

mental training and education program is the practicum for students.

THE Working Group also held an intense committee meeting attended by sixteen NAEP members. The discussion was lively, and commitments to work on specific issues were made. Some attendees have been associated with THE Working Group for some time. Some, like Ravi Srinivas, when it was called ACE, continue to offer their enthusiastic support. Student assistantship help and list serve help were offered. The discussion explored such issues as core competencies for graduates, the necessity of internships, relevant curriculum, distance learning opportunities, and the issue of sanctioning curricular programs short of accreditation. The meeting went overtime and all left with much to think about.

The student awards were very exciting this year. All the student papers were well received and the top award went to Amy Larkin, who presented in the Natural Resources track. This year the Muskie Institute for Public Service, based in Maine, funded that award. Second and third place awards were funded by the NAEP, and went to Kanan Coleman, presenting in the International track, and Frank Turina, presenting in the Public Participation track. Unfortunately, two of the three students receiving awards had to leave prior to the awards ceremony. It is problematic to evaluate the presentations, meet to discuss the merits of each presentation, and make the awards, all within the time frame of the conference. We will attempt to come up with a better plan for the 2001 student awards.

The web page for THE Working Group is up and running and can be accessed through the NAEP web site: [www.naep.org](http://www.naep.org). We will try to keep everyone updated on progress of THE Working Group as we proceed.

### How Should We Proceed?

We could tackle the evaluation of the "standards" issue in regard to academic programs. Many environmental curriculums are floundering for want of a reality check with the field.

We could act as the advisory organization for environmental academic programs. Many do not realize academic respect in their own institutions, in part because they do not have a professional group to guide them and to speak on their behalf.

We could act as a review panel for curriculum.

We could help craft a national research agenda for environmental programs.

We could scan current environmental programs for format (i.e., 2-year, 4-year, short course, certificates, distance education, etc.) and recommend the best fit for professional needs.

We could identify academic programs that have ongoing ties with practitioners.

According to data found in the NAEP archives, there are approximately 750 academic programs focused on various aspects of environmental education. We need to identify these programs and try to get a sense of how they are valued and how we can increase their value, to both industry and academic administration.

One of the goals for THE Working Group in 2000 was to increase communication. We have made a start at the 2000 conference with the technical tracks, Hot Topic lunch, committee meeting, and student awards, and we have initiated our web site. It would be great to hear from anyone in the organization regarding relationships with institutions of higher education and how we might best have a positive influence on them.

We need to take advantage of the momentum created at the Portland conference and keep moving. We hope to do a survey of those NAEP members who are affiliated with academic institutions—please keep an eye out for the survey and please respond.

This has been a banner year for the Training and Higher Education Working Group, and we are looking forward to the future. Remember, the best way to build a pool of highly qualified environmental profession-

als is to become involved with the education process.

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## PAEP Members Attend Transportation Research Board Conference

Robert H. Hosking Jr.

More than 40 members of the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals (PAEP) attended the Transportation Research Board's (TRB) National Conference on Transportation and Environment for the 21st Century, held at the Hilton Pittsburgh Hotel and Towers, July 22–26, 2000. Two longstanding PAEP members, Wayne Kober and Joe Shalkowski, were part of the planning committee for the event. More than 580 transportation and environmental professionals attended the 5-day event which attracted participants from as far away as Japan and Venezuela.

The first day of the conference included early evening registration and attendance at a Pittsburgh Pirates vs. Philadelphia Phillies baseball game at Three Rivers Stadium (within walking distance!). The second day of the conference (Sunday) offered registration, open invitation TRB Committee Meetings (including lunch), and poster sessions in the morning. The afternoon proceedings featured plenary sessions starting with a Welcome and Charge to the Conference by Conference Steering Committee Chairman Wayne Kober, and included addresses by dignitaries Robert E. Skinner, Jr., Executive Director of the TRB; August R. Carlino, President and CEO of the Steel Industry Heritage Corp.; Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Secretary Brad Mallory; Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Jim Seif; Bill Matuszeski, Director of

USEPA's Chesapeake Bay Program; and Federal Highway Administration Executive Director Anthony R. Kane. The Sunday evening program included a cash bar reception. Monday and Tuesday offered a series of concurrent sessions focusing on six general subject areas: Air Quality and Energy; Communities, Neighborhoods and People; Cultural Resources; Environmental Process; Modal Environmental Issues; and Systems Preservation.

Although all of the presentations were of the highest professional caliber, three presentations in particular seemed to rate honorable mentions by numerous conference participants. These included: Results of the Historic American Engineering Record Documentation Projects by Eric DeLony; Key Competencies for Transportation and Environmental Professionals by Ron Deverman; and New York State Department of Transportation's Environmental Initiative by Gary McVoy. Open TRB Committee Meetings were also held early Monday afternoon. Tuesday afternoon offered plenary sessions on New USEPA Tools for Environmental Analysis; New Federal Highway Administration/State Department of Transportation Tools for Environmental Analysis; and What Have We Learned at this Conference? Wednesday offered numerous organized tours including a Transit Tour, a Grant Street Walking Tour, an Historic Neighborhood Tour, and a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's celebrated architectural achievement, Fallingwater. The highlight of the conference for many participants was the Monday evening River Boat Cruise which included a narrated tour of Pittsburgh's rivers by Walter Kidney of the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks foundation, dinner, drinks and dancing.

Participating TRB committees included Inland Water Transportation, Public Involvement in Transportation, Transportation Energy, Environmental Analysis in Transportation, Transportation and Air Quality, Historic and Archaeological Preservation in Transportation, Alternative Transportation Fuels, Waste Management in Transportation, Environmental Impacts of Aviation, Physicochemical Phenomena in Soils, Guided Intercity Passenger Transportation, Women's Issues in Transportation,

and Maintenance and Operations Management.

*This article was provided courtesy of Karyn Vandervoort, NAEP Board of Directors, Pennsylvania Chapter Representative.*

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## New NAEP Members

- Karen Pletnikoff, AK  
 Barbara Hotchkin, AK  
 Lisa McCarrick, Luke Air Force Base, AZ  
 Michael Shirley, AZ  
 J. Dan Kelley, AZ  
 Julie Owen, CA  
 Caren Wilhoit, CA  
 Ernie Ralston, Martix Environmental, CA  
 Jerry Sedgwick, Chevron Environmental Management Company, CA  
 Brian Smith, City of Modesto-Community Development Department, CA  
 Jennifer Simmons, The Environmental Company, Inc., CA  
 David Siegenthaler, CA  
 Robert Guidi, Department of Defense, CA  
 Juliana Bryant, CA  
 Sheelagh Hysenaj, Environment Canada, Canada  
 Manish Chalana, CO  
 Charlotte Abrams, US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, DC  
 Lamar Smith, Federal Highway Administration, DC  
 John Blair, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DC  
 Jennifer Hill, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DC  
 Lynn Krueger, DE  
 Jennifer Asbell, FL  
 Harold Kelker, Kelker Aquatic Farms, FL  
 Michael Abazinge, FL  
 Mrs. Derek Burr, City of Ft Myers, FL  
 Rhonda Zuchowski, Arcadis Geraghty & Miller, GA  
 Rebecca Rowden, Corps of Engineers-Office of Counsel, GA  
 Patrick Felling, Hawaii State Department of Health, HI  
 James Sailer, Xron Associates, Inc., ID  
 Jay Shelton, Thrall Car Manufacturing, IL  
 John Sabuco, IL  
 Nancy Denning, Dynamac, Inc., KS  
 Barbara Bennett, Ogden Environmental, KY  
 John DePriest, MA  
 Charles Nettleship, Steel Recycling Institute, MA  
 David Lev, US DOT, VOLPE Center, MA  
 Aviva Brecher, US DOT, VOLPE Center, MA  
 Stephen Petron, CH2M Hill, MA  
 Jonathan Feinstein, VHB, MA  
 Candace Levitt, MD  
 Gerald Garcia, MD  
 David Navecky, MD  
 Maggie O'Connor, MD  
 Hitesh Nigam, MD  
 Stephen Arnold, Duke Engineering & Services, ME  
 David Bennell, LL Bean, ME  
 A. Christine Olson, Maine Department of Transportation, ME  
 Sylvia Michaud, MEDOT, ME  
 Duane Scott, Maine Department of Transportation, ME  
 Allison Murray, Kleinschmidt Associates, ME  
 Matthew Manahan, Pierce Atwood, ME  
 Tammy Rose, MI  
 Wendy Hoffman, Gast Manufacturing, MI  
 Karen Gallagher, Smith Group JJR, MI  
 Todd Fracassi, Smith Group JJR, MI  
 Jeremy Yogerst, MN  
 Kenneth McBride, MN  
 Elaine Seele, St. Louis County Water Co./ American Water System Co., MO  
 John Wagner, MO  
 Andrea Warfield, The Louis Berger Group Inc., NC  
 Matthew Martello, NJ  
 Donald Ecklund, NJ  
 Godlove Fonjweng, NJ