

Tuesday IDP Session Speaker and Lunch Time Mentors

Northeast SRP Meeting 2018

Woods Hole, MA

- **Sarah Hokanson, PhD**

Program Director, Professional Development & Postdoctoral Affairs
Boston University



Dr. Hokanson is responsible for providing services and programming for all postdoctoral scholars at Boston University, as well as supporting the development of University policies related to postdoctoral scholarship. Dr. Hokanson also co-chairs the Resource Development Committee of the National Postdoctoral Association. Prior to joining Boston University, Dr. Hokanson was US Deputy Director of Science and Innovation at the British Consulate-General, Boston. Sarah holds a BA in Chemistry from Boston University and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Dr. Hokanson's graduate research was supported by the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program, and she completed a NIH Ruth L. Kirschstein Postdoctoral Fellowship at Cornell University in the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology. She received an Executive Education Certificate from MIT Sloan School of Management's Entrepreneurship Development Program in 2014.

- **Julia Brody, PhD**

Executive Director and Senior Scientist
Silent Spring Institute



Julia Brody is senior scientist and executive director at Silent Spring Institute (www.silentspring.org) where she studies environmental chemicals and breast cancer, and the practice of community-engaged research. Her current research focuses on methods for reporting to people on their own exposures to hormone disruptors and other contaminants when the health effects are uncertain. She led a scientific review of evidence on animal mammary gland carcinogens and epidemiologic studies of breast cancer and environmental pollutants, diet, body size, and physical activity, which was published in the American Cancer Society Journal Cancer and cited as a foundation for the Institute of Medicine breast cancer and the environment report. Silent Spring Institute is a nonprofit research organization founded by leaders of the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition in 1994 to study environmental factors and prevention. Silent Spring researchers lead the most comprehensive assessment to date of exposure to hormone disruptors in US homes. Brody earned her PhD at the University of Texas at Austin and her AB at Harvard University. Dr. Brody is an adjunct assistant professor at the Brown University School of Medicine.

- **Alicia J Fraser, MPH, DSc**

Assistant Director, Environmental Epidemiology Program
Bureau of Environmental Health
Massachusetts Department of Public Health



Dr. Fraser is the Assistant Director of Environmental Epidemiology for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. She is responsible for conducting community-based epidemiology studies to evaluate relationships between environmental exposures and health outcomes, particularly in response to community concerns related to elevated rates of disease or “clusters”. In addition, Dr. Fraser directs the Massachusetts Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Registry, the only comprehensive capture ALS registry in the country, and manages analytical and surveillance activities for childhood lead exposure and pediatric asthma projects. Prior to a career in state government, Alicia studied environmental health at the Boston University School of Public Health where she earned her doctor of science degree in 2010 with research focusing on human exposure pathways of pollutants used in consumer products, including polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE) flame retardants and polyfluorinated compounds (PFCs).

- **Jo Ann Muramoto, PhD**

Regional Coordinator for the Mass Bays Program (MBP)
Director of Science Programs APCC (Association to Preserve Cape Cod)



The MBP is one of 28 National Estuary Programs established under the Clean Water Act to improve the quality of estuaries of national significance. MBP goals include restoring and protecting coastal habitat, improving coastal water quality, promoting storm water management, and managing coastal erosion. Dr. Muramoto’s projects include the designations of Cape Cod Bay, Nantucket Sound and Vineyard Sound as No-Discharge Areas (including writing grants for the towns for pump-out facilities) and the implementation of a herring count program at Stony Brook in Brewster. She also is assisting the towns of Brewster and Sandwich in grant writing for herring run restoration and storm water remediation respectively; providing support letters to towns seeking funding for coastal projects; and assessing the feasibility of using storm water utilities to fund storm water infrastructure and maintenance. Dr. Muramoto received a BS in Biology from the California Institute of Technology, and a PhD in Geological Sciences from Cornell University.

- **C. Mark Smith, PhD, MS**

Director, Office of Research and Standards
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection



Dr. C. Mark Smith is the Director of the Office of Research and Standards at the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and manages the Wall Experiment Station, MassDEP’s environmental laboratory. He has led a number of the Department's efforts to address priority air, water, solid waste and multimedia pollutants. Dr. Smith completed his Ph.D. in the field of Molecular and Cellular Toxicology from Harvard University and MS degree in Environmental Management from the Harvard School of Public Health. He has published in the areas of environmental policy, toxicology and risk assessment; played key roles in establishing the first state drinking water standard for perchlorate; establishing a statewide research program on mercury trends in freshwater fish; and developing and implementing regional and state policies addressing mercury pollution. He currently Chairs the Environmental Council of States Quicksilver Caucus and represents MassDEP on numerous state and national Committees and workgroups focused on toxic pollutants.

- **H. Curt Spalding**

Professor of the Practice of Environment and Society
Brown University



As the immediate past Regional Administrator of EPA Region 1 New England, and formerly serving eighteen years as Save The Bay Executive Director, H. Curtis "Curt" Spalding has extensive experience in the environmental protection field as an advocate, policy analyst and administrator. In all aspects of Save The Bay's and EPA Region 1 New England's work, he emphasized whole system thinking and resilience. Accomplishments include development of the Save The Bay Center in Providence RI, and ecosystem plans to restore and protect New England's iconic waters, including Lake Champlain, Cape Cod, Lake Champlain, Southern New England Coast, Long Island Sound and Great Bay. With leadership Brownfield and Superfund initiatives, along with helping communities gain the capability and capacity to be more climate change resilient, Curt has consistently worked to see New England cities are revitalized and made healthy and prosperous places to live for every resident.

- **Carrie Tuit, PhD**

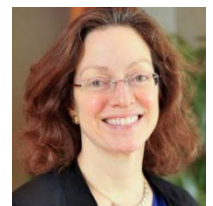
Senior Environmental Chemist
Gradient



Dr. Tuit is an environmental chemist with over 15 years of experience in evaluating the source, fate, and bioavailability of chemicals in the environment. She is experienced in designing cost-effective sampling plans, interpreting environmental data and evaluating data quality, as well as researching historical chemical manufacturing processes. Dr. Tuit's scientific analyses have identified and determined the magnitude of contaminant sources and provided a scientific basis for cost allocations. At Gradient, Dr. Tuit provides technical support for environmental forensic and risk assessment projects. She has been involved with projects dealing with PCBs, PAHs, dioxin/furans, and trace metals. Before joining Gradient, she was a Hess Postdoctoral Fellow at Princeton University, where she studied trace-metal bioavailability and toxicity in denitrifying bacteria. Prior to that, she received her Ph.D. in Oceanography from the MIT/WHOI Joint Program, where she authored a thesis on the marine biogeochemistry of molybdenum.

- **Donna Vorhees, ScM, ScD**

Director of Energy Research
Health Effects Institute



Dr. Vorhees directs the Energy Research Program at HEI. She is leading an effort to develop and implement a Strategic Scientific Research Agenda designed to understand potential human exposures and health effects from unconventional oil and gas development and how they might be prevented or minimized. Dr. Vorhees has 25 years of consulting experience, assessing multi-pathway chemical exposures in indoor and outdoor environments, quantifying human health risks, and communicating risks to affected communities in the United States on behalf of government and private clients and internationally on behalf of the United Nations Environment Program. She serves on the U.S. EPA Board of Scientific Counselors Subcommittee on Chemical Safety for Sustainability and previously served on National Research Council committees (Health Risks of Phthalates and Sediment Dredging at Superfund Megsites), other advisory committees, and peer review panels for numerous health risk assessments prepared by the U.S. EPA, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and Health Canada. Dr. Vorhees is Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Boston University School of Public Health where she teaches Risk Assessment Methods. Dr. Vorhees received her Sc.M. and Sc.D. in Environmental Health from the Harvard School of Public Health.