



#### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



#### J-WAFS announces 2022-23 graduate fellows





The students were chosen for their commitment to alleviating problems related to water supply or purification, food security, or agriculture.

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#### MIT Water Innovation Prize awards solutions to water challenges

Sponsored by J-WAFS, the MIT Water Club hosted the final pitch event where Mesophase, a startup improving power plant condensers for steam to water conversion, won first place.

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#### MIT's Food and Agriculture Club hosts prize night event

The Rabobank - MIT Food and Agribusiness Innovation Prize, supported by J-WAFS, was awarded to a Harvard student for her invention to help Indian food cart vendors.

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# John H. Lienhard elected to IDA's Board of Directors

The J-WAFS director will serve on the 2022-24 board for the International

# Climate change threatens drinking water

J-WAFS PI Susan Murcott and MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative's Elizabeth Gribkoff explain how climate **READ MORE** 

**READ MORE** 

# MIT team aims to make industrial processes more sustainable

The Climate Grand Challenges team—which includes six J-WAFS PIs—will investigate decarbonizing products like ammonia, often used for fertilizer production.

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# J-WAFS researchers develop climate prediction models

Noelle Selin and Christopher Knittel are part of a team using computer science to predict how climate change will affect everything from water availability to crop viability.

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# J-WAFS PIs work to revolutionize agriculture

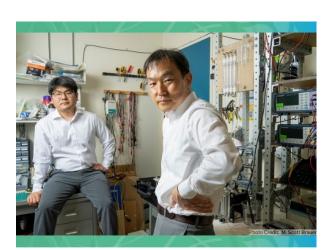
Mary Gehring & Christopher Voigt and team plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from fertilizer and improve crop resiliency.

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## Elfatih Eltahir aids in climate-resiliency plans

The J-WAFS PI is part of a team to help Bangladeshi communities adapt to challenges like saltwater intrusion, which is ruining rice crops.

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## J-WAFS researchers build desalination unit

Jongyoon Han & team's device provides clean drinking water without filters or high-pressure pumps & can be used in rural areas or disaster situations.

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#### CONGRATS & WELCOME

# Congrats to J-WAFS PI Fadel Adib on receiving tenure at MIT!

Fadel Adib, of the MIT Media Lab and the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, shared the good news on his Twitter account.

LEARN MORE

## J-WAFS welcomes new staff member!

Longzhen (Longy) Han is our new external relations director after serving in a role with Sloan's REAP program to strengthen innovation-driven entrepreneurial ecosystems worldwide.

LEARN MORE

#### IN-DEPTH LOOK

J-WAFS ANNOUNCES 2022 SEED GRANT RECIPIENTS

# J-WAFS awards over \$1M in total seed grant funding to support research addressing issues in water and food

Today J-WAFS awarded its 2022 seed grants to eight MIT researchers. The J-WAFS seed grant program has existed since 2014 to support innovative MIT research that has the potential to significantly improve water- and food-related challenges.

Seven new projects will receive up to \$75,000 per year for two years to address a range of challenges by employing advanced materials, technology innovations, and new approaches to resource management. This year's projects aim to remove harmful chemicals from water sources, develop drought monitoring systems for farmers, improve management of the shellfish industry, and more.

"Climate change, the pandemic, and most recently the war in Ukraine have exacerbated and put a spotlight on the serious challenges facing global water and food systems," says J-WAFS director, John H. Lienhard. He adds, "The proposals chosen this year have the potential to create



measurable, real-world impacts in both the water and food sectors."

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#### PUBLICATIONS

LATEST PAPERS FROM J-WAFS RESEARCHERS



- Published by the American Chemical Society, Jongyoon Han's paper is titled: Portable Seawater Desalination System for Generating Drinkable Water in Remote Locations. READ NOW
- Ariel Furst publishes in the Journal of The Electrochemical Society on electrochemical sensors. READ NOW
- Christopher Cummins' paper about a "greener" phosphorus industry received a spotlight article from the American Chemical Society. READ NOW

#### **FUNDING**

AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

# J-WAFS Water and Food Grand Challenge

Deadline: June 24, 2022

Open to: MIT PIs

J-WAFS seeks statements of interest for a new funding opportunity of up to

## J-WAFS Travel Grant for Water Conferences

Deadline: May 16, 2022

Open to: MIT graduate students Selected students will attend

Stockholm World Water Week in August

\$1.5M to address a significant "Grand Challenge" in water and/or food systems.

MORE INFO

where nearly 400 organizations from 130 countries will discuss global water issues.

MORE INFO

## MIT's Office of Sustainability Role

Deadline: Ongoing

Open to: bachelor's degrees (master's preferred) in a related field

A position to advance MIT's Climate Action Plan, including using campus as a testbed to inform implementation of food, water, & waste systems' impact goals.

MORE INFO

### STREAM Grants from MIT Sea Grant

Deadline: May 16, 2022

Open to: Massachusetts applicants of all ages

Up to \$10k will be awarded for oneyear projects related to the conservation & sustainable development of marine resources, such as sustainable fisheries & aquaculture.

MORE INFO

#### AND DON'T MISS:

EVENTS, HAPPENINGS, & SIGHTINGS

## First university climate clock in the world

J-WAFS PI Susan Murcott and others from MIT's D-Lab erected what they believe is the first clock of its kind to raise awareness about climate change.

LEARN MORE

# J-WAFS PI in a PBS documentary

Charlie Harvey says carbon capture & sequestration, sometimes used in agriculture, will not actually stop climate change or prevent global warming.

WATCH NOW

J-WAFS PIs Mary Gehring & Dave Des Marais at an agriculture event

#### SECURING THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE





May 17, 2022, 9 a.m -5 p.m. ET -- Kresge Auditorium

The symposium will discuss tools being used to advance crop improvement.

RSVP

# 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
<a href="mailto:rrobins@mit.edu">rrobins@mit.edu</a> 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.

"As the world becomes a more dangerous place, things we take for granted, like large-scale trade in food, may be far more vulnerable than anyone realized."

Paul Krugman, The New York Times, April 26, 2022



Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab Massachusetts Institute of Technology 77 Massachusetts Avenue, E38-325 Cambridge, MA 02139

E: jwafs@mit.edu P: (617) 715-4222 W: jwafs.mit.edu

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