



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OCTOBER 2021



J-WAFS PI publishes in ACS Central Science

Ariel Furst and her team developed an engineered microbial technology for the targeted detection and destruction of organophosphate pesticides.

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New, low-cost system removes lead from water

MIT graduate student Huanhuan Tian, a 2020 J-WAFS Fellow for Water Solutions, is part of a team that discovered an energy efficient process to remove lead or other heavy-metal contaminants in water.

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Report warns of looming water crisis

A multi-agency report coordinated by the World Meteorological Organization highlights the need for urgent action to improve cooperative water management and integrated water and climate policies.

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Jameel Observatory combats climate-related food insecurity

Community Jameel, MIT's J-Pal, and four other organizations started the

J-WAFS Solutions spinout company receives Unreasonable Impact Fellowship

Jameel Observatory to tackle climate-related food security challenges in drylands, by combining local knowledge with innovations in data science.

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Via Separations was one of 16 ventures selected for a 2021 Unreasonable Impact Fellowship, which fosters partnerships and investment opportunities that can rapidly scale a company's impact.

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J-WAFS researcher receives 2021 Future of Life Award

Susan Solomon and two others were honored for their significant contributions in saving the ozone layer from increasing depletion.

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United Nations Food Systems Summit on demand

If you missed last month's UN Food Systems Summit you can watch sessions, member statements and more online.

[WATCH NOW](#)

MIT podcast hosts J-WAFS researcher

In a podcast from MIT's Environmental Solutions Initiative, Charles Harvey of MIT's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, discusses whether planting more trees can help the climate crisis.

[LISTEN NOW](#)

Robotic arm retrieves items

The robot, created by J-WAFS researcher Fadel Adib and his team, fuses visual data from a camera and radio frequency information, and has applications in e-commerce grocery fulfillment.

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J-WAFS seed grantee honored with prestigious MacArthur Fellowship

Taylor Perron studies evolving landscapes and how they might predict future landscape dynamics in the face of



environmental changes.

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WORLD FOOD DAY

VIDEO SERIES

J-WAFS releases a series of short videos for upcoming World Food Day

This Saturday, October 16th, marks World Food Day – an annual, international celebration to commemorate the founding of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in 1945. World Food Day seeks to promote awareness of worldwide hunger and spur action plans that ensure healthy diets for all.



In anticipation of this day, J-WAFS reached out to our community members who are helping to secure food systems globally. Several MIT researchers, students, alumni and staff graciously gave their time to submit videos highlighting the important ways they help J-WAFS carry out its mission to solve challenges specifically in the food sector. From this footage, we have put together three short videos that showcase these true #FoodHeroes.

Please join us in recognizing all who are making positive impacts in the world by driving change in food systems. Click below to read more and watch the videos.

[WATCH VIDEOS](#)

EVENTS

FOOD & WATER



Webinar series on transforming water, land and food systems Tuesdays and Thursdays in October, 8.00 a.m. ET, Online

The CGIAR Research Program on Water, Land and Ecosystems will host a series of webinars that explore climate-smart solutions for enhancing ecosystem health and strengthening food, nutrition and water security for all. [MORE INFO](#)



Writing Together Online (MIT ONLY)

**Mondays through Fridays, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. ET, as well as
Wednesdays, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. ET, through October, Online**

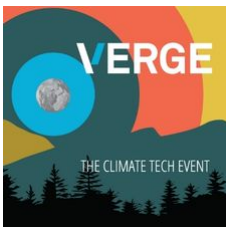
MIT community members who are actively writing proposals, manuscripts, or thesis/dissertation chapters can seek writing help during these sessions. [MORE INFO](#)



Discussion about the state of climate science (MIT ONLY)

Wednesday, October 20, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. ET, In-person

MIT's Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research will host professor Steven Koonin of NYU, and professor Kerry Emanuel of MIT's Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences. [MORE INFO](#)



VERGE 21: The climate tech event

Monday-Thursday, October 25-28, 11:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m. ET, Online

Join leaders from the private and public sectors to address the climate crisis through five key markets: clean energy, sustainable mobility, carbon removal, regenerative food systems, and resilient infrastructure. [MORE INFO](#)

FUNDING

AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Urban Water Challenge

Deadline: October 27, 2021

Open to entrepreneurs with water tech startups

Water resources engineers/coding intern

Deadline: ASAP

Open to high school and university students

The Urban Water Challenge is a global competition for entrepreneurs who are ready to launch tech solutions that will advance water sustainability in coastal cities.

[APPLY NOW](#)

Hodge.WaterResources, LLC is looking for an intern to assist with code development for a user interface for a dredged material disposal model.

[APPLY NOW](#)

Xylem Ignite Innovation Incubator 2021

Deadline: ASAP

Open to all college sophomores or higher and graduate students

This program, sponsored by J-WAFS research affiliate company Xylem, Inc., will offer mentorship to young students who want to further their ideas for change in the water industry.

[APPLY NOW](#)

Cellular agriculture & cell cultured food hackathon

Deadline: November 1, 2021

Open to all U.S. undergraduate and graduate students

Cultivate Tomorrow is a U.S. hackathon that will work to lower the barrier to enter the cell cultured food industry for STEM and non-STEM individuals.

[APPLY NOW](#)

Climate Policy Lab Fellowships

Deadline: November 15, 2021

Open to PhDs with dissertation defense completed

The Climate Policy Lab at the Center for International Environment and Resource Policy at Tufts University, is seeking climate policy researchers, including those focused on sustainable water and food systems.

[APPLY NOW](#)

Nominations for Martin Fellowships

Deadline: November 19, 2021

Open to MIT PhD students

MIT's Environmental Solutions Initiative will award one-year Martin fellowships to ten outstanding MIT PhD students whose research and personal commitments serve to advance environmental and social sustainability.

[APPLY NOW](#)

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

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, CONTACT:**

RENEE J. ROBINS

Executive Director, J-WAFS
rrobins@mit.edu or (617) 324-6726



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.



Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue, E38-329
Cambridge, MA 02139
E: jwafs@mit.edu
P: (617) 715-4222
W: jwafs.mit.edu

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