

Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellows 2003 Winter Biographical Sketches



Camelia Arsene (Winter 2003, DBASSE/BCYF) completed her master's degree in health sciences at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, her MD at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy Carol Davila, her PhD in medicine at the University of Warwick and her medical residency in the United Kingdom. She was a fellow at the University of Oxford and University of London and a clinical lecturer at the University of Birmingham. At the moment she works for Detroit Medical Center. (Updated 10/2011)



Aimee Egler (Winter 2003, NAS/OPUS) is a research professor in the Center for Pharmaceutical Biotechnology at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She researches how various types of foods can help prevent diseases, including cancer, neurodegenerative disorders, and arthritis. Her primary research interest is in the signal transduction mechanism of the key components from foods. Aimee enjoys spending time in nature with her husband, her daughter and the dog, Buddy. (Updated 3/2010)

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Karl Galle (Winter 2003, PGA/BISO) is a foreign service officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and is currently posted in Cairo, Egypt. He first came to the National Academies as a Mirzayan Fellow with the Board on International Scientific Organizations, after which he joined the Institute of Medicine and worked as a research associate for the Office of the President and the Board on Global Health. He then spent two years as a AAAS Diplomacy Fellow at the U.S. Department of State, working first for the Afghanistan office, where he covered issues related to counternarcotics programs, police training, border and customs reforms, and a range of science and health-related areas. During the second year of his AAAS Fellowship, he joined the Cooperative Threat Reduction office, where he supported programs to help scientists and scientific institutes formerly associated with Soviet military programs transition into sustainable, civilian-oriented scientific research. He holds a PhD in the history and philosophy of science from the University of London, a BA in international development from Williams College, and master's degrees in different areas of the history of science and medicine from the University of Chicago and the University of London. (Updated 03/2010)



Sunita Kaushik (Winter 2003, DEPS/NMMB) completed her MS in materials science and engineering at the University of Florida in the summer of 2002. She earned a BE in polymer engineering from the Maharashtra Institute of Technology at the University of Pune in India. She hopes to gain some first-hand experience in conducting research for practical applications. She feels that gaining this experience will help her decide on an area of interest for the research she hopes to pursue in the future. She has been working in the area of radiation tolerance studies on ceramics for disposal of radioactive waste at the Los Alamos National Laboratories. Earlier as part of her master's program she had been working on designing slurries with highest possible solids loading for chemo-mechanical polishing and rapid prototyping. She has also worked on polymer composites and coatings during the course of her bachelor's degree. She would like to further her knowledge by gaining experience in several other areas including high-performance structural fibers for advanced polymer matrices, managing and disposal of radioactive waste, and manufacturing and processing of materials.



Kim Lundberg (Winter 2003, IOM/BGH) is currently working as a senior research analyst for the Joint Medical Chair for Global Health at the National Defense University. Kim's prior experience includes working as a health and safety data analyst for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Personnel and Readiness, research scientist at Exponent's Health Sciences Center for Toxicology and Mechanistic Biology, and research associate at the Institute of Medicine's Board on Global Health (BGH). During her first year at BGH, Kim worked for the Forum on Microbial Threats on a variety of reports including: *The Impact of Globalization on Infectious Disease Emergence and Control*; *Ensuring an Infectious Disease Workforce*; *Ending the War Metaphor*; *Addressing Foodborne Threats to Health*; and *Ethical and Legal Considerations in Mitigating Pandemic Disease*. During her second year, Kim worked on a Gates-funded consensus study, *Methodological and Regulatory Challenges in HIV Prevention Trials*. Before joining the staff, she was a spring 2003 Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellow with the Board on Global Health. Kim has a M.A. in international science and technology policy from the Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University (GWU), and a M.P.H. in global health / epidemiology from the GWU School of Public Health. She received a B.A. from Franklin and Marshall College in biology and government with a minor in mathematics. (Updated 02/2016)

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J. Bernadette Moore (Winter 2003, IOM/FNB) graduated with her PhD in nutritional sciences from the University of Florida in December 2002. After her Mirzayan Fellowship at the National Academies, she went on to do an NIH intramural postdoctoral fellowship at the NIDDK. In 2005 she seized the opportunity to return to her native country Ireland by way of a Marie Curie Transfer of Knowledge Fellowship and in 2007 she earned a permanent lectureship in molecular nutrition at the University of Surrey and is now living in the UK. (Updated 8/2010)



Elizabeth "Libbie" Prescott (Winter 2003, PGA/STEP) works at the intersection of science, society and international affairs as a Science and Technology Advisor with the Department of State and as adjunct faculty at Georgetown University in the School of Foreign Service Security Studies Program. Previously, she was the Practice Head, Biosecurity at Eurasia Group focusing on the political risk of infectious disease. She has served as an AAAS Congressional Fellow funded by the American Society for Microbiology working with the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions with Senator Edward M. Kennedy and as a Research Fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies-U.S. focusing on biosecurity in the life sciences industry. She spent time with the National Academies Board on Science, Technology & Economic Policy as a Mirzayan Fellow and consulted for the Strategy Division of the National Health Service in the United Kingdom addressing the integration of genetic technologies into clinical practice. She is a former Term Member in the Council on Foreign Relations and an Associate for the Truman National Security Project. Libbie has her doctorate in molecular biology from University of Oxford, Balliol College and dual degrees with high honors in economics and molecular & cellular biology from University of California, Berkeley. (Updated 10/2011)

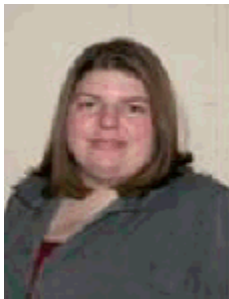


Julie Rider (Winter 2003, DELS/BLS) has been completing her PhD in environmental health sciences and toxicology at The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She earned a BS in biology from Loyola University of Chicago. She has a diverse scientific background in the fields of public health, toxicology, cancer prevention, cancer treatment and oxidative stress. Julie also has extensive teaching experience. During her undergraduate studies, she implemented advanced science education courses in the Chicago public school system and designed and directed summer science programs for intercity children. She has been involved in both tutoring and counseling undergraduates at The Johns Hopkins University. Julie enjoys the intellectual challenge of research; however, believes her education and interpersonal skills would be better utilized outside the bench science arena. She is interested in a career where she could be involved in the translation of advanced scientific research into medicine, education and policy. She had hoped her Mirzayan Fellowship with the Board on Life Sciences provided an opportunity to gain exposure to the policy creation process, work with others in a group environment, and ultimately allow her to use her skills to help others outside of the academic arena.

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Virginia Rutter (Winter 2003, PGA/CWSEM) has been working at the intersection of academia, policy, and media for two decades: first in D.C. with Congress and at a mental health organization, and then during and after her PhD at the University of Washington as a sociologist translating academic ideas to general audiences and students. The author of two books (*The Gender of Sexuality* and *The Love Test*, both with Pepper Schwartz) and numerous articles for *Psychology Today*, Virginia has written on topics including divorce, marriage, gender, sexuality, stepfamilies, adolescence, infidelity, depression, women in science, psychotherapy research, couples therapy, and domestic violence. She gives talks and workshops on representations of gender in the media, and how, why, and when academics should work with the media to gain visibility for their work and has herself been seen and heard in *The Boston Globe*, NPR programs, *The Hartford Courant*, the Associated Press, *Daily Variety*, and various liberal and conservative radio programs. In the past, she has been a co-investigator of the NIH-funded National Couples Survey as a health research scientist at Battelle CPHRE and a public policy fellow at National Academies. Currently she is an associate professor of sociology at Framingham State College, in Framingham, Mass., and a board member of the Council on Contemporary Families. She writes columns on research on gender and work at [Girl with Pen](#), titled “Nice Work.” Virginia completed her PhD in sociology at the University of Washington in 2004 (dissertation: “The Case for Divorce: Under What Conditions is Divorce Beneficial and for Whom?”). She also has a master’s degree in 18th Century British Literature from University of London, Queen Mary College, and a BA in English and Art History from Williams College in Massachusetts. (Updated 09/2010)



Emma Seiler (Winter 2003, NAE/DEW) received her master’s degree in civil engineering from Mississippi State University in December 2002. She earned a BS in biological engineering with an environmental emphasis, also from Mississippi State University. Emma’s passion is piquing the interests of young women to explore science and engineering through a hands-on and unique approach. For example, along with the former outreach coordinator of the Bagley College of Engineering at Mississippi State University, she developed a shoe design activity for her high school girls’ camp. This activity, called The Cinderella Project, involved using the biomechanics of the foot and the engineering design process to create a comfortable and sturdy shoe. Along with designing the shoe, the girls had to develop a marketing plan for their shoe through a PowerPoint presentation. Emma has presented this activity at the Women in Engineering Program Advocates’ Network (WEPAN) International Conference and the Mississippi Science Teachers’ Association Conference. (Updated 4/2009)

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Pamela



Szatanek (Winter 2003, DELS/BASC) is a meteorologist with the National Weather Service at the Field Office in Elko, Nevada. She has been working as a meteorologist for over a decade all over the globe and currently specializes in short-range forecasting for northern Nevada and fire weather forecasting. Pam also does collateral duty with the National Weather Services Incident Meteorologist Program, which focuses on specialized forecasts for emergency responders. Pam conducted her undergraduate studies at SUNY Stony Brook and completed her graduate work at

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Arizona State University. Pam got her very first taste of operational meteorology when she enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps back in 1995 and served in the Weather Occupational Field. Although she's been hooked on science from the time she was three years old, Pam credits the USMC for getting her onto her career track. In her spare time, Pam enjoys long distance running, scuba diving, improvisational comedy and doting on her Dobermans. (Updated 8/2010)



Guoqian Wang (Winter 2003, PGA/STS) is currently the associate operations officer at International Finance Corporation, a part of the World Bank Group. Previously, she was the Climate Change Adviser at Department for International Development (DFID), UK's bilateral development agency, China office. Prior to that, she has explored the private sector (consulting business), multilateral development agency (World Bank in Washington, D.C.) and university position (at Tsinghua University in Beijing) after her Mirzayan Fellowship at The National Academies. However, despite the variety of organisations Guoqian has explored, there is a unifying theme connecting her different roles: early integration and mainstreaming of biophysical, environmental, and scientific considerations in the economic and development planning and decision-making processes for sustainable development and a secured future. This includes technical assistance projects, capacity building programmes (executive and mid-career professional training for timely update and dissemination of latest sustainable development theories and experiences) and analytical research work. She has received dual master's degree in international development & economics (2002) and environmental management (2003) at Yale University and has earned two bachelor's degrees in economics and in computer science and its applications from Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China. (Updated 10/2011)



Maxwell "Max" Wingert (Winter 2003, DEPS/BEES) and Engineering and Environment Program/NAE) has been working towards a PhD in chemical engineering at Ohio State University. Max earned a BS in chemical engineering from the University of Notre Dame. He has exercised leadership ability throughout his academic life. While an undergraduate at the university of Notre Dame, he was a squad leader in the Band of the Fighting Irish and president of the engineering student council. As a graduate student, he is currently serving on his department student council as recruiting officer for the graduate program. He is known in the department not only for co-planning orientation, but also adding a tour of the football stadium to the activities, especially important for those who are too busy in the laboratories to make it out to any games. His personal career goal is to become a leader in corporate research, likely in the field of polymer processing, where he is progressing in research at the Ohio State University. His work is in foam extrusion, and it is part of the NSF sponsored Center for Advanced Polymer and Composite Engineering (CAPCE). In particular, his research involves environmentally benign methods of producing polymeric foams. He is excited about his upcoming fellowship with the National Academies to understand how industry, policy, and academia interact.



Rebecca Zarger (Winter 2003, DBASSE/CHDGC) is an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of South Florida. Dr. Zarger is a cultural anthropologist who conducts research at the interface between environmental anthropology and the anthropology of education and childhood. Her work has explored the ways environmental knowledge and meanings are learned, taught, and transformed in Q'eqchi' and Mopan Maya communities in Belize. Her current NSF-funded project focuses on environmental change over time, incorporating cultural heritage education in Maya communities with a stake in archaeological site development. In Tampa, she works locally on community, urban, and school gardening as a social movement. She has most recently begun research on water scarcity and the power and politics of decision making about water distribution in Tampa Bay as part of an NSF Urban Long-Term Research Area Exploratory (ULTRA-Ex) grant with colleagues at USF. (Updated

9/2010)



CHRISTINE MIRZAYAN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
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