

Advocacy, Green Chemistry, and National Policy

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The Natural Resources Defense Council

- Founded in 1970 by environmental law students and attorneys
- Advocates for human rights to clean air, water, and safe food, as well as sustainability and protection of vulnerable populations
- Tools: legislation, litigation, regulatory engagement, industry campaigns and partnerships
- Scope: Federal, state, local, international and global



NRDC
NATURAL RESOURCES
DEFENSE COUNCIL

The Role of Science in Advocacy

- Advocacy organizations use science to inform their work in several ways:
 - Identifying relevant problems and solutions
 - Developing policy recommendations
 - Running data-driven public awareness campaigns
 - Supporting litigation
 - Evaluating, designing, promoting legislation

ENVIRONMENTAL
Science & Technology



Article

pubs.acs.org/est

Consumer Product Chemicals in Indoor Dust: A Quantitative Meta-analysis of U.S. Studies

Susanna D. Mitro,[†] Robin E. Dodson,[‡] Veena Singla,[§] Gary Adamkiewicz,^{||} Angelo F. Elmi,[†] Monica K. Tilly,^{§,⊥} and Ami R. Zota^{*,†}

EXPERT BLOG > MIRIAM ROTKIN-ELLMAN & VEENA SINGLA - ALUM

EPA: Toxic Pesticide on Fruits, Veggies Puts Kids at Risk



 NRDC  
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NRDC and the BCGC

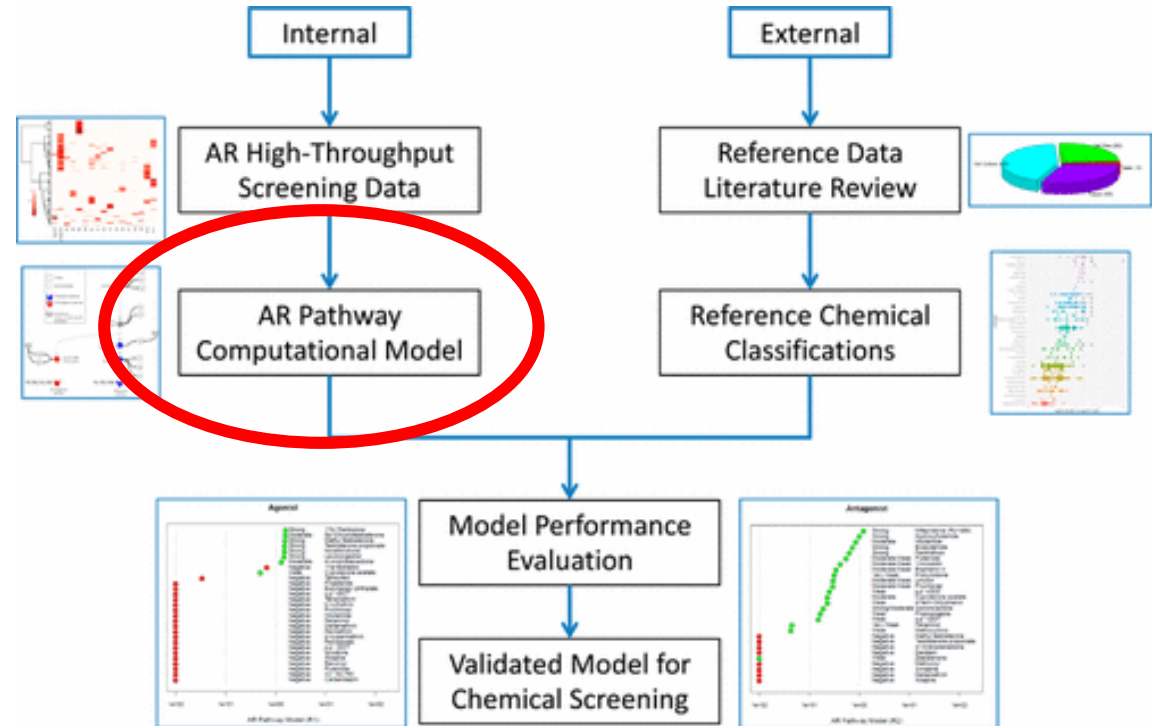


BERKELEY CENTER FOR
GREEN CHEMISTRY

- Shared goals for sustainability and safer materials
- Both highly collaborative and massively multidisciplinary institutions
- NRDC Internship for BCGC student funded in part by the Wareham group
- David interned at NRDC Fall 2017!

The Androgen Receptor Pathway Model

- The EPA has thousands of chemicals to evaluate, and reams of in vitro data
- Using this in vitro data, they built a statistical model for evaluating chemicals for AR activity and prioritization
- Internship Project: evaluate and comment on the AR Pathway model proposed by the EPA



From Kleunsterueer et al 2017

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acs.chemrestox.6b00347>

David Goes to Washington

- EPA Public hearing for adoption of AR Pathway model in November 2017
- David traveled to Washington D.C. to provide research support to Dr. Kristi Fedinik Pullen and to observe the hearing process



Lessons Learned

- NRDC:

- Intern expertise incredibly helpful
- Many shared goals and interests
- Opportunities for future collaboration
- Careful selection of project (especially scope) important to success

- BCGC:

- The advocacy space is a great avenue for students with policy-oriented interests
- David enjoyed and benefited greatly from learning about the complex political/legislative/economic context that affects chemicals legislation

NRDC and BCGC Moving Forward

- BCGC and NRDC look forward to continuing the internship program!
- Considering Future Opportunities for collaboration



Thank you!

Questions ?