

Meredith K. Jennings, Ph.D.

Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC)
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Education:

Ph.D. in Marine and Atmospheric Chemistry, August 2017

University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (RSMAS), Miami, FL
Dissertation: *Analytical Improvements for Assessing Dissolved Organic Carbon Concentrations and Dynamics in the Ocean*. Advisor: Dr. Dennis Hansell

Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry, May 2012

Minor: Spanish, Hendrix College, Conway, AR

Highlighted Project Experience:

- **Houston Harris Heat Action Team (H3AT)**, 2020-present. Served as a leading organizer and project coordinator for the 2020 Houston/Harris County Heat Watch Campaign in partnership with NOAA/CAPA Strategies, City of Houston, Harris County Public Health (HCPH), The Nature Conservancy of Texas, and the Houston/Galveston National Weather Forecast Office. Work is ongoing to engage local stakeholders with project results to develop and implement heat mitigation strategies to promote community resilience and equity.
- **Powered for Good**, 2020-present. Research and stakeholder engagement funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Energy Technology Office to design and help deliver affordable and accessible solar+storage electricity offerings for low-income households in Texas that can choose their electricity provider.
- **City of Houston Climate Action Plan Implementation**, 2020- present. Developing informational materials to translate climate impact assessment for public consumption and coordinating a feasibility assessment for deploying solar+storage on municipal facilities.
- **Building our Response to Emergency Air Toxic releases in Harris County (BREATH)**, 2020-present. Providing analysis, project management, and stakeholder engagement to enhance daily collection and availability of air monitoring data and improve air quality knowledge during significant industrial incidents.
- **City of Houston Climate Action Plan Development**, 2018-2020. Managed stakeholder engagement, data analysis, scenario planning, and policy development for the City of Houston's Climate Action Plan, reporting project deliverables to City officials.
- **Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) in Aldine, TX**, 2018. Served as Planning Section Chief to coordinate activities related to the planning, conducting, and reporting of CASPER door to door survey to collect health, disaster assessment, vulnerability, and resiliency data to assess Aldine community recovery needs one year following Hurricane Harvey for Harris County Public Health (HCPH).
- **Science Policy Fellowship at Harris County Public Health**, 2017-2018. Developed a climate health risk profile and literature review of climate stressors for HCPH. Led internal capacity building efforts and supervised student projects to improve understanding and measurement of local climate/weather impacts on health and assess opportunities for mitigation and adaptation.

Professional Positions

01/2021 – present, **Research Associate**, Community and Climate Resilience, HARC
11/2018 – 12/2020, **Postdoctoral Research Scientist**, HARC
09/2018 – 11/2018, **Community Resilience Specialist**, Harris County Public Health (HCPH), Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response, Houston, TX
09/2017 – 08/2018 **Science Policy Fellow**, National Academy of Sciences' Gulf Research Program
Host Office: HCPH, Office of Policy and Planning, Houston, TX,
07/2017 **Project Consultant/Curriculum Workshop Organizer**, University of Washington, Polar Science Center, Seattle, WA,
08/2012- 08/2017 **Research Assistant**, RSMAS, Miami, FL

Other Relevant Experience:

2021-present, co-chair Local Planning Committee, American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting
2020-present, Member of Texas Energy Poverty Research Institute (TEPRI)'s Energy Opportunities Coalition, Energy and Health Working Group
2019, Co-chaired *Resilient Houston* "Building Forward" Working Group, City of Houston, TX
2018-2019, Convened Science to Action Sessions at American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting
2018, Lead planning and facilitation of a 2-day workshop with the U.S. Department of State's Lower Mekong Initiative, in which HCPH hosted 14 visitors from Southeast Asia to exchange best practices for mosquito and vector control.
2018, Attended Annual Summer School on Sustainable Climate Risk Management (SCRiM), Penn State, State College, PA
2017, Attended North Pacific Arctic Conference (NPAC): Building Capacity for a Sustainable Arctic in a Changing Order, East-West Center, Honolulu, HI (invited)
2016, Attended American Meteorological Society Summer Policy Colloquium, Washington D.C

Awards and Honors:

2017-2018, NAS Gulf Research Program Science Policy Fellowship (\$60,000)
2017, RSMAS Service Award
2015, RSMAS Graduate Teaching Assistant Excellence Award
2013, Elsevier Research Scholarship in Organic Geochemistry (\$3,300)
2012, Hendrix College Analytical Chemistry Award

Publications:

Jennings, M.K., Abdulla, H., Stubbins, A., Sun, L., Wang, R., Mopper, K., 2018. A dissolved organic carbon (DOC) analyzer capable of detecting sub uM DOC differences in natural fresh waters: a proof of concept study. *Limnol. Oceanogr. Methods*, 16: 309-321. doi:10.1002/lom3.10249

Jennings, M.K., Passow, U., Wozniak, A.S., Hansell, D.A., 2017. Distribution of transparent exopolymer particles (TEP) across an organic carbon gradient in the western North Atlantic Ocean. *Marine Chemistry* 190, 1-12. doi:10.1016/j.marchem.2017.01.002

Professional Memberships:

American Society of Adaptation Professionals (ASAP), American Geophysical Union (AGU), American Meteorological Society (AMS), American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)