



Maxine Levin is the 2017 Chair of the Urban and Anthropogenic Soils Division of the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA). As a Soil Scientist with USDA, one of her career highlights include serving as the project leader for the 1985 soil survey in Baltimore City MD. Maxine enjoys public speaking and is an enthusiastic gardener.

Full Bio link: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/maxine-levin-43ab771b/>

Session Name: Biogeography, soils & vectors

Presentation Title: Moderator



Lex van Geen is a research professor at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. He is a firm believer in the more widespread use of field kits by non-specialists to reduce exposure to environmental toxicants, particularly in developing countries.

Link to bio: <http://www.Ideo.columbia.edu/~avangeen/index.html>

Session Name: Biogeography, soils & vectors

Presentation Title: Moderator



Ramilla Hajiaghayeva has a PhD degree in biological sciences and currently is a Research Fellow at the Center of Mathematical Modeling and Design of Sustainable Ecosystems of Agrarian-Technological Institute, Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN University) in Moscow. Her current area of scientific interests is radioecology and soil chemistry.

Full Bio link: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ramilla-hajiaghayeva-239615b2/>

Session Name: Biogeography, soils & vectors

Presentation Title: Possible role of lead and strontium-90 level of contamination on the transfer factor



F. Landes Bio

Franziska Landes is a Ph.D. Candidate in Earth and Environmental Science at Columbia University. She is interested in environmental geochemistry and public health, especially the potential for community and public participation in science to reduce exposure to environmental contaminants and increase science literacy and education. Her current work involves developing a field test kit for lead in soils and studying the impact of soil lead contamination in New York and Peru.

Link: <http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/user/landes>

Session Name: Biogeography, soils & vectors

Presentation Title:



Phoebe Mankiewicz has a B.Sc. Biology from McGill University, and is set to graduate with a Masters of Architectural Sciences from the Architectural Sciences and Technology at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where she is researching a "living" wall that uses plant material as an air filtration system for indoor spaces. Phoebe's expertise are in ecology and invasive species management and effective long-term environmental conservation and sustainability initiatives. Full Bio link:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/phoebe-mankiewicz-510852133/>

Session Name: Biogeography, soils & vectors

Presentation Title: Indoor Microbiome



Navé Strauss is the Director of Street Tree Planting at NYC Department of Parks and Recreation. Nate focuses on the quality of plants, where they're being planted, and pushing his programs to new heights. He is an ISA-certified arborist, member of SMA, and frequently participates in public speaking forums in many capacities. Full Bio link:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nav%C3%A9-strauss-04533b117/>

Session Name: Biogeography, soils & vectors

Presentation Title:



Bharath Prithviraj is a Research Associate at Brooklyn College, and CUNY Advanced Science Research Center. Dr. Prithviraj is a contributing member to the largest crowd sourced microbiome efforts; The Earth Microbiome Project and the MetaSUB (Subway) consortium. His expertise include contributing to datasets and developing laboratory techniques for the characterization of sentinel communities. This area of research now provides transformative insights into dimensions of biodiversity with significant implications in both basic and applied science contexts. Full Bio link: <https://bharathpraj.weebly.com/>

Session Name: Biogeography, soils & vectors

Presentation Title: Earth microbiome project and its relevance to Urban soils



Louis N. Sorkin is an Entomologist in the Division of Invertebrate Zoology at the American Museum of Natural History. His interests include entomophagy and forensic entomology

Full Bio link: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/louis-n-sorkin-b-c-e-19536015/>

Session Name: Biogeography, soils & vectors

Presentation Title: