Welcome to Provost Marie Lynn Miranda

With her new research space located on the north end of the 10th floor of the BRC, Dr. Miranda officially joined the Rice family on July 1, coming from a position as Dean of the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan. Prior to her position at Michigan, she served at Duke University for 21 years, focusing primarily on environmental programs. Her research focuses on how the environment shapes the health and well-being of children. This can include not only the physical effects of the environment on health, but also how the sociological environment affects health.

A graduate of Duke University, Dr. Miranda completed her graduate work at Harvard University.

Congratulations

Dr. Tony Mikos was presented with a lifetime achievement award by the Society for Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine-Americas.

Dr. László Kürti has received an NSF CAREER award.

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Children’s Environmental Health Initiatives

The Children’s Environmental Health Initiatives group is also moving to the BRC from Michigan. Some of the staff have already made the move, while others are still in transition.

CEHI (pronounced see-hi) covers a broad spectrum of health concerns. From malaria to autism to strokes, the group studies data from medical records, correlating that data with environmental data or school assessments to understand how the challenges in a child's environment can effect their health. The data is analyzed using Geographic Health Information Systems.

While initially CEHI focused solely on children's health, including reproductive and developmental toxicants, childhood lead exposure, and allergen and asthma triggers. The group has since expanded their focus to include adult health issues as well, including heart disease. They are excited about the potential for collaboration with groups both at Rice and in Houston on a variety of projects.

The group will be expanding in the coming months. They are a multidisciplinary, collaborative, and educational program; a perfect fit for the BRC!