ISIAQ Mentorship Program is Active!

ISIAQ is happy to announce that, thanks to our Student representative Sarah Lima Paralovo, five pairs of mentor-mentee have been successfully paired this year.

The pairings are:
- Prof. Jeffrey Siegel (Canada)/Jie Yin (U.S.A.)
- Dr. Jiping Zhu (Canada)/Elena Christopher-Allison (U.S.A.)
- Prof. Glenn Morrison (U.S.A.)/Pradeep Ramasubramanian (U.S.A.)
- Dr. Andrew Persily (U.S.A.)/Peihua Wang (China)
- Prof. Jeffrey Siegel (Canada)/Dr. Mattia Pierpaoli (Italy)

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or being mentored, click here for more information.

Chapter Activities: ISIAQ News from the NL Chapter

In April 2019, ISIAQ.nl organized its annual Spring Symposium on “Indoor Environment in Schools.” The symposium was organized together with Delft University of Technology. It was very well attended with around 70 professionals from different backgrounds, including governance and occupational health professionals.

The four invited speakers highlighted different aspects of issues related to indoor environment in school buildings:

- Froukje van Dijken: Fresh schools approach from Municipality Rotterdam - How one of Dutch largest municipalities is dealing with the ambition to create healthy and comfortable indoor environment in 200 schools.
- Philomena Bluyssen: Self-reported health and comfort of school children - Results of the research about the indoor environment in more than 50 Dutch primary schools.
- Piet Jacobs: Pilot in existing school with mechanical ventilation, dew point cooling and electrostatic air filtering - What kind of technologies can be used for ventilation and cooling of a school building next to busy road.
- Chrit Cox: Experiences as a designer - What kind of problems face a designer who wants to create a healthy and comfortable indoor environment in schools.

Moreover, all the participants got the opportunity to visit the SenseLab, a playground for the senses, that has been initiated and is run by Prof. Philomena Bluyssen. Some of the participants even took part in an experiment as a test person (this research was not related to school
buildings).

In October 2018, ISIAQ.nl, in collaboration with BBA Binnenmiliieu, organized an expert meeting about polyurethane. The aim of the meeting was to gather knowledge about polyurethane and its possible health effects, and to gain insight into applicability: advantages and disadvantages. This meeting was attended by 20 experts and professionals interested in this topic. There were two invited speakers. Andre Meesters (Director of The Dutch Association of Polyurethane Rigid Foam Manufacturers) and Jan Bakker (Clinical occupational physician) shared their insights with us.

ISIAQ.nl aims to organize one symposium and one expert meeting per year. Next spring symposium will focus on indoor environment in renovated dwellings.

EU Scientific Network on IAQ

INDAIRPOLLNET (INDoor AIR POLLution NET work) is a new EU COST Action network that will improve the understanding of the conditions and processes that cause high concentrations of indoor air pollutants.

The network consists of more than 140 scientists from 37 countries, who are experts in chemistry, biology, standardization, household energy, particulate matter characterization, toxicology, exposure assessment, air cleaning, building materials (including those manufactured specifically to improve IAQ such as bio-based composites and green materials), building physics and engineering (including ventilation and energy) and building design.

The network will facilitate knowledge exchange between indoor and outdoor air chemists (e.g. for measurement techniques, field campaign organization and analysis of results) where relevant, but with consideration of related and relevant disciplines (e.g. building physics, design and operation) to design indoor field studies that are relevant for a wide range of buildings. This action aims to significantly advance the field of indoor air pollution science, to train a new generation of Early Career Investigators (ECIs), to highlight future research areas and to bridge the gap between research and business to identify appropriate mitigation strategies that optimize IAQ. The findings will be disseminated directly to relevant stakeholders such as architects, building engineers, building managers, property developers, urban planners and instrument manufacturers.

More information is available from the Action Chair, Nicola Carslaw and on the website.

A New Extensive Research Program on Indoor Chemistry

The ICHEAR (Indoor Chemical Human Emissions and Reactivity) project, coordinated by Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, Swedish Environmental Research Institute, and Technical University of Denmark, and supported by the Sloan Foundation, started its experiments last March. Thanks to multiple performant on-line monitoring equipment, the ICHEAR project will comprehensively characterize the chemical impact of human beings.

For more information, visit the project website.
Job Position Open for a Short-Term Scientific Mission on Nanostructured Materials for Detection and Removal of VOCs from Indoor Environment

This mission will start from 1 September 2019 for 3 months, at the National Research Center of Italy (CNR) in Palermo.

The aim of the scientific work at ISMN-CNR of Palermo is to prepare and characterize nanostructured materials containing supported Au, Pd, Pt nanoparticles with tailored particle size and metal support interaction with the aim to obtain active components of VOC sensors with high selectivity and enhanced sensitivity with respect to commercial sensors.

Interested PhD students or postdoctoral fellows should contact Dr. Leonardo Liotta directly.