



**HARVARD
T.H. CHAN**

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

Chair Chatter September 1, 2023

Welcome to September! Today is Glenn Stern's final day as our Director of Administration. Thank you to everyone who attended Glenn's retirement party last Friday and shared kind words about him. Thank you for all you've done for EH, Glenn. I hope you enjoy this exciting new chapter of your life.

You may have seen that there have been recent increases in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. I want to remind everyone to do your part to keep everyone else safe by staying up to date on your vaccines, testing if you feel sick, and following isolation guidance from the CDC. Visit the CDC COVID-19 website [here](#) for more information.

I am deeply saddened to announce the recent passing of Jennifer DeAlteris, Senior Grants & Contracts Manager who supported the EH Department for pre-award activity. Our thoughts are with her family and coworkers. Please read this message from Cori O'Brien Chisholm, EH Associate Director of Finance:

Dear EH Community,

I want to share with you that Jennifer DeAlteris passed away on Monday night. Jen was a bright person and a dedicated RASter. She was the Senior Grants & Contracts Manager who supported EH for pre-award activity. She handled countless proposals for Faculty and Researchers. She always exhibited a contagious positivity and a genuine engagement with her team, her faculty and everyone else she worked with. She will be dearly missed. The world is a bit dimmer without her.

I will miss her smile, her easy-going manner, and our Friday afternoon check-ins on the EH proposals and life in general.

Our condolences are with her family. We do not have details for her funeral services, but please reach out to me if you would like them once they become available.

The current proposals that are due this week and next are being handled by Sam Kasuli and Rachel Link. The assignments of proposals for Oct and beyond are TBD and either me or Sam will be in touch next week.

Thank you,

Cori

In the Spotlight:

Francine Laden has been awarded the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE) John Goldsmith Award for outstanding contributions to the field of environmental epidemiology. Congratulations, Francine! This is a huge and well-deserved honor. Francine will be giving the Goldsmith Award keynote address at ISEE's annual conference in Taiwan next month. Tamarra James-Todd will also be giving a keynote address, which is titled "Racial disparities in personal care products and environmental endocrine disrupting chemicals." I know many are not able to travel to Taiwan for the conference this year, but I hope you will join virtually to watch Francine and Tamarra's addresses. Visit the ISEE website [here](#) to register.

I also want to highlight two important reports published this week. The World Health Organization (WHO) published their review of 193 national climate plans (NDCs) and 53 long-term climate strategies (LT-LEDS) in the world. WHO reported many improvements in the NDCs since their last review, including increases in considering large health benefits, COVID-19 recovery, and air pollutions targets. This was also the first time WHO looked at LT-LEDS, and they were found to have even stronger links to health than NDCs. Read the full report [here](#). And the Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) published their annual report, which maintains that air pollution is the greatest risk to human health—reducing the average person's life expectancy by 2.3 years. Read the full report [here](#).

Department Updates:

Call for Faculty Input: Through ORSD, the school wants to identify high-value and/or frequently used datasets at the School-level that could be targeted for better coordinated sharing where possible. I strongly encourage our primary faculty to complete this [5 minute survey](#) so that your voice is heard, and the school directs its resources to best meet your needs.

This spring, the Environmental Justice Student Organization and the Environmental Law Society are joining forces to host a half-day conference on environmental justice, thanks to the support of the Salata Student Organization Funding Program. Our very own master's student, Jinia Sarkar, who also serves as the Co-President of the EJSO, will be leading the charge on the EJ front. This is a fantastic opportunity to get involved and make a difference in our community. If you're inspired by their initiative, why not consider applying for funding from the Salata Institute? Learn more about the Student Organization Funding Program below.

EH in the News

- **Montana's Water Woes:** A recent article from US News discusses the efforts being made in Montana to remove lead from school drinking water. The article highlights the challenges faced by the state, including issues with funding and data collection, which continue to prevent children from accessing clean drinking water. EH Instructor Ronnie Levin is quoted in the article, stating that while the current budget is not ideal, it is sufficient to add filters to all school faucets. Any steps taken to reduce exposure—even if they are not perfect solutions—are better than nothing. You can read the full article [here](#) to learn more about this important issue.
- **A Foggy Finding:** Marc Weisskopf, Professor of Environmental Epidemiology and Physiology, spoke with YahooNews recently about a new study revealing the 'large' effect that air pollution may have on cognitive health. Marc, along with other Harvard Chan researchers, conducted an analysis of 14 prior studies to conclude that chronic exposure to polluted air containing fine particulate matter increases risk of dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Read more about the research [here](#).
- **Prioritize School Building Infrastructure:** Joe Allen was quoted in two New York Times articles on the condition of HVAC systems in American schools. Climate change, extreme heat, and poor ventilation make learning difficult for students and pose health threats to students and teachers. Joe talks about the need to update schools' HVAC systems. You can read those articles [here](#) and

Commented [OO1]: Are we doing titles for these or?

Commented [BM2R1]: this one can have a title. it's a special call for action

[here](#).

- **Tracking Heat-Related Deaths:** A new article from WBUR News highlights the importance of tracking heat-related deaths—discussing how many cities across the country greatly underestimate the number of people who die annually from extreme heat. Francesca Dominici, Professor of Biostatistics and EH Faculty Affiliate, chimes in to emphasize how this lack of accurate and consistent information makes it challenging to know whether community and government efforts to address heat resiliency are working. I encourage you to read the full article [here](#) and learn more about this important issue.

New Resource(s)

- Lisa Robinson recently shared with me a newsletter from the Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis (SBCA), which is currently accepting abstract submissions for their annual conference in March and nominations for a couple awards. I encourage you to visit the SBCA website [here](#) to learn more about these great opportunities and resources many of you could benefit from and sign up for their newsletter.
- Andy Burness, the founder and CEO of Burness, a global communications firm based in DC, is now offering one-on-one consultations with faculty members at HSPH. This is an excellent opportunity to gain insights into communication strategies and tactics for translating your research findings into real-world impact. You can book a consultation with him [here](#). If you encounter any difficulties, feel free to contact Amanda Yarnell at ayarnell@hsph.harvard.edu for assistance.
- The Salata Institute's Student Organization Funding Program is accepting applications through September 29, 2023. The program aims to support student organizations with a shared interest in climate change by providing funding for collaborative events that enhance learning and address the global climate challenge. You can learn more and apply [here](#).

Weekly Policy Snippets:

- **Gifts for Employees and Non-Employees:** Harvard threshold for gifts to employees and non-employees is \$100. This is because Harvard must follow the Internal Revenue Code (IRS) section 132(a) (4) for de minimis benefits. The IRS defines items with a value exceeding \$100 not to be de minimis; thus, considered taxable. What does the \$100 include? The \$100 threshold includes all charges including engraving or monogramming, taxes, and delivery fees to

the recipient's home or other off-campus location. The \$100 is inclusive of all gifts per event and is applied University-wide. Shipping or mailing charges for gifts delivered to Harvard and expenses for wrapping paper and cards are considered incidental expenses and do not need to be included in the \$100 threshold. Shipping, mailing or delivery charges for gifts sent to the recipient's home or other off-campus locations (i.e., funeral home) must be considered in the \$100 threshold. For further details, please consult [Gifts and Celebratory Events for Employees and Nonemployees Policy](#).

Reminders

- Submit a photo of your pet(s) using [this survey](#) to have them included in the Pet Corner Poster, which will be displayed on the 13th floor of Building 1 and at Landmark 4 West. Submit by Friday, September 8th!
- Check out the [EH Department website](#) for both internal and external job postings.
- Applications for the Salata Institute Seed Grant Program in Climate and Sustainability are due by Friday, September 8th. You can read the full call for proposals [here](#).
- Applications for Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center pilot projects are due Friday, October 6th. Click [here](#) for more information.

And a **special** reminder that today is the last day to RSVP for the EH welcome Back Party! RSVP [here](#) today!

If you have any upcoming events you want to announce or news you want to share, please write to EH-Chatter@hsph.harvard.edu or complete the [submission survey](#). Remember, your contributions and enthusiasm keep our community thriving.

Enjoy your weekend!

Best,
Kari

Upcoming Events:

Save the dates for these exciting events...

Please note:

- *Due to scheduling changes, the locations of the September 28-29 talks with Drs. Hayhoe, Balbus, and Somini Sengupta have been updated. See event details below.*
- *The EH Department retreat previously scheduled for September 29 has been changed to October 30.*
- *The JBL annual symposium: “Ionizing radiation and the human brain” is scheduled for October 27.*

Chair Open Office Hours

Building 1 Room 1301, Mondays 1:00 –2:00 PM
Landmark Room 404, Thursdays 2:00-3:00 PM

Tea Time

Building 1 15th Floor Kitchen Area, Wednesdays 2:00 - 3:00 PM
Landmark 4 West, Thursdays 2:30 – 3:30 PM

Wednesday, September 6, 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Title: *Advancing integrated governance for health through national biodiversity strategies and action plans*

Speaker(s): Dr. David Cooper, Dr. Kari Nadeau, Liz Willets

Description: The Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health will host a webinar roundtable to discuss the Lancet Comment on advancing integrated governance for health through national biodiversity strategies. This comes after 196 governments committed to the 2022 Kunming-Montréal Global Biodiversity Framework, leading to updates in national biodiversity strategies globally. The roundtable will explore how governments plan to integrate biodiversity-health interlinkages into these strategies and how the health sector can actively engage in co-design to address the interconnectedness of ecosystem and public health. See attached poster to register.

Register: <https://harvard.zoom.us/meeting/register>

Thursday, September 7, 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Event: Casual Seminar Series

Title: *Covariate Adjustment in Randomized Experiments with Missing Data*

Speaker: Fan Li, Professor in the Department of Statistical Science and the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Duke University

Description: The Harvard Data Science Initiative begins the 2023-2024 Causal Seminar Series in September. Click [here](#) to read the abstract for this talk.

Location: TBD (in-person at Harvard University)

Monday, September 11, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Event: Journal Club Kick-off Meeting

Description: The *NEW* EH Journal Club is for all EH students (masters and doctoral) and postdocs! It will be a monthly meeting to discuss environmental health methods, especially areas of specialization within our department. Each meeting will be a group discussion led by a student, with consultation from a faculty member or postdoc. Lunch will be provided and check your email for an RSVP form.

Location: HSPH Building 1, Room 1302

Wednesday, September 13, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Event: The Harvard Chan Environmental Health Department Student Advisory Committee (EH SAC)

Description: EH SAC is excited to welcome both returning and incoming students to the first meeting of the 2023-24 academic year! Our first meeting is no-commitment and is open to any EH student. SAC is perfect for you if you're interested in strengthening our campus community, want to create engagement opportunities for you and your peers, and are creative/motivated.

Location: Building 1, 1306A

Register: Sign up through [this link](#) to express your interest and receive more information on how you can get involved!

Wednesday, September 13, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Title: *Five Fundamental Shifts Laying the Foundation for the Healthy Buildings Era*

Speaker(s): Joseph Allen, Associate Professor of Exposure Assessment Science

Location: Building 1, Room 1302 Or Via Zoom

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us>

Wednesday, September 13, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Event: Department of Environmental Health Welcome Back Party

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

More information: Click [here](#) to RSVP by Friday, September 1st.

Tuesday, September 19, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Title: *Ferroptotic Differentiation and Death in Asthmatic Epithelium*

Speaker(s): Sally E. Wenzel, MD, Chair, Dept of Environmental and Occupational Health and Director, U Pitt Asthma and Environmental Lung Health Institute, School of Public Health

Description: Dr. Wenzel will discuss ferroptotic differentiation and death in asthmatic epithelium.

Location: Building 1, Room 1302

Friday, September 22, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM

Title: *Fall Career Fair*

Register: Employers or students can register [here](#).

Description: The Fall Career Fair is a great opportunity for employers to connect with current students, postdocs, or recent alumni. We are looking for any potential employers to join us who have open positions that they would like to promote at the fair. Please feel free to share the registration link with any organizational contacts that you may have. Any questions about the fair, hosting employer-related events, or sharing job postings with the Harvard Chan community can be directed to employers@hsph.harvard.edu.

Location: [JB Martin Conference Center](#)

Tuesday, September 26, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Title: *Health Impacts of Wildfire Smoke*

Speaker(s): Mary M. Johnson, MD, PhD, Principal Research Scientist, MIPS, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Description: Dr. Johnson will discuss the health impacts of wildfire smoke.

Location: Building 1, Room 1302

Thursday, September 28, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: *Putting Health at the Heart of Climate Conversations*

Speaker(s): Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Chief Scientist for the Nature Conservatory

Description: Climate change puts everyone at risk; yet many remain unaware of its immediate effects on their lives and how they can contribute to climate action. Clearly communicating the health implications of climate change offers a unique opportunity to bridge the psychological distance that often disconnects people from this global crisis. At the same time, however, it is essential to pair information about risks with actionable solutions, addressing the lack of efficacy that leads many of those worried about climate change to feel helpless and disempowered. Join Katharine Hayhoe as she discusses the pivotal role of health-related climate impacts in engaging and activating people to advocate for a better future for us all.

Location: Kresge 502

Thursday, September 28, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Title: *Bridging Connections: A Networking Mixer for Students, Alumni, and Employers*

Description: Please join us for this fun and informal opportunity to meet current students, alumni, and employers who recruit at Harvard Chan.

Location: [Trillium Brewery at Fenway](#)

Register: <https://harvardchan.ticketleap.com>

Friday, September 29, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Event: Whittenberger Lecturers

Title: *Steps and Scales: Transforming the US Health Sector for Climate Change and Health Equity*

Speaker(s): Dr. John Balbus, Acting Director of HHS Office of Climate Change

Description: Details coming soon.

Location: Kresge 200

Friday, September 29, 2:00 PM

Event: President Claudine Gay Inauguration Viewing Party

Description: Come to the Environmental Health Department office to watch the livestream of President Claudine Gay's inauguration. Refreshments will be provided.

Location: SPH1, 1302

More information: Details regarding inauguration festivities and the livestream will be found on the Marshal's Office website [here](#).

Friday, September 29, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Event: Whittenberger Lectures

Title: Climate Hacks: Survival Lessons from the World's Poor

Speaker(s): Somini Sengupta, International Climate Reporter for The New York Times

Description: Details coming soon.

Location: Kresge 202

Friday, October 5, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Event: Consulting and Coffee Networking Breakfast

Description: Students, alumni, and employers who are interested in or have professional experience in consulting as a career path will have the opportunity to meet, share insights and advice, and learn about potential opportunities. Any faculty members who have experience in this area or have advice to share with students regarding this career path are welcome to come.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Register: Please email Courtney Burke, Assistant Director of Employer Relations, at cburke@hsph.harvard.edu if you are able to join us.

Thursday, November 2, 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Title: *Cultivating Connections: A Networking Evening in Support of Women*

Speaker(s): Carole Simpson, Diane Darling, Kate Zernike, Dr. Alexis Stokes

Description: Wondering how to build helpful connections across the university? Join us in November for this Harvard-wide event. Four dynamic speakers will share their expertise and experiences on the power of networking and the how-to of building strong networks. A lively panel discussion and audience questions will be followed by structured activities for easy, enjoyable networking. We encourage Harvard faculty, staff, students from Cambridge and affiliated institutions to join us on the Longwood Medical Campus for this energizing event.

Location: Harvard Medical School

Thursday, November 2, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Event: *International Student Networking Dinner*

Description: International students searching for jobs in the U.S. face additional barriers to employment. This event provides current international students the opportunity to connect with alumni, faculty, and senior leaders at the School to practice their networking skills and learn how to navigate their career development journey during their time at Harvard Chan. We are looking for 5-10 volunteers to attend and speak with students throughout the evening.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Register: Please email Andrea Heller, Career Coach/Advisor, at aheller@hsph.harvard.edu if you are able to join us.

Friday, December 1, 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Event: *Salata Institute Climate & Sustainability Expo*

Description: The Climate and Sustainability Expo is a new collaborative effort across Harvard schools to connect organizations focused on climate, sustainability, and the environment with Harvard undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni. Please feel free to share the registration link with any organizational contacts that you may have who may be interested in showcasing jobs, internships, research experiences, and/or potential projects within their organization.

Location: [Harvard's Gutman Conference Center](#)

Register: Employers can register [here](#) and students and alumni can [here](#).

More Information: Please contact employers@fas.harvard.edu with questions.



**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023
1:00PM - 1:50PM IN KRESGE 502**





HARVARD
T.H. CHAN

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

STEPS AND SCALES: TRANSFORMING THE US HEALTH SECTOR FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH EQUITY

JOHN BALBUS

ACTING DIRECTOR OF HHS OFFICE OF
CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH EQUITY



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

1:00PM - 1:50PM IN KRESGE 200

WHITTENBERGER LECTURES

WHITTENBERGER LECTURES

**CLIMATE HACKS: SURVIVAL LESSONS
FROM THE WORLD'S POOR**



**WITH
SOMINI SENGUPTA**

**INTERNATIONAL
CLIMATE REPORTER
FOR THE NEW YORK
TIMES**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023
4:00PM - 5:00PM IN KRESGE 202**



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health



**HARVARD
T.H. CHAN**

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

Chair Chatter

September 8, 2023

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Labor Day weekend and took advantage of the gorgeous weather! This week's Chatter is on the shorter side.

In the Spotlight:

I am thrilled to share the exciting news that the Salata Institute has funded 14 promising new climate projects through their Seed Grant Program. As highlighted in a [recent Harvard Gazette article](#), these grants will support critical work across disciplines. This vital funding enables our talented faculty and students to pursue innovative climate solutions. I encourage all of you to consider applying for future Salata Institute grants as their current **application deadline is today**. Click [here](#) for info on how to apply. Together, we can conduct groundbreaking research to build a healthier and more sustainable future.

I want to recommend a couple conferences coming up this week. On Monday, September 11 through Wednesday, September 13 is the Annual College of Epidemiology Annual Meeting. There are some spectacular speakers this year, including our former C-CHANGE Director Aaron Berstein, Francesca Dominici, and Jane Fonda! There is still time to register for the virtual meeting. You can find more info on the website [here](#) and down below. And next Friday, September 15, the Harvard Graduate School of Design is hosting their DDes Conference 2023 called *Embodied Climates*, which brings together artists, designers, scholars, and activists to rethink climate politics and environmental justice through the lens of embodied experience. This conference is free to the public and you can learn more about the event [here](#).

Department Updates:

EH in the News

- **Heat Alert Pilot Program:** There is a triple Harvard shoutout in a recent article from KFF Health News! Caleb Dresser, Gaurab Basu, and C-CHANGE are all mentioned in the article about a heat alert pilot program for 12 clinics across the country. Read it [here](#).
- **Toolkit Boosts Climate Resilience:** Inside Climate News quotes Drs. Caleb Dresser and Aaron Bernstein in an article about C-CHANGE and AmeriCares' toolkit to help communities build resilience in the face of climate change. Read the article [here](#).



Weekly Policy Snippets:

- **International SOS Registration:** Before traveling internationally, it is required that all Harvard affiliates—faculty, staff, students, and researchers—register their travel with International SOS. In the event of an emergency or incident abroad, there will be attempts to contact you via email, SMS, or a phone call to confirm your well-being and provide help. Other benefits include access to country-specific advice, security alerts, and more. Please note that travel booked through one of [Harvard Preferred Travel Agencies](#) will be automatically registered with International SOS for you. International ISOS is needed for **all international travel outbound from USA that is paid by Harvard funds**. International SOS is not required for travel between countries outside of USA or for travel inbound to USA. [Register International Travel Here](#).



Reminders

- Applications for the Salata Institute Seed Grant Program in Climate and Sustainability are due TODAY! You can read the full call for proposals [here](#).
- Today is the last day to submit a photo of your pet(s) using [this survey](#) to have them included in the Pet Corner Poster, which will be displayed on the 13th floor of Building 1 and at Landmark 4 West.
- Check out the [EH Department website](#) for both internal and external job postings.
- Applications for Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center pilot projects are due Friday, October 6th. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Registration is now open for the 2023 [Boston Climate Beacon Conference](#). Sign up to join the conversation [here](#).

If you have any upcoming events you want to announce or news you want to share, please write to EH-Chatter@hsph.harvard.edu or complete the [submission survey](#). Remember, your contributions and enthusiasm keep our community thriving.

Enjoy your weekend!

Best,
Kari

Upcoming Events:

Save the dates for these exciting events...

Please note:

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Landmark 4 West, Thursdays 2:30 – 3:30 PM

Friday, September 8, 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Event: Education and Research Grand Rounds Series

Title: *Occupational Electrical Injuries*

Speaker(s): Saad Salman, MD, MPH and Stefanos N. Kales, MD, MPH

Description: In this Grand Rounds, Saad Salman, MD, MPH, Chief Resident and Stefanos N. Kales, MD, MPH, Director of the residency program in

Occupational and Environmental Medicine will discuss a case of an electrical injury to a worker.

Location: HSPH Kresge Building, Room 502 or Zoom

Registration: Click [here](#) for registration

More Information: Learn more [here](#) or contact abackus@hsph.harvard.edu.

Monday, September 11, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Event: Journal Club Kick-off Meeting

Description: The *NEW* EH Journal Club is for all EH students (masters and doctoral) and postdocs! It will be a monthly meeting to discuss environmental health methods, especially areas of specialization within our department. Each meeting will be a group discussion led by a student, with consultation from a faculty member or postdoc. Lunch will be provided and check your email for an RSVP form.

Location: HSPH Building 1, Room 1302

Monday, September 11, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Event: Boston Cell Death Initiative Monthly Meeting

Title: Cell Death Discussion Series

Speaker(s): Dr. Michael Lee and Dr. Jennifer Oyler-Yaniv

Description: See flyer below for more.

Location: Harvard Medical School, Goldenson 122

Monday, September 11 – Wednesday, September 13

Event: American College of Epidemiology (ACE) 2023 Annual Meeting

Description: This year's annual meeting on climate change and health brings together experts, researchers, policymakers, and various stakeholders to discuss the impact of climate change on human health and explore potential solutions. Our goal is to raise awareness about the impact of climate change on health, share scientific knowledge, promote collaborations, and discuss actionable solutions to protect human health. See posters below.

Register: <https://whova.com/web/3LbqiQ5Y84O%40OKCAJVPyt8Vv39B-IOUpMhHXn7p0Aw%3D/>

Wednesday, September 13, 1:00 PM – 1:50 PM

Event: The Department of Epidemiology Seminar Series

Title: *Health Anxieties, Politics, and the History of the Climate Crisis*

Speaker(s): David S. Jones, MD, PhD, Professor of Epidemiology

Description: This talk will examine the history of health advocacy on climate change. We'll look at early underplayed warnings, persistent medical efforts,

and ongoing advocacy obstacles. Expect insights on expanding climate-health science amidst lagging action.

Location: Zoom

Register: <https://harvard.zoom.us/>

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Event: The Harvard Chan Environmental Health Department Student Advisory Committee (EH SAC)

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Speaker(s): Joseph Allen, Associate Professor of Exposure Assessment Science

Location: Building 1, Room 1302 Or Via Zoom

Zoom: <https://harvard.zoom.us>

Wednesday, September 13, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Event: Department of Environmental Health Welcome Back Party

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Friday, September 15, 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Event: Education and Research Grand Rounds Series

Title: *Loss of Cabin Pressure in an Aircraft: What Do You Do When the Pressure is on to Make the Right Decision?*

Speaker(s): Jacob Berry, MD, MPH and Marc S. Robins, DO, MPH

Details: For this Grand Rounds, Jacob Berry, MD, MPH a second-year resident and Marc S. Robins, DO, MPH, a board-certified hyperbaric physician, will discuss the physiology and pathology of loss of cabin pressure in an aircraft and what medical decisions constitute appropriate treatment.

Location: HSPH, Kresge Building, Room 502 or Zoom

Registration: <https://harvard.azl.qualtrics.com>

More information: Visit www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc or contact abackus@hsph.harvard.edu

Tuesday, September 19, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Title: *Ferroptotic Differentiation and Death in Asthmatic Epithelium*

Speaker(s): Sally E. Wenzel, MD, Chair, Dept of Environmental and Occupational Health and Director, U Pitt Asthma and Environmental Lung Health Institute, School of Public Health

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Description: Dr. Johnson will discuss the health impacts of wildfire smoke.

Location: Building 1, Room 1302

Wednesday, September 27, 1:00 PM– 2:00 PM

Event: 2023-2024 Center Research Presentation Series

Title: *‘Utilizing geospatial data resources at the NIEHS Center, Harvard, and beyond.’*

Speaker(s): William Kessler, M.S.

Description: Join us for the kick-off of our 2023-2024 Center Research Presentation series. Each month, we invite a Center member and/or affiliate to discuss their research in a casual, collaborative environment. This month, William Kessler, M.S., Data Manager for the Geographic and Contextual Measures Core, will speak about *‘Utilizing geospatial data resources at the NIEHS Center, Harvard, and beyond.’* This event will be held via Zoom only and recorded.

Location: [Zoom](#)

More Information: Learn more [here](#).

Thursday, September 28, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: *Putting Health at the Heart of Climate Conversations*

Speaker(s): Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Chief Scientist for the Nature Conservatory

Description: Climate change puts everyone at risk; yet many remain unaware of its immediate effects on their lives and how they can contribute to climate action. Clearly communicating the health implications of climate change offers a unique opportunity to bridge the psychological distance that often disconnects people from this global crisis. At the same time, however, it is essential to pair information about risks with actionable solutions, addressing the lack of efficacy that leads many of those worried about climate change to feel helpless and disempowered. Join Katharine Hayhoe as she discusses the pivotal role of health-related climate impacts in engaging and activating people to advocate for a better future for us all.

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Location: [Trillium Brewery at Fenway](#)

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Friday, September 29, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Event: Whittenberger Lecturers

Title: *Steps and Scales: Transforming the US Health Sector for Climate Change and Health Equity*

Speaker(s): Dr. John Balbus, Acting Director of HHS Office of Climate Change

Description: Details coming soon.

Location: Kresge 200

Friday, September 29, 2:00 PM

Event: President Claudine Gay Inauguration Viewing Party

Description: Come to the Environmental Health Department office to watch the livestream of President Claudine Gay's inauguration. Refreshments will be provided.

Location: SPH1, 1302

More information: Details regarding inauguration festivities and the livestream will be found on the Marshal's Office website [here](#).

Friday, September 29, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Event: Whittenberger Lectures

Title: *Climate Hacks: Survival Lessons from the World's Poor*

Speaker(s): Somini Sengupta, International Climate Reporter for The New York Times

Description: Details coming soon.

Location: Kresge 202

Friday, October 5, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Event: Consulting and Coffee Networking Breakfast

Description: Students, alumni, and employers who are interested in or have professional experience in consulting as a career path will have the opportunity to meet, share insights and advice, and learn about potential opportunities. Any faculty members who have experience in this area or have advice to share with students regarding this career path are welcome to come.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Register: Please email Courtney Burke, Assistant Director of Employer Relations, at cburke@hsph.harvard.edu if you are able to join us.

Thursday, November 2, 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Title: *Cultivating Connections: A Networking Evening in Support of Women*

Speaker(s): Carole Simpson, Diane Darling, Kate Zernike, Dr. Alexis Stokes

Description: Wondering how to build helpful connections across the university? Join us in November for this Harvard-wide event. Four dynamic speakers will share their expertise and experiences on the power of networking and the how-to of building strong networks. A lively panel discussion and audience questions will be followed by structured activities for easy, enjoyable networking. We encourage Harvard faculty, staff, students from Cambridge and affiliated institutions to join us on the Longwood Medical Campus for this energizing event.

Location: Harvard Medical School

Thursday, November 2, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Event: *International Student Networking Dinner*

Description: International students searching for jobs in the U.S. face additional barriers to employment. This event provides current international students the opportunity to connect with alumni, faculty, and senior leaders at the School to practice their networking skills and learn how to navigate their

career development journey during their time at Harvard Chan. We are looking for 5-10 volunteers to attend and speak with students throughout the evening.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Register: Please email Andrea Heller, Career Coach/Advisor, at aheller@hsph.harvard.edu if you are able to join us.

Wednesday, November 15, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Event: 2023 St. Luke's Health System Climate and Health Lecture Series

Title: *The Health Benefits of Climate Action*

Description: Dr. Gaurab Basu will discuss why health equity is important to everyone and the intersection and complexity between environmental and health impacts. He will discuss developing resources for clinicians and students. And he will share how and why he electrified his home and what he discovered on that journey. In 2021, Dr. Basu was named to the Grist 50 list of national climate leaders. This is one among many other awards he's received.

Location: Virtual

Register: <https://web.cvent.com/event/>

Friday, December 1, 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Event: *Salata Institute Climate & Sustainability Expo*

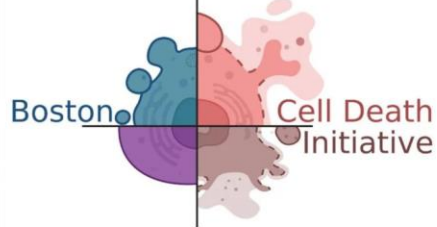
Description: The Climate and Sustainability Expo is a new collaborative effort across Harvard schools to connect organizations focused on climate, sustainability, and the environment with Harvard undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni. Please feel free to share the registration link with any organizational contacts that you may have who may be interested in showcasing jobs, internships, research experiences, and/or potential projects within their organization.

Location: [Harvard's Gutman Conference Center](#)

Register: Employers can register [here](#) and students and alumni can [here](#).

More Information: Please contact employers@fas.harvard.edu with questions.

Boston Cell Death Initiative



Cell Death Discussion Series

Monday, September 11th at 3-4PM

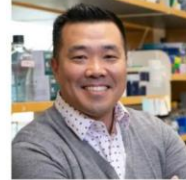
Goldenson 122 (note new room location)
220 Longwood Avenue, Boston MA 02115
(on the Harvard Medical School Quad)
(in-person seminar only)

This month's discussions:

***Mechanisms of Lethality Following
Loss of Gene Expression***

Michael Lee, PhD

(UMass Chan Medical School)



***Crosstalk and plasticity in infection-induced
programmed death signaling***

Jennifer Oyler-Yaniv,

(Harvard Medical School)



Get more info or join our mailing list at bostoncelldeath.org

Save the date: next meeting will be on October 2nd at 3PM.

Have questions or comments? Email Kristopher Sarosiek sarosiek@hsph.harvard.edu



SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2023

CLIMATE CHANGE & HEALTH

ACE Annual Meeting

The American College of Epidemiology (ACE) will host its 2023 Annual Meeting in a virtual format on September 11-13, 2023. All content including poster presentations will be presented virtually through our online conference platform.

This year's annual meeting on climate change and health brings together experts, researchers, policymakers, and various stakeholders to discuss the impact of climate change on human health and explore potential solutions. Our goal is to raise awareness about the impact of climate change on health, share scientific knowledge, promote collaborations, and discuss actionable solutions to protect human health.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Registration rates are currently available at a discounted rate.

Students are offered a group discount of 25% off each student registration if 5 or more students attend from the same institution.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Aaron Bernstein, MD, MPH

Director for the National Center for Environmental Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry



Francesca Dominici, PhD

Clarence James Gamble Professor of Biostatistics, Population, and Data Science, Harvard University



Jane Fonda

Founder, Jane Fonda Climate PAC



Kari Nadeau, MD, PhD

Chair, John Rock Professor, Harvard T.H. Chan School Public Health



Michael Osterholm, PhD

Regents Professor, McKnight Presidential Endowed Chair in Public Health, the director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP).



SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2023
CLIMATE CHANGE & HEALTH
ACE Annual Meeting

SESSION HIGHLIGHT

CLIMATE CHANGE & HEALTH WITH NIH



Emerald Nguyen, PhD
Program Official, National Institute on Aging



Gwen Collman, PhD
Director, Office of Scientific Coordination, Planning and Evaluation (SCOPE)



Stacy Rasmus, PhD
Director, Center for Alaska Native Health (CANHR)



Karsten Hueffer, DVM, PhD
Associate Dean, Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Alaska



Shymal Peddeda, PhD
Deputy Chief, Biostatistics & Computational Biology Branch and Senior Investigator, NIH



Carina Gronlund, PhD
Research Assistant Professor, Epidemiology, University of Michigan



Gregory Wellenius, SCD
Professor and Director of the new BUSPH Center for Climate and Health, Boston University



William Kessler


Data Manager

Geographic and Contextual Measures Core

2023-2024
Center Research Presentations

**Utilizing geospatial data
resources at the NIEHS Center,
Harvard, and beyond**

Weds, Sept 27 

1:00 - 2:00pm 

Via Zoom only

Visit our website: hsph.me/niehs 

Follow us @hsphniehsctr 



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

PUTTING HEALTH AT THE HEART OF CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023
1:00PM - 1:50PM IN KRESGE 502**

**DR. KATHARINE HAYHOE,
CHIEF SCIENTIST FOR THE
NATURE CONSERVANCY**





SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

STEPS AND SCALES: TRANSFORMING THE US HEALTH SECTOR FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH EQUITY

JOHN BALBUS

ACTING DIRECTOR OF HHS OFFICE OF
CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH EQUITY



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

1:00PM - 1:50PM IN KRESGE 200

WHITTENBERGER LECTURES

WHITTENBERGER LECTURES

CLIMATE HACKS: SURVIVAL LESSONS
FROM THE WORLD'S POOR



WITH
SOMINI SENGUPTA

INTERNATIONAL
CLIMATE REPORTER
FOR THE NEW YORK
TIMES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023
4:00PM - 5:00PM IN KRESGE 202



HARVARD
T.H. CHAN

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health



**HARVARD
T.H. CHAN**

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

Chair Chatter

September 15, 2023

Dear Department Colleagues, I wanted to express my deep appreciation to Barbara, Jen, Kaitlin, Halimat, Tracy, Shaun and others for their help in making this Wednesday's Welcome Back Party a success! It was wonderful to see everyone (and their family—thanks to Parham and Zahra for sharing their joy—Alyssa—with us). I am excited about the year to come, and welcome back to everyone!



Parham Azimi, Zahra Keshavarz, and their baby Alyssa

This week marked 22 years since the tragic events of September 11, 2001. As we take a moment to reflect on that day, we honor the memory of the nearly 3,000 people killed in the terrorist attacks. Survivors have endured significant physical and mental health impacts caused by the tragedy. Our Department and NIEHS Centers nationwide have conducted vital research on the health effects resulting from September 11th. I encourage you to read [this article](#) as an example of the important work being done to understand the aftermath. By expanding our knowledge, we hope to provide better care and support for survivors of tragedies in the years ahead. Though it remains a defining moment in our nation's history, the resilience displayed in its aftermath gives us hope for the future.

Next week is National Postdoc Appreciation Week! I think I speak for all faculty when I say we are incredibly grateful for every one of our Environmental Health postdocs. In recognition of the incredible work they contribute to our Department's research and teaching, I invite all faculty, staff, students, and research scientists in the EH Department to a Postdoc Appreciation Breakfast in room 1302, Building 1, next Friday, September 22nd, 10-11am. Check your emails for a calendar invitation!

And a quick reminder of the many important upcoming Department events. Additional details are below in the upcoming events section.

- Thursday, September 28th, 1-2pm – Dr. Katharine Hayhoe Talk
- Friday, September 29th, 8-9am – Breakfast with Dr. John Balbus
- Friday, September 29th, 1-2pm – Whittenberger Lecture with Dr. John Balbus
- Friday, September 29th, 4-5pm – Whittenberger Lecture with Somini Sengupta
- Monday, October 30th, 8:30am – 4:30pm – Environmental Health Department Retreat

In the Spotlight:

#ClimateWeek is upon us! This is a pivotal event in the global climate calendar, bringing together influential leaders to discuss climate action. I am thrilled to share that some of our colleagues from C-CHANGE will be traveling to New York to participate in various events throughout the week. Their contributions will undoubtedly enrich the discussions and bring valuable insights from our work at Harvard's Chan School of Public Health. Please keep an eye out for updates and highlights from our team's participation. Let's cheer them on as they represent our department and contribute to this important global dialogue!

The Office of the President is hosting an Academic Symposium prior to President Gay's inauguration on Friday, September 29th. The six concurrent sessions take place in various locations on the Cambridge campus from 10:15-11:45am. All the panels cover important and thought-provoking topics, but you might be especially interested in the panel titled "Confronting the Impact of Climate Change: Building Resilience and New Solutions." Tamarra James-Todd is on the panel and I am the moderator for it. You can read more about the Symposium [here](#).

Department Updates:

I want to share some news from this year's World Conference On Lung Cancer (WCLC), which just finished in Singapore this week. Xinan Wang, one of our postdocs working with David Christiani, received the award of Tobacco Control and Smoking Cessation for Early Career Researcher on her recent work of *Pre-diagnosis smoking cessation on Overall Survival among patients with non-small cell lung cancer*, using the Boston Lung Cancer Survival cohort. Congratulations to Xinan! What a terrific honor!



EH in the News

- **IRA in Action:** This week brings encouraging news. A recently released [EPA report](#) confirms the Inflation Reduction Act's potential to significantly reduce emissions and expedite our shift from fossil fuels. The report reveals a projected 44% decrease in power sector emissions by 2030, down to 730 million metric tons, compared to 2005 levels. This reaffirms our belief in the IRA's ability to drive climate progress and the critical role of research in assessing the health and environmental impacts of key policies.
- **Hair, Health Inequity:** I also wanted to take a moment to highlight Marissa Chan, Shivani Parikh, and Derek Shyr, who worked with Professors Gary Adamkiewicz and Tamarra James-Todd on [important research](#) recently

featured on WCVB. Looking at the ingredients in hair care products across different neighborhoods in Boston, the group discovered striking disparities in levels of hazardous chemicals, finding that “11.4 percent of hair products sold in Mission Hill contained hazardous chemicals compared to just under 8 percent in Beacon Hill”. The group are helping to protect the health of communities facing disproportionate exposure to hazards, and I commend them on this impactful research.

- **Shaping Healthy Schools:** I am excited to share some recent news featuring the Healthy Building Program’s Joe Allen. In a conversation with PBS NewsHour, Joe shed light on how high temperatures have forced schools to either close or dismiss early in at least nine states last week. It’s raised questions about old, overheated buildings, the lack of air conditioning, and bigger ventilation concerns tied to COVID-19. Joe’s expertise helps us understand the challenges we face in creating healthy and safe environments for our children and communities. Please join me in congratulating him on his impactful work and [watch the full interview here](#).
- **Lead Pipes:** The Boston Globe included some no-nonsense quotes from Ronnie Levin about the recent issues regarding removing lead pipes in Massachusetts. It’s important to have these pipes replaced because lead exposure causes developmental problems in children and serious health problems in adults. Federal funding for lead pipe removal in Massachusetts was cut in half this year because of the amount of lead pipes reported on the EPA’s survey earlier this year. While the state, the federal government, and the EPA argue about who to blame and how to fix it, Ronnie says the solution is simple and long overdue. I encourage you to read the article and Ronnie’s quotes [here](#).
- **Caleb Dresser, ClimateMD:** I was thrilled to see research by our own Caleb Dresser featured in [a recent Politico article](#) on disaster preparedness and climate resilience. The piece highlighted his ongoing work to aid clinics in responding to climate-driven extreme weather. Caleb's research and expertise in disaster preparedness is helping ensure our vulnerable citizens are protected, even in worst-case scenarios. We are proud to support his efforts to build climate resilience and mitigate risks to human health.

New Resources

- The Department of Environmental Health Sciences at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health is inviting early-career researchers

nationwide to apply for the 2024 Agents of Change Fellowship in Environmental Justice. This 9-month program aims to diversify leadership and amplify marginalized voices in environmental and climate justice. Applicants should be early-career researchers from underrepresented backgrounds pursuing scientific work related to environmental or climate justice. **The application deadline is October 20, 2023.** [Learn more and apply here.](#)

- I am excited to introduce you to a tool that is sure to revolutionize the way we interact with our built environment. The [Co-Benefits of the Built Environment \(CoBE\) tool](#) is a groundbreaking resource designed to help us better understand the impact of building energy consumption. It calculates the greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions, climate impacts, and public health impacts of building energy use, and allows users to compare these to climate policies. It's an invaluable tool for anyone interested in quantifying health and climate benefits for evidence-based decision-making. EH's own Joseph Allen is the Principal Investigator of the CoBE Project. His experience in conducting health investigations of sick buildings across a diverse range of industries has been instrumental in the tool's development. I encourage all of you to explore CoBE and consider how it might enhance your research and practice. Let's continue to lead the way in environmental health!
- I also encourage students to take advantage of a scholarship opportunity for free attendance at the *NIOSH-funded 2023 Prevention through Design (PtD) Workshop* taking place this Wednesday, the 21st. This event is a fantastic chance for students to learn and engage in a collaborative environment. You can find more details in the Upcoming Events section.

Weekly Policy Snippets:

- **Rental Accommodations:** Travelers may stay in rental accommodations (e.g., VRBO or Airbnb) if the total cost is less expensive than a hotel stay in a standard, single occupancy room. While individuals may choose to use Airbnb or VRBO at their (or the school's) discretion and if the funding allows, they cannot be compelled to do so. Harvard will reimburse with proper documentation but does not endorse the use of Airbnb or VRBO. For additional information please see [Harvard Travel Policy](#). Please note that appropriate documentation includes a folio and a proper receipt that includes information listed under "Hotels" section of the [Harvard Definition of Receipts Guidance](#).

I Hear You:

I heard that researchers would like funds for publication costs, so we established a process for partial reimbursement for publications per year. Contact [Cori O'Brien Chisholm](#) for more information.

Reminders

- Check out the [EH Department website](#) for both internal and external job postings.
- Applications for Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center pilot projects are due Friday, October 6th. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Registration is now open for the 2023 [Boston Climate Beacon Conference](#). Sign up to join the conversation [here](#).
- Write to EH-Chatter@hsph.harvard.edu or complete the [submission survey](#) to have upcoming events or news included in the Chatter. Remember, your contributions and enthusiasm keep our community thriving!

As we jump into this busy season, let's be sure to pause and acknowledge the diverse experiences that make our community special. Today marks the start of Hispanic Heritage Month, a celebration of Hispanic and Latin American culture that continues through October 15th. I want to recognize the many invaluable contributions of our Hispanic and Latinx faculty, students, and staff. Your perspectives make our department richer. Tomorrow is also Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year, so I wish Shanah Tovah to our Jewish colleagues as you welcome in a sweet new year.

Enjoy your weekend! And safe travels to all those attending the annual ISEE conference in Taiwan!

Best,
Kari

Upcoming Events:

Save the dates for these exciting events...

Please note:

- *Due to scheduling changes, the locations of the September 28-29 talks with Drs. Hayhoe, Balbus, and Somini Sengupta have been updated. See event details below.*
- *The EH Department retreat previously scheduled for September 29 has been changed to October 30.*

Chair Open Office Hours

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

Landmark Room 404, Thursdays 2:00-3:00 PM

Tea Time

Building 1 13th Floor Kitchen Area, Wednesdays 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Landmark 4 West, Thursdays 2:30 – 3:30 PM

Friday, September 15, 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Event: Education and Research Grand Rounds Series

Title: *Loss of Cabin Pressure in an Aircraft: What Do You Do When the Pressure is on to Make the Right Decision?*

Speaker(s): Jacob Berry, MD, MPH and Marc S. Robins, DO, MPH

Details: For this Grand Rounds, Jacob Berry, MD, MPH a second-year resident and Marc S. Robins, DO, MPH, a board-certified hyperbaric physician, will discuss the physiology and pathology of loss of cabin pressure in an aircraft and what medical decisions constitute appropriate treatment.

Location: HSPH, Kresge Building, Room 502 or Zoom

Registration: <https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com>

More information: Visit www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc or contact abackus@hsph.harvard.edu

Monday, September 18, 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: *Occupational Musculoskeletal Injuries in Cardiothoracic Surgeons*

Speaker(s): Chi-Fu Jeffrey Yang, MD, Thoracic Surgeon, Massachusetts General Hospital; Assistant Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Description: Dr. Yang will discuss the prevalence and types of musculoskeletal injuries among thoracic surgeons and describe the use of ergonomic techniques in the operating room.

Location: HSPH, FXB G12

Registration: <https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe>

More information: Contact abackus@hsph.harvard.edu or visit www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc

Tuesday, September 19, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Title: *Ferroptotic Differentiation and Death in Asthmatic Epithelium*

Speaker(s): Sally E. Wenzel, MD, Chair, Dept of Environmental and Occupational Health and Director, U Pitt Asthma and Environmental Lung Health Institute, School of Public Health

Description: Dr. Wenzel will discuss ferroptotic differentiation and death in asthmatic epithelium.

Location: Building 1, Room 1302

Tuesday, September 19, 3:45 PM - 4:15 PM

Title: *Building for a Billion: Experiments in Digital Health*

Speakers: Vijay Chandru, PhD, Chairman and Managing Director, Strand Life Sciences; Sunita Nadhamuni, MS, Head of Technology Innovation, Tata Trusts; Srikanth Nadhamuni, MS, CEO, Khosla Labs; Leo Celi, MD, MS, Research Scientist, MIT

Description: Pioneers in digital health from India will discuss innovations in platforms serving over 500 million citizens. They will share lessons learned on implementing effective digital health solutions globally.

Location: HSPH, Kresge G3

Registration: [Visit this link to register](#)

More information: [Learn more here](#)

Wednesday, September 20, 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Event: Studio Broadcast on Climate Communications

Speakers: Skye Flanigan, Assistant Director of Programs, Harvard Chan C-CHANGE; Natalia Vega-Berry, Founder/CEO, New Zero World; Tim Kelly, Executive Director of Earth HQ, Global Commons Alliance; Anne-Christine Duhaime, MD, Harvard Medical School; Mark Curtis, Head of Innovation and Thought Leadership, Accenture Song

Description: A panel discussion on effective climate communications and the launch of a new white paper, hosted by We Don't Have Time.

Location: Horizon Media, 75 Varick Street, New York, NY

Thursday, September 21, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Event: 2023 Prevention through Design (PtD) Workshop

Location: 175 Berkeley St, Boston, MA 02116

Register: Students can [apply for the scholarship here](#). Participants can [register for the event here](#).

More Information: Learn more about the workshop and view the agenda at the [PtD Workshop 2023 website](#).

Thursday, September 21, 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Title: *Sustainable Development and Challenges of the COPs: A Conversation with Izabella Teixeira*

Speaker(s): Izabella Teixeira, Co-Chair of the International Resource Panel, United National Environment Programme; Marcia Castro, Andelot Professor of Demography, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Roberto S. Waack, Chair of the Board, Instituto Arapyaú

Description: A discussion with Izabella Teixeira on topics such as the challenges and opportunities of UN climate and biodiversity COPs, worldwide natural resource management, and Brazil's potential for generating sustainable solutions.

Location: Harvard Kennedy School, Wexner Building - W-434 A&B

Registration: [Register here](#)

More information: <https://drclas.harvard.edu/event>

Friday, September 22, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM

Title: *Fall Career Fair*

Register: Employers or students can register [here](#).

Description: The Fall Career Fair is a great opportunity for employers to connect with current students, postdocs, or recent alumni. We are looking for any potential employers to join us who have open positions that they would like to promote at the fair. Please feel free to share the registration link with any organizational contacts that you may have. Any questions about the fair, hosting employer-related events, or sharing job postings with the Harvard Chan community can be directed to employers@hsph.harvard.edu.

Location: [JB Martin Conference Center](#)

Friday, September 22, 3:00 PM - 3:50 PM

Title: *Elevating Global Health: The Momentum of the UN High-Level Meetings 2023*

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Karl Lauterbach, Federal Minister of Germany of Health, Adjunct Professor, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Description: This year marks a significant crossroads at the midway point of the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, the official end of the COVID-19 pandemic, and is accompanied by the convergence of three UN High-Level Meetings with a specific focus on health-related agendas. This talk will cover the COVID-19 pandemic and TB epidemics in particular as related to these meetings.

Location: HSPH, Kresge G1, Snyder Auditorium
Registration: Register [here](#) for in-person or livestream
More Info: Contact cliebent@hsph.harvard.edu for accessibility accommodations

Tuesday, September 26, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Title: *Health Impacts of Wildfire Smoke*

Speaker(s): Mary M. Johnson, MD, PhD, Principal Research Scientist, MIPS, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Description: Dr. Johnson will discuss the health impacts of wildfire smoke.

Location: Building 1, Room 1302

Wednesday, September 27, 1:00 PM– 2:00 PM

Event: 2023-2024 Center Research Presentation Series

Title: *‘Utilizing geospatial data resources at the NIEHS Center, Harvard, and beyond.’*

Speaker(s): William Kessler, M.S.

Description: Join us for the kick-off of our 2023-2024 Center Research Presentation series. Each month, we invite a Center member and/or affiliate to discuss their research in a casual, collaborative environment. This month, William Kessler, M.S., Data Manager for the Geographic and Contextual Measures Core, will speak about *‘Utilizing geospatial data resources at the NIEHS Center, Harvard, and beyond.’* This event will be held via Zoom only and recorded.

Location: [Zoom](#)

More Information: Learn more [here](#).

Thursday, September 28, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: *Putting Health at the Heart of Climate Conversations*

Speaker(s): Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Chief Scientist for the Nature Conservancy

Description: Climate change puts everyone at risk; yet many remain unaware of its immediate effects on their lives and how they can contribute to climate action. Clearly communicating the health implications of climate change offers a unique opportunity to bridge the psychological distance that often disconnects people from this global crisis. At the same time, however, it is essential to pair information about risks with actionable solutions, addressing the lack of efficacy that leads many of those worried about climate change to feel helpless and disempowered. Join Katharine Hayhoe as she discusses the pivotal role of health-related climate impacts in engaging and activating people to advocate for a better future for us all.

Location: Kresge 502; Zoom

Zoom link: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/98178071170>

Thursday, September 28, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Title: *Bridging Connections: A Networking Mixer for Students, Alumni, and Employers*

Description: Please join us for this fun and informal opportunity to meet current students, alumni, and employers who recruit at Harvard Chan.

Location: [Trillium Brewery at Fenway](#)

Register: <https://harvardchan.ticketleap.com>

Friday, September 29, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Event: Whittenberger Lecturers

Title: *Steps and Scales: Transforming the US Health Sector for Climate Change and Health Equity*

Speaker(s): Dr. John Balbus, Acting Director of HHS Office of Climate Change

Description: Details coming soon.

Location: Kresge 200; Zoom

Zoom link: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96391826008>

Friday, September 29, 2:00 –4:00 PM

Event: President Claudine Gay Inauguration Longwood Watch Party

Description: Watch the livestream of President Claudine Gay's inauguration. Refreshments will be provided.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

More information: Details regarding inauguration festivities and the livestream will be found on the Marshal's Office website [here](#).

Friday, September 29, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Event: Whittenberger Lectures

Title: *Climate Hacks: Survival Lessons from the World's Poor*

Speaker(s): Somini Sengupta, International Climate Reporter for The New York Times

Description: Details coming soon.

Location: Kresge 202; Zoom

Zoom link: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/94524514718>

Tuesday, October 3rd, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Event: Donald Hopkins Lecture

Title: *Attaining Health Equity- Our Generational Responsibility in Medicine*

Speaker(s): Dr. Clyde W. Yancy, Professor of Medicine and Chief of Cardiology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Description: Dr. Yancy's talk will cover key points including establishing an operational definition of health equity, scoping the human cost of health inequities and scaling the expense, charting a path forward, accomplishing change after the SCOTUS decision, and transitioning from Equity to Ethics.

Location: This event will be virtual.

Registration: [Register Here]

More information: [Event Information]

Friday, October 5, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Event: Consulting and Coffee Networking Breakfast

Description: Students, alumni, and employers who are interested in or have professional experience in consulting as a career path will have the opportunity to meet, share insights and advice, and learn about potential opportunities. Any faculty members who have experience in this area or have advice to share with students regarding this career path are welcome to come.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Register: Please email Courtney Burke, Assistant Director of Employer Relations, at cburke@hsph.harvard.edu if you are able to join us.

Friday, October 27, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Event: John B. Little Symposium

Title: *Ionizing Radiation and the Human Brain*

Description: We would like to invite you to join us for the [26th annual John B. Little Symposium](#). This year's symposium will include exciting talks from world-renowned specialists in the fields of radiation biology, radiation oncology and neuroscience. The in-person presentations are scheduled for 1–5PM with a reception including refreshments immediately following.

Location: HSPH

Register: [Register for the event here](#). Attendance is limited so please register as soon as possible.

More information: More information is available at [JBL Symposium](#).

Thursday, November 2, 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Title: *Cultivating Connections: A Networking Evening in Support of Women*

Speaker(s): Carole Simpson, Diane Darling, Kate Zernike, Dr. Alexis Stokes

Description: Wondering how to build helpful connections across the university? Join us in November for this Harvard-wide event. Four dynamic speakers will share their expertise and experiences on the power of networking and the how-to of building strong networks. A lively panel discussion and audience questions will be followed by structured activities for easy, enjoyable networking. We encourage Harvard faculty, staff, students from Cambridge

and affiliated institutions to join us on the Longwood Medical Campus for this energizing event.

Location: Harvard Medical School

Thursday, November 2, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Event: *International Student Networking Dinner*

Description: International students searching for jobs in the U.S. face additional barriers to employment. This event provides current international students the opportunity to connect with alumni, faculty, and senior leaders at the School to practice their networking skills and learn how to navigate their career development journey during their time at Harvard Chan. We are looking for 5-10 volunteers to attend and speak with students throughout the evening.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Register: Please email Andrea Heller, Career Coach/Advisor, at aheller@hsph.harvard.edu if you are able to join us.

Wednesday, November 15, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Event: 2023 St. Luke's Health System Climate and Health Lecture Series

Title: *The Health Benefits of Climate Action*

Description: Dr. Gaurab Basu will discuss why health equity is important to everyone and the intersection and complexity between environmental and health impacts. He will discuss developing resources for clinicians and students. And he will share how and why he electrified his home and what he discovered on that journey. In 2021, Dr. Basu was named to the Grist 50 list of national climate leaders. This is one among many other awards he's received.

Location: Virtual

Register: <https://web.cvent.com/event/>

Friday, December 1, 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM

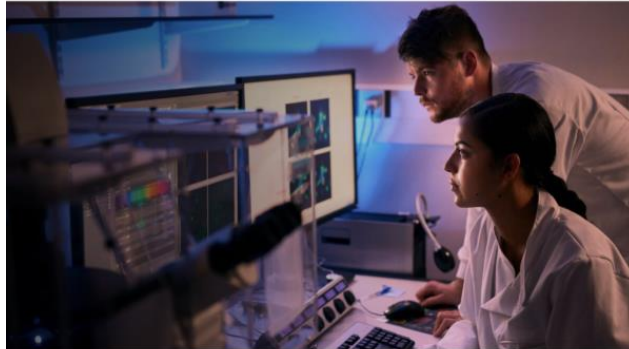
Event: *Salata Institute Climate & Sustainability Expo*

Description: The Climate and Sustainability Expo is a new collaborative effort across Harvard schools to connect organizations focused on climate, sustainability, and the environment with Harvard undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni. Please feel free to share the registration link with any organizational contacts that you may have who may be interested in showcasing jobs, internships, research experiences, and/or potential projects within their organization.

Location: [Harvard's Gutman Conference Center](#)

Register: Employers can register [here](#) and students and alumni can [here](#).

More Information: Please contact employers@fas.harvard.edu with questions.



BUILDING FOR A BILLION

Experiments in Digital Health

**Tuesday,
September 19**
3:45 - 5:15 PM

Kresge Building, Room G3
677 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA

The scientists, physicians, and academics invited to this panel have been at the forefront of trailblazing innovations addressing the world's most pressing healthcare delivery challenges.

They have been instrumental in pioneering digital health platforms that have served over 500 million Indian citizens, establishing ICUs in remote geographies, implementing wastewater genomic surveillance, and fostering open-access clinical databases for research communities around the world.



REGISTER HERE

As governments and foundations invest billions in digital healthcare, we will explore what worked, what didn't, and how we know.

SPEAKERS

Vijay Chandru
Advisor Healthcare, AI and Robotics Tech Park, IISc

Sunita Nadhamuni
Chairperson, Arghyam

Srikanth Nadhamuni
Chairman, 108edCU

Leo Anthony Celi
Principal Research Scientist, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Assoc. Professor, Harvard Medical School

MODERATOR

Satchit Balsari
Asst. Professor, Harvard Medical School, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Epidemiology

Elevating Global Health: The Momentum of the UN High-Level Meetings 2023

Prof. Dr. Karl Lauterbach
Federal Minister of Germany for Health
Adjunct Professor, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health



September 22, 2023 | 3:00-3:50PM







William Kessler

Data Manager

Geographic and Contextual Measures Core

2023-2024
Center Research Presentations

**Utilizing geospatial data
resources at the NIEHS Center,
Harvard, and beyond**

Weds, Sept 27 
1:00 – 2:00pm 

Via Zoom only

Visit our website: hsph.me/niehs 

Follow us @hsphniehsctr 



**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023
1:00PM – 1:50PM IN KRESGE 502**





SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

STEPS AND SCALES: TRANSFORMING THE US HEALTH SECTOR FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH EQUITY

JOHN BALBUS

ACTING DIRECTOR OF HHS OFFICE OF
CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH EQUITY



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

1:00PM - 1:50PM IN KRESGE 200

WHITTENBERGER LECTURES

WHITTENBERGER LECTURES

CLIMATE HACKS: SURVIVAL LESSONS
FROM THE WORLD'S POOR



WITH
SOMINI SENGUPTA

INTERNATIONAL
CLIMATE REPORTER
FOR THE NEW YORK
TIMES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023
4:00PM - 5:00PM IN KRESGE 202



HARVARD
T.H. CHAN

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health



**HARVARD
T.H. CHAN**

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

Chair Chatter

September 22, 2023

We've just concluded a successful National Postdoc Appreciation Week here in EH. It was a delight to celebrate our vibrant community at the breakfast today. For those of you who could make it, thanks for coming to say a big thank you to our many talented post-doctorates and for all their contributions!

There are numerous exciting events lined up for next week that you won't want to miss! Here's a quick rundown of some of the events, with additional details provided in the upcoming events section. You are all invited:

- Thursday, September 28th, 1-2pm – Talk by Dr. Katharine Hayhoe (Kresge 502)
- Friday, September 29th, 8-9am – Breakfast with Dr. John Balbus (Rm 1302)
- Friday, September 29th, 1-2pm – Whittenberger Lecture with Dr. John Balbus (Kresge 200)
- Friday, September 29th, 4-5pm – Whittenberger Lecture with Somini Sengupta (Kresge 202)

Also, don't forget to mark your calendars for the department's Fall Retreat on Monday, October 30th. Everyone is invited. With so much on the horizon, I want to express my gratitude to everyone for your continued passion and dedication. Our collective work is invaluable, and I look forward to seeing you at next week's events!

In the Spotlight:

Last week, leading environmental health researchers gathered at the annual conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE) held this year in Taiwan. I'm proud to share that our talented faculty received top honors at the conference!



Francine accepting her award at the 2023 ISEE conference.

Our associate chair Francine Laden was awarded the prestigious John Goldsmith Award for her outstanding, sustained contributions to the field of environmental epidemiology. Former HSPH doctoral student/postdoctoral fellow Marianthi Kioumourtzoglou (now an Associate Professor of Environmental Health Sciences at Columbia) received the Tony McMichael Mid-Career Award recognizing her exceptional research achievements. And Barrak Alahmad, a current department postdoctoral fellow, won the Rebecca James Baker Award for early career dedication to the field.



From right to left: Fan-Yun Lan, Ian Tang, Barrak Alahmad, Chih-Fu Wei, Veronica Wang, and Michael Leung; HSPH ISEE attendees.

Heartfelt congratulations to Francine, Marianthi, Barrack, and all the HSPH attendees for representing our department so well. We're fortunate to have these groundbreaking researchers advancing environmental health locally and globally through associations like ISEE.

Department Updates:

EH in the News

- **Ferret-ing Out the Secrets of Pulmonary Ionocytes:** I'm excited to share the work of Dr. Adam Haber, Assistant Professor of Computational Biology and Environmental Health, and his team, recently published in Nature. They've been using ferrets to study pulmonary ionocytes, which play a crucial role in maintaining healthy airways. The team's research has revealed new subtypes of these cells and their functions, bringing us a big step forward in our understanding of lung health and disease. Great job, Adam and team! Read the article [here](#).

New Resources

- The Division of Environmental Health at the University of Southern California seeks a new Postdoctoral Training Fellowship starting Fall 2023 in the Environmental Justice Research Lab, led by Dr. Jill Johnston. The Fellow will conduct research on multiple environmental epidemiology and exposure research projects funded by the National Institute of Health investigating the impacts of environmental exposures (especially oil and gas extraction) on women's health outcomes. The position emphasizes investigations leveraging cohorts in Los Angeles and California to understand relationships between energy development, environmental justice, and industrial pollution. **Applications will be reviewed starting October 1st.** [Learn more about this opportunity here.](#)
- Calling all environmental health researchers! As you prepare submissions, take advantage of the [NIEHS Center's Specific Aims Review session](#). In a collegial small group, senior faculty will provide friendly, constructive feedback to strengthen your aims page. Proposals on all environmental health topics are welcomed - from exposure science to community engagement to toxicology. This service offers a great opportunity to get expert input and advice before submitting. To participate, please **submit draft aims by Monday, October 2nd at 5pm ET**. See the upcoming events section for more details.

I Hear You:

- I've heard that students and faculty were looking for more ways to connect with underserved communities, so we now have made more connections across native American tribes, rural health centers, and immigrant groups in New England. Please contact me if you want to get more involved.
- Many of you also mentioned that you wanted to connect more of your science to policy and learn about legislative initiatives. Therefore, I will be adding a bill no. or legislative initiative that is associated with environmental effects about every week for your information and education. Here is one:
 - Bill S.1356, An Act to Protect Massachusetts Public Health from PFAS. Just as a reminder—as a department or school or university, we cannot take a position but as individual citizens, you can.

Reminders

- Check out the [EH Department website](#) for both internal and external job postings.
- Applications for Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center pilot projects are due Friday, October 6th. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Registration is now open for the 2023 [Boston Climate Beacon Conference](#). Sign up to join the conversation [here](#).
- Applications for the 2024 Agents of Change Fellowship in Environmental Justice are due Friday, October 20th. [Learn more and apply here](#).
- Write to EH-Chatter@hsph.harvard.edu or complete the [submission survey](#) to have upcoming events or news included in the Chatter. Remember, your contributions and enthusiasm keep our community thriving!

Enjoy your weekend!

Best,
Kari

Upcoming Events:

Save the dates for these exciting events...

Please note:

- *Tea Time at Landmark is cancelled on Thursday 9/28*

Chair Open Office Hours

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

Landmark Room 404, Thursdays 2:00-3:00 PM

Tea Time

Building 1 13th Floor Kitchen Area, Wednesdays 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Landmark 4 West, Thursdays 2:30 - 3:30 PM

Friday, September 22, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM

Title: *Fall Career Fair*

Register: Employers or students can register [here](#).

Description: The Fall Career Fair is a great opportunity for employers to connect with current students, postdocs, or recent alumni. We are looking for any potential employers to join us who have open positions that they would like to promote at the fair. Please feel free to share the registration link with any organizational contacts that you may have. Any questions about the fair, hosting employer-related events, or sharing job postings with the Harvard Chan community can be directed to employers@hsph.harvard.edu.

Location: [JB Martin Conference Center](#)

Friday, September 22, 3:00 PM - 3:50 PM

Title: *Elevating Global Health: The Momentum of the UN High-Level Meetings 2023*

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Karl Lauterbach, Federal Minister of Germany of Health, Adjunct Professor, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Description: This year marks a significant crossroads at the midway point of the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, the official end of the COVID-19 pandemic, and is accompanied by the convergence of three UN High-Level Meetings with a specific focus on health-related agendas. This talk will cover the COVID-19 pandemic and TB epidemics in particular as related to these meetings.

Location: HSPH, Kresge G1, Snyder Auditorium

Registration: Register [here](#) for in-person or livestream

More Info: Contact cliebent@hsph.harvard.edu for accessibility accommodations

Tuesday, September 26, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Event: MIPs Lecture

Title: *Health Impacts of Wildfire Smoke*

Speaker(s): Mary M. Johnson, MD, PhD, Principal Research Scientist, MIPS, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Description: Dr. Johnson will discuss the health impacts of wildfire smoke.

Location: Building 1, Room 1302

Wednesday, September 27, 1:00 PM– 2:00 PM

Event: 2023-2024 Center Research Presentation Series

Title: *'Utilizing geospatial data resources at the NIEHS Center, Harvard, and beyond.'*

Speaker(s): William Kessler, M.S.

Description: Join us for the kick-off of our 2023-2024 Center Research Presentation series. Each month, we invite a Center member and/or affiliate to discuss their research in a casual, collaborative environment. This month, William Kessler, M.S., Data Manager for the Geographic and Contextual Measures Core, will speak about *'Utilizing geospatial data resources at the NIEHS Center, Harvard, and beyond.'* This event will be held via Zoom only and recorded.

Location: [Zoom](#)

More Information: Learn more [here](#).

Thursday, September 28, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: *Putting Health at the Heart of Climate Conversations*

Speaker(s): Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Chief Scientist for the Nature Conservatory

Description: Climate change puts everyone at risk; yet many remain unaware of its immediate effects on their lives and how they can contribute to climate action. Clearly communicating the health implications of climate change offers a unique opportunity to bridge the psychological distance that often disconnects people from this global crisis. At the same time, however, it is essential to pair information about risks with actionable solutions, addressing the lack of efficacy that leads many of those worried about climate change to feel helpless and disempowered. Join Katharine Hayhoe as she discusses the pivotal role of health-related climate impacts in engaging and activating people to advocate for a better future for us all.

Location: Kresge 502; Zoom

Zoom link: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/98178071170>

Thursday, September 28, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Title: *Bridging Connections: A Networking Mixer for Students, Alumni, and Employers*

Description: Please join us for this fun and informal opportunity to meet current students, alumni, and employers who recruit at Harvard Chan.

Location: [Trillium Brewery at Fenway](#)

Register: <https://harvardchan.ticketleap.com>

Friday, September 29, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Event: Whittenberger Lecturers

Title: *Steps and Scales: Transforming the US Health Sector for Climate Change and Health Equity*

Speaker(s): Dr. John Balbus, Acting Director of HHS Office of Climate Change

Description: Details coming soon.

Location: Kresge 200; Zoom

Zoom link: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96391826008>

Friday, September 29, 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: The Association between Pregnancy and Postpartum Phthalate Levels and Postpartum Glucose Dysregulation

Speaker(s): Marta Ponzano, MS, visiting PhD student.

Description: Marta Ponzano, MS, will describe the longitudinal exposure to phthalates during the prenatal period and discuss possible associations between phthalate concentrations and glycemic postpartum outcomes.

Location: HSPH, Kresge 502 or Zoom

Zoom: Will be provided upon registration

Registration: [Register here](#).

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

Friday, September 29, 2:00 –4:00 PM

Event: President Claudine Gay Inauguration Longwood Watch Party

Description: Watch the livestream of President Claudine Gay's inauguration. Refreshments will be provided.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

More information: Details regarding inauguration festivities and the livestream will be found on the Marshal's Office website [here](#).

Friday, September 29, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Event: Whittenberger Lectures

Title: *Climate Hacks: Survival Lessons from the World's Poor*

Speaker(s): Somini Sengupta, International Climate Reporter for The New York Times

Description: Details coming soon.

Location: Kresge 202; Zoom

Zoom link: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/94524514718>

Tuesday, October 3rd, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Event: Donald Hopkins Lecture

Title: *Attaining Health Equity- Our Generational Responsibility in Medicine*

Speaker(s): Dr. Clyde W. Yancy, Professor of Medicine and Chief of Cardiology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Description: Dr. Yancy's talk will cover key points including establishing an operational definition of health equity, scoping the human cost of health inequities and scaling the expense, charting a path forward, accomplishing change after the SCOTUS decision, and transitioning from Equity to Ethics.

Location: This event will be virtual.

Register: [Register here.](#)

Friday, October 5, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Event: Consulting and Coffee Networking Breakfast

Description: Students, alumni, and employers who are interested in or have professional experience in consulting as a career path will have the opportunity to meet, share insights and advice, and learn about potential opportunities. Any faculty members who have experience in this area or have advice to share with students regarding this career path are welcome to come.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Register: Please email Courtney Burke, Assistant Director of Employer Relations, at cburke@hsph.harvard.edu if you are able to join us.

Thursday, October 5, 12:00 PM– 1:30 PM

Event: Specific Aims Review Session

Description: Have your Specific Aims page reviewed by senior NIEHS Center faculty! In a friendly, constructive, small-group open session, a panel of Center members will offer critique and suggestions to improve your Specific Aims.

Please submit your draft Aims by Monday, Oct 2 at 5pm ET so that we can ensure reviewers include faculty with relevant areas of expertise. Open to investigators at all levels.

Location: Zoom

More Information: [Learn more here.](#)

Friday, October 27, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Event: John B. Little Symposium

Title: *[Ionizing Radiation and the Human Brain](#)*

Description: We would like to invite you to join us for the [26th annual John B. Little Symposium](#). This year's symposium will include exciting talks from world-renowned specialists in the fields of radiation biology, radiation oncology and neuroscience. The in-person presentations are scheduled for 1–5PM with a reception including refreshments immediately following.

Location: HSPH

Register: [Register for the event here.](#) Attendance is limited so please register as soon as possible.

More information: More information is available at [JBL Symposium](#).

Monday, October 30, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Event: Environment Health Department Retreat

Location: Linda K. Paresky Conference Center

(300 Fenway, Main College Campus, Simmons College, Boston, MA 02215)

Thursday, November 2, 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Title: *Cultivating Connections: A Networking Evening in Support of Women*

Speaker(s): Carole Simpson, Diane Darling, Kate Zernike, Dr. Alexis Stokes

Description: Wondering how to build helpful connections across the university? Join us in November for this Harvard-wide event. Four dynamic speakers will share their expertise and experiences on the power of networking and the how-to of building strong networks. A lively panel discussion and audience questions will be followed by structured activities for easy, enjoyable networking. We encourage Harvard faculty, staff, students from Cambridge and affiliated institutions to join us on the Longwood Medical Campus for this energizing event.

Location: Harvard Medical School

Thursday, November 2, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Event: International Student Networking Dinner

Description: International students searching for jobs in the U.S. face additional barriers to employment. This event provides current international students the opportunity to connect with alumni, faculty, and senior leaders at the School to practice their networking skills and learn how to navigate their career development journey during their time at Harvard Chan. We are looking for 5-10 volunteers to attend and speak with students throughout the evening.

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Location: Virtual

Register: <https://web.cvent.com/event/>

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Event: *Salata Institute Climate & Sustainability Expo*

Description: The Climate and Sustainability Expo is a new collaborative effort across Harvard schools to connect organizations focused on climate, sustainability, and the environment with Harvard undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni. Please feel free to share the registration link with any organizational contacts that you may have who may be interested in showcasing jobs, internships, research experiences, and/or potential projects within their organization.

Location: [Harvard's Gutman Conference Center](#)

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More Information: Please contact employers@fas.harvard.edu with questions.



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Epidemiology

Elevating Global Health: The Momentum of the UN High-Level Meetings 2023

Prof. Dr. Karl Lauterbach
Federal Minister of Germany for Health
Adjunct Professor, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health





September 22, 2023 | 3:00-3:50PM





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Weds, Sept 27 
1:00 – 2:00pm 

Via Zoom only

Visit our website: hsph.me/niehs 
Follow us @hsphniehsctr 



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

PUTTING HEALTH AT THE HEART OF CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023
1:00PM - 1:50PM IN KRESGE 502

DR. KATHARINE HAYHOE,
CHIEF SCIENTIST FOR THE
NATURE CONSERVANCY





SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

STEPS AND SCALES: TRANSFORMING THE US HEALTH SECTOR FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH EQUITY

JOHN BALBUS

ACTING DIRECTOR OF HHS OFFICE OF
CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH EQUITY



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

1:00PM - 1:50PM IN KRESGE 200

WHITTENBERGER LECTURES

WHITTENBERGER LECTURES

CLIMATE HACKS: SURVIVAL LESSONS
FROM THE WORLD'S POOR



WITH
SOMINI SENGUPTA

INTERNATIONAL
CLIMATE REPORTER
FOR THE NEW YORK
TIMES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023
4:00PM - 5:00PM IN KRESGE 202



HARVARD
T.H. CHAN

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health



Chair Chatter

September 29, 2023

What an inspiring week we've had in the EH department! There was an excellent turnout on Thursday for Dr. Katharine Hayhoe's empowering talk on communicating climate change in our local communities.

Dr. Hayhoe provided actionable steps we can all take to start productive conversations that make climate impacts feel personal and close to home for our neighbors. I hope those who attended left feeling emboldened with renewed hope that each of us has power to create change through engagement in our own backyards.

Last week's postdoc breakfast was also a true highlight. Thank you to everyone who attended to help us celebrate National Postdoc Appreciation Week. It was wonderful connecting as a community.



Postdocs at Breakfast

As we wrap up this busy week, I hope those who observed Yom Kippur found their fast manageable and the day provided a meaningful opportunity for reflection and renewal. I also want to congratulate President Claudine Gay on her inauguration today! Her vision and leadership will help guide Harvard forward during these complex times.

Let's also not forget that we have one more speaker today for our Whittenberger Lecture series—don't miss Somini Sengupta in Kresge 202 at 4:00 PM. It will surely be an illuminating discussion, and I hope to see you there! You can also find a link to the slides from John Balbus' wonderful talk [here](#).

In the Spotlight:

I'm pleased to share that the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission (requested by US Congress under the Biden Administration, Dept of Interior, Dept of Agriculture, and FEMA) which I serve on, has released our official report examining wildfire risks and responses. As extreme wildfires become more frequent and intense, this report provides key recommendations to help safeguard communities nationwide. The committee conducted an extensive review process over the past year, gathering input from wildfire experts, officials, and impacted citizens across the country. I'm proud of the diligent work by committee members to synthesize these perspectives into actionable strategies. The report lays out guidance on boosting wildfire resilience through improved land management, hardening infrastructure, advancing detection technologies, bolstering emergency services, and more. We also emphasize the need for better public education around wildfire risks and preparedness. I encourage you all to look at the report. This represents an important roadmap toward evidence-based wildfire policy that protects people, their health, firefighters, homes, land, forests, and wildlife. As wildfires and wildfire smoke/post-damage remain a growing threat, these recommendations will help officials and communities work collaboratively to reduce risks. This was presented to U.S. Congress last week and this week.

There is also one more award to recognize from the ISEE (International Society for Environmental Epidemiology) 2023 meeting in Taiwan! Jie Chen, Postdoctoral Fellow in the Spatial and Contextual Exposomics and Epidemiology (SpaCEE) laboratory, won one of the Student and New Researchers' Abstract Awards for her poster titled: "Association of residential exposure to dioxin emissions with lymphoid malignancies in a prospective US based cohort of women." Congratulations Jie!

This week, we bid farewell to Liz Purchia, C-CHANGE's communications director. In her 5½ years at the center, Liz has worked tirelessly to raise the visibility of the connections between climate and health. In her new role, Liz will be working alongside Gina McCarthy, Bloomberg and their partners to ensure cities, states, businesses, and local organizations are taking full advantage of available federal funds, like the Inflation Reduction Act, to advance our climate goals. We wish her all the success in this new chapter. As the center is undergoing several changes this fall, I

ask that you contact Skye Flanigan (flanigan@hsph.harvard.edu) or Tracy Sachs (tsachs@hsph.harvard.edu) with any C-CHANGE-related items and watch the chatter for updates.

As you all know, we have recently suffered a great loss with the tragic passing of Jennifer DeAlteris, our treasured Senior Grant Manager. Her family has created an obituary page to honor her memory: <https://everloved.com/life-of/jennifer-dealteris/obituary/>. In lieu of flowers, donations are being collected through the obituary website for Jennifer's children's education funds. For those who have already donated funds to support Jennifer's family, please know that those collections have been forwarded to the designated charity. While we continue to mourn Jennifer's absence, further contributions represent a meaningful way to honor her legacy. If you have not donated yet and would like to, you can do so directly through [this link](#). On behalf of the department, I want to again express my sincerest condolences during this difficult time. Jennifer was a beloved member of our community and her passion for helping others will remain an inspiration.

Department Updates:

EH in the News

- **Health Impacts of High Heat:** This week, I'm highlighting the critical work of Barrak Alahmad, a research fellow in the EER (Exposure, Epidemiology and Risk) (Exposure, Epidemiology and Risk) program. Barrak was recently featured in a Wall Street Journal article examining the health impacts of extreme heat on outdoor workers. Through innovative research collaboration in the Persian Gulf, Barrak is uncovering how heat stress affects the body and mind. His findings will be invaluable as we seek solutions to protect our planet's most vulnerable populations from the growing threat of high temperatures. [Read more about it here.](#)
- **Smog Science:** Also in the spotlight this week is Mary Johnson, a valuable new addition to our PI community. Mary recently had her research on air pollution and stroke risk featured in HealthDay. The article highlighted findings from her new study showing links between exposure to fine particulate matter air pollution and higher short-term risks for ischemic stroke. Leveraging detailed data for over 6 million Medicare beneficiaries, Mary and colleagues demonstrated significantly elevated stroke risks in the days after spikes in fine particulate pollution. As Mary noted, the findings reinforce the importance of reducing particulate matter to protect cardiovascular health. [Read more here.](#)
 - She was also recently interviewed by City Limits about the health impacts of microplastics, which are becoming alarmingly ubiquitous in

our environment. Through her pioneering work, Mary is elucidating how these tiny plastic particles may negatively affect our bodies. Her findings on issues like inflammation and immune function will be instrumental as we seek solutions to mitigate harm. [Read the full interview here.](#)

New Resources

- The Department of Environmental Health's EH Diversity, Inclusion, Belonging and Equity Committee is seeking new volunteer members. If you are interested in participating, please [complete this survey](#) by October 2nd.

Weekly Policy Snippets:

- **Definition of Receipts:** Harvard must follow specific rules that comply with the IRS Accountable Plan to ensure reimbursements are not taxable to the recipient/reimbursee. One requirement is that a reimbursement request must be substantiated with receipts showing evidence of payment. Please refer to Harvard University [Definition of Receipts Policy](#) for the minimum requirements for a receipt to be acceptable as proof of purchase for reimbursement.

I Hear You:

- Based on feedback from many of you, it's clear there is interest in having more opportunities to come together as a Department to share research and exchange practical knowledge. To help meet this need, we are announcing a new seminar series featuring brief "lightning talks" every other week and a departmental seminar series. For more info, contact Barbara Zuckerman (bzuckerm@hsph.harvard.edu).

Reminders

- Don't forget! The Division of Environmental Health at USC is seeking a new [Postdoctoral Training Fellowship](#) for Fall 2023 in the Environmental Justice Research Lab, led by Dr. Jill Johnston. **Applications will be reviewed starting this Sunday (October 1st).**
- Applications for Harvard Chan-NIEHS Center pilot projects are due **next Friday, October 6th**! Click [here](#) for more information.
- Check out the [EH Department website](#) for both internal and external job postings.

- Registration is now open for the 2023 [Boston Climate Beacon Conference](#). Sign up to join the conversation [here](#).
- Applications for the 2024 Agents of Change Fellowship in Environmental Justice are **due Friday, October 20th**. [Learn more and apply here](#).
- Write to EH-Chatter@hsph.harvard.edu or complete the [submission survey](#) to have upcoming events or news included in the Chatter. Remember, your contributions and enthusiasm keep our community thriving!

Looking ahead, take note of upcoming events like the Specific Aims Review session and the Career Fair next Friday. October will be here before we know it!

Best,
Kari

Upcoming Events:

Save the dates for these exciting events...

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Building 1, Room 1301, Mondays 1:00-2:00 PM
Landmark Room 404, Thursdays 2:00-3:00 PM

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Friday, September 29, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Event: Whittenberger Lecturers

Title: *Steps and Scales: Transforming the US Health Sector for Climate Change and Health Equity*

Speaker(s): Dr. John Balbus, Acting Director of HHS Office of Climate Change

Location: Kresge 200; Zoom

Zoom link: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/96391826008>

Friday, September 29, 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: *The Association between Pregnancy and Postpartum Phthalate Levels and Postpartum Glucose Dysregulation*

Speaker(s): Marta Ponzano, MS, visiting PhD student.

Description: Marta Ponzano, MS, will describe the longitudinal exposure to phthalates during the prenatal period and discuss associations between phthalate concentrations and glycemic postpartum outcomes.

Location: Kresge 502 or Zoom

Zoom: Will be provided upon registration

Registration: [RSVP here](#).

More information: Contact abackus@hsph.harvard.edu

Friday, September 29, 2:00 –4:00 PM

Event: President Claudine Gay Inauguration Longwood Watch Party

Description: Watch the livestream of President Claudine Gay's inauguration. Refreshments will be provided.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

More information: Details regarding inauguration festivities and the livestream will be found on the Marshal's Office website [here](#).

Friday, September 29, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Event: Whittenberger Lectures

Title: *Climate Hacks: Survival Lessons from the World's Poor*

Speaker(s): Somini Sengupta, International Climate Reporter for The New York Times

Location: Kresge 202; Zoom

Zoom link: <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/94524514718>

Monday, October 2, 1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

Title: *Resilient Design of Indoor Environments: Crisis Response to Catastrophic events*

Speaker(s): Parham Azimi, PhD, Research Associate, Department of Environmental Health

Details: Parham Azimi will explain the risks of exposure to mold spores in work environments; discuss control approaches to the transmission of airborne infection in work environments and discuss the mitigation of the impact wildfire smoke exposures have on occupational health

Location: HSPH FXB G12

Register: <https://harvard.azl.qualtrics.com>

Zoom: Will be provided upon registration

More Information: Visit www.hsph.harvard.edu/erc or contact abackus@hsph.harvard.edu

Tuesday, October 3, 9:00 AM - 2:15 PM

Title: *Feeding the Future: Food Sustainability and Climate Change*

Speakers: David Abel, Diane M. Beckles, Tomiko Brown-Nagin, Immaculata De Vivo, Christina Hicks, Frank B. Hu, David P. Hughes, M. Jahi Johnson-Chappell, Mengyu Li, Meredith T. Niles, Sparsha Saha, Duangporn “Bo” Songvisava, Eve Stoodly, Swathi Veeravalli

Details: This symposium hosted by the Harvard Radcliffe Institute will explore the dilemma of addressing the global climate crisis while feeding the world's population healthfully and equitably. Speakers will discuss advances in plant genomics, distribution methods, policy, and more.

Location: Knafel Center ([10 Garden Street Cambridge, MA 02138](#)) and Zoom

Register: Visit [this link](#) to register

More Information: Live closed captioning will be available. The event is free and open to all. Visit the [event website](#) to learn more.

Tuesday, October 3rd, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Event: Donald Hopkins Lecture

Title: *Attaining Health Equity- Our Generational Responsibility in Medicine*

Speaker(s): Dr. Clyde W. Yancy, Professor of Medicine and Chief of Cardiology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Description: Dr. Yancy's talk will cover key points including establishing an operational definition of health equity, scoping the human cost of health inequities and scaling the expense, charting a path forward, accomplishing change after the SCOTUS decision, and transitioning from Equity to Ethics.

Location: This event will be virtual.

Register: [Register here.](#)

Friday, October 5, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Event: Consulting and Coffee Networking Breakfast

Description: Students, alumni, and employers who are interested in or have professional experience in consulting as a career path will have the opportunity to meet, share insights and advice, and learn about potential opportunities. Any faculty members who have experience in this area or have advice to share with students regarding this career path are welcome to come.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Register: Please email Courtney Burke, Assistant Director of Employer Relations, at cburke@hsph.harvard.edu if you are able to join us.

Thursday, October 5, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Event: Specific Aims Review Session

Description: Have your Specific Aims page reviewed by senior NIEHS Center faculty! In a friendly, constructive, small-group open session, a panel of Center members will offer critique and suggestions to improve your Specific Aims.

Please submit your draft Aims by Monday, Oct 2 at 5pm ET so that we can ensure reviewers include faculty with relevant areas of expertise. Open to investigators at all levels.

Location: Zoom

More Information: [Learn more here.](#)

Saturday, October 14, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Event: Community Gathering on Food Insecurity

Speakers: Dr. Gary Adamkiewicz, Guest Panelists

Details: This event hosted by the MEMCARE Superfund Community Engagement Core and local community partners aims to address food insecurity in Boston. The agenda includes a panel discussion on resources available to alleviate food insecurity and ways to get involved.

Location: Bethel AME Church in Jamaica Plain

Register: [RSVP here.](#)

More Information: See flyer below. Contact Gerardo Contreras at gcontreras@hsph.harvard.edu.

Friday, October 27, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Event: John B. Little Symposium

Title: *Ionizing Radiation and the Human Brain*

Description: We invite you to join us for the 26th annual John B. Little Symposium. This year's symposium will include exciting talks from world-renowned specialists in radiation biology, radiation oncology and neuroscience. The in-person presentations are scheduled for 1-5PM with a reception including refreshments immediately following.

Location: HSPH

Register: [RSVP here.](#) Attendance is limited so please register as soon as possible.

More information: More information is available at the [JBL Symposium website.](#)

Thursday, November 2, 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Title: *Cultivating Connections: A Networking Evening in Support of Women*

Speaker(s): Carole Simpson, Diane Darling, Kate Zernike, Dr. Alexis Stokes

Description: Wondering how to build helpful connections across the university? Join us in November for this Harvard-wide event. Four dynamic speakers will share their expertise and experiences on the power of networking and the how-to of building strong networks. A lively panel discussion and audience questions will be followed by structured activities for easy, enjoyable networking. We encourage Harvard faculty, staff, students from Cambridge

and affiliated institutions to join us on the Longwood Medical Campus for this energizing event.

Location: Harvard Medical School

Thursday, November 2, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Event: International Student Networking Dinner

Description: International students searching for jobs in the U.S. face additional barriers to employment. This event provides current international students the opportunity to connect with alumni, faculty, and senior leaders at the School to practice their networking skills and learn how to navigate their career development journey during their time at Harvard Chan. We are looking for 5-10 volunteers to attend and speak with students throughout the evening.

Location: Kresge Cafeteria

Register: Please email Andrea Heller, Career Coach/Advisor, at aheller@hsph.harvard.edu if you are able to join us.

Wednesday, November 15, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Event: 2023 St. Luke's Health System Climate and Health Lecture Series

Title: *The Health Benefits of Climate Action*

Description: Dr. Gaurab Basu will discuss why health equity is important to everyone and the intersection and complexity between environmental and health impacts. He will discuss developing resources for clinicians and students. And he will share how and why he electrified his home and what he discovered on that journey. In 2021, Dr. Basu was named to the Grist 50 list of national climate leaders. This is one among many other awards he's received.

Location: Virtual

Register: <https://web.cvent.com/event/>

Friday, December 1, 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Event: *Salata Institute Climate & Sustainability Expo*

Description: The Climate and Sustainability Expo is a new collaborative effort across Harvard schools to connect organizations focused on climate, sustainability, and the environment with Harvard undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni. Please share the registration link with any organizational contacts interested in showing jobs, internships, research experiences, and/or potential projects within their organization.

Location: [Harvard's Gutman Conference Center](#)

Register: Employers can register [here](#) and students and alumni can [here](#).

More Information: Please contact employers@fas.harvard.edu with questions.

WHITTENBERGER LECTURES

CLIMATE HACKS: SURVIVAL LESSONS
FROM THE WORLD'S POOR



WITH
SOMINI SENGUPTA

INTERNATIONAL
CLIMATE REPORTER
FOR THE NEW YORK
TIMES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023
4:00PM - 5:00PM IN KRESGE 202



HARVARD
T.H. CHAN

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Environmental Health

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How do we understand what it
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HALL FOLLOWED BY PANEL PRESENTATION AND
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