWXVLSGJJVjBuWnhFUGVTL0tMZz09=cnJJWXVLSGJJVjBuWnhFUGVTL0tMZz09>

Thursday, May 4 @ 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Title: Risk, Uncertainty and Decision Making: Insights from Ambient PM2.5 and COVID-19 Case Studies

Presenter: Kyle Colonna

Location: Kresge G3 and Zoom

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99778427574?pwd=YXhQVWm5Qbkx6RDhCVHltZE5hbINhQT09>

Password: Spring

Thursday, May 4 @ 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Title: Long- and medium-term ubiquitous environmental exposures and sudden cardiac death

Presenter: William Borchert

Location: HSPH Building 1, 1302 and Zoom

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96826847828?pwd=bjF5clY3QU9jSUdmTlh0TVQySmxnZz09>

Password: Spring

Thursday, May 4 @ 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Title: Hyperinsulinemia: Causes and Consequences

Presenter: Barbara Corkey, PhD

Details: We hypothesize that basal hyperinsulinemia is synergistically mediated by an interplay between increased oxidative stress and excess lipid in the form of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and long-chain acyl-CoA esters (LC-CoA). In addition, ROS production may increase in response to inflammatory cytokines and certain exogenous environmental toxins that mislead β -cells into perceiving nutrient excess when none exists. Thus, basal hyperinsulinemia is envisioned as an adaptation to sustained real or perceived nutrient excess that only manifests as a disease when the excess demand can no longer be met by an overworked β -cell.

Location: FXB G3 and zoom

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/91439109208?pwd=bmVRTDNyQWJUbDhBUldVS3d2V2dKUT09>

Zoom meeting ID: 914 3910 9208

Zoom meeting password: 420745

Friday, May 5, 2023, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Event: EH Cinco de Mayo Luncheon

Details: Join your colleagues for a Mexican-themed lunch

Location: Building 1, 13th floor

RSVP: https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4IV2c2Z47eLZQyO

Friday, May 5, 2023, 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: PFAS in Firefighting Foam: The Current Evidence of Alphabet Soup Environmental Contaminants

Speaker(s): K. Ray Motoyama, DO, MPH, first year resident in the HSPH Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency Program. Rose Goldman, MD, MPH, associate professor of medicine, Harvard Medical School and associate professor of environmental health in the Department of Environmental Health at the Harvard Chan School of Public Health

Details: Drs. Motoyama and Goldman will describe the risks to firefighters and communities from PFHxS in firefighting foam and explain the current regulations re PFAS. They will

discuss appropriate clinical testing for PFAS and describe recommendations for healthcare providers.

Location: HSPH Kresge Room 502

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

Register Here: https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bluksG9fnTb1fZY

Join by zoom: send after registration

More information: hsph.harvard.edu/erc/

Monday, May 8: 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

Event: Student Lunch Workshop: Best Practices in Community-Engaged Research

Details: To kick off Harvard's Climate Action Week, we're bringing together veteran community organizers and government partners for a student workshop over lunch on **May 8**. Our panelists will talk candidly about the challenges and rewards of partnering with academics and will give you an inside look at the work they're doing to fight for climate justice, economic equity, and sustainable neighborhood development. Then they'll take your questions. Seats are limited, so to secure your spot in the lunch workshop,

Registration: Limited seating; [please register](#) by April 21.

Monday, May 8: 1:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Event: Climate, Health & Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future

Details: Climate change is actively harming human health — not in some distant future, but now, in communities around the globe. The more we understand these harms, the better we can confront and overcome them. That's our goal in this symposium, which brings together leading scientists, policy makers, and activists to examine our most urgent challenges and explore promising solutions in the fields of climate, health, and environmental justice. We expect the afternoon to spark innovative ideas and seed exciting collaborations.

Location: Spangler Center - Harvard Business School Campus (**Free shuttles from Harvard Chan will be provided**)

More Info: [Climate, Health & Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future | Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#)

Register: [Online Survey Software | Qualtrics Survey Solutions](#)

Wednesday May 10, 2023, 1:00 pm- 2:00 pm EST

Title: Microbes and social equity: what is it and how do we do it?

Event: HSPH-NIEHS Center Colloquium Series

Speaker(s): Suzanne Ishaq, PhD, Assistant Professor of Animal & Veterinary Sciences at the University of Maine

Details: We end our 2022-2023 colloquium series on *Environmental Health In Action* with Dr. Suzanne (Sue) Ishaq, whose lab aims to increase understanding of the interactions between animal (or human) hosts and their resident microbiota, and investigate solutions for using microorganisms to resolve disordered communities and host health.

Location: Room 1302 and via Zoom

More information: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/niehs/event/sue-ishaq-phd/>

Students and Postdocs: Join us for a Trainee Lunch with Dr. Ishaq from 12:00 – 12:45pm ET (before the presentation). This is a chance for students and postdocs to meet privately with our speaker to discuss research interests, career advice, funding opportunities, etc. Open to Harvard ID holders only. Free box lunch provided; space is limited. [RSVP required for the Trainee Lunch](#) (not required for the main presentation).