SETAC Focus Topic Meeting – Spring 2019

Understanding Environmental Risk from Exposure to Per- and Poly-Fluoro Alkyl Substances (PFASs)

Over 300 scientists in the areas of chemistry, fate and transport, exposure, ecotoxicity, human health toxicity, risk assessment, and remediation of PFASs will gather to learn about recent advances in the sciences of PFASs. The objective of the meeting is two-fold: 1) to review new and emerging information on PFASs and 2) to formulate a roadmap for a risk assessment approach for PFASs.

The meeting will be organized around the following topics as related to PFAS:

1. Environmental Sources, Chemistry, Fate and Transport
2. Exposure
3. Ecological Toxicity
4. Human Toxicity
5. Risk Assessment & Characterization

The meeting will be one week in length. It will start with two and a half full days of single-track platform and poster sessions and will close with two and a half days of concurrent breakout groups. Both the sessions and the breakout groups will be organized around the topics outlined above. For each topic, three experts have been identified, representing tripartite perspective (academia, business, and government), to function as both session chairs and breakout group chairs. The chairs will invite a diverse group of experts in each topic to present in session and to participate in the breakout groups as panelists. The diversity of invited experts will ensure balance in representation from academia, business, government, as well as representation from members from the non-profit and intergovernmental communities, and finally balance in terms of geographic representation and gender. Participants in the groups will be tasked with synthesizing the recent science in their assigned specific area as related to PFASs towards identifying a comprehensive risk assessment approach for PFASs.

The chairs of the breakout groups, with assistance from the panelists and other willing participants, will be charged with coordinating contributions for publication shortly after the meeting. Publications will be in the form of peer-reviewed articles in SETAC journals as well as summary articles in relevant newsletters such as the SETAC Globe. SETAC Focus Topic Meetings, such as this, allow scientists the ability to synthesize the best available science and work towards agreement on best paths forward.

A diverse program committee has been selected for their expertise in their respective areas and in their perspective. The program committee is listed below.

Meeting Chairs

Mark S. Johnson (Government), Army Public Health Center, USA
Christopher Weis (Government), National Institute for Environmental Studies, USA
Bob Buck (Business), The Chemours Company, USA
Ian Cousins (Academia), Stockholm University, Sweden

Meeting Breakout Group Chairs

Chemistry
Jennifer Guelfo (Academia), Texas Tech University, USA
Steve Korzeniowski (Business), American Chemistry Council, USA
Marc Mills (Government), Environmental Protection Agency, USA

Exposure
Amila DeSilva (Government), Environment and Climate Change Canada
Shoji F. Nakayama (Government), National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan
Elsie Sunderland (Academia), Harvard University, USA

Ecotoxicology
Gary Ankley (Government), Environmental Protection Agency, USA
Roman Lanno (Academia), Ohio State University, USA
Bradley Sample (Business), EcoRisk, USA

Human Toxicology
Alan Boobis (Academia), Imperial College of London, UK
Stephen Roberts (Academia), University of Florida, USA,
James S. Smith (Government), Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center, USA

Risk Characterization
Michael Dourson (Non-profit), Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment, USA
Andrea Hinwood (Government), Environment Protection Authority – Victoria, Australia
Tanja Schwerdtle (Academia), University of Potsdam, Germany

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For more details, please visit https://pfas.setac.org/.