



ORD's Office of Science Policy Regional Science Liaisons (RSLs)

EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) Regional Science Program links ORD's research program with EPA's regional offices. Part of the program, managed by ORD's Office of Science Policy (OSP), involves scientists from each EPA regional office—the 10 Regional Science Liaisons (RSLs) to ORD—as well as from EPA Headquarters. The RSLs emphasize the building of networks and partnerships among regional and ORD scientists, and the generation and effective transfer of near- and long-term ORD research results on both intra- and inter-regional science issues.

The ORD Regional Science Liaisons focus on four key activities:

- Supporting regional participation in ORD research planning and Agency decision making.
- Facilitating the communication of ORD science to the regions.
- Managing RARE, RM and RRP Programs.
- Planning and conducting Regional Science Topic Workshops.

ORD Research Planning

In cooperation with the National Regional Science Council, RSLs support the Regions' Research Coordination Team (RCT) representatives, who provide regional input to the planning of ORD's research budget. RSLs assist in the identification and presentation of high-priority, cross-regional research needs to the appropriate RCT; provide input in the planning of Progress Reviews and scientist-to-scientist meetings; and recommend regional representatives for Science to Achieve Results (STAR) grant relevancy review teams.

Communicating ORD Science

The RSLs play an important role in communicating the results of ORD research to regional scientists and managers. They also are involved in other activities focused on transferring ORD science from the laboratories and centers to regions, states, and tribes. Some of these projects have included: (1) development of the Pesticides Information Management Pilot for the regions; (2) development of a training course in basic molecular biology concepts; and (3) coordination of cross-regional seminars on pharmaceuticals in the environment. The RSLs also sponsor science activities in conjunction with their local Regional Science Councils (e.g., ORD visits, guest lecture series, presentations by ORD scientists and STAR grant recipients, and training courses/expos).

RARE, RM and RRP Programs

The Regional Applied Research Effort (RARE) and Regional Methods (RM) Programs are mechanisms used by ORD to respond to high-priority, near-term research and methods development needs of EPA's regional offices. Annually, ORD makes funds available to each EPA region to develop research topics that are submitted to specific ORD laboratories or centers as extramural research proposals. The Regional Research Partnership (RRP) Program provides short-term training opportunities (3-6 months) for regional staff to work directly with ORD scientists at ORD laboratories and centers. Joint participation by ORD researchers and regional staff throughout these Programs enhances communication and coordination between Agency scientists and the ultimate users of their research in the EPA regional offices. The RSLs facilitate the implementation of these Programs in the regions, and they communicate the results of the Programs' research to regional scientists and managers.

Regional Science Topic Workshops

OSP sponsors the Regional Science Topic Workshop series, which is intended to: (1) establish a better cross-Agency understanding of the science applicable to specific region-selected human health and/or ecological topics; and (2) develop a network of EPA scientists who will continue to exchange information on these science topics as the Agency moves forward in research, risk management, and education programs.

Each year, the regions select high-priority science issues for workshops. These workshops address the science issues of greatest importance to the regions on the selected topic area. Each workshop is planned and conducted by a team of regional, ORD, and other interested EPA scientists, led by a regional chairperson and facilitated by one or more of the RSLs. Participants maintain the cross-Agency science networks they establish at the workshops through planned post-workshop projects and activities, such as the identification of collaborative research opportunities; creation of information-sharing mechanisms, such as interactive Web sites; and development of science fact sheets for regional use.

During the past years, workshops have been held on asthma, nonindigenous species, pesticides, endocrine disruptors, emerging pathogens, aquatic life criteria, critical ecosystems, air toxics, and cumulative risk. Other topics addressed include environmental justice and tribal issues, emerging pollutants, and environmental indicators.

Regional Science Liaisons

Region 1

Robert Hillger
Telephone: (617) 918-1071
(TWTh) (617) 918-8660

Region 5

David Macarus
Telephone: (312) 353-5814

Region 9

Bobbye Smith
Telephone: (415) 972-3735

Region 2

Rollie Hemmett
Telephone: (732) 321-6755

Region 6

Mike Callahan
Telephone: (214) 665-2787

Region 10

Roseanne Lorenzana
Telephone: (206) 553-8002

Region 3

Ron Landy
Telephone: (410) 305-2757

Region 7

Brenda Groskinsky
Telephone: (913) 551-7188

OSP RSL Coordinator

Dick Garnas
Telephone: (202) 564-6785

Region 4

Tom Baugh
Telephone: (404) 562-8275

Region 8

Patti Tyler
Telephone: (303) 312-6081

ORD Lead Region Coordinator

Tai-Ming Chang, Region 3
Telephone: (215) 814-2761

Program Management

Mimi Dannel
Telephone: (202) 564-9944

**For more information on OSP's Regional Science Program,
visit the OSP Web Site listed below.**

www.epa.gov/osp