

**METHODS COMMITTEE REPORTS****Committee on Environmental Quality****WILLIAM L. HALL, CHAIR**

The Mosaic Co., 3095 County Rd, 640 West Mulberry, FL  
33860-1100

**WILLIAM A. TELLIARD, SECRETARY, RETIRING**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Science  
and Technology, MC-4303 Office of Water, 401 M St, NW,  
Washington, DC 20460

**JOSEPHINE POMPEY, SECRETARY, INCOMING**

Washington State Department of Health, Environmental  
and Radiation Chemical Laboratory, Seattle, WA 98715

**KAREN S. HARLIN**

Illinois State Water Survey, 2204 Griffith Dr, Champaign,  
IL 61820-7495

**YASH P. KALRA**

Canadian Forest Service, Northern Forestry Ctr, 5320  
122nd St, Edmonton, AB T6H-3S5, Canada

**ROBERTO W. CELIA**

Environmental Science Corp., 12065 Lebanon Rd, Mt  
Juliet, TN 37122

**SUSAN N. BOUTROS**

Environmental Associated Ltd., 24 Oak Brook Dr, Ithaca,  
NY 14850-8717

**PAUL WEHLING, STATISTICAL ADVISOR**

Medallion Laboratories, 9000 Plymouth Ave N,  
Minneapolis, MN 55427

**PAUL W. McCORMACK, SAFETY ADVISOR**

BASF Aktiengesellschaft, EDB/EA-J550, D-67056  
Ludwigshafen, Rhineland-Pfalz, Germany

**SAMAN P. AMARAKONE, RETIRING**

Canadian (Atlantic) Forest Service, Natural Resources  
Canada, Hugh John Flemming Forestry Ctr, PO Box 4000,  
Fredericton, NB E3B-5P7, Canada

**CRAIG MACMULLIN**

Environmental Services Laboratory Inc., 1240 Grand Lake  
Rd, PO Box 897, D309 Sydney, NS B1P 6J1, Canada

**EDWARD TODD URBANSKY, RETIRING**

Joint Oil Analysis Program Technical Support Center, 85  
Millington Ave, Pensacola, FL 32508-5010

**PETER KANE**

Office of the Indiana State Chemist, Biochemistry Bldg,  
175 South University St, Purdue University, West  
Lafayette, IN 47907-2063

**Committee Actions**

There are 3 GR positions within Committee J, 2 are open (environmental microbiology and environmental chemistry); Efforts to fill these vacancies were not fruitful. The third (bioassay methods) is currently held by Marion Kelly of EPA Office of Water. She has not responded in attempts to communicate with her. If contact can not be made, then we must assume that all 3 positions will be open.

During the Annual Meeting and year that followed, additional discussion centered on increasing Committee responsiveness and organization of the Committee. Several new General Referees and Study Directors were discussed. Although no General Referee, Study Directors, or studies are underway in the newly formed topic area "Environmental Microbiology," the area is viewed as important for method development. Several potential General Referees for this topic were suggested, but no candidates were found.

Several possible General Referees for the Environmental Chemistry topic were discussed. The chair will make calls to determine interest and availability of several possible candidates. The area of trace metals was discussed; it was decided to combine study areas into a topic called trace metals in fertilizers, soils, and plants since the second would include analysis of the hydride generation elements. This work is now moving through Committee I, but there is still much activity in the area of soils and environmental matrixes.

Possible new topics were discussed. They include: perchlorate in soils, ground water, drinking water, and plant uptake; radiation methods; screening methods, and other biological methods.

Josephine Pompey suggested several areas of interest and proposed developing a list of the potential new methods. This list could be generated from current ATPs (alternate test procedures) currently employed by EPA as well as the industry and regulatory hot topics.

A possible meeting with AOAC representatives and EPA was proposed, but to date has not occurred. The purpose of the meeting would be discussion of funding and method development opportunities.

***General Referee Topics Status***

*Environmental Microbiology:* General Referee vacant. No report. No topics.

*Environmental Chemistry:* General Referee vacant. No report.

*Summary of Topics*

(1) *High Resolution GC/MS Method 1668a for Coplanar and Toxic PCB*: Study Director vacant. Continue study.

(2) *Trace Metals in Soils and Plant Nutrients*: Topic Advisor Peter Kane, Office of the Indiana State Chemist, Purdue University 1154 Biochemistry Bldg, West Lafayette, IN 47907-1154, Tel: 765-494-1560, Fax: 765-494-4331, E-mail: kanep@purdue.edu. Continue study.

(3) *Radiation (new topic)*: General Referee vacant.

(4) *Bioassay Methods*: General Referee Marion Kelly, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water, Office of Science and Technology, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Mail Code 4303T, Washington, DC 20460. No report.

(5) *Whole Effluent Toxicology Bioassay*: Vacant. Continue study.