

2016 September Purchasing Link

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Posted By **NAEP**, 19 hours ago

September 2016 - Issue: 153

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From The Editor

Posted By **NAEP**, 19 hours ago

This month, we take a look at four interesting bits of copy from the national media. Are those who ask thoughtful questions of the majority in the climate-change arena in denial? Are those who make the charge seeking to marginalize and muffle those who disagree? Is the notion of settled science another attempt to stifle debate?

Although humans have, no doubt, been adding carbon to the atmosphere at least since they learned to use fire, the climate change discussion is focused on the period since the mid-19th century, more than 150 years ago. Is it unrealistic to set goals to reverse the established trend and remediate the damage done in a few decades? We seem to be making painfully slow progress in the effort to reduce the depletion of ozone in the atmosphere. How long will it take to produce a measurable trend in the reduction of carbon in the air we breathe? What's the environmental definition of long-term?

We like to think key decisions in environmental areas will be made based on cool-headed, transparent reasoning but emotions clearly play a role in nuclear power decisions, and even hydro. Are their political limits defining what approaches an environmentalist can support? Is there a role for social justice?

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Commentary: Recent Notes on Climate Change

Posted By **NAEP**, 19 hours ago

By: Neil Markee
Editor in Chief-Purchasing Link



As you might expect, my Climate Change clipping file grows faster than just about any other collection. I keep of articles out of *the New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and local newspapers. One clipping in my current environmental file is out of the *Wall Street Journal* (WSJ), [6/29/16] and titled “Climate Denial Finally Pays Off.” Columnist Holman W. Jenkins, Jr. notes that he has written about climate change 45 times in the *WSJ* over the past 20 years. He argues that he generally has taken what he considers to be moderate positions and posed reasonable questions, although they may not have coincided with positions held by some advocates at the time. During the same period, I have read any number of articles raising legitimate questions about such things as climate models, the cost-benefit ration of proposed approaches addressing the problem, and the credentials of some of the advocates for this action or that. Jenkins has visited those topics. Rarely would I classify the authors of such copy as “climate deniers.” But I did wonder how climate denial had paid off for any one.

Some wrinkled clippings further back in the file provided an answer. The 7/13/16 issue of the *WSJ* carried a double-column ad titled, “If You’re 97% Certain, You’re Certain.” The headline was in light blue (a bit too dark for Columbia and too gray for Carolina), as was a large check-mark next to the name of the sponsor, Partnership For



Responsible Growth. They apparently advocate “For a Free Market Solution to Climate Change.” I think that means a carbon-tax approach. The second paragraph read, “Scientists have studied whether or not climate scientists agree about climate change. And, lo and behold they do, 97% of them anyway.”

Some time ago, I clipped a note that listed a number of widely supported, supposed, scientific truths—since the days of Galileo and the flat-earth folks— that subsequently have proven to be false. I wish I’d kept the clipping, but the point is that establishing scientific fact by majority vote has proven to be unreliable. I wonder how many scientists at the time would have sided with Galileo or gone sailing with Columbus. Personally, I doubt I’d have been called before the church tribunal or invited along by Chris.

But I’m enough of a contrarian to believe that there is a lot more to be learned about climate change and the viable options before us to accept what we know now as “settled science.” I suspect the earth is warming a bit faster than what had been the recent (in geological terms) norm, some of that is probably caused by human activity and, warming could be a serious problem, if it continues. For me, the unsettled question is what to do about it—and that is mostly about money and politics, not science. I wonder what percentage of the world’s political leaders agree on what action to take? Clearly, many of those people representing huge fractions of the world’s population see economic development via industrialization, at the current cost, as a more important priority for at least a few more decades, despite the resolutions adopted in Paris.

Referring to what some believe to be true at the moment as “settled science”



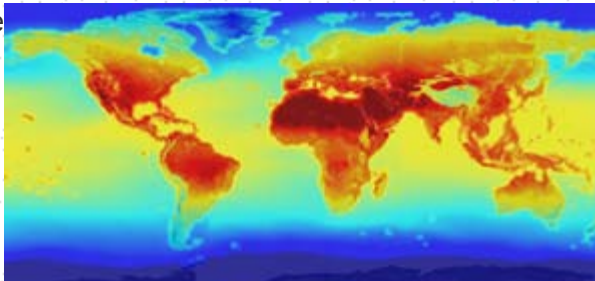
sounds like earthlings have checked off one more item on the list of topics we need to study. Newton may have agreed, but I doubt it. For the sake of higher education's research institutions, I hope there is no list. More than likely, we will find that "settled science" is an

oxymoron.

Oh, about denial paying off, apparently author Jenkins believes that the series of ads were placed in the *WSJ* in an attempt to convert "climate deniers," including even those who write for that newspaper. If that is the case, and if each ad costs the \$27,309 he mentions, then maybe his articles have paid off for the *WSJ*. But you have to read the ad wording carefully. For example, it strains credibility to argue that 97 percent of climate scientists or any other international group of learned professions, fully agrees on the specifics of any scientific issue that is as young, rapidly evolving, and politically charged as is climate change. So what exactly do they agree on? That another nation should bear the cost seems to be a popular proposal.

Down the clipping pile a layer or two, I came on some good news on a related topic. The scientists have found indications that the ozone hole over Antarctica is shrinking. They attribute the change to actions taken by nations to reduce the use of chlorofluorocarbons in compliance with the Montreal Protocol of 1987. "Full recovery is not expected until the middle of the century." If that proves to be the case, it will have taken most of a century to heal a thin patch of ozone in the atmosphere that can be "in some years larger than the North American continent." That's good news both because reducing exposure to high levels of the sun's ultraviolet rays has a substantial positive effect on health globally and because it demonstrates what can be done if earth's nations can find ways to work together and can muster enough patience to see it through.

The article referred to was titled, "Ozone Hole Shows Signs of Shrinking Study Shows" was written by Henry Fountain and published in the 7/1/16 *New York Times*. Author Fountain focuses on a study report published in *The Journal of Science*. The lead author was Susan Solomon, an atmospheric chemist at MIT. The article is about the best source of information on the ozone hole I have seen lately. You might want to read it.



Good News/Bad News sounds like the opening line of a joke but this time the article was about the planned closing of the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in California and there wasn't much good news as author Michael Shellenberger saw it. ("Michael Shellenberger is the founder and president of Environmental Progress, an environmental research and policy organization.") At first glance, closing a nuclear plant and replacing the power it had been producing with electricity from solar and other renewable sources might seem like a step along the way to reducing carbon in the atmosphere. Maybe that would be good news, if it were the likely outcome—but it's not, he says. According to the article, the state already can generate more solar power than

it can use on a sunny day and, if so, adding more capacity might be exportable, if competitively priced, but would not reduce carbon in California's atmosphere.

In the past, the energy from closed nuclear plants in the state has been replaced by power generated by natural-gas plants, which obviously entail burning a hydrocarbon fuel and adding carbon to the atmosphere. Why do they build gas-fired plants? The obvious reason is because they need power when the sun is obscured by clouds and after the sun goes down. We have been kicking that problem around for some time. I recall, decades ago, a fantastic article in *Popular Science* or some such magazine that suggested huge reflective bodies in space to direct light to solar-power plants on earth after the sun went down. I don't remember the details, but it never happened. The challenge remains to make solar or wind (another form of solar) a viable source of energy round the clock. We need to develop viable ways to store massive amounts of electrical power, and none are on the horizon.

So why is closing its largest source of clean energy apparently a popular option in California? In the state, the definition of renewable energy excludes nuclear power. According to the author, "The answer, as is perhaps obvious, is the ideological insistence on renewable and an irrational fear of nuclear power." I live fairly close to the infamous Wading River nuclear plant built, tested and immediately and forever closed here on Long Island and I recall the fear-charged public discussion. We have been paying for and talking about what to do with the cold plant ever since.

What's happening in your world?



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From the President: Creating Solutions to New Challenges

Posted By **NAEP**, 19 hours ago



Kelly Kozisek - NAEP President

Chief Procurement Officer
Oregon State University

As the Chief Procurement Officer for Oregon State University, I am constantly seeking resources that will aid our department in providing value to the University. Whether it is talent management tools, help with challenging solicitations, or information on best practices, I'm constantly seeking information on a variety of topics. That's one of the benefits of being a business professional in higher education – the environment is constantly changing and we're responsible for creating solutions to new challenges.

A couple of my colleagues and I had to laugh the other day because someone told us, "Well, if you just Google it..." with regard to a complex business topic. Sure, search engines are great tools, but for higher education professionals who must be innovative and strategic, we need more relevant information than what we'll likely find as a result of a search. Most of us need information specific to higher education and supply chain

management.

Your membership with NAEP provides you with access to a number of tools and information. Not only can you reach out to other higher education supply chain professionals through the NAEP online [Forums](#), but you also have access to a number of tools on the online [resources](#), [career center](#), and [publications](#) sites. Using your log-in, you can gain access to the following resources:

- NAEP member information
- RFP library
- Job description library
- Career Center, where members can post and view career opportunities
- White papers
- Surveys
- Presentations
- Talent management resources
- Past issues of the *Educational Procurement Journal* and *Purchasing Link*

If you haven't utilized these resources yet, I highly encourage you to visit these sites to familiarize yourself with the variety of tools that are right at your fingertips. Get the biggest bang for your membership buck and see how the NAEP offerings can help you!



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Your Donations Made a Difference

Posted By **NAEP**, 19 hours ago

As we head into the NAEP regional meetings and look towards the national meeting in March 2017, NAEP would like to thank our volunteer Scholarship Committee as well as everyone who participated in the raffle at the 2016 national meeting this past May.

Donate Now!



Our Scholarship Committee leads the charge every year to fundraise for various NAEP national and regional scholarships. Thanks to the hard work of several volunteers including Karen Gross, University of Texas, Medical Branch, we raised over \$4200 from the raffle at the 2016 Annual Meeting. This is an incredible number thanks to your generosity and 100% of the proceeds are delivered to our scholarship foundation. When you are registering to attend your regional meeting, the national meeting, or a topic-specific NAEP institute, be sure to look for a scholarship to help offset your costs. Professional development does cost money but a scholarship from NAEP can help boost the ROI on your investment.

At many of the regional meetings this fall you'll hear from a scholarship committee member about their work. Please consider donating to the scholarship and even volunteering on the committee.



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UM System Leadership Delivers Keynote Address at Supplier Diversity Institute

Posted By **Mark Polakow**, 19 hours ago

Continuing to highlight the successful Supplier Diversity Institute held in Kansas City this summer, we are pleased to share the following article from the University of Missouri System highlighting their Interim President Mike Middleton and Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer Brian Burnett.

[Click here to read!](#)



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Nominations Open for NAEP Board of Directors

Posted By **NAEP**, 19 hours ago

The NAEP Nominating Committee is calling for nominations for candidates for the office of NAEP 2nd Vice President as well as national board representatives for District III and District VI.

Deadline for nominations is October 3, 2016. The 2017 national election is held from February 7 – March 7.

If you are interested in serving on the Board yourself—or if there is an NAEP Member colleague you would like to nominate, click here for more information.

- Do you have the desire to further your professional and personal goals?
- Do you want to be recognized as a leader in your community and profession?
- Are you a visionary thinker, have a positive attitude and like to have fun?
- And, do you want to give back to your region and Association?

If you answered “**yes**” to any of the above questions, then consider nominating yourself for a position on the NAEP National Board of Directors.



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Lights. Camera. Action, Stage Center: NAEP Call for Volunteers

Posted By **NAEP**, 19 hours ago

Are you interested in being part of the production crew that keeps NAEP up and running year after year? Are you ready to get involved behind the scenes at NAEP but don't know where to start? Here are just a few places where can try out anything from a small role to volunteering to produce or direct a meeting, an event, or a project.

Actively participate in your regional meetings by helping to organize, by presenting, by being a vendor liaison. If you like to write, submit an article for publication in the Educational Procurement Journal or here in the Purchasing Link.

Act on this opportunity immediately by networking at your own regional meeting this fall. Do more networking at the Annual Meeting this spring in Reno. That's the place where you'll have the opportunity to talk to our current board members, to listen to their visions and to offer your own.

Ready for the curtain? **Contact NAEP to start your adventure!**



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NAEP 2017 Annual Meeting

Posted By **NAEP**, 19 hours ago



The NAEP Annual Meeting will be held a little earlier than usual in 2017. Make plans now to be in Reno, NV from March 26-29, 2017 for the premier higher education procurement conference of the year.

Registration opens in mid September. NAEP is pleased to offer the same rates as last year and you'll have the opportunity to save with our early-bird registration. A variety of hotel room options at the Peppermill Resort, Spa & Casino are available for any budget.

Thinking about attending? Here are 5 reasons to register.

1. Meet new friends and colleagues you'll know for a lifetime
2. Learn new ideas and best practices
3. Become a more informed, knowledgeable and successful procurement professional
4. Network with peers, colleagues and exhibitors for new ways of doing business
5. Bring back value to your procurement team and institution.

What's your top reason for attending NAEP 2017?



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2016 Women's Leadership Institute

Posted By **NAEP**, 19 hours ago

The 2016 Women's Leadership Institute will be held **December 6-9, 2016** in Dana Point, CA.

Be a part of a special program for women seeking to become leaders in higher education administration and student affairs. Coproduced by several higher education associations, this unique program will bring together administrators from across campus functions to help you:



- Hone your leadership skills for working in a rapidly changing environment
- Develop a better understanding of the campus as a workplace and culture
- Share experiences with others about how campuses are adapting and adjusting to the new reality
- Create new personal networks and networking skills to better tap the higher education community

Through presentations, small-group exercises, and discussion, you will gain a practical understanding of what it takes to be a leader on a college or university campus—both the challenges and the rewards. Examine the unique roles, skills, and relationships needed to lead as higher education faces and deals with the most challenging period in 50 years.

[Register now!](#)



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Pumpkin Spice Lattes and Regional Meetings

Posted By **NAEP**, 20 hours ago

Fall is just about here, and with it students are on campus and

football has kicked off. In many parts of the country, the weather is about to turn and pumpkin flavored everything is about to appear. So grab your pumpkin spice latte and register for your local regional meeting! Click on the appropriate link below to sign up for your local meeting today. These events are wonderful networking opportunities to meet and interact with your local peer group. Find your meeting:



- **Carolinas | Asheville, NC**
November 13-16
[Registration](#)
- **District II | Pocono Manor, PA**
September 25-28
[Registration](#)
- **District VI | Seattle, WA**
October 3-5
[Registration](#)
- **Florida | Sanford, FL**
January 25-27, 2017
[Registration](#)
- **Great Lakes | Indianapolis, IN**
September 28-30
[Registration](#)
- **Great Plains | Minneapolis, MN**
September 25-28
[Registration](#)
- **Kentucky | Louisville, KY**
September 25-28
[Registration](#)
- **Michigan | Mt. Pleasant, MI**
October 13-14
- **New England | Springfield, MA**
October 16-19
[Registration](#)
- **TAGM | Biloxi, MS**
October 23-26
[Registration](#)
- **TOAL | San Marcos, TX**
September 25-28
[Registration](#)
- **Upstate New York | Lake Placid, NY**

October 4-7

[Registration](#)



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Quote of the Month

Posted By **NAEP**, 20 hours ago

“Time stays long enough for those who use it. ”

— *Leonardo Da Vinci*



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