



# SoCal SETAC NEWS

Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry  
Southern California Chapter

Volume 8, Issue 1

[www.socalsetac.org](http://www.socalsetac.org)

February 2001

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## Meet the Board.....

### **Tim Mikel Aquatic Bioassay and Consulting Laboratory Inc.**

I was born a fair number of years ago in East Chicago, Indiana. My father was a steelworker and my mother was a housekeeper. I was the oldest and usually undisputed leader of six children. I went to school locally, and started college at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Partly due to a misdirected social life, I was drafted into the Army and sent



to Korea. I was trained as an artillery gunner, but ended up being the Battery Commander's clerk because I could type. I didn't like being in the Army, but I loved being in Korea, partly because, for the first time in my life, I was both rich *and* tall.

By the time I was discharged, my family had moved to Paso Robles, California. I spent the next several years bringing up my grades and working at a very eclectic string of part-time and summer jobs. These included (and I'm not making any of this up) taxi driver, boat builder, railroad fireman, bartender, factory worker, orderly, dishwasher, liquor store clerk, paint and body man, and supervisor of a hospital emergency room.

I was finally accepted into San Jose State University with a major in Marine Biology and spent a year at Moss Landing Marine Laboratory near Monterey under the direction of Greg Cailliet. Moss Landing was great, although I wish that I had spent more time there. During a seminar, I met Joe Connell from U.C. Santa Barbara and was very impressed with the elegant way he conducted ecological experiments. I graduated in 1973 and did some intertidal consulting work for the National Park Service near Big Sur. Since job opportunities were slim, I decided to go to grad school. I looked up Joe Connell, and he took me on as one of his students. My work there involved predation of backswimmer larvae (an aquatic insect) by mosquitofish. I graduated in 1975 with a Masters in Aquatic and Population Biology.

It was now off to work (easier said than done). I spent a short time with the Santa Barbara Underseas Foundation and then landed a marine biologist job with Jacobs Engineering in

Ventura. I eventually found myself in the position of laboratory director supervising a group of about 40 neurotic chemists, hang-loose biologists, and flighty clerical workers. Following several corporate takeovers, my situation there became totally untenable, and I finally quit in 1988 to start my own consulting laboratory, Aquatic Bioassay. At first, life was pretty tough, and I neither paid myself nor gave myself a day off for six months. However, things began to improve, and the company has continued to grow. Presently, we perform mostly bioassays and conduct a number of fairly large, ongoing receiving water monitoring programs, such as those for the City of Oxnard, the Goleta Sanitary District, the City of Avalon, Marina del Rey Harbor, and, of course, the Southern California Bight Pilot Project ("Bight 98").

In addition to being a board member for SoCal SETAC, I am the chair of the Southern California Toxicity Assessment Group, a joint chair of *Standard Methods* (molluscs bioassays), and the co-chair of the Toxicity Group for "Bight 98". My passions are snow skiing, dance (I am the President of the Board for the State Street Ballet Company of Santa Barbara), SCUBA diving and underwater video (particularly in warm water), and my 1961 Jaguar Mark II (pictured). Oh yeah, I almost forgot: I have a marine worm named after me (*Syllides mikeli*). Its picture is

going on our family crest.

### **Review of the SETAC North America Annual Meeting**

*Contributed by Daniel Schlenk*

The theme for the SETAC 2000 meeting in Nashville was Environmental Science in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Paradigms, Opportunities and Challenges. The meeting began Saturday and Sunday with a host of 20 workshops covering topics ranging from the Use of Chemometric Methods in Environmental Forensics Investigations; to Scientific Writing: How Much Better Can It Get?. On Sunday evening the Plenary session was shortened and the keynote speaker was Dr. Kenneth Olden, Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, who spoke primarily about the mission of NIEHS in the future. The subsequent reception was a typical SETAC social event with excellent food and a live band from the Music City.

On Monday Morning, Derik Muir gave the SETAC Founders Award presentation and was followed by three SETAC members of renown: Dominic Di Toro, Sam Luoma, and Elaine Dorward-King who challenged the audience to participate in a "Donahue-style" format. The technical program followed with highlighted sessions focusing upon TMDLS; Chemistry; Local/Regional issues;

Molecular/Cellular Toxicology; Topics in Wildlife Toxicology; Probabilistic Risk Assessment; Sediment Topics and Endocrine Issues. Computer-based PowerPoint presentations were tested in one meeting hall and no significant glitches occurred. Special Symposia included Sediment Criteria Debate on Monday afternoon that was very well attended, and EnviroEd II which met all day on Tuesday.

Highlighted Platform sessions included: Mechanisms of Adaptation to Chemical Stressors; Understanding and living with TMDLs, Bioremediation Strategies for Contaminated Sediments; Atmospheric Transport of Pesticides; Soil Toxicology; Fate and Effects of Metals; Dietary Perspectives in the Aquatic Environment; and a host of sessions dealing with various components and strategies for better Ecological Risk Assessments.

Nashville was a great place for a meeting with numerous pubs, bistros, honky tonks and blues bars within a close proximity to the convention center. Surveys returned after the

meeting indicated a very successful meeting. Hope you can make the next one in Baltimore. Information regarding this and last year's meeting, including the abstracts can be accessed from the SETAC website ([www.setac.org](http://www.setac.org)). Let's hope Baltimore continues the

tradition of great interactive meetings of academia, government and industry as was observed in Nashville.

### **Board Meeting Minutes – December 2000**

*Contributed by **Karen Riveles***

On December 6, 2000, a SoCal SETAC Officer and Board of Directors meeting was held at the L.A. County Sanitation District Office. We started by discussing the planning for the SoCal SETAC Annual Meeting in 2001. This year's meeting will be held in Long Beach, California in July. The meeting will last two days and offer several short courses, symposia, interactive discussion groups, and a poster session. One of the short courses will be on TMDL's. Ideas for the second short course were discussed and include: Ecological risk assessment, biomarkers, and storm and groundwater management.

Lan Wiborg presented the Treasurers Report and we discussed our current effort to apply for non-profit status. The application for the State of California has already been submitted. The federal application requires consultation with an accountant before it can be submitted. Lan presented our financial activities in an easy to read table outlining our receipts and expenses on a monthly basis.

Karen Riveles gave the Secretaries Report discussing the updates made to the membership database and the email listing. Karen suggested sending out a letter to the membership asking for an update in contact information, paying of dues, and to seek out new membership in companies. This letter can be sent with the announcement for the annual meeting.

The 2001 elections are coming up for Board positions. Jennifer Jones, Chris Stransky, and Gerry McGowen will be rotating off the Board, and Lan Wiborg's term as Treasurer will also end. A call for Board of Director nominations will appear in the February newsletter. Nominations can be sent via email to Karen Riveles or by regular mail to the post office box. The nominees and their biographies will be listed in the May newsletter along with ballots. Ballots will be collected by Karen at the P.O. Box and possibly by e-mail. Election results will be announced at or prior to the Annual Meeting.

Chris Stransky gave a report on the website. He informed us that we could now advertise on our web page, but with certain restrictions. We can provide links to our sponsors, but we cannot plaster logos all over our website. We now have job postings on our web page.

We finally arrived at "New Business," and Joe Gully

discussed creating SOP's for SoCal SETAC positions, which would outline the specific duties associated with each job. We could also establish form letters and a guide to planning meetings that will aid future board members in these activities.

Joe Gully also proposed a new responsibilities structure that will be voted on at the next board meeting. The incoming Vice-President would serve as the Newsletter Editor, and the Past President would plan the annual meeting. Currently, it is the Vice-President who plans the annual meeting.

The next Board Meeting will be combined with a Dinner Meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2001 at Water's Restaurant, Irvine, CA. The Board Meeting will start at 2pm and the Dinner Meeting will begin at 5pm. Dr. Dan Schlenk of University California Riverside will be the featured speaker.

### **President's Corner**

***Joe Gully**  
**SoCal SETAC president***

It is hard to believe that my term as President is already half over and another Chapter Annual Meeting is fast approaching. We spent much of our December Board Meeting finalizing plans for the meeting and Kat Prickett (Vice-President) is narrowing in on a hotel to host the event. The Board is also focused on

developing the technical program and will accept any offers from the membership for short courses or specific sessions. It is not too early to begin making plans for the meeting so check out the first call for papers in this newsletter and more details will be passed along as they become available.

This is also election season for the Chapter and we are actively seeking interested members to serve on the Board of Directors. This is a great opportunity to get involved with the management of the Chapter and work with a great group of folks from a wide variety of fields related to environmental science. If you are interested or would like to nominate somebody else, fill out the Nominations Form included in this newsletter and Mail it to the Chapter Secretary by March 13<sup>th</sup>. We will also be replacing Lan Wiborg, our phenomenal Treasurer, and seeking a new Vice-president to serve the Chapter. Previous Officers or Board Members who are ready to jump back into leadership of SoCal SETAC are encouraged to contact the Secretary, Karen Riveles.

I am also grateful to Dr. Daniel Schlenk (UC Riverside) for not only agreeing to serve on the Board (Do not forget to get those ballots in folks!!), but for "volunteering" to give a Dinner Meeting lecture on endocrine disruption associated with wastewater. The Dinner Meeting is scheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Waters Restaurant in

Irvine from 5-8 pm. Again, an announcement and registration form is included in this newsletter. Just fill it out and send it in to reserve your space. Also, feel free to post the flyer and/or pass it along to others who might be interested. Should be a great meeting, hope you can make it.

Finally, I want to give the membership some warning about an important event which will take place in the near future. We are in the approval stages of revisions made to the Chapter Constitution and By-Laws in order to complete our federal application for non-profit status. We will need approval from a quorum (2/3) of the membership to adopt the revisions so please respond when the ballot comes your way.

### Calendar of Events

*Contributed by Scott Steinert*

#### FEBRUARY 2001

**Envirotox 2001.** February 11-14, Canberra, Australia. Contact; [greg.rippon@ea.gov.au](mailto:greg.rippon@ea.gov.au).

#### MARCH 2001

**Environmental Mutagen Society (EMS) 2001: A Science Odyssey.** March, 16-21, San Diego, CA. For more information visit; [www.ems-us.org](http://www.ems-us.org).

#### MAY 2001

**11<sup>th</sup> SETAC Europe Annual Meeting.** May 6-10, Madrid, Spain. More information; [www.setac.org](http://www.setac.org).

#### JUNE 2001

**2001 International Containment & Remediation Technology Conference and Exhibition.** June 11-13, Orlando, FL, USA. Contact; [containment@mailier.fsu.edu](mailto:containment@mailier.fsu.edu).

#### JULY 2001

**The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Interdisciplinary Conference on the Environment.** July 2 – 4, 2001, San Francisco, CA. More information at; [www.desu.edu/mreiter/iea.htm](http://www.desu.edu/mreiter/iea.htm).

**9<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Toxicology (ICT-IX).** July 8-13, Brisbane, Australia. More information; [www.uq.edu.au/ICT9](http://www.uq.edu.au/ICT9).

**11<sup>th</sup> Pollution Responses in Marine Organisms (PRIMO 11) Symposium.** July 10-13, 2001, Plymouth. UK. For more information; [www.PRIMO11.org](http://www.PRIMO11.org).

#### SEPTEMBER 2001

**Organic Soil Contaminants 2001 Conference.** September 2-5, Copenhagen, Denmark. More information; [www.setac.org](http://www.setac.org).

**28<sup>th</sup> Annual AQUATIC TOXICITY WORKSHOP,** September 30 - October 3, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Crown Plaza Downtown. More information; [www.atw.ca](http://www.atw.ca).

**SoCal SETAC Officers and Board of Directors - Fiscal Year 2000-2001**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME &amp; AFFILIATION</b>	<b>CONTACT INFO</b>	<b>TERM</b>	<b>BASIC DUTIES</b>
Past President	Marilyn Schwartz Ogden Environ. & Energy Services 5510 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA 92121	T: 858-458-9044 F: 858-458-0943 E: mjschwartz@oees.com	07/01/00 - 06/30/01	Advisor/Stand-in for President and Vice-President
President	Joe Gully L.A. County Sanitation Districts 1965 Workman Mill Rd Whittier, CA 90601	T: 562-699-0405 x3060 F: 562-695-7267 E: jgully@lacsds.org	07/01/00 - 06/30/01	National SETAC Liaison Board Agenda & Action Items
Vice-President	Kat Prickett Arcadis JSA 301 E. Ocean Blvd, Suite 1530 Long Beach, CA 90802	T: 562-628-1176 F: 562-628-1196 E: kprickett@jsae.com	07/01/00 - 06/30/01	Program Committee Chair for SoCal SETAC Annual Meeting
Treasurer	Lan Wiborg City of San Diego, MWWD 4918 N. Harbor Dr., Suite 204A San Diego, CA 92106	T: 619-758-2341 F: 619-758-2309 E: L7W@sdcity.sannet.gov	07/01/99 - 06/30/01	Meeting Finances & Contracts Non-Profit Application
Secretary	Karen Riveles UC Riverside	T: 909-276-7161 F: E: karenriv@aol.com	07/01/00 - 06/30/02	Election Coordinator Membership Maintenance Board Meeting Notes
Board Member (Student)	Jennifer Jones UC Los Angeles	T: 323-462-6073 F: E: jjones@ucla.edu	07/01/99 - 06/30/01	Direct and Assist in the Development and Execution of Chapter Activities
Board Member (Academic)	Open	T: F: E:	07/01/99 - 06/30/01	
Board Member (Private)	Chris Stransky Ogden Environ. & Energy Services 5510 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA 92121	T: 858-458-9111 x208 F: 858-587-3961 E: bestransky@oees.com	07/01/99 - 06/30/01	
Board Member (Public)	Gerald McGowen City of Los Angeles, EMD 12000 Vista del Mar Playa del Rey, CA 90293	T: 310-648-5611 F: 310-648-5060 E: gem@san.ci.la.ca.us	07/01/99 - 06/30/01	
Board Member (Student)	Ian Adam UC Santa Barbara	T: 805-571-1466 F: E: iadam@bren.ucsb.edu	07/01/00 - 06/30/02	
Board Member (Academic)	Open	T: F: E:	07/01/00 - 06/30/02	
Board Member (Private)	Tim Mikel Aquatic Bioassay and Consulting 29 N. Olive St. Ventura, CA 93001	T: 805-644-8686 F: 805-643-2930 E: tkmikel@vcvista.net	07/01/00 - 06/30/02	
Board Member (Public)	Steve Bay SCCWRP 7171 Fenwick Ln. Westminster, CA 92683	T: 714-372-9204 F: 714-894-9699 E: steveb@sccwrp.org	07/01/00 - 06/30/02	

**SOCIETY OF ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER  
2000-2001 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Please send application and payment (checks payable to Southern California SETAC) to SoCal SETAC, c/o Karen Riveles, P.O. Box 655, Riverside, CA. 92502. Please do not send cash.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX No.: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Newsletters will be sent electronically if you provide an email address; hardcopies will be sent upon request.

**Category of Employer: (Please check one that applies)**

Government \_\_\_\_\_ Industry/Business \_\_\_\_\_ Academic \_\_\_\_\_  
Student \_\_\_\_\_ Consultant \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Technical Background: (Please check one that applies)**

Atmospheric Science \_\_\_\_\_ Engineering \_\_\_\_\_  
Biology \_\_\_\_\_ Health Science \_\_\_\_\_  
Chemistry \_\_\_\_\_ Toxicology \_\_\_\_\_  
Earth Science \_\_\_\_\_  
Ecology \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Degree(s) earned:** \_\_\_ B.A./B.S. \_\_\_ M.A./M.S. \_\_\_ Ph.D. \_\_\_ P.E. \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Class of Membership for which you are applying: (Please check only one)\***

Annual membership covers July 1<sup>st</sup> - June 30<sup>th</sup>. Dues paid prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> will apply only to the current membership cycle.

_____	Active Member	\$20.00 per year
_____	Regional Member	\$20.00 per year
_____	Student Member	\$10.00 per year

\***Active Members** and **Regional Members** are qualified professionals who share the stated purpose of the Chapter and who have education, training, research or applied experience in environmental toxicology and/or chemistry. **Active Members** must also be members of National SETAC. **Student Members** are individuals who share the stated purpose of the Chapter and are students showing promise of becoming qualified for Regional or Active status at a later date.

Please check here if you would prefer not to be included in the membership directory \_\_\_\_\_

**Southern California Regional Chapter of SETAC  
Request for Nominations  
Board of Directors**

SoCal SETAC is requesting nominations for the Board of Directors from society members. Four Board of Director positions are open for the 2001 – 2003 term, one in each of the following sectors: Academia (professional), Private, Public, Student.

***Nominee Information (Please Print)***

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Affiliation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CATEGORY OF EMPLOYER (Check one):**

- Academia (Professional)
- Private
- Public
- Student (Grad./Undergrad.)

Please send nominations by post or email **BY MARCH 13<sup>th</sup>** to:

**Karen Riveles  
SoCal SETAC Secretary  
P.O. Box 655  
Riverside, CA 92502**

[Karenriv@aol.com](mailto:Karenriv@aol.com)



# FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS



## Southern California Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry 2001 Annual Meeting

July 2001

Long Beach, CA

The Southern California Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SoCal SETAC) announces the first call for papers to be presented at the 2001 Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held in Long Beach and the Board of Directors is busy putting together a strong technical program. We are planning a short course on TMDL's taught by Dr. Arturo Keller of UC Santa Barbara. In addition, we will hold a plenary session on Watershed Management, and one platform/discussion session discussing real-world challenges and examples of TMDL implementation. Other platform and poster sessions related to environmental toxicology and chemistry are encouraged and welcome. We are also arranging an entertaining social event for one evening during the meeting. More details on these events and the location will be made available soon, but at this point in time, we need your help to ensure the success of the meeting.

We are requesting abstracts for platform or poster presentation at the conference. Any primary research, case study, monitoring program data, or policy based papers related to environmental toxicology and chemistry are acceptable. We also encourage presentation (poster) of student research proposals or research at the meeting by offering a **\$200 BEST STUDENT PAPER AWARD**. Further, Each student presenting a poster will be given **A FREE, ONE YEAR STUDENT MEMBERSHIP** to the Chapter. This meeting is also a great opportunity to present information from the last SETAC Annual Meeting to those who could not attend or prepare for next years meeting.

The abstract deadline is June 1st, 2001, and the format for submission is as follows. The abstract, including the authors and title, are not to be longer than 300 words. Longer abstracts may be edited. At the top of the file, provide the name, address, phone, FAX, and e-mail information of the presenting author. Then skip a line and list your preference for a platform or poster presentation and whether this paper is to be judged for the Best Student Paper Award. Skip a line and type the title of the abstract in bold using title case. Then list the authors, last name first, then the first and middle initial, and place an asterisk (\*) after the name of the presenting author. Include the name, city, and state of the institution for each author but not the department or street address. Without skipping a line, begin the text of the abstract. An example of the correct submission format can be found on the next page. Abstracts may be submitted as e-mail attachments or on disk as a Windows-based WordPerfect (\*.wpd) or Microsoft Word (\*.doc) file. Send the files to Kat Prickett ARCADIS JSA 301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 1530, Long Beach, CA, 90802 or by e-mail to [kprickett@arcadis-us.com](mailto:kprickett@arcadis-us.com). The presenting author will be notified of acceptance status within two weeks of receipt.

Needless to say, the SoCal SETAC 2000 Annual Meeting promises to be an exceptional educational and social experience for everyone in attendance. We look forward to and thank you in advance for your contribution.

**ABSTRACT DEADLINE: 01 JUNE 2001**



# FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

## Southern California Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry 2001 Annual Meeting

July 2001

Long Beach, CA

### Example of correct abstract format

Philip Markle  
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles  
San Jose Creek Water Quality Laboratory  
1965 Worman Mill Rd.  
Whittier, CA 90601  
T: 562-699-0405 ext. 3055  
F: 562-695-7267  
E: pmarkle@lacsds.org

My preference is a PLATFORM presentation  
I do not wish to be judged for the Best Student Paper Award

**Effects Based Evaluation of Toxicity Test Data Using Probability Distributions.** J. Gully, R. Baird, P. Markle\*, and J. Bottomley, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, Whittier, Ca. A methodology is proposed which incorporates the intra- and inter-test variability and the biological effect of toxicity test data in evaluating the ....

**ABSTRACT DEADLINE: 01 JUNE 2001**



# Southern California SETAC



Invites You to Attend  
A Dinner/Speaker Meeting Entitled

## *Exposure assessment of estrogens and beta-blockers in sewage effluent and outfall sites of North America*

Presented by

*Professor Daniel Schlenk, Ph.D.*  
Department of Environmental Sciences  
University of California, Riverside

March 20, 2001 - 5:00 pm  
Waters Restaurant - 4615 Barranca Pkwy - Irvine, CA 92714

### Registration Form (Detach and Include with Payment)

**Southern California SETAC Dinner Meeting - March 20, 2000 - 5:00 pm**

## *Exposure assessment of estrogens and beta-blockers in sewage effluent and outfall sites of North America*

**Dr. Daniel Schlenk, UCR**

### Registration Information (Circle One)

Name	Registration Information (Circle One)		
	Membership Status	Before 3/13	On Site
	SoCal SETAC Member	\$ 30	\$ 35
Company/Institution/Organization	Non-Member (Includes	\$ 50	\$ 55
	SoCal SETAC Student Member	\$ 25	\$30
	Non-Member Student (Includes	\$ 35	\$ 40
Address	<b>Total Enclosed</b> _____		
Phone/ Fax	Send Check or Money Order Made Out to <b>SoCal SETAC</b> to:		
E-Mail			

### Meal Selection (Check One)

**CHEESE AND SPINACH RAVIOLI** - A delightful blend of mozzarella cheese and spinach topped with marinara and cream sauce.

**LAKEHOUSE CHICKEN** - Marinated double breast topped with our famous artichoke relish over smashed potatoes.

**SHRIMP SCAMPI LINGUINI** - Gulf shrimp sautéed with garlic, wine, cream, roma tomatoes and capers over linguini pasta.

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

**Lan Wiborg**  
SoCal SETAC Treasurer  
P.O. Box 60429  
San Diego, CA 92166