

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Theme #3: Informing research to advance policy

Research and data are necessary to make effective decisions and policies. Research can help identify contributing factors to disproportionate environmental health impacts for minority and low-income populations and also highlight opportunities to address these disparities. Research also is important in validating conceptual models and developing analytical methods for assessing and addressing disproportionate environmental health impacts. Data gaps and research needs are a common thread through several sessions at the Symposium. Three sessions in particular provide ample opportunity for focused discussions about the types of data and research that are needed to facilitate the incorporation of environmental justice considerations in decision making.

Related Sessions

March 18, 2010

8:45 – 10:15 a.m. Plenary 2: Health Disparities and the Environment

Session Panel Moderator: **Harold Zenick**, Director, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, EPA

Panel Speakers:

Paula Braveman, Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, School of Medicine, and Director, Center on Social Disparities in Health, University of California, San Francisco

Rachel Morello-Frosch, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management, College of Natural Resources, and School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley

Howard Frumkin, Special Assistant to the Director for Climate Change and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

John Ruffin, National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health (NIH)

10:30 – 12:00 p.m. Concurrent Breakout Sessions

- Social Epidemiological Concepts and Methods for Assessing and Addressing Environmental Health Disparities

Purpose: To introduce and illustrate analytical methods relevant to investigating the joint contributions of physical and social environments to health disparities and discuss how these approaches can enhance our understanding of upstream factors contributing to inequities in environmental health and inform prevention strategies.

Session Chair: **Ana V. Diez-Roux**, Professor, Epidemiology, and Director, Center for Integrative Approaches to Health Disparities, Center for Social Epidemiology and Population Health, Robert

Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholars Program, and Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan School of Public Health

[Investigating how physical and social environments jointly contribute to health disparities: concepts and methods from social epidemiology](#)

Speakers:

Mahasin S. Mujahid, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, Martin Sisters Endowed Chair in Medical Research and Public Health, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley

Basile Chaix, Faculty of Medicine, University Pierre et Marie Curie-Paris, Saint-Antoine
[Modeling effects of the social and physical environment on health: a spatial perspective](#)

Theresa L. Osypuk, Assistant Professor, Bouve College of Health Sciences, Northeastern University

March 19, 2010

*8:45 – 10:00 a.m. **Plenary 3: Research and Data Needs for Assessing and Addressing Disproportionate Environmental Health Impacts Among Minority and Disadvantaged Populations***

*Session Panel Moderator: **Sherry Baron***, Coordinator for Priority Populations and Health Disparities, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Speakers:

Gwen W. Collman, Interim Director, Division of Extramural Research and Training, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH

Jennifer D. Parker, Office of Analysis and Epidemiology, National Center for Health Statistics, CDC

Steve Wing, Associate Professor, Epidemiology, Gillings School of Global Public Health, University of North Carolina School of Public Health

Ana V. Diez-Roux, Professor, Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of Michigan, and Director, Center for Integrative Approaches to Health Disparities

Gail C. Christopher, Vice President, W.K. Kellogg Foundation