

Speaker Profiles

Transboundary Water Crises: Learning from Our Neighbors in the Rio Grande (Bravo) and Jordan River Watersheds

Edmund G. “Ed” Archuleta has been manager of the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board since January 1989. He is responsible for all aspects of water, wastewater, reclaimed water service, and storm water to the greater El Paso metropolitan area. A registered Professional Engineer in Texas, New Mexico, and Iowa, Ed earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in civil engineering from New Mexico State University and a Master of Management degree from the University of New Mexico. He is an American Academy of Environmental Engineers Diplomat. He was appointed in June 2006 by President George W. Bush to the National Infrastructure Advisory Council. Ed is currently involved with several technical and professional organizations, including the American Water Works Association, the Water Environment Federation, Water for People, WateReuse Foundation, the National and Texas Societies of Professional Engineers, the Texas Water Conservation Association, New Mexico/Texas Water Commission, Far West Texas Planning Group, and Regional Economic Development Corporation. He is a past Chairman of the American Water Works Association Research Foundation, and current Trustee of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, and the WateReuse Foundation. He serves as chairman of the Multi-State Salinity Coalition and the Paso del Norte Task Force.

Felipe Ignacio Arreguín-Cortés is the Technical Deputy Director of the National Water Commission in Mexico and Professor at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). He received master’s and doctoral degrees in hydraulics from UNAM. Felipe has published extensively with 182 international and national publications to his name. He received the National Enzo Levi Award for Hydraulic Research and Teaching in 1996 and in 2002, he received the Javier Barros Sierra Award for his book on civil engineering. He has been involved with United Nations programs, the National Science Academy in Mexico, and the International Water Resources Association among many other organizations.

Michael Barber is the Director of the Washington State Water Research Center at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington. He has a B.S. degree from the University of New Hampshire, an M.S. degree from Purdue University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Texas, all in civil engineering. His research interests include water quality and quantity modeling, hydrology, surface-groundwater interactions, constructed wetlands and wet ponds, and decision support systems. Michael recently completed a needs assessment for a multilateral Middle-East regional water training initiative.

Bobby Creel is the Associate Director of the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute at New Mexico State University (NMSU). He has a B.S. degree in agriculture and an M.S. degree in agricultural economics from NMSU. He earned a Ph.D. in resource economics from the University of New Mexico. Bobby has worked at the WRRRI since 1986 and his primary research interests include studies involving the allocation and use of the water resources in the various basins of the state and southwestern U.S., assessments for water quality protection programs using geographic information systems, and the feasibility of developing saline water resources, geothermal water resources, large-scale irrigation projects, and energy development impacts on agriculture. He is widely acknowledged as being the most informed water professional in New Mexico. In 2002, he received the Fort Bliss Federal Credit Union sponsored University Research Award for his many years of water-related research.

Shlomi Dinar is an assistant professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations at Florida International University in Miami. He earned a B.A. in political science, and rhetoric and communications from the University of California at Davis, an M.A. in international relations with a Middle East Institute Certificate from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. in international relations from Johns Hopkins University. He did post-graduate work at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Shlomi has given talks at international meetings with titles such as: “Water Wars? Conflict and Cooperation over Transboundary Water” and “Scarperation: The Role of Scarcity in Fostering Cooperation between International River Riparians.” He is author of *International Water Treaties: Negotiation and Cooperation along Transboundary Rivers* (Routledge 2008) and co-author of *Bridges over Water: Understanding Transboundary Water Conflict, Negotiation and Cooperation* (World Scientific 2007).

Jorge C. Garcés was appointed Managing Director and CEO of the North American Development Bank (NADB) in October 2005, after having served as its Deputy Managing Director since April 2001. NADB is an international financial institution capitalized and governed equally by the U.S. and Mexico for the purpose of developing infrastructure along the border region. With more than 30 years experience in dealing with Texas-Mexico issues, he has served four former Texas governors as the staff authority on border relations and issues. Prior to joining the NADB, Jorge was the Mexico & Border Affairs Manager for the Office of the Texas Secretary of State, where he assisted the Secretary of State in dealing with Mexico and the border region in matters related to environment, infrastructure, trade, transportation, immigration and health, among other key issues. During his career in public service, he also worked in the Office of Border Affairs with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission; as Executive Director of the Border Trade Alliance, a public/private coalition of individuals and organizations conducting business across the U.S. borders; at the Texas Department of Agriculture Marketing Division for Mexico and Latin America; and as Director of the Office of Texas/Mexico Relations with the Texas Department of Commerce. He holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Latin American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin. He also has a Master of Public Affairs degree from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin, from which he received the 2005 Distinguished Public Service Award.

Alfredo Granados Olivas has more than 20 years of experience with the Paso del Norte region on groundwater research. Since 1986, he has been a professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Institute of Engineering and Technology of the Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez, leader for the Academic Group on Geosciences at UACJ, and recently appointed to the Sistema Nacional de Investigadores by the Mexican Government. Alfredo earned his Ph.D. from New Mexico State University and has an M.S. degree in groundwater hydrology from the Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez, and a B.S. degree in agricultural engineering from the School of Agriculture “Hermanos Escobar.” Alfredo is a member of the Mexican Society of Hydrology, the National Ground Water Association, the International Association for Environmental Hydrology, and the Association of Photogrametry and Remote Sensing.

Ambassador Kenton Keith assumed the duties of Senior Vice President of Meridian International Center in late 1997 after a career as a Foreign Service Officer with the United States Information Agency. He retired from USIA with the rank of Career Minister. At the time of his retirement, Ambassador Keith was Director of USIA’s Office of North African, Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, managing field operations, public diplomacy activities, and the budget for the Agency’s largest geographical bureau. From 1992 to 1995, he served as Ambassador to the State of Qatar. During his government service, Ambassador Keith received two Presidential meritorious service awards and various individual and group superior and meritorious honor awards, including one for his work at the 1991 Middle East peace conference in Madrid. In November 2001, the Ambassador was recalled to the Department of State to serve as Special Envoy to Islamabad where he set up and directed the Coalition Information Center in Pakistan. He served as spokesman for the U.S.-led coalition during the period of major combat operations in Afghanistan. He serves on the boards of the American Field Service, the Council on International Educational Exchange, and the conflict resolution organization Partners for Democratic

Change. Ambassador Keith lectures extensively on public diplomacy, international education, and Middle East Affairs. He is currently president of the Association of Black American Ambassadors and represents the ABAA as a member of the Foreign Affairs Council. A native of Kansas City, Missouri, Ambassador Keith is a graduate of the University of Kansas with a major in International Relations. He serves on the New Mexico State University's International Relations Institute advisory board.

Ron Lacewell is Assistant Vice Chancellor for Federal Relations as well as Professor in resources economics in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in agricultural economics from Texas Tech University, and his Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Oklahoma State University. Ron's research focuses on the areas of irrigation, integrated pest management, dairy waste management, farming systems, water quality, and new crops. He also serves as the leader of federal regulations for Texas A&M Agriculture, leading a team to address initiatives, partnering, and acting as liaison to federal agencies. Ron represented Texas as a water economist in several lawsuits and litigation on the Rio Grande in the 1980s and 1990s.

Ambassador Delano Lewis Sr., a native Kansan, received a bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas and a J.D. degree from Washburn University School of Law. He served ten years in the federal government from 1963 until 1973. He served as an attorney with the Department of Justice; as an attorney in the Office of Compliance in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Associate Director of the U.S. Peace Corps in Nigeria and Country Director of U.S. Peace Corps in Uganda; Legislative Assistant to U.S. Senator Edward Brooke of Massachusetts and Chief of Staff for Delegate Walter Fauntroy of the District of Columbia. From 1973 until 1984, the Ambassador was an executive with the C & P Telephone Co. in Washington D.C., a subsidiary of AT&T. From 1984 until 1994, he was an officer of Bell Atlantic (now Verizon), retiring in 1994 as President and CEO of the D.C. operations. In 1994 the Ambassador was named President and CEO of National Public Radio in Washington, D.C. In June 1999, President Clinton nominated him as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa. The U.S. Senate confirmed him in November 1999. He assumed his Ambassadorship in Pretoria, South Africa in December 1999 and served until his retirement from Diplomatic Service in July 2001. The Ambassador has received many awards and honorary degrees, most notably, Washingtonian of the Year in 1978. He received a distinguished Alumni Citation from his alma mater, The University of Kansas, in 1994. He has numerous honorary degrees from such institutions as Barry University, Bowie State University, Washburn University, George Washington University, Kent State University, NOVA Southeastern University, Southern Illinois University and Lafayette College. Currently, he serves on the boards of Colgate Palmolive and Eastman Kodak. In September 2006 Ambassador Lewis assumed the position of Senior Fellow at New Mexico State University, with the responsibility of establishing an Institute for International Relations on campus.

Clive Lipchin was raised in South Africa. He received his first degree in applied psychology and zoology with an emphasis on wildlife management on private game farms in South Africa's Northern Province. Clive immigrated to Israel in 1991 and received a master's degree in desert ecology from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. He earned a Ph.D. in resource ecology management at the University of Michigan, where his doctoral thesis examined public perceptions toward water use and scarcity in Israel and the Middle East. While in the U.S., Clive held consulting positions for the United Nations Development Program on implementing biodiversity protection programs submitted under the Global Environmental Facility as well as on human development policy. As a member of the Arava Institute faculty, Clive teaches courses in sustainable development, water management, scientific research methodology, and culture and environment interactions. He also serves as a researcher with the Arava Institute's Center for Environmental Policy. Most recently Clive has been involved in a regional project on assessing impacts on the declining water level of the Dead Sea. This project is conducted jointly with Palestinian and Jordanian partners.

Mario López Pérez has worked over the past 27 years for the Mexican Federal Administration in the water sector. In 2007 he was named the Engineering and Technical Standards Manager for the National Water Commission of México. He is in charge of binational water issues with the United States, Guatemala, and Belize. Mario received an undergraduate degree in agronomy engineering from the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, a master's degree in pedagogy and soil survey from the University of Reading, United Kingdom, and a degree in public administration with honors from the Universidad La Salle of México. He also has a degree in water resources management from the Sao Paulo University of Brazil and Colorado State University sponsored by the World Bank and the Bank of Holland. He has been key speaker, panelist, moderator and organizer of workshops, courses, seminars and conferences in Canada, Colombia, Chile, China, Spain, U.S., México and Perú over integral water management, water law, water planning, water rights management, basin councils, and transboundary basin management. Mario is currently the co-chair on water issues in the Environment Border Program 2012 between the United States, Canada, and México.

Thomas McDermott began his career in the Peace Corps in India where he worked on rural water supply projects serving tribal communities of rural Rajasthan. He then moved on to work for American voluntary agencies in Indonesia and Bangladesh. He then joined the United Nations and went on to work in many countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. During the war in Bosnia, Thomas served as Special Representative to the countries of former Yugoslavia. He later served as UNICEF's Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa. After 34 years of work in the United Nations and a 39 year career in international development, Thomas retired last year to Santa Fe. He now serves on the boards of the New Mexico State University's International Institute and the Santa Fe Council on International Relations. Thomas has an undergraduate degree from Fordham University and a graduate degree from Harvard University.

Mac McKee is the Director of the Center for Water Resources Research at Utah State University. He is a veteran of nearly 30 international water projects including projects on the West Bank and Gaza Strip where he worked with Palestinian academics and water officials. Mac's areas of expertise include water resources engineering, flood control, water supply, irrigation and drainage, water quality management, water resources systems analysis, basin-scale planning and management, and water resources development policy.

Munqeth Mehyar is the Jordanian director of Friends of the Earth Middle East, a unique Jordanian/Israeli/Palestinian organization for peace and the environment. Munqeth holds a degree in Architecture and Regional Planning from the University of Louisiana. After graduating, he became Planning Engineer for South Amman. Acting on his passion for sports and aviation, he also took on the posts of Project Manager for the German Balsam International Sports Company, and Middle East Manager of the Athlete Sports Contracting Company. In 1994, Munqeth co-founded the Middle East EcoPeace Organization, and he is now its Chairman. Throughout his career he organized several regional conferences, and workshops, and he also supervised regional research studies focusing on environmental development. Munqeth is involved in several charitable activities. He is on the Board of Directors of both the Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped, and the Jordan Royal Ecological Diving Society. He is also the Founder and Director of the Jordan Society for Sustainable Development, and a holder of the 2000 Al Hussein Decoration for Distinguished contribution.

Steven Mumme is Professor of Political Science at Colorado State University. He has a bachelor's and a master's degree from Arizona State University and a Ph.D. from the University of Arizona. His doctoral dissertation was entitled: *The United States-Mexico Groundwater Conflict: Domestic Influence on Foreign Policy*. Steven teaches comparative government and politics, comparative environmental politics and policy, and Latin American politics with an emphasis on Mexico. His research interests include comparative environmental politics, U.S.-Mexico border environmental management, and North American transboundary environmental management. Steven's professional memberships include the Rocky Mountain Council on Latin American Studies, Western Political Science Association, Latin American Studies Association, Western Social Science Association, and Association of Borderlands Scholars. Steven has worked in Mexico many times as a visiting professor, lecturer, and consultant.

Jean Parcher is the regional geographer for the U.S.–Mexico border at the U.S. Geological Survey’s Mid-Continent Geographic Science Center in Austin, Texas. Her education includes a B.A. degree in geography from the University of Montana, a Master Certificate in Geographic Information Systems from the University of Colorado in Denver, and an M.A. in geography from the University of Texas. Jean has been associated with the Pan American Institute of Geography and History as a U.S. delegate for the Global Map of the Americas project. She earned the University of Texas Outstanding Thesis Award and belongs to the Association of American Geographers. Jean’s research interests include: transboundary geographic issues with an emphasis on the U.S.-Mexico Border region, geographic analysis and remote sensing of urban environments with an emphasis in flood hazards and land cover change, and use of GIS tools for environmental and human health analysis.

Jim Peach is a Regents Professor in the Department of Economics and International Business at New Mexico State University. He is co-director of the Office of Policy Analysis at NMSU’s Arrowhead Center. Jim has a B.A. degree in mathematics and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Texas. His primary research interests include economic development (including water issues), population economics (including implications for water demand), energy economics, U.S.-Mexico economic relations, and income distribution.

Karl Wood was named director of the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute in June 2000. He joined the NMSU faculty in 1979. Prior to his tenure at the WRRI, Karl was assistant department head and range coordinator for NMSU’s Department of Animal and Range Sciences. Much of his research over the years has been related to water resources and for 20 years, he was a member of the Range Improvement Task Force, which provides scientific expertise to help resolve disputes over management of water and other natural resources. Karl completed a B.S. in 1974 in forestry and range management and an M.S. in 1976 in range science with field emphasis on soils and range improvements both from the University of Nevada/Reno. In 1978, Karl received a Ph.D. in range science with field emphasis on watershed management from Texas A&M. Karl has nearly 150 journal articles, research bulletins, special reports, and conference proceedings publications to his credit, mainly in the areas of range hydrology, range vegetation and soil assessment, and rangeland management. At the WRRI he has represented NMSU as chair of the Lower Rio Grande Water Users Organization, co-chair of the New Mexico-Texas Water Commission, and chair of the regional Paso del Norte Water Task Force.

Gary Woodard is the Associate Director for Knowledge Transfer and International Activities for the Center for Sustainability of Semi-Arid Hydrology and Riparian Areas at the University of Arizona. His general areas of expertise include conservation, economics/finance, education of K-12, information transfer, institutions/policy, law, and management and planning. Gary’s research specialties include benefit-cost analysis, demand management, government, greywater, groundwater management, interbasin transfers, and areas of the law including water, policy analysis/politics, rate structures, regulation, social issues, statistics, utilities, water demand, water marketing, and water rights.

Neda A. Zawahri is an assistant professor of political science at Cleveland State University. She has a Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. Neda’s professional interests include conflict and cooperation between adversaries, international institutions, environmental security, the political economy of developing nations, Middle East politics, and South Asian politics with a focus on India and Pakistan.