

# SETAC Student News

Notes and Updates from the

SETAC North America Student Advisory Council

Volume 3, No. 1. June 2009



## Welcome from the NASAC Chair

Welcome to the SETAC Student News from the North America Student Advisory Council! Well, first off, you'll notice we've got a new acronym (NASAC), a new chairperson (me) and several committed members (see our updated member list in the newsletter). In November 2008, Jeff Gallagher ended his two-year term as chairperson of the NASAC; at the same time, George Cobb ended his tenure at the SNA Board of Directors liaison to the council. I want to thank Jeff, George and all of the NASAC members for their hard work and continued enthusiasm and dedication to SETAC and the SETAC student body. I also welcome Bob Hoke, who is our new liaison to the SETAC Board of Directors.

We are continuing the legacy of representing you – the SETAC student membership – to help welcome you to SETAC and to help make your involvement at SETAC meetings memorable. We are here to help you feel comfortable and part of a community atmosphere with each Annual Meeting. We are here to voice your concerns, suggestions and ideas – please feel free to contact any of us at any time! Did you know that each of your local chapters have a student representative? It is these representatives, plus SETAC student members at large that help drive the council and your student voice forward.

Many of the successes at our regional and national Annual Meetings come from your suggestions. For example, at our last meeting in Tampa (November 2008), student activities included a new member's breakfast, a student-career mentor dinner, and lunchtime seminars with past-SETAC students providing advice on career choices and their experiences moving from students to young professionals. One of the best ways to get to know other student members

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is to attend these activities, and become involved – either with the council or with the Student Activities Committee, which help organize these events for you! Are you a recent grad? We still want to hear your experiences and ideas to help make future events for new students even better!

Sit back, relax and enjoy this edition of the SETAC Student News – we've got notices for upcoming student awards, highlights from regional Chapter meetings and of course, our contact information! Wishing you all a great summer and many successes with your research!

Sincerely,

Juliska Princz

(University of Saskatchewan, NASAC Chairperson)

## Corrections

In the Volume 2, No. 2. November 2008 newsletter Kristy Richardson's biography was inadvertently omitted.

## **SETAC Annual Meeting** **Student Activities**

The SETAC Student Activities Committee and NASAC are soliciting you – the student members of SETAC – for ideas and contributions to help make our next SETAC Annual Meeting a success. We would like to know what you'd like to see and participate in for lunchtime seminars and student activities – do you have any ideas on topics or speakers? If you have any suggestions for student activities that you and SETAC can both benefit from, please send them to the Student Activities Committee Chair, Cindy Howard at [howardc@uhcl.edu](mailto:howardc@uhcl.edu). You can also send suggestions via any NASAC member – see the end of this newsletter for member contact information.

## **Upcoming Events- SETAC**

Check [www.setac.org](http://www.setac.org) for more information on the meetings listed below:

### **SETAC Latin America Annual Meeting**

Ecotoxicology and Social Responsibility  
Ricardo Palma University (URP)  
Lima, Perú, October 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### **4<sup>th</sup> SETAC Africa Meeting**

International Conference of Environmental  
Pollution and Toxicology in Africa  
Status and Strategies for Sustainable  
Environmental Quality  
Hotel Africana, Kampala, Uganda,  
November 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> 2009

### **SETAC North America 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

Human-Environment Interactions: Understanding  
Change in Dynamic Systems  
Hilton Riverside, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA,  
November 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009



## **Other SETAC - Regional Chapter/ Branch Meetings**

### **Hudson-Delaware Regional Chapter**

Bear Mountain Inn and Conference Center,  
April 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### **Rocky Mountain Regional Chapter**

U.S. EPA Region & Headquarters Bldg,  
Denver CO, April 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### **Northern California Regional Chapter**

University of California-Davis campus,  
May 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2009

### **North Atlantic Regional Chapter**

New England Center,  
University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH,  
June 10<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### **Laurentian Regional Chapter**

University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### **Ozark Prairie Regional Chapter**

Shaw Nature Preserve, Gray Summit, MO  
July 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 2009



### **5<sup>th</sup> Summer School of Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology**

Studies of relationships between  
environmental levels of chemicals and their  
biological effects with special attention to  
persistent and toxic substances  
*Brno, Czech Republic, July 6<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

### **1<sup>st</sup> Joint PSE-SETAC Conference on Ecotoxicology**

Kraków, Poland, September 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2009

# Chapter Updates

## SETAC South Central Chapter fundraiser helps environment and gets recognition

Submitted by: Kathryn Hernandez-Roeder, South Central Student Board Member



The SETAC student organization at University of Houston hosted a Tree Planting Project in celebration of Earth Day 2009. On April 22, approximately 50 oak saplings were planted by SETAC members and volunteers on the UHCL campus April 22; the campus lost many trees during Hurricane Ike. This project began as an Earth Day Project and evolved into a fundraising project for the spring semester; the monetary goal was to offset costs to attend the 30th Annual SETAC North American Meeting to be held later this year in New Orleans, Louisiana. Tia Hall, UH-Clear Lake's SETAC vice-president, stated, "Having trees on the Earth is important and they provide many useful functions that benefit all species."



University of Houston Clear Lake SETAC's Earth Day Tree Planters: (left to right) Alanna G. McCafferty, volunteer Ben Hall, Tia L. Hall and Kathryn Hernandez-Roeder. The group sold 50 trees that were planted near the university's Liberty Park.

The UHCL SETAC organization was recognized by the Student Life's Student Leadership, Involvement and Community Engagement (SLICE) at their annual Leadership Banquet on April 24th for Fundraising Event of the Year. Jennifer Clark, UHCL Coordinator of Student Life, stated that "recognition is based on well-planned, coordinated and marketed events that exhibit creativity and innovation. This event does not necessarily have to be the event that raises the most money." The UHCL SETAC student advisor is Dr. Cindy Howard, a recognized supporter of the North American SETAC Student Committee for many years.

For more information about UH-Clear Lake's SETAC, visit the Web site:

<http://www.uhcl.edu/studentorgs/setac>.

## Diversity aids success of Pacific Northwest chapter meeting

Submitted by: Justin Lo, Pacific Northwest Student Board Member



The PNW chapter held its 18th annual meeting this year in April (16th-18th, 2009) at the Fort Worden state park in Port Townsend, Washington. Complementing a traditionally strong turnout from Oregon and Washington State members, attendance also included members from other parts of the region including Montana, Canada and Alaska.

Equally diverse were the set of topics discussed in the poster and platform presentations, including stormwater issues, marine monitoring, aquatic toxicology, sediment issues and remediation, pesticides, and regulatory science. A special thanks to the session chairs Tony Paulson (USGS), Wendy Hillwalker (OSU), Taku Fuji (Kennedy/Jenks Consultants), and Heather Henson-Ramsey (Lewis-Clark State College).

Also, congratulations to the student award winners!

### **Platform winners:**

Julie Layshock (PhD)  
Ariel Blank (MSc.)  
Katie McDonald (BSc.).

### **Poster winners:**

Zhenhong Li (PhD)  
Janey Lam (MSc.).

Lastly, thanks to all volunteers that helped coordinate a successful and fun meeting.

In the coming months, the PNW chapter will be very busy to help prepare for the 2010 SETAC NA meeting in Portland, Oregon! If you would like to help volunteer in any way, please contact SETAC NA program chairs Kim Anderson ([kim.anderson@oregonstate.edu](mailto:kim.anderson@oregonstate.edu)) or Bruce Hope ([Hope.Bruce@deq.state.or.us](mailto:Hope.Bruce@deq.state.or.us)).

## Rocky Mountain Chapter has a “green” insight at chapter meeting

Submitted by: Heather E. Pace, Rocky Mountain Student Board Member



On April 23-24, 2009 the Rocky Mountain Chapter held its 22nd Annual Meeting hosted by the Region 8 Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters at their new “green” building in downtown Denver, CO. The first day of the conference consisted of a short course presented by Dr. Dennis Helsel of Practical Stats. The course was entitled, “Interpreting nondetect data correctly: The statistics of censored environmental data,” and attracted over 60 participants. Following the short course we had a special film screening of the award-winning environmental documentary “Red Gold”, which portrays the story behind the controversial opening of Pebble Mine in Alaska. In addition, the filmmaker Travis Rummel, along with his co-producer Lauren Oakes, were both present to discuss the film and answer any questions. The day ended with a student networking event at Wynkoop, a local restaurant and brewery.

The second day began with keynote speaker, Dr. David Walters from USGS in Fort Collins, CO, who spoke about riparian insectivores as sentinels of contaminant flux from aquatic to terrestrial systems. This talk was followed by a day of highly informative platform and poster presentations from academic, government and industry representatives. Among the speakers was Janet Burris, newly elected to the national SETAC board, who gave an update on events and issues surrounding SETAC North America. Student presentations included 6 of the 15 platform presentations as well as 5 poster presentations. The meeting concluded with a raffle and student award presentation. Congratulations to our student winners!

### **Best Platform Presentation:**

1st place: Heather Pace, CSM

2nd place: Pete Cadmus, Colo. State Univ.

### **Best Poster Presentation:**

1st place: Ashley Bolden, Univ. of Colo.

2nd place: Janessa Hartmann, CSM



Overall, the Rocky Mountain Chapter had an extremely successful annual meeting, with a highly informative and entertaining set of events as well as a significant increase in attendance.

## Recently re-activated Southeastern chapter holds annual meeting in Columbus, GA

Submitted by: Suzy Baird, Southeast Student Board Member



The Southeast Chapter held its annual meeting on May 15, 2009 at Columbus State University in Columbus, GA. The day began with platform presentations from SESETAC members from industry and academic institutions, followed by a poster session. Special thanks to Barbara Carter of EcoArray - the Southeast Chapter’s industry sponsor. Congratulations to Nick Doperalski (University of Florida) for his winning platform presentation “Influence of organochlorine pesticides on steroid homeostasis and reproductive indices in largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*)” and Sunde Jones (Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL) for her winning poster “The Effects of Pine Tree Extract on *Xenopus laevis*.” Next year, the Southeast and Carolinas chapters hold their joint annual meeting in Athens, GA.



For information about this chapter, contact Suzy Baird ([sbaird@uga.edu](mailto:sbaird@uga.edu)) or visit the website at <http://www.setac.org/serc/>

## Education and service are primary goals for Llano Estacado student chapter of South Central Region

Submitted by: Jennifer Cole



The Llano Estacado Student chapter (LE-SETAC) has been very active in our service activities this past school year. In November, LE-SETAC had over 13 students present at the 29th Annual National SETAC meeting in Tampa, Florida and this May we are sending 15 students to the South Central Regional Meeting in San Marcos, TX where six students are presenting platforms and six students are presenting posters. This spring we participated in a Teddy Bear drive where we collected teddy bears for the Children's Advocacy Center. We also initiated a Primary Education Outreach Campaign, hosted the 9th Annual Toxicology Exposé Symposium and planted flowers for Arbor Day.

The Llano Estacado Student Chapter (LE-SETAC), part of the South Central Region, has significantly contributed to toxicology education as part of their chapter's service activities this spring. Part of this initiative involved primary education outreach. We wanted to develop a program for first graders to enhance their environmental literacy and show how they, even as first graders, have an impact on the environment. As part of Earth Day, members of LE-SETAC adopted the first graders of Northridge Elementary in Lubbock, Texas. We gave a brief presentation, followed by mock experiments showing them their impact on the environment and how they can make a difference. The demonstrations were a great success and the teachers are excited to have us come back next year! To the right is a collage of photos from our outreach. LE-SETAC member participants were: Kathryn Brausch, Jennifer Cole, Anna Gibson, Anna Hoffarth, and Sandy Wiggins with Chapter Advisor Dr. Jaclyn Cañas.

In April, LE-SETAC hosted the 9th Annual Toxicology Exposé as part of our education outreach endeavors. Eleven students from The Institute of Environmental and Human Health at Texas Tech University presented their current research or research proposals with Dr. Nancy Carty and Dr. Melanie Barnes serving as judges.

Winners of the research category were 1st – Jennifer Cole, doctoral student; 2nd Changxia Shao, doctoral student, 3rd Beibei Qi, master's student. Gregory Zychowski, master's student won Best Proposal.



**Left:** Pictured are Sandy Wiggins, Anna Hoffarth, Jennifer Cole, Kathryn Brausch, Dr. Jaclyn Cañas

**Below:** LE-SETAC students celebrated Arbor Day by planting flowers around the Texas Tech University. Pictured are Jiafan Wang and Changxia Shao.



**Left:** LE-SETAC students celebrated Arbor Day by planting flowers around the Texas Tech University Campus. Pictured From Left to Right: Nina Dacko, Sandy Wiggins, Changxia Shao, Kathryn Brausch, Ragga Avanasani, Fa Karnianapiboonwong, John Brausch, Anna Hoffarth, Vinay Kumar, Anna Gibson, Jennifer Cole, Jiafan Wang, Monique Long and Gregory Zychowski.

**Right:** LE-SETAC has continued to be active in our community by participating in Adopt a Highway clean up and service project three times a year. Pictured (from left to right): Kathryn Brausch, Monique Long, Brett Blackwell, Dr. Todd Anderson, Shawna Nations, Fa Karjanapiboonwong, Vinay Kumar, Guangqiu Qin, Jennifer Cole, Richie Erickson, Raghavenhran Avanasani, Grego Zychowski, Nina Dacko, Rodica Gelca, Johvin Hood, and Sing Tang



## Chesapeake Potomac Chapter supports student travel and enjoys nature during regional meeting

Submitted by: Barbara Beckingham, Chesapeake Potomac Student Board Member



Many students were in attendance for the CPRC get-together held during the SETAC North America meeting in Tampa, FL last fall. CPRC helped 7 graduate students to attend the conference with travel awards totaling \$2200, which is a wonderful service to the SETAC student community!

The Annual Spring Meeting of the Chesapeake-Potomac Regional Chapter, held on April 27, 2009 at the Patuxent National Wildlife Refuge in Laurel, MD, was also well attended by area students and professionals. It was a beautiful day, and many in attendance went outside to discuss and explore nature on the hiking trails during breaks in the meeting. Dr. Daniel Fisher (University of Maryland, Wye Research and Education Center) was the plenary speaker, giving a very informative talk about the environmental fate of natural steroids from poultry litter and their endocrine disruptive effects on aquatic organisms. Barbara Beckingham (University of Maryland Baltimore County) was presented with the award for Best Student Platform Presentation for her talk entitled “Bioavailability reduction of PCBs after pilot-scale amendment of activated carbon to river sediments.” Being recognized with a tie for Best Student Poster Presentation were Derek Rogers (Towson University) for his research about “Na<sup>+</sup>:K<sup>+</sup> ratios in stormwater pond soils as a potential stressor to *Lumbricus terrestris*” and Pamela Williams (West Virginia University) for her presentation of “Paternal brood pouch vasculature of the pipefishes *Syngnathus fuscus* and *Syngnathus floridae*.”

CPRC is looking forward to either offering a short-course or organizing a community service event in the Fall. Local SETAC members are encouraged to contact the chapter if they have any ideas for these or other future activities.

## Student Award Winners

### SETAC Tampa Student Award Winners

We'd like to congratulate ALL of the student award winners at our past SETAC Annual Meeting in Tampa! This includes the multitude of travel awards that helped get students to the SETAC meeting, and the many poster and platform presentation award winners. Check out the presentation winners at: [www.setac.org/node/83](http://www.setac.org/node/83). The first-place presentation awards were awarded to the following individuals:

#### **Elsevier Best Student Poster**

Lina Gunnarsson, University of Gothenburg

#### **Elsevier Best Student Platform**

Daniel Spade, University of Florida

#### **Best Student Poster, Undergraduate**

Susan Oyen, Lewis-Clark State College

#### **Best Student Poster, Master's**

Derek Jackson, University of Toronto

#### **Best Student Poster, Ph.D.**

Derek Eggert, Clemson University

#### **Best Student Platform, Undergraduate**

Carlton Cobb, Tennessee State University

#### **Best Student Platform, Master's**

Wael Elsweisi, University of Waterloo

#### **Best Student Platform, Ph.D.**

Heidi Swanson, University of New Brunswick

Remember – [check out the possible awards that you could be eligible for at this year's meeting in New Orleans!](http://www.setac.org/node/68) You can find the student awards on the SETAC website here:

<http://www.setac.org/node/68> .

## SETAC Communities

Do you need a roommate or ride to SETAC New Orleans? Or perhaps you want to connect with members from your local chapter and find out the latest on upcoming events. The SETAC Communities Portal is an amazing set of online tools that can help you connect with other SETAC members. Go to <http://www.setac.org/node/156> to learn more or to <http://communities.setac.net> to log on!

# The SETAC North America Student Advisory Council (NASAC) Members

Thank you to our recently retired or outgoing SAC members:

**Jeff Gallagher** – Outgoing Chair  
**George Cobb** – Outgoing SNA Board Liason  
**Moira McKernan** – Chesapeake-Potomac  
**Nicole Knezevich** – Laurentian  
**Charlene Ng** – North California  
**Annie Jacob** – Ohio Valley

## **Juliska Princz – Chair**

E-mail: [juliska.princz@ec.gc.ca](mailto:juliska.princz@ec.gc.ca)



I am a Ph.D. student in Environmental Toxicology at the University of Saskatchewan (Saskatchewan, Canada), under the direction of Dr. Steven Siciliano. My research focuses on the development of a new soil toxicity assay using oribatid mite species, a soil arthropod, and their application in forest

application to the assessment of soils (e.g., boreal forest). This work is being developed in association with the Biological Methods Section of Environment Canada (Ontario, Canada), in which I also work as the lead of the Soil Toxicology Laboratory. My outside interests include traveling, reading and gardening (when there's no snow!).

## **Suzy Baird – South Eastern**

E-mail: [suzannebaird@hotmail.com](mailto:suzannebaird@hotmail.com)

I am working on a MS in Toxicology at the University of Georgia where I study the toxicity and bioaccumulation of the chiral pesticide fipronil in the fathead minnow. I graduated from the University of Florida in 2004 and worked as a consultant until going to graduate school in 2007.



## **Sam Pierce – Mid-South**

E-mail: [spierce1@memphis.edu](mailto:spierce1@memphis.edu)



Sam Pierce is a PhD candidate in the Biology Department at the University of Memphis in Memphis, TN, studying under Dr. Reza Pezeshki. Sam is investigating plant-soil interactions under soil saturation and the potential implications on water quality in agricultural areas. Of specific interest is the

ability of wetland plants to alter root rhizosphere pH and redox conditions in agricultural ditches and the subsequent effects on surface water eutrophication.

## **Robert Hoke – SNA Board Liason**

E-mail: [robert.a.hoke@usa.dupont.com](mailto:robert.a.hoke@usa.dupont.com)

Bob has been employed by E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company for thirteen years at the Haskell Global Centers for Health and Environmental Sciences where he is currently Principal Research Ecotoxicologist and Technical Leader for Environmental Toxicology. Prior to joining DuPont, he worked as a Senior Scientist for Science Applications International Corporation in Hackensack, NJ and before that he was employed by ASci Corporation as a Contract Scientist at the U.S. EPA ORD Laboratory in Duluth, MN. His experience prior to that included a variety of positions including working as a creel census clerk for Ohio DNR, a biochemical/physical science technician with U.S. EPA, Region V conducting primary productivity and other limnological studies on the Great Lakes, a research associate at the water quality laboratory of a small midwestern college, an aquatic ecologist position at a regional environmental consulting firm, and two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines working on mussel culture and mangrove reforestation. He graduated from Bowling Green State University with B.S. and M.S. degrees in Biology and from Michigan State University with a Ph.D. in Fisheries and Wildlife and Environmental Toxicology. He has been actively involved for over 25 years in environmental toxicology, aquatic ecology, and the assessment of the fate and effects of contaminants in the environment. His experience includes industry, academic, consulting and government laboratory environments and his specific areas of expertise are sediment toxicology; environmental risk assessment, including the environmental fate of contaminants and their effects on biotic communities; and the development of environmental assessment and toxicity testing methods. He has published over 50 peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters and is currently a member of the both the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry and the Ecological Society of America.

## **Ross Garner - Carolinas**

E-mail: [tgarner@clemson.edu](mailto:tgarner@clemson.edu)



I am a first year PhD student at Clemson University in the Institute of Environmental Toxicology located in Clemson, SC. I am under the guidance of Dr. Steve Klaine and am currently characterizing the role of size, shape, and surface chemistry on the uptake of gold nanoparticles by mammalian cell lines. Prior to Clemson, I received a Bachelor's and Master's

Degree in Biology from The Citadel, in 2006 and 2008. My Master's examined PAH contamination of salt marsh-tidal creek habitats along the South Carolina coast, and contamination of stormwater detention ponds in coastal South Carolina by PAHs, metals, pesticides and insecticides. Apart from SETAC and the Carolinas Chapter, I am also involved in The Southeastern Estuarine Research Society (SEERS), The Estuarine Research Federation (ERF), Wildlife Action (WLA), The National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTFA), Ducks Unlimited (DU), and am a life member of The Citadel Alumni Association (CAA).

## **Kathryn Hernandez-Roeder – South Central**

E-mail: [HernandezRoederK8692@uhcl.edu](mailto:HernandezRoederK8692@uhcl.edu)

I am a former high school science teacher (19 years) from Houston, Texas concluding my 2nd year of graduate studies at University of Houston Clear Lake; Dr. Cindy Howard is my graduate advisor. My research is on water quality along the Central Amazon using GIS. Our 2009 regional meeting took place in San Marcos, TX at Texas State University; the emphasis was mercury in the environment. After Houston and San Augustine, Texas, the Amazon is my favorite place to be.



## **Barbara Beckingham – Chesapeake-Potomac**

E-mail: [bbeck1@umbc.edu](mailto:bbeck1@umbc.edu)

Barbara Beckingham is pursuing a PhD in Civil & Environmental Engineering at the University of Maryland Baltimore County where she is supported by a National Science Foundation Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT), which is a program emphasizing an interdisciplinary perspective on the topic of *Water in the Urban Environment*. Her research focuses on evaluating the effectiveness of sorbent-amendment as a novel *in situ* remediation technology for contaminated sediments, but she is widely interested in ecological risk assessment and improving environmental quality.



## **Tasha Stoiber - Midwest**

E-mail: [stoiber@wisc.edu](mailto:stoiber@wisc.edu)



I am a PhD student in the Environmental Chemistry and Technology Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I am working under Professor David Armstrong and Dr. Martin Shafer and my research is funded by the University of

Wisconsin Sea Grant Institution. I am currently investigating trace metal bioavailability in freshwater organisms and novel toxicity endpoints for trace metal stress. When I'm not in the lab, I enjoy running, road biking, and nordic skiing.

## **Christopher Perkins – North Atlantic**

E-mail: [christopher.perkins@uconn.edu](mailto:christopher.perkins@uconn.edu)



Chris is currently a Ph.D. student in the Department of Pathobiology and Veterinary Science at the University of Connecticut, working in the laboratory of Sylvain DeGuise. His research focuses on the effects of engineered nanomaterials on innate immune function. In addition to his graduate studies, he keeps busy by working as the Analytical Laboratory Director at the Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering at UConn and spending time with his wife and two children.

## **Ashley Jessick – Ozark Prairie**

E-mail: [jessicka@iastate.edu](mailto:jessicka@iastate.edu)



Is an at large board member for her regional chapter and is serving her second year on the NASAC board. She attends Iowa State University and is currently pursuing an MS in Toxicology under the direction of Dr. Joel Coats. Her research focuses on the environmental fate and effects of the veterinary antibiotic erythromycin and its metabolites in aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems using *Lumbriculus variegatus* to assess non-target effects through bioaccumulation and bioavailability studies. She hopes to graduate with her Masters this fall. In her spare time, Ashley enjoys reading, socializing with friends, participating in intramurals (curling, broomball, dodgeball, and treds football), yoga, and traveling.

## **Christine Lee – Southern California**

E-mail: [chrlee@gmail.com](mailto:chrlee@gmail.com)

Christine is a Ph.D student in Civil and Environmental Engineering at UCLA. She received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering and minored in English as an undergraduate, also at UCLA. Christine is working with CENS to develop a biosensor that can measure bacterial water quality rapidly. This sensors has numerous practical and research-oriented applications – it can not only become a tool for public officials to monitor water quality multiple times throughout the day but also as an instrument for adaptive sampling, helping identify quickly hotspots of bacterial contamination in a watershed. Christine is the recipient of the HSSEAS Edward K Rice Outstanding Master's Student Award in 2006 and has just recently been selected as a Switzer Fellow 2008-2009.



## **Susanne Brander – North California**

E-mail: [snbrander@ucdavis.edu](mailto:snbrander@ucdavis.edu)

Susanne Brander is a doctoral student in the University of California, Davis Department of Environmental Toxicology. She earned an M.S. in Environmental Science and Policy from Johns Hopkins University and had also worked for an environmental consulting firm in Northern California prior to beginning her doctoral studies. Her current dissertation research focuses on the effects of endocrine disrupting compounds on fish reproduction and health in Suisun Marsh, the largest contiguous brackish marsh on the west coast of North America.



## Justin Lo – Pacific Northwest

E-mail: [jl原因@sfu.ca](mailto:jl原因@sfu.ca)

During his undergraduate years, Justin began an interest in environmental science while TAing for two environmental toxicology courses and doing his honours project in aquatic toxicology. He started graduate school in the Environmental Toxicology program at SFU after graduating from his B.Sc. Coop in 2007. After spending part of his first year working with Health Canada, he joined Dr. Gobas' lab to research and investigate the metabolic behavior of hydrophobic compounds in organisms. Justin believes in the importance of sharing ideas and getting feedback from others in research and, as the At-Large student representative, he encourages students to use the PNW-SETAC Chapter as an avenue to interact with other toxicologists and be part of a local scientific community.



## Kristy Richardson – South California

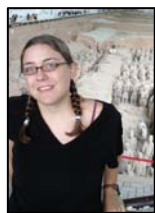
E-mail: [kristy.richardson@gmail.com](mailto:kristy.richardson@gmail.com)

I am a PhD Candidate in Environmental Toxicology at the University of California, Riverside. After undergrad at St. Mary's College of Maryland and working at the Chesapeake Biological Lab in Maryland for a few years, I moved from the "right" coast to go for grad school. Now, working under Dr. Daniel Schlenk, my research focuses on the accumulation and metabolism of halogenated organic compounds in several species of sea turtles. When (perhaps "if" would be appropriate) I finish my PhD, I plan to pursue a career in academia, preferably teaching at a small liberal arts college or a junior college. My free time is spent hiking, backpacking, taking photos, cooking, socializing with friends, listening to music, and consuming fine libations ;o)



## Heather Pace – Rocky Mountain

E-mail: [greenpache@gmail.com](mailto:greenpache@gmail.com)



In 2004, I received my B.A. in Biology from Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA. After this I bounced around for two years working in various environmental capacities including interning at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida and Mote Marine Laboratory, two environmental nonprofits in Florida, as well as working as a Park Ranger at Rocky

Mountain National Park. I am now a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Environmental Science and Engineering at Colorado School of Mines. I joined the SETAC community a year ago, in which time I have had the opportunity to participate in three conferences hosted by SETAC.

## Rebecca Dalton - Laurentian

E-mail: [becca.dalton@gmail.com](mailto:becca.dalton@gmail.com)



I am currently in the 3rd year of my Ph.D. in Biology with a specialization in Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology at the University of Ottawa. My research is focused on examining the effects of herbicides and nutrients on aquatic primary producers in river systems. I am currently Vice President of the Laurentian Chapter of SETAC and am active on a number of its committees. When not busy at school, I enjoy volleyball, yoga, golf, swimming, listening to live music and spending time at the family cottage along the Ottawa River.

## Biography and Camera Shy NASAC members

**Jonathan Bernier – Quebec/St.Laurent**

E-mail: [jonathan.bernier@etc.inrs.ca](mailto:jonathan.bernier@etc.inrs.ca)

**Sean Bugel – Hudson Delaware**

E-mail: [bugel@eden.rutgers.edu](mailto:bugel@eden.rutgers.edu)

### **Don't see a representative for your chapter?**

Please consider volunteering to serve. The following chapters do not currently have a representative:

**SK/Western Canada**

**Mexico**

**We would love your feedback and contributions for our next issue!**

**Deadline: October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Contact: [juliska.princz@ec.gc.ca](mailto:juliska.princz@ec.gc.ca)**

### **Attention: SETAC Student Art Contest**

Showcase your creativity and win prizes! Create original artwork for submission by October 2009 including works in the categories of poetry, photography, drawing & painting related to the theme: *'Human-Environment Interactions: Understanding Change in Dynamic Systems'*

**Submit artwork to [bbeck1@umbc.edu](mailto:bbeck1@umbc.edu) by October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009**

Winners to be announced at the SETAC North America Meeting in New Orleans.

**Organized by NASAC**

**Contact [bbeck1@umbc.edu](mailto:bbeck1@umbc.edu) for questions and eligibility.**

Visit the student booth in New Orleans to view entries!

# WHICH regional chapter are you from?

**Carolinas Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.setac.org/crc/>

**Chesapeake-Potomac Regional Chapter:**

<http://cprc-setac.com/>

**Desert Southwest Regional Chapter:**

**Hudson-Delaware Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.hdcsetac.org/>

**Laurentian Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.laurentiansetac.ca>

**Mexico Regional Chapter:**

**Mid South Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.setac.org/midsouth/>

**Midwest Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.midwestsetac.org/>

**Northern California Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.norcalsetac.org/>

**North Atlantic Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.nacsetac.org/>

**Ohio Valley Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.setac.org/ohiovalley>

**Ozark-Prairie Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.setac.org/op/index.htm>

**Pacific Northwest Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.setac.org/pnwrc/>

**Quebec Regional Chapter**

**(Chapitre Saint-Laurent):**

<http://www.chapitre-saint-laurent.qc.ca/>

**Rocky Mountain Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.setac.org/rmrc/>

**South Central Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.setac.org/socentral/>

**Southeastern Regional Chapter**

**Southern California Regional Chapter:**

<http://www.socalsetac.org/>

## SETAC North America Regional Chapters

