



CAES

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

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CAES SEMINAR SERIES

“Mold exposure and health: Why has it become more of a concern?

What does exposure mean to health?

What have we learned about added risks, as communities recover from catastrophic weather?”



Paula Schenck, MPH

Director of Indoor Environments and Health Programs
UConn Health, Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
Farmington, CT

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

Food and coffee will be available at 11:45 a.m.

Jones Auditorium

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT

After a career as an environmental consultant that included serving as vice president for a private sector environmental firm, Paula Schenck entered the public health arena with interest in how human disease could be ameliorated and/or possibly prevented by addressing the environment. With others she established the Center for Indoor Environments and Health to focus specific strengths within UConn on this objective. She developed multiple initiatives directed at improving indoor environments in schools and offices. She has provided technical support and evaluation on healthy homes efforts. Paula provided a series of mold and moisture trainings at cities around the country and as course director developed a web-based course for clinicians. Specific to the concerns of indoor exposures subsequent to climate change and storm events, she currently is principal investigator of “Recovery from catastrophic weather: mold exposure and health-related training,” a CDC/NIOSH funded grant designed to improve agency, medical, construction worker and the public’s knowledge and actions to address consequences of mold exposure on health. Recent relevant publications and presentations include a 2012 book chapter on effective health risk communication concerning excessive indoor moisture or mold, and presentations at the 2014 and 2015 New England College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine annual meetings. She was a featured speaker on “Resolving an IAQ Complaint: Health issues” and facilitated an afternoon workshop “To Test or Not to Test (IAQ assessments where microbial and chemical contaminants are a concern)” at The 2016 Maine Indoor Air Quality Council Northeast Indoor Air Quality & Energy Conference. At the UConn Occupational Medicine clinic, Paula is called upon to provide guidance on environmental and/or workplace interventions as part of patient treatment. At UConn, she teaches Environmental Health, instructs in the Masters in Public Health program, and is a seminar leader on asthma and environment and coordinates segments on occupational health at the UConn School of Medicine. She authored two patents relative to research on algal physiology, completed early in her career.

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