

Using Community-based Research Strategies to Address Environmental Health Concerns.

Through community-based partnerships, engineering solutions can help to address environmental health concerns. Panelists will discuss research strategies to engage and collaborate with communities.

About the Panelists



Michelle Bell

Dr. Michelle Bell is the Mary E. Pinchot Professor of Environmental Health at the Yale University School of the Environment, with secondary appointments at the Yale School of Public Health, Environmental Health Sciences Division and the Yale School of Engineering and Applied Science, Environmental Engineering Program. Her research investigates how human health is affected by atmospheric systems, including air pollution and weather. Other research interests include the health impacts of climate change and environmental justice. Much of this work is based in epidemiology, biostatistics, and environmental engineering. The research is designed to be policy-relevant and contribute to well-informed decision-making to better protect human health and benefit society. She is the recipient of the Prince Albert II de Monaco / Institut Pasteur Award, the Rosenblith New Investigator Award, and the NIH Outstanding New Environmental Scientist (ONES) Award. Dr. Bell holds degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (B.S. in Environmental Engineering), Stanford University (M.S. in Environmental Engineering), and Johns Hopkins University (M.S.E. in Environmental Management and Economics and Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering).



Adrienne Katner

Adrienne Katner is an Assistant Professor in Environmental and Occupational Health at Louisiana State University's School of Public Health in New Orleans, LA. For the past few years she has been working extensively with various communities to investigate declining urban and rural drinking water systems. She has investigated lead levels in the drinking water of communities throughout Louisiana, and evaluated government preparedness and response performance in private well-reliant communities after natural disasters. Her research has been used to highlight gaps in drinking water regulations, inadequacies in disaster planning, and weaknesses in prevailing public health guidelines for reducing water contaminant exposures. Prior to entering academia, Dr. Katner was an environmental health scientist with Louisiana Office of Public Health, and a Research Fellow at the National Cancer Institute's Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. She has a broad background in public health, with specific training in exposure and risk assessment; and environmental public health policy.



Andrew George

Andrew George is the Center for Public Engagement with Science's (CPES) community engagement coordinator at the Institute for the Environment, where he works to develop mechanisms to support long- and short-term research relationships between communities and scientists, and responds to community requests for scientific assistance. George focuses on capacity-building for participants and their community organizations, and the development of resources for stakeholders and community partners. Before joining the CPES, worked with the School of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill as an instructor with the Master of Public Administration program, where he also directed several research projects, including evaluations of the Clean Water Management Trust Fund of North Carolina, the No Kid Hungry campaign, and the Center for Environmental Farming Systems. He has worked for more than 20 years with nonprofit organizations and local governments in North Carolina, across the Southeast, and nationally. Currently, he also teaches for the Curriculum for the Environmental and Ecology at UNC-Chapel Hill and has taught for the Nicholas School for the Environment at Duke University. George received a Ph.D. in environmental policy at UNC-Chapel Hill in 2010, where he was the Charles Alphonso Smith Dissertation Fellow, a Royster Society Fellow, an Interdisciplinary Research Fellow, a Future Faculty Fellow, and he received the UNC Tanner Award for Undergraduate Teaching.

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