## Collaborative on Health and the Environment Environmental Health Primary Prevention Training Program TRAINERS

#### Davis Baltz

Davis Baltz, M.S., is Precautionary Principle Project Director at Commonweal, where he has worked since 1995. Among his projects at Commonweal have been the organizing of national public comment for the EPA's Endocrine Disruptor Screening and Testing Advisory Committee; co-sponsoring California legislation which created a state biomonitoring program in California, the first such program in the country; facilitating the steering committee for the international campaign Health Care Without Harm which advises the healthcare industry on how to reduce its environmental footprint; serving as policy workgroup co-leader with the California coalition Californians for a Healthy and Green Economy; and co-coordinating the annual conference CleanMed, which showcases environmental sustainability initiatives in the health care sector. He is a founding member of the Bay Area Working Group on the Precautionary Principle, and was a 2004 Mesa Refuge fellow.

#### Susan Braun

Susan Braun is the V Foundation's Chief Executive Officer. Previously she was Executive Director of Commonweal. She has served as the Executive Director of The ASCO (American Society of Clinical Oncology) Cancer Foundation; as the President and CEO of the CURE Media Group, publisher of CURE Magazine; as the president and chief executive officer of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation; in various positions within the Oncology/Immunology Division at Bristol-Myers Squibb; and as an executive with the health care consulting firm Pracon Incorporated and the Center for Economic Studies in Medicine.

Among her appointments and responsibilities, Ms. Braun has served on boards and/or committees for several organizations, including: National Cancer Institute, California Breast Cancer Research Program, American Society for Breast Disease (ASBD), World Society of Breast Health, Americorps NCCC, National Dialog on Cancer, and Intercultural Cancer Council, and the ASCEND Foundation, and Smith Farm Center for the Healing Arts. Ms. Braun received a bachelor's degree in English and sociology from George Mason University and a master's degree in health science education from the University of Maryland. She also completed a graduate program in international business and marketing at the University of Muenster in Muenster, Germany.

# Suzanne "Sue" Fenton, PhD

Dr. Suzanne "Sue" Fenton earned her M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of WI-Madison in the Endocrinology/Reproductive Physiology Program, working in the areas of artificial insemination and mammary gland biology. Her postdoctoral studies at the UNC-Chapel Hill Lineberger Cancer Center focused on the roles and gene regulation of epidermal growth factor receptor ligands in the mammary gland. Dr. Fenton was a Research Biologist at the US EPA's Reproductive Toxicology Division from October 1998 to September 2009. She was recently recruited to the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences where she is leading the Reproductive Endocrinology laboratory in the NTP Labs Branch of the Division of the National Toxicology Program. Her current research involves identification of the effects of environmental factors on early development, pubertal timing, lactational function, and tumor susceptibility of the mammary gland. Dr. Fenton has recently served on the Working Group for the NIEHS Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Centers, the Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology Executive Committee for ILSI HESI, and as a consultant to the California Breast Cancer Research Program Special Research Initiatives. She represents the

National Toxicology Program at the Congressionally-mandated Inter-Agency Breast Cancer & Environment Research Coordinating Committee and is the recipient of 4 Level III and a Level I (highest) US EPA Scientific and Technological Achievement Award, and the NIEHS Merit Award for her research.

### Karin Gunther Russ, MS, RN

Karin is the National Coordinator, Fertility and Reproductive Health Working Group at the Collaborative on Health and the Environment. Karin is dedicated to optimizing the health of families of reproductive age by reducing exposures to environmental hazards. As the National Coordinator of CHE's Fertility and Reproductive Health Working Group, Karin works with researchers, health professionals, advocates and members of the public interested in the ways environmental factors affect reproduction. Her mission is to disseminate the latest research on reproductive environmental health, provide resources for clinicians and researchers, and facilitate collaboration between experts in the field.

Karin is also a faculty member in the Community & Public Health department at the University of Maryland School of Nursing. Karin works on environmental health issues at the state level by serving as chair of the Maryland Nurses Association's Environmental Health Committee and on the steering committee of the Maryland Environmental Health Network. She also sits on the University of California San Francisco Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment's From Advancing Science to Ensuring Prevention (FASTEP) advisory council and the Union Baptist Head Start Health Advisory Council. Karin is a member of the Environmental Section of the American Public Health Association, the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences Public Interest Partners, the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals, and the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments.

Karin has been a registered nurse for many years, working in a variety of settings such as labor and delivery, women's health, epidemiology, vaccine development and clinical research management. She holds a Masters degree in Nursing Management, and post-masters specialty certificates in Teaching in Nursing and Environmental Health Nursing from the University of Maryland.

### Sarah Janssen, M.D., Ph.D.

Sarah Janssen is a senior scientist in the health and environment program at NRDC in San Francisco. In her capacity as a scientist with NRDC, Dr. Janssen provides scientific expertise for policy and regulatory decisions on a number of toxic chemicals, including hormone-disrupting substances which interfere with fertility and reproduction. Her work has included research on flame retardants, cosmetics, plastics and plasticizers, breast cancer and threats to adult reproductive health and child development.

Dr. Janssen is board-certified in preventive medicine, with a subspecialty in occupational and environmental medicine. She is an assistant clinical professor at the University of California, San Francisco where she is conducting clinical research, and she works part-time at Kaiser Permanente of Northern California. She completed her M.D. and Ph.D. in molecular and integrative physiology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 2001, a Masters in Public Health at UC-Berkeley in 2005 and residency training at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Janssen is the author of numerous peer-reviewed publications and book chapters.

# Marion H. E. "Mhel" Kavanaugh-Lynch M.D., M.P.H.

Dr. Kavanaugh-Lynch is Director of the California Breast Cancer Research Program. In this position, she develops strategies and guides priorities for the \$15 million per year that California invests in research to bring an end to the disease. She has managed the awarding of 894 research grants to 101 different institutions across the state of California, totaling approximately \$213 million. Her accomplishments include championing the role of advocates and survivors in the peer review process, developing a successful model for funding community-based participatory research and developing rigorous evaluations of the Program. In recent years, she led a national panel that developed research strategies to explore the role of environmental contaminants in breast cancer and is now implementing those research strategies through the California Breast Cancer Research Program.

Dr. Kavanaugh-Lynch earned her B.A. at Bryn Mawr College, an M.D. and an M.S. in pharmacology at New York University, and an M.P.H. in epidemiology at University of Washington. She has had postgraduate training in medical oncology and in cancer epidemiology and prevention. Her career includes several years of basic science research in developmental biology, clinical practice in internal medicine and oncology, clinical research on bone marrow transplantation for the treatment of breast cancer, and public health research in women's health, lesbian health and breast cancer. Her commitment to bringing women's voices into research and decisions about research drew her to the California Breast Cancer Research Program, a Program that arose and continues to grow through the energy, wisdom, and dreams of women with breast cancer.

Dr. Kavanaugh-Lynch has served on peer review and advisory panels for the National Institutes of Health (National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institute of Maternal and Child Health), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Health Services and Office of Women's Health, and the American Legacy Foundation. She is a founding member of the International Cancer Research Partners, and has served a number of private organizations, including the American Cancer Society, the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, The Breast Cancer Fund, and Breast Cancer Action. She was appointed by then-California Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez to the Scientific Guidance Panel for the California Environmental Contaminant Biomonitoring Program. She is the recipient of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association's Lifetime Achievement Award, the Susan Love Foundation's Excellence in Philanthropy Award, and the Zero Breast Cancer's Community Research Award.

## Michael Lerner, Ph.D., Founder and President, Commonweal

Michael Lerner has worked with cancer patients for 24 years in the nationally recognized Commonweal Cancer Help Program. He has played a leading role in organizing consensus statements on environmental factors in cancer causation through the Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE), including the CHE Breast Cancer Consensus Statement and the CHE Cancer Consensus Statement. He played a leading role in organizing the American Cancer Society National Workshop on Cancer and the Environment and consulted with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation (now Komen for the Cure) on its research initiatives on breast cancer and the environment. He also served on the Advisory Board of the CBCRP Special Initiative on Breast Cancer and the Environment and on the CEO Advisory Board of the American Cancer Society. His book "Choices in Healing," from MIT Press, was widely regarded as the first major effort to take an objective approach at integrative cancer therapies. He also served as Chief Consultant to the Office of Technology Assessment of the U.S. Congress for its landmark report "Unconventional Cancer Treatments." He received a MacArthur Prize Fellowship for contributions to public health in 1983.

#### Heather Sarantis, MS

Heather Sarantis is the Women's Health Program Manager at Commonweal. She specializes in translating environmental health science into usable information for the general public. She built the Women's Health and Environment toolkit and website (<a href="www.womenshealthandenvironment.org">www.womenshealthandenvironment.org</a>), leads the science and report writing for the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics and coordinates the environmental health training program. Prior to Commonweal, she was a program manager at Breast Cancer Fund and a researcher at The Natural Step where she convened multi-stakeholder discussions on bringing sustainable forestry, agriculture and fishing practices to a corporate scale. She also co-directed the Boycott Mitsubishi campaign at Rainforest Action Network, which successfully shifted Mitsubishi's global logging practices to be more sustainable and respectful of human rights. She holds a B.S. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of Maryland and an M.S. in Environmental Studies from the University of Montana. She is a Doris Duke Fellow for Conservation Leadership.

#### Ted Schettler, MD, MPH

Ted Schettler is Science Director of the Science and Environmental Health Network. (<a href="www.sehn.org">www.sehn.org</a>). He also serves as science director of the Collaborative on Health and Environment (<a href="www.healthandenvironment.org">www.healthandenvironment.org</a>) and science advisor to the Health Care Without Harm campaign. (<a href="www.noharm.org">www.noharm.org</a>) He has a medical degree from Case Western Reserve University and a masters in public health from Harvard University. Dr. Schettler is coauthor of "Generations at Risk: Reproductive Health and the Environment"; "In Harm's Way: Toxic Threats to Child Development"; and "Environmental Threats to Healthy Aging". He has published a number of articles on related topics in peer-reviewed journals and has served on advisory committees of the US EPA and National Academy of Sciences. He practiced medicine primarily in New England for many years.