

conference co-directors



PAUL T. KOSTECKI, PH.D.

Associate Director and Research Associate Professor, Northeast Regional Environmental Public Health Center, School of Public Health and Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts at Amherst

Fields of Expertise:

human and ecological risk assessment and risk management research

Professor Kostecki received his Ph.D. from the School of Natural Resources at the University of Michigan in 1980. He has been involved with human and ecological risk assessment and risk management research for the last 15 years. Dr. Kostecki has co-authored and co-edited over fifty articles and twenty books on environmental assessment and clean-up. Dr. Kostecki has organized, developed and directed over thirty conferences, workshops and seminars in the area of contaminated site clean-ups in the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico and Kuwait. He also serves as the Associate Editor for the *Journal of Soil Contamination*, chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board for *Soils and Groundwater Clean-up* magazine, as well as an editorial board member for the *Journal of Human and Ecological Risk Assessment*. In addition, Dr. Kostecki serves as Executive Director for the Association for the Environmental Health of Soils (AEHS). He is a member of the U.S. Navy's National Hydrocarbon Test Site Advisory Board, and a member of the steering committee for the Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon Criteria Working Group and the Association of American Railroads Environmental Engineering and Operations Subcommittee.

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1987, and attracted 300 participants and exhibitors. "We realized then that we had enough support to continue it, so we've organized a conference every year since then."

By October of 1999, over 850 cleanup experts from academia, government and private industry were converging annually on Amherst to keep up with the latest developments in soil, water and sediment contamination issues.

And it generates results. "Presentations are so specific," says Ed Calabrese, Professor of Toxicology, "that a site two miles from your house--or halfway around the world--is probably taking advantage of a solution that was first presented at our conference!"

Peer reviewed, published proceedings provide immediate access to research

"We made a very conscious effort early on to establish the integrity of the scientific papers presented," says Ed Calabrese, "so we created a peer review of conference proceedings. And we have steadfastly maintained our commitment to publishing only the papers that satisfy peer review. It sets the bar higher--but it ensures that the material that comes out of the conference can be relied upon." And gets published.

"A conference without the written word is only valuable to those who attend," says Calabrese. "If you do not publish the proceedings, your conference is just a memory--and that's not good enough."

That means, for starters, that all those professionals attending the conference get copies. Beyond immediate distribution to attendees, Selected conference papers are published in professional journals and indexed in leading databases for immediate worldwide access.

Gulf War contamination spurs international interest

By 1994 the conference started seeing increased international interest and, coincidentally, this was the year that the Northeast Center initiated projects in Kuwait, conducting ecological risk assessment training with respect to the environmental damage resulting from the 1991 Gulf War. Because of that, there began to be a lot more representation from the international arena. Recent conferences have drawn participants from Italy, Kuwait, Japan, Taiwan, South Africa, Greece, Germany, England, India, Canada and Poland.

"The environment has no boundaries," says Dr. Hilary I. Inyang, Director of the Center for Environmental Engineering Science & Technology at UMass-Lowell, and a Conference co-director, "because boundaries are defined by political jurisdictions. Environmental pollution is no respecter of boundaries." Furthermore, notes Dr. Inyang, cleanup technologies that have outlived their utility in the United States are still useful overseas -- another reason to encourage international participation at the Conference.

"We need to be more aggressive in internationalizing the meeting," says Calabrese, "so we are taking strategic steps to increase international representation."

Advisory board drives program

Both Kostecki and Calabrese agree that each succeeding conference has been stronger and better, thanks to an active advisory board comprised of a balance between state and federal regulatory agencies, environmental consulting companies, industry and academia. "Everything we've done, we've done because our advisory board has been our guiding

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light," says Kostecki.

The participation of regulatory bodies is encouraged, especially at the state level, because it is the regulatory community that is responsible for insuring that environmental laws are followed. "Regulatory agencies set the clean-up guidelines and the clean-up levels, so they tend to be the pressure point for accomplishing environmental objectives," says Kostecki. "We've always tried to maintain a balance between the regulators and the regulated community, whether they are at the municipal, state, or federal level, and between academia and the private sector."

Professionals board in Massachusetts and The Licensed Environmental Professionals board in Connecticut as a continuing national education activity.

Beyond contaminated soils

By 1990, other problems in the soil environment were emerging, and the focus broadened to encompass hydrocarbon contaminated soils, chlorinate hydrocarbons, and PCBs. In 1993, con-tamination by radionu- clei, heavy metals and pesticides were included --

For example, dredging is a very sub-stantial activity in this country. Dredging can be a viable approach to managing contaminants in some sed-iment sites or may release contamina- tion that has lain dormant for years in others."

"The next stage of conference evolution," says Kostecki, "involves the expansion of intercampus collabo- ration." Dr. Hilary Inyang, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, joined the Conference as Co-Director, repre- senting the Center for Environmental Engineering, Science and Technology. In 2000, the new Graduate School of Marine Sciences, a five-campus consortium within the University system, will be part of the Conference. The Dean of the new program, Dr. Brian Rothchild, University of Massachusetts- Dartmouth, and the Associate Dean, Dr. Jack Archer, University of Massachusetts-Boston, will become Co-Directors and help develop a marine sediments session.

conference quotes

"Some of the best fun, and some of the more interesting exchanges, take place on the eleventh floor!" advises Frank Peduto, referring to the Campus Center lounge. "We've always found it a very relaxing place to go. A lot of my colleagues will say, 'See you on the eleventh floor tonight!' It doesn't matter if the TV's on and somebody's watching a ball game; other people are talking about what went on all day. You bring up a session that you may have listened to and you start discussing it with someone else, and yet it doesn't feel like work."

Training, networking lure participants

Participants don't just attend tech- nical presentations and visit exhibitor's booths; they are afforded many opportunities to talk with their regulatory colleagues informally and at workshops. This fosters an exchange of information that might not happen otherwise. "For example," Kostecki points out, "issues such as MTBE may be significant in one state, and later in others. Conferees can interact and exchange personal expe- riences."

The conference is considered a training course for both regulatory agencies and environmental consult- ing companies of all sizes, and is cer- tified by the Licensed Site

the whole breadth of contaminat- ed soils. By 1999, a greatly expanded Contaminated Soils and Water Conference drew nearly 900 partici- pants from around the world.

The upcoming conference in October 2000 adds contaminated sediments to the program. Like previ- ous expansions of the Conference, the addition of a sediments section sprang from needs expressed by par- ticipants. Kostecki noted, "Several people said to me, 'You really should be addressing sediments.' The advi- sory board concurred and the topic was added to the program.

"Sediments are important," explains Kostecki, "because of the dynamics that can influence contami- nant behavior, releasing the contami- nants slowly into the water column and, eventually, into the food chain.

Staying the course

"We have numerous people who have developed a loyalty to the meet- ing," says Calabrese. "They know they will get something of value, so they keep coming back."

"We build relationships that con- tinue for a long time," says Kostecki, "and they continue because the con- ference gives them information that helps them do their jobs better."

"I think the only way you can make a real contribution is to stay the course on something," says Calabrese. "Science today can be very flighty, and people tend to run after money. By staying the course, if you have a good idea, they will come back to you, and by the time they come back, you're the one who has the deepest roots and the greatest capacity to provide something that's reliable.



DR. EDWARD J. CALABRESE

Board certified toxicologist Professor of toxicology at the University of Massachusetts School of Public Health and Health Sciences, Amherst.

Fields of Expertise:

host factors affecting susceptibility to pollutants

Dr. Calabrese has researched extensively in the area of host factors affecting susceptibility to pollutants. He is the author of more than 400 papers in referred journals and ten books, including Principles of Animal Extrapolation, Methodological Approaches for Deriving Environmental and Occupational Health Standards, Multiple Chemical Interactions, and Air Toxics and Risk Assessment. He has been a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, NATO Countries Safe Drinking Water committees, and the Board of Scientific Counselors for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). He has been chair of the BELLE (Biological Effects of Low Level Exposures) Advisory Committee since 1990.

Soils Conference Certified for Continuing Ed Credits

The 2000 Contaminated Soils, Water and Sediments Conference is one of the few conferences approved for earning the continuing education credits required of Licensed Site Professionals and Licensed Environmental Professionals in the states of Massachusetts and Connecticut.

"We have a performance-based program," says George Furst, Senior Environmental Engineer for the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority and a past president of the Licensed Site Professionals Association, "which means that it's up to the LSP to come up with remediation options. This conference is an opportunity to be exposed to quite a few different types of remediation that are occurring. That way, we can learn some of the cutting edge remedial technologies; it's really good for getting that."

It's not just the credits, notes Furst. "Talking to other people who are working in our profession in other states is important because what works there will also work in Massachusetts. And then you have those special evening presentations where you can really go into depth about particular technologies, and get background on some of the science and engineering behind the different technologies, which is important for LSPs to understand. We need to be exposed to a lot of different ideas, and this conference allows for that."

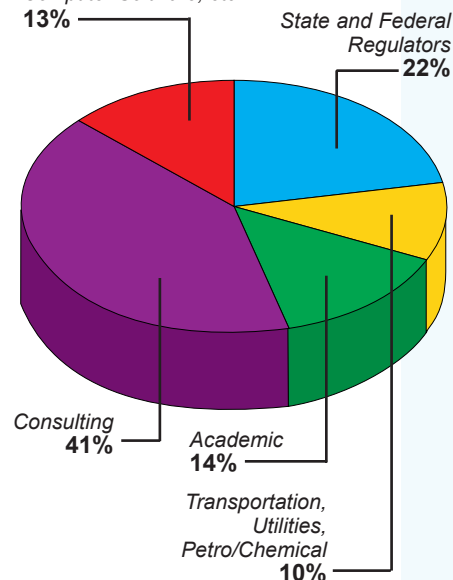
In addition to regulatory agencies, environmental consulting companies also consider the conference to be a continuing education venue. "They're here every year," says Conference Co-Director Paul Kostecki, "and they're using it to train their people. That's telling me that we are making an impact in that regard."

Sign in and sign out, cautions Ed Unser, Regional Planner for the Massachusetts LSP Board Staff. "It's a good place to pick up both technical and regulatory credits," says Ed Unser, Regional Planner for the Massachusetts LSP Board Staff. However, LSPs seeking continuing education credits need to check with the board regarding verification of attendance requirements in order to ensure that they obtain their credits.

Who are the conference attendees?

The conference attracts attendees including representatives from state and federal agencies; military; a number of industries including railroad, petroleum, transportation, utilities; the environmental engineering and consulting community; and academia.

Others including Environmental Labs, Recycling, Turf Services, Pharmaceuticals, the Press, Computer Software, etc.



MTBE Breakfast Panel Attracts 65 Participants



Conference panel headed by U.S. Department of Energy discusses radionucleide contamination in soils.

Responding to heightened interest in issues concerning MTBE, a breakfast panel of state regulators attracted almost 75 attendees at the 1999 Contaminated Soils Conference. "We put together a panel discussion of several regulators for seven in the morning on Wednesday of the conference, and almost 75 people showed up to talk about MTBE!"

"MTBE was really breaking as an issue in New England on a number of fronts," recalls Frank Sweet, Vice President and General Manager of ENSR (Acton, MA) who participated in the panel. "The media was really pushing it; politicians were putting Ban MTBE! bills in front of their legislatures. So a lot of the discussion revolved around breaking down some of the myths that the media perpetuated about MTBE, and trying to get to a more academically-based understanding of this very complex issue. I think a lot was done that morning to bridge the gap between a number of the different states and their regulator's perspectives on the issue."

Methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) is a gasoline additive that has been used as an octane enhancer since 1979. Conventional gasoline has MTBE in amounts of a few percent by volume or less, while some premium blends can contain as much as 9 percent. MTBE has also been used to meet the oxygenate requirement under the federal reformulated gasoline program aimed at reducing air pollution. MTBE is very water soluble, and very persistent in ground water.

In recent years, there has been

increasing concern over the potential threat to ground water quality posed by widespread use of MTBE in gasoline. This concern has been propelled by: (1) studies demonstrating MTBE has carcinogenic activity; (2) studies demonstrating MTBE has very low odor and taste detection thresholds; and (3) studies indicating the potential for frequent, though low-level, detection of MTBE in ground water.

In Maine, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has been confronting MTBE as a ground water contaminant associated with gasoline spills since 1984, and has taken action in MTBE regulation and clean-up. Its preliminary report issued in October of 1998 helped bring the issue to public attention, and a segment on the popular *60 Minutes* program in spring of 2000 ensures that the topic will rise on the priority list of many state regulatory agendas.

Their concern is overblown, asserts a leading manufacturing spokesperson. "MTBE is a problem that is completely manageable." Less easy to manage, suggests this same spokesperson, is the political pressure exerted on state regulators by politicians responding to a media-induced public frenzy. "A regulator from a northeastern state said to me, You know what? The problem isn't that we don't understand -- the problem is our state legislatures! Your forum gives us hope that scientists and regulators can have an honest exchange and take an honest piece of information [about MTBE] away from the conference -- but regulators don't necessarily get the last word."

Audience responses supplement panelists' perspective

The give-and-take format of the breakfast forum elicited input from attendees as well as panelists. "It's discussion and debate," says Kostecki. "You have a panel member making statements, you have an audience raising their hands and saying, Wait a minute, I'd like you to understand how we do it in Pennsylvania. And then somebody else adds, Well, that's not how we do it in New Jersey! So it becomes very interactive, very discussion-oriented. The audience probably added as much to the discussion as the panel members."

The next big issue: MTBEs replacements

MTBE will be back at the 2000 Conference, though probably with a different focus. "There's a lot of concern already coming from regulators about potential replacements for MTBE," says Frank Sweet, "specifically, ethanol, TBA, and a number of other potential oxygenates that could be used to meet the EPA oxygenate standard. Ethanol, for example, is a proven carcinogen, and is even more soluble than MTBE. So I think that MTBE substitutes may be the focus next time."

"When you get a decision at a state level that has tremendous repercussions nationally, you need a forum to discuss it," says Kostecki. "We include topics that are relevant and contemporary -- they're important right now."

- AEHS
- Alliance Environmental, Inc.
- Alpha Analytical Labs
- American Petroleum Institute
- Amherst Scientific Publishers (ASP)
- Battelle Duxbury Operations
- Blasland, Bouck & Lee, Inc.
- Burns & McDonnell Waste Consultants, Inc.
- Columbia Analytical Services
- CRC Press, LLC
- Dexsil Corporation
- EA Engineering, Science, and Technology
- EarthSoft
- Eastern Analytical, Inc.
- ENSR
- Enviro-Tech Services Company
- EPAT/IO/TTEMI
- Franklin Environmental Services, Inc.
- Geomatrix Consultants, Inc.
- GIS/Solutions
- Global BioSciences and Matheson TriGas
- Harding Lawson Associates IT Corporation
- K-V Associates, Inc.
- ManTech Environmental Corporation
- Marin Environmental, Inc.
- Maxymillian Technologies, Inc.
- McLaren/Hart
- Microseeps, Inc.
- N-CON Systems Co., Inc.
- National Shooting Sports Foundation
- Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center
- New England's Environment
- NITON Corporation
- Northeast Utilities
- Ogden Environmental and Energy Services
- Parsons Engineering Science, Inc.
- Regenesis
- RMI Environmental Services
- Rocky Mountain Remediation Services
- Roy F. Weston, Inc.
- Sandia National Labs
- SERDP & ESTCP Program Office
- Sevenson Environmental Services, Inc.
- Severn Trent Labs
- Soil & Groundwater Cleanup Magazine
- Strategic Diagnostics
- ThermoRetec Corporation
- Trace Analytical
- Trojan Technologies, Inc.
- VISTAinfo, Inc.
- Woods Hole Group

The Exhibit Hall: Where Theory Meets Application

"This is not a trade show," says Conference Co-Director Paul Kostecki, referring to the hall where some thirty-five exhibitors make themselves available to attendees. "It's the place where the theories and concepts presented at the sessions intersect with their practical application in the real world."



It's also the place where attendees and exhibitors stand to gain from interaction with each other. For attendees, it's the chance to check out the latest in site clean-up methods. For exhibitors, it's the networking opportunities that characterize this particular conference.

"It's the one conference where you can find people from government, academia and industry talking about pollution and environmental problems," says Rick Wenning, Vice President and Regional Manager for the San Francisco Bay Area of McLaren/Hart.

Many agree, citing the good mix of regulatory, industry, and consulting professionals attending the conference. "It's very important to me," says Pete Guest, Senior Associate with Parsons Engineering Science in Denver, "to be able to talk with the individuals who regulate, and find out what they require," says Guest. "I think the interaction with the regulatory agency personnel is of particular interest, and a valuable learning experience."



Top: Massachusetts-based ENSR discusses clean-up strategies with attendees at a recent Conference. Left: Massachusetts is not too far to come for California-based Geomatrix Consultants. Gary Foote interacts with Conference attendees in this photo.

Stability counts, too: a stable roster of attendees shows up year after year. "I'm on advisory committees for other conferences," says one exhibitor, "but the people come and go -- its just a marquis for their resumé; it's not something they're particularly involved in. With the UMass Conference, the advisory board and the people that get involved have a real interest and share a real camaraderie. So I go as much to continue those relationships.

"Yeah, I guess I hope some will develop into customers. But the real world experiences that are conveyed and the advertising are wonderful. It's a nice place to let people know that I'm around, and the conversations that happen in the exhibit area are real helpful."

That kind of loyalty doesn't just happen -- its cultivated by conference co-directors Ed Calabrese and Paul Kostecki. "It's all about people," says Kostecki, "investing in people. We have people coming back to our conference year after year. We build relationships that last a long time, and they last a long time because we stay in touch with them."

The high quality of technical infor-

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conference co-directors



PROF. HILARY INYANG

University Professor and Director of the Center for Environmental Engineering, Science and Technology (CEEST) at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. Concurrently Professor at Nanjing University in China.

Fields of Expertise:

waste containment systems, remediation technologies and underground space

Professor Inyang has authored more than 100 research articles, design manuals, book chapters, and reports on waste containment systems, remediation technologies and underground space. He is an associate editor/editorial board member of eight referred international journals, including the Journal of Soil Contamination, ASCE Journal of Environmental Engineering, Waste Management and Research, and the Journal of Environmental Systems. Currently, Professor Inyang is the Chairman of the Environmental Engineering Committee of the Science Advisory Board of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He has been appointed to membership in the National Advisory Council on Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT). Both of these committees are congressionally chartered. He has won several professional awards and holds a Ph.D. from Iowa State University; M.S. and B.S. from North Dakota State University, and B.S. (Hons.) from the University of Calabar.

Right: The Naval Facilities Engineering Command demonstrates its Site Characterization and Analysis Penetrometer System (SCAPS) at the 1999 Conference. The state-of-the-art unit pushes a probe 50 to 100 feet into the earth to provide an instantaneous read-out of contamination levels.



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mation is a universal draw. Says Ron Klattenberg, Manager, Remediation Services for Northeast Utilities in Hartford. "NU has enthusiastically supported the Soils Conference because of the broad audience that this conference attracts, and the high quality of the technical information that's being presented. The conference allows us as a company to discuss some of the important issues in a very open forum, and we've done that on a couple of occasions. So I give the conference

very high marks."

Corinne Schultz, Business Development Director for IT in Norwood, MA, has been involved with the conference as an advisory board member and participant for seven years. "It's a highly focused, technical conference which draws representatives from many of the major markets that we serve -- state federal, and industrial/commercial. The conference provides us with a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate our capabilities within the areas of innovative technologies and strategies, and it also allows us the opportunity to interact with our existing customer base." IT is a worldwide provider of environmental compliance services.

Only thirty-five spaces are allotted each year, ensuring plenty of room for attendees to mingle and schmooze. Prospective exhibitors should contact Denise Leonard at (413) 545-1239 regarding space availability.



Top: The Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center returns in 2000 as a Conference Co-sponsor. Left: Conference Advisory Board member Bill Kucharski (holding coffee cup) in Exhibit Hall. Kucharski is the former Secretary for the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.



About The Northeast Regional Environmental Public Health Center

Center History

Directed by Dr. Edward J. Calabrese with Associate Director Dr. Paul T. Kostecki, the Northeast Regional Environmental Public Health Center (NREPHC) was created in 1985 by the University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees to offer regional leadership in environmental health concerns, and to share its expertise in teaching, research and policy assessment with respect to multimedia (air, water, soil, food) contamination concerns. The mission of the Center is four-fold:

- To establish regular and effective communication between the states on issues related to environmental health;
- To provide training and educational programs for state employees and other designated groups;
- To conduct research on regional environmental health problems;
- To provide consultative assistance on technical policy issues.

Mission and Goals

Over the past ten years, the Center has provided consistent leadership in two areas:

- the environmental and public health effects of soil contamination, and
- the biological effects of low-level exposures to chemicals and radiation.

Soil Contamination. In the area of soil contamination, three activities of note are the development and management of the Council for the Environmental Health of Soils (CHESS) from 1989 to 1993, the conduct of several national surveys and, since 1985, the annual Contaminated Soils Conference.

The Council for the Health and Environmental Safety of Soils

(CHESS) created a national framework to address the cleanup of contaminated soils. CHESS received substantial funding support from both the public and private sectors. CHESS activities were blended into the overall activities of the Center in the area of soil contamination in 1993.

Since 1985, the Center has conducted several state-by-state surveys in the areas of cleanup levels for petroleum-contaminated soils and groundwater, innovative technologies use, and MTBE. The information is disseminated back to each state and published in the literature as peer-reviewed articles in journals and national magazines. Funding for the surveys has come from the Mass. Dept. of Environmental Protection and USEPA.

The annual contaminated soils, water and sediments conference is recognized for its strong scientific content and renowned technical information exchange activities. Over 5000 professionals have attended the meeting since 1990, with 700+ representing state and federal regulatory and public health agencies. It is widely used as technical training for public and private-sector scientists. The publication of peer-reviewed

conference proceeds in monograph form and via journal special issues ensures that technical information is broadly transferred to the scientific, academic, and regulatory communities.

Research funding resulting from the Conference includes a long-term interdisciplinary research program supported by nearly two million dollars of funding to assess soil ingestion in children and adults.

Low Level Exposures Initiative (BELLE). The second activity of the Center, called the Biological Effects of Low Level Exposures (BELLE) initiative, was begun in 1990 to assess the toxicological implications of low doses of exposure. It publishes a scholarly newsletter that is distributed to 12,000 scientists worldwide. Recently, the Center entered into a relationship with the publisher of the British Society of Toxicology to include the BELLE newsletter as a regular feature of the British Society of Toxicology journal. The BELLE initiative has also conducted national workshops in 1990, 1993, and 1996, with conference proceedings published in each case.

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conference quotes

"This conference came out of a research project that was funded by the DEP back in the early eighties to address petroleum contamination," recalls John Fitzgerald, Regional Engineer in the Northeast Regional Office of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. "Since then I come up just about every year, and every year I learn something. I think what's unique about this conference is the mixture of theoretical, academic, practical and regulator's perspectives which you don't get in a lot of conferences. I come here for those two or three things that make me say Ah-ha! I'm really glad I came this year, because I really didn't have good insight into those two or three things until now."

Accomplishments

Since 1985, the Northeast Regional Environmental Public Health Center has conducted over twenty national and international conferences in the areas of soil contamination, drinking water, biological effect of low level exposures, municipal waste disposal and other public health issues. In addition, the Center has also conducted over thirty workshops and courses on a wide array of environmental and public health topics including pharmacokinetics, risk communication, gypsy moth risk analysis, soil ingestion, indoor air quality, the Safe Drinking Water Act, ozone risk assessment, quantitative risk assessment methodologies, and hormesis.

Dr. Calabrese and Dr. Kostecki make 15 to 20 presentations each year as invited speakers to national and international societies, organizations, companies and universities as well as

federal and state agencies, presenting Center research and promoting Center activities. Since its inception in 1985, the Center has established itself as a clear national leader in the areas of soil, water and sediments contamination and the biological effects of low level exposure.

In 1990, five years after its inception, the Center had the unique opportunity to be evaluated as part of the National Council on Education for Public Health Accreditation, comprised of nationally renowned academics and professionals from the private and public sector. They wrote: "The Northeast Environmental Public Health Center concept is innovative and worthy of emulation. It is, in the opinion of the team, a unique opportunity to blend current scientific advancements with real world applications that have political and social relevance" Ten years later, we believe this to be even more true today.

conference co-directors



JACK H. ARCHER, L.I.M.

L.I.M., Law and Marine Affairs, University of Washington; J.D., Hastings College of the Law, University of California, San Francisco. Associate Dean of the new Intercampus Graduate School of Marine Sciences and Technology for the University of Massachusetts

Fields of Expertise:

environmental law and policy, integrated coastal area management, and public trust law and theory

Professor Archer's research interests involve the study and analysis of the U.S. coastal and ocean resource management regimes; coastal zone management; ocean and coastal pollution issues; the development of ocean energy and mineral resources; fisheries management; the legal regime regulating hazardous waste in the marine environment; and legal, policy and administrative issues at federal, state and local levels, including intergovernmental conflict resolution and federal-state relations generally. Recent research projects have included a national study of the application of public trust doctrine and theory to protect coastal areas and resources, and an analysis of the interactions of the public trust and constitutional takings doctrines. International legal aspects of marine and coastal resource management are also areas of interest.

Where are conference attendees from?

The conference attracts attendees from almost every state covering every region of the United States. Past conferences have had an international presence as well, with attendees from Canada, South Africa, United Kingdom, Germany, Kuwait, Australia, Columbia, Mexico, Switzerland, France, Italy, Greece, Russia, China and Taiwan.





**PROF.
BRIAN J.
ROTHSCHILD**

Dean of the new Intercampus Graduate School of Marine Sciences and Technology at UMass Dartmouth

Fields of Expertise:

population dynamics, biological oceanography, and fishery management

Prior to joining the University of Massachusetts, Professor Rothschild held professorships at the University of Maryland and the University of Washington. He has had faculty or visiting scientist affiliations with the University of Hawaii; Scripps Institution of Oceanography; Rosensteil School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami; Institut fur Meereskunde, University of Kiel; Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution; and Harvard University. In government, Professor Rothschild was a Charter Member of the Senior Executive Service in the Department of Commerce. He has served as Senior Policy Advisor to the Administrator of NOAA; Director of the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, La Jolla; and Deputy Director of the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. His research has contributed to the fundamental understanding of fish stock recruitment, and to the role of physical forcing on ocean biodynamics, in particular, the role of small-scale turbulent flow on plankton encounter rates. He is the author of *Dynamics of Marine Fish Populations*, published by Harvard University Press. He has edited five books and is the author of eighty research papers.

Intercampus Collaboration Enhances Soils Conference

Recent moves to collaborate with other UMass campuses are resulting in new fields of interest and broader academic representation for the 16th Annual Contaminated Soils, Water and Sediments Conference organized by the Northeast Regional Environmental and Public Health Center at UMass, Amherst. "One of the conference's strengths," says Marcella Williams, Deputy Chancellor, UMass Amherst, "is that it is so horizontal across the range of disciplines within the university, across a range of issues in our society, and across a range of expertise within the five-college system itself."

Last year the Conference welcomed Dr. Hilary I. Inyang, Director of the Center for Environmental Engineering Science & Technology (CEEST) as a new co-director. Part of the University of Massachusetts Lowell, CEEST is a multi-disciplinary research, technical assistance and training organization that focuses on environment-related technological issues. "In the environmental arena," says Dr. Inyang, "the interdisciplinary scope is so wide that no one university or campus has the relevant faculty members of a critical mass, the equipment, and the resources to be dominant in that field. Synergy is only possible if the different campuses pool together their intellectual and material resources to seek eminence in this area."

Each campus brings its own strengths, notes Dr. Inyang. Because of their location in the Boston area, for example, UMass Lowell comes face to face with so-called brown environmental issues -- industrial development and emissions. Reclaiming prime inner city sites that have been largely aban-

doned because of residual contamination has been a major focus for CEEST. Dr. Inyang chaired the subcommittee of the EPA that resulted in the federal "brown fields" funding for assessment of industrial sites.

New starting in 2000: Sediments

Intercampus collaboration expands in 2000 with the participation of the new five-campus graduate program in Marine Sciences and Technology involving the Amherst, Lowell, Dartmouth, Boston, and Worcester Medical School campuses. One of the few inter-campus schools in the nation, the new school will focus on an array of marine science issues, ranging from the management of fishing grounds to the effects of pollution on marine environments. Dean Brian J. Rothschild, and Associate Dean Jack H. Archer, will oversee the addition of sediments to the Conference program.

As the interface between soil and water, sediments are important, says Conference Co-director Paul Kostecki, "because we are a very coastal country with numerous rivers. Sediments can be the repository for past environmental sins while serving a very important ecological role. This dynamic can have a profound public and ecological health impact, if not addressed properly."

Intercampus collaborations attract more students to Conference

The conference has always attracted students, notes Dr. Inyang, who anticipates increased student registra-

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tions in October. "It is one thing to have students enrolled in theoretical classes; it is another thing to provide them with the opportunity to listen to people who have implemented actual field projects. This conference exposes students to a wider variety of environmental activities."

It all adds up to a diverse mix of personalities and perspectives. "What I often find," says Deputy Chancellor Williams, "is that when people of diverse perspectives come together around mutual concerns, there's a certain energy that results, and that causes the conference to be that much better because of it. It's just more exciting! That's the essence of what this conference does and is all about."



After the banquet: UMass and KFAS cement plans for an International Congress in 2001 to promote cleanup of petroleum contamination. (starting 4th from left:) UMass President William Bolger; Robert Karam, UMass Board of Trustees chairman; UMass Chancellor David Scott; KFAS Director General Dr. Ali Al-Shamiam; Dr. Barbara Burn, UMass Associate Provost for International Programs; Dr. Paul Kostecki, Research Associate Professor.

International Congress grows out of Soils Conference

A proposed major international Congress on Petroleum Contaminated Soils, Sediments and Water, to take place in September 2001, traces its roots to a collaboration forged by Research Associate Professor Paul Kostecki at the UMass Contaminated Soils Conference.

Since 1994, when he was invited to Kuwait to coordinate and present a workshop on the cleanup of petroleum contamination resulting from the Persian Gulf War, Kostecki has been cultivating a network of contacts with Kuwaiti science, business and higher education institutions, including the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS). The Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences funds research and training projects worldwide, with emphasis on modernization and scientific development in Kuwait and other Arab countries.

These contacts culminated in a recent four-day trip in April 2000 by a contingent of UMass administrators consisting of UMass President William Bulger, Chair of Trustees Robert Karam, Chancellor David and Dr. Kathleen Scott, Barbara Burn, Associate Provost for International Programs, and Dr. Paul Kostecki. Meeting with Dr. Ali Al-Shamiam, Director General of KFAS, the two institutions affirmed their mutual commitment to the proposed Congress.

At a visit to Kuwait University, President Al-Korafi emphasized the University's interest in collaborating with Universities abroad, including UMass. Priorities would be exchanges of faculty members and cooperation in research. Kuwait University is developing an environmental health program, and officials hope to build upon the University of Massachusetts' strength in this area.

conference quotes

"We're a risk assessment firm," says Dallas Wait of Gradient Corporation (Cambridge, MA), "and the conference has been a great forum for providing risk assessment and eco-assessment concepts and for sharing ideas with people. The area I'm specifically interested in is forensic chemistry. Forensic chemistry means using scientific tools to allow investigators to determine who may be responsible for contamination. It's a burgeoning field right now because of liability issues associated with cleaning up contaminated sites, and this conference has a long history of producing high quality papers, and experts who can expound on some of the emerging theories and practices in that area."



Poster Sessions

Posters offer an extension of the strong technical content of the Conference, and more than double the amount of information presented at Conference programs. Posters are exhibited in the halls and in assigned "poster rooms" throughout the Conference. Assigned poster times provide presenters and attendees with periods when they can interact on a one-to-one basis.



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The tremendous success of past conferences has been the result of the dedication and hard work of our Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) members and this year's conference is no exception. The SAB evaluates abstract submissions, recommends invited papers and presenters, advises on special sessions and activities and generally serves as conference ambassadors encouraging colleagues to participate and attend. The creation of the SAB is the first crucial step in conference development, and care is taken to insure philosophical, scientific, regulatory and geographical balance.

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