



## Headlines

### Happy New Year!

2009 promises to be a great year with exciting changes in the works at NIEHS. We hope that you share our enthusiasm as we look forward to a fruitful and productive year. The SBRP would also like to acknowledge your support in 2008! Thanks to your participation, the Program continues to be an exciting and fun enterprise at NIEHS!

Claudia, Beth, and Heather

### Linda S. Birnbaum, Ph.D., D.A.B.T., A.T.S., Named New NIEHS Director

The National Institutes of Health appointed Linda S. Birnbaum, Ph.D., D.A.B.T., A.T.S., as the new director of the NIEHS (January 2009). Dr. Birnbaum was a senior advisor with EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment for 16 years, and director of the Experimental Toxicology Division.

Welcome Dr. Birnbaum!

For more information, visit [NIH News](#)

### SBRP Distinguished Lecture Seminar Showcases Dr. Barry Dellinger's Research

SBRP R01 grantee Dr. Barry Dellinger, the Patrick F. Taylor Chair, Professor of Chemistry, and Director of the LSU Interdepartmental Environmental Co-operative, presented his research, "Environmentally Persistent Free Radicals: A New Paradigm for the Toxicity of Fine Particles" at the NIEHS (RTP, NC) on Wednesday, December 17th, 2008.

Dr. Dellinger was selected as an SBRP distinguished lecturer and spoke of his research on the formation of environmentally persistent free radicals (EPFRs) resulting from two sources: thermal reactions of

## CLASSIFIEDS

### George Washington University (GWU) Launches New M.P.H. Program

GWU, School of Public Health and Health Services, is launching a new Master of Public Health program in Environmental Health Science and Policy (EHSP). The EHSP program emphasizes regulatory policy and sustainability, while providing practical experience in the Washington D.C. location. For more information, visit [GWU's web site](#).

## SBRP SUPPORTED EVENTS

### 1. Environmental Health Issues in the Midwest: A Two-Day Workshop for State Legislators

Date: January 30-31, 2009

Location: Hosted by NCSL and the University of Iowa SBRP and Environmental Health Sciences Research Center, The Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, IL

Contact Information:

[nancy-newkirk@uiowa.edu](mailto:nancy-newkirk@uiowa.edu)

### 2. Translating SBRP Triumphs into Public Health Progress: Understanding and Implementing Effective Research Translation

Date: February 11-13, 2009

Location: Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University

### 3. 11th International Congress on Combustion By-Products and Their Health Impacts

Date: May 31 - June 3, 2009

Location: Research Triangle Park, NC

[Web site](#)

### 4. 13th International Pacific Basin Consortium for Environment and Health Conference: Environmental Exposures in the Era of Climate

phenols, chlorophenols, and chlorobenzenes with transition metal-containing particulate matter; and aqueous-solid / gas-solid reactions of molecular pollutants with particulate matter occurring in contaminated soils and sediments. These EPFRs have half lives in air of several days, induce oxidative stress, and lead to pulmonary and cardiovascular injury in exposed rats.

### **A Special Thank You to UC Davis**

We'd like to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of UC Davis in their organization of the 2008 Annual Meeting at the Asilomar Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove, CA. Thank you for a well-planned, educational, and enjoyable sojourn back into the natural world we often overlook!

### **Outstanding Rising Scientist Recognized**

Ms. Laura Senier, sociology doctoral candidate at Brown University, received the eleventh annual *Karen E. Wetterhahn Award* at the 2008 SBRP Annual meeting. Dr. William Suk, NIEHS Acting Deputy Director, had the honor of introducing Ms. Senier, acknowledging her unique contributions in the field of sociology. Ms. Senier then presented the research that gained her the honor as a Wetterhahn awardee, "Public Schools and Contaminated Land in Rhode Island: Using SBRP Research Translation and Community Outreach to Foster Research and Advocacy." Her research emphasized GIS mapping techniques to explore the siting of public schools near toxic waste sites and polluting industries in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Ms. Senior exemplifies Dr. Wetterhahn's commitment to "giving back" through her dedication to mentoring students, her ability to engage communities working for environmental change, as well as her pivotal role in establishing legislation to give home equity loans to people in contaminated communities.

### **SBRP 2008 Student Poster Awards: Outstanding Poster Presentations**

At this year's SBRP Annual Meeting, Dr. Claudia Thompson recognized the many stellar student poster presentations. After much deliberation, the judges had to select just one poster from each evening's competition. Dr. Thompson announced Mr. Stephen Richardson, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, as the Sunday evening awardee for his poster on the "Effects of Biostimulation and Anaerobic Conditions on PAH Biodegradation in Contaminated Soil from a Manufactured Gas Plant Site." The recipient for the Monday evening poster session was Ms. Courtney Kozul, Dartmouth College,

#### **Change**

Date: November 20-22, 2009

Location: Perth, Australia

*Web site*

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Need more information? Contact the *NIEHS SBRP Program*.

with her poster, "Chronic Low-dose Arsenic in Drinking Water Alters Immune Responses to Respiratory Viral Infection *in vivo*."

## IN THE NEWS

### **Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society Awards Timothy Phillips 2009 Walston Chubb Award**

Timothy D. Phillips, Ph.D., Professor of Toxicology, Department of Veterinary Integrative Biosciences at Texas A&M University, received the 2009 Walston Chubb Award for Innovation. He is recognized for his research in food safety and toxicology; and he holds three patents describing novel dietary strategies and enterosorbent interventions to treat disease in animals and humans.

For additional information, visit [\*Sigma Xi at Texas A&M\*](#).

### **NIEHS & NIOSH Release New RFA**

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) have released a new Request for Applications (RFA) to solicit applications designed to collect information on community exposures to environmental or occupational agents or exposure-related diseases and use this new information to support environmental public health action.

**Application Deadline:** April 1, 2009.

*Note: Prospective applicants are asked to submit a letter of intent (LOI) due March 1, 2009.*

**Peer Review Date(s):** June 2009

**Council Review Date(s):** August 2009

**Earliest Anticipated Start Date(s):** September 30, 2009

The [\*RFA \(RFA-ES-09-001\)\*](#) is now available online.

### **Current Research Brief**

Research Brief #168: "[\*Zero Valent Iron for Passive Treatment of Acid Rock Drainage\*](#)" (Dr. James A. Field, University of Arizona).

Past [\*Research Briefs\*](#) are available on the SBRP's web site. To receive the monthly Research Briefs to your email, please send your email address to [\*avakian@niehs.nih.gov\*](mailto:avakian@niehs.nih.gov).

Ideas for future Research Briefs, please submit them to [\*avakian@niehs.nih.gov\*](mailto:avakian@niehs.nih.gov).

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Division of Extramural Research and Training**