Decoding 30 Years of Insights: Conclusions from ISIAQ's Landmark Webinar Series on Indoor Air Quality and Climate

Ying Xu

Department of Building Science, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

SUMMARY

In celebration of its 30th Anniversary in 2022, the International Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate (ISIAQ) organized a groundbreaking webinar series that spanned the entire year. This series brought together esteemed researchers who have made significant contributions to the field of indoor air sciences, as well as young and promising researchers who are shaping the future of research in this domain.

Comprising six informative webinars (<u>https://www.isiaq.org/webinars.php</u>), the series covered a wide range of crucial topics. The first webinar, titled "30+ Years of Knowledge Creation: Indoor Air 1991-2021," delved into the wealth of knowledge accumulated over three decades in the realm of indoor air quality, focusing on research published in the *Indoor Air* journal. It explored the evolution of research, advancements in technology, and the current state of understanding in the field.

The second webinar, "What We Know and What We Should Know About Indoor Environmental Quality," tackled the existing knowledge and identified areas that require further exploration and understanding in the realm of indoor environmental quality. It provided insights into the latest research findings and highlighted important knowledge gaps that need to be addressed.

Recognizing the often-overlooked exposure route, the third webinar, "Dermal - the often-overlooked exposure route," shed light on the significance of dermal exposure in indoor environments. Experts discussed the impact of various chemicals and pollutants that can affect human health through skin contact.

In light of the pressing challenges posed by energy crises, pandemics, and climate change, the fourth webinar, "Winter is coming: challenges for indoor air sciences in times of energy crisis, pandemics & climate change," explored the unique challenges faced by indoor air sciences in these complex times. It emphasized the importance of developing sustainable, resilient, and healthy indoor environments.

Shifting the focus from research to practical application, the fifth webinar, "From Research to Practice: Past Successes and Remaining Gaps," examined the successful translation of research findings into practical solutions for improving indoor air quality. It identified areas where further research and collaboration are needed to bridge remaining gaps between theory and practice.

Lastly, the series concluded with a webinar titled "The long history of airborne infection transmission: why don't we use the knowledge we have," which addressed the historical knowledge and understanding of airborne infection transmission. Experts emphasized the importance of utilizing existing knowledge and implementing appropriate measures to mitigate the spread of airborne diseases.

Overall, the ISIAQ's 30th Anniversary webinar series provided a comprehensive platform for renowned researchers and emerging talents to exchange insights, discuss pressing issues, and highlight the future directions of indoor air sciences. It celebrated the past achievements of the society while also recognizing the importance of continuous research and collaboration in ensuring healthy and sustainable indoor environments.