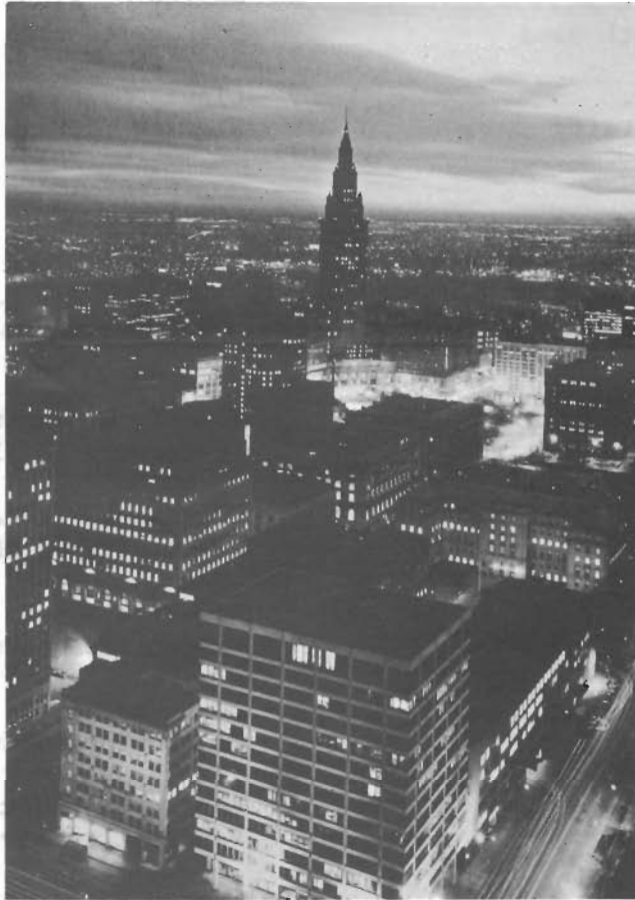




A E E P

NEWSLETTER



CLEVELAND, OHIO, SITE OF WPCF CONFERENCE

ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING PROFESSORS

OCTOBER, 1973

VOLUME 9, NUMBER 1

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EDITORS' NOTES

The fall season brings the start of another academic year and the opportunity for the profession to visit another of America's garden spots. AEEP members look forward to the Annual Conference of the Water Pollution Control Federation in Cleveland, September 30 to October 5, 1973. AEEP activities associated with the conference are outlined in this issue.

This issue represents the last edition produced under the present co-editors. The help and cooperation of the NEWSLETTER Committee, the AEEP officers and committee chairmen, and our co-workers at Virginia Tech during the past two years is gratefully acknowledged. We also take this opportunity to extend our best wishes to the new editor, Adnan Shindala of Mississippi State University, and look forward to his first issue in January, 1974.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

All of the current problems in environmental engineering education were not solved at the Third National Environmental Engineering Conference in Philadelphia last month. It wasn't prudent to have imagined that they could be. Only prior manipulation or apathy could have assured unanimity.

The resolutions adopted on the last day of the conference probably represent a reasonable compromise of the diverse views aired in the earlier portion of the conference. The resolutions, then, may constitute an "average" view of the current and future course of environmental engineering education. Happily, individual opinions continue to range a long way in either direction from the average.

These are turbulent times in environmental engineering education, and a lively conference should have been anticipated. Ongoing changes in federal training support policies, federal deemphasis of fundamental research, spiraling manpower needs, increased public interest in environmental engineering problems, and movement of manpower from many disciplines into the environmental field, in addition to the factors perturbing all other fields of engineering education, created a timely setting for the conference.

A dilemma faced early in the conference was that, whereas environmental engineering educational needs are dependent upon future manpower requirements, it is exceedingly difficult to estimate those requirements. This area was, at least, not controversial, for no one claimed to have a much better crystal ball than anyone else.

Debates on the reports of the undergraduate and graduate committees were most controversial. One group felt that undergraduate programs could be tailored to allow a graduate with a B.S. degree to be prepared for a career in environmental engineering. Another faction felt that specialized intensive training in environmental engineering could only be handled adequately at the M.S. degree level.

Another area in which opinions differed concerned management training for environmental engineers. While there was agreement that environmental engineers frequently find themselves in managerial positions, opinions differed as to the merit of significantly altering curricula to provide academic management training.

Far more attention was given at the Philadelphia conference to continuing education and to the training of technicians and technologists than at previous national conferences. This is a reflection of the dramatic increases which have occurred in manpower requirements, and the fact that developments in continuing education and technician training areas further complicate the problem of assessing manpower requirements for more conventional environmental engineers. Most questions in the area of technician and technologist training centered on the four-year technologists. Some expressed doubt that this degree should be sandwiched between the two-year technician and the B.S. degrees.

A shortcoming of the conference was an occasional failure of the discussions to penetrate to the real source of controversy. The best example of this was in the B.S. vs. M.S. debates. While this subject received much attention, the real underlying question of what constitutes the essential ingredients of environmental engineering educational programs remained unanswered. Given the candor which characterizes discussions in our field, the basic issues would have been reached in time - but time was limited at Philadelphia.

I've asked the chairmen of the AEEP Education, Undergraduate Education, Continuing Education, and Technician and Operator Training Committees to follow-up on developments at the Conference in the area of their committee's concern. Before the dust settles on the Philadelphia meeting, the Board of Directors would like to have recommendations from the committees on desirable activities, policies or actions by AEEP.

Regardless of the final wording adopted for the conference resolutions or the recommendations of the AEEP committees, it is clear that not all environmental engineering educational programs will pursue the same course of action. Each will develop a program which best suits its needs, constraints, and resources, and best matches the philosophy of its faculty members. This is as it should be. A major purpose of the Third National Environmental Engineering Conference was to assist educators in adjusting their individual outlook on environmental engineering educational needs by providing a forum for expression of views on environmental engineering education, highlighting areas of controversy, and evaluating current trends. The conference served that function well.

. . . Richard I. Dick

AEEP ACTIVITIES AT WPCF MEETING IN CLEVELAND

Open Meeting Tuesday, October 2, at 8:30 p.m.

AEEP will hold an open meeting for all members and guests at 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 2, in the Lewis Room of the Sheraton-Cleveland Hotel.

AEEP Board Meeting Sunday, September 30, at 9:00 a.m.

The AEEP Board will meet at Cleveland on Sunday, September 30, at 9:00 a.m. in Parlor No. 34 of the Sheraton-Cleveland Hotel. Any AEEP member having an item for which the attention of the Board is desired should contact one of the members.

WRAP-UP OF THE 3rd NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The 3rd National Environmental Engineering Education Conference, which was held at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 13, 14, and 15, was well attended with over 100 educators present and participating. The attendees represented a variety of programs from most parts of the United States and Canada. The seven position papers prepared for the conference stimulated a lot of discussion and produced a lot of resolutions. The discussions were usually lively and uninhibited while resolutions were frequently followed by alternate resolutions. The climax of the meeting occurred the last day when more than 30 recommendations and resolutions, which had been initially prepared by the seven task forces and revised following conference discussion, were criticized, re-revised, and edited from the floor.

It seems quite likely that each attendee came away with a different evaluation of the success of the Conference, depending on his own opinion of what should have been accomplished. Two individual viewpoints concerning the Conference have been included in this Newsletter. One of the statements was prepared by AEEP President Richard Dick, and it can be found under the heading "From the President's Desk." The other statement was extracted from the Environmental Health Letter, and it follows these comments.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING EDUCATION CONFERENCE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL:

The Third National Conference on Environmental Engineering Education at Drexel University August 13-15 proved successful beyond the hope of its sponsors, the American Academy of Environmental Engineers; Association of Environmental Engineering Professors, and Drexel.

The emphasis was somewhat different than that of the two previous conferences at Harvard and Northwestern.

For one thing, there was far more emphasis on undergraduate training. Implicit was the view that it was necessary to introduce the principles of environmental engineering at the undergraduate level and not wait until the student reached the School of Engineering.

There was also considerable emphasis on the need for continuing education of environmental engineers. The need to be brought up-to-date on the latest developments in the fast-growing field was evident.

From the outset, there was less talk of Federal financing than in the two previous meetings - for the very obvious reason that everyone agreed that Federal money would be more difficult to come by, and that it was a fact of life to be reckoned with at least for the immediate future. The talk was all on education; chairman P. Walton Purdom made sure of that.

The emphasis was also on teaching as opposed to the conventional forms of graduate school research which characterized previous meetings. A youth faculty group - composed in part of the gung-ho types rather than the grey-beards of yesteryear - was responsible for keeping the emphasis that way.

As expected, the position papers prepared for consideration of the conference (ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LETTER, August 1) met with considerable discussion and modification. That was all to the good. Out of the meeting came a series of recommendations which, together with the conference report expected in December, will guide the development of academic environmental engineering programs in the next few years.

The importance of a strong academic and occupational background was emphasized by Professor George P. Hanna of the University of Nebraska, who recommended that a master's degree be a minimum requirement for professional work in environmental engineering and that each graduate enter one of the four basic branches in the field (air quality, water quality, industrial hygiene and solid waste disposal) to develop a strong background in that specialty before attempting to study the over-all environment and its problems. Then, he said, only the outstanding specialists should be encouraged to become generalists.

SYMPOSIUM ON WASTEWATER TREATMENT IN COLD CLIMATES HELD

An international symposium in Saskatoon on research and treatment of wastewaters in cold climates attracted 200 registrants. The symposium, from August 22 to 24, was sponsored by the Institute for Northern Studies at the University of Saskatchewan and Environment Canada in co-operation with the Institute of Water Resources at the University of Alaska. Specialist from Canada, continental United States and Alaska, the USSR, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland were among the guest speakers. Registrants attended from Germany, Japan and France as well as from North America.

Professor Eric Davis, of the Department of Civil Engineering at the Saskatoon campus, said the objective of the symposium was to exchange information on the treatment of domestic and industrial wastes under severe winter conditions. Professor Davis, who co-ordinated the program, stated that vast areas of the world are subject to these conditions, which militate against the use of treatment methods developed for more temperate climates. The program dealt with the theoretical aspects, pilot plant experiments, and full-scale treatment facilities; and specific sessions concerned problems of waste water treatment in circumpolar countries, the operation of aerated stabilization ponds under low temperature conditions, large-scale aeration installations, vacuum systems, biological processes, disinfection of waste waters, and innovations.

Information about symposium proceedings, which are expected to be available shortly, may be obtained by getting in touch with Professor Eric Davis, Department of Civil Engineering, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.

CALL FOR PAPERS

ASCE-EED SPECIALTY CONFERENCE A call for papers relating to research, development and design studies in environmental engineering is being made for presentation at the annual Environmental Engineering Division Specialty Conference to be held at The Pennsylvania State University July 8-11, 1974.

Participation is encouraged on a division-wide basis in all areas of environmental engineering. Program areas will include but not be limited to: agricultural waste management; atmospheric pollution (including air pollution aspects of transportation systems; air pollution impact analysis); environmental quality management; solid waste management; sanitary engineering aspects of nuclear energy; thermal effects; industrial waste practice; urban wastewater engineering; wastewater treatment plant design; financing and charges for wastewater systems; water pollution control planning; water purification and environmental engineering manpower development.

Abstracts containing Title, Author and affiliation, and a summary not to exceed 500 words should be sent no later than October 15, 1973, to:

Dr. Raymond W. Regan
Program Chairman
Civil Engineering Department
212 Sackett Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pa. 16802

THIRD AWWA UNIVERSITIES FORUM Abstracts of student papers are solicited for the 1974 AWWA Conference to be held at Boston, Massachusetts, June 16-21, 1974. The papers should be (1) actual research conducted by the student, (2) a state-of-the-art survey, (3) a proposition paper which discloses some facet of water treatment and water research or analysis pertaining to water-quality control and surveillance or water-resource development and management, including economic and user attitudes. Papers should relate to Municipal, Agricultural or Industrial water supply problems and should not be co-authored by faculty. Submission of papers resulting from late-stage doctoral research are not being encouraged at the present time.

Five copies of a two-page abstract of approximately 500 words, preferably containing figures and tables, should be submitted by December 11, 1973, to:

Dr. Roger A. Minear
Associate Professor
Department of Civil Engineering
The University of Tennessee
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916

Paper evaluation will be made by a subcommittee of the AWWA Student Activities Committee during December and notification of selection for the program will be made in January.

PARIS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE The 1974 conference of the International Association of Water Pollution Research (IAWPR) will be held in Paris, France, on September 9-13, 1974. The program will consist of papers on a broad range of topics, including water quality standards, legal and administrative problems, wastewater treatment technology, and research on pollution effects. The program will also include workshop sessions at which invited authors will give papers on wastewater disposal by pipeline, rural wastewater disposal, sludge disposal, water re-use, technology transfer, biological pollution parameters, monitoring, and disinfection. Post conference visits and tours will be arranged.

Authors are invited to submit completed papers of not more than 5,000 words prior to November 7, 1973, to:

S. H. Jenkins, Committee Chairman
c/o 156/170 Newhall Street
Birmingham, B3 1SE
England

FOURTH ANNUAL LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE. The Fourth Annual Environmental Engineering and Science Conference at the University of Louisville will be held March 4-5, 1974. The meeting will serve to analyze the status of our present environmental problems and to present pragmatic solutions to these problems based on professional input from an interdisciplinary and inter-society viewpoint. Topics to be discussed will include water quality, air quality, environmental impact analysis, solid waste disposal, resource recovery, noise pollution, occupational health, environmental planning, and environmental law, as related specifically to academic, governmental, and industrial personnel, who are confronted with environmental decisions on a daily basis.

Submission of five copies of a 500-word abstract is required before November 1, 1973. The abstract should include a concise statement of the problem or objective covered, an indication of the method of approach, a statement of data developed in the study, and a summary of important conclusions. Authors are urged to submit their material at an early date for consideration. Authors will be informed of acceptance no later than December 1, 1973. Complete papers are required for final review by March 1, 1974, for inclusion in the conference proceedings.

Abstracts and related correspondence should be addressed to:

Dr. Joseph L. Pavoni
Department of Civil Engineering
Speed Scientific School
University of Louisville
Louisville, Kentucky 40208

