

Annual Report of SETAC-North America (SNA) Technical Committee (TC)

Committee: Technical Committee

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Report period: (November 2010 – October 2011)

Top goals of committee for 2011:

1. Finalize SOP for the TC
2. Review workshops as requested
3. Respond to peer reviews as requested
4. Establish AG liaisons

Accomplishments

We finalized our SOP and it was approved by the SNA Board of Directors (BoD).

The TC responded to a request for input on oil spill related questions and preliminary responses related to the SETAC focused topic meeting.

The TC began supporting a peer-review request from SNA in the fall of 2010. Several TC members volunteered to coordinate this effort in accordance with the 2010 Peer Review SOP. The review will be performed early in 2012.

TC members were assigned to serve as liaisons to individual AGs and have received the first set of “updates” following the annual meeting. A working list of liaisons is attached.

The TC continues to identify emerging scientific issues to bring to the attention of SNA members (expanding our horizons also helps bring new members and disciplines to SETAC, meeting a goal the BoD has asked the TC to support).

A TC liaison (Trina von Stackelberg) was involved in the SNA 2011 meeting (Boston) planning committee and the 2011 incoming chair (Cameron Irvine) is the TC liaison to the SNA 2011 meeting (Long Beach) planning committee – scientific sub-committee.

New this year, we started an “update from the TC” intermittent feature in the SETAC Globe and wrote three articles in 2011.

Issues

A mechanism for interaction between the TC and global Science Committee continues to be a topic of discussion. The TC is working with our BoD liaisons and Barnett Rattner to continue clarifying this relationship.

Getting participation across the TC membership can be challenging – out of 20+ AGs, we received report-outs following the Boston meeting for less than 10. In November (2011) we identified several task leads to support TC activities.

- Alan Samel will help refine the list of TC liaisons to AGs and facilitate communications.
- Emma Lavoie will lead the 2012 effort to update the information presented and improve exposure of the TC with the SETAC membership.
- Markus Hecker will lead the 2012 efforts to develop Globe articles from the TC.
- Cameron Irvine is leading a focused group for the peer review.

Recognition

The co-chairs, Trina von Stackelberg, Cameron Irvine, and Emma Lavoie together provided excellent leadership and were very engaged. Sue Robinson and John Toll are also both very active.

Future Plans:

1. Assist with meeting planning for Long Beach 2012
2. Inform the BoD of emerging science and potentially important issues to SNA
3. Continue to review workshops as appropriate and requested
4. Continue to develop liaisons with AGs and request updates from each AG at each of our quarterly calls to facilitate communication across the SETAC membership and to stay apprised of emerging technical issues
5. Prepare “notes from the TC” to appear in the Globe several times in 2012 – provide greater visibility to the activities of the TC and to share thoughts on emerging science and potentially important issues to SNA.

Committee Succession Plan

The SNA TC implemented a 1-1-1 style leadership succession in November 2009. This leadership rotation calls for an incoming Chair who will also serve as co-chair, a Chair and a Past Chair, each serving one year in each position).

TC members holding chair positions term completion year

Position	Name	Term Completed
Incoming Chair/co-chair	Cynthia Stahl	2014
Chair	Cameron Irvine	2013
Past Chair	Trina von Stackelberg	2012