

AAPSE

NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSORS IN SANITARY ENGINEERING

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"I often say that if you can measure that of which you speak and can express it by a number, you know something of your subject; but if you cannot measure it, your knowledge is meagre and unsatisfactory."

--Lord Kelvin

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CHROMATOGRAPHY WORKSHOP IN BOULDER

The American Association of Professors in Sanitary Engineering, as part of its effort to serve all professors engaged in sanitary engineering-oriented activities, conducted its annual workshop this summer on the subject of Fundamentals of Chromatography. Papers and discussion covered the theory and examples of use of paper, thin-layer, and column chromatography. The workshop was held at the Harvest House Motor Hotel in Boulder, Colorado on June 4-7, 1967. The meeting was organized by the AAPSE Workshop Committee under the guidance of Program Chairman, Professor Donald R. Washington of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Cooperating in the Workshop was the College of Engineering, University of Colorado, Boulder. Professor Walter A. Weers of the University of Colorado was in charge of the local arrangements.

A full program of papers and discussions crowded the morning and evening sessions on Monday and Tuesday. The afternoons were free for enjoyment of the wonderful recreational opportunities available in this Rocky Mountain area. The Wednesday sessions were devoted to laboratory demonstrations.

The papers prepared by the Workshop participants were assembled in the form of a Syllabus. Copies of the Syllabus were provided to all registered participants. Additional copies are available and may be purchased from Professor Donald R. Washington, Environmental Engineering, North Hall, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York, 12181. Special prices are offered to AAPSE members. The material in the Syllabus on Fundamentals of Chromatography is well organized and represents a valuable reference which should be available to students in sanitary or environmental health engineering. Many NEWSLETTER readers will want to arrange to purchase copies for their library.

AAPSE OPEN MEETING IN ATLANTIC CITY

Another meeting of the American Association of Professors in Sanitary Engineering was held in the Card Room of the Traymore Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey at 8:30 pm on the evening of June 7, 1967. This meeting, like most others sponsored by AAPSE, was open to all interested persons and was arranged to present information concerning the activities of one of the Federal agencies active in the areas of interest to sanitary and environmental health engineers. Professor E. R. Baumann, Secretary of AAPSE, presided over the meeting.

The principal speaker for the evening was Mr. Floyd Taylor of the Office of Water Supply, U. S. Public Health Service, who discussed the subject of "Water Supply Research in the Public Health Service."

Mr. Taylor pointed out that, at the present time, water supply research in the Public Health Service is centered in the Bureau of Disease Prevention and Environmental Control. The program of this Bureau is being relocated in a number of Centers around the country. Among these will be the National Air Pollution Control Center to be located in the Research Triangle in North Carolina; the National Center for Radiological Health which is located at Rockville, Maryland; and the National Center for Environmental Control which is to be located on the

campus of the University of Cincinnati in Cincinnati, Ohio. At the present time, all research in the area of water supply is being conducted by the National Center for Environmental Control through its program in "Water Supply and Sea Resources." The program in Water Supply and Sea Resources currently employs about 250 people and has a \$4,000,000 budget. This has increased from a total of \$30,000 per year five years ago. Most of the work at the present time is in the area of shellfish sanitation which has come over from the old Environmental Sanitation and Food Protection Section.

Mr. Taylor also stated that, shortly, the Public Health Service will issue a policy report which will emphasize the need for more research in the area of water supply. At the present time, the in-house research is under the direction of a Dr. Neil Kelly. It is in this section that Gordon Robeck is working. The in-house research is conducted at 4 locations; Naragansette Bay, Mobile Bay, a location in the northwest, and in what was formerly the Robert A. Taft Sanitary Engineering Center at Cincinnati, Ohio. The emphasis at present is in the area of sea resources (shellfish). In addition to in-house research, the section also conducts contract research. For example, they now have a contract with the California State Department of Health to evaluate the effect of taste and odors on consumer acceptance of water.

Out-side research is being and will be directed through research grants from the Office of Grants Administration under the supervision of Henry Steed. The Office of Grants Administration has received funds from the former solid waste program, E. F., occupational health, environmental engineering and food protection, and so forth. All of these funds have been lumped together. Nine grants in water supply have been awarded during the current year for a total of \$173,403 (FY 67). It is expected that these funds will be increased to \$360,000 in FY 68. The 9 grants funded are in the following areas:

1. Nitrogen travel in soils
2. Orthokinetic coagulation
3. Taste
4. Taste and odor identification
5. Empirical prediction of sand filter performance
6. Vanadium
7. Algicides.

The areas of needed research which can be funded through the Public Health Service include the following:

1. quality deterioration in distribution systems
2. taste and odor causes and control
3. trace elements
4. hardness vs. heart disease (beneficial elements)
5. organics in finished water
6. water quality constituents (in drinking water standards)
7. removal of contaminants for potable water (processes, efficiencies, and so forth).

Information for requesting grant support in the area of water supply from the Public Health Service should be directed to the attention of: Mr. Henry C. Steed, Chief, Office of Grants, National Center for Urban and Industrial Health, 8120 Woodmont Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland, 20014.

BOARD MEETS AT PURDUE

The twelfth meeting of the Board of Directors of AAPSE was held on May 2, 1967 in the Purdue Memorial Center on the first day of the Purdue Industrial Waste Conference. President E. F. Gloyna presided at the meeting which was attended by all the officers and directors of the association.

Professor D. J. O'Connor presented a preliminary report of the Research Committee on "Federal Research Agencies and Research Funds." Copies of this report were distributed at the open meeting of AAPSE held the same evening. Future meetings of AAPSE to be held at Atlantic City at the time of the AWWA meeting and at New York at the time of the Water Pollution Control Federation meeting were discussed and planned by the Board.

The Board of Directors voted to participate in the U. S. National Committee for the International Water Pollution Research Association along with ASCE, WPCF, ACS and AIChE. Two representatives from each of the five participating societies will be appointed to the U. S. National Committee for staggered two-year terms. The Board then approved the establishment of a permanent committee to represent the interests of AAPSE concerning the U. S. National Committee. Two members of the committee will be designated as representatives of AAPSE on the U. S. National Committee with the other members of the committee serving as alternates. Professors Pearson, Eckenfelder, Agardy, Krenkel, Dick, and Okun were appointed to the committee.

The Eligibility Committee is continuing to study the eligibility of professional research personnel in some grade of membership in AAPSE. The Board also asked the committee to study the establishment of a new affiliate membership grade for people not currently eligible for membership, including research personnel, people not associated with institutions of higher education, and nonresidents of the U. S. and Canada.

Professor Sylvester reported on the distribution of copies of the Register of Graduate Programs in the Field of Sanitary Engineering Education. Copies have been distributed to participating schools, to government agencies and to other interested organizations. Libraries and Civil Engineering Departments not included in the Register have been notified that copies may be purchased for \$13. The Register would be an unusually valuable reference for undergraduate students looking for information about graduate programs in order to select a school for graduate study in sanitary engineering. The Register may be purchased by members of AAPSE for their personal use for \$6.50.

A new Awards Committee was appointed. Professor J. A. Borchardt is Chairman and Professor R. S. Engelbrecht is Co-Chairman. Other members of the committee are Professors Katz, Kiker, and Smith. The Board also discussed the visiting lecturer program and decided to invite two foreign visitors each year to lecture at institutions in various locations.

GRANTING MECHANISMS DISCUSSED AT PURDUE MEETING

The program of the open meeting of the American Association of Professors in Sanitary Engineering was a forum on the subject: "A Critical Appraisal of the Granting Mechanism for Research Grants in the Federal Government." The meeting was held in the Purdue Memorial Center at 8:00 pm on May 2, 1967, and was attended by more than 130 interested persons. The forum discussion followed a very brief business session chaired by President Gloyna. Vice-President W. J. Kaufman moderated the panel presentation and the free discussion which followed. Professor D. J. O'Connor, Chairman of the Research Committee, reviewed the activities of various Federal agencies primarily involved in environmental health and water resources research. He distributed copies of the Preliminary Report on Federal Research Agencies and Research Funds. Professor R. O. Sylvester then discussed the merits of various mechanisms for review and approval of research grant applications. Professor E. A. Pearson was reporter for the session and was assigned the task of taking notes of the discussion and preparing a report for the consideration of the Board of Directors of AAPSE. A spirited discussion followed during which Mr. Cawley and Mr. Jaffe, both of the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, made some very helpful points in clarification of the differences between the research grants and research contracts and the mechanisms involved in each.

NEXT AAPSE MEETING

NEW YORK CITY
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1967
AMERICANA HOTEL
MALMAISON SUITE 7 & 8

--at the time of the WPCF annual meeting.

EDITORIAL--THE ACCREDITATION GAP

by John T. O'Connor

For a variety of high-sounding reasons, academic institutions crave accreditation of their curricula. Some see accreditation as a means of testing the quality of education in a program against a minimum "standard." Others seek accreditation to enhance academic prestige. Still others favor accreditation as a means for establishing an elite, or "in" group. Whatever the reasons, accreditation is the vogue.

Engineers' Council for Professional Development (ECPD) has accredited first degrees in engineering for many years. They accredit everything from Aerospace to Welding Engineering. Since each engineering program is accredited separately, there are no generalized categories. As a result, we find that only one institution in the United States is accredited in "Aerospace Engineering Sciences" while there are 23 institutions accredited in "Aerospace Engineering." There are two institutions accredited in "Aero-Space Engineering." A hyphen can make the difference.

As engineers become more well-rounded, humanized, literate, and public-relations conscious, there appears to be an increasing tendency for them to stake-out "new" areas of engineering endeavor in order to keep pace with advancing technology and a dwindling capacity to encompass all of the new technology. As a result, on most campuses we find offshoots of traditional engineering programs seeking accreditation. One-of-a-kind programs such as "Biological and Agricultural Engineering," "Aeronautics," "Construction Engineering," "Chemical Engineering and Petroleum Refining," "Communications," "Naval Architecture," "Ceramic Science," "Materials Science," "Physical Metallurgy," and "Mineral Dressing" have been accredited.

In time to come the measure of the power of a great university may be the number of curricula in which it is accredited. Let us look at the score as it stands today. The following is a list of those institutions having ten or more curricula accredited by ECPD.

Pennsylvania State University (14)
University of Michigan (13)
Virginia Polytechnic Institute (13)
University of Illinois (12)
Ohio State University (11)
University of California (Berkeley) (10)
University of Florida (10)
Georgia Institute of Technology (10)
Iowa State University (10)
University of Minnesota (10)
North Carolina State University (10)
Oklahoma State University (10)
University of Oklahoma (10)
Stanford University (10)

Some well-known institutions are trailing behind. These include: CCNY (4); Cal Tech (3); Harvard (2); North Carolina (1); UCLA (1); Parsons (0); Army (0). Clearly, there is an accreditation gap.

