



**Science & Policy Committee  
Conference Call, Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

**Call to Order** at 3:00 (CST) by Committee Chair, Andrew N. Sharpley [sharpley@uark.edu](mailto:sharpley@uark.edu)

Ten Committee members were able to be on this month's call.

**Clark Gantzer**, prepared and gave an excellent update on "flooding and Floodplain Management" from his personnel perspective of being impacted by the recent flooding of the Mississippi River in Missouri and as his experience as Professor Emeritus of Soil and Water Conservation and Management at the University of Missouri at Columbia, MO. Following this there was discussion of various aspects of flood management and damage control from both agricultural and urban sectors. A copy of Clark's presentation is posted on the S&PC website for information. **Clark** also proposed the committee follow on the following outcomes of this discussion for 1) a viewpoints article, 2) a white paper for JSWC, and 3) a Board of Directors position paper on flood plain management.

**Andy Manale** commented that the question is about whether or not we have done what we are supposed to have done. Then comes the question of who pays--federal, state, local--particularly since the causes are often upstream in another state. Then there is conflicting national policy. For example, national policy is to promote ethanol production even though ethanol is pretty much just corn and soybeans. The EPA reviews of the effect on environmental quality associated with the policy--very political in that the conclusions of the reviews are determined in advance of the actual studies and staffers are told to make assumptions consistent with the foregone conclusions--of our renewable fuels program conveniently leaves out impacts of flood frequency and associated costs.

Gerald Galloway, Glen Martin Institute Professor of Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD was recommended as a person to speak to this committee and **Wendy Goldsmith** agreed to contact him at a meeting she will be attending next week to determine his willingness and availability.

**Jorge Delgado** again noted that the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* was open to being an avenue to publish some of this discussion at an appropriate time in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm (CST).

**The next meeting of the S&P Committee is scheduled for April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 3:00 pm CDT**, when we are slated to continue our discussion on flooding.