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## IN THE NEWS

AUGUST 2020



### New Grantee Pursuing Sustainable Animal Ag

J-WAFS will support new research to reduce carbon impacts of pig farming through animal feed interventions.

[READ MORE](#)

### Research by J-WAFS' Director Becomes an International Guideline

The International Association for the Properties of Water and Steam recognized John Lienhard and Kishor Nayar SM '14, PhD '19 for their innovation in measuring seawater surface tension.

[READ MORE](#)

### Two J-WAFS PIs Honored for Student Engagement

Lawrence Susskind (DUSP) and Colette Heald (CEE) received the "Committed to Caring" award, which honors MIT faculty who show a strong focus on students' well-being.

[READ MORE](#)

### J-WAFS PI Yogesh Surendranath Receives Tenure

Prof. Surendranath, newly tenured in

### J-WAFS PI Caroline Uhler Receives Tenure

Prof. Uhler, newly tenured in EECS and IDSS, is among eight faculty in the

the Department of Chemistry, is among nine faculty in the School of Science to receive tenure in 2020.

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School of Engineering to receive tenure in 2020.

[READ MORE](#)



## Which Water Bottle is Most Sustainable?

This MITOS analysis evaluates single-use and reusable water bottles from a carbon life cycle perspective.

[READ MORE](#)

## IN-DEPTH LOOK

MIT STUDENT RESEARCH PROFILE

### Engineering Superpowered Organisms for a More Sustainable World

Making corn salt-tolerant by engineering its microbiome. Increasing nut productivity with fungal symbiosis. Cleaning up toxic metals in the water supply with algae. Capturing soil nutrient runoff with bacterial biofilms. These were the bio-sustainability innovations designed and presented by students in the Department of Biological Engineering for their capstone class last May.



The class, co-taught by J-WAFS PI and biological engineering professor Christopher Voigt, challenged students to design biological engineering solutions to water and food security challenges. Find out about the creative solutions developed by this innovative group of undergraduate students in this article by BE alumna Vivian Zhong SB '19.

# EVENTS

FOOD & WATER



## Along the Betwa: Stories on Rivers in Water-scarce Regions

Aug 12 / 11 AM / Online \*Open to the public\*

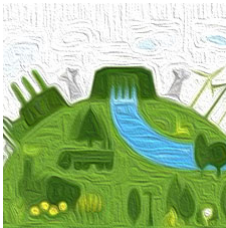
This webinar and virtual photo expedition features stories on rivers in the water-scarce region of the Betwa River in India. [MORE INFO](#)



## Meet the 2020 Martin Fellows for Sustainability

Aug 12 / 10 AM / Online \*MIT only; RSVP by 8/10\*

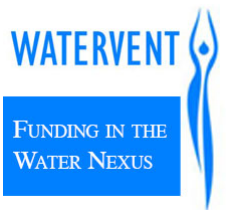
Hear from MIT graduate students whose research is focused on sustainability—including solving water and food systems challenges. [MORE INFO](#)



## GSC Sustainability Solveathon

Aug 19 & Aug 21 / 9-11 AM / Online \*MIT; grad students only\*

Brainstorm sustainability projects to launch in the 2020-2021 academic year with MIT's Graduate Student Council, including water-specific initiatives. [MORE INFO](#)



## WaterVent Webinars

Sept 10 / 6 PM / Online \*Open to all\*

Discuss innovations in clean water and water infrastructure at this corporate venturing forum at the water/tech nexus. [MORE INFO](#)



## People and the Planet: Environmental Governance & Science

MIT Class / Fall Semester / 12.387, 15.874, IDS.063

Join J-WAFS PI Noelle Selin in this Environment & Sustainability Minor core class focused on tools and approaches to advance sustainability. [MORE INFO](#)

# FUNDING

AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

## FoodBytes! Pitch 2020

**Deadline: Aug. 10**

[Open to All](#)

Submit your sustainable food and ag startup pitch to Rabobank's premier discovery and networking program.

[MORE INFO](#)

## Climate Grand Challenges

**Deadline: Sept. 21**

[MIT PIs Only](#)

Submit a letter of interest for funding for multi-disciplinary, multi-year research projects solving significant climate change challenges, including in water and food systems.

[MORE INFO](#)

## Lemelson-MIT Student Prize

**Deadline: Sept. 25**

[Open to All Students](#)

Apply to this nationwide invention competition that honors students who have developed tech-based inventions with tested prototypes, including in the food, water, and ag sectors.

[MORE INFO](#)

## Postdoc in Desalination and Agriculture

**Rolling Deadline**

[Contact Prof. Jack Gilron at \[jgilron@bgu.ac.il\]\(mailto:jgilron@bgu.ac.il\)](#)

PhDs with a background in chemical or environmental engineering and experience in electromembrane processes: apply for a postdoc at Ben-Gurion University to study water desalination systems for agriculture.

# INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING J-WAFS?

When you make a gift, you are making an investment in both the future of J-WAFS and our Institute-wide work to improve the productivity, accessibility, and sustainability of the world's water and food systems.

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**RENEE J. ROBINS**

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J-WAFS is an Institute-wide effort that brings MIT's unique strengths to bear on the many challenges our food and water systems face.

Our program catalyzes MIT research, innovation, and technology for ensuring safe and resilient supplies of water and food while reducing environmental impact, to meet the local and global needs of a rapidly expanding and evolving population on a changing planet.



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