

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.

Suzanne Fenton

Suzanne “Sue” Fenton, Ph.D., 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.

Sarah Janssen

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

Marion H.E. Kavanaugh-Lynch, M.D., MPH, 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.

Karin Gunther Russ

Karin Gunther Russ, MS, RN, 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.

Heather Sarantis

Heather Sarantis, M.S., is the Women's Health Program Manager at Commonweal. She helped launch the Women's Health and Environment Initiative, leads the science and report writing for the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics and works with the FASTER program to bridge environmental health and reproductive health issues. Prior to Commonweal,

she was a program manager at Breast Cancer Fund, a researcher at The Natural Step focused on bringing sustainable forestry, agriculture and fishing practices to the large corporate scale. She also co-directed the Boycott Mitsubishi campaign at Rainforest Action Network, which successfully shifted Mitsubishi's global logging practices. 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

Ted Schettler M.D., MPH is Science Director of the Science and Environmental Health Network (www.sehn.org). He also serves as science director of the Collaborative on Health and Environment (www.healthandenvironment.org) and science advisor to the Health Care Without Harm campaign. (www.noharm.org) He has a medical degree from Case Western Reserve University and a masters in public health from Harvard University. Dr. Schettler is co-author 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.

Maria Valenti

Maria Valenti is the national coordinator of the new Healthy Aging and the Environment Initiative of the Collaborative on Health and the Environment. Prior to this position, she served for nearly two decades in leadership positions with Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility as Executive Director and Program Director, from 1992-2010. She helped develop and manage a number of national and multi-state projects that have provided educational materials and trained over 15,000 health professionals and others on environmental health issues. These include the *In Harm's Way Training Program for Health Professionals*, the *Pediatric Environmental Health Toolkit* (materials development, pilot study, training program, and online CE course), and most recently *Environmental Drivers of Chronic Disease*, focusing on healthy aging across the lifespan. She is a co-author with medical experts of three major peer-reviewed publications on environment and health including *Generations at Risk: Reproductive Health and the Environment* (MIT Press 1999, 2000), *In Harm's Way: Toxic Threats to Child Development* (GBPSR 2000), and *Environmental Threats to Healthy Aging* (GBPSR/Science and Environmental Health Network 2008).

Peter Whitehouse

Peter J. Whitehouse, MD, PhD is Professor of Neurology as well as current or former Professor of Cognitive Science, Psychiatry, Neuroscience, Psychology, Nursing, Organizational Behavior, Bioethics and History. He is also a member of the faculty associates of the Fowler Center for Sustainable Value at the Weatherhead School of Management and the Center for Aging and Health. He received his undergraduate degree from Brown University and MD-PhD (Psychology) from The Johns Hopkins University (with field work at Harvard and Boston Universities), followed by a Fellowship in Neuroscience and Psychiatry and a faculty appointment at Hopkins. With colleagues he discovered fundamental aspects of the cholinergic pathology in Alzheimer's and related dementias, which lead to the development of our current generation drugs to treat these conditions. In 1986 he moved to Case Western Reserve University to develop the University Alzheimer Center, now a part of the University Neurological Institute at University Hospitals Case Medical Center. This center became one of the ten best funded in the world. He continued his own life-long learning with a Masters Degree in Bioethics and Fellowship in Organizational Behavior at Case. In 1999 he founded with his wife, Catherine, The Intergenerational School, a unique public multiage, community school (www.tisonline.org). This award winning school serves learners of all ages from Cleveland and the surrounding suburbs and is committed to excellence in life-long learning and spirited citizenship. He has been active in SAGES (Seminar Approach to General Education and Scholarship) and CSP (College Scholars Program). He developed courses for undergraduates focusing on the theme of wisdom. He helped develop the new medical school curriculum and teaches in various programs including Foundations of Clinical Medicine, a longitudinal program focusing on professionalism and leadership. He has co-learned in a variety of Weatherhead executive education programs including Health Systems Management, Professional Fellows, MPOD and EDM. He plans to spend the rest of his life developing and participating in innovative learning environments that promote the creation of collective wisdom and contribute to environmental sustainability and social justice.

He is clinically active at University Hospitals of Cleveland in the Joseph Foley Elder Health Center caring for individuals with concerns about their cognitive abilities as they age. He is working to develop an integrative intergenerative health practice focused on the healing power of storytelling and the conceptual model of ecopsychosocial health. He envisioned and cofounded the Greenwall Foundation-supported StoryBank, a regional resource for transdisciplinary analysis and utilization of narratives of illness and health that foster community well-being.

His research interests include the neurobiology of what he used to refer to as Alzheimer's disease and related conditions, the development of more effective treatments for individuals with cognitive impairment, including drugs and non-biological i.e. psychosocial/educational interventions, ethical issues in the medical profession and integrative health care systems. He has a particular interest in narrative medicine and has developed a number of programs focusing on the value of reading and writing for cognitive vitality. His recent and current NIH grants focus on quality of life, treatment interventions and genetic testing in dementia.

He founded the International Working Group for the Harmonization of Dementia Drug Guidelines and co-founded or has leadership roles in other national and international groups focusing on the consequences of aging on the world.

He is the author (with Danny George) of a provocative book entitled “The Myth of Alzheimer’s: what you aren’t being told about today’s most dreaded diagnosis.” (www.themythofalzheimers.com) Through this book and related projects he hopes to transform our thinking about brain aging and contribute to his own successful cognitive aging

He is the grateful husband of Catherine, father of three vibrant young women, and the son of wonderful parents.