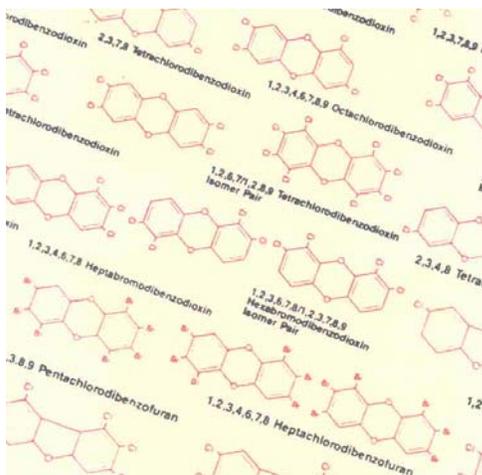


Dioxin '87: Seventh International Symposium on Chlorinated Dioxins and Related Compounds

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, October 4-9, 1987

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Introduction



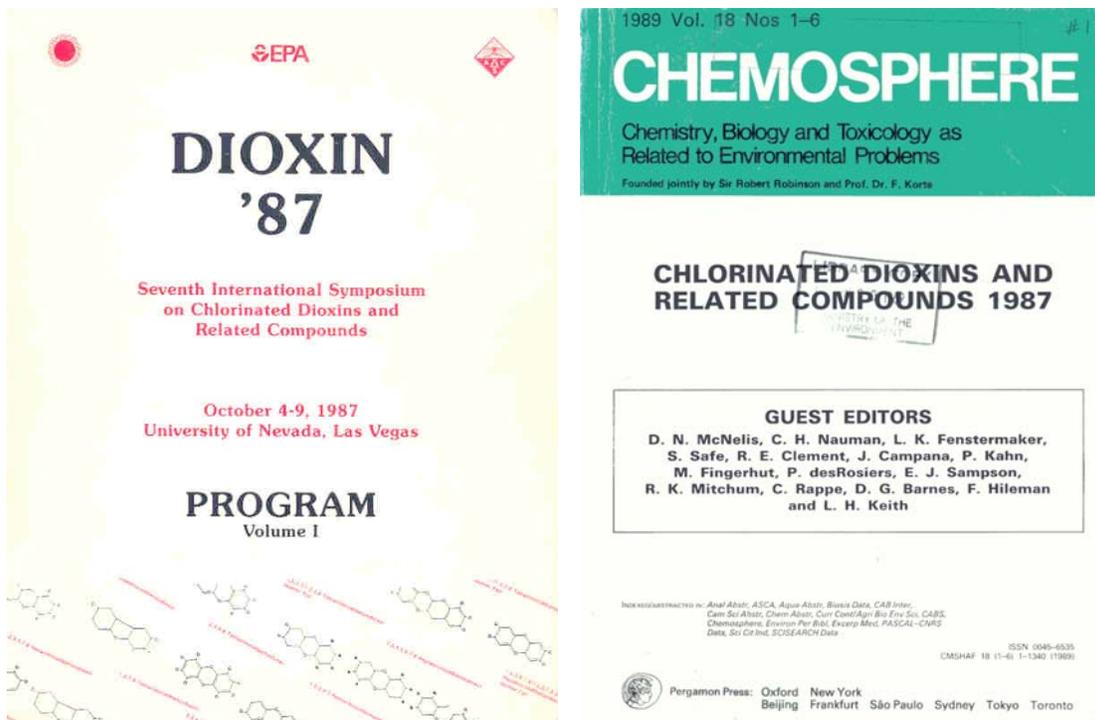
The 7th Symposium in this series was co-chaired by E.W. Bretthauer (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) and D.N. McNelis (University of Nevada, Las Vegas). General session themes were designed to fit into one of the main topic areas: Hazard Identification, Dose-response Assessment, Exposure Assessment, Risk Characterization, and Risk Management. As the sessions were all held in various lecture halls on the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) campus costs were held very low, and this Symposium was one of the most cost-effective in the series. The early registration fee of 260 (\$ U.S.), even in 1987, was low. And this fee included the conference banquet and Chemosphere Proceedings. Close to 600 delegates attended Dioxin '87.

Technical Program

A total of 248 papers were scheduled for presentation at Dioxin '87. The active program clearly showed that there was increasing awareness and interest in the environmental and human issues related to the chlorinated dioxins and related compounds. In addition to the papers submitted to the conference from experts world-wide, a number of special presentations were arranged in the opening and closing sessions to summarize the state of knowledge in each of several topical areas. The opening lectures outlined the state of knowledge in the area, while the closing lectures summarized what was learned at Dioxin '87.

A unique feature of the conference was the manner in which posters were scheduled. Posters at each of four scheduled sessions were displayed for 24 hours during which time the authors were available for discussion at each of two 1-hour periods, one scheduled for an afternoon and the second for the morning of the next day. This raised the profile of poster presenters and gave delegates two distinct viewing periods to view each poster of interest.

The Proceedings were published in *Chemosphere* 18, 1-6 (1989). The special *Chemosphere* issue was 1339 pages long, and represented some 176 individual papers including several Rapporteur summaries.



Social Program

In addition to the traditional Sunday evening mixer, a Western Barbeque theme for the conference banquet was held Wednesday evening. Many delegates took advantage of their proximity to local areas of interest such as Red Rock Canyon, Hoover Dam, Valley of Fire, and Mt. Charleston. Although a bit further away, some delegates also took the opportunity to tour the Grand Canyon either just before, or after Dioxin '87.

Summary

Others who have organized symposia in this series understand the large effort required to make things work. However, the end product Proceedings, the ability to share research results with colleagues from across the Globe, and the intensive discussions and networking with colleagues during Dioxin '87 make the effort worthwhile.

The organizers of Dioxin '87 thank the many researchers, committee members, and volunteers who worked so hard to make this meeting a success!