

IHHE NUNTIVM

Welcome to another edition of our Monthly Nuntium, a newsletter dedicated to keeping you updated with what our community has going on. This month, we're taking it easy with some recognitions, new articles, and an upcoming event.



The Department of Environmental Medicine Diversity and Inclusion Group (DIG) celebrated the Lunar New Year for their Diversity and Inclusion Social Conversations -Uniting Society and Science (DISCUSS) food series! Decorations were provided by IHHE Affiliate, Martha Susiarjo, PhD. We learned that 2025 is the year of the Snake and enjoyed dumplings and spring rolls from local restaurant, White Swans Cafe



IHHE Shoutout



Leah Brown, MS

IHHE Affiliate, Leah Brown, MS, is the current Graduate Program Director for the Toxicology training program housed in the Department of Environmental Medicine. She is truly one of a kind and dedicates 100% effort to her role as a leader, advisor, and friend.



Hae -Ryung Park, MS, PhD

IHHE Affiliate, Hae-Ryung Park, MS, PhD, is a professor in the Department of Environmental Medicine. Dr. Park has been a role-model and mentor to the Park Lab and continues to be a leading researcher in gene-environment interactions on brain development.



IHHE Reads

1. Souvarish Sarkar, PhD

["Biotin mitigates the development of manganese induced, Parkinson's disease –related neurotoxicity in Drosophila and human neurons". Check out this article in the Science Signaling journal.](#)



2. Paige Lawrence, PhD

["Using the Key Characteristics Framework to Unlock the Mysteries of Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor –Mediated Effects on the Immune System". Check out this recent article, published by IHHE Director, Paige Lawrence, PhD.](#)

3. Deborah Cory-Slechta, PhD

[IHHE Affiliate, Deborah Cory -Slechta, PhD, was featured in an article to talk about research connections between air pollution and brain disorders like dementia. This article can be found in the *nature* journal.](#)



4. Sophia Samantaroy

[IHHE Affiliate, Sophia Samantaroy, a former UR Undergrad Student authored an article about the Los Angeles wild fires. Daniel Croft, PhD, IHHE Affiliate, is featured in the article as well to speak about the effects of air pollution and smoke on human health.](#)





WCI & IHHE Seminar: Stacy Stanifer, PhD

The Wilmot Cancer Institute and the Institute for Human Health and the Environment are teaming up to host a seminar series. This seminar will feature Stacy Stanifer, PhD, an assistant professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Kentucky.

Date, time: Friday, Feb. 14 at 12:00pm

Location: Formicola Conference Rm -
Wilmot 2.0727

Presidential Awards for Inclusive Excellence

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2025 UR Presidential Awards for Inclusive Excellence! This award honors any faculty, staff, student, alumni, trustee or community member who helps cultivate a sense of belonging for those around them. For more information, please visit the website for the Office of Equity and Inclusion or contact them:

equityandinclusion@rochester.edu.



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