Panelists for the Roundtable Discussion for Utilities on A Compendium of U.S. Wastewater Surveillance to Support COVID-19 Public Health Response

October 26, 2021

Dr. Leonardo Angelone

Dr. Leonardo Angelone is the Deputy Director of the Office of Translational Initiatives and Program Innovations (OTIPI) at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Dr. Angelone serves as the program lead of the "RADx-rad Wastewater Detection of SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19)" program, as part of the NIH Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics (RADX) initiative, launched to speed innovation in the development, commercialization, and implementation of technologies for COVID-19 testing. Prior to joining NIDA, Dr. Angelone has served for over 9 years at the FDA Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH), where he led a program that investigated the effects of electromagnetic energy generated by medical devices on the human body. Dr. Angelone has completed a "Laurea" (Dr.) in Electrical Engineering from University of Rome "Sapienza", a Ph.D in Biomedical Engineering from Tufts University (Medford, MA), and a Research Fellowship from the Department of Radiology, Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Zuzana Bohrerova

Dr. Zuzana Bohrerova, MPH serves as a Research Specialist in the Department of Civil, Environmental and Geodetic Engineering at the Ohio State University and as the Associate Director of the Ohio Water Resources Center (WRC). Dr. Bohrerova got her Masters of Public Health at the Ohio State University, Masters and PhD at the Mendel University in agricultural engineering and post doctorate at Duke University in environmental engineering. Her research focus is on drinking water and wastewater treatment, including but not limited to microbial disinfection and recovery. She is also involved in variety of projects that evaluate reservoir management for harmful algal blooms. In addition to research, she teaches and participates in outreach and educational events in the state, focusing on water treatment.

Dr. Kartik Chandran

Dr. Kartik Chandran is a Professor of Environmental Engineering at Columbia University. Chandran's work is enabled by harnessing the biochemical and metabolic potential of microbial communities and developing appropriate technologies towards addressing global societal needs. His fundamental work focuses on managing the global nitrogen cycle and its links to the carbon, water, and energy cycles. His applied work ranges from large-scale centralized wastewater treatment systems to community-scale decentralized resource-recovery systems and technologies across the globe. He received a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship in 2015. Dr. Chandran is a co-contributor to the National Academies report on Grand Challenges in Environmental Engineering for the Twenty-first Century.

Dr. Jay Garland

Dr. Jay Garland joined the EPA's Office of Research and Development in 2011. Dr. Garland received a Ph.D. in Environment Science from the University of Virginia and spent over 20 years working on NASA's efforts to develop closed, bioregenerative life support systems for extended human spaceflight. NASA recognized him for innovative technical achievements four separate times. He has worked on a range of topics, including methods for microbial community analysis, factors affecting survival of human associated pathogens, and various biological approaches for recycling wastes. Dr. Garland has completed visiting fellowships and professorships at the Institute for Environment Sciences in Japan, the University of Innsbruck in Austria, and the University of Buenos Aires in Argentina. His current efforts focus on advancing innovative approaches to water infrastructure, including decentralized water reuse, and mitigating risks associated with antimicrobial resistance in the water cycle.

Dr. Raul Gonzalez

Dr. Raul Gonzalez is an Environmental Scientist at Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) in southeast Virginia where he applies molecular methods to manmade infrastructure and their adjacent waters. Raul's current projects use DNA-based markers for a variety of applications, including identifying compromised sewer infrastructure and quantifying pathogen removal of various wastewater and water reuse treatment trains.

Dr. Anna Mehrotra

Dr. Anna Mehrotra is a wastewater specialist with over 16 years of experience as an engineer, researcher, policy analyst, and teacher. She is a licensed PE with an MS in environmental engineering science from Stanford University, a PhD in civil/environmental engineering from UC Berkeley, and substantial practical knowledge gained from implementing a wide variety of wastewater treatment design and wastewater surveillance projects. Anna is currently the Director for the Water Environment Federation's National Wastewater Surveillance System Program. She oversees training, collaboration, pilot testing, and other activities focused on strengthening relationships between wastewater utilities and public health entities, advancing the practice of wastewater surveillance, and expanding participation in the CDC's National Wastewater Surveillance System.

Dr. Lauren Stadler

Dr. Lauren Stadler is an Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Rice University. Dr. Stadler is an environmental engineer whose research focuses on wastewater-based epidemiology, environmental antibiotic resistance, wastewater and resource recovery, and environmental synthetic biology. She has been collaborating with the Houston Health Department since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic to develop methods, implement, and operationalize a city-wide wastewater monitoring system that informs public health action in real-time.