

**Week One**  
**January 19**

**“From BPA to Phthalates to PFAS: How Environmental Chemicals Are Harming Our Health and What We Can Do About It”**

**Laura N. Vandenberg**, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, School of Public Health & Health Sciences and Professor, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts – Amherst

Register to receive Zoom info: <https://forms.gle/xQSh8r3sdizn8MDU8>

Endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) are chemicals that alter the actions of hormones. In recent years experts from medical, scientific, and environmental activist groups have demanded action from regulatory agencies to protect present and future generations from the harm induced by EDC exposures. These demands are based on strong evidence from epidemiology, wildlife, and controlled laboratory studies. In this talk Dr. Vandenberg will discuss some environmental chemicals that have received a lot of attention in recent years including BPA, phthalates, PFAS (forever chemicals), and others. She'll share with you the conclusions drawn by experts from different scientific and medical disciplines and discuss recent findings that have changed the landscape of EDC work. The need to expand our understanding of vulnerable periods of life, and the increasing concern that traditional methods used to evaluate toxicity of environmental chemicals are insufficient for EDCs will also be discussed. Finally she'll argue that regulatory agencies have failed to protect us, but collaborative science can help to address these gaps.



Dr. Vandenberg's laboratory research focuses on how low-level exposures to endocrine disrupting chemicals, and, in particular, compounds that mimic estrogens, can induce disease. She is especially interested in the effects of estrogenic compounds on breast cancer and works to determine when individuals are most susceptible to these exposures. Outside of the lab her research critically evaluates issues that affect risk and hazard assessments for endocrine disrupting chemicals including low-dose effects, critical windows of susceptibility, routes of exposure, and testing methods. She is an author on more than 115 peer-reviewed papers and 15 book chapters.

Week Two  
January 26

**“Multispectral Imaging Uncovers Long-Lost Historical Texts and Artifacts’ Hidden Features”**

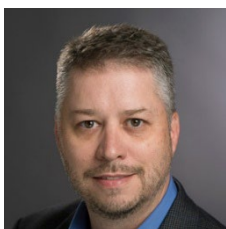
**David Messinger**, Ph.D., Professor, and the Xerox Chair in Imaging Science at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)

Register to receive Zoom info: <https://forms.gle/tfyo6mgYUbtER1sm8>



A significant amount of recorded history was written, or drawn, by hand using available materials such as papyrus, animal skin for parchment, and various minerals, plants, and other items to produce inks and pigments. However due to such impactful issues as the passage of time, water or mold damage, or intentional erasure, much of that material is lost to visual inspection; we can no longer see it. Since the mid-1990s faculty, staff, and students in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science at RIT have been developing and using advanced imaging systems to aid scholars in the study of culturally and historically

significant artifacts such as manuscripts and maps. Dr. Messinger will present some of this work using multispectral imaging (camera systems that image in 10s of colors, collecting light outside the sensitivity of the human visual system) to study cultural heritage artifacts. By collecting images using visible, ultraviolet, and infrared light, and by using advanced image processing techniques, (sometimes) we can bring text and other features back to visibility, allowing scholars the chance to study these long-lost texts. We have imaged artifacts in libraries, archives, and museums around the world, including at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the Vatican, St. Catherine’s Monastery on Mt. Sinai, and many other places. He will introduce the technology and focus on results from several medieval manuscripts and the Gough Map of Great Britain, c. 1390 whose origin, creator, and methods of cartography are largely unknown.



Dr. Messinger received a BS in Physics from Clarkson University and a Ph.D. in Physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He has been principal investigator on approximately \$8M in externally sponsored research funding, has published over 150 scholarly articles, and has served as primary advisor for over 35 MS and Ph.D. students. His personal research focuses on projects related to spectral image analysis using physics-based approaches and advanced mathematical techniques. Applications of this research have ranged from airborne and space-based imaging for national security, archeology, and disaster response, to cultural heritage imaging of historical artifacts such as manuscripts and maps.

Week Three  
February 2

**“A Woman Builds a Brewery”**

**Jennifer Newman**, CEO/Co-Owner, Young Lions Brewery Company (YLBC), Canandaigua, NY

Register to receive Zoom info: <https://forms.gle/dbzQt5VDeVmMJaA49>



With a longstanding passion for craft beers and the craft brewing industry, Ms. Newman tried her hand at homebrewing but quickly realized her taste for the craft didn't translate into tasty beers. So, at YLBC, she leaves the brewing to the masters but takes the lead from the trenches as head business maven.

Ms. Newman, founder of the Young Lion project (August 2015), assumes all operational responsibilities including strategic planning, vendor relations, HR, budgeting, licensing, strategy, sales, and, of course, beer tasting. Before fulfilling her dream to launch a brewery, she

worked for more than 20 years in business, initially as a business analyst (Price Waterhouse LLP, Scholastic, Cox Communications, and LiDestri Foods) before co-founding three successful start-ups: DbSecure, Application Security, and Techrigy.

**Week 4**

**February 9**

**“Your Fine-Art Purchase: Is It a Fortune or a Fake?”**

**Roslyn Bakst Goldman**, AAA Certified Appraiser and Past-President of the Appraisers Association of America

Register to receive Zoom info: <https://forms.gle/hWhrmsnx2tCkkhei6>

In recent years astonishing sales have tumbled out of auction houses like Christie’s and Sotheby’s. Art values and the quantity of works sold has continued to grow. The art market posts record-high prices and a higher global turnover of art. Some collectors think the “boom” will go on and on, but it can’t, and it won’t. Recent changes in the marketplace, the insurance industry, and the IRS all are going to impact the art market. The emergence of stolen art also will play a role. What can consumers do to protect their works of art? Ms. Goldman will cover the method necessary for executing an art appraisal, the qualifications of an appraiser, the reason for doing the work, the information needed for accuracy, the necessary research, and how it is done. She’ll also explain what is required from the client, what appears in the final document in a valid report, and what the cost is.



Roslyn Bakst Goldman is a nationally recognized appraiser who is based in Rochester, NY. She specializes in fine art and assesses original prints, paintings, drawing and sculpture, and other objects. She catalogues, manages, conserves, and frames collections.

**Week Five**  
**February 16**

**“Demystifying Hospice and Palliative Care”**

**Nina Can, RN, BSN and Megan Crowe, LMSW**

Rochester Regional Health (RRH) Home Care and Hospice Care

Register to receive Zoom info: <https://forms.gle/NMWDaaFBjA7Qqp327>

Hearing the word “hospice” from a healthcare provider can be scary and frightening. This presentation aims to dispel the many myths surrounding hospice and palliative care by exploring these philosophies of care through objective information. Understanding hospice and palliative care before it is needed can prepare participants to make confident healthcare decisions for themselves and their loved ones when the time arises.



Nina Can, RN, graduated with a BSN from St. John Fisher’s Wegmans School of Nursing in 2011. She has been working in hospice with Lifetime Care (now RRH Home Care and Hospice Care) since 2014. She is currently the team supervisor for the hospice and palliative team for Eastern Monroe County.



Megan Crowe, LMSW, graduated in 2016 the University of Pittsburgh with an MSW. She worked for Elite Home Health and Hospice doing home visits in Idaho and Washington state from 2016-2019. She began working for Lifetime Care (now RRH Home Care and Hospice Care) upon her return to NY in 2019. She currently sees patients at the Hildebrandt Hospice Care Center and supports hospice community social workers as a team lead.

**Week Six**  
**February 23**

**“From Rochester to the Raiders and Beyond”**

**Marc Badain**, Former President of the Las Vegas (formerly Los Angeles) Raiders

Register to receive Zoom info: <https://forms.gle/MSEwELhX48SPMK7Y6>



Well-timed with the decision to build a new stadium for the Buffalo Bills in Western New York, just one hour away from Rochester, Osher welcomes Marc Badain, a nationally recognized “stadium builder.” Seven years ago the Raiders hired Mr. Badain as team president and charged him to secure a new home for the Raiders in Las Vegas to replace the one the team left in Oakland. In June 2022 he took the lead in creating a new home for a new National Basketball Association team in Las Vegas, Nevada. He is currently with the Oak View Group that is poised to build an expansion team’s stadium together with a casino and hotel in Las Vegas.

**Week Seven**

**March 2**

**“Robots & Tai Chi?”**

**Zhi Zheng**, Assistant Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Kate Gleason College of Engineering at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)

Register to receive Zoom info: <https://forms.gle/PPb2ZkRLKwsatnDq8>



Dr. Zheng is part of a cross-disciplinary team at RIT’s Intelligent Interaction Research Lab. The team’s project uses artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics to help older adults and others stay active and improve their cognitive function, especially those with multiple chronic conditions.

Dr. Zheng explains that the use of “robots as facilitators” is a growing area of research which already has advanced into community-based field studies. Currently Dr. Zheng’s lab is programming a commercially available, human-like device to give cognitive and physical instruction; specifically, the robot will teach Tai Chi. This mind-body exercise was chosen for its popularity and its use of patterned gestures of physical movement, meditation, and breathing which have been found to benefit longevity, memory, and learning.

Dr. Zheng received her BS (2008) in Biomedical Engineering and her MS (2011) in Pattern Recognition and Intelligent Systems from Xidian University, a public research university in China. She received her MS (2013) and Ph.D. (2016) in Electrical Engineering from Vanderbilt University.

**Week Eight**

**March 9**

**“Little Ambassadors: The ‘Kodakids’ of World War II“**

**Mary Jo Lanphear**, Brighton, NY Town Historian

Register to receive Zoom info: <https://forms.gle/q8YP5B8dFSbnq1Lf6>



One of the most, if not the most, emotionally wrenching decisions made by the British government during World War II was to relocate its children out of urban centers to areas where the risk of bombing attacks was low or non-existent. “Operation Pied Piper” evacuated, and then shipped, nearly three million children to rural regions in Britain as well as to Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States. It was the largest and most concentrated population movement in British history. US corporations and private relief organizations arranged for thousands of children to stay in this country. Employees of Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, NY, among others, volunteered to take children of employees from its British subsidiaries. Mary Jo Lanphear will tell the story of

these “KodaKids”, who became Britain’s ambassadors.



Mary Jo Lanphear, Brighton Town Historian since 1986, collects, organizes, and preserves local history materials. She researches, writes, and makes public presentations on aspects of town history, serving as a resource to the community.



**Week Nine**

**March 16**

**“The Parkinson Pandemic”**

**Ray Dorsey**, MD, MBA, Professor of Neurology and Director of the Center for Human Experimental Therapeutics, University of Rochester

Register to receive Zoom info: <https://forms.gle/ZB8HrRPxBpbK6qVF9>

Parkinson's disease (PD) is now the world's fastest growing brain disease. Certain pesticides, industrial chemicals, and air pollutants – all found in Western New York – are likely fueling its rise. Dr. Dorsey is investigating new treatments for movement disorders and is working on ways to improve how care is delivered for individuals with PD and other neurological disorders. Using simple web-based video conferencing, he and his colleagues are seeking to provide care to individuals with PD and neurological diseases. Join us to find out how we can prevent and end Parkinson's disease.



In 2015, the White House recognized Dr. Ray Dorsey as a “Champion for Change” for Parkinson's disease. He is the David M. Levy Professor of Neurology and director of the Center for Human Experimental Therapeutics at the University of Rochester Medical Center (NY). His research has been published in leading medical and neurology journals and has been featured on National Public Radio and in *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. He previously directed Johns Hopkins' Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center and worked as a consultant for McKinsey & Company. He completed his undergraduate studies at Stanford University, business school at the Wharton School, and medical school at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Week 10**

**March 23**

**“Enigmatic Haiti: From Prosperous to Perilous (But Still Hopeful...)”**

**Pépin Accilien, PE**

Register to receive Zoom info: <https://forms.gle/w6UkoXdtEDWVXhqx6>

Three hundred years ago, Haiti was the “Pearl of the Antilles,” the “Jewel of the Caribbean”, and the wealthiest colony in the world, importing coffee, sugar, cocoa, cotton, and indigo, among others, with enslaved West Africans providing the labor for these products. Today Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. When the 2010 earthquake devastated the country, claiming 300,000 lives, Pépin Accilien left his engineering practice in Rochester, NY to work in Haiti rebuilding schools, fire stations, housing, disaster shelters, and as a volunteer for the US Agency for International Development. Join us to learn about his experiences.



Pépin Accilien is Vice-President of Savin Engineers, P.C. serving Western, Central, and the Finger Lakes areas of NY. He also has held numerous engineering positions in New York City. He grew up in Port-au-Prince, studied engineering at New York City College of Technology, and continued his studies at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. He participates in Engineers without Borders, Construction Management Association of America, and the Rochester Section of the American

Society of Civil Engineers.