



SoCal SETAC NEWS

Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry
Southern California Chapter

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*Some of the
Kids at Heart
children and
adults at the
America Plaza
May, 2000.*

TMDL Dinner Meeting a Success

Contributed by
**Ian Adam and
Tim Mikel**

We would first like to thank all of you who attended the Dinner Meeting on September 20 at the Pierpont Inn in Ventura, especially those who traveled a great distance. We had about 25 people which is a very good turnout for a midweek dinner meeting. Dr. Arturo Keller gave an excellent presentation entitled "Watershed Management: New Challenges, New Tools, New Approaches" which described the emerging tools used to address water quality problems at the watershed level through TMDL development.

Dr. Keller began by briefly outlining the Federal Regulations that are driving the implementation of TMDL's and the evolution of watershed management approaches being adopted by the State. He then launched into the heart of the talk, which demonstrated the use of computer models to derive



*Dear Friends,
Thank you for your heartfelt
gift in loving memory of Marissa
Aguirre-Gauromond. It was a pleasure
to meet you and her loved ones. I too
am grateful for the life she shared
with us.*

*Sincerely,
Mary Ann Acosta*

Kids at Heart is a program of UPLIFT
P.O. Box 520819, San Diego, CA 92186-0819
FDC 619.234.4506 Phone 619.234.4504 e-mail: uplift@pcal.com

TMDL's for large watersheds. He used the WARMF (Watershed Analysis Risk Management Framework) model to illustrate how these relatively new tools in watershed management can help describe water quality problems. WARMF, created by Systech Engineering, Inc. is a decision support system designed for watershed management and TMDL calculations. The program uses a Windows Graphical User Interface (GUI) which performs several functions: 1) interacting with the user for data entry, command menu, context sensitive help and road maps for TMDL calculation and consensus building process 2) functioning internally to furnish data to simulation models, to automatically interface catchment, stream and reservoir models, and to process simulation results for map displays.

Dr. Keller demonstrated how the model allows for users to assign intended uses to various points in the watershed, set water quality criteria for the intended uses, and then calculate multiple possible TMDL solutions to protect the intended uses. The program provides a menu to engage stakeholders to select a consensus TMDL plan that takes into account cost-effectiveness and cost-sharing between point and nonpoint dischargers. Once a model has been accurately calibrated for the designated watershed, users

can create different scenarios such as land use changes or increased precipitation and then run simulations to predict water quality impacts and discharge loads.

Dr. Keller's presentation was well received and stimulated many thoughtful questions and discussions. Based upon the success of the dinner meeting, Dr. Keller even expressed some interest in developing a short course on this topic for the next SoCal SETAC Annual Meeting.

Thank you Dr. Keller for your time and effort and we apologize for not allowing you to finish your dessert.

President's Corner...

Joseph R. Gully
SoCal SETAC President

I want to begin by thanking Karen Riveles from UC Riverside, for agreeing to fill the vacant position of Chapter Secretary. Karen joined the Board of Directors in June as a student representative and has quickly gone from the frying pan to the fire. Seriously, after briefly discussing the responsibilities of the Secretary with Karen, I know the secretarial needs of the chapter will be in good hands. Karen has some great ideas for improving membership status maintenance and newsletter distribution and she also has the enthusiasm to carry it out.

Speaking of Board of Directors and Executive positions within the Chapter, it is not too soon to begin thinking about nominations for next years vacancies. We will be filling 5 vacancies on the Board of Directors next Spring from all four target sectors (student, academic (2, both currently open), public, and private). These positions will be filled from our general membership so if you, or someone you know, are interested or would like more information, please contact me or any other Board Member or Officer. We will also fill the Treasurer and Vice-President positions of the Executive Committee from members who have already served on the Board of Directors.

As you may or may not know, SETAC is going through a major restructuring to become a global society. In fact, much of the SETAC Constitution and By-Laws had to be rewritten and will be up for approval by the membership very soon. SETAC has asked each Chapter to alert their National SETAC members and ask them to be sure and vote so a quorum can be reached. Consider yourselves forewarned.

On a similar topic, our Chapter Constitution and By-Laws are also being revised to better reflect our current organizational structure and procedures as well as the formation and management procedures of Technical

Advisory and Review Panels (TARP's). The idea behind the formation of TARP's within the Chapter is to provide a forum and the expertise to consider and provide guidance, if appropriate, on specific issues related to environmental toxicology and chemistry relevant to Southern California. A subcommittee has been tasked with the development of a protocol for panel formation and workproduct approval. Once the protocol is completed and approved by the Board, final revisions will be made to the Constitution and By-Laws. Approval of the revisions will require a vote by a quorum (50 %) vote of the Chapter membership. Once again, consider yourselves forewarned.

Another important procedure the Board and Executive Committee are developing relates to advertising in our Newsletter or on the website. Our Treasurer, Lan Wiborg, and webmaster, Chris Stransky, are researching the limitations and requirements of the Chapter to accept fees for advertising in these types of media. We expect to discuss their findings and begin developing a standard operating procedure and fee structure at the next Board Meeting.

I was pleased to see such a strong turnout for the Board and Dinner Meetings in Ventura. Not only did many folks drive from San Diego to attend, but we also had several new members show up from UC

Santa Barbara. I suspect students from the recently formed Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at UCSB will find SETAC a professional society which is very complimentary to the interdisciplinary and multi-sector nature of their program and we welcome their participation.

I also need to extend a special thanks to Tim Mikel from Aquatic Bioassay and Consulting Labs for co-sponsoring the meeting. We could not have done it without you!

Finally, I want to formally introduce Dr. Daniel Schlenk to the SoCal SETAC membership. Dr. Schlenk just > moved from the University of Mississippi to accept the position of Professor of > Aquatic Ecotoxicology at UC Riverside. He has been an active member of SETAC on the National and Regional level for many years. He is > > currently on the program committee for 2000 SETAC Annual Meeting > in Nashville and serves on the SETAC > education committee. Dr. Schlenk > was also one of the seven founding board members for the Mid-South > SETAC regional chapter, and has served as everything from Treasurer/Secretary, VP, > to President for that Chapter.

On behalf of the entire Chapter, welcome to Southern California Dr. Schlenk and we hope that SoCal SETAC can step in and

serve your professional needs.
Meet the Board....



Gerald McGowen
City of Los Angeles, EMD

I was born and raised in Muskegon, Michigan, a relatively small town by southern California standards. Although I did not learn to castrate pigs at an early age as did fellow board member Jennifer Jones, my best friend's grandfather owned a slaughter house, and my friend and I occasionally worked there during our teenage years. I often shoveled pig feces, which may have been somewhat predictive of my future career since I currently work at the City of Los Angeles' Hyperion Sewage Treatment Plant. I have worked at the plant as a member of the toxicity testing group of the Environmental Monitoring Division since April 1992. Although I am involved in all aspects of the toxicity testing group's activities, my primary responsibility is Toxicity Identification Evaluations (TIE). We currently are engaged in two TIE's, one on the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant and one on the Los Angeles-Glendale Water

Reclamation Plant. Both of these plants discharge into the Los Angeles River.

Although I currently work in toxicity testing, this is not how I began by career. After high school, I moved to Chula Vista, California and attended Southwestern College and San Diego State. I received my B.S. and M.S. degrees in Biology from San Diego State. I was fascinated with plankton, and I conducted my graduate work on the planktonic stages of fishes, ichthyoplankton. I conducted research for my M.S. thesis in the southern portion of San Diego Bay, where I examined the distribution of fish eggs and larvae in relation to the discharge of an electricity generating station.

Prior to completing my M.S. degree, I accepted a position with Occidental College. This work also involved investigating the impact of an electricity generating station on fishes. The generating station, located in Redondo Beach, California, impacted the King Harbor marina. After accepting the position with Occidental College, I moved to Hermosa Beach, where I still reside. Initially I was involved with research focusing on thermal preferences of larval and juvenile fishes, but the program also included a small field ichthyoplankton study. During my second year at Occidental, the ichthyoplankton field study was separated from the thermal preference study and I became

the lead investigator for the ichthyoplankton program.

I left Occidental College after four years to accept a joint appointment at the University of Southern California (USC) and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. I continued to study ichthyoplankton distributions but with greater geographical coverage. This USC/Museum work was conducted in coastal waters, shoreward of the 75-meter isobath, from Point Conception to the border with Mexico. Initially this was referred to as the ICHS (Ichthyoplankton Coastal and Harbor Studies) and later the Bightwide program.

During the second year of this joint appointment, I enrolled in the graduate program at USC, where I earned my Ph.D in biology. I used a subset of the Bightwide data for my dissertation on ichthyoplankton assemblages in coastal waters of southern California.

I remained at the Museum for fourteen years. My research at the Museum was funded by the Southern California Edison Company, Sea Grant, and the National Science Foundation. I enjoyed both my research on ichthyoplankton and working at the Museum. But, I eventually tired of the "soft money life", so I accepted a water biologist position with the City of Los Angeles. I enjoy working for the City, although I do find the bureaucracy frustrating at times.

Toxicity testing was a "new field" for me when I started with the City, and that made my job especially interesting. An added bonus is that I find I have much more time for a personal life with my City job than I did during my previous career.

I must add that I am favorably impressed with SETAC as a professional society. The balance of academia, business, and government is a powerful matrix. Although SETAC is a relatively large international society, the regional chapters provide a local focus. The Southern California Regional Chapter of SETAC is small enough to provide great opportunities for involvement. I encourage all of you to get involved and to consider running for office.

SoCal Chapter Activities at the Annual SETAC Meeting in Nashville

Contributed by
Marilyn Schwartz

This newsletter probably finds most of you who are going to the 21st Annual SETAC Meeting from November 12 - 16 in Nashville finalizing your travel plans. The SoCal Chapter Board of Directors wanted to make sure you are aware of the activities we are planning for the meeting. First, the **SoCal SETAC Chapter Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 11/14/00 in Room CC107 from 0700 to 0800** (that's 0500 to

you and me, but an improvement - we get a one hour break from last year and another day to acclimate). There will be pastries, juice, and, most importantly, *coffee* to lure you and you'll still have plenty of time for a nap before the fun run so no excuses.

In addition to each local chapter meeting, SETAC will again hold an open **Regional Chapters Meeting** to meet members from other regional chapters, hear about what they have been doing this year, and share their challenges and solutions. This meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, 11/14/00 from 1800-1900 in CC East Exhibit Hall**. It will also be a great place to socialize and catch up with others to plan some evening activities.

Lastly, look for the regional chapters booth near the registration area. Members of the SoCal SETAC Board of Directors will be manning the booth on **Wednesday, 11/15/00 from 1400 to 1700** so keep an eye out for us and please come up and introduce yourself.

We all look forward to seeing you at the 21st Annual SETAC Meeting and hope you have a great time in Nashville.

Board Meeting Minutes – September 2000

Contributed by
Karen Riveles

On September 20, 2000, a SoCal SETAC Board of Directors meeting was held at the Pierpont Inn in Ventura, CA. Lan Wiborg enthusiastically provided the Treasurer's report with updates of our account, expense, and revenue status, and she discussed the final preparations of the non-profit status package. Chris Stransky gave us the exciting news that SoCal SETAC now has its very own web domain: www.socalsetac.org. Chris is putting our name into several search engines, so go ahead and try to search for it and let Chris know how you did. Other web page related items we discussed included posting job positions, scholarships, and advertisements on the web page.

Karen Riveles is the new chapter Secretary and will be taking minutes at the Board meetings and organizing the membership files. The newsletter editor will be established as a separate position and Joe Gully will continue to produce it for now. We are trying to convert to 100% email distribution of the SoCal SETAC Newsletter, so please make sure we have your most current email address.

The next topic discussed was the creation of a Technical Advisory and Review Panel. The Board decided the first step in creating these panels is to develop standard operating procedures (SOP) for the formation, management, and workproduct approval of

TARP's. A committee was formed to develop the SOP and provide a draft prior to the next Board Meeting. Some potential panel topics were also mentioned: toxicity testing guidelines, TMDL's, watershed management issues and stewardship approach, and assessment of marine bioassays.

Marilyn Schwartz is hard at work preparing the Marissa Gaumond perpetual plaque that will be kept at Kid's at Heart. We also received a card and photo from Kid's at Heart (see page 1).

Kat Prickett is already in the initial planning phase for SoCal SETAC's 2001 Annual Meeting! Based upon Kat's recommendation, the Board gave her the "green light" to begin looking for a host hotel in Long Beach. Also, based upon some input from students, the meeting may be moved forward to the end of April or early May to avoid conflicts with finals. Some ideas for the technical program included having a short course on TMDLs as well as a more diverse set of sessions including air, soil, or other environmental toxicology and chemistry topics. Of course there was plenty of discussion about social activities during the Annual Meeting, but nothing definitive yet. If you have any ideas, do not hesitate to pass them on to Kat.

The By-Laws and Constitution of SoCal SETAC are currently being revised and updated.

These revisions were discussed and reviewed at the meeting. Eventually the membership will need to vote for approval of any revisions made.

SoCal SETAC has a new P.O. Box in Riverside. All membership information and change of address forms will go to this address: SoCal SETAC, c/o Karen Riveles, P.O. Box 655 Riverside, CA. 92502.

As always, any interested members are welcome to attend the next SoCal SETAC Board meeting which will be held on December 6, 2000 from 1000-1400 at the L.A. County Sanitation Districts. Check the website for details and directions.

Calendar of Events

Contributed by
Scott Steinert

NOVEMBER 2000

Water Research Symposium 2000: Advances in Water and Land Monitoring Technologies and Research for Management of Water Resources. November 8-10, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA. More information; www.vwrrc.vt.edu.

st Annual Meeting.

November 12-16, Nashville, TN. More information; www.setac.org.

The 2000 Groundwater Foundation Conference. November, 13-15, Nebraska City, NE. More information; info@groundwater.org.

California Aquatic Bioassessment Workgroup Seventh Annual Meeting. November, 27-28,

Sacramento, CA. More information; For More Information Contact: Jim Harrington, DFG Bioassessment Laboratory, (916) 358-2862 email: jharring@ospr.dfg.ca.gov, or visit: www.dfg.ca.gov/cabw/cabwhome.html

8th LCA Case Studies Symposium. November 30, Brussels, Belgium. Contact; bow@iptdtu.dk.

DECEMBER 2000

The 2000 Contaminated Site Remediation Conference. December 4-8, Melbourne, Australia. More information; www.clw.csiro.au/CGS/conf/2000CSR/C/.

2001

FEBRUARY 2001

Envirotox 2001. February 11-14, Canberra, Australia. Contact; greg.rippon@ea.gov.au.

MARCH 2001

Environmental Mutagen Society (EMS) 2001: A Science Odyssey. March, 16-21, San Diego, CA. For more information visit, www.ems-us.org.

MAY 2001

11th SETAC Europe Annual Meeting. May 6-10, Madrid, Spain. More information; www.setac.org.

JUNE 2001

2001 International Containment & Remediation Technology Conference and Exhibition. June 11-13, Orlando, FL, USA. Contact; containment@mailier.fsu.edu.

JULY 2001

9th International Congress of Toxicology (ICT-IX). July 8-13, Brisbane, Australia. More information; www.uq.edu.au/ICT9.

SEPTEMBER 2001

Organic Soil Contaminants 2001 Conference. September 2-5,

Copenhagen, Denmark. More information; www.setac.org.

NOVEMBER 2001

Envirotox 2001. February 11-14, Canberra, Australia. Contact;

greg.rippon@ea.gov.au.

SoCal SETAC Officers and Board of Directors - Fiscal Year 2000-2001

POSITION	NAME & AFFILIATION	CONTACT INFO	TERM	BASIC DUTIES
Past President	Marilyn Schwartz Ogden Environ. & Energy Services 5510 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA 92121	T: 858-458-9044 F: 858-458-0943 E: mjschwartz@oees.com	07/01/00 - 06/30/01	Advisor/Stand-in for President and Vice-President
President	Joe Gully L.A. County Sanitation Districts 1965 Workman Mill Rd Whittier, CA 90601	T: 562-699-0405 x3060 F: 562-695-7267 E: jgully@lacs.org	07/01/00 - 06/30/01	National SETAC Liaison Board Agenda & Action Items
Vice-President	Kat Prickett Arcadis JSA 301 E. Ocean Blvd, Suite 1530 Long Beach, CA 90802	T: 562-628-1176 F: 562-628-1196 E: kprickett@jsae.com	07/01/00 - 06/30/01	Program Committee Chair for SoCal SETAC Annual Meeting
Treasurer	Lan Wiborg City of San Diego, MWWD 4918 N. Harbor Dr., Suite 204A San Diego, CA 92106	T: 619-758-2353 F: 619-692-4902 E: L7W@sdcity.sannet.gov	07/01/99 - 06/30/01	Meeting Finances & Contracts Non-Profit Application
Secretary	Karen Riveles UC Riverside	T: 909-276-7161 F: E: karenriv@aol.com	07/01/00 - 06/30/02	Election Coordinator Membership Maintenance Board Meeting Notes
Board Member (Student)	Jennifer Jones UC Los Angeles	T: 323-462-6073 F: E: jjones@ucla.edu	07/01/99 - 06/30/01	Direct and Assist in the Development and Execution of Chapter Activities
Board Member (Academic)	Open	T: F: E:	07/01/99 - 06/30/01	
Board Member (Private)	Chris Stransky Ogden Environ. & Energy Services 5510 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA 92121	T: 858-458-9111 x208 F: 858-587-3961 E: bcstransky@oees.com	07/01/99 - 06/30/01	
Board Member (Public)	Gerald McGowen City of Los Angeles, EMD 12000 Vista del Mar Playa del Rey, CA 90293	T: 310-648-5611 F: 310-648-5060 E: gem@san.ci.la.ca.us	07/01/99 - 06/30/01	
Board Member (Student)	Ian Adam UC Santa Barbara	T: 805-571-1466 F: E: iadam@bren.ucsb.edu	07/01/00 - 06/30/02	
Board Member (Academic)	Open	T: F: E:	07/01/00 - 06/30/02	
Board Member (Private)	Tim Mikel Aquatic Bioassay and Consulting 29 N. Olive St. Ventura, CA 93001	T: 805-644-8686 F: 805-643-2930 E: tkmikel@vcvista.net	07/01/00 - 06/30/02	
Board Member (Public)	Steve Bay SCCWRP 7171 Fenwick Ln. Westminster, CA 92683	T: 714-372-9204 F: 714-894-9699 E: steveb@sccwrp.org	07/01/00 - 06/30/02	

**SOCIETY OF ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER
2000-2001 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Please send application and payment (checks payable to Southern California SETAC) to SoCal SETAC, c/o Karen Riveles, P.O. Box 655, Riverside, CA. 92502. Please do not send cash.

Name _____ Affiliation _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone No.: _____ FAX No.: _____ E-Mail*: _____

*Newsletters will be sent electronically if you provide an email address; hardcopies will be sent upon request.

Category of Employer: (Please check one that applies)

Government _____ Industry/Business _____ Academic _____
Student _____ Consultant _____ Other _____

Technical Background: (Please check one that applies)

Atmospheric Science _____ Engineering _____
Biology _____ Health Science _____
Chemistry _____ Toxicology _____
Earth Science _____
Ecology _____ Other _____

Degree(s) earned: ___ B.A./B.S. ___ M.A./M.S. ___ Ph.D. ___ P.E. ___ Other _____

Class of Membership for which you are applying: (Please check only one)*

Annual membership covers July 1st - June 30th. Dues paid mid-year will apply only to the current membership cycle.

_____ Active Member \$20.00 per year
_____ Regional Member \$20.00 per year
_____ Student Member \$10.00 per year

***Active Members** and **Regional Members** are qualified professionals who share the stated purpose of the Chapter and who have education, training, research or applied experience in environmental toxicology and/or chemistry. **Active Members** must also be members of National SETAC. **Student Members** are individuals who share the stated purpose of the Chapter and are students showing promise of becoming qualified for Regional or Active status at a later date.

Please check here if you would prefer not to be included in the membership directory _____