

Laura Jones Perovich

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MIT Media Lab, Cambridge MA

QUALIFICATIONS SUMMARY

Researcher and educator in artistic technology-based approaches to creating awareness and action on environmental issues. Experience in community based technology development including design processes, software development, physical prototyping, and team management.

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Ph.D. 2018 exp

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Media Arts and Sciences

Working Thesis: Alternative technologies for scientific engagement to create environmental awareness & action

Working Committee: V. Michael Bove, Natalie Jeremijenko, Ethan Zuckerman

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

S.M. 2015

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Media Arts and Sciences

Thesis: Data Experiences: novel interfaces for data engagement using environmental health data

Committee: V. Michael Bove, Hiroshi Ishii, Pattie Maes, Julia G. Brody

Bowdoin College

A.B. 2005

Brunswick, Maine

Mathematics (Honors) & Religion; cumulative GPA: 3.867

Copenhagen Institute of Interaction Design

Coursework, 2011

Copenhagen, Denmark

Physical Computing & Physical Prototyping

Harvard University

Coursework, 2008

Boston, Massachusetts

Regression Analysis & Game Theory

PUBLICATIONS

Zarate, O., J.G. Brody, P. Brown, M.D. Ramirez-Andreotta, L. Perovich, J. Matz. *Balancing Benefits and Risks of Immortal Data: Participants' Views of Open Consent in the Personal Genome Project*. The Hastings Center Report, Vol 46, Issue 1, p. 36–45, January/February 2016.

Perovich, L, Mothersill, P, Broutin-Farah, J. *Awakened Apparel: Embedded Soft Actuators for Expressive Fashion and Functional Garments*. TEI: International Conference on Tangible, Embedded and Embodied Interaction, 2014; Germany.

Dodson, R.E., Van den Eede, N., Covaci, A., Perovich, L.J., Brody, J.G., Rudel, R.A. *Urinary Biomonitoring of Phosphate Flame Retardants: Levels in California Adults and Recommendations for Future Studies*. Environ. Sci. Technol., 2014, 48 (23), pp 13625–13633

Ervin, C. Dand, D., Hemsley, R., Nunez, D., Perovich, L. *What's Cookin?: A Platform for Remote Collaboration* CHI 2013 Extended Abstracts on Human Factors in Computing Systems: 2799-2800.

Dodson, R.E., L.J. Perovich, A. Covaci, N. Van den Eede, A.C. Ionas, A.C. Dirtu, J.G. Brody, R.A. Rudel. *After the PBDE phase-out: A broad suite of flame retardants in repeat house dust samples from California*. Environmental Science & Technology, 2012; 46 (24).

Rudel, R.A. and L.J. Perovich. *Accurate risk-based chemical screening relies on robust exposure estimates*. Toxicological Sciences, 2012; 128 (1): 295-296.

- Dodson, R.E., M. Nishioka, L.J. Standley, L.J. Perovich, J.G. Brody, R.A. Rudel. *Endocrine Disruptors and Asthma-Associated Chemicals in Consumer Products*. Environmental Health Perspectives, July 2012; 120(7): 935–943.
- Rudel RA, Dodson RE, Perovich LJ, Morello-Frosch R, Camann DE, Zuniga MM, Yau AY, Just A, Brody JG. *Semivolatile endocrine disrupting compounds in paired indoor and outdoor air in two northern California communities*. Environmental Science & Technology. 2010. 44 (17): 6583–6590.
- Rudel RA, Dodson RE, Perovich LJ, Morello-Frosch R, Camann DE, Zuniga MM, Yau AY, Just A, Brody JG. *Semivolatile endocrine disrupting compounds in paired indoor and outdoor air in two northern California communities*. Environmental Science & Technology. 2010; 44 (17): 6583–6590.
- Rudel RA, Perovich LJ. *Endocrine disrupting chemicals in indoor and outdoor air*. Atmospheric Environment. 2009; 43: 170-181.
- Taylor S, Campbell E, Perovich L, Lever J, Pennington J. *Characteristics of Composition B particles from blow in-place detonations*. Chemosphere. 2006 Nov; 65(8):1405-13.
- Lever JH, Taylor S, Perovich L, Bjella K, Packer B. *Dissolution of composition B detonation residuals*. Environmental Science & Technology. 2005 Nov, 15;39(22):8803-11.
- Taylor S, Hewitt A, Lever J, Hayes C, Perovich L, Thorne P, Daghljan C. *TNT particle size distributions from detonated 155-mm howitzer rounds*. Chemosphere. 2004 Apr; 55(3):357-67.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MIT Media Lab

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Research Assistant

September 2012 - present

Research artistic technology based approaches to engaging new communities with environmental issues to create change. Synthesize diverse disciplines, create prototypes, and mentor undergraduate students to create new research areas in partnership with community organizations.

Silent Spring Institute

Newton, Massachusetts

Research Assistant

September 2007 - September 2012

Researched environmental health, including endocrine disruptors and emerging indoor containments connected to health issues including cancer. Contributed to community based participatory research and participant data reporting. Established research program on participant privacy in open source data. Managed data and conducted statistical analyses to publish research in partnership with Harvard University and Brown University.

Peace Corps Guinea

Bantignel, Guinea, West Africa

Math Teacher and Project Coordinator

July 2005 - March 2007

Prepared curricula and taught 9th and 10th grade math classes of 40 to 70 students. Launched basic computer and library skills instructional program. Developed curricula to conduct an 11-week teacher-training program and trained 29 Peace Corps trainees using participatory teaching methods.

Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratories (ERDC-CRREL)

Hanover, New Hampshire

Research Assistant

Summers 2002 - 2004

Conducted experiments on the environmental impact of explosive residue on military training grounds. Assisted in refining experimental procedures and writing publications.

Austine School for the Deaf

Brattleboro, Vermont

Program Founder and Gymnastics Instructor

September 2000 - June 2001

Launched and coordinated a physical education gymnastics program, instructing ten Deaf students in a weekly 90-minute gymnastics class.

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP

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| Instructor & organizer, “Thermal Fishing Bob” Community Workshops | 2016 |
| Instructor & organizer, “Fabrication from Fabric” Independent Activities Period Course | 2014 |
| Undergraduate mentor & supervisor, MIT Summer Research Program
<i>Susan Seijo Mendez, University of Puerto Rico</i> | Summer 2016 |

Undergraduate mentor & supervisor, MIT Media Lab	2014 - present
<i>Kristin Zimmerman</i>	<i>Spring 2014</i>
<i>Dayanna A Espinoza Silva</i>	<i>Summer 2014</i>
<i>Phoebe Cai</i>	<i>Fall 2015 - Spring 2016</i>
<i>Amber Guo</i>	<i>Spring 2016</i>
<i>Katrina Hinojosa</i>	<i>Fall 2016</i>
<i>Jose Soto Rivera</i>	<i>Fall 2016</i>
<i>Robert Henning</i>	<i>Fall 2016 - Spring 2017</i>
<i>Claudia Chen</i>	<i>Fall 2016 - Spring 2017</i>
<i>Patricia Lu</i>	<i>Spring 2017</i>

ACTIVITIES

Member, MIT Media Lab Diversity Committee	2013 - present
Arts Scholar, MIT	2016 - present
Guest Critic, Environment, Technology and Society, Northeastern University	2016
Reviewer, Students Offering Support Program, MIT Media Lab	2015 - 2016
Participant, MIT Conflict Management Training, Tiers 1-3	2015
Reviewer, Maker Portfolios for Undergraduate Admissions, MIT	2015
Paper Reviewer, UbiComp Workshop Session	2015
Organizer, Media Lab PhD critique group	2015 - present
Dancer, MIT Ballroom Dance Team	2012 - present
Fiber Artist	1995 - present

AWARDS & GRANTS

2nd place winner, Schnitzer Prize in the Visual Arts at MIT	2016
Graduate Student RA Fellowship, MIT Media Lab	2012 - present
Recipient, Knight Foundation Prototype grant <i>\$35,000 six-month support of Data Experience research</i>	2013
Semi-finalist, Knight Foundation News Challenge: Health grant	2013
Goldwater Scholar for Exceptional Work and Potential in the Sciences	2004 - 2005
Phi Beta Kappa, <i>magna cum laude</i> , Bowdoin College	2005
Varsity Softball Athlete, Bowdoin College <i>Co-Captain: 2003-2004 and 2004-2005</i>	2001 - 2005
Varsity Indoor Track & Field Pole Vaulter and Thrower, Bowdoin College, <i>School Record Holder & DIII National Championship Competitor, 20-pound weight</i>	2002 - 2005