

OP-SETAC

2003 newsletter



FROM THE BOARD

Welcome to our new Board members!

The following people have been elected to serve on the Board beginning in January 2004.

Matt Kern

Currently, Matt Kern is a Senior Research Biologist with Bayer CropScience in Stillwell, KS. Matt's primary responsibility is the management of an Aquatic Ecotoxicology Laboratory, producing studies to support pesticide registrations. Matt has been with the company just over six years and has experience in the Aquatic and Avian Ecotoxicology laboratories. Matt has been a member of OP-SETAC for five years and SETAC-NA for three.

Matt earned his B.S in 1995 and M.S in 1997 from Pittsburg State University with emphasis in aquatic biology. In 2003, Matt also earned a M.S. in General Management from Baker University. Matt's hope is that he can continue to make OP-SETAC a fruitful scientific outlet for government, industry, and academia.

Yue-wern Huang

Dr. Yue-wern Huang studied amphibian ecotoxicology in the lower Fox River and Green Bay area and received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1998. He then pursued his postdoctoral training in the area of endocrine disruption at Michigan State University in 1998-2000. He

joined the University of Missouri-Rolla in 2000 and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences. Dr. Huang's research focuses on applying biochemical, bioanalytical, and molecular techniques to understand potential reproductive modulation of environmental estrogens on organisms. His research focuses on the identification of endocrine disruptors and assessment of their biological impacts on organisms inhabiting sewage treatment areas and streams in agricultural land. He works closely with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and Missouri Department of Conservation. Dr. Yue-wern Huang would like to use this opportunity to start his involvement with OP-SETAC.

Nile Kemble (Treasurer)

Nile Kemble is a Research Fisheries Biologist with the USGS at the Columbia Environmental Research Center in Columbia, MO. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Nebraska-Kearney in Biology (1984) and a Master of Science from the University of Missouri in Fisheries Management (1989). He has conducted research over the past 15 years to develop methods for assessing the bioavailability of contaminants in sediment. Specifically, he has participated in the development of chronic toxicity tests with amphipods that have been used to evaluate contaminated sediments in several areas including the Great Lakes, the upper Mississippi River, the Clark Fork River in Montana, the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, Texas, streams throughout the state of North Carolina, three constructed wetlands and the Calcasieu Estuary in Louisiana. Nile has also worked with a variety of other organizations to develop sediment quality guidelines that can be

used to predict the incidence of toxicity in sediments. He has also worked with ASTM and the USEPA in developing standard methods for conducting toxicity tests with contaminated sediments. Nile has been an active member of SETAC since 1994 and has attended the SETAC-NA meeting every year since 1992. He is currently a member of the SETAC Short Course Committee and is a member of the Editorial Board for ET&C. He was a member of the SETAC Meetings Committee from 1997 to 1999. Nile is currently the Membership Secretary of ASTM E47, a sub-chair of ASTM Subcommittee E47.01 and Chair of ASTM Subcommittee E47.94 on Nominations and Awards. He is also the Centers Partners-in-Education Coordinator. Nile has also expressed great interest in being the next OP-SETAC Treasurer.

Thanks to all who voted in this fall's election!

Our current Board of Directors:

Joel Coats, President
Joe Bidwell, Vice President
Keri Henderson, Secretary
Nile Kemble, Treasurer
Jason Belden, Board member
Paul Morris, Board member
Tom Orr, Board member
Yue-wern Huang, Board member
Matt Kern, Board member
Steve Levine, Ex-officio

2004 REGIONAL MEETING

The upcoming joint meeting with the Midwest Chapter will be held March 3-5, 2004 in LaCrosse, WI. Early registration savings can be made through January 23. The deadline for abstract submission is January 26. Student travel awards will be offered to selected applicants. Travel award applications must be submitted by February 23. For specific information, please see the meeting announcement at <http://www.midwestsetac.org/Final-MWSETAC-2004-Call-Web-18Dec-03.pdf>

We look forward to seeing you in LaCrosse! It will be a great opportunity to interact with our neighbors in the Midwest Chapter.



2003 IN REVIEW

Meeting statistics:

The 2003 Annual Chapter Meeting was held August 11-12 at Monsanto's Creve Coeur campus in St. Louis, MO. The theme of this year's meeting was "Transgenic Plant Biotechnology." A social gathering was held at Beirne Park on Monday evening. Chris Ingersoll started off Tuesday's technical program with an update from SETAC-NA, including information about the Austin, TX meeting, and other meetings of interest. Student platform

presentations rounded out the morning's activities. A lunch/poster session was held for students and other members to discuss posters, and the afternoon plenary session included five invited speakers who discussed ecological and human risk assessment for biotech crops.

The meeting was organized and hosted by Steve Levine of Monsanto and Paul Morris of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Thirty-one members, including 14 students, and five invited speakers were in attendance. A file containing the meeting schedule and abstracts is posted on the OP-SETAC website.

<http://wwwaux.cerc.cr.usgs.gov/opsetac>

Student competition winners:

Platform presentations

- 1st place: Kelly Wilhelms, ISU
2nd place: Chad Boeckman, OSU
3rd place: Sara Watt, OSU

Poster presentations

- 1st place: Bryan Clark, ISU
2nd place: Keri Henderson, ISU
3rd place: Lee Ann Tome-Moeller, OSU

Summary of 2003 Board meetings:

This year, the Board focused on increasing Chapter membership and attendance to regional meetings. We worked to update our membership directory, and continue to do so. We also attempted to contact potential members, focusing specifically on increasing numbers of government-employed members, and academic members with graduate students. In an effort to increase meeting attendance, the Board voted unanimously in favor of a joint regional meeting with the Midwest Chapter.



OP-SETAC MERCHANDISE

Support OP-SETAC! We still have coffee mugs and t-shirts available. Mugs are available from the 2003 meeting, and are \$5 each. We still have t-shirts available from the 2002 & 2001 meetings. In an effort to "move" them, the cost is \$5 per shirt or 2 for \$9. There are 10 large and 10 XL of the 2002 shirts, and there is 1 medium, 1 large, and 1 XL of the 2001 meeting t-shirts. Email Keri Henderson at hendersk@iastate.edu if you are interested in purchasing one of these items.

SPONSORS

Many thanks to the organizations that have continued to support OP-SETAC with financial donations.

SETAC-NA:	SETAC Publications
Monsanto:	\$500 + \$400 meeting costs
Bayer Crop Sciences:	\$500
ABC Laboratories:	\$100

EMAIL and WEB INFORMATION

We are continuing our efforts to update our membership directory. If you have a new email address, or are receiving this newsletter as a hardcopy, please email me so we can add you to the list and update our files. Thanks! Keri Henderson, Secretary.

hendersk@iastate.edu

OP-SETAC:

<http://wwwaux.cerc.cr.usgs.gov/opsetac>

SETAC:

<http://setac.org>

John Besser is always looking for things to post on our website. If you have articles or job

announcements, please let him know. You can contact John at jbesser@usgs.gov.