Message from Virtual ACE 2020 Technical Program Chairs

Program Overview

Greetings and welcome to A&WMA’s first-ever Virtual Annual Conference & Exhibition. This has been a remarkable and sobering year with the COVID-19 pandemic impacting the lives of everyone on the planet and seeing the untimely loss of so many people to the disease. However, this has brought to the fore A&WMA’s readiness to adapt to the difficult circumstances and transition from our traditional face-to-face meeting to the current Virtual ACE 2020 that is kicking off on June 30, 2020.

Numerous volunteers from California, A&WMA staff and the Technical Council are pleased to present an exciting technical program for the 113th Virtual Annual Conference & Exhibition (Virtual ACE 2020). The theme of this year’s conference. “Gateway to Innovation” is reflective of this focus on a broad array of topics and ideas associated with environment, energy and health. The program brings together hundreds of technical experts in air and waste management from North America and several countries who will be presenting their work in both live-stream and on-demand panel, platform and poster sessions.

Highlights

A&WMA’s mission is to provide a neutral form to present a variety of views on current and emerging environmental topics from professionals in the field that span industry; local, state and federal agencies; academia, law, consulting and public interest groups. The keynote address focuses on environmental challenges in transportation. Other key sessions on U.S. EPA Priorities and modeling updates; emerging PFAS concerns; air impacts on the marijuana industry, climate risk; the impacts of COVID-19 on air quality; landfill gas issues; reducing marine emissions; and this year’s Critical Review on air quality impacts of wildfires and prescribed burning showcase just a few of the exciting and current topics that will be covered to address environmental challenges and bring innovative solutions to those problems.

Virtual ACE 2020 will have over 75 panel or platform sessions organized under tracks covering a range of topics such as Air Quality – Measurement and Monitoring (AQMM), Health and Environmental Effects (H&EE), Power Generation (POWR), Climate Change (CLIM) and much more (see the listing of tracks at the end). The nearly 200 platform papers and panel sessions are sure to inform you on current issues, and provide ideas and solutions that can help you in your day-to-day practice. Experience the live events, video panels and on-demand presentations that Virtual ACE 2020 can offer. Use the Browse by On-demand Session feature to find your favorite session and the papers or panelists that are presenting in that session.

Mini-Symposium – Gateway to Innovation

This year’s ACE includes a Mini-Symposium series that follows the conference theme, “Gateway to Innovation.” The threats from global climate change and its potential for sea level rise, agricultural impacts and human dislocation from extreme weather events, there is a clear need for new and innovative solutions. Multi-disciplinary work and new approaches to policies and solutions to tackle our energy needs, decarbonization, and addressing current and emerging environmental challenges will be required. This year’s Mini-Symposium will focus on a variety of new ideas and approaches for mitigating environmental and human health impacts. Mini-Symposium sessions have been formed from a variety of panels on PFAS and air emissions, managing environmental risk, measurement in real-time, resolving...
critical air quality and health issues using NASA satellites or a platform session on multidisciplinary strategies for GHG reductions. The Mini-symposium topics embrace innovation and transformation affecting energy sources, transportation, mitigation through sustainable practices, technological innovations, and regulatory policy for air quality, climate, and waste management.

**Technical and Student Posters**

This year’s virtual poster session includes technical posters from environmental professionals and posters by students including Environmental Challenge International (ECi) student teams. This year’s poster exhibit includes an e-poster allowing you to hear a short audio presentation to describe their work. The poster authors will be available for a live Q&A on Tuesday, June 30 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm to answer questions. Attend the poster session and the ECi presentations on Wednesday, July 1 from 3:00 pm – 4:45 pm.

**Harish Rao**  
2020 Technical Program Chair  
President, Rao Consulting Services

**John Koehler**  
2020 Technical Program Vice Chair  
Senior Engineer, Yorke Engineering

**Listing of technical tracks**

- AGRI  Agriculture  
- AQCT  Air Quality - Control Technology  
- AQES  Air Quality - Emissions Studies  
- BIOE  Waste-to-Energy and Bioenergy  
- AQMM  Air Quality - Measurements and Monitoring  
- AQMO  Air Quality - Modeling  
- CLIM  Climate Change  
- EDUC  Education  
- FEDS  Federal, Public Sectors and Tribal  
- GOVS  Government and Public Sector  
- H&EE  Health and Environmental Effects  
- INDU  Heavy Industry and General Manufacturing  
- MINI  Mini-Symposium  
- NANO  Nanoparticles  
- O&GS  Oil & Gas  
- POWR  Power Generation  
- REGU  Regulatory and Legal  
- SUST  Sustainability and Resource Conservation  
- TRAN  Transportation  
- WAST  Waste Processing, Remediation & Management  
- YPRO  Young Professionals