

Sandra Steingraber, PhD

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EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Ph.D., biological sciences, 1989

Illinois State University, Normal
M.S., English/creative writing, 1982

Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington
B.A., biology, 1981 (magna cum laude)

Honorary degrees:

doctoral degree in humane letters, honoris causa, State University of New York, College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry, 2013

doctoral degree in humane letters, honoris causa, Lycoming College, 2008

doctoral degree in humane letters, honoris causa, Illinois Wesleyan University, 2001

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS

Heinz Award, Heinz Family Foundation, 2011

Child Advocate Award, Children's Environmental Health Network, 2011

Environmental Health Champion Award, Physicians for Social Responsibility, 2009

Alumni Achievement Award, Illinois State University, 2009

Michael S. Burnhill Lectureship, Association of Reproductive Health Professionals, 2008

Research and writing grant, Jenifer Altman Foundation 2008

Research and writing grant, Winslow Foundation, 2006

Hero Award, The Breast Cancer Fund, 2006

Research and writing grant, Jenifer Altman Foundation, 2005

Rachel Carson Leadership Award, Chatham College, 2001

Environmental Protector Leadership Award, National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, 1999

Will Solimene Award for Excellence in Medical Communication, New England Chapter of the American Medical Writer's Association, 1998

Jenifer Altman Foundation Award, 1998 (“for the inspiring and poetic use of science to elucidate the causes of cancer”)
Woman of the Year, *Ms. Magazine*, 1997
post-doctoral fellowship in women’s public health policy,
Center for Research on Women and Gender, Univ. of Illinois, Chicago, 1996
Evelyn Greene Davis fellowship (poetry), the Mary Ingraham Bunting Institute, Radcliffe College, 1993-94
Barbara Deming Memorial Award (poetry), 1994
National Endowment for the Humanities summer fellowship, Indiana University, 1991
Feminist Women’s Writing Workshop scholarship (poetry), Wells College, 1990
Ragdale Foundation residency and scholarship, 1990
American Association for the Advancement of Science, Mass Media Fellowship, 1986
Jesse Smith Noyes Foundation and Organization for Tropical Studies, research grant, Costa Rica, 1985
Hopwood Award for poetry, University of Michigan, 1983

PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA:

Books:

Raising Elijah: Protecting Children in an Age of Environmental Crisis (Perseus Book Group, 2011)

Having Faith: An Ecologist’s Journey to Motherhood (Perseus Book Group, 2001.
Penguin Putnam paperback, 2003; also released in Japan, Germany, China, the United Kingdom, and Estonia

Living Downstream: An Ecologist’s Personal Investigation of Cancer and the Environment, 2nd edition, Da Capo Press, 2010; 1st edition, Addison-Wesley, 1997; paperback 1st ed. Random House, 1998; also released in Japan and the United Kingdom.

Post-Diagnosis (poetry), Firebrand Books, 1995.

The Spoils of Famine: Ethiopian Famine Policy and Peasant Agriculture, Cultural Survival Press, 1988 (co-authored with Jason Clay and Peter Niggli).

Documentary film projects:

Living Downstream, directed by Chanda Chevannes, The People’s Picture Company, 2010

Dear Governor Cuomo, directed by Jon Bowermaster and Alex Gibney, One Ocean Media, 2012

Groundswell Rising, directed by Matt and Renard Cohen, Resolution Media, 2014

Rachel's Daughters: Searching for the Causes of Breast Cancer, directed by Allie Light and Irving Saraf with Nancy Evans, Light-Saraf Films, 1997.

Papers, Reports, Chapters, Reviews, Monographs, Essays (selected):

"Each Other—Where We Are," column for *Orion* magazine.

Huffington Post blog

"The Whole Fracking Enchilada," in M. Roach ed., *The Best American Science and Nature Writing, 2011* (Boston: Houghton-Mifflin, 2011) and T. Butler et al., eds, *The Energy Reader: Overdevelopment and the Delusion of Endless Growth* (Watershed Media, Contemporary Issues Series, 2012).

"Girls Gone Grown-Up: Why are U.S. Girls Reaching Puberty Earlier and Earlier?" in *The Sexualization of Childhood*, ed. Sharna Olfman (Praeger, Childhood in America Series, 2008).

"Living Downstream of Silent Spring," in *Rachel Carson: Legacy and Challenge*, ed. Lisa Sideris and Kathleen Dean Moore (SUNY Press, 2008).

The Falling Age of Puberty in U.S. Girls: What We Know, What We Need to Know, monograph commissioned by the Breast Cancer Fund, September 2007.

"Silent Spring: A Father-Daughter Dance," in *Rachel Carson: Courage for the Earth*, ed. Peter Matthiessen (Houghton-Mifflin, 2007).

Edited compendium, *Identifying Gaps in Breast Cancer Research: Addressing Disparities and the Roles of the Physical and Social Environment*, California Breast Cancer Research Program, Special Research Initiatives, 2007.

Book review, "The Secret History of the War on Cancer" by Devra Davis (Basic Books, 2007). *The Times Literary Supplement* (London).

Book review, *Toxic Exposures: Contested Illnesses and the Environmental Health Movement* by Phil Brown (Columbia University Press, 2007). *The Times Literary Supplement* (London).

"The Environmental Life of Children" in *Child Honoring*, ed. Raffi Cavoukian and Sharna Olfman eds. (Praeger, 2006).

"The Ecology of Pizza," *Mother Earth News*, spring 2006.

"A Hormonal Message: Why are Girls Reaching Puberty Ever Earlier?" *Orion*, spring 2006.

"Tune of the Tuna Fish," *Orion*, winter 2006, reprinted in L. Anderson, et al., eds., *Literature and the Environment: A Reader on Natural and Culture*, 2nd ed. (Boston, Pearson: 2013).

"The Pirates of Illiopolis," *Orion*, spring 2005 and reprinted in *The Future of Nature*, ed. Barry Lopez (Milkweed Press 2007).

"How Mercury-Tainted Tuna Damages Fetal Brains," *In These Times*, 2004.

"Two Little Words," *In These Times*, 2004.

"The Organic Manifesto of a Biologist Mother," chapbook, *Organic Valley Publications*, summer 2003.

"How a Risk-Benefit Approach to Breastfeeding Misrepresents the Problem of Chemical Contamination," essay published in spring 2003 issue of *The Ribbon*, the

quarterly newsletter of the Program on Breast Cancer and Environmental Risk Factors, Cornell University.

“Why the Precautionary Principle: A Meditation on Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) and the Breasts of Mothers,” in *Reconstructing Gender: A Multicultural Anthology*, 3rd ed., E. Disch, ed. (McGraw Hill, 2003).

“The Myth of Living Safely in a Toxic World,” *In These Times*, 2001 and reprinted in *Appeal to Reason: 25 Years of In These Times*, ed. Craig Aaron (Institute for Public Affairs, 2002).

“Breast Cancer and the Environment,” in *Breast Cancer: the Social Construction of an Illness*, S. Ferguson and A. Kaspar, eds. (St. Martin’s Press, 1999).

“The Social Production of Cancer: A Walk Upstream,” in *The Struggle for Environmental Health: Corporate Power and Cultural Politics*, R. Hofrichter, ed. (MIT Press, 1999).

“Exquisite Communion: The Body, Landscape, and Toxic Exposures,” invited paper for the 1998 Shire Conference, “From Theory to Practice: Teaching Ecology in Landscape Architecture Programs,” Columbia River Gorge, WA, July 1998.

“Mechanisms, Proof and Unmet Needs: the Perspectives of a Cancer Activist (commentary),” *Environmental Health Perspectives* 107 (April 1997 supplement).

“Xenoestrogens and Women’s Health,” *Sojourner*, April, 1994. (focus on plasticizers in food)

“‘If I Live to Be 90 Still Wanting to Say Something’”: My Search for Rachel Carson,” in *Confronting Cancer, Constructing Change*, M. Stocker, ed. (Chicago: Third Side Press, 1993).

“We All Live Downwind,” in *One in Three: Women with Cancer Confront an Epidemic*, J. Brady, ed. (Pittsburgh: Cleis Press, 1991).

Book Reviews:

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

contributing editor and columnist, *Orion* magazine
Radcliffe Society of Institute Fellows
Society for Environmental Journalists
Phi Beta Kappa honor society

COMMITTEES, BOARDS, PUBLIC SERVICE

Founding member, Concerned Health Professionals of New York

Co-founder, New Yorkers Against Fracking

Science advisor, Americans Against Fracking

Science advisor, Breast Cancer Action

Science and Environmental Health Network (board of directors, 2004-2012)

Steering committee member, Special Research Initiatives, California Breast Cancer Research Program, 2006-08

Advisor, National Action Plan on Breast Cancer, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (1995-2000)

TEACHING

Ithaca College, 2003-present (I guest-lecture in classes across the curriculum, including biology, creative writing, developmental psychology, environmental law, women's studies, environmental history, journalism, literature, and business).

full-time faculty, Wildbranch Writing Workshop: Nature Writing and Beyond, cosponsored by Sterling College and the Orion Society, Craftsbury Common, VT, 2006-2012.

visiting scholar, Program on Breast Cancer and Environmental Risk Factors, Center for the Environment, Cornell University, 1999-2003 (I guest-lectured in many classes and seminars, including women's studies, management, and toxicology.)

writer in residence, Illinois Wesleyan University, spring 1998 (I taught introductory and advanced creative writing)

visiting professor, Illinois Wesleyan University, spring 1997, 1999 (I taught seminars in environmental issues)

visiting scholar, Women's Studies Program, Northeastern University, Boston, 1994-1996.
science mentor, Radcliffe Research Partnership, 1993-94

assistant professor of biology and science coordinator of the writing-across-the-curriculum program, Columbia College, Chicago, 1990-1993

Illinois poet-in-the-schools, 1991-92

LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, READINGS, CONFERENCES (SELECTED)

Keynote address, "Protecting Children's Health for a Lifetime: Environmental Health Research Meets Clinical Practice and Public Policy," U.S. Environmental Protection Agency meetings, Oct. 2013

weeklong residency, University of Oklahoma Honors Program, May 2013

public lecture, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Jan. 2013

public lecture, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, Oct. 2012

keynote address, Bioneers Conference, San Rafael, California, October 2012 and 2008.

keynote address, Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

annual conference, Pittsburgh, Oct. 2011.

public lecture, Woods Lecture Series, Butler University, Indianapolis, November 2009.

public lecture, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook, New York, April 2009.

testimony before the President's Cancer Panel, National Cancer Institute, Indianapolis, October 2008.

keynote address, ribbon-cutting ceremony for the SimmonsCooper Cancer Center, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Springfield, Illinois, July 2008.

keynote address, 8th annual Childhood and Society Symposium, Park Point University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 2008.

U.S. Congressional briefing, "The Falling Age of Puberty in U.S. Girls: What We Know, What We Need to Know," organized by the Breast Cancer Fund, Washington, D.C., January 2008.

keynote address, 20th anniversary conference of the Superfund Basic Research Grants Program, National Institute for Health and Environmental Sciences, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, December 2007.

keynote address, biannual conference, Health and Environmental Funders Network, Warrenton, Virginia, December 2007.

guest lecture, women's health symposium, Cornell University School of Human Ecology, Ithaca, New York, November 2007.

public lecture, Rockford College Forum Series, Rockford, Illinois, October 2007.

public lecture, Swedish Medical Center, Seattle, Washington, October 2007.

"We Don't Have to Live Downstream," public lecture on behalf of Peoria Families Against Toxic Waste, Peoria, Illinois, October 2007.

public lecture, Green Footprints on a Blue Planet forum series, College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio, October 2007.

public lecture, Susan G. Komen Foundation, St. Mary's, Pennsylvania, October 2007.

public lecture, poetry workshop, and environmental writing workshop, "Diversity and Social Justice Project" event series, Hamilton College, September 2007.

invited lecture, reading, and guest speaker, "Environmental Writing & Great Lakes Literature," University of Michigan Biological Station, Pellston, MI, August 2007.

invited lecture and reading, "Voices for Silent Spring" event series, Center for the Environment, Mt. Holyoke College, March 2007.

invited lecture, reading, and workshop, Books & Authors, a program of Nevada Humanities and Nevada Center for the Book, University of Nevada, Reno, March 2007.

keynote address, "Environmental Threats to Women's Fertility," San Francisco School of Medicine, Jan. 2007

keynote address, "Pesticides, Pregnancy, and Breast Milk," Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture, Pennsylvania State University, Feb. 2006.

keynote address, "Precaution versus Regulation," Teresa and H. John Heinz Foundation, Conference on Women's Environmental Health, Boston, Oct. 2005.

invited lecture, Woods Hole Research Center, Woods Hole, MA, June 2005.

keynote address, "Children's Environmental Health," conference on chemicals policy for EU parliamentarians, European Union, Brussels, Belgium, Dec. 2003.

keynote address, Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment annual meetings, Boston, June 2003.