

# Nor Cal SETAC Newsletter



Northern California  
**SETAC**

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Winter 2009

## Northern California Chapter - Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry

### INTRODUCING: OUR THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the addition of its three newest members, **Katie Henry**, **Susanne Brander**, and **Peter Green**.



**Katie Henry** has worked as an environmental consultant for Tetra Tech for the past four years, working as an ecological risk assessor, ecologist and program manager. Prior to working for Tetra Tech, Katie worked for Block Environmental and Pacific EcoRisk. She earned her master's degree in environmental management from the University of San Francisco, and her BS in biological science from UC Davis. Katie has been a member of NorCal SETAC since 2001.

#### **Susanne Brander**

is a third year Ph.D. student in the Environmental Toxicology Department at UC Davis, conducting research at the Bodega Bay

Marine Laboratory. Susanne's dissertation research involves



examining the reproductive toxicity of endocrine disrupting chemicals to fish in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

**Dr. Peter Green** is from the University of California at Davis, and



has been a researcher there in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering since 2000. His degrees are in

Chemistry and he works on a variety of water quality and air quality projects, with collaborators including ecologists and clinical researchers.



### A MESSAGE FROM OUTGOING PRESIDENT, JUDITH NEDOFF

At the start of 2008, the NorCal SETAC Chapter was faced with some challenges, including 8 of 11 board members being newly elected and a somewhat low treasury, not to mention that we were behind on planning the 2008 annual meeting. Looking back, it's clear that this group of board members dedicated themselves to revitalizing and rebuilding the chapter, from improving the treasury, to providing great short courses and an excellent regional technical meeting in May, to

revamping how we accomplish tasks and communicate with the members using the technology we now have available. Each board member made significant contributions to the chapter's success, and I am fortunate that I could count on their ideas, expertise, and energy to accomplish so much last year and am grateful for their dedication and commitment. The chapter enters 2009 in a strong position, with Chris Pincetich at the helm and an expanded Board to support him. I look forward to even greater accomplishments for the chapter in this and future years on the foundation that this Board is building.

### A MESSAGE FROM INCOMING PRESIDENT, CHRIS PINCETICH

It will be an honor and a pleasure to serve as President of the NorCal Chapter of SETAC this year. This is a chance to help shape and invigorate the organization that has played a valuable role in my professional development, has been a conduit of timely and relevant local scientific knowledge, and has brought me close to more than a few new and old friends. This new-year opens at a time of economic crisis and hope for positive change. NorCal SETAC has been renewed after a turbulent year, and the Board has rallied behind excellent organizational and planning efforts to ensure that our members continue to value their participation in the organization at all levels. We will

be working on a newsletter for distribution in March that will highlight details of the Annual Meeting in May, share important new work by our members, and give the recognition and coverage to our Sustaining Member organizations that they deserve. Our first Dinner Meeting has been finalized, and more chances to wine and dine with colleagues will follow later in the year. The strength of NorCal SETAC is its membership, and I wish to extend my personal thanks to all those individuals and organizations past and present that have worked so hard to keep it alive and prosperous.



**THREE OUTSTANDING SPEAKERS  
SCHEDULED FOR 2009 ANNUAL  
MEETING PLENARY SESSION  
FREEBORN HALL, UC DAVIS  
MAY 20 – 21, 2009**

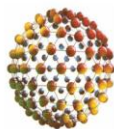


We are happy to announce the plenary speakers for our 2009 Annual Meeting. **Dr. Sam Luoma**, USGS and UC Davis John Muir Institute of the Environment; **Dr. Richard Norgaard**, UC Berkeley Graduate Group in Energy and Resources; and **Dr. Peter Moyle**, UC Davis Department of Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology.

The meeting is scheduled for May 20 and 21 at Freeborn Hall, UC Davis. Our theme this year is:

***A Fish-Eye View of Bay-Delta System Challenges: Clear Sailing or Muddy Waters?***

Stay tuned for calls for abstracts, information on short courses, and registration deadlines.



**NORCAL SETAC DINNER EVENT  
FEATURING NANOTECHNOLOGY  
FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>, 6:30 PM  
SUDWERK, DAVIS**

On Tuesday February 10th, NorCal SETAC will host a dinner meeting featuring *Nanotechnology: What it is and Why You Should Care*.

The meeting will be held at Sudwerk in Davis, and it begins at 6:30 PM (the program begins at 7:30 PM).

Our speakers on the fascinating world of nanotechnology will be **Dr. Karen Riveles** from the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) and **Dr. Kent Pinkerton**, Director of the UC Davis Center for Health and the Environment. Dr. Riveles will discuss the widespread proliferation of engineered nanomaterials in consumer products and their potential health and environmental impacts, as well as the adequacy of current frameworks to assess these impacts. Dr. Pinkerton will discuss recent studies with carbon nanotubes and quantum dots, including their passage to the olfactory bulb of the brain. Dr. Pinkerton will also discuss plans at UC Davis for creating a Center for Green Nanotechnology with an emphasis on the environmental implications of nanotechnology.

**Dr. Riveles** has been with the Air Toxicology and Epidemiology Branch of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) for three years. Her work focuses on the

identification, characterization, and risk assessment of toxic air pollutants that differentially impact infants and children. Dr. Karen Riveles received her Bachelor's of Arts and Sciences from UC Davis in Biological Sciences and Spanish in 1992. Karen received a Master's of Public Health from San Diego State University with an emphasis in Environmental Health in 1998 and a Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology from UC Riverside. Karen also participates in OEHHA's Nanotoxicology work-group.

**Dr. Pinkerton** is Professor of Pediatrics in the School of Medicine and Professor of Anatomy, Physiology and Cell Biology in the School of Veterinary Medicine at UC Davis. His research focuses on the health effects of inhaled environmental air pollutants to alter respiratory, cardiovascular and neurological structure and function. Special areas of interest include the interaction of gases and airborne particles to produce cellular and structural changes within site-specific regions and cells of the respiratory tract in both acute and chronic timeframes of exposure. Recent studies have focused on environmental and biological impacts of synthesized nanomaterials as well as the effects of environmental tobacco smoke and combustion particles on lung growth and development as well as susceptibility to infection.

The cost is \$20 for preorders; \$25 for non-members, and \$10 for students.

For more information on the nanotechnology dinner meeting and the speakers, visit our web page:

<http://www.norcalsetac.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=events.detail&id=2216>.



### WHAT'S UP WITH [www.norcalsetac.org](http://www.norcalsetac.org)?

The web host for the [www.norcalsetac.org](http://www.norcalsetac.org) has undergone some reorganization and that has resulted in temporarily reduced functioning and downtime for the website. The site is now back up and functionality and services will continue to improve through the volunteer efforts by Mike Diebel at [www.networknetplay.com](http://www.networknetplay.com).

Other goals for website improve-ment include paypal online payment for membership and events and increased scope and frequency of event calendar postings. If you have any content you would like to have posted, please contact Beckye Stanton ([bstanton@ospr.dfg.ca.gov](mailto:bstanton@ospr.dfg.ca.gov)).

### *Opportunities for Members*

#### **Want to make a difference with your Chapter?**

**We are looking for volunteers to help out at the 2009 meeting — setting up, during registration, the poster session, and cleaning up. If you are interested, please contact Darcy Jones at [dgjones@usgs.gov](mailto:dgjones@usgs.gov) to sign up.**

