



PNW-SETAC Newsletter

<http://www.pnw-setac.org/index.html>

P.O. Box 5331, Bellingham, WA 98227-5331

Spring 2012

Pacific Northwest Chapter - Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry

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President's Address



Vicki's tour of a sea turtle hatchery in the Bay of Banderas, Mexico with biologist Oscar Aranda Mena (background; Sociedad Ecologica de Occidente)

Greetings PNW-SETAC members!

I hope 2012 has been a productive and Happy New Year thus far. I am thrilled to be serving as Chapter President this year especially because I have the honor of hosting our 2012 regional PNW-SETAC conference here in my home town, Vancouver, BC, April 26-28th.

This year's conference planning is a joint effort of course, and I am fortunate to have an exceptional group of Officers and Board of Directors' to make this a fantastic year for our Chapter.

Please join me in welcoming new Board members: **Heather Henson-Ramsey**, Vice-President (Lewis-Clark State College), **Ryan Loveridge**, Treasurer (CH2M Hill), **Ruth Sofield**, Academia At-Large (Western Washington University), **Patrick Moran**, Government At-Large (US Geological Survey) and **Lesley Shelley**, Student At-Large representative (Simon Fraser University).

Each of our new members have already made many positive contributions to the Board, and we are fortunate to have their expertise and dedication ensuring PNW-SETAC is running smoothly. We thank

Fran Solomon, Environmental Teaching International, for her committed and enthusiastic service and leadership as President over the past year, and greatly appreciate her continued service as Past President this year.

A special congratulation's are in order for **April Markiewicz**, Western Washington University, and our current Secretary who was the recipient of the 2011 SETAC Outstanding Regional Chapter Member Award. This prestigious award is given in recognition of outstanding leadership and commitment to SETAC North America and the PNW Chapter.

April has served approximately 20 years as a PNW-SETAC Chapter member and has held every Officer position except Treasurer and has literally shaped the mission and current status of PNW-SETAC. In the short time that I have been with PNW-SETAC I can attest to the tributes in her nomination letters submitted by the PNW-SETAC Officers, Board and members that "April is the heart of our Chapter". She is indeed an irreplaceable member and Officer of PNW-SETAC that I hope we have the privilege of working with for many more years. Congratulations April!

We are currently finalizing the last details of the 2012 Annual Meeting of PNW-SETAC (our 21st Annual Meeting!) at the Sandman Hotel downtown Vancouver. In addition to the regular platform (oral) and poster presentations on a variety of cutting edge environmental toxicology topics, we have a special session on *Wildlife Ecotoxicology* with a variety of presenters chaired by **John Elliott** and **Christine Bishop** (Environment Canada) on Friday.

As part of this year's meeting program on Thursday afternoon we are offering two concurrent half-day short courses. **Frank Gobas** (Simon Fraser University) will be teaching "*Application of Data & Models*

to Develop Ecologically Relevant Sediment Quality Criteria". **George Ivey** (Ivey International Inc.) will be teaching "Environmental Chemistry or Site Reclamation and Remediation Made Easy".

Online registration begins **February 10th** and can be accessed on our website at www.regonline.com/pnw_setac_annual_meeting_2012. Also, don't forget to renew your 2012 membership at www.pnw-setac.org/member_services.htm to take advantage of the cheaper rates!

Early bird registration ends **March 16th**. Regular online registrations will be accepted until **April 20th**, and on-site registration will also be available at the conference. The last deadline to keep in mind is **April 21st**, which is the last day to register for a reduced rate and convenient hotel room at the Sandman Hotel.

In closing, I hope that I see you at both of our social events, including the Thursday evening Welcome Reception and the Friday evening dinner. Moreover, I hope our 2012 conference presents you with new ideas, an expanded network of colleagues and friends, and renewed inspiration to take on the challenges we face in the field of environmental toxicology and chemistry.

Vicki Marlatt
PNW-SETAC President
University of the Fraser Valley

2012 PNW-SETAC!!

April 26-28, 2012
Sandman Hotel, 180 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, B.C. Canada



http://www.sandmanhotels.com/hotel/bc/vancouver_citycentre

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming 21st Annual PNW-SETAC meeting April 26-28th at the downtown Sandman Hotel in Vancouver, B.C.

A block of rooms have been reserved at the excellent room rate of \$89 plus tax per night. Due to the international venue for many Chapter members south of the border the **First Call for Abstracts** and **Student Travel Application Form** were sent out earlier this year. This was so our government members could get leave requests turned in and approved in time for the meeting.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Oral presentations are limited to 15 minutes, with an additional 5 minutes for discussion or questions. PowerPoint slide presentations are required. Lettering should be large enough to be read at a distance of 100', e.g., 72 pt for titles, 42 pt for presenter affiliation, and 24 pt or greater for text.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Posters should be able to fit on a 4' x 6' board using Velcro or tacks. Supplies will be provided onsite. Lettering on posters should be readable at a distance of 6' i.e., the same as for platform presentations with 72 pt for titles, 42 pt for presenter affiliation, and 24 pt or greater for text.

If you have any questions, please contact **April** at April.Markiewicz@wwu.edu.

Special Session

Friday April 27th, 9:00 am – 2:50 pm
Sandman Hotel

There will be a Special Session on *Wildlife Ecotoxicology* for the first part of the Chapter conference starting at 9:00 am and continuing through the mid-afternoon.

Both posters and platform presentations will provide a focused overview of the breadth and depth of work being conducted in the field of wildlife ecotoxicology in the Pacific Northwest.

Aspects of both exposure and effect cascades will be addressed from individual to population levels. The session will afford an opportunity to present studies with both ecological and toxicological inclinations.

This will include effects of behaviour, and temporal and spatial variation in habitat

use on exposure patterns. Furthermore, ecological windows of sensitivity may be discussed and there will also be studies, whether laboratory or field, which explore mechanisms and relationships between exposure and effects.

Online Registration!

RegOnline starts **February 10th** along with online hotel registration directly with the Sandman Hotel Vancouver City Centre. Early bird registration ends **March 16th**. **April 21st** will be the last day to register for a hotel room and **April 20th** the last day to register for the conference.

To find out more information about registering, short courses, the special session, hotel accommodations, preliminary schedule, etc. please download the pdf document available on our PNW-SETAC website at www.pnw-setac.org/conferences.htm

Payment is available by credit card or PayPal, or you can choose the check or cash option for mail-in or onsite payments. Mailed-in payments should be addressed to:

PNW-SETAC
P.O. Box 5331
Bellingham, WA 98227-5331

We strongly encourage you to use the online registration system even if you are paying by check, as it helps us track our registrants. **You can also change or cancel your registration, and receive refunds through the online system.**

Please contact **Ryan Loveridge** at Ryan.Loveridge@CH2M.com if you have any questions regarding payment.

Judges Needed

Judging student platform and poster presentations is a terrific way to give to the PNW-SETAC community, and more importantly to foster the development of undergraduate and graduate students in this field of environmental science.

Good critical, but constructive feedback is invaluable to these students as they

prepare to join the greater scientific community.

We need judges from all aspects of PNW-SETAC membership: academia, industry, government, and students. If you are interested in judging, please contact **Ruth Sofield**, At-Large (Academia) representative at Ruth.Sofield@wwu.edu or check the volunteer box on the online registration form when you register. Ruth will contact you before the meeting with instructions.

Thanks in advance for your help!

Ruth Sofield

At-Large (Academia)
Western Washington University

Farewell Address



Fran Solomon, Past President

Hello fellow PNW-SETAC members!

I hope that 2012 has started well for everyone. This is my farewell address as the out-going PNW-SETAC President. It was a pleasure to serve our region last year. I was fortunate to work with a collaborative and enthusiastic group of officers and Board of Directors, and want to thank everyone for their dedication and for organizing a successful 2011 regional conference in Vancouver, WA.

Chapter leadership is now in the capable hands of **Vicki Marlatt**, University of the Fraser Valley, who is off to a great start in her term as President of PNW-SETAC. Welcome to Vicki and other new officers: Vice-President **Heather Henson-Ramsey**, Treasurer **Ryan Loveridge**, Government At-Large **Patrick Moran**, and Academia At-Large **Ruth Sofield**. As Past-President this year, I am participating on the planning committee

for the 2012 regional conference that will take place at the Sandman Hotel in downtown Vancouver, BC from April 26-28th. The conference schedule and online registration instructions are posted on our website (www.pnw-setac.org): early bird registration continues until **March 16th**.

In addition to oral and platform presentations, there will be a Special Session on *Wildlife Ecotoxicology* and two short courses that I encourage you to attend. Poster viewing, refreshment breaks, meals, and the Thursday evening Welcome Reception will provide opportunities for renewing professional acquaintanceships and expanding your professional network. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to explore a beautiful, cosmopolitan, and international city.

I lived in Vancouver in 2007 while teaching at the University of British Columbia and always welcome the opportunity to return. I look forward to learning about the latest toxicology research on both sides of the border and hope to see all of you at the conference.

Fran Solomon

Past PNW-SETAC President
Environmental Teaching International

Student At-Large



Lesley Shelley, Simon Fraser University

Hello fellow students in the Pacific Northwest!

I wanted to take this opportunity to provide a few updates about things going on at the national level (SETAC North America) and encourage you to attend the upcoming PNW-SETAC meeting in April, 2012 in Vancouver, B.C.

First, there were a number of students from the Pacific Northwest region that attended the 2011 SETAC NA meeting in Boston, giving some great platform and poster presentations (in addition to enjoying the many social events at the meeting!). One student from Simon Fraser University, **Adam Goulding**, won the prize for best undergraduate student platform presentation in Boston. Congratulations to Adam!

Also, the North America Student Advisory Council (NASAC), made up of the regional chapter student representatives and some At-Large members, has recently launched a Facebook page. I encourage you to join so you keep up with opportunities and events that NASAC plans, especially student activities at the national meetings. There's also a SETAC NA Facebook page for members, which you can join to keep up with what's happening at the national level.

Locally, we now have the PNW meeting in Vancouver, B.C. to look forward to in April. This should be a great meeting with several short courses, a special session and platform/poster presentations. The program looks really interesting, so even if you aren't going to be presenting it would be a good idea to attend anyway.

The registration fees for students are very reasonable so there's no excuse to not attend! In addition to hearing about the newest developments in our field, the meeting provides a great forum for networking with both regional professionals and other students. There are a number of opportunities for this such as the coffee breaks, Thursday night Welcome Reception and Friday night dinner.

Something else to keep in mind – my term as student representative will be coming to a close in the spring/summer this year. I'd like to encourage everyone to consider becoming the new student rep for 2012-13.

It's been a wonderful experience for me so far and the opportunity to see the inner workings of our local Chapter has been great. You'll also get to help with conference planning for next year, skills

that can come in handy down the road in your future careers.

If you're interested in the opportunity or would like more information, please feel free to contact me at lshelley@sfu.ca or catch up with me at the PNW meeting. Hope to see you all in April in Vancouver, B.C.!

Lesley Shelley, PhD Candidate
At-Large (Student) Board Member
Simon Fraser University

Get to Know Your Board Members



Ruth being happy as a clam in her lab at EAWAG in Switzerland

Ruth Sofield
2012-14 At-Large (Academia)

Ruth was born in Wichita, KS, but as a "military brat" she spent much of her childhood moving all around the eastern U.S. (Louisiana and Virginia), as well as spending a little time overseas in Iceland. Eventually, her family settled in southern West Virginia where she stayed for 12 years until she left to attend West Virginia University in northern West Virginia.

She obtained a BA in Biology in 1993 and then pursued her MS in Environmental Science at McNeese State University in Louisiana. After that she hit the road again and spent the next 8 years in Colorado at the Colorado School of Mines earning another MS in 1999, as well as a Ph.D. (2002) in Environmental Science and Engineering.

It didn't take her long after graduating to be offered a tenure-track faculty position at Western Washington University and came to her new home in Bellingham,

WA in 2003 where she has been ever since.

She likes to joke that she never really left school because she did a one-year post doc in the Honeyman Laboratory for Applied and Environmental Radiochemistry (LAER) at the Colorado School of Mines before becoming a professor at Western Washington University after that.

According to Ruth: "I am currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences at Huxley College of the Environment at Western Washington University" When asked what she liked least about her job she replied "What a mouthful it is to say where I work... That isn't really what I like least, but it is publishable in a newsletter..."

"What I like the most – that one is easy... is working with students, seeing how excited they are to learn. I'm in the enviable position of being able to see new opportunities put in front of them after they graduate from Huxley College and them becoming successful in their new professional careers."

Ruth's own expertise is a combination of aquatic toxicology and environmental chemistry, "...using toxicity testing to investigate complex chemical questions. I just spent a year in Switzerland on sabbatical investigating silver nanoparticle fate, transport, and toxicity." She has published some of her research in the journals *ET&C*, *ES&T*, and *Aquatic Toxicology*.

On a personal level "I like to trail run and travel (just went to my 49th state). I have a husband who is a geomorphologist and cartographer, and a rescue dog that acts like a teenage boy many times. When he (the dog) isn't in a biochemical induced fit of unreasonableness, he is fun to take running, biking or for some tennis ball throwing."

"I decided to run for a position on the PNW-SETAC Board to contribute to the regional Chapter, which has been a great Chapter to be part of. Since I just started my term I don't have any specific goals at the moment except to maintain and

encourage student access to and participation in PNW-SETAC.

After my tenure expires (both at work and with PNW-SETAC I don't have any finalized plans because it's much too far in the future for me. I do want to go in the Peace Corp, but that is very much down the road."

Her only other goal professionally or personally is to "Retire early!"

SETAC 2012: Long Beach, CA

November 11th – 15th, 2012

Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center, Long Beach, CA



(Logo courtesy of www.setac.org)

Planning is already underway for the 33rd SETAC NA Annual Meeting. This year's theme is "*Catching the Next Wave: Advancing Science through Innovation and Collaboration*".

The **First Call for Abstracts** will be coming out **April 1st**. Please keep checking <http://longbeach.setac.org> for updates in the coming months!

SETAC Snippets

Other SETAC Meetings:

22nd SETAC Europe Annual Meeting and SETAC 6th World Congress

This year's meeting will be held in Berlin, Germany May 20-24th. The theme is "*Securing a Sustainable Future: Integrating Science, Policy and People*." For more information, please visit <http://berlin.setac.eu/?contentid=404>

SETAC Asia/Pacific Meeting will be held in Kumamoto, Japan September 24-27, 2012. This year's theme is "*Learning from History and Advancing Science to Build a Safer and Sustainable Environment*." For more information, please visit <http://www.setac-kumamoto2012.org>

Future SETAC NA Meetings

34th Annual SETAC NA Meeting, Gaylord Opryland, Nashville, TN, November 17-21, 2013

35th Annual SETAC North America Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia, November 9-13, 2014

AAAS National

February 16-20, 2010
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

It's not too late to attend the AAAS meeting being held next week in Vancouver, B.C. at the Vancouver Convention Center. The 2012 meeting's theme is "*Flattening the World: Building a Global Knowledge Society*" in recognition that there are many issues that face us (people, money, food, energy, health, water, land, climate, biodiversity) and require us to ask ourselves questions on how to address them.

Some of those questions include: How do we as scientists, engineers, and policy-makers begin to think (and act) on a global scale to address such complicated, cross-cutting problems? How do we tackle the sheer complexity of global systems, be they economic, ecological, or educational? How do we begin to develop truly global models, and then solutions, through multinational collaborative efforts?

Consider participating in this national meeting and contributing your own perspectives and ideas. For more information please visit:

<http://www.aaas.org/meetings/>.

AAAS Pacific Division

June 24 - 27, 2012
Boise Convention Center
Boise, ID

The 93rd AAAS Pacific Division Annual Meeting, including the annual meeting of the Northwest Region of Sigma Xi, will be held at the Boise Convention Center June 24-27th. Co-located with the meeting will be the 2nd pentennial meeting of the Snake River Section of the American

Chemical Society. The Boise State University will be a co-sponsor of the meeting.

This year's theme is "*Science Informing Outcomes*" The *First Call for Papers* has been issued and are due **April 18th**. For more information please go to <http://associations.sou.edu/aaaspd/2012BOISE/index.html>

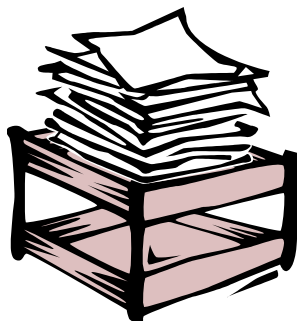
40th Aquatic Toxicity Workshop

September 30 – October 3, 2012
Sun Peaks, B.C., Canada

ATW is Canada's major annual meeting in the field of aquatic toxicology and related disciplines. It provides the opportunity to share information on current and emerging topics of regional, national and international importance related to water quality. Participants include students, academics, government scientists and regulators, environmental consultants and industry representatives.

The theme of the 40th Annual Aquatic Toxicity Workshop is "*Source to Resource*" Keep checking <http://atw.ca/> for more information in the coming months!

Editors Corner



www.ofrikanwriters.com/theheart.htm

Articles for the newsletter or announcements for the membership may be submitted to me at April.Markiewicz@wwu.edu at any time.

April Markiewicz
Western Washington University