**TURI Recognizes 2013 Champions of Toxics Use Reduction**

On June 12, Massachusetts legislators and TURA program agencies gathered to present the 2013 Champions of Toxics Use Reduction awards at the Massachusetts State House.

The *honorees* are:

- ChemGenes Corporation, Wilmington
- AB Cleaners, Westwood
- Jeff Bibeau, Associate at Tighe & Bond, Westfield
- Clean Water Fund, Boston
- Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH), Boston
- Mill City Grows, Lowell
- Montachusett Opportunity Council (MOC), Inc., Fitchburg
- Norfolk County 7 Public Health Coalition

Representative Anne M. Gobi, Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture, congratulated the champions on their contributions to the Commonwealth.
Senator Patricia Jehlen presented a special recognition to Professor Ken Geiser, University of Massachusetts, Lowell, Founding Director of the Toxics Use Reduction Institute, upon his retirement from the University.

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Secretary, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and Kenneth L. Kimmel, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, spoke about the importance of toxics use reduction and complimented the champions on their efforts.
Opportunities for Cancer Prevention: Trends in the Use and Release of Carcinogens in Massachusetts

TURI published a report showing that Massachusetts companies have dramatically reduced their use and environmental releases of chemicals known or suspected to cause cancer.
Over the last two decades, use of known or suspected carcinogens by Massachusetts industries reporting to the Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA) program declined 32 percent while releases to the environment declined 93 percent, according to the new report.

Yet, there is still significant room for progress, the report found. In 2010, over 300 million pounds of known or suspected carcinogens were used, and over 500,000 pounds were released to the environment.

See news coverage of the report from GoLocalWorcester, ChemicalWatch and the Pump Handle blog.

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**Green Chemistry Research Symposium**

Leading University of Massachusetts Lowell faculty, students and staff researching safer alternatives to toxic chemicals met with Massachusetts businesses interested in forming partnerships at the [Greener Materials Research Symposium](#) on May 16, at UMass Lowell.

The gathering engaged in a lively discussion of what business needs to increase their use of safer alternatives to toxic chemicals and how TURI and researchers at UMass Lowell can provide support.

The afternoon ended with a tour of the new Saab Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center.

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**Beyond the MSDS Workshop**
On May 23, TURI held a training session in the TURI Library to help UMass Lowell faculty and students, as well as representatives from industry, learn about chemical hazards and how they can use this information to develop safer materials.

This popular training will be held again in September.

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**MASSbuys Expo**

On May 2, Heidi Wilcox from TURI demonstrated best practices in green cleaning at the MASSbuys Expo in Worcester.

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**New Publication**


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*TURI offers services & programs to reduce the use of toxic chemicals, energy and water while enhancing the competitiveness of local businesses.*

*Visit us at our website, at Facebook, or at our offices on the UMass Lowell campus.*