

## 2003 News Archive

### December 2003

- **PURC in Alabama**  
**Harvard Electricity Policy Group Thirty-Third Plenary Session**  
PURC Director of Energy Studies Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz delivered the presentation, “The Impact of Price Caps and Rate Freezes on Service Quality” in Point Clear.  
**Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**
- **PURC Research Associates**  
Luis Gutierrez was named a finalist in a research competition sponsored by the Global Development Network for his paper, “Regulatory Governance in the Latin American Telecommunications Sector.”

Maria Luisa Corton’s article on “Benchmarking in the Latin American Water Sector: the Case of Peru” appeared in *Utilities Policy*. The article was based on Ms. Corton’s Master’s Thesis in Economics at UF.

**Find more information about Research Associates [here](#).**  
**Search for the publications [here](#).**

- **[itFlorida](#) interns**  
PURC identified two student interns for itFlorida, Mark Scanlan and Kandyce King. They assisted in the preparation of a report for the Florida Legislature on the digital divide and infrastructure, business development, e-government, education and workforce, and regional initiatives.  
**Find more information about partnerships [here](#).**

### November 2003

- **PURC in South Africa**  
Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz presented remotely, “Electricity Restructuring: A Short Review from Selected Countries” to the Minerals and Energy Education Training Institute of South Africa, Programme on Reform in the Electricity Industry.  
**Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**
- **PURC in Uruguay**  
Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz delivered the presentation, “An Overview of Electricity Restructuring and Regulation in the United States” at the Jornada sobre Regulacion del Sector Electrico Competitivo sponsored by the energy regulator (Unidad Reguladora de Servicios de Energia y Agua (URSEA) and Universidad de la Republica--Instituto de Ingenieria Electrica in Montevideo.  
**Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**
- **[Center for African Studies](#)**  
PURC helped sponsor the 2003 Claude Ake Scholar and PURC Director Dr. Sanford Berg served as a mentor for Ebrahim Harvey of Witwatersrand University during his stay at the University of Florida. Mr. Harvey’s research concerns the installation of pre-paid water meters in Soweto.  
**Find more information about partnerships [here](#).**

### October 2003

- **Florida outreach**  
Dr. Sanford Berg delivered the presentation, “International Infrastructure: Neglected at Our Peril” to the UF International Studies Association in Gainesville.  
**Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**

- **PURC in South Africa**  
**Frontiers in Managing Reform and Regulation in the Electricity Industry**  
Participants studied electricity reform around the world, rate-of-return regulation and price cap regulation.  
Find more information about specialized courses [here](#).

#### September 2003

- **PURC in Trinidad and Tobago**  
**First Annual [Organization of Caribbean Utility Regulators](#) Conference**  
Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz delivered the presentation, “Cross-Subsidies through Fixed Charges: Minimizing Electricity Consumption Distortions” and “Considerations for the Design of Restructured Electricity Markets and Institutions” in Port-of-Spain.  
Search for the publications [here](#).
- **Florida outreach**  
Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz delivered the presentation, “After the Blackout: Reporting on Energy Reliability” during an expert panel discussion on the Northeast blackout sponsored by the Foundation for American Communications (FACS) at the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) Conference in Tampa.  
Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).
- **PURC in Australia**  
**Conference on Global Developments in Water Industry Performance Benchmarking**  
Dr. Sanford Berg presented a paper via video “The Art and Science of Benchmarking” to an audience of infrastructure professionals in Perth.  
Search for the publication [here](#).

#### August 2003

- **Media source**  
Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz was interviewed by National Public Radio (NPR) regarding the August 14, 2003 blackout, the subsequent US-Canada Blackout Report, and pending reliability policies contemplated by FERC, as well as by the *Washington Post* and *Philadelphia Enquirer* regarding the potential connection between the slow pace of power restoration following severe fall storms in the Mid-Atlantic region and electricity deregulation/restructuring.
- **PURC Visiting Scholars**  
PURC welcomed Soo Bock Lee, a professor in social science at Ajou University in Suwon, Korea as a PURC Visiting Scholar. His areas of specialization are industrial organization, government regulation, and the Korean economy. PURC also welcomed Sang-Kyu Lee, a post-doctoral researcher in telecommunications, who has been a project manager at the Electronics & Telecommunication Research Institute in Korea since 1997. In Korea, he helped attract funding for a project titled, “A Study on the Impact of FCC Policy on the Digital Broadcasting Industry in the U.S.A.”  
Find more information about Visiting Scholars [here](#).
- **PURC in Mexico**  
**Quantum/PURC Public Utility Regulation Seminar: Tariff Design and Incentives**  
Participants studied the importance of designing rates for efficient price signals, avoiding adversarial stances during regulatory proceedings, and implementing win-win incentive plans.  
Find the course calendar and more information [here](#).

#### July 2003

- **PURC in Massachusetts**  
**International Industrial Organization Society Conference**

Dr. Mark Jamison presented the paper, "Quality-Improving Portfolio Effects in European Union Competition Policy" in Boston.

Search for the publication [here](#).

- **PURC in Colorado**

**Western Economic Association International**

Dr. Mark Jamison presented the paper, "Quality-Improving Portfolio Effects in European Union Competition Policy" in Denver.

Search for the publication [here](#).

#### June 2003

- **14th PURC/World Bank International Training Program on Utility Regulation and Strategy**

54 regulatory professionals from 33 nations participated in the program.

Find the course calendar and more information [here](#).

- **PURC in Namibia**

**First Annual Energy Regulatory Conference for the Global Energy Network**

Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz was a member of the NARUC team that co-hosted this event in Windhoek. He moderated two sessions, the first on training to be jointly offered to countries in the SADC region in 2004 by PURC and NARUC and the second on cross border trade and regional market development.

Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).

- **PURC in Namibia**

**Southern African Forum for Energy Regulators, Utilities, and Stakeholders**

Dr. Sotkiewicz delivered a keynote presentation titled, "The Energy Regulator, Utilities, and Investment in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Region." He emphasized overarching regulatory principles that regulators should follow, investor expectations and how these correspond to regulatory principles, and the importance of regional trading opportunities in generation.

Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).

#### May 2003

- **PURC in Sweden**

**Workshop on Public Benefits and Power Sector Reform**

Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz delivered a presentation in Stockholm titled "PURC's International Capacity Building for Regulators and Observations on the Needs for the Future."

Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).

- **PURC in Hungary**

Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz delivered a presentation in Budapest titled "Regulatory Evolution, Market Design, and the Unit Commitment Problem" to an audience at the Central European University. He outlined lessons learned about electricity market design experience in the United States.

Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).

- **PURC in Hungary**

**2nd Annual Energy Regulators Regional Association Conference on Energy Regulation and Investment**

PURC co-sponsored this conference with NARUC and USAID, in Budapest at which Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz met with regulators from the region and representatives from NARUC and USAID.

Find more information under the 2003 collaborations [here](#).

- **PURC in Botswana**

As part of the [NetTel@Africa](#) initiative begun in 2001, Dr. Mark Jamison presented curriculum and simulation models on incentive regulation developed in collaboration with the University of South Africa (UNISA).

**Find more information under 2001 collaborations [here](#).**

- **Degree conferred**

Paul Sotkiewicz earned a doctorate degree from the University of Florida. The title of his dissertation was, "The Impact of State-Level Public Utility Commission Regulation on the Market for Sulfur Dioxide Allowances, Compliance Costs, and the Distribution of Emissions."

**Search for his dissertation [here](#).**

#### April 2003

- **University of Florida award**

Dr. Sanford Berg was selected by the MBA on-campus class to receive The Florida MBA Class of 2003 Core Teacher of the Year Award. He also received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the Internet (two-year) MA Class of 2003.

**Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**

- **PURC in Massachusetts**

**International Industrial Organization Society Conference**

Dr. Mark Jamison delivered the presentation, "Quality-Improving Portfolio Effects in European Union Competition Policy," in Boston.

**Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**

- **Florida outreach**

**[4th Annual Legal and Policy Issues of the Americas Conference](#)**

Dr. Mark Jamison addressed issues of common interest in utility regulatory agencies and the judiciary; i.e., issues of independence, transparency, and legitimacy at the event in Gainesville.

- **PURC in Texas**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Global Wireless Internet Forum**

Dr. Mark Jamison moderated the panel, "Global Mobility Solutions: Continuous Evolution of Next-Gen Mobile Technologies, Interfaces, Licensing and Services" at the North Texas Global Telecommunications Association event which PURC co-sponsored along with the UF [Center for International Business Education and Research](#) (CIBER). PURC also co-sponsored the association's annual conference on telecommunications in Latin America.

**Find more information about 2003 partnerships [here](#).**

#### March 2003

- **PURC in Colorado**

**[International Symposium on Advanced Radio Technologies](#)**

Dr. Mark Jamison presented the paper, Mobile Paradigm in Developing Countries in Boulder  
**Search for the publication [here](#).**

- **PURC in Colombia**

**1st Colombian Congress of Public Service Regulation**

Dr. Sanford Berg presented the keynote address to an audience in Medellin via video conferencing, "Principles and Performance on Network Industries: Lessons from the Global Experience."

**Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**

#### February 2003

- **Florida outreach**

Dr. Mark Jamison delivered the presentation, "Regulating Telecommunications in the U.S." before the Florida House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Senate Committee on Communications and Public Utilities in Tallahassee.

**Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**

- **Florida outreach**

- **International Conference on Co-utilization of Domestic Fuels**

- Dr. Sanford Berg presented the paper, "R&D Incentives and Co-Utilization: Electricity Market Performance" in Gainesville.

- **Search for the publication [here](#).**

- **PURC in South Africa**

- **[South African Trade and Industries Policy Strategies \(TIPS\) Conference on Privatisation, Competition, and Regulation](#)**

- Dr. Sotkiewicz delivered the presentation titled, "Trends and Issues in Electricity Regulation: Observations from Around the World," in Johannesburg on international electricity regulation experiences and served as a discussant on sessions regarding regulation and competition and water regulation. The conference featured leading academics and government policymakers from South Africa and around the world who are developing a research agenda on electricity, telecommunications, water, and transportation policy.

- **Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**

- **PURC in Washington, D.C.**

- **American Economic Association Annual Meeting**

- Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz delivered the presentation, "Impact of State-Level PUC Regulation on Compliance Costs Associated with the Market for SO<sub>2</sub> Allowances," before the Transportation and Public Utility Group.

- **Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**

- **30th Annual PURC Conference in Gainesville, FL**

- **The Role of Regulation in Changing Markets**

- David Sappington, the University of Florida Lanzillotti-McKethan Eminent Scholar and director of the UF Public Policy Research Center, was the recipient of the 2003 PURC Distinguished Service Award. James A. Ward was the recipient of the 2003 Gerald L. Gunter Distinguished Service Award.

- **Find speakers' presentations and more information [here](#).**

- **PURC Visiting Scholar**

- PURC welcomed Valeriy Tsaplin as a Visiting Scholar. He is Deputy Head of the Financial Department and Head of the Division of Economic Analysis and Forecasting for the National Electricity Regulatory Commission of Ukraine. He co-authored a paper with Sanford Berg and Chen Lin, "Regulation of State-Owned and Privatized Utilities: Ukraine Electricity Distribution Company Performance."

- **Search for the publications [here](#).**

- **Find more information about Visiting Scholars [here](#).**

- **[National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners](#)**

- Dr. Mark Jamison moderated a workshop for NARUC's Triennial Review Implementation Process Task Force concerning the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

- **Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).**

- **PURC Receives World Bank Award at the 13th PURC/World Bank International Training Program**

The World Bank presented a Certificate of Recognition to PURC for “outstanding support and partnership provided to Supporting Infrastructure Regulators Team for the year 2002.” Sixty-five regulatory professionals from 34 nations participated in the program.

**Find the course calendar and more information [here](#).**