

AG and Committee Annual/Semi-Annual Report

AG/Committee Name: Sediment (SEDAG)

Submitted by: Stuart Simpson

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Council/Board Liaison: Made unofficially through joshua.sullivan@setac.org and bruce.vigon@setac.org

Organization

The SEDAG is currently managed through a steering committee (SC) that was renewed in October, 2014. The current members are shown in Table 1, and represented by four inaugural committee members and seven new members. Stuart Simpson remained the SC chair in 2015, with ongoing assistance from Chris Ingersoll and Paul Sibley.

Activities Summary

- Prepared posters and arranged for SEDAG meetings at the SETAC Europe (Barcelona) and North America (Salt Lake City) meetings in 2015 (Nov). These provided a forum for discussing SEDAG activities and highlighting sediment research.
- Email 'announcements' were sent to all SEDAG members regarding sediment meetings and sessions at SETAC Europe and North America meetings.
- Several of the Working Groups have been making good progress, especially #1 "Harmonization of methods for assessing contaminated sediments" (led by Chris Ingersoll) and #2 "Compilation of contaminant-spiked sediment toxicity data (SETAC database)" (led by Steve Bay).
- A new working group was started by Tamara Sorell, and is beginning to take shape: "Sediment Risk Management". Chair: Tamara Sorell (tsorell@brwnald.com)
- The two remaining Working Groups are making progress at various levels.

Examples of SEDAG sponsored session 'promotion' at annual NA and EU meetings:

SEDAG Steering Committee proposed sessions for the SETAC meeting in Salt Lake City Utah November 1-5, 2015:

1. Design and Use of Spiked Sediment Toxicity Tests to Improve Environmental Management Decision Making.
2. The Continuing Evolution of Sediment Toxicity Methods and Data Interpretation.
3. Site Assessments of Contaminated Sediment.
4. Risk Management of Sediments.
5. Groundwater-to-Surface Water Interface (GSI) Investigations for Sediment Characterization and Ecological Risk Assessment.

Vancouver meeting:

Refining methods for conducting laboratory whole-sediment toxicity tests. Chairs: Christian Picard (Smithers Viscient, Wareham MA) and Chris Ingersoll (USGS, Columbia MO)

Barcelona meeting:

SEDAG emails (Chris Ingersoll) outline the range of sediment-related talks and posters, particularly the many relating the standardized toxicity tests methods

Working Groups

1. Harmonization of methods for assessing contaminated sediments. Chair: Chris Ingersoll
2. Compilation of contaminant-spiked sediment toxicity data (SETAC database). Chair: Steven Bay
3. Sediment Risk Management. Chair: Tamara Sorell
4. Behaviour, fate and bioavailability of particle bound contaminants in changing environments. Chair: Susanne Heise
5. PAHs. Chair: Peter Van Metre (pcvanmet@usgs.gov)PAH-Working Group. Chairs: Peter Van Metre

Future Plans

- Stuart Simpson is looking to step aside as chair of SEDAG, but has yet to find a suitable replacement.
- Continue to propose and develop sediment sessions at SETAC meetings and hold SEDAG meetings at most major conferences.
- Continue to promote the active working groups.

Business and Planning Meetings

Global Steering Committee conference calls have been made as needed.

Membership Communications

Communication with members now mostly occur using the 'Email All Group Members' tools within 'Options' in the 'Global Advisory Groups: Sediment' web site:

<http://www.setac.org/members/group.aspx?id=90706>

Issues/Problems

Time is scarce for all scientists and it is a challenge getting working groups active.

Table 1. Committee member, category, location and institute

Academia		
Paul Sibley	Canada	University of Guelph
Jing You	China	Chinese Academy of Sciences
Jussi Kukkonen	Finland	University of Jyväskylä
Industry		
Amy Oen	Norway	Norges Geotekniske Institutt
Frank Dillon	USA	CH2M Hill
Shaun Roark	USA	GEI Consultants
Greg Schiefer	USA	SETAC North America
Government		
Chris Ingersoll	USA	U.S. Geological Survey
Lisa Taylor	Canada	Environment Canada
Steve Bay	USA	SCCWRP
Stuart Simpson	Australia	CSIRO (Current Chair)

Regards,

Stuart Simpson (SEDAG Chair)