

Chair Chatter

May 5, 2023

Happy Cinco de Mayo! I was delighted to hear that our Dean for Academic Affairs Jane Kim has agreed to serve as Interim Dean of our School. We will miss Dean Michelle Williams when she goes on sabbatical in June. Jane has worked together with our Department on many projects. I look forward to working with and supporting Jane as she takes on this added responsibility.

This week many of our students are completing their projects and preparing for finals which start next week. We wish them well as they meet the challenges that accompany the busy end of the semester.

This week another group of doctoral students successfully defended their dissertations. Again, we admire how much work each of them demonstrated as they developed their area of expertise within the broad field of environmental health.

William Borchert dissertation entitled *Long- and medium-term ubiquitous environmental exposures and sudden cardiac death* (Advisor Francine Laden).

Kyle Colonna dissertation entitled *Risk, Uncertainty and Decision Making: Insights from Ambient PM2.5 and COVID-19 Case Studies* (Advisor John Evans).

Chimwemwe Mwase dissertation entitled *The mechanisms underlying tissue factor and tenascin-c production by airway epithelial cells during airway constriction and SARS-CoV-2 infection* (Advisor Jin-Ah Park).

Great job William, Kyle and Chimwemwe! Congratulations!

Congratulations also to David Christiani and his team on being awarded the renewal of the NIOSH-funded Harvard T.H. Chan Education and Research Center (ERC)!

The ERC announced the availability of funds to support pilot projects in Region I (New England). The program will support small research projects conducted by early investigators including students at the pre-doctoral stages, post-doctoral trainees, and/or by new/junior faculty investigators. Project proposals should address concerns in one or more of the occupational safety and health areas of

occupational hygiene, occupational epidemiology, occupational health services, occupational medicine, or occupational health nursing. Awards of up to \$20,000 each are available. Application deadline: July 1, 2023. For an application and more information, please visit the Harvard Chan ERC website at:

<https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc/pilot-projects/>

Also, for those looking to partner with underserved and overburdened community centers across the country, the EPA has announced the establishment of 17 [Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers](#) to help facilitate their access to federal funds.

We would like to document some highlights of this academic year (July 2022 through June 2023) by creating an EH yearbook. While we may not be able to include everything, please let us know of your awards/honors, grants awarded/completed, conference presentations, translation of research and media coverage for activities between July 2022 – July 2023. We would especially like to include photos of graduating students celebrating. Please complete this [Qualtrics survey](#) by **May 31**. You may complete the survey as many times as needed. Write to [Shaun Heller](#) for more information. We look forward to hearing from all members of our community, including alumni!

Weekly Policy Snippet: “An independent contractor questionnaire (ICQ) must be completed when engaging an individual or a single-employee LLC to perform a service. Under Massachusetts law, every individual receiving payment for services to the University is considered to be an employee of the University unless they are free from Harvard control and direction in performing their service, their service is outside of usual course of Harvard business, AND the worker is customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, profession or business of the same type as the service being performed for Harvard. The consequences of misclassifying workers as independent contractors instead of employees may cause the University to fail to meet its legal obligations and give rise to significant liability, including taxes and related penalties, criminal sanctions, and civil liability. To learn more, please see [Independent Contractor Policy and Resources](#).”

Last week I mentioned that I would be starting a new section called “I hear you”, where I share suggestions that people have given me.

Today's I hear you: Several of you asked for meetings to connect and discuss each other's research interests. I also heard many of you say that you would appreciate a series of "how to" workshops that focus on the more pragmatic aspects of career planning. Great ideas – let's do it! Please complete the short survey at the link below to help us create these new forums:

https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eSaVs2nWGKb54sC

I am beyond excited as I look forward to one of our marquee events; the "[Climate, Health and Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future](#)" on Monday. I'm sure I'll see many of you at HBS. Meanwhile, have a great weekend!

Kari

Upcoming Events

Save the dates:

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 (Cancelled May 8 and May 15)

Landmark, Thursdays 2:00-3:00 Room 404 (Cancelled on May 11 and May 18)

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, 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_bIuksG9fnTb1fZY

Join by zoom: send after registration

More information: hsph.harvard.edu/erc/

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](#)

Registration is closed.

Tuesday, May 9; 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Event: Environmental Health Sciences Early Investigator 2023 Career Development Workshop

Title: Topics on Building and Maintaining Collaborative Networks, Difficult Conversations and Conflict Resolution

Location: Zoom (link sent upon registration)

Registration required: <https://forms.gle/9CxWYnam2XouW7nM6>

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).

Chair Chatter

May 12, 2023

Today is the day that courses end. Congratulations to our students - I am sure they are relieved, and they can now relax, reflect and act on what they have learned over the course of this past year. And a special shout out to our graduates!



Congratulations to our 2nd year EH MS80 students who just finished presenting their final masters theses!

Sunday is Mother's Day. We have a special opportunity to take time to honor those people in our lives who have been mothers for us – those who have nurtured us, loved and encouraged us, have guided and disciplined us, have been our safety nets and compassionate listeners. Though we each have or had unique relationships with our mothers, we all share the common experience of being born. Whatever our relationship may have been or is, this Sunday can be a time of reflection, gratitude, healing, and forgiveness. For all the beings who are providing or who have provided 'mothering' over the years - thank you!

What an exciting week this has been! I was delighted to be part of the first ever [Harvard Climate Action Week](#) and to moderate the [Climate, Health and Equity: Toward a Sustainable Future](#) event on Monday. Sponsored by the new [Salata Institute for Climate and Sustainability](#), we brought together state and federal government officials, activists and scientists (including several of our faculty) to talk about the problems, challenges, solutions and progress that surround this

vexing issue. The school website has a very nice write-up entitled [“Finding practical solutions to climate change’s health impacts”](#) that summarizes each segment. I want to thank all of the panelists, moderators, speakers, and attendees. I would also like to thank our dean for communications and strategic initiatives Stephanie Simon and her team, as well as our C-Change team, who put in all the effort it takes to prepare such a successful event. Here are a few photos from the event; more will be placed on our department website soon.



EH Chair Kari Nadeau, EPA Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe, Dean Michelle Williams, Associate Professor Tamarra James-Todd, Massachusetts Climate Chief Melissa Hoffer, IID Chair Sarah Fortune, and Region 1 EPA Director David Cash.



IID Chair Sarah Fortune, C-CHANGE Interim Director Ari Bernstein, CCDD Associate Director Caroline Buckee, and GHP Chair Marcia de Castro



Keynote speaker Heather McTeer Toney, Vice President for community engagement for the Environmental Defense Fund and Executive Director of Beyond Petrochemicals.

By the way, the following day was equally compelling as it featured a chat between U.S. Special Envoy for Climate John Kerry and Harvard President Larry Bacow. That conversation was summarized in a *Harvard Gazette* article entitled [“World ‘way off track’ from climate goal, Kerry says”](#).

There was plenty of other news to report from this very busy week. I was delighted to learn that Gary Adamkiewicz was selected by an awards committee to receive a 2023 Harvard Chan Teaching Citation Award. His selection was based on the excellent reviews he received from students in their course evaluations over the last several years. Gary will be recognized during the school’s convocation ceremony on May 24. Congratulations Gary!

Tamarra James-Todd was featured in an article in the NIEHS’ *Environmental Factor* newsletter entitled [“Reducing phthalates in beauty products may lower health risks, disparities”](#).

David Christiani was one of several authors in an article in *Nature Medicine* entitled [“Body composition and lung cancer-associated cachexia in TRACERx”](#).

The *Harvard Gazette* has a nice feature entitled [“After four generations, an emergency focus on climate change”](#). It focuses on Julia Malits, who will be graduating with an MD from HMS after having previously received her MPH in occupational and environmental health. While here she served as a student ambassador in C-CHANGE.

The school website has a feature entitled [“New center aims to spur research on climate change and health”](#), which explains that Harvard Chan and the Boston University SPH are establishing a Research Coordinating Center thanks to a \$6.7 million grant from the NIEHS. Francesca Dominici is a co-director of the center.

More good news - have you heard that the EPA is moving to regulate power plants, the nation’s second-biggest source of planet-warming pollution? This comes in addition to EPA's moves on MATS, and limits on car and truck pollution. Its goal is to reduce greenhouse gases 50 to 52% by 2030. [NPR](#) has more details.

Weekly Policy Snippet: Expenses related to an employee’s spouse or other family members are not reimbursable unless there is a bona fide business purpose for their presence on the trip. The IRS has ruled that when a spouse attends a meeting or

conference as a companion and has no significant role or performs only incidental duties of a social, clerical, or medical nature, then the attendance is not a business purpose. For more information, please refer to Appendix F in the [Guidelines for Spousal/Family Member Travel](#).

Today's I hear you: Actually, before I get to today's 'I hear you', I want to revisit last week's 'I hear you', or should I say 'I want to hear from you'. If you haven't already, please take a minute to fill out the survey from last week so that we can plan forums where we connect around each other's research interests, and also have some "how to" workshops around career planning. Please complete the short survey at the link below to help us create these new forums that best fit what you would like: https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eSaVs2nWGKb54sC .

OK, now let's get to today's "I hear you". Several students mentioned that they would like to have a greater opportunity to concentrate on climate and sustainability issues. I am happy to announce that we will be starting an Area of Interest/Area of Specialization in Climate and Sustainability which will co-exist with the extant programs in our educational classes, especially Environmental Justice and Health Equity. Look for it in the fall semester. Thanks for that feedback – it was a great suggestion!

Lastly, we would like to document some highlights from this academic year (July 2022 through June 2023) by creating an EH yearbook. While we may not be able to include everything, please let us know of your awards/honors, grants awarded/completed, conference presentations, translation of research and media coverage for activities between July 2022 – July 2023. Photos are also welcome! Please complete this [Qualtrics survey](#) by **May 31**. You may complete the survey as many times as needed. Write to [Shaun Heller](#) for more information. We look forward to hearing from all members of our community, including alumni! I leave you with this - we would especially welcome photos of our graduating students celebrating, like Grete Wilt (PhD), William Borchert (PhD), Unnati Mehta (PhD), and Isabel Holland (MS) below.



Have a great weekend and again, happy Mother's Day and congratulations graduates!

Kari

Upcoming Events

Save the dates:

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 (Cancelled May 8 and May 15)

Landmark, Thursdays 2:00-3:00 Room 404 (Cancelled on May 11 and May 18)

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

Tuesday, May 16; 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Event: MIPS Work in Progress Seminar Series

Title: Inhibition of Nucleotide Excision Repair by the Anti-Cancer, G-Quadruplex DNA Binding Drug CX-5461

Speaker: Alexandra Berroyer, PhD, Research Fellow, JBL, HSPH

Location: HSPH Building 1, Room 1302 and Zoom

Zoom: Meeting ID: 962 6066 6705

<https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96260666705?pwd=cnJJWXVLSGIjVjBuWnhFUGVTL0tMZz09>

Tuesday, May 16; 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Event: There's Something in the Water - Documentary Screening & Discussion

Details: This free event is open to the public. The program will include a post screening discussion with filmmaker Ian Daniel and study author Ingrid Waldon, PhD, moderated by Shoba Ramanadhan, ScD, MPH. Pizza and beverages will be served.

Location: Kresge G2

Register: hsph.me/Water-Film

Wednesday, May 17; 11:00 AM-noon

Event: Overview on lab and biosafety

Details: Join the Office of Regulatory Affairs and Research Compliance as experts give an overview of the services they provide.

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/overview-on-lab-biosafety-tickets-630943578227>

Wednesday, May 17; 3:00 PM OR

Thursday, May 25 10:30 AM OR

Tuesday, May 30 1:00 PM

Event: Communications 101: How to Make the Case About Climate Change, Health & Equity

Speakers: Anna Chen and Nick Seaver, *Burness*

Details: Together with [Burness](#), the Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health is hosting a series of one-hour-long workshops on communications that are free. Learn how to most effectively deliver messages that rally your audiences to support climate action that benefits all our lives. We require that you join this

session, as it provides foundational background for the workshops that follow. We highly recommend you join one of these sessions live.

Registration and more information: Sign up and learn more here:

<https://medsocietiesforclimatehealth.org/event/training-series-climate-communications-champion/>

Best Practices for Working with the Media

3 P.M. ET // 12 P.M. PT on Wednesday, June 7

During this session, you will gain foundational skills for communicating with reporters, journalists, and news outlets — all important conduits to engaging broader audiences about climate change and health.

Weighing in on the News: Writing Op-eds and Letters to the Editor

3 P.M. ET // 12 P.M. PT on Wednesday, June 21

Your health voice is a powerful one. Find out ways to apply your personal perspective to persuade others to act around a certain issue.

Weighing in on Policy: How to Testify and Provide Public Comment

3 P.M. ET // 12 P.M. PT on Wednesday, July 12

Harness your expertise and effective messaging to help shape policy and regulations in the U.S.

Social Media: Getting Started and Being Strategic

3 P.M. ET // 12 P.M. PT on Wednesday, July 26

We spend so much of our time online. Learn how to share your unique voice and perspective on social media to build an understanding of the connections between climate change, health, and equity.

Rules of the Road for Engaging with Policymakers

3 P.M. ET // 12 P.M. PT on Wednesday, August 9

Discover strategies for working with and speaking with policymakers to create change that benefits your patients and the climate.

Please email Ryann Cohen (rcohen@burness.com) with any questions

Chair Chatter

May 19, 2023

We have reached the end of spring semester and the academic year. This is a joyous time, especially for our students who are graduating. Congratulations to all of our graduates on this major achievement!

Masters of Science

Roland Abuntori
Sophie Erlich
Katherine Hardock
Connor Henderson
Amanda Hernandez
Isabel Holland
Zhiji Hu
Kuangyu (Serena) Liu
Tianyu Liu
Leah Martin
Anosha Meyers
Krittika Paul
Angela Stegmuller
Cristina Su Liu
Yichen Wang
Jiaxuan (Flora) Xu
Qinni Yuan
Mengdan (Abby) Zhong

PhD in Population Health Sciences

William Borchert
Futu Chen
Kyle Colonna
Unnati Mehta
Caro Park
Pablo Taddei
Veronica Wang
Grete Wilt
Yu Zhang

PhD in Biological Sciences
in Public Health
Chimwemwe Mwase

Masters of Public Health (45 credits)

Jacob Berry
Prahlad Govinda Krishnan
Matthew Hamm
Sally Hamm
Saumya Singh
Melissa Wan

Occupational Environmental Medical Residents

Joseph Abrams
Kevan Lutchman
Ray Kenneth Motoyama
Saad Salman
Rachael Zacks

I hope that you enjoy the commencement ceremony that you so richly deserve. As the word commencement implies, this is the beginning of a new chapter for you. Please let us know of your future accomplishments and how we may be of help to you. Also, if you have any feedback about our program please email me. I hope you keep in touch with this department and your colleagues for decades to come!

Besides celebrating our graduates, we have other EH news to report. Congratulations to Sally Bedugnis, our Research Operations Manager, and Rose West, our Academic Coordinator, for being nominated for the Sarah K. Wood Award for Outstanding Staff Performance!

Dr. Joseph Allen had an important editorial in the *Washington Post* entitled “[We might be on the verge of an indoor air quality revolution](#)”, where he praises the CDC’s new health-based ventilation rate targets.

Dr. Marc Weisskopf, director of the Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center for Environmental Health and co-director of the JPB Environmental Health Fellowship

Program, spoke last week at the MIT Picower Institute's Spring Symposium. Co-sponsored by the JPB Foundation, the symposium centered around *Environmental and Social Determinants of Child Mental Health*, and featured talks by neuroscientists, policy experts, physicians, educators and activists about how experiences and biology work together to affect how minds develop and what can be accomplished in helping people overcome early disadvantages. Dr. Weisskopf presented on "Environmental Epidemiology: Neurodevelopment and Multigenerational Exposures"; former student and current research associate Ran Rotem presented on "Environmental Epidemiology and Big Data: Using Electronic Medical Records to Explore Biological Mechanisms Linking Environmental Exposures and Autism ."

PhD student and first author Jahred Liddie was quoted along with senior author Dr. Elsie Sunderland in a feature on the school's website entitled "[Communities of color disproportionately exposed to PFAS pollution in drinking water](#)". Their study was published in *Environmental Science and Technology*.

Last week I mentioned that the new joint BUSPH-HSPH Climate Change and Health Research Coordinating Center/Center for Climate and Health has been established with a \$6.7 million, three-year grant from the NIEHS. Known as the CAFE (Convene, Accelerate, Foster, and Expand), it will be a leading force to bring cutting edge, data-driven research to bear on solutions to the climate change problem. If you would like to connect with and find out more about this exciting center, please [sign up by going to the CAFE interest form](#).

Drs. Linda Powers-Tomasso and Ramon Sanchez took six students from their Sustainable Innovation Driven by Climate Change Preparedness class to Washington, D.C. last week to take part in the Inter-American Council for Integral Development meetings. These meetings were organized by the Organization of American States and the National Academies of Sciences. They met with Ambassadors representing more than 30 member countries at OAS that are shaping science and technology policies in the Americas. Ramon was a keynote speaker on the second day, presenting a proposal to strengthen innovation and sustainability ecosystems in all countries in the American continent.



Dr. Ramon Sanchez, Ambassador Francisco Mora (U.S. Head of Delegation and U.S. Representative to OAS), and Dr. Linda Powers-Tomasso.

I have sad news to report. [Dr. Mark Raizenne](#), once an epidemiology student here who went on to become a beloved colleague with a 40 year career in public health, has passed away. Mark was instrumental in our studies in Canada including several camp studies and the 24 Cities study. Our condolences to his friends and family.

Weekly policy snippet: For our employees that work more than 20% outside of Massachusetts, I want to call attention to [Harvard's out of state policy](#).

Time is running out for you to send highlights from this academic year (July 2022 through June 2023) for the EH yearbook. While we may not be able to include everything, please let us know of your awards/honors, grants awarded/completed, conference presentations, translation of research and media coverage for activities between July 2022 – July 2023. Photos are also welcome! Please complete this

[Qualtrics survey](#) by **May 31**. Write to [Shaun Heller](#) for more information. We look forward to hearing from all members of our community, including alumni! Here's a photo from Chimwemwe Mwase celebrating after her recent dissertation defense:



I hear you: We will be working on a new Annual Report in addition to the Yearbook that is published by the Department yearly.

I leave you with some good news. Congratulations to Zahra Keshavarz and Parham Azimi, both of whom work in Joe Allen's Healthy Buildings Program, on the birth of their daughter Alyssa Azimi born on May 9. I hope she grows up happily knowing that her mom and dad are working to make this a healthier world!

Have a great weekend, everyone!

Kari

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Tuesday, May 30 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Event: Human Nutrition and Health: A workshop on international community experiences.

Speakers: Stephanos Kales hosts several speakers from Parma and Navarra

Location: Kresge Building, Room G3

Tuesday, May 30 1:00 PM

Event: Communications 101: How to Make the Case About Climate Change, Health & Equity

Speakers: Anna Chen and Nick Seaver, *Burness*

Details: Together with [Burness](#), the Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health is hosting a series of one-hour-long workshops on communications that are free. Learn how to most effectively deliver messages that rally your audiences to support climate action that benefits all our lives. We require that you join this session, as it provides foundational background for the workshops that follow. We highly recommend you join one of these sessions live.

Registration and more information: Sign up and learn more here:

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Please email Ryann Cohen (rcohen@burness.com) with any questions

Chair Chatter

May 26, 2023

This has been an exciting week for our graduates. It was fun to see our graduates and to meet many of their families at the pre-award ceremony that we hosted on Tuesday on the 13th floor. Thank you, Barbara Zuckerman for organizing it, and to Jen Razo and Shaun Heller for helping. Then it was off to the [award ceremony](#), where several members of our EH community received awards, including Chimwemwe “Chim” Mwase, Gary Adamkiewicz, Francine Laden, and Midge Van Aller. On Wednesday I was honored to be on the stage as chair as our graduating students received their well-earned diplomas at the [class of 2023 convocation](#). The speeches by Dean Williams, Hailey Hernandez, Trishan Panch, and the convocation address by Carlos Alvarado Quesada, 48th president of Costa Rica were excellent. And I hope many of you were able to attend Thursday’s Harvard University commencement ceremony in Cambridge featuring Tom Hanks. Congratulations to all our students and awardees for their accomplishments!



Drs. Chim Mwase and Jin-Ah Park

Dr. Ed Baker invites our community, particularly our students, to join the *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*'s [Leadership Library](#), where this link will always bring you to articles relevant to public health practitioners.

Here is some information about a [GeoHealth internship](#) sponsored by the NSF that may be of interest to those interested in the link between geosciences and human health.

I came across this article in *Harvard Medicine* entitled "[Climate Anxiety](#)" which links the effects of climate change on the mental health of our youth.

This week's joys were countered by some sad news. Our condolences go out to Jamie Hart, who lost her father [Edward Hart](#). Also, we lost our former colleague [Stephen \(Steve\) Rudnick](#), a graduate of our school who went on to have a career spanning over 40 years in our department culminating as a senior lecturer in industrial hygiene. Our condolences go out to Jaime and her family, and to Steve's family and friends.

Last chance for you to send highlights from this academic year (July 2022 through June 2023) for the EH yearbook. While we may not be able to include everything, please let us know of your awards/honors, grants awarded/completed, conference presentations, translation of research and media coverage for activities between July 2022 – July 2023. Photos are also welcome! Please complete this [Qualtrics survey](#) by **May 31**. Write to [Shaun Heller](#) for more information. We look forward to hearing from all members of our community, including alumni!

Weekly Policy Snippet: Business use of personal cars: Harvard reimburses mileage up to the federal rates for business use of personal cars; gas expenses cannot be reimbursed. The University will **NOT** reimburse travelers for gas expenses in lieu of miles, or for commuting, or for tickets or repairs. For more guidance, please refer to Appendix B in the [Travel Policy](#).

I hear you: Speaking of last chance to complete surveys, if you haven't already filled out this short survey about research talks and career events you would like to see in the upcoming year please do so now:

https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eSaVs2nWGKb54sC.

I didn't want this month to pass without acknowledging that May is AAPI Heritage month as well as Jewish American Heritage month. We have many people in our

EH community that identify with these groups, and we celebrate them. We know that our EH community's diversity only makes us better!

Kaitlin Breen also let me know that May is National Pet month, and she says her cats are miffed that they have not seen any mention of pets this month when they read the chatters. So here are Mia (white) and Toothless (black), although to me they look more like [Spy vs. Spy](#).





And, as if Kaitlin's cats aren't cute enough, I leave you with Oliver, born May 16 to Danielle von Rechenberg in Joe Allen's group. Joe's group is leading in infants born this month – see last week's chatter.

Welcome Oliver and congratulations to your parents!



Please send any upcoming events and news to eh-chatter@hsph.harvard.edu.

I know we are all looking forward to a long Memorial Day weekend. Why not take a moment to reflect on the meaning of this holiday, remembering and honoring the members of our armed forces who have served our country. I hope

you enjoy this nice, long holiday weekend that marks the unofficial beginning of summer.

Best,
Kari

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Building 1, Mondays 1:00 –2:00 PM, Room 1301 (Cancelled May 8 and May 15)

Landmark, Thursdays 2:00-3:00 Room 404 (Cancelled on May 11 and May 18)

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

Tuesday, May 30 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Event: Human Nutrition and Health: A workshop on international community experiences.

Speakers: Stephanos Kales hosts several speakers from Parma and Navarra

Location: Kresge Building, Room G3

Tuesday, May 30 1:00 PM

Event: Communications 101: How to Make the Case About Climate Change, Health & Equity

Speakers: Anna Chen and Nick Seaver, *Burness*

Details: Together with [Burness](#), the Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health is hosting a series of one-hour-long workshops on communications that are free. Learn how to most effectively deliver messages that rally your audiences to support climate action that benefits all our lives. We require that you join this session, as it provides foundational background for the workshops that follow. We highly recommend you join one of these sessions live.

Registration and more information: Sign up and learn more here:
<https://medsocietiesforclimatehealth.org/event/training-series-climate-communications-champion/>

Best Practices for Working with the Media

3 P.M. ET // 12 P.M. PT on Wednesday, June 7

During this session, you will gain foundational skills for communicating with reporters, journalists, and news outlets — all important conduits to engaging broader audiences about climate change and health.

Weighing in on the News: Writing Op-eds and Letters to the Editor

3 P.M. ET // 12 P.M. PT on Wednesday, June 21

Your health voice is a powerful one. Find out ways to apply your personal perspective to persuade others to act around a certain issue.

Weighing in on Policy: How to Testify and Provide Public Comment

3 P.M. ET // 12 P.M. PT on Wednesday, July 12

Harness your expertise and effective messaging to help shape policy and regulations in the U.S.

Social Media: Getting Started and Being Strategic

3 P.M. ET // 12 P.M. PT on Wednesday, July 26

We spend so much of our time online. Learn how to share your unique voice and perspective on social media to build an understanding of the connections between climate change, health, and equity.

Rules of the Road for Engaging with Policymakers

3 P.M. ET // 12 P.M. PT on Wednesday, August 9

Discover strategies for working with and speaking with policymakers to create change that benefits your patients and the climate.

Please email Ryann Cohen (rcohen@burness.com) with any questions

Friday, June 2, 1:00 – 2:00

Speaker: Shruthi Mahalingaiah

Title: Exploring wearable applications in other research areas such as disease monitoring, interventions, and biomedicine

Details: This virtual workshop is hosted by The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, will explore how can cutting edge wearable technology be leveraged for precision environmental health, digital health and biomedical research

Registration: <https://bit.ly/3nqHIwD>

JUNE 10, 10AM-12PM

Community Event: Let's Talk Clean Beauty!

Details: How we can better our health through better understanding. Come learn how you can choose safer products and prevent exposure to metals and harmful chemicals. Make your own safe beauty product!

Location: Bethel AME Church Youth Center, 84 Wachusetts St., Jamaica Plain

Registration: 617 519-7604 or

