Dear Colleagues,

"Ethics" refers to a code of morals, either written or implied, of a particular person, group, or profession, while ethical has to do with conforming to the standard of conduct. Although usually an adjective, "professional" is commonly used as a noun to describe an individual engaged in, or worthy of, the high standards of a profession.

During the past several months, we have been bombarded by the news media with examples of corruption, unethical conduct, and questionable activities of both elected and appointed individuals. We all, no doubt, abhor these activities.

On the other hand, some of our own daily actions could also be construed as unethical, unprofessional, or at least questionable. This was brought home to me the other day by the editor of a major journal when he said something like, "I can have any report rejected by picking selected referees or I can have any report accepted by picking another group." As he pointed out, some referees always accept a report, while another group always rejects. I suspect the reasons are self-evident and sometimes, unfortunately, self-serving.

A similar approach is not foreign to the review of research proposals. Some referees always accept, other accept only those of their friends and colleagues, and still others always reject, are excessively negative, and refer only to their own reports, projects, and ideas.

Some funding agencies are also plagued with questionable activities. Certain proposals are funded only if they are submitted from an "approved" list of investigators, universities, or firms. Different entities might accept concepts that support only their own special ideas or interests, which may be exceedingly narrow. Although illegal and certainly never admitted, some funding may be "wired" to a particular individual or firm before the Request for Proposal is even written.

Relative to letters of reference, a few people are too busy to reply, others may offer glowing letters of support despite obvious deficiencies (this provides a potential way of getting rid of someone), and still others may be very critical in a letter and yet leave the impression with the individual that he was strongly recommended. Owing to the potential for being sued, a growing number of individuals refuse even to write a reference letter that might be construed as being critical.

As far as performance evaluations are concerned, some administrators imply excellent performance that, in fact, was poor at best. This can come back to haunt several people, when promotion or tenure are denied. Some others tend to be especially critical by placing major weight on deficiencies, while down-playing accomplishments.

Another facet of ethics and professionalism deals with adverse actions, such as legal cases, where one serves as an expert or expert witness. Certainly one owes some loyalty to the client, but how much is it ethical to fail to mention pertinent facts, to throw up a smoke screen before a judge and jury, or to testify in support of a concept that one knows or should know is wrong, merely to satisfy the client? I think not; we are ethically bound to be honest with the client. If they are not satisfied with the interpretation, they can always settle, or find another expert witness.

What are the consequences of some of the above activities? Perhaps nothing, perhaps a loss of face, faith, or trust, maybe even a legal action. But whatever the result, it is clear that a reputation once sold or given away is thereafter worthless, as well it should be. As T.S. Eliot aptly stated, "Of all that was done in the past, you eat the fruit, either rotten or ripe."

Perhaps the greatest loss is the sense of rectitude, that is, the sense of possession of integrity. Did we not enjoy this during World War II when America was on the side of the right and the good? It seems to me that when a nation, or a profession, acknowledges (affirm openly or otherwise) the loss of ethics (the operational loss, or not just the conceptual loss) than loss of effectiveness is close behind. When a society or an organisation loses self-respect and self-trust, it is beset with indecision on the one hand and suspicion on the other. The products of integrity and trust, such as reliability and predictability, can be generated only by enforced regulation, and by checking and counter-checking measures, none or all of which is as efficient as honest business. In the final analysis, agreements — whether treaties, contracts, or handshakes — basically are only as good as the intentions of the parties concerned. Clearly, when ethics are weakened, everyone is the loser.

Wayne A. Pettijohn
Chairman
PEERLS, MARINO, AND STRINGFIELD 18TH DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

John C. Peerls, I. Wendell Marino, and Victor T. Stringfield are the 1987 recipients of the Hydrogeology Division’s Award for Distinguished Service. The awards to Peerls and Marino are posthumous.

John C. Peerls is being recognized for his research on a wide range of problems in ground-water geology and hydrology including aquifer-stream interrelations, semi-quantitative and quantitative evaluations of aquifer systems, application of geophysics to ground-water development, and his contributions to education of hydrogeologists.

I. Wendell Marino made major contributions to hydrogeology of fractured rock in relation to disposal of radioactive waste and to nuclear hydrology.

Victor T. Stringfield has made significant and pioneering contributions to the ground-water geology, hydrology, and paleohydrology of carbonate aquifer systems.

HYDROLOGY DIVISION FIELD TRIP ANNUAL MEETING

Thomas L. Holzer and Marco R. Llurria have organized an all-day field trip on Sunday, October 25, that will examine hydrogeologic aspects of the overraft problem that confronts central Arizona. In the morning, the trip will visit one of the mitigation efforts, the Cave Creek Artificial Recharge Project. In the afternoon, ground failures, including earth fissures and reactivuted faults associated with land subsidence will be inspected. The cost is $41 and includes lunch.

CONTAMINANT HYDROGEOLOGY SHORT COURSE - REPEATED

Saturday, October 24 and Sunday, October 25, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Hyatt Regency Hotel. Fee includes course manual. Limit 100, Pw: $155.

This course will provide an introduction to the theory and practice of contaminant hydrogeology. It will be of interest to working professionals and graduate students who want to develop a basic understanding of this field. The course will include an examination of:

- fundamental concepts of physical mass transport, advection, dispersion and diffusion.
- the most important geochemical processes that influence the spread of contaminants, including surface reactions, coprecipitation, and mineral precipitation, and
- the mathematical formulation and solution of mass transport equations with an emphasis on approaches and concepts rather than detailed mathematics.

Examination of these topics will be linked to practice through the use of case histories and problems, group discussions, and demonstrations.

Faculty: Frank R. Schwartz, Department of Geology, University of Alberta; Ph.D., University of Illinois. Internationally known for his work in ground-water modeling, field and theoretical aspects of contaminant hydrogeology, watershed hydrology, and ground-water geochemistry, Schwartz is the author of more than 40 scientific publications.

J. Leslie Smith, Department of Geology, University of British Columbia; Ph.D., University of British Columbia. As a consultant and researcher, Smith has worked on problems of the emplacement of high level radioactive waste in the subsurface, modeling of flow and transport in fractured media, and groundwater resource evaluation. Smith is internationally known for his work on stochastic modeling of ground-water flow.

Schwartz and Smith were co-recipients of the G.E. Meinzer Award for 1984.

CALL FOR PAPERS

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HYDROGEOLOGISTS 21ST CONGRESS, KARST HYDROGEOLOGY AND KARST ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

The International Association of Hydrogeologists will hold its 21st Congress in China, in the Autonomous Region, People’s Republic of China, October 10-13, 1988, sponsored by the China National Committee for IAH, and the Geological Survey. Post- and pre-congress field trips of 4-5 day duration are being arranged. Abstracts of no more than 300 words are being solicited and should be submitted as soon as possible to:

Wang, Zeliu, Secretary General Organizing Committee for IAH 21st Congress Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences Baifang Road, Beijing 100037, China

The Chinese Organizing Committee is planning to publish the full-length papers before the Congress convenes. For additional information contact:

William Back 431 National Center U.S. Geological Survey Reston, VA 22092

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HYDROGEOLOGISTS

The International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) is a scientific and educational nonprofit international organization established to exchange hydrogeologic information and to advance the science. IAH promotes cooperation between scientists who are working on hydrogeologic problems. It is affiliated with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). The IAH will accept for membership an individual engaged in hydrogeologic investigations, research or management. Membership is granted on the basis of scientific qualifications, experience, and publications. Dues are $25. For additional information, contact:

E.S. Simpson, Secretary-Treasurer, IAH Department of Hydrology and Water Resources 200 Douglas Building University of Arizona Tucson, Arizona 85721

G.S. MEMBER MEETING FOR IAH COMMISSION OF MINERAL AND THERMAL WATERS

The International Association of Hydrogeologists needs a U.S. geologist or hydrogeologist to represent the United States on the IAH Commission of Mineral and Thermal Waters. IAH commissions usually meet at the IAH Congress and prepare reports on their activities in member country. If you are interested in this position, please contact:

E.S. Simpson, Secretary or Dr. Jan Bogdalla Treasurer, IAH (602) 621-1815 Institute of Geological Sciences Department of Hydrology and Water Resources (602) 621-5502 Polish Academy of Sciences 200 Douglas Building Zwirki & Wigury 93 University of Arizona 02-089 Warsaw Tucson, Arizona 85721 POLAND
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GSA REPRESENTATIVE TO AAAS SECTION W NEEDED

The Society needs a representative to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Section W, Atmospheric and Hydrogeophysical Sciences for the term February 16, 1988 to February 15, 1990. GSA representatives must be members of AAAS. Normally, representatives are chosen who can be expected to be attending the AAAS meetings under other auspices. Schedule of AAAS Annual Meetings:

Boston ...............February 11-15, 1988
San Francisco .........January 15-20, 1989
New Orleans ...........February 15-20, 1990

If you are interested in serving the Society in this capacity, please contact Dorothy M. Palmer at GSA Headquarters (303) 447-2028.
JOHN H. (JACK) SHARP, JR., born St. Paul, MN, March 11, 44; m. 67;
c 2. HYDROGEOLOGY: Educ: Univ Minnesota (geological engineering),
BS 67; Univ Illinois (geology), MS 74, PhD 74; Prof Exp: US Air
Force 67-71 (Civil Eng Officer); Univ Missouri, Asst Prof, 74-80,
Assoc Prof and Chair, 80-82; von Humboldt Fellow, 81, 83; Univ
Texas, Assoc Prof, 82-85, PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE CHAIRMAN, 85.
MEM: AAAS, AGU, AIA, ATHE, Amqua, Austin Geol Soc, CSA O.E. Meinzer
Award (1979), IAH, TWA, NSWA, Sigma Xi, Tau Beta Pi. Res: hydro-
geology of alluvial aquifers; regional ground-water systems;
development of sedimentary basins; energy transport in porous media.
Mailing Addr: Dept Geol Sciences, Univ Texas, Austin, TX 78713-7901.

BOB FARVOLDEN, born Forestburg, Alberta, Canada, May 22, 28; m. 54;
c 2. Educ: Univ of Alberta, BSc 51, MSc 58; Univ of Illinois, PhD 63.
Prof Exp: Field Asst, Geol Res Canada, summer 50; Canadian Gulf Oil,
April-Sept 55; Canadian Army, 51-54 (Airborne Infantry); Research
Council of Alberta, summer 55; Head, Groundwater Division 56-60;
Desert Research Inst, Reno, summer 60, summer 61, 62-64. Faculty
appointments: Dept. Geol, Univ of Illinois, 64-67; Univ of Western
Ontario, 67-70; Univ of Waterloo, Chairman, Earth Sciences, 70-76;
Dean, Faculty of Science, 77-82; Prof of Hydrogeology, 82-present;
Visiting Prof, Unesco, Paris, Sept 76-Sept 77; UNAM, Mexico,
Feb-Dec 83. Memberships: Fellow GSA, AGU, GAC; Member Cdn Geotech Soc.

Joseph S. Rosenheim, born Kimball, WY, April 19, 1929; m. since 1959.
Educ: Univ. Connecticut, BA 1952; Johns Hopkins Univ., MA 1953; Univ
geologist in District 1953-63; Chief RI Subdistrict, 1964-67; Chief, Tampa
Author or coauthor more than 35 pubs on geohydrology and hydrology;
coeditor AGU Water Resources Monograph on Groundwater Hydraulics; coeditor
and contributor GSA ANAS, vol on Hydrogeology of North America.
Hydrogeology Div. activities: Liaison representative Southwestern (1972-
1976) and Rocky Mountain (1977-1986) Sections; former mem. and chairman
Nominating Committee; mem. Ad Hoc Committee for Establishing Distinguished
Service Award; Chairman (1987) Committee on Award for Distinguished Service.
Other Societal Activities: mem. and former chairman Groundwater Committee,
AGU; former mem. U.S. Committee for IAH; mem. Board Registration, IAH.
Membership: Fellow GSA, AGU, AIA, ANRA, IAH, AND SEG.