



**Pre-Forum
Workshop
April 27, 2005**

**Forum
April 28–29, 2005**

The Lowell Center for Sustainable Production develops, studies, and promotes environmentally sound systems of production, healthy work environments, and economically viable work organizations.

You must pre-register for the Forum. You can do so on-line at www.chemicalspolicy.org/framing.php

For further information, please contact Melissa Coffin at 978-934-2997 or MelissaCoffin@uml.edu.

Framing a Future Chemicals Policy

A Working Forum for Stakeholders

COLONNADE HOTEL, BOSTON, MA, APRIL 28–29, 2005

Pre-Registration Notice – SPACE IS LIMITED.

Please Pre-Register by February 22, 2005

The Lowell Center for Sustainable Production at the University of Massachusetts is organizing a Working Forum on Framing a Future Chemicals Policy, taking place on April 28–29, 2005 in Boston.

Recent developments in international and European chemicals policy, including the European Commission's Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals (or REACH) proposal, provide a unique opportunity to examine the North American experience in promoting sustainable chemistry. There is increasing awareness that current chemicals policies have important limitations in ensuring adequate supply chain information on chemical use and toxicity as well as providing incentives and support for the innovation and application of safer chemicals.

The United States for many years has been a leader in chemicals management. However, U.S. chemicals policy is aging. While many of the problems of chemicals management remain as they did 25 years ago, such as the lack of data on chemicals, newer information on chemicals, such as knowledge on low dose effects and vulnerable subpopulations (and the challenges of acting on the basis of uncertain knowledge. Additionally, new solutions such as pollution prevention and green chemistry have, for the most part, not formed a central part of policy. Over the past several years, there has been a vigorous multi-stakeholder dialogue in Europe focused on designing a new chemicals policy, as well as an international dialogue about the Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions, and the United Nation's Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management. Similar discussions are also happening at the state level in the United States, in Canada, and in the context of the NAFTA Commission on Environmental Cooperation.

We believe that a multi-stakeholder dialogue focused on the elements of a sustainable, integrated chemicals policy is a necessary first step for reform in the US. The overall goal of the Forum is to engage a diverse multi-stakeholder dialogue on solutions to address current limitations in chemicals management efforts as well as opportunities for policies and tools that can be instituted at the firm, state, national and international levels to promote innovation in green chemistry and sustainable product design. Consistent with the goals of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Forum is designed to encourage creative thinking on the design of a future chemicals economy that solves the problems of the past while stimulating innovation for safer chemicals and products that are of high quality and affordable. We need to focus on the legacy we want to leave to future generations.



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In achieving these goals we hope to:

1. **Encourage solutions-oriented dialogue and long-term networking** of a diverse group of industry, government, non-profit, and academic experts from the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Europe regarding the defining elements of a sustainable and integrated chemicals policy.
2. **Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of current chemicals policy** efforts in Europe and North America.
3. **Advance understanding on model government and business policies** for integrated chemicals management

The Forum will begin with an opening reception on the evening of Wednesday, April 27, 2005. With some 150 experts, the Forum will be a working meeting, consisting primarily of small group discussions and plenaries. Keynote presentations by government, academic, and industrial leaders will provide context and motivation for the discussions. The Forum will include working groups organized around eight general goals that have been identified by a special Forum Organizing Committee that met in Washington DC in January (See list of Organizing Committee Members below). Topics include: processes that reward innovation and motivate green chemistry, processes that encourage information flows and access to information throughout supply chains, and processes that harmonize North American and global chemicals initiatives.

Pre-Forum Workshop – Overview of European, U.S. and International Chemicals Policies, April 27, 2005, 1pm–4pm

The Forum will be preceded by a half day workshop designed to introduce participants to the European Commission's Registration Evaluation and Authorization (REACH) proposal and the various United Nations conventions, their implications for US businesses, and the current status of the legislation. The meeting will also introduce state and federal level chemicals policy initiatives in the United States, Canada, and emerging international strategies on chemicals management.

FORUM PRE-REGISTRATION

The Forum has been designed around the idea that a meaningful discussion of sustainable chemicals management is dependent on a diverse set of stakeholder groups fairly evenly represented. While registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, an effort will be made

to balance the number of attendees from each stakeholder group. To achieve this balance, interested participants should send in a pre-registration form by February 22, 2004. Those pre-registering within each stakeholder group will be sent a full registration form. Later pre-registrations may be held until the numbers of registrations are more balanced in other groups.

The Forum will take place at the Colonnade Hotel in Boston, MA, and a block of rooms has been reserved at the hotel at discount rates. Additional information about the hotel, fee payments, and other logistical information will be sent with registration materials at the end of February.

To attend the Forum, you must pre-register. You can do so on-line at www.chemicalspolicy.org/fframing.php. For further information, please contact Melissa Coffin at 978-934-2997 or Melissa.Coffin@uml.edu.

FORUM ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- Alexandra McPhersen** – Clean Production Action
Charlotte Brody – Health Care Without Harm
Tom Swarr – United Technologies Corp.
Wendy Porter – Interface Fabrics
Joel Tickner – Lowell Center for Sustainable Production
Steve Johnson – Boots PLC
Robert Donkers – Delegation of the European Commission
Bruce Jennings – California Senate
David Lutes – Massachusetts Executive Office
of Environmental Affairs
Ken Geiser – Lowell Center for Sustainable Production
Terry Goldberg – Northeast Waste Management Officials Assoc.
Cheri Peele – Washington State Department of Ecology
Daryl Ditz – Center for International Environmental Law
Richard Denison – Environmental Defense
John Arseneau – Environment Canada
Lauren Heine – Green Blue
Cindy Bethell – Office of Senator Frank Lautenberg
Paul Anastas – Green Chemistry Inst., American Chemical Society
Andrea Larson – Darden School of Business Univ. of Virginia
Michael Wilson – University of California Berkeley
Estefania Blount – Trade Union Institute for Work,
Environment and Health, Comisiones Obreras Trade
Union Confederation, Spain
Michael Warhurst – Lowell Center for Sustainable Production



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