
Preface

The conference **Karst Groundwater Contamination and Public Health** took place in the Hilton Condado Plaza Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on January 27–30, 2016. The 76 attendees were 45 professionals, 26 students, and 5 family members. The attendees came from seven countries: Austria, Denmark, France, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, and the United States. There were 30 oral presentations, 20 poster presentations, and 12 short, “snap” talks. The presenters were invited to contribute written versions of their presentations to this volume.

The conference was organized by the Karst Waters Institute, and the program and an initial set of abstracts were published as KWI Special Publication 19, available on-line at the KWI website. Special Publication 19 also contains information on the mid-conference field trip and the guidebook for the two-day field trip that followed the conference.

This volume presents the written contributions. In order to preserve a complete record of the conference, all presentations are included except for some of the snap talks. They are of three varieties:

Full papers: These were reviewed by the editors and, if necessary, by outside reviewers. Authors were asked to revise their papers as needed.

Extended Abstracts: Authors who did not wish to publish their complete work in the Proceedings were invited to prepare a summary as an extended abstract. These extended abstracts, essentially short papers, contain figures and references and should be considered citable sources of information. The extended abstracts were reviewed by the editors and modified as necessary.

Additional Papers: A few authors who did not wish to contribute to the Proceedings are represented by their original program abstracts. These have been combined into a single document that appears in the Summary section of the book.

In addition to the formal papers, the book contains introductory chapters that set forth the expectations of the conference and its interdisciplinary framework. The conference closed with an open discussion of needed research directions and opportunities. A summary of this discussion appears in the final chapter of the book.

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