



# The Certified Environmental Professional

The Newsletter of the  
Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals

January-February 2016

## President's Message

It only takes a quick glance at the headlines to realize that the world is changing at a breakneck pace. Our profession, like any other I suppose, must be positioned to change with it. Policy and regulatory changes, societal changes, and mood swings of the roughly seven and a half billion people that we share this planet with, cause us to be continually vigilant in balancing the needs of the people with the needs of the planet that we share.

This past week I did what I try to do about every month or two - I reviewed information regarding a number of resources that I specialize in to make sure I hadn't missed any small or large regulatory changes. I came to the realization that it is becoming more and more difficult to track changes to multiple resources across multiple states and within multiple agencies. After a while it all becomes a blur and it takes some pretty focused concentration to identify policy and regulatory changes that are sometimes subtle.

As environmental professionals at the forefront of our industry we must not only recognize changes to the processes we are stewards over, but should also anticipate them coming long before the changes hit the streets. For those of us (read: consultants and agency technical people charged with implementing new policies and regulations) on the back-end this can be problematic. For agency policy makers it can be equally difficult to keep abreast of policy and protocol changes made by other state and federal agencies that influence their jurisdiction. Perhaps eventually this trend of change will drive to extinction the "generalist" of which I suppose I am one.

I live in a part of the country where traditions are so engrained in the culture that it can be difficult (and sometimes dangerous) to break out of them in order to comply with regulatory change. I would caution our environmental professionals and especially those who are CEPs, to practice what I call "ethical flexibility" in your career trajectory so that you can be more effective in navigating the winds of change in our society and recognizing how to implement changes that are heading our way.



*Mark F. Gerber  
ABCEP President*

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**Happy New Year  
from the BOT!**

## President's Message (continued from Page 1)

We are all charged with “making this work”. We’re the ones setting and enforcing the environmental network of this planet and if we allow ourselves to become complacent and too “traditional” then we risk not recognizing a resource at risk until it may be too late.

ABCEP is here to serve you in all your endeavors and has the resources to help guide you in all your efforts to lead in the environmental field. Our doors are always open to suggestions and volunteers who want to help guide this process. Please let us know what we can do better to serve you.

### **ABCEP BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED**

The ABCEP Board of Trustees announces that there are **six** board member positions that become open this year. This is an excellent opportunity to really become involved in your certifying organization. **We will be asking for nominations beginning February 1, 2016.**

The election for the open positions will start on March 1, 2016. The announcement of the new board members will occur at the biannual in-person meeting on April 14, 2016 at the National Association of Environmental Professionals annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

**Submit your nominations beginning  
February 1, 2016 to [www.abcep.org](http://www.abcep.org)**

# 2015 Year in Review

**149**

CEP Applications  
Received

**17**

CEPs Approved

**65**

CEP-IT Applications  
Received

**11**

CEP-ITs Approved

**18**

CEP by Eminence  
Applications Received

**2**

CEPs by Eminence  
Awarded

**SUSTAINABILITY**

Added as Functional Area

**September 1, 2015**

New exam questions in effect

# Call for Award Nominations

## Dr. Richard J. Kramer CEP Memorial Award for Environmental Excellence

The Dr. Richard J. Kramer, CEP, Memorial Award for Environmental Excellence was established by the Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP) to recognize extraordinary achievements of individuals in the environmental profession.

Dr. Kramer's involvement in ABCEP spanned more than two decades. In 1982, he was the 31st person to earn the CEP designation. He served on the Academy's Certification Review Board from 1985 to 1999, when he resigned to become the first President of the Academy. Dick began his career in the environmental profession in 1972. For many years he was head of the environmental planning and NEPA office for the Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base in California.

The ABCEP Board of Trustees are responsible for selecting the winner of the award. More than one award may be given each year. The award was presented for the first time in 2004, to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the creation of the Certified Environmental Professional designation by the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) and the 5th Anniversary of the creation of the ABCEP, which was created in 1999 to oversee the CEP program.

## Kramer Award Nominating Information

**Objective:** Nationally recognize extraordinary achievements, leadership, and spirit of CEPs.

**Eligibility:** All ABCEP members

**Who May Nominate:** Any ABCEP member

**Deadline:** February of each year

### Previous Kramer Award Winners:

2010 - Irving D. Cohen, CEP, FACFEI  
2011 - Richard P. McGucken, CEP  
2012 - Lori Cuniff, CEP  
2013 - Connie Chitwood, CEP  
2014 - Heidi Pruess, CEP  
2015 - Gary F. Kelman, MS, CEP

# Call for Award Nominations

## Emerging Environmental Professional Achievement Award

The ABCEP Emerging Environmental Professional Achievement Award recognizes environmental professionals for their leadership, professional involvement, commitment to foster environmental improvement, and actions to help make the world a better place for future generations. ABCEP welcomes participation by other environmental organizations in co-sponsoring these awards.

The Board of Trustees is looking for nominees for this year's award from individuals, companies, and/or agencies describing outstanding contributions of young environmental professionals. Nominations may include young professionals whose leadership, projects, or programs have advanced the environmental profession as recognized by others, as evidenced through:

- ◆ References containing personal testimonies or corroboration of professional experiences;
- ◆ Achievements, commendations from employers, Boards of Directors, and/or other professional associations or societies; and/or
- ◆ Commendations from governmental and/or private sector groups.

Eligible nominees:

- ◆ Must be no older than 35 years of age in the calendar year in which they are nominated.
- ◆ Must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited university in an applicable field.
- ◆ Must be a full-time environmental professional.
- ◆ Must have a minimum of 5 years of professional experience in a position of reasonable charge.
- ◆ Must have made a valuable contribution to the profession by serving in a leadership position.

If you know or work with someone that meets the nominating criteria, the Board encourages you to submit a nomination via the ABCEP website ([www.abcep.org](http://www.abcep.org)). You do not need to be a CEP to submit a nomination. Please contact Andrea Bower, the Academy's Executive Administrator, at [office@abcep.org](mailto:office@abcep.org) if you have any questions about the nomination process.

## Emerging Young Professionals Award Selection Criteria - the degree to which the nominee:

- ◆ Demonstrates leadership in the environmental field.
- ◆ Demonstrates expertise and competence in the environmental profession.
- ◆ Encourages, mentors, and supports other professionals in their work and community.
- ◆ Acts as a role model for other young professionals.
- ◆ Has achieved accomplishments and innovations in the environmental profession.
- ◆ Has a minimum of three references who can verify the above characteristics.

**Who May Nominate:** Any ABCEP member

**Deadline:** To be announced; awards made at end of the year.

# CHALLENGE TO MEMBERS

## Publish an Article in the 2016 Newsletter

Shari Cannon-Mackey, CEP, ENV SP

As Newsletter Editor I want to 'fire a shot across the bow' as a challenge to our members to publish an article in this year's newsletter. As we have stated time and time again, we as an organization are only as strong our membership makes us. It is just as important to mentor and educate, lead and implement, as it is to share your thoughts, research, and regulatory perspectives with your peers.

Those of you working with CEP-ITs - push them to submit an article for the newsletter - what a great way for them to network and get feedback on ways to further their career. The rest of you surely have something to share within the profession. I know many of you are 'published' in other places - share those insights in this forum too!

To help you decide on what to contribute, please let us know through the following survey link those areas where you would be willing to share your insights.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HNXYBMR>

Responses are due by **February 29, 2016**. At that time I will set up newsletter themes and share the schedule for when articles are due. To get the creative juices flowing - here are some topics for consideration:

- ▶ CEP-IT Projects
- ▶ Areas of CEP Practice – please specify - Community Planning, Hazardous Material Management, Government, Transportation, etc.
- ▶ Innovation – indicate area i.e., mapping/GIS/GPS; impact analysis tools/technology; sampling/field services; etc.
- ▶ Project or Staff Management Techniques
- ▶ Regulatory Updates – indicate area i.e., Clean Water Act, NEPA, Hazardous Materials, etc.
- ▶ Self-Improvement/Coaching Tips and Trends
- ▶ Sustainability
- ▶ Climate Change
- ▶ Global/International Initiatives
- ▶ Others – please specify

## Let us know what's going on!

Send us information on events in your region, upcoming conferences, and other happenings that may be of interest to the CEP community. Many of these also provide training credits which as we all know, are so important for maintenance.

- ▶ **February 16-19; San Antonio TX** - International Erosion Control Association (IECA) Environmental Connection Conference. [www.ieca.org/conference/annual/ec.asp](http://www.ieca.org/conference/annual/ec.asp)
- ▶ **March 14-18; Milan Italy** - 10th International Conference on Air Quality - Science and Application. [www.airqualityconference.org](http://www.airqualityconference.org)
- ▶ **May 18-20; Austin TX** - Women in Transportation Symposium (WTS) Annual Conference. [www.wtsinternational.org/networking/annual-conference](http://www.wtsinternational.org/networking/annual-conference)
- ▶ **August 4-5; Minneapolis MN** - Transportation Planning and Air Quality Conference. <http://register.extension.iastate.edu/2016tpaq>
- ▶ **August 22-25; Indianapolis IN** - STORMCON - The Surface Water Quality Conference & Expo. [www.stormcon.com](http://www.stormcon.com)
- ▶ **August 28-31; Washington DC** - Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals National Conference. [www.ahmpnet.org/ahmp-2016-national-conference](http://www.ahmpnet.org/ahmp-2016-national-conference)

Provide your input to [scannonmackey@burnsmcd.com](mailto:scannonmackey@burnsmcd.com)



**KEEP  
STRONG  
AND  
MAINTAIN  
ON**

**Psssssst....**

**There is still time to renew  
your membership!**

**Log on to CEP-EXPRESS  
today and take the credit  
for all your hard work!**



# Call for Articles!

Interesting projects, exciting research, new study applications – our community wants to hear about what our CEPs and CEP-ITs are doing. The Communications Committee is seeking articles about your interesting projects for upcoming issues. This newsletter is a fabulous forum to share your insights and opinions.

Take the survey - see page 6!

***Our newsletter is only as strong as our members can make it.***

***So don't be afraid and GET INVOLVED!***

***We hope you like our new look!***

## Newsletter Policy

In the interest of presenting material on which our members can formulate their own views regarding environmental matters, we present articles representing a variety of viewpoints. Whereas there may be limitations which trammel inquiry elsewhere, we take the position that it is through continual and fearless sifting and winnowing of information from various sources can the truth be found.

Should you take issue with an article appearing in this Newsletter, you are encouraged to submit an article with your viewpoint which will be published in a future issue.

# The Certified Environmental Professional

The ABCEP Newsletter is published monthly and is intended to be a:

- ♦ Communication vehicle for the Board of Trustees and ABCEP Committees to inform and engage with CEPs and CEP-ITs on current activities within ABCEP and its future direction.
- ♦ Forum to report on current and emerging environmental issues, regulation and policy changes, and professional trends.
- ♦ Forum to provide professional guidance and advice to expand the professional growth and knowledge of members.
- ♦ Means for members to communicate with one another on current accomplishments, interesting projects, or lessons learned on the job with new approaches and successful problem solving solutions.
- ♦ Platform to acknowledge, highlight, and welcome active CEPs and CEP-ITs.

All members are encouraged to be active in their profession and affiliated professional organization.

If you have a topic of interest that you would like presented in *The Certified Environmental Professional* newsletter please submit your topic request or completed article to Andrea Bower at [office@abcep.org](mailto:office@abcep.org) or Shari Cannon-Mackey, CEP ENV SP, at [scannonmackey@burnsmcd.com](mailto:scannonmackey@burnsmcd.com).

Thank you,

*Shari Cannon-Mackey, CEP, ENV SP*  
Editor