

## FROM THE PRESIDENT OF NAEP

Bruce Hasbrouck

As I look back at the last year since our 25th Annual Conference in Portland, Maine, I am pleased with the progress. I am even more excited about our future. We have upgraded our services to our members, we have increased our exposure, and we have improved our education through the conference and our publications. Our Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice continue to receive interest and recognition.

These improvements have been, in a large part, the result of our professional staff: Sandi Worthman, in the National Office; Donna Carter, our Conference Coordinator; and Cathy French, the Managing Editor of *Environmental Practice*. After grabbing hold of the transition of NAEP's National Office to the Washington, DC area, Sandi has focused her attention on membership services. We have gone from quarterly membership renewals to monthly renewals. In addition to having better data, this has enabled NAEP to coordinate better with the local chapters for their membership renewals. Sandi has met her goal of responding to any message within 24 hours, a critical measure of an organization's ability to serve its members. We are seeing an increase in requests from outside entities such as federal and state agencies, numerous other professional organizations, and countless professionals who have an interest in our mission and are looking to learn more about the NAEP.

Donna Carter has continued to increase the quality of NAEP's annual conference through advance planning and coordination. With today's communication methods, Donna is able to provide these services from two completely different locations in Florida and Oregon. With support from her trusty companion, Chip, she responds to continuing requests regarding the conference and provides an excellent source of confidence that our organization is professional as well as serious about providing a forum for education and training. Donna handles every issue relating to the con-



ference, from securing venues to deciding what the nametags will look like. This may seem straightforward, but consider the fact that coordination is required with the Permanent Conference Committee and its chair as well as the current Conference Committee and its chair. Stir into that mix the Board of Directors and one can gain a real appreciation of the true service that Donna provides to the membership through continued successful conferences.

By virtue of reading this article and the rest of the journal, appreciation can be gained for the efforts of the Managing Editor of *Environmental Practice*, Cathy French. Under the guidance of John Perkins, Editor-in-Chief, Cathy has the full-time responsibility to receive and distribute articles for peer review, identify potential news items, distribute books for review, determine organization and content of each issue, and generally handle the day-to-day activities of producing a well-respected, professional journal. Cathy and John work out of The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. I look forward to each issue of the journal and especially the upcoming feature issues that are planned and/or underway.

In addition to the daily operations of NAEP, we receive support on a completely different level that makes NAEP the successful membership organization that we are. Here, I'm talking about the support of the companies, agencies, and other groups for which each and every member works. The companies range from conglomerates like URS Corporation, engineering compa-

nies like Burns & McDonnell, Parsons, HDR and ESA, to local firms like Horne Engineering and McCormick, Taylor & Associates, to small, entrepreneurial firms throughout the country. Industries such as California Steel and Progressive Fuels support their NAEP members. Agencies such as the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County, South Florida Water Management District, and the US Department of Defense encourage professional development for their employees through involvement with the NAEP.

Just as ignorance of the law is no excuse in regulatory matters, ignorance of the NAEP on the part of companies and other organizations is my concern as NAEP president. I want to give you the support needed to have your company/organization understand the benefit of NAEP and Environmental Professionals. While in Washington, DC, meeting with legislators and their staffs, I have identified something that makes each and every one of us unique. That is the *application* and *practice* of sound science. Most lay people (and even some within our organizations) do not realize that, for the most part, we are not researchers. We should be proud of the fact that we implement science on a daily basis.

If your organization doesn't support your efforts, let me know. I can e-mail, phone, write, or meet with your supervisor or others who would benefit from learning about the value of professional development. Environmental Professionals need to exchange information about our practice. What may seem rote to you because you do it frequently may actually be a brilliant concept to someone else. Because our professional canvas is continually changing, the more experience and diversity of knowledge an employee has increases his/her value to the organization.

I encourage you to visit our website. Eric Guinther has done an outstanding job. Just like a majority of us, Eric is a practicing professional—he does NAEP's web work as a volunteer. He hails from Hawaii and has a firm called AECOS Consulting. We now have conference and membership registration capabilities online. Several of the working groups are supported on our web-

site through his efforts. We are hosting two chapters' websites through our internet service provider. Announcements for other learning opportunities are continually updated and links to valuable sites are increasing each week. Finally, Eric has developed a site for board members that allows for easy dissemination of information such as Executive Committee conference call minutes, monthly updates to our balance sheet, and other very valuable information at the click or two of a mouse.

NAEP is continuing to provide more services to our members and is increasing its

exposure to the general public. In order to continue this level of service, the membership committee has determined that a dues increase is necessary. Approved at the March Board meeting in San Antonio, the increase will take effect July 1, 2001. Our dues have remained the same since December 1994 and research indicates that we have one of the lowest membership rates of professional organizations. It is very important to recognize that, other than the three people discussed above, NAEP is a volunteer-run organization. In order to continue to increase our services, we need to fund initiatives such as scholar-

ships, support to local chapters, increased development of student chapters, and support to many of the committees and working groups. I am confident you will see the increased service that NAEP provides to our profession.

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## Get Involved!



### NAEP Committees and Working Groups

*Affiliate Marketing Committee  
Awards Committee  
Chapters Committee  
External Relations Committee  
Fellow Membership Committee  
International Committee  
Internet Committee  
Membership Committee  
National Involvement Initiative  
NEPA Working Group  
Permanent Conference Committee  
Policy Committee  
Publications Committee  
Regulators' Working Group  
Student Chapters Committee  
Sustainable Development Working Group  
Training & Higher Education Working Group  
Transportation Working Group  
Utility Working Group*

For information or to volunteer, contact the NAEP National Office (address on inside back cover)



**Mark Your Calendars  
for  
NAEP's 27th ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
Detroit, Michigan  
June 2002**

*For information:*  
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**Wanted:  
Volunteers for NAEP's Membership Committee**

**Contact:  
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Membership Committee Chair**  
  
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