



## EAGLETON SCIENCE AND POLITICS WORKSHOP

### *Communicating Risk Regarding Science and Health: Lead Toxicity and Public Policy*

April 18, 2018

#### ABOUT THE EAGLETON INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

The Eagleton Institute of Politics explores state and national politics through research, education, and public service, linking the study of politics with its day-to-day practice. The Institute focuses attention on how the American political system works, how it changes, and how it might work better. Areas of interest include: state government and politics; public opinion polling and survey research; women's political participation; public safety and community resilience; minority and immigrant political behavior; governors; campaigns, elections and political parties; ethics; science and politics; civic education and political engagement; young elected leaders and youth political participation; and New Jersey politics. Eagleton offers education programs including an undergraduate certificate, graduate fellowships, research assistantships and internships, and opportunities to interact with political practitioners.

#### ABOUT IJOBS

The Rutgers University iJOBS Program exposes life science PhD students and postdocs to a range of non-academic career options and empowers them to pursue their career goals. In 2014 Rutgers became 1 of only 17 schools in the country to be awarded an National Institutes of Health BEST grant and iJOBS programming has now expanded to all campuses of Rutgers as well as Princeton, Rowan, NJ Institute of Technology and Stevens Institute of Technology. Professional development is accomplished through a mix of formal academic instruction including the Communicating Science course, workshops, site visits, interaction with successful professionals in the chosen fields and professional mentoring.

#### PROGRAM SUPPORT

The 2017-2018 Eagleton Science and Politics Workshop series is offered in collaboration with the following partners (list in formation): The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers Biomedical & Health Sciences; Departments of Neuroscience & Cell Biology and Pediatrics, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School; Division of Life Sciences; Rutgers School of Graduate Studies; Office of the Executive Dean, Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences; The Rutgers University iJOBS program, which is funded by a Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training grant from the NIH.

**EAGLETON SCIENCE AND POLITICS WORKSHOP**  
*Communicating Risk Regarding Science and Health: Lead Toxicity and Public Policy*  
April 18, 2018

EAGLETON SCIENCE AND POLITICS WORKSHOP STEERING COMMITTEE

Janet Alder, PhD  
Associate Professor and Assistant Dean for  
Graduate Academic and Student Affairs  
Rutgers School of Graduate Studies

Ruth B. Mandel, PhD  
Director, Eagleton Institute of Politics  
Board of Governors Professor of Politics

Megan Anderson Brooks, PhD  
Vice President, Cavarocchi, Ruscio, Dennis  
Eagleton Fellow, 2013

James H. Millonig, PhD  
Associate Professor and Senior Associate Dean  
Rutgers School of Graduate Studies

Randi Chmielewski  
Manager, Outreach and Special Projects  
Eagleton Institute of Politics

John Weingart  
Associate Director  
Eagleton Institute of Politics

Emanuel DiCicco-Bloom, MD  
Professor, Neuroscience & Cell Biology and Pediatrics  
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

**EAGLETON SCIENCE AND POLITICS WORKSHOP**  
*Communicating Risk Regarding Science and Health: Lead Toxicity and Public Policy*  
April 18, 2018

SPEAKER BIOS

**DANIEL J. VAN ABS, PHD, PP/AICP**

Associate Professor of Practice for Water, Society & Environment  
Department of Human Ecology, SEBS, Rutgers University  
<https://www.danvanabs.com/>

---

Daniel Van Abs is an associate professor of Practice for Water, Society & Environment at Rutgers University, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, where he focuses on planning and management policy for water infrastructure, water supply, wastewater and watershed protection. Previously, he was senior director for planning & science with the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (NJ), where he managed staff efforts regarding implementation of the Highlands Regional Master Plan. He has also served as director of watershed protection for the New Jersey Water Supply Authority for over eight years; with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for twelve years, six as manager for statewide water resources planning; and as technical director of the Passaic River Coalition for four years. He holds a Ph.D. in environmental science from SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry. He is a licensed professional planner in New Jersey and former chair of the New Jersey Clean Water Council. Dr. Van Abs is co-editor with Karen O'Neill of a new Rutgers University Press book (June 2016) *Taking Chances: The Coast After Sandy*. He holds a B.S. in environmental studies from Rutgers University, Cook College, and a Ph.D. in environmental science from SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry in association with Syracuse University.

**BRIAN BUCKLEY, PHD**

Executive Director of Laboratories and Associate Director of Administration  
Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute, Rutgers University  
<https://eohsi.rutgers.edu/eohsi-directory/name/brian-buckley/>

---

Dr. Brian Buckley is the executive director of Laboratories at the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute at Rutgers University. Dr Buckley is an NIEHS Center Facility core director, a member of the graduate faculty of the Rutgers Environmental Sciences Department and the Joint Graduate Program in Toxicology, as well as the School of Public health. He serves as an editorial member of several reputed journals including the Journal of Environmental and Public Health and the Global Journal of Analytical Chemistry. He has authored more than 50 research articles and book chapters, and has served on multiple review panels for NIH and EPA FIFRA. Currently his research focus is on analytical mass spectrometric methods development and modification to measure environmental contaminants and their metabolites. He received his B.S. in chemistry from the University of New Hampshire in 1983 his Ph.D. in analytical chemistry from North Carolina State University in 1989, in addition to completing a postdoctoral fellowship at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

**DEBORAH M. SPITALNIK, PHD**

Professor of Pediatrics, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Executive Director, The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities

[http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/departments\\_institutes/boggscenter/faculty\\_staff/spitalnik.html](http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/departments_institutes/boggscenter/faculty_staff/spitalnik.html)

---

Deborah M. Spitalnik, Ph.D. is a professor of pediatrics at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, and the founding executive director of The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities, New Jersey's federally designated University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service. Appointed by President Obama to the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities, Dr. Spitalnik is immediate past chair of the national Council on Quality and Leadership, previously served as a member and chair of PCPID, and is past president of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities. Chair of New Jersey's Medical Assistance Advisory Council, a former trustee of Children's Specialized Hospital, and serving on numerous state and national committees, she provides extensive consultation to families, policy makers, state agencies, and service providers. Course director for the Seminar on Family Centered Care and Developmental Disabilities, Dr. Spitalnik educates a wide range of constituencies and disciplines, including people with disabilities and their families, medical students, resident physicians, direct support professionals, and social workers. In her efforts to promote inclusive communities, her work has focused on the intersection between individuals and public policy. She is a co-author of two editions of the classification manual in Intellectual Disability. Dr. Spitalnik holds degrees from Brandeis University, Harvard University, and Temple University, and was a Maternal and Child Fellow at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children.

**WILLIAM K. HALLMAN, PHD**

Chair, Department of Human Ecology, SEBS, Rutgers University

Professor, Department of Nutritional Sciences and Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

<http://humanecology.rutgers.edu/faculty.asp?fid=28>

---

William K. Hallman is a professor and chair of the Department of Human Ecology and is a member of the graduate faculty of the Department of Nutritional Sciences, and of the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Dr. Hallman's research examines public perceptions of controversial issues concerning food, health, and the environment. Recent research projects have looked at consumer perceptions and behaviors concerning genetically modified foods, animal cloning, avian influenza, accidental and intentional food contamination incidents, and food recalls. His current research projects include studies of public perceptions and responses to food safety risks, the safety of fresh meat, poultry, game, and seafood products purchased on the Internet, the use of nanotechnology in food, and public understanding of health claims made for food products. Dr. Hallman serves on the Executive Committee of Rutgers Against Hunger (RAH), and helped to found the New Brunswick Community Farmers Market, which offers food insecure residents access to fresh, locally grown, affordable, nutritious, and culturally appropriate produce and other food products. Dr. Hallman formerly served as the director of the Food Policy Institute (FPI) at Rutgers, and currently serves as the chair of the Risk Communication Advisory Committee of the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). He is a 1983 graduate of Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania and earned his PhD. in experimental psychology from the University of South Carolina in 1989.

## **ITZHAK YANOVITZKY, PHD**

Associate Professor of Communication, Rutgers School of Communication and Information  
Communication Area Coordinator, School of Communication and Information Ph.D. Program

<https://comminfo.rutgers.edu/yanovitzky-itzhak>

---

Itzhak Yanovitzky is an expert in the areas of strategic health communication, including persuasion, social marketing, and campaigns; knowledge transfer; and program evaluation. He has over 20 years of experience working with individual and institutional stakeholders in the public health sector to develop, implement, and evaluate strategic communication programs. Much of Yanovitzky's current research work is focused on enhancing the capacity of individuals and communities to acquire and use the information, tools, and resources they need to initiate, implement, and support sustainable change (whether individual or social). He is also an associate member of the faculty of the Rutgers School of Public Health. He received his B.A. in sociology and political science, and M.A. in sociology, from the University of Haifa, Israel. He holds a Ph.D. in communication from the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania