



Blanca Jiménez-Cisneros

Prof. Dr. Blanca Jiménez-Cisneros is an environmental Engineer (1980) with a Master Degree on Pollution Control and a Ph.D. degree (1985-Summa Cum laude) and a Post Doctoral stage (France, 1987) in Water and Waste Water treatment and re-use. Her field of expertise includes climate change, environmental and geological sciences and science policy.

She founded and led the Treatment and Re-Use group of the Institute of Engineering at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). She was a research engineer for Lyonnaise des Eaux (Paris, 1985), coordinator of the Environmental Engineering Department at UNAM (1988-1989) and coordinator of the Human and Institutional Capacity Building at the Mexican Institute of Water Technology.

She was a project leader at University of Pretoria (South Africa, 2005) on sanitation and food security. AIPCC she was the leading author for chapter 3 on water, coordinator of the session and chapter for the freshwater resources adaptation vulnerability and fishes. Since 2012, Dra. Blanca Jiménez is the director of the Division of Water Sciences at UNESCO and the Secretary of the International Hydrological Programme from United Nations System.

She has 450 publications in scientific journals. She published 13 books in English, 25 books in Spanish, 62 chapters in international books and 25 chapters in Mexican books.

She has 7 patents in technology, and she developed 127 projects on freshwater resources for sustainable developments. Overall she developed 192 research projects in 35 years of professional activities. She has 8 International Awards and 19 Mexican awards. She shared the Nobel Peace Prize as part of the team writing the IV IPCC report on climate change (2007) and she was granted the Royal Order of the Polar Star presented by His Majesty Carl XVI Gustaf King of Sweden.



Ernesto González

Ernesto González graduated in Biology from the Universidad Central de Venezuela (UCV, 1987), having obtained his Doctor of Science degree in Ecology, UCV (1996). He has worked as a researcher at the Los Roques Scientific Foundation (FCLR, 1987 – 1990), conducting studies on phytoplankton primary production and physicochemical characterization of the waters in a coral reef system. He then worked as an Assistant Professor at the National Center for Improving Science Education (CENAMEC, 1990 – 1993), and soon became a Professor-Researcher at the Institute of Experimental Biology (IBE), Faculty of Sciences, at the Central University of Venezuela (UCV, 1993 – present), where he is currently a Professor. Since 1996, he is the Head of the Laboratory of Limnology and since July 2011 he has served as Director of the IBE.

His research interests are: the limnology of reservoirs, phytoplankton-zooplankton interactions and eutrophication of water bodies. With 85 presentations which include conferences in national and international meetings, he has conducted 19 Special Works of Graduation and two Doctoral Theses. Dr. González has participated and directed eight Research Projects, and has lectured in Lakes and Reservoirs Management Training Workshops in Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama.

Dr. González has published a book on Field Work in Aquatic Environments, Basic Education, edited by CENAMEC, and has 34 papers in national and international scientific journals, 14 technical reports and an article on the Internet. Currently he is the National Focal Point of Venezuela in the water program of the Inter-American Network of Academies of Sciences (IANAS).



Gabriel Roldán

Prof. Gabriel Roldán Perez is graduated in Biology and Chemistry by the University of Antioquia (Medellin) – Colombia.

His Ms.C. was at the Kansas State College, Emporia, Kansas 1970; his Ph.D. was obtained in the University des University des Landes Hessen, Kassel - Germany, 1980.

Prof. Roldán has extensive research in tropical freshwater ecosystems, especially lakes and reservoirs. His main specialty is in the field of bioindicators and in the use of macroinvertebrates to detect water quality impacts and pollution. He participated in 30 environmental projects in Colombia as advisor on limnological features and recovery of lakes and reservoirs. He developed several projects on environmental impact assessment of reservoirs. He received two scholarships to participate in international projects and conferences. He is an active member of the Academy of Sciences of Colombia. In the last 5 years he is actively engaged in the Water Committee of the Inter American Network of Academies of Sciences participating and organizing International Seminars and in Lectures all over the Americas.

He is promoting several courses on bioindicators and eutrophication in Central and South American countries and he is also engaged in joint activities with NASAC (Network of Africa Academies of Sciences) and its Water Committee. He received several awards in Colombia, and one award in the U.S.A. (contribution in Science Natural History Museum of Los Angeles, California) – 1991.

He published 15 books, 10 book chapters, 60 papers in international journals and 150 reports on eutrophication, water management, aquatic plants, limnology of reservoirs and biology of aquatic organisms.



José Galizia Tundisi

José Galizia Tundisi was born in 1938.. He is a retired Full Professor of the University of São Paulo, School of Engineering at São Carlos. He is a Member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences and of the Staff of the Ecology Institute “Excellence in Ecology” in Germany. He was a member of the Scientific Committee of ILEC (Japan, 1986-2006), the Executive Vice-President of the International Council for Science (ICSU, 1999-2000), and President of the National Research Council of Brazil (1995-1999). Currently he is the President of the International Institute of Ecology, São Carlos, and the Chairman of the IAP Water Committee since 2005, Coordinator of the UNESCO Latin-American Memorial Chair.

Tundisi’s main research activities are: Limnology of lakes and reservoirs, Water Resources Management, and Watershed Management. He worked as a consultant in 40 countries, and he is the co-chairman (with Prof. Blanca Jimenez) of the IANAS Water Programme. He has published 340 scientific papers and 34 books. He received Doctor Honoris Causa Degrees from the University of Southampton, U.K. in 1998 and from the from University of Engineering of Peru, in 2008, and the Brazilian Scientific Medal, Class Grand Cross, from the Brazilian government, in 1994.

Tundisi has also received the Gold Medal Augusto Ruschi, from the Brazilian Academy of Sciences; the Anisio Teixeira Prize, from the Ministry of Education of Brazil; and the Bouthros Galli Prize of the United Nations (1995). He was also awarded the Water Prize from the Conrado Wessel Foundation, in 2005, for Achievements in Science applied to Water Management.



Maciej Zalewski

Prof. Maciej Zalewski a biologist, is the promoter and the leader of a new development in environmental science and water management that is the ecohydrology.

Ecohydrology focuses on ecological processes occurring within the hydrological cycle and strives to utilize such processes for enhancing environmental sustainability. Another line of research using the same principle of Ecohydrology promotes the restoration of Water and ecosystem resources in urbanized spaces, for economic development, human health and quality of life improvement.

Prof. Zalewski was a member of the Task Force to formulate the Eighth Phase of the International Hydrological Programme (2013-2015). He is the Director of the International Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences – European Center for Ecohydrology Under the Auspices of UNESCO. He is also the Director of the Department of Applied Ecology University of Lodz; and the Director of the Center for Ecohydrological Studies University of Lodz. He was a Member of ILASA (International Institute for Applied Science Analysis) and International Center for Water Hazards and Risk Management in Japan.

He attended several international conferences as a keynote speaker and chairman of sessions and gave several lectures of ecohydrological principles at courses promoted by UNESCO, focusing specially on river basin management and impacts of climatic changes on watersheds and aquatic ecosystems.

He was coordinator of 12 international projects. He is chief editor of Ecohydrology and Hydrobiology, and member of editorial board of four International Journals. He published over 90 papers in International Journals, 30 book chapters in international books and several reports on water resources management.



Dr. Odete Rocha (PhD)

Professional Occupation: Full Professor at the Federal University of São Carlos, Center of Biological Sciences and Health, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology .

As a Lecturer teaching General Ecology and Biogeography for under graduate students of Biology and Materials Engineering Courses and Ecological Energetics, Ecology, Aquatic Toxicology and Freshwater Population Ecology at Post-Graduate Courses on Ecology and Natural Resources Sciences of Environmental Engineering at Federal University of São Carlos and University of São Paulo at São Carlos.

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Education: Biology Degree: 1972-1975- Federal University of São Carlos, São Carlos, SP. Master of Zoology, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil:1976 – 1978; Doctorate: PhD, Royal Holloway College, University of London, England; 1979-1983; Post-Doctorate at the University of California, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, San Diego, Ca, USA..

Research Areas: Ecology, Limnology, Ecotoxicology

Research Sub-areas: Freshwater Biodiversity; Aquatic Community and Population Ecology, Aquatic Ecotoxicology

Publications: Papers in scientific periodicals: 174 total (141 in peer-reviewed international journals); 6 books published/organized (as editor or co-editor); 55 book chapters.

Post Graduate Supervisions Concluded:

50 Doctorate and 40 Master (MSc.) supervisions concluded.

Other supervisions concluded: 36 Monographies for Undergraduate Course Conclusion; 24 Scientific Initiation Supervision.

Language Skills:

-- English Reading and Speaking fluently

-- Spanish Reading and Speaking fluently

Representation:

Member of the Scientific Committee for the Area of Ecology and Limnology at the National Research Council for Scientific and Technological Development (2011-2013; Committee President in the year 2012)

President of the Scientific Committee for the Area of Ecology at the Council for Improvement of Superior Education Personnel (1998-1999).



Ricardo Hirata

Ricardo Hirata is a Certified Geologist from UNESP, Brazil. He has a MSc from USP, Brazil, and a DSc also from USP, Brazil. He obtained his Post Doctorate from the University of Waterloo, Canada, in the field of hydrogeology.

He is currently a Professor at the University of São Paulo (USP), aside from being the Director of CEPAS (Groundwater Research Center, USP). Dr. Ricardo Hirata is a former member of the Groundwater Management Advisory Team of World Bank (GW-MATE), an adviser for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and UNESCO, and a member of the Hydro geologist Without Boarder Council in addition to being a 1B-Level Brazilian CNPq Research Fellow.

Dr. Hirata has 29 year of experience working intensively in many aspects of groundwater and water resources for private and government companies in more than 20 countries in areas that include, among others, groundwater contamination, groundwater resource development, water resource management and governance, and groundwater protection policy.

He as also a Chief Hydrogeologist for the São Paulo Geological Institute (Environmental Secretariat of São Paulo State) and for the Water and Energy Department (DAEE, Water Resource Secretariat). He was also a research associate at the Earth Science Department of the University of Waterloo (Canada), where he did his post-doctoral fellow. Dr. Hirata also served as a hydrogeologist for the World/Pan American Health Organization and was a Professor at the University of Costa Rica (CARAS Program: a Canadian Graduate Program for Central and South America).

Dr. Hirata has been a coordinator in a large number of research projects involving many national and international institutions, which have resulted in a significant number of trained high level students (MSc and DSc). He is also responsible for several publications, including some reference manuals for WHO/PAHO, World Bank and UNESCO.



Silvio Crestana

Silvio Crestana is a physicist with a Master's and Ph.D. from the Institute of Physics and Chemistry of São Carlos/USP. At the University of California, Davis, USA, He concluded his first post-doctoral in Soil Science and Environmental Sciences – USDA, in Beltsville, Maryland, EUA in Hidrology. As a Master's and Doctorate advisor, accredited by USP, He advised about 25 students.

He is a guest Professor and advisor of the Post Graduate program on Sciences of Environmental Engineering at the School of Engineering of São Carlos – USP, at the Center for Water Resources and Applied Ecology of the Department of Hydraulics and Sanitation. He teaches the subjects Impacts of Agricultural Activities on Earth and Water Resources, and Transport of Solutes in the Non-saturated Region of the Soil.

He was also a Member of the Steering Committee of the Agribusiness Sector Fundo of the Brazilian Ministry of S&T and of the Board of Directors of the National Fund for Scientific Technological Development (FNDCT). Since 2005, Silvio Crestana is Member of the Hassan II Academy of Science and Technology of Marocco.

Silvio Crestana was the Managing Director of Embrapa from January 2005 to July 2009, having worked as a researcher for the Company since 1984. He was the coordinator and the person responsible for the Pioneer implementation of Embrapa's Virtual Laboratory Abroad (Labex).

As a scientist, He became internationally renowned for his Pioneer work of introducing computed tomography in the Science of Soil. He is the author and co-author of more than 150 scientific papers, published in journals and presented in national and international congresses. He has also participated in numerous master's and doctorate evaluations in Brazil and abroad.

In 2010, Silvio Crestana was honored by the private sector, through the Union of Bioenergy Producers – UDOP, during the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of its foundation. He received the Agroenergy Medal, for his relevant contributions of its foundation. He received the Agroenergy Medal, for his relevant contributions to the development of the agroenergy sector. Also in 2010, he was awarded the title of Commander of the National Order of Scientific Merit, in the area of Agricultural Sciences, granted by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. He is a Member of the Agribusiness Superior Council of the Federation of Industries of the State of São Paulo – FIESP. He has published 54 scientific papers, 2 books, 18 book chapters and has 6 patents.



Virginia Ciminelli

Virginia S.T. Ciminelli is a Chemical Engineer trained at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil. She obtained her M.Sc at the same university, and then concluded her Ph.D in 1987 at Penn State, USA. She is currently a Professor of the Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering – UFMG, and had supervised 43 M.Sc. and Dr. Theses (concluded), and post-doctoral fellows.

She is a level 1^a research for the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq). She is also a Member of Brazilian Academy of Sciences, and was admitted to the National Order of Scientific Merit. She is the Chair of the National Institute of Science and Technology on Minerals, Water and Biodiversity, and leads partnerships with a large number of institutions in Brazil and abroad.

Dr. Virginia Ciminelli has over 200 publications. She has received the GEMS Alumni Achievement Award in addition to the GEMS Earth and Mineral Science Alumni Achievement Award from the Pennsylvania State University in 2004. She was also granted the 2008 FUNDEP Award (Foundation for the Development of Research/Federal University of Minas Gerais), for her significant contributions to the progress of Science, Literature and Arts for leading the development of the field. She operates in the development and implementation of hydrometallurgical processes and treatment of wastewater. Emphasis is given to modeling thermodynamic, kinetic and molecular reactions, dissolution, sorption, precipitation, in particular, phenomena associated with the oxidation of sulfides.

Her research interests are on the development and application of processes involving sorption and precipitation to water and effluent treatment in mining and metallurgy; Hydrometallurgy of precious and base metals; Thermodynamic and Kinetics Modeling; Syntheses and Modification of Materials for the Immobilization of Inorganic Species; Molecular Modeling of Sorption and Precipitation Processes applied to Treatment of water and mining Effluents; Development of protocols for the analyses of trace element in environmental samples; Oxidation of sulfides; and Acid Mine Drainages: diagnosis and treatment.



Katherine Vammen

PhD with specialty in biochemistry and microbiology of water from the University of Salzburg, Austria.

Presently Dean of the Faculty of Science, Technology and Environment of the University of Central America (UCA), Managua, Nicaragua.

Specialist in Quality and Management of Water Resources. Her research now focuses on Water and Forests, Water Quality and Water, Energy and Food Security.

Co-Chair of Water Program of the Inter-American Network of Academies of Sciences (IANAS).

Recent publications: Co-editor of Urban Water Challenges in the Americas, A Perspective from the Academies of Science, IANAS and UNESCO Publication, 2015.

Recent Publications on such topics as:

“Water and Energy”, “Eutrophication of Lake Nicaragua”, “Water Resources and Climate Change in Nicaragua”, “Water for the Americas: Challenges and Opportunities-Supply and Sanitation: How are the Unserved to be Served- Serving the Rural Unserved”.

National Focal Point for Nicaragua in IANAS, Water Program.

Founder and former coordinator of the Central American Regional Master’s Program in Water Sciences.

Anterior Deputy Director of the Center for Research in Aquatic Resources (Centro para la Investigación en Recursos Acuáticos-CIRA/UNAN)



Wilson Tadeu Lopes da Silva

Graduate in Chemistry by the University of São Paulo (1991). He obtained MSc in 1995 and DSc in 2000 (Analytical Chemistry), both at University of São Paulo, searching for characterization and application of soil organic matter (humic substances) by chemical and spectroscopical methods. During the years 1997 and 1998, he was fellow researcher at University of Nantes, France. He was assistant professor at Federal University of Uberlândia (2000-2002). Afterwards (2002), he becomes researcher at Embrapa Instrumentation Center. He has experience with emphasis on Analytical and Environmental Chemistry, and Sanitation Engineering as well. The main subjects are: soil and water chemistry, soil organic matter, rural basic sanitation, development and application of biologic systems for sewage treatment, water recycling in agriculture, treatment and safe use of residues in agriculture and, analytical spectroscopic methods devoted to environmental problems.

He coordinated several projects, which conciliate Agriculture, Residues and Environment aspects. He has 40 publications in scientific journal with referee, 16 technical publications. He is editor of 5 books and author of 10 book chapters. He obtained a patent, regarding to a process of disinfection and humification of sewage sludge for use in agriculture. He is an effective member of the International Humic Substances Society (IHSS). Since March/2015, he has the position of Head of Research and Development at Embrapa Instrumentation.



Donato Seiji Abe

Donato Seiji Abe graduated in Biological Sciences from the University of São Paulo (USP), with a Master Degree in Biological Oceanography from USP, and a DSc in Environmental Engineering from USP. He developed part of his doctorate at the University of Shinshu, Japan, where he carried out studies related to microbial ecology. He developed a postdoctoral project at the Federal University of São Carlos in the field of limnology and microbial ecology. He is a Senior Researcher at the International Institute of Ecology in São Carlos since 2000, where he participated in several research and consulting projects and coordinated research projects related to limnology, water quality, eutrophication, aquatic macrophytes control and greenhouse gas emissions in hydropower reservoirs.

He participated in the UNESCO/IHA Research Project as a collaborator to the preparation of greenhouse gas emissions guidelines for freshwater reservoirs. He is an adviser to the State of São Paulo Foundation for Research Support (FAPESP) for evaluation of research projects.

He has published 27 papers in scientific journals, 17 book chapters and 1 book on limnology and greenhouse gas emissions in aquatic systems.