



Collaborative on Health and the Environment's Fertility/Reproductive Health Working Group



E-Bulletin October 28, 2010

This e-bulletin lists news and journal articles, organizational reports, calls for proposals, upcoming events and other items related to fertility, reproductive health and the environment. E-bulletins are archived and searchable on our website:

<http://www.healthandenvironment.org/fertility>

CHE- Fertility Highlights

New CHE-Fertility Partners

CHE-Fertility welcomes the following new members to the group:

- Emmanuel Akomanin, Ghana
- Jade Sasser, MPH, MA, California
- Bonnie Nedrow, ND, Oregon
- Phanimohan Krishna, India
- Morgan Fender, RN, MSN, Illinois
- Carina Lagerstedt Nilsson, Sweden
- Diana Richards, Texas
- Nicole Craven, MD, Florida
- Cara Dolan, Washington State

New National Coordinator

The Collaborative on Health and the Environment is very pleased to announce that Karin Russ, MS, RN, will serve as the new National Coordinator for CHE's Fertility and Reproductive Health working group. Karin is a registered nurse with extensive experience in settings such as labor and delivery, women's health, long-term care, epidemiology and research management. Currently, she is the nursing outreach coordinator for Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment, supporting staff as they bring more sustainable practices to healthcare. She also teaches undergraduate courses on public health, including environmental health issues, at the Johns Hopkins and the University of Maryland Schools of Nursing. Karin can be reached at:

karin@healthandenvironment.org or 410-493-5940.

Lecture Tonight: *The Intimate Ecology of Motherhood* with Dr. Sandra Steingraber

Thursday October 28, 2010, 7:30 p.m., San Francisco, California

In her electrifying book, *Having Faith: An Ecologist's Journey to Motherhood*, Sandra Steingraber, award-winning writer, mother, and biologist, explores the intimate ecology of motherhood. Both a memoir of her own pregnancy and an investigation of fetal toxicology, *Having Faith* reveals the extent to which environmental hazards now threaten each stage of infant development. See Calendar Event #1 below, or [Visit the website](#)

New book Released: *Environmental Impacts on Fertility/Reproductive Health*

CHE Partners, Tracey Woodruff and UCSF Ob/GYN & R.S. Department Chair, Linda

Giudice, MD, PhD, along with Sarah Janssen, MD, PhD, MPH, from UCSF and the Natural Resources Defense Council and Louis J. Guillette, PhD, from the University of Florida, Gainesville, edited the recently published book titled, "Environmental Impacts on Reproductive Health and Fertility." The book addresses reproductive and developmental health problems caused by exposure to chemicals that are readily found in the environment in which we live. For more information on the book, please check out the Cambridge University Press website: <http://tiny.cc/3y0ew>

[New Article on Improving Reviews in Environmental Health](#)

The article, "Pulling Back the Curtain: Improving Reviews in Environmental Health" was written by CHE Partners Tracey J. Woodruff and Patrice Sutton at the University of California, San Francisco's Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment and puts into perspective the need to review and weigh the scientific evidence linking environmental contaminants to reproductive health in order to accurately and effectively translate the information into clinical care, consumer education, and public policy decision making. [Link to the article in Environmental Health Perspectives](#)

New Science

[Pesticides taint one-fifth of kids' food.](#) A study of food commonly eaten by American kids finds pesticide contamination to be quite common, particularly among popular fruits and vegetables. Nearly one-fifth of the food samples measured had at least one pesticide. Of those, more than one-quarter contained multiple pesticides in the same food sample. Lu, C, FJ Schenck, MA Pearson and JW Wong. 2010. *Assessing children's dietary exposure- direct measurement of pesticide residues in 24-hour duplicate food samples.* [Environmental Health Perspectives.](#) 8 October, 2010.

[Phthalates in drinking water affect thyroid hormones.](#) Contaminants found in both treated and untreated drinking water can interfere with the basic action of thyroid hormones, which regulate many essential body processes, finds a study from China. The biggest culprits were two types of chemical additives called phthalates - DBP and DEHP. Li, N, D Wang, Y Zhou, M Ma, J Li and Z Wang. 2010. *Dibutyl phthalate contributes to the thyroid receptor antagonistic activity in drinking water processes.* [Environmental Science and Technology.](#) 18 October 2010.

[Something's in the air: BPA found around the world.](#) Add air to the growing list of places where bisphenol A (BPA) is found, say a pair of Japanese researchers who have measured and reported levels of the chemical in the world's atmosphere. They discovered BPA in air samples from all over the world at widely varied levels - from almost nothing in remote areas near the poles to 10,000 times that in India and other heavily populated regions of Asia. Pingqing F and K Kawamura. 2010. *Ubiquity of bisphenol A in the atmosphere,* [Environmental Pollution.](#) 30 September 2010.

[New computer model for predicting the cumulative environmental risk of new and existing chemicals.](#) The model uses a compound's chemical structure to classify its toxicity, persistence and bioaccumulation - three major traits regulators use to flag a chemical's potential environmental hazards. Papa, E and P Gramatica. 2010. *QSPR as a support for the EU REACH regulation and rational design of environmentally safer chemicals: PBT identification from molecular structure.* [Green Chemistry.](#) 16 September 2010.

[Lead-contaminated jewelry products in California reduced following legislation and litigation.](#) Researchers report that just 4 percent of the jewelry tested exceeded California's lead standards, in a recent study. This is a considerable drop from the 50 percent mark that was estimated prior to the law. Cox, C and M Green. 2010. *Reduction in the prevalence of lead-containing jewelry in California following litigation and legislation.* [Environmental Science & Technology.](#) 14 September 2010.

[A safer flame retardant protects an everyday plastic.](#) Polypropylene plastic (PP) was less flammable yet remained strong when mixed with two chemicals considered safer than those currently used as flame retardants, report Chinese researchers. The new

flame retardant is a step forward in finding an alternative to traditional systems that are based on halogen-containing chemicals and antimony trioxide, say the researchers who developed the chemical blend. Alternatives are desired to prevent toxic, corrosive gases from forming during fires and to avoid threats from exposures via use in consumer products. Xiang, H, C Sun, D Jiang, Q Zhang, C Dong and L Liu. 2010. Flame retardation and thermal degradation of intumescent flame-retarded polypropylene composites containing spiroposphoryldicyandiamide and ammonium polyphosphate. [Journal of Vinyl and Additive Technology](#). 10 September 2010.

[Minute silver nanoparticles- widely used as antimicrobial agents- cause sperm cells to stop growing.](#) The nanoparticles interrupt key cell signaling within the sperm cells as they develop. The biggest effects were caused by the smallest-sized nanoparticles tested. Braydich-Stolle, LK, B Lucas, A Schrand, RC Murdock, T Lee, J Schlager, S Hussain, and M-C Hofmann. 2010. *Silver nanoparticles disrupt GDNF/Fyn kinase signaling in spermatogonial stem cells.* [Toxicological Sciences](#). 1 September 2010.

[Advanced waste water treatments can reduce the endocrine disrupting effects of effluent.](#) A new study pinpoints the most effective methods of waste water treatment in removing endocrine disrupting chemicals. Conventional sewage treatment does not usually remove all of these compounds. Fish are then exposed when the estrogens are released into waterways. Filby, AL, JA Shears, BE Drage, JH Churchley and CR Tyler. 2010. *Effects of advanced treatments of wastewater effluents on estrogenic and reproductive health impacts in fish.* [Environmental Science and Technology](#). 16 August 2010.

Newswire and Useful Resources

Below you will find recent news, science, and other resources, gleaned from the [CHE Fertility Online Library](#), hosted by [Environmental Health News](#), and the [CHE daily news feed](#).

[Study: BPA has effect on sperm.](#) A controversial chemical found in plastic bottles, soda cans and many other common products appears to adversely affect sperm in men, according to a study involving more than 200 Chinese factory workers. [Washington Post](#). 28 October, 2010.

[High levels of BPA cause sperm problems, study finds.](#) For the first time, a study in humans suggests that a controversial, estrogen-like chemical in plastic may be related to conditions that reduce men's fertility. Men with higher levels of BPA, or bisphenol A, were two to four times more likely than others to have problems with sperm quality and quantity, the study shows. [USA Today](#). 28 October, 2010.

[Water pollution: Only a small fraction of the estrogen pollution found in waterways comes from oral contraceptives.](#) Oral contraceptives often take the blame for estrogen pollution in rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, but a new meta-study from researchers at the University of California, San Francisco reports that contraceptives are not the main source. Estrogen in water has raised concerns because, in laboratory and field tests, synthetic estrogen disrupts reproduction in several fish species. The hormone can trigger male fish to develop female reproductive organs and to produce eggs. Researchers have also connected estrogens in drinking water to human fertility problems and cancers. [Environmental Science Technology](#). 27 October, 2010.

[Suzuki exposes 'dirty dozen' toxic ingredients.](#) A new report released by the David Suzuki Foundation suggests there are a so-called "dirty dozen" chemicals found in 80 per cent of common cosmetic products. [Calgary CTV TV](#), Alberta. 22 October 2010.

[Fat men linked to low fertility.](#) Men's weight could turn out to be as important for fertility as women's, according to ground-breaking Australian research that suggests excess kilos may cause subtle sperm damage and prevent healthy pregnancy. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 18 October 2010. [Registration Required]

[Vestas using potentially harmful chemicals.](#) The international wind turbine company

Vestas Wind Systems is using potentially harmful chemicals-- epoxy resins-- in its blades factory here that have injured several workers and in some cases led to employees losing their jobs, according to government records and former employees. [Fort Collins Coloradoan](#), Colorado. 17 October 2010.

[Synthetic chemicals pose growing threat to global water supply.](#) Synthetic chemicals that damage the human reproductive system are creeping into the world's water supply. Scientists say the chemicals, once waterborne, can quickly spread throughout the globe. [Deutsche Welle](#), Germany. 15 October 2010. ???

[Canada declares BPA to be toxic.](#) The government of Canada formally declared bisphenol A - a chemical widely used to create clear, hard plastics, as well as food can liners - to be a toxic substance on Wednesday. BPA has been shown to disrupt the hormone systems of animals and is under review in the U.S. and Europe. [New York Times](#). 14 October 2010. [Registration Required]

[Prenatal arsenic exposure quintuples infant death risk.](#) Babies born to mothers with high levels of arsenic exposure are five times more likely to die before their first birthday than infants whose mothers had the least exposure to the toxic mineral, new research shows. [Reuters Health](#). 8 October 2010.

[Higher Levels of BPA in Pregnant Woman Exposed to Canned Food, Tobacco Smoke.](#) Pregnant women who work as cashiers, are exposed to tobacco smoke, or eat lots of canned vegetables may have higher urinary levels of the chemical bisphenol A (BPA), according to a new study. According to Fred vom Saal, PhD, a professor of reproductive biology and neurobiology at the University of Missouri in Columbia, "The exposure levels seen in pregnant women in this study could be placing them and their developing fetus in harm's way". [Environmental Health Perspectives](#). 8 October, 2010

[How the First Nine Months Shape the Rest of Your Life.](#) Chronic disease has long been linked to genetic and behavioral risk factors. New research is beginning to find evidence that infants exposed to pollution, chemicals, or poor nutrition during gestation may be predisposed to adult diseases. For example, individuals with low birth weight are at higher risk for heart disease and diabetes later in life. This concept places a renewed emphasis on ensuring optimal prenatal care for all. [Time](#). 4 October, 2010.

[Study links C8, changes in puberty age.](#) Teenagers who were exposed to DuPont Co.'s C8 pollution experienced a four- to six-month delay in puberty, according to a new study that adds to the growing concerns about potential health effects of chemicals that have been widely used in nonstick and stain-resistant products. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 1 October 2010.

[Chances of developing cancer start even before we're conceived, expert claims.](#) A person's chances of developing cancer are effected by their mother's behavior before they are even conceived, a leading nutritionist has claimed. Medical experts have long believed that cancer risk is associated with their genes and lifestyles as adults. [London Daily Mail](#), United Kingdom. 20 September 2010.

[Another reason to quit: Smoking linked to ectopic pregnancy.](#) A chemical found in cigarette smoke increases women's risk of suffering a pregnancy which develops outside the womb, Scottish researchers have found. [Edinburgh Scotsman](#), United Kingdom. 28 September 2010.

['Snus' tobacco linked to stillbirth risk.](#) Pregnant women who use a smokeless form of tobacco known as "snus" may have a risk of stillbirth on par with women who smoke cigarettes, a large study of Swedish women suggests. [Reuters Health](#). 18 September 2010.

[Wanted: Unborn children in Polk for 21-year study.](#) Recruiters will be seeking volunteers for the National Children's Study, billed as the largest research project to investigate the causes of children's health problems. [Des Moines Register](#), Iowa. 13 September 2010.

[Smoking, bad for your fertility and your child's.](#) Yet another reason to give up

smoking. Smoking may harm not just your fertility but that of the next generation. [New Scientist](#). 10 September 2010.

[In feast of data on BPA plastic, no final answer.](#) The research has been going on for more than 10 years. Studies number in the hundreds. Millions of dollars have been spent. But government health officials still cannot decide whether the chemical bisphenol-A, or BPA, a component of some plastics, is safe. [New York Times](#). 7 September 2010. [Registration Required]

[Nine toxic chemicals join banned 'dirty dozen.'](#) The UN said Thursday an insecticide used in farming and to treat woodworm, Lindane, was among nine highly toxic chemicals added to a "dirty dozen" of dangerous substances on an international red list. [Agence France-Presse](#). 27 August 2010.

[Weapons expert warns Wi-Fi in schools could cause birth defects.](#) A British scientist and former naval weapons expert has waded into the debate over the safety of wireless networks in Canadian schools, warning generations could face genetic disorders because of prolonged exposure to low-level microwaves. [Postmedia News](#). 26 August 2010.

[Hidden Secrets: Toxins in our Environment.](#) The Women's Health Environmental Network has produced a 15 minute video featuring national experts speaking on the links between health and the environment. The video highlights one couples' experience during pregnancy, and offers easy action steps to reduce risks. Experts include: Ted Schettler, MD, Science and Environmental Health Network; Anna Gilmore Hall, RN, Health Care Without Harm; Nena Baker, author of *The Body Toxic*; Stacy Malkan, author of *Not Just a Pretty Face: The Ugly Side of the Beauty Industry*; and Meg McGoldrick, Abington Memorial Hospital.

Announcements

A daily news feed with these announcements is now available on CHE's website: <http://www.healthandenvironment.org/news/announce>.

[Senate panel examining how chemicals in daily life affect kids' health.](#) A Senate subcommittee hearing on November 2 will examine how chemicals that Americans are exposed to in daily life might be harming the health of children, including those developing in the womb. Witnesses scheduled to appear include Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson and CNN Chief Medical Correspondent Dr. Sanjay Gupta. [Read more](#)

[EPA sets first national limits to reduce mercury and other toxic emissions from cement plants.](#) This action sets the nation's first limits on mercury air emissions from existing cement kilns, strengthens the limits for new kilns, and sets emission limits that will reduce acid gases. [Read more](#)

[Job opening: Augusta, Maine](#)

The Natural Resources Council of Maine (NRCM) seeks an executive director. Current advocacy work focuses in four program areas: energy efficiency and clean renewable energy, protection from toxic chemicals in consumer products, protecting Maine's North woods, and ensuring healthy rivers and watersheds. [Read more](#)

[Job openings: Oakland, California](#)

The UCSF Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment is seeking to fill two positions: 1) a postdoc to work on a project that addresses one key aspect of how to incorporate new and emerging science into environmental health policy and decision-making and 2) a research coordinator to assist in managing all phases of research activity. Contact Jason Harless: harlessj@obgyn.ucsf.edu

[Job opening: Washington, DC.](#)

Earthjustice seeks Associate Legislative Counsel and Legislative Counsel for non-profit public interest law firm. Major responsibilities include advocacy for, and analysis of,

federal legislation and rulemakings regarding clean air, with a particular emphasis on air toxics. Position requires knowledge of administrative rulemaking and prior administrative or legislative advocacy experience. Email jgraham@earthjustice.org for more details.

Job opening: Seattle, Washington

The Northwest Environmental Training Center is seeking workshop instructors for a variety of courses, including "Mercury Effects on Ecosystems and Human Health." This position is contracted per course with flexible dates in major cities across the country. [Read more](#)

Calendar of Events & Submission Deadlines

Online Calendar. These and more upcoming events and proposal/abstract deadlines are listed in the [CHE-Fertility searchable calendar](#). Please check the calendar periodically for up-dates. **Contact:** CHE, info@healthandenvironment.org

1) Lecture: The Intimate Ecology of Motherhood with Dr. Sandra Steingraber

Thursday October 28, 2010

7:30 p.m.

San Francisco, California

at the Jewish Community Center San Francisco, 3200 California Street

Sponsor: EcoBirth

In her electrifying book, *Having Faith: An Ecologist's Journey to Motherhood*, Sandra Steingraber, award-winning writer, mother, and biologist, explores the intimate ecology of motherhood. Both a memoir of her own pregnancy and an investigation of fetal toxicology, *Having Faith* reveals the extent to which environmental hazards now threaten each stage of infant development. In the eyes of an ecologist, the mother's body is the first environment for life. An enthusiastic and sought-after public speaker, Steingraber has keynoted conferences on human health and the environment. She is recognized for her ability to serve as a two-way translator between scientists and the common culture. Steingraber will be joined with a panel of local experts from the environmental, birthing and academic communities.

Price: \$18

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Jewish Community Center of San Francisco, 415-292-1200 or

info@jccsf.org

2) Conference: International Congress on Environmental Health

Thursday through Saturday, November 4 - 6, 2010

Coimbra, Portugal

at the College of Health Technologies of Coimbra

Sponsor: Department of Environmental Health, College of Health Technologies of Coimbra, College of Health Technologies of Lisbon, College of Health Technologies of Oporto, College of Health of Beja

The International Congress on Environmental Health offers an opportunity for all those involved in environmental health to present their work, share expertise and promote partnerships at a nationwide context, thus providing a current snapshot of this interdisciplinary field.

Price: see the

[Registration information page](#)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: see the

[Contact page](#)

3) Conference: 138th Annual APHA Meeting & Exposition

Saturday through Wednesday, November 6 - 10, 2010
Denver, Colorado
at the Colorado Convention Center

Sponsor: American Public Health Association

The conference theme is "Social Justice: A Public Health Imperative." The social circumstances in which we are born, live, and work, play a greater role in longevity and overall health in the United States than genes, health insurance and access to health services. Annual Meeting sessions will explore why certain populations bear a disproportionate burden of disease and mortality and what the public health community can do to better address the causes of these inequities.

Price: see the

[Registration Fees page](#)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: APHA, 202-777-APHA

4) Teleconference: CHE Partnertship Call: Fracking: Implications for Human and Environmental Health

Tuesday November 9, 2010

11:00 a.m. Pacific / 2:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment

After decades of declining US natural-gas production, a new and powerful drilling technique that fractures rock with high-pressure fluid is opening up vast shale-gas deposits in Texas, Colorado and now many parts of the Northeast. Hydraulic fracturing or "fracking" injects tons of toxic chemicals into the ground in order to break up shale beds rich in natural gas. Researchers, health and environment experts, and community groups have expressed strong concerns about these chemicals' contributing significantly to air and water pollution. The shale gas reserves, however, are seen by a number of companies, states and landowners as an enticing economic opportunity that could reap billions while lowering residential heating bills. The Environmental Protection Agency began public hearings last March to investigate the issue, and a number of citizen protests have recently been held in regions where fracking is already being undertaken or proposed. This CHE Partner call will feature four leading researchers in different fields of expertise to discuss the potential human and environmental health implications of fracking.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: CHE, 360-331-7904 or

info@healthandenvironment.org

5) Conference: 2010 Fall Forum: Improving Women's Health from Communities to Care Settings

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 9 - 10, 2010

Washington, DC

at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street NW (at Connecticut Avenue)

Sponsor: Grantmakers In Health

This national meeting on women's health will examine women's primary health challenges across the age spectrum from youth to old age, paying special attention to the social and environmental factors - the social determinants of health - that shape women's life options, choices, and health-related behavior. It will also explore issues women face in getting access to, and making decisions about, health care, including reproductive health care services. Trends to be covered include the increasing rates for women of obesity, chronic diseases, and maternal mortality; and disturbing disparities in women's health along racial and ethnic lines. We will discuss what funders can do, with a special focus on how women are developing and implementing their own solutions at the community level. Please register by Friday October 22nd. Space is limited.

Price: \$350 for GIH funding partners and \$500 for all others

[Visit the website](#)

6) Abstract deadline: 3rd Annual Northwest Environmental Health Conference

Friday November 12, 2010

Portland, Oregon

Sponsor: Oregon Environmental Council

The Northwest Environmental Health Conference Planning Team is accepting abstracts for presentations at our 3rd Annual Conference to be held in Portland, Oregon, February 11, 2011. The tracks for the 2011 Northwest Environmental Health Conference are 1) Emerging Science & Research: Presentations that address new and innovative research on environmental factors affecting human health; 2) Direct Practice & Real World Applications: Presentations that describe programs that engage, directly affect, and/or are led by members within a community or procedures and protocols that nurses, doctors, and other health care professionals are taking to integrate issues of health, environment and safety into facilities and practices and 3) Policy & Future Directions: Presentations

that address federal, state, county, local or organizational policies and initiatives about environmental health issues and concerns.

Price:

[Visit the website](#)

Contact:

nwehc@oeonline.org

7) Teleconference: CHE Science Café Call: Sacrifice Zones: The Front Lines of Toxic Chemical Exposure in the United States: A Conversation with Author Steve Lerner

Monday November 15, 2010

11:00 a.m. Pacific / 2:00 p.m. Eastern time

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment

Low-income Americans and people of color who live immediately adjacent to heavy industry and military bases are subjected to higher levels of pollution than more affluent citizens and suffer disproportionately severe health effects. Through studies of twelve communities across the US, *Sacrifice Zones* (MIT Press / September 2010), a new book by Steve Lerner, describes the plague of environmentally induced diseases endured by people who live nearby heavy industry and shows how these communities are rising up to take action against the polluters. The book is based on hundreds of interviews of residents of communities on the fenceline with heavy industry. Lerner lets the victims of environmental injustice speak in their own words and describe in detail what they experience and how they are organizing to improve their quality of life and protect themselves.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: CHE,

info@healthandenvironment.org

8) Lecture: Health Effects of Chemicals on Humans

Wednesday November 17, 2010

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

New Bedford, Massachusetts

at Alfred J. Gomes Elementary School, 286 South Second Street

Sponsor: Technologies of the Future

This talk is part of the series of three talks to help increase interest in and raise public awareness of environmental issues facing the city. The guest speaker will be Dr. Mark Mitchell, specializing in epidemiology, public and environmental health and president of the Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: John G. Andrade at 508-993-8500 or
obvdc@yahoo.com

9) Meeting: CHE-WA meeting: Environmental Health in the Media: Developing Effective Messages and Getting Better Coverage of Your Issues

Thursday November 18, 2010

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Seattle, Washington

in the conference room at the American Lung Association of Washington, 2625 Third Avenue

Sponsor: Collaborative on Health and the Environment - Washington

Come meet with media expert Sian Wu of Seattle's Resource Media to hear her talk about their work to increase the profile of key environmental health campaigns. Bring questions about how to better communicate your own environmental health work to the public and decisionmakers. Please also bring good ideas and any new tools/innovations you are using to communicate across internet social networks or in-community outreach. We'll leave plenty of open time for group discussion and to generate practical ideas to better communicate the links between human health and the environment across our region and nationally. This meeting is open to the public.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: CHE, info@healthandenvironment.org

10) Conference: Environmental Excellence in Health Care: A Showcase of Best Practices

Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment 3rd Annual Conference

November 18, 2010, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., University of Maryland School of Nursing

Join regional and national health care professionals, environmental industry experts, and educators for this learning and networking event. This year's conference showcase facilities' best environmental best practices, including topics such as the healthcare industry's impact on climate change, managing hazardous pharmaceutical waste, and 'greening' the operating room. From the basement to the boardroom, MD H2E reaches many levels of organizational greening. Keynote speaker Gary Cohen, Executive Director and Co-Founder of Health Care Without Harm will kick off the event.

Visit the conference website to view full schedule and to register:

<http://nursing.umaryland.edu/events/environmental/november/index.htm>

11) Conference: Linking Early Exposures to Late Effects: New Science, Tools and Modes of Action

Sunday through Tuesday, December 5 - 7, 2010

Montreal, Quebec Canada

at Delta Centre-Ville, 777 University

Sponsor: Society of Toxicology of Canada

On the first day, "Toxicology and the Developmental Origins of Adult Health and Disease" will examine evidence that toxicant exposure during fetal development can contribute to the development of diseases that are generally seen in adulthood including obesity, hypertension, Type 2 diabetes and effects on immune function. On day 2 in "The role of MicroRNA in Toxicity", we will examine the growing evidence that noncoding RNA may play a very significant role in mediating toxic responses in a wide variety of tissues. Our final session, "Novel Screening Methods in Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology", will critically examine the value of emerging tools for rapid screening for reproductive and developmental toxicology for predicting chemical hazards.

Price: see the [Registration form](#)

[Visit the website](#)

Contact:

stcsecretariat@mcgill.ca

12) Teleconference: Phone Seminar - Robin Guenther, Architect and Designer, Sustainable Health Leader, Perkins+Will

Wednesday December 8, 2010

3:00 p.m. Eastern / noon Pacific time

Sponsor: Great Lakes Green Chemistry Network

"Linking Public Health, Regenerative Design, and Sustainability." As a Principal at Perkins+Will and a national leader in the conversation linking public health, regenerative design and sustainability, Robin Guenther synthesizes newly developing ideas and diverse groups to further the values she promotes. Robin is particularly skilled at achieving consensus for sustainable ideas, a quality valued by clients as well as the many advocacy groups with whom she works. Her work has helped shape healthier, more welcoming facilities for nearly every medical institution in New York City. Robin's many accomplishments include the second LEED™-certified healthcare project in the world, the Discovery Center. She was the principal author of the *Green Guide for Health Care*, the most commonly used method of tracking sustainability in health care spaces today. Her book, *Sustainable Healthcare Architecture*, was released in 2008, and she is currently working with the US Green Building Council to create the *LEED™ for Healthcare Reference Guide*. Robin was the recipient of the 2005 Changemaker Award from The Center for Health Design for her efforts in improving and supporting the environment.

Price: free

[Visit the website](#)

13) Abstract deadline: 6th International Conference on the Impact of Environmental Factors on Health

December 31, 2010 (this date may be adjusted as the conference date approaches)

Riga, Latvia

Sponsor: Wessex Institute of Technology and the Journal of Safety and Security Engineering

Health problems related to the environment have become a major source of concern all over the world. The health of the population depends upon good quality environmental factors including air, water, soil, food and many others. The aim of society is to establish measures that can eliminate or considerably reduce hazardous factors from the human environment to minimize the associated health risks. The ability to achieve these objectives is in great part dependent on the development of suitable experimental, modeling and interpretive techniques, which allow a balanced assessment of the risk involved as well as suggesting ways in which the situation can be improved. The interaction between environmental risk and health is often complex and can involve a variety of social, occupational and lifestyle factors. This emphasises the importance of considering an interdisciplinary approach. The language of the conference will be English. The conference is scheduled for Monday through Wednesday, July 25 - 27, 2011.

Price:

[Visit the website](#)

Contact: Irene Moreno Millan, 44 (0) 238 029 3223 or

imoreno@wessex.ac.uk

The Collaborative on Health and the Environment offers this information as a service but does not endorse any of the events, articles or announcements.

Please email Karin Russ, CHE's Fertility/Reproductive Health Working Group Coordinator, at karin@healthandenvironment.org with any questions, comments, or suggestions.

If you would like to join the Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE) and the Fertility/Reproductive Health Working Group, please complete the application on the CHE website: <http://www.healthandenvironment.org/application>. Joining CHE means receiving up to four email messages a month from the CHE National listserv. CHE costs nothing to join and the benefit is shared information and opportunities for further engagement, if you choose. Be sure to mark that you want to join the CHE Fertility/Reproductive Health

Working Group at the bottom of the application.

Karin Russ
Collaborative on Health and the Environment

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