



IN THE NEWS

OCTOBER 2020



Build Your Foundation in Climate and Food Systems

Grow your knowledge about the impact of climate change on food systems in this primer by J-WAFS' Greg Sixt.

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J-WAFS Grant for Sustainable Animal Ag Systems

Apply to the J-WAFS Grant for Transforming Animal Agriculture Systems for new and ongoing research support; up to \$25,000 in awards. *(MIT research community only)*

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J-WAFS Grant Supporting MIT-IIT Ropar Collaborations

Apply to the MIT IIT Ropar Seed Fund and launch collaborative research in water and food systems between MIT and the Indian Institute of Technology Ropar; up to \$30,000 in awards. *(MIT research community only)*

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J-WAFS Video Festival Celebrating World Food Day

On 10/16 at 12 PM, tune in to J-WAFS Twitter feed to view the 2020 winners

New Staff Member Joins J-WAFS

Join us in welcoming Precious Figueroa-Szostek, our new research administration assistant intern.

of the J-WAFS student video competition "[MIT Research for a Food Secure Future](#)."

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Precious is currently pursuing a degree in business administration at Simmons University.

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J-WAFS Researchers Awarded AIChE's "35 Under 35"

The American Institute of Chemical Engineers named ChemE's Karthish Manthiram and Zachary Smith "35 under 35" award winners for 2020.

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Digitizing Supply Chains to Combat Poverty

MIT spinout SourceTrace's software is improving the sustainability and transparency of ag supply chains around the world.

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MIT Tests for Covid Through Wastewater

This on-campus pilot aims to find out if wastewater testing for Covid-19 can provide early signs of virus spread.

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IN-DEPTH LOOK

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

MIT Alumni Tackling Global Challenges in Water and Food

This spring, we (virtually) sat down with five MIT alumni, all once supported by J-WAFS, to learn more about their passion for solving water and food systems challenges. Since graduating, they have launched careers as entrepreneurs, water infrastructure engineers, membranes experts, and international development innovators. In

these conversations, they shared with us how their time at MIT helped to cement their commitment to making a positive impact in the water and food sectors.

Find out more about the unique career paths of these MIT alumni:



Charlene Ren (SM'16, SM '17), founder and director of MyH2O

Kevin Kung (PhD '17), founder and chief technology officer of Takachar

Shreya Dave (PhD '16), chief executive officer of Via Separations

Sarah Nolet (SDM '16), founder of AgThentic; co-founder of Tenacious Ventures

Tiziana Smith (PhD '18), water resources specialist, World Bank

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EVENTS

FOOD & WATER



Imagine H2O Water Innovation Week 2020

[Oct 12-16 / All Day / Online](#)

Gather with industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and investors to explore water sector innovation. (Sponsored by J-WAFS Research Affiliate Xylem, Inc.) [MORE INFO](#)



J-WAFS Video Fest: MIT Research for a Food Secure Future

[Oct 16 / 12-12:30 PM / Online](#)

Celebrate World Food Day by tuning in to J-WAFS' Twitter feed ([@jwafs_mit](#)) to see the winners of this MIT student video competition. [Follow us on Twitter here](#)



MIT Climate Symposium: The Role of Research Universities

[Oct 20 / 2:30 - 4:30 PM / Online](#)

Find out more about how MIT and other research universities are helping to combat the climate crisis and how you can get involved. [MORE INFO](#)



International Water Resources Association Conference

Oct 28-30 / All Day / Online

J-WAFS' Greg Sixt will present on groundwater resilience under climate change at this international conference focused on water resources management. [MORE INFO](#)



NE Residuals and Biosolids Conference: Poster Competition

Oct 29 / 12:30 - 3 PM / Online

Learn about the latest trends in wastewater management, biosolids, and residuals from students in this poster session and competition. [MORE INFO](#)



The Fish Banks Seminar

Oct 29 / 10-1 PM / Online

Join Sloan Sustainability's Jason Jay in this participatory game in which players manage their own fishing companies to achieve a profitable venture. [MORE INFO](#)



Greentown Labs: ClimateTech Summit

Nov 5-6 / All Day / Online

Explore how to scale climate action through water, food, and other sustainability sectors with startups from MIT and beyond. [MORE INFO](#)



Food for Thought: MIT Sustainability Summit (Co-spon. by J-WAFS)

Nov 6 / All Day / Online

Find out about innovations changing the way the world produces, transports, stores, consumes, and disposes of food at this student-run conference. [MORE INFO](#)



Food and Ag Innovation Prize Launch Event (Co-spon. by J-WAFS)

Nov 9 / 7 PM / Online

Join the MIT Food and Ag Club for the Rabobank-MIT Food and Agribusiness Innovation Prize kick-off featuring keynotes, startup pitches, and more. [MORE INFO](#)



A World of Water: Imagining Resilience (Co-sponsored by J-WAFS)

Nov 11-13 / All Day / Online

Join the MIT Water Club for the 2020 Water Summit and explore how water sector concerns connect with visions for sustainable, equitable futures. [MORE INFO](#)

Water Innovation Prize Launch Event (Co-sponsored by J-WAFS)



Nov. 12 / *Time TBD* / Online

Join the MIT Water Club for this food sector student innovation prize kick-off event featuring keynotes, startup pitches, and more. [MORE INFO](#)



MIT Climate Symposium: What is the World Waiting For?

Nov 16 / 2-4 PM / Online

Concluding event in the MIT Climate Action Symposia focusing on U.S. and global climate policymaking and opportunities for systemic change. [MORE INFO](#)

FUNDING

AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

J-WAFS Grant for Transforming Animal Agriculture Systems

Deadline: Oct. 28

MIT Only

Apply for up to \$25,000 to support research aimed at reducing the negative impacts of industrial animal agriculture.

[MORE INFO](#)

MIT IIT-Ropar Seed Fund

Deadline: Dec. 14

MIT Only

Apply for up to \$30,000 to support International collaborations between MIT and the Indian Institute for Technology Ropar (IIT Ropar) focused on water, food, and/or agriculture.

[MORE INFO](#)

Experiential Learning Opportunity in Animal Agriculture

Deadline: Rolling

Open to MIT Undergraduates

Apply to work with MIT postdoc Jasmina Burek on her research to reduce the environmental impact of swine feed.

Contact Jasmina Burek:
jburek@mit.edu

Intern with J-WAFS Research Affiliate Xylem, Inc.

Deadline: Rolling

Open to All Students

Apply to be a project management intern for Project Ignite with Xylem, Inc., a leading global water technology company.

[MORE INFO](#)

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.

[DONATE ONLINE](#)

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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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