A LETTER FROM SURF PRESIDENT, NICK GARSON

Since SURF was first incorporated in 2010, our organization has come a long way. Recently, several of us pondered the question - how “sustainable” is SURF? It should come as no surprise that this is a highly functioning and motivated group of professionals who share a common goal - establishing sustainability as standard practice for remediation work. We’ve matured into a 200+ member organization based on an almost entirely volunteer staff. Our members are passionate about sustainable remediation and spend countless hours working on the numerous SURF initiatives, committees, and meeting planning teams. Many of us reach out and network with academic, industry and governmental organizations. I want to especially thank the outgoing members of the 2012 Board of Trustees for the incredible time and effort they spent leading SURF last year: Karin Holland – outgoing President, Brandt Butler – outgoing Treasurer; Dan Watts – Board Member at Large; Mike Miller - Board Member at Large and Curt Stanley - Board Member at Large. In addition, I would also like to extend a very special thank you to Maile Smith, for all the hard work she is doing behind the scenes keeping our website going and leading our information management & communication efforts.

After a much deserved holiday break, I am anticipating another successful year. Our SURF 21 meeting in Washington DC last December marked the first time SURF has united “Sustainable Remediators” from around the globe to share best practices and lessons learned. We welcomed over 120 registrants, including representatives from the United Kingdom, China, Japan, Australia, Taiwan, Brazil, France and Canada.

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LinkedIn Did you know that SURF is on LinkedIn?

LinkedIn members: Search for “sustainable remediation forum” in Groups to join SURF’s discussion group on the LinkedIn professional networking site (www.linkedin.com). Look for the SURF logo!
ABOUT SURF

The Sustainable Remediation Forum (SURF) was initiated in late 2006 to promote the use of sustainable practices during remedial action activities with the objective of balancing economic viability, conservation of natural resources and biodiversity, and the enhancement of the quality of life in surrounding communities. The mission of SURF is to maximize the overall environmental, societal, and economic benefits from the site cleanup process by:

- Advancing the science and application of sustainable remediation
- Developing best practices
- Exchanging professional knowledge
- Providing education and outreach

Greetings from SURF! This newsletter is published quarterly by the SURF Communications and Outreach Committee to provide you with highlights of SURF’s activities and opportunities and developments in the field of sustainable remediation.

The SURF website, www.sustainableremediaition.org, continues to be our primary resource for sharing the latest and greatest news about SURF and sustainable remediation. Our Links page provides a one-stop-shop for resources, tools, information, and documents. The Calendar shows remediation, sustainability, and related conferences, as well as deadlines for submitting abstracts. Suggestions for additions and improvements are welcome by using the Contact SURF form on the website or by emailing administrator@sustainableremediaition.org.

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Letter from SURF President, Conintued

This approach was enthusiastically embraced by attendees and we received very positive feedback. Meanwhile, our various initiatives continue to gather momentum: our academic outreach initiative is securing additional student chapters; our technical initiatives are working on new guidance that builds upon previous SURF resources; and our communications and outreach committee is utilizing ever more innovative approaches to spread our mission. And these examples are but a few of our recent endeavors! With that being said, we are always looking for more members to become engaged. The upcoming SURF 22 meeting in Berkeley this month will be a “working meeting”, focusing on committee and initiative interaction. Let us not forget that this activity really forms the backbone of the organization and helps support SURF’s mission. This meeting is especially important since we have so few opportunities to work face-to-face. Our outreach and initiative campaigns are only as strong as the volunteers who make them successful. I urge all SURF members to get involved.

One of my goals over the next year is to further increase the value SURF provides to our members through increased communication and visibility, especially when it comes to reporting progress on the objectives of the various committees and initiatives. Other major 2013 objectives include: increasing our membership base, continuing to publish technical information, promoting greater use of technology (including the website) for information and communication exchange, and expanding our network both domestically and internationally. With this in mind, I welcome your feedback on how SURF can better serve you so that you continue get the most out of the organization.

I would like to thank all our members for their continued enthusiasm, energy and dedication and look forward to working with you this year. If you are new to SURF, welcome aboard.

2013 SURF Board of Trustees

SURF is proud to welcome the newly elected 2013 Board of Trustees:

**President:** Nick Garson, Boeing  
**Vice President:** Angela Fisher, GE Global Research  
**Secretary:** Karina Tipton, Brown and Caldwell  
**Treasurer:** Grant Geckeler, TPS Tech  
**At Large Trustees:**  
- Stew Abrams, Langan Engineering and Environmental Services  
- Buddy Bealer, Shell  
- Amanda McNally, AECOM  
- Jake Torrens, AMEC  
- Rick Wice, Tetra Tech  
**Past President:** Karin Holland, Haley & Aldrich

The new board is excited to lead the SURF organization as we continue to support the science and practice of sustainable remediation through education and outreach, professional exchange of knowledge, and innovative technical initiatives.

Next SURF Meeting – SURF 22

Join us for SURF 22, February 26-27, 2013 to be held at the University of California – Berkeley in Berkeley, California. The meeting will focus on the various technical initiative led by SURF’s members, including the completion of the international white paper summarizing the proceedings of the SURF21 meeting, attended by sustainable remediation leaders from across the globe.
SURF 22 registration is available on the SURF website (www.sustainableremediation.org). Additional information about the transportation and lodging options are posted on the Meetings and Bulletin Board pages. Check back frequently for updates.

ISO Standard

An ISO sustainable remediation standard is currently under development by the working group (12) of the ISO Technical Committee on Soil Quality (TC 190) and Sub Committee on Soil and Site Assessment (7). The proposed International Standard will provide a standard terminology and information about the key components and aspects of sustainable remediation and help on the implementation of the practice. The proposed document would be an informative, rather than normative, document. In addition it will provide a document that distills available information in a place that has regulatory visibility and therefore encourage the adoption of sustainable remediation principles in ways that gray or even peer reviewed literature cannot.

The national body representing the U.S. for the development of ISO documents is the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). All formal participation in ISO work groups must therefore take place through this organization. Participation is implemented by the selection/establishment of technical advisory groups (TAGs) for ISO technical committees or subcommittees where there is interest to promote U.S.-based needs globally. A TAG is therefore necessary for the U.S. to have a voice and a formal vote during the development of an ISO document.

SURF has identified various options for involvement in the development of the ISO standard. SURF could potentially submit an application to ANSI to become the TAG for TC 190, subcommittee 7. Alternatively, SURF could play an informal role in the development of the standard without joining ANSI but would not have voting power. SURF could also be involved in the writing (from a small group of SURF US folks) but with no voting power, while ensuring that there is active involvement from SURF groups in voting countries (SURF Italy, SURF UK, SURF Australia, and SURF Japan) and observing countries (SURF Canada, SURF China); this will allow the mission of SURF to be voiced.

In the coming weeks, SURF will provide additional information about the ISO standard, options for formal SURF involvement, and the associated time and financial commitments. The SURF Board of Trustees requests that members voice their opinion on this important issue. Please contact Karin Holland (karin.holland@sustainableremediation.org) with questions, concerns, and suggestions.

FOCUS ON TECHNICAL INITIATIVES

Water Conservation and Reuse TI

While sustainable remediation has been developed as a topic by SURF, many of its members became interested in the field because of what they perceived as clearly unsustainable practices. Chief among these has been the practice of discharging treated ground water from a cleanup to the sewer or storm drain without adequate consideration of possible beneficial reuse options for that water. As a result there has been broad support for the current technical initiative on conservation and re-use of water from remediation projects.

Through this technical initiative SURF is looking at options and opportunities for improving the conservation and appropriate re-use of both treated and untreated water produced through remediation projects. Most typical of these is the standard pump-and-treat remediation project for contaminated ground
water. The technical initiative is directed towards producing a publication. Two key efforts in this initiative are to collect case studies and to identify some of the appropriate regulatory issues and approaches with re-use of treated and in some cases untreated water.

This technical initiative is led by SURF members Patrick Keddington and Paul Hadley. Members of this initiative have been working diligently to prepare the publication for review and will be meeting during the planned breakout sessions at SURF 22.

Student Chapter Competition

SURF is the ideal organization for students and academics dedicated to sustainability in their lives and work. The SURF organization is eager to work with student chapters to assist in providing meaningful experiences for student members, to work with them as they develop their Student Chapter programs, and to help with their eventual transition into careers.

To this end, a working group of the SURF Academic Outreach Initiative is developing a SURF Student Chapter Competition (SCC) to engage students in sustainable remediation problem solving. Student chapters will design sustainable solutions to a specific site remediation problem and submit those solutions to a judging panel of SURF remediation experts. Professional support/mentorship will be provided to each chapter as the students work through the problem solving process. Active engagement between SURF professionals and students will promote education and the exchange of professional knowledge. The first SURF SCC is anticipated to be launched in January 2014.

Please consider joining the SCC working group’s breakout session at the upcoming SURF 22 meeting at UC Berkeley. We will discuss and develop important details of the rules and guidelines for the competition. If you cannot attend SURF 22, but would still like to get involved in development of the SCC, please contact Pamela Dugan (Pamela.Dugan@caruscorporation.com) or Mike Miller (millerme@cdmsmith.com).

A&WMA and SURF Webinar

On January 31 of this year, SURF collaborated with the Air and Waste Management Association (A&WMA) to present the first in a series of educational webinars on the topic of sustainable remediation SR entitled, “Sustainable Remediation: Greenwashing or Common Sense?” The focus of the webinar included an introduction to SURF; discussion of green versus sustainable remediation; state of the practice in the US and internationally; metrics and tools; and case studies. The webinar was moderated by SURF member Stephanie Fiorenza and included presentations from SURF members Maile Smith, Rick Wice, Elisabeth Hawley, and Jake Torrens.

Future webinars in this series are planned for 2013 and will cover a variety of SR related topics including: an SR framework; environmental footprint and life cycle assessment (LCA); and international SR initiatives.

Clarkson University SURF Student Chapter

Clarkson University started its student chapter of SURF in March of 2012 and since then we have been an active professional organization. We started with just 5 original members, but now have more than doubled our membership and have many active members who regularly engage in meetings and events! Over the summer three Clarkson students Gerlinde Wolf, Dustin Whynman and Lysie Taylor, attended SURF 20 in Ft. Collins, CO to give presentations on their graduate
research. It was the first SURF meeting that Clarkson student’s attended and we hope to continue to attend at least one meeting per year. Last semester SURF Clarkson hosted current SURF President, Nick Garson from the Boeing remediation group, to give a guest lecture on SR efforts in the industry.

This semester we are very excited to be working together with the AECOM office in Latham, NY to plan a visit and tour of a regional remediation site scheduled for early this spring. We hope that this opportunity will give SURF student members a chance to see people with environmental careers in action and get a real life look at remediation processes. Something that SURF Clarkson would like to do in the near future is hold professional development events for student SURF members and the campus in general. We are currently brainstorming ideas and would welcome any input or offers from professionals who would like to contribute! Anyone interested in helping is asked to please contact the current SURF Clarkson president Gerlinde Wolf at wolfgm@clarkson.edu.

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SUSTAINABLE REMEDIATION EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

23rd Annual International Conference on Soil, Water, Energy, and Air – March 18-21, 2013 – San Diego, California

The Annual AEHS Foundation Meeting and International Conference on Soil, Water, Energy, and Air offers attendees an opportunity to exchange findings, ideas, and recommendations amongst the environmental science community in a professional setting. The strong and diverse technical program is customized each year to meet the changing needs of the environmental field. This forum facilitates the exchange of information of technological advances, new scientific achievements, and the effectiveness of standing environmental regulation programs.

Platform and poster sessions feature research, case studies, and the presentation of new programs. Exhibitions augment the conference program and bring applied technology to attendees. Focused workshops provide attendees with practical information for immediate application. Daily socials provide networking and discussion.

Registration and Conference Programation are available on AEHS’s website at www.aehsfoundation.org/west-coast-conference.aspx.

Brownfields 2013 – Sustainable Communities Start Here – May 15-17, 2013 – Atlanta, Georgia

The National Brownfields Conference is the largest event in the nation that focuses on environmental revitalization and economic redevelopment. The National Brownfields Conference originated as a simple event, bringing together a small group of participants with interest in redevelopment of brownfields sites. Over the years, the National Brownfields Conference
has evolved into a multiday event with many components. Now in its 15th year, this two and a half day event comprises of many components to cover the A to Z’s of redevelopment, plus touch on other topics related to sustainability.

At Brownfields 2013, you will experience over 100 educational panel and plenary sessions, dynamic roundtable discussions and townhall meetings, and film screenings; networking and business development opportunities; and mobile workshops, walking tours and volunteer activities. Please visit the conference website (www.brownfieldsconference.org/en/home) for more information, including program and registration materials.

Global Conference on Sustainability and Reporting – May 22-24, 2013 – Amsterdam, the Netherlands

With a theme of Information – Integration – Innovation, the 2013 Global Conference on Sustainability and Reporting will unite over 1500 delegates from business, finance, accountancy, consultancy, civil society, government, labor and academia. These sustainability leaders will connect, share knowledge, and collaborate – to accelerate the transition to a sustainable global economy.

Companies and investors need information to assess risk, measure performance, and identify market opportunities. Governments and consumers need information to make policy and purchasing decisions. A sustainable global economy will be built on the disclosure of sustainability performance information. To make this information useful for all, we need a common reporting language.

The fourth generation of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Sustainability Reporting Guidelines – G4 – will be launched at the Conference. G4 aims to provide this common language for organizations around the world, enabling sustainability reporting to become standard practice. Visit the conference website at www.globalreporting.org/information/events/conference2013 for program and registration information.


The Second International Bioremediation and Sustainable Environmental Technologies Symposium will be held June 10-13, 2013, at the Hyatt Regency Riverfront in Jacksonville, Florida.

The Bioremediation and Sustainable Environmental Technologies Symposium incorporates topics beyond those addressed by the In-Situ and On-Site Bioremediation Symposium , held biennially from 1991 through 2009. The revised Symposium name and scope reflect bioremediation's maturity and new directions in environmental remediation research and application. Bioremediation continues to be a core area for the Symposium, but the scope also encompasses the use of biological technologies and strategies to assess risks to human and ecological health and support the development of sustainable practices.

COMPETITIONS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND GRANTS

How to Establish a SURF Student Chapter

SURF encourages the use of principles and concepts of sustainable remediation through education, research, and dissemination of information. SURF believes that the goals of the profession can be achieved in part by encouraging the consideration, study, and application of sustainable remediation fundamentals, principles, and concepts at colleges and universities. To aid this effort, SURF welcomes the establishment of Student Chapters
at institutions of higher education and will endeavor to assist their creation and activities.

The basic requirements to establish a Student Chapter are not complex; essentially there must be a faculty advisor and at least five student members, all of whom are members of SURF. The proposed chapter must qualify as a recognized student organization at the parent academic institution, or meet a few requirements if the academic institution does not recognize student groups. Guidance on starting a student chapter, details of the requirements, and a sample constitution is available on the SURF website (www.sustainableremediation.org/membership).

OTHER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Web Exclusives! The SURF Website (www.sustainableremediation.org) hosts a variety of resources available to the public. Follow the links on the left hand side of the home page to find:

- **Library** – download SURF guidance documents and issue papers, view past meeting minutes and the SURF Newsletter.
- **News** – Discover current events related to sustainable remediation and other related topics. Subscribe to receive SURF News in your RSS feed.
- **Gallery** – Browse photos from past SURF meetings.

If you are a SURF member, a number of resources are exclusively available to you on our website. Log in with your username and password to explore member resources such as:

- **Board Documents** – Review important administrative documents and meetings from the Board of Trustees biweekly meetings.
- **Collaboration Area** – Find outreach materials developed by SURF for your use (e.g. “Who is SURF” presentation), the results of SURF Member surveys, and information on technical initiatives.
- **Presentations** – Download presentations given at past SURF meetings.

The SURF website is a valuable resource for SURF members and anyone interested in learning more about the science and application of sustainable remediation.

**Bolster Sustainable Remediation through Stakeholder Collaboration, Environmental Leader**

Past SURF President Karin Holland recently wrote an article for Environmental Leader, an online publication for environmental energy management news. In the article, Karin discusses comprehensive stakeholder management as an essential component to success in addressing environmental liabilities and the global expansion of sustainable remediation initiatives. To read the full article, please visit the [Environmental Leader](http://www.environmentalleader.com/2013/01/30/bolster-sustainable-remediation-through-stakeholder-collaboration/) website.

**Regulatory and Government Employees:** Are you interested in making a presentation or preparing a poster for an upcoming SURF meeting? Are you interested in an in-house workshop to learn more about sustainable remediation initiatives, tools, and resources? Contact Buddy Bealer (leroy.bealer@shell.com) to learn more about these opportunities. Note that SURF waives registration fees for all invited speakers at SURF meetings.
SURF MEMBERSHIP

Join SURF or Renew your Membership TODAY!

The practice of sustainable remediation is gathering world-wide momentum, and SURF is a rapidly growing and influential organization. By joining SURF, you establish partnerships and build relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders: industry and agency peers, customers, clients, members of academia, technology vendors, and the public. You’ll have access to members who are helping to shape green and sustainable remediation guidance and assessment tools, academics and their research on innovative remediation technologies, and discussions about the state of the practice and lessons learned. The SURF website, meetings, and communications provide a clearinghouse and source for the latest information about policy, case studies, best practices, and educational opportunities.

SURF is engaged in several exciting technical initiatives, including developing a consensus-based framework for sustainable remediation; fostering standardized sustainable remediation criteria and metrics; and promoting consistency, transparency, and best practices for Life Cycle Assessment.

The benefits of SURF membership are many, but simply put, you will improve your understanding of sustainable remediation, network with hundreds of other professionals, enhance your career opportunities, and have fun doing so.

SURF has several membership levels based on an individual’s qualifications: Regular Member (dues are $150 annually), Government Member (dues are $100 annually), Academic Member (dues are $100 annually), and Student Member (dues are $25 annually).

The term for all classes of Members is February 1 through January 31 of the following year.

Learn more and apply for membership at www.sustainableremediation.org/membership.

~ Registration renewals received after October 1st apply to next year! ~