



# KARST, GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION, & PUBLIC HEALTH: MOVING BEYOND CASE STUDIES.

January 27-30, 2016 in San Juan, Puerto Rico

<http://karstwaters.org/conferences/kgcph/>

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS (Deadline 10/1/15).

This conference will bring together an interdisciplinary group to discuss contaminant movement and public health issues associated with ground water in karst.

Presentations at the conference will consist of invited papers, contributed papers (both oral and poster), and “snap talks” (5-minute commentaries in a special session). Abstracts are required for all presentations except the snap talks. The abstracts will be printed with the program and distributed to all registrants at the opening of the conference. The conference papers will be published as a book after the conference.

## GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACT CONTRIBUTORS.

Please send the following in a word document attached to an email to Dr. Ellen K. Herman at [publichealth@karstwaters.org](mailto:publichealth@karstwaters.org).

1. Title, author(s), affiliation, postal address, e-mail address.
2. Up to 250-word summary of talk to be presented (this will be published in the conference program).
3. Preference for oral or poster presentation.
4. Intention to submit a full paper or only an extended abstract to the conference proceedings.

The deadline for 250-word abstracts is October 1, 2015.

All abstracts will be considered by the Program Committee. Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their paper and format for their presentation by Oct. 15.

## PROCEEDINGS (Post Meeting).

All authors are encouraged to contribute their paper for publication in a book to be published following the conference. The objective of the book is to provide a definitive state-of-the-art concerning groundwater contamination in karst and its impacts on public health. Those who do not wish to include their paper in the book should provide an extended abstract so that their contribution to the conference will be preserved as part of a unified whole. Contributors of snap talks are invited to submit a short summary of their presentation. In addition to contributed papers, this proceedings volume will contain a synthesis of the meeting.

IMPORTANT DATES		
2015	Oct. 1	Abstracts due
	Oct. 15	Authors notified on paper format
	Nov. 15	Early registration ends
	Dec. 28	Make hotel reservations
2016	Jan. 27-30	Meeting time
	Jan. 31–	Field trip to the karst of PR
	Feb. 1	

### UPDATE ON THE 2-DAY FIELD TRIP

The field trip plans are coming together. Your registration includes transportation, hotel (shared room), entrance fees to the parks, two lunches, and a dinner.



The radiotelescope at Arecibo located amidst the karst mountains of central PR. (<http://www.naic.edu/general/>)

To learn more about this meeting and to get regular updates, visit us at [www.karstwaters.org](http://www.karstwaters.org)

**MEETING STRUCTURE.** All talks - invited and contributed – will take place in a single location to promote interaction among participants. In addition to the talks, there are opportunities to participate via short “snap talks” and poster presentations. The moderated topical sessions will include:

- State of knowledge regarding contaminants in karst
- Tools for investigating contaminant transport
- Specific contaminants and remediation
- Exposure concentration and human health risk
- Karst-related human health issues
- Regulatory frameworks

**MEETING VENUE.** The meeting will be held at the Condado Plaza Hilton near Old San Juan and a short trip from the airport (12-15 min). A small public beach (Playita del Condado) adjacent to the hotel is known for snorkeling, quiet water, and access to the Condado Lagoon.

**REGISTRATION & LOGISTICS.** The early meeting registration fee is \$475 for professionals and \$375 for students/K12 teachers by 11/15/2015. Registration includes the opening reception, coffee/tea breaks during the meeting, and the final night banquet. It also includes a mid-meeting field trip to learn about community involvement with the San Juan Bay Estuary Program.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Condado Plaza Hilton from 1/27 to 1/30/15 at the rate of \$189+tax/night for a double room. This group rate is good until 12/28/15. Please mention “Karst Waters Institute” when you make your reservation.

<http://www.condadoplaza.com/default-en.html>

The registration fee for the post-meeting 2-day field trip is \$375 for professionals and \$300 for students.

The registration form can be found here: <http://karstwaters.org/conferences/kgcph/conference-registration/>

**ORGANIZING COMMITTEE.** Dorothy Vesper (West Virginia Univ.); Ellen Herman (Bucknell Univ.); William White (Penn State Univ.); William Jones (KWI); Janet Herman (Univ. of Virginia); Ingrid Padilla (Univ. PR Mayagüez); Tom Miller (Univ. PR Mayagüez); Sarah Carmichael (App. State Univ.); Marian Rutigliano (U.S. EPA); Jack Hess (Geol. Soc. of America); Luis Rivera-Gonzalez (Washington Univ.).

**SPONSORS.** The conference is co-sponsored by Karst Waters Institute and the Puerto Rico Test Site for Exploring Contamination Threats (PROTECT) project of the Superfund Research Program (SRP) of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). Additional funding provided by an NIEHS Small Meeting Grant.

#### ***SOME OF OUR CONFIRMED SPEAKERS***

**Rita Colwell**, Distinguished Professor at the Univ. of Maryland, Dept. of Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics and at Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health

**José Cordero**, Dept. Head, College of Public Health, Epidemiology, Univ. of Georgia

**Samuel Dorevitch**, School of Public Health, Univ. of Illinois-Chicago.

**Michael Hendryx**, Dept. of Applied Health Science, School of Public Health, Indiana Univ. Bloomington

**John Meeker**, Associate Dean, School of Public Health, Univ. of Michigan

**Tom Miller**, Dept. of Geology, Univ. of Puerto Rico Mayagüez.

**Ingrid Padilla**, Dept. of Civil Engineering and Surveying, Univ. of Puerto Rico Mayagüez

**Marian Rutigliano**, Environmental Health Scientist at the U.S. EPA

**Martin Sauter**, Dept. of Geology, Univ. Göttingen, Germany

**Abel Vale**, Ciudadanos del Karso (Citizens of Karst), Puerto Rico

**Will White**, Dept. of Geosciences, Penn State Univ.

***Visit our web page for more details and regular updates on speakers.***

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