

Science Committee Biographies



Scott Davis, Ph.D. -- Dr. Davis is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Epidemiology in the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at the University of Washington. He is also a Full Member in the Program in Epidemiology of the Division of Public Health Sciences at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Dr. Davis's primary research focus is radiation epidemiology. For more than a decade he has directed two major research activities investigating the effects of ionizing radiation on human health. He has a B.S. in Biology and Chemistry from the University of New Mexico, a M.S. in Community Health from the University of Rochester, and a Ph.D. in Epidemiology from the University of Washington. He served as a Research Associate in Epidemiology at the Radiation Effects Research Foundation in Hiroshima, Japan, and was a Special Fellow of the Leukemia Society of America.



John Dement, Ph.D., CIH -- Dr. Dement is Professor and epidemiologist with Duke University Medical Center's Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. In addition to teaching and conducting research, Dr. Dement is also the Director of Duke University's Epidemiology Consulting Services. Dr. Dement studies workers exposed to asbestos, radiation, solvents and other potentially dangerous substances. He has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University, a M.S. in Industrial Hygiene from the Harvard University School of Public Health, and a Ph.D. in Industrial Hygiene/Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has been a Certified Industrial Hygienist (by American Board of Industrial Hygiene) since 1976. From 1971 through 1992 Dr. Dement worked for the U.S. Public Health Service, including as the former deputy director for lung disease research at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).



Karl Kelsey, M.D. -- Dr. Kelsey is Professor of Cancer Biology and Environmental Health in the Department of Genomics and Complex Diseases at the Harvard University School of Public Health. A specialist in occupational and environmental diseases, Dr. Kelsey has served on numerous occupational health panels, and is widely published. He is the current director of the Harvard Superfund Basic Research Program and directs the Harvard School of Public Health Training program in Environmental Health with funding from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. A major focus of Dr. Kelsey's research is understanding individual susceptibility to exposure-related cancers. He received his M.D. from the University of Minnesota and a Master of Occupational Health from the Harvard University School of Public Health.



John Peters, M.D. -- Dr. Peters is the Hastings Professor and Director of the Division of Occupational and Environmental Health in the Department of Preventive Medicine of the University of Southern California (USC) Keck School of Medicine. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Epidemiology in the UCLA School of Public Health. Dr. Peters has studied the health effects of air pollution, magnetic fields, asbestos, vinyl chloride and other chemicals in occupational settings and the environment in general. He also directs a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) supported Environmental Health Sciences Center based at USC that focuses on understanding how host factors and environmental exposures interact to produce human disease. Dr. Peters has a M.D. from the University of Utah as well as a Master of Public Health and a Doctor of Science in environmental medicine from the Harvard School of Public Health.



Jack Siemiatycki, Ph.D. – Dr. Siemiatycki is a Professor and Canada Research Chair in Environmental Epidemiology and Population Health at the University of Montreal. He also holds an adjunct appointment at McGill University, and is Associate Director of the Research Center of the University of Montreal Hospital Center. Dr. Siemiatycki received a Masters degree in statistics and a Ph.D. in epidemiology, both from McGill University. His research has included the development of epidemiologic methodology and especially the investigation of environmental/occupational causes of cancer. He has studied the possible carcinogenic effects of many occupational exposures and many exposures outside the workplace, such as smoking, environmental asbestos and cellular telephone use. He has served on many expert panels both in Canada and internationally, and is a past-President of the Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and currently a Director of the National Cancer Institute of Canada.



Laura Welch, M.D. – Dr. Welch is an adjunct Professor at George Washington University's School of Public Health & Health Services where she is Director of the Occupational and Environmental Medicine Program. Dr. Welch is also the Medical Director of the AFL-CIO's Center to Protect Workers' Rights, a research institute devoted to improving health and safety in the construction industry. She is a board certified physician in both Occupational and Environmental Medicine and Internal Medicine, having earned a M.D. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Her research has examined asbestos related disease, occupational asthma, work related musculoskeletal disorders, and employee wellness. Since 1987 Dr. Welch has been the medical advisor to the Sheet Metal Occupational Health Institute Trust, a joint labor-management organization within the sheet metal industry established to provide medical examinations for sheet metal workers exposed to asbestos and other respiratory hazards.