

AAPSE

NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSORS IN SANITARY ENGINEERING

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"As long as you're up, get me a grant."

--D. S. Greenberg

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KANSAS CITY MEETING

The next meeting of the members of AAPSE and others interested in sanitary engineering will be in Kansas City at the time of the Water Pollution Control Federation meeting. The open meeting is scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday evening, September 27, 1966, in Room 471 of the Muehleback Hotel. The program will include very brief discussions by two prominent sanitary engineers who happen also to be employers of the products of graduate programs. Mr. Harvey Ludwig, President, Engineering-Science, Inc., Oakland, California, will speak on the "Role of Sanitary Engineers in Private Practice." Mr. John Barnhill, Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, will discuss the "Role of Sanitary Engineers in the new Water Pollution Control Administration." Both these discussions will be very brief, leaving most of the meeting free for open discussion.

AAPSE MEETS IN BAL HARBOUR

Harry Kramer, Chief of the Office of Resource Development, U.S.P.H.S., was guest speaker at the AAPSE meeting in Bal Harbour, Florida, on the evening of May 25, 1966. The meeting, which was again open to all those interested in sanitary engineering education, was an "Open Discussion on Environmental Science and Engineering." The discussion which developed following Mr. Kramer's informal remarks centered around the role of the engineer in the Public Health Service following its reorganization.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES IN AWWA

Four schools in Illinois which have active sanitary engineering programs are cooperating with the Illinois Section of AWWA in a plan by which students can participate in the Section activities. A committee, consisting of Robert Grieves of Illinois Institute of Technology, Robert Gemmill of Northwestern University, **Merrill Gamet of the Federal** Water Pollution Control Administration, Richard Howe of **Southern Illinois University**, and John T. O'Connor of the University of Illinois, worked out the plan whereby students will participate in a Student Day at the annual Illinois Section meeting.

Students will be the guests of the Illinois Section at a luncheon. Members of the Board of Directors will serve as hosts at the luncheon. The most important feature of the planned student program is the "University Forum," a session in the technical program of the Illinois Section devoted to the presentation of student papers. A special field trip for students and an evening social hour may also be considered. A proposed student employment clearing house will provide a means of introducing prospective employees to potential employers.

Details of the program put forth by the committee have been published in an article featured in the May, 1966, issue of Water and Sewage Works.

FIRST AAPSE WORKSHOP HOSTED BY UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

The first AAPSE workshop was held at an ultra-luxurious resort motel overlooking beautiful Lake Travis, about 20 miles west of Austin, Texas, on June 27 and 28. Professor W. W. Eckenfelder arranged the technical program and accommodations for the workshop on biological waste treatment processes.

While the ladies sunned themselves by the pool; while the tourists and vacationers hiked, water-skied, golfed, or quenched their thirst at the bar; while children ran, fought, and screamed in gay abandon, thirty teachers and researchers from across the nation met in casual dress and relaxed frame of mind to "talk shop."

Each of the nine subjects covered in the two-day session was discussed informally by one or more speakers and lively open group discussion followed. Each of the scheduled speakers had prepared a written paper. The collected papers were presented to all participants in a notebook. The discussion usually got down to the "nuts and bolts" level, so that this collection of papers together with the conversations that took place at the meeting must be considered a unique and valuable source of information on the equipment, procedures and pilot plants for laboratory instruction in the area of biological waste treatment.

The first AAPSE workshop was a howling success. It is hoped that others on various topics of interest to our members will be organized around the same format. NEWSLETTER readers are urged to suggest appropriate topics.

EDITORIAL -- SECOND BEST? THIRD? WOULD YOU BELIEVE -- TENTH?

It appears at times that faculty members in sanitary or environmental health engineering think of themselves as God's gift to research in environmental health and the salvation of Federal programs to support research in this field. This impression may be slightly more prominent on those occasions when the "Great Mutual Admiration Society" of sanitary engineering professors gather for a Supreme Conclave, such as an annual meeting of WPCF or the Purdue Industrial Waste Conference. The heady intoxication induced by a few research sessions may bring on such hallucinations.

Perhaps a closer look at the facts would be sobering. Are sanitary engineering professors conducting the bulk of the research in environmental health? Or even a very significant part of it? What are the facts?

Environmental Health Letter published a special supplement on June 1, 1966 consisting of a list prepared by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare of the 100 leading research grants in environmental health, based on information from the Public Health Service and Federal Water Pollution Control Association. These 100 grants were all in excess of \$46,000 and range upward to more than \$500,000. The list does not indicate the department or the scientific discipline of the principal investigator, but your Editors, who pride themselves in a fairly wide acquaintance among sanitary engineering educators and researchers, are able to recognize only seven of these grants as being under the direction of a sanitary engineer or environmental health engineer.

Of course there are some severe limitations in the information provided in this list. And one must be very careful in drawing conclusions from it. Perhaps it was never prepared for the conclusion-drawing function. For instance, the largest grant is for a Center for Biology of Natural Systems at Washington University, and is partly for training rather than entirely for research. The amount of the grants shown in the list is the total amount for the entire period and not the annual expenditure. Hence they do not indicate the magnitude of the effort or the level of activity. The listing is for single grants. Some other investigators may be conducting more research in this field, but have organized it under more than one grant and possibly more than one source of financial support. Finally, it must be remembered that the list is for research in environmental health, not environmental health engineering.

Some of these limitations will be avoided by the forthcoming Register being published by AAPSE and EEIB. Much more accurate measure of the total and individual contributions of sanitary engineering educators to this field of research will be available from the information contained in it. Comparison of this with the total research grant program in environmental health will be a more valid evaluation of the contribution of our fraternity. The Register has shown a preponderance of research activity on the part of sanitary engineering or environmental engineering professors in the general field of water science or water quality control, with relatively much less in other environmental health engineering problems such as air pollution and radiological health. Perhaps therefore one should not make such a comparison or at least not be disappointed in the ratios obtained.

Nevertheless, the HEW list of 100 leading grants makes it clear that scientists in many different disciplines and the medics are largely carrying the ball and making lots of the yardage.

Sorry about that, Chief.

REGISTER GOES TO PRESS

The Register on Graduate Programs in the Field of Sanitary Engineering Education is nearing completion. This cooperative project of EEIB and AAPSE has been the result of the effort by the committee under the chairmanship of Professor R. O. Sylvester. Other members of the committee have been G. H. Dunstan, W. J. Kaufman, P. A. Krenkel, and R. C. Loehr.

Responses from 56 schools will be included in the first edition. A summary evaluation of the data has been prepared by Professor Kaufman and this is included in the Register. The Register will be bound in a three-ring binder with a white plastic cover with blue lettering. Loose-leaf binding will permit addition of data for other schools or replacement of sheets for updating data on schools from time to time.

The schools included in the Register are those having two or more full-time sanitary engineering faculty in a department of engineering. Without this stipulation, the possible programs that could be included would be legion and become meaningless. Information for each school includes technical program areas and objectives, and information concerning faculty, admission requirements, degree requirements, financial support for students, courses in the department and supporting courses in other departments, laboratory facilities, graduate enrollment, degrees conferred since 1950, and source of research support.

The information presented in the Register indicates that the three principal designations used for the programs reported are "sanitary engineering," "water resources engineering," and "environmental engineering." The distribution of faculty research and professional activity as determined by publications indicates the preponderance of interest in water science and engineering related to water quality. Growth in sanitary engineering academic effort showed a marked increase since 1959-60.

SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING EDUCATION

Plans for the proposed Second National Conference on Environmental Engineering Education are being developed by a Steering Committee appointed by the sponsoring organizations, AAPSE and Environmental Engineering Intersociety Board (EEIB). The Conference Chairman is G. A. Rohlich. W. J. Kaufman and L. G. Rich were elected Vice Chairmen. Other members of the Steering Committee are H. B. Gotaas, Brother Joseph McCabe, A. F. Gaudy, J. C. Morris, R. C. Loehr, R. S. Engelbrecht, and J. E. McKee.

The committee decided that Northwestern University should be invited to host the conference and the dates have been tentatively selected as September 6, 7 and 8, 1967.

The objectives of the conference will be to identify the role of the engineer in resolving environmental problems, seek means of upgrading the graduate education of sanitary engineers, identify the professional, educational and scientific activities of individuals in the field, project needs for personnel in the future, review criteria and mechanisms for accreditation, identify the role of sanitary engineering programs in continuing education, review course offerings in related sciences and social sciences, and seek to determine the engineering and engineering-science course preparation for science students entering graduate engineering programs.

The committee has tentatively selected the following topics for the conference program:

1. Role of the Engineer in Environmental Problems
2. Graduate Curricula for Professional and Research Careers
3. Identifying Activities for People in Environmental Engineering Field
4. Criteria and Mechanisms for Accreditation
5. Chemistry in Environmental Engineering Curricula
6. Biology in Environmental Engineering Curricula
7. Social Science in Environmental Engineering Curricula

8. Engineering Preparation for Non-engineering Students in Environmental Engineering Programs
9. Planning of Environmental Systems

Task Committees will be assigned to prepare a preliminary position paper on each of the topics for distribution to the attendees prior to the conference. These will serve as a basis for discussion and final position papers will be prepared after the conference.

MAY MEETING OF AAPSE AT PURDUE

More than 57 persons attended the open meeting of AAPSE in the Memorial Union Building at Purdue University on the evening of May 3. Professor Kaufman presided over the session which lasted until 10:00 p.m. Professor Kaufman reviewed the progress made in completing the Register of Programs in Sanitary Engineering, summarizing some of the significant results of the questionnaire returned from the various schools.

The group was then advised of plans for some AAPSE programs which would be developing in the near future, including the Workshop at the University of Texas and the AAPSE Award for Excellence.

Professor Gaudy described his activities to form a separate Division of Environmental Sciences and Engineering in ASEE. This subject was discussed at length and a poll of the group indicated that there was much division of opinion on the matter and considerable lack of opinion either way, but there were more professors present who were opposed to the formation of a separate division in ASEE than for it.

HELP -- HELP -- HELP

Your NEWSLETTER editors need help. One of the functions of the NEWSLETTER is to provide information about sanitary engineering professors to their colleagues. We need your help in **providing us** with this kind of information--about yourself or some of your associates. We would also like to announce coming meetings, conferences, symposia, institutes, etc.

Another function of the NEWSLETTER is to provide a sounding board for **beefs**. If you have a **problem** which could be aired or a suggestion or comment, please sent it to us. Perhaps by discussion we can arrive at a policy for AAPSE to follow or a course of action which will move us all closer to our objectives.