

Urban Water Infrastructure, Policy, and Infectious Diseases

Principal Investigators:

- Samuel Dorevitch, Associate Professor, Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences
- Charlotte Joslin, Associate Professor, Ophthalmology
- Rachael Jones, Assistant Professor, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences
- Karl Rockne, Associate Professor, Civil and Materials Engineering
- Ruxana Sadikot, Associate Professor, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

Summary: This project will assess the feasibility of creating a UIC Water AOE while developing practical research applications that may be pursued in a multidisciplinary manner. The establishment of a multidisciplinary research/educational center around this theme within the Great Lakes Area would be unique due to the distinctive focus on urban waters and water infrastructure, public health and medical outcomes, emphasis on latest lab and sampling techniques, and the integration with policy development in collaboration with UIC's Institute for Environmental Science and Policy (IESP). The preliminary study proposed here integrates various disciplines that collectively explain causes and consequences of compromised urban water quality including but not limited to engineering, environmental microbiology, risk assessment, and population health aspects. This AOE would make an important contribution to the public health in Illinois and the Great Lakes Area as a whole and therefore has potential local, national, and international significance.