

2004 News Archive

December 2004

- **PURC in Washington, D.C.**
Formulating a Research Agenda for Communications Policy
Participants of this workshop, sponsored by PURC, the Public Policy Research Center at UF, and the Quello Center at Michigan State, engaged in discussion comparing outstanding issues at the FCC with scholarly research. On the topic of media issues, localism in media mergers was discussed, including whether this is a relevant issue in the current economic and social environment.
Find more information under 2004 collaborations [here](#).
- **UF Water Institute**
PURC Director of Water Studies Dr. Sanford Berg was asked to serve on the launch team for the new [Water Institute](#) at the University of Florida. This program will bring together a number of centers that address issues associated with water resource allocation (including hydrology and resource management), environmental impacts, utility operations, and engineering/policy training. PURC sponsor, Progress Energy, provided seed money for this UF initiative.
- **Transportation and Public Utilities Group**
PURC Director Dr. Mark Jamison completed his term as TPUG president of the American Economic Association (AEA). He also led two sessions on utility regulation at the AEA meetings in 2004.
- **PURC in Washington, D.C.**
PURC/USAID Infrastructure Policy and Regulation Course
USAID professionals learned key lessons about international infrastructure policy that included an emphasis on strategic thinking and understanding.
Find more information about the course [here](#).
- **PURC in Miami**
5th AES IU Regulatory Working Group Workshop
PURC Director of Energy Studies Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz delivered two presentations to staff from El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Argentina, Brazil, Ukraine, Cameroon, and the United States: one presentation summarized the properties of regulatory mechanisms used in transmission and distribution, and the second discussed the impacts of different transmission tariff methodologies on distribution companies and generating companies.
Find more presentations on the faculty page [here](#).

November 2004

- **University of Florida award**
Dr. Sanford Berg received a University of Florida Distinguished International Educator Award. The award recognizes his outstanding achievement in advancing the internationalization of the UF campus and curriculum through teaching, research, and service that promotes a global perspective.
Find more information on the faculty page [here](#).
- **PURC in Uruguay**
Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz, delivered the presentation, "An Overview of the Organization, Properties, and Issues of Markets for Tradable Permits for Emissions of Air Pollutants" at the Instituto de Ingeniería Eléctrica, Universidad de la República del Uruguay, in Montevideo.

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

- **PURC in Jamaica**

- **[Organisation of Caribbean Utility Regulators Second Annual Meeting](#)**

- Dr. Mark Jamison presented the paper, "Survival Guide for the Independent Regulator."

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

- **PURC in Tennessee**

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

- Dr. Mark Jamison delivered a presentation in Nashville to the NARUC International Relations Committee, with discussion centered on the reasons private investment in infrastructure have declined since 1997 and the implications for regulation.

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

October 2004

- **PURC in China**



International Conference on Industrial Economics and Regulation: Theory and Practice

Dr. Sanford Berg served as a keynote speaker at this conference at Shandong University (Jinan). His presentation was titled "International Infrastructure: Neglected at our Peril." More than 20 speakers examined emerging issues in monopoly and competition. Conference Organizer, Dr. Liangchun Yu, had been a Fulbright Scholar at PURC in 2001-2002. In addition, Dr. Berg delivered an evening lecture to 100 graduate students on "Benchmarking and Regulatory Incentives for an Economy in Transition." In Beijing, he led a one-day workshop at the Chinese Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERC) attended by commission analysts. The afternoon session included presentations by two professors from Chinese universities. Dr. Berg also attended sessions at the International Water Association, WATERMAX 2004, the Sixth International Symposium on Systems Analysis & Integration Assessment, organized by Tsinghua University.

- **Florida Outreach**

- Dr. Sanford Berg served as a panelist for a discussion of America's role in the world at an event sponsored by the [UF International Center](#), the United Nations (UN) Assn. of Gainesville, the

[Transnational and Global Studies Center](#), and the UN Foundation. The topic was “Energy Sources and Environmental Challenges.”

- **PURC in Virginia**
Telecommunications Policy Research Conference
PURC Research Associates Rich Gentry and Mircea Marcu presented papers during the conference at the Georgia Mason University School of Law in Arlington.
Search for the publications [here](#).
- **PURC in Thailand**
This program, designed for 100 World Bank staff serving in East Asia and South Asia focused on the Bank's renewal of its loan program for developing country infrastructure and examined topics such as project selection, financial instruments, the use of output targets, methods for measuring results, and working with governments below the national level.
Find the course calendar and more information [here](#).
- **PURC Visiting Scholar**
PURC welcomed Mr. Silver Mugisha, a Principal Engineer (M&E Areas) at the National Water & Sewerage Company (NWSC) in Kampala, Uganda as a Visiting Scholar. He worked with Dr. Sanford Berg, UF Economics grad students, and PURC staff on research for his dissertation during his stay. He also addressed a gathering of faculty and graduate students at the UF Center for African Studies.
Search for the publication [here](#).
Find more Visiting Scholars [here](#).

September 2004

- **PURC Fall Roundtable in Tallahassee FL**
Find presentations and more information [here](#).

August 2004

- **PURC in South Africa**
Foundations Course in Utility Regulation
PURC Director of Energy Studies Paul Sotkiewicz developed materials for the course that focused on energy sector reform, rate-of-return regulation, price cap and other incentive regulation mechanisms, and rate design and pricing.
Find more information about the course [here](#).
- **PURC in Jamaica**
MRP Telecommunications Seminar
Participants learned about role of the regulator in settling interconnection disputes and alternative dispute resolution processes.
Find the course calendar and more information [here](#).
Find more Research Associates [here](#).

June 2004

- **16th PURC/World Bank International Training Program on Utility Regulation and Strategy**
72 regulatory professionals participated in the program.
Find the course calendar and more information [here](#).

May 2004

- **Competition in Networking: Wireless and Wireline in London**

PURC presented this conference in collaboration with [PPRC](#), [CIBER](#), and [London Business School](#).

Find more information under 2004 collaborations [here](#).

- **New PURC Director**

On May 1, Dr. Mark A. Jamison accepted the position of PURC director. Dr. Jamison was PURC's executive director and remains its director of Telecommunications Studies. Former Director Dr. Sanford V. Berg turned over the daily operation of the center to devote more time to developing a program on water policy studies. Dr. Berg was named director of Water Studies and remains the Florida Public Utilities Professor.

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

- **PURC in Argentina**

PURC graduate student Guillermo Sabbioni delivered a presentation to the members of a benchmarking working group for ADERASA (Asociacion de Entes Regulatoros de Agua Potable y Saneamiento de las Americas). [Summary](#); [Presentation](#) in Spanish.

Find more information about Research Associates [here](#).

April 2004

- **Florida outreach**

Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz presented "A Review of Cost-Benefit Tests for Energy Conservation, Efficiency, and Demand-side Management" to the Gainesville City Commission.

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

- **PURC Visiting Scholar**

PURC welcomed J. Mario Vignolo, an engineer affiliated with the energy regulator in Uruguay (URSEA), and a graduate of the PURC/World Bank Training Program. He has been working on a series of papers with Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz that addresses capital cost recovery, the impact of intermittent distributed resources and the potential savings from reducing the need for upgrades.

Find more Visiting Scholars [here](#).

Search for the publications [here](#).

- **PURC in Uganda**

Uganda Communications Commission Training in Pricing and Interconnection in Telecommunications

Participants studied the use of financial and operational data to address issues the commission faces. Sessions included analysis of interconnection costs and negotiations, establishing price cap regulation and interconnection in telecommunications.

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

March 2004

- **Florida outreach**

Dr. Sanford Berg delivered the presentation "Should South Florida Pay for Transporting Water from North Florida? Options and Considerations" at the [Reubin O' D. Askew Institute](#) Urban Forum Breakfast in Gainesville, FL.

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

- **PURC in Nigeria**

Economics of Competition and Universal Access workshop

Nigerian Communications Commission staff applied economic theories taught in this workshop to analyze the competitiveness of the Nigerian telecommunications markets, interconnection disputes and Internet growth.

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

February 2004

- **31st Annual PURC Conference in Gainesville, FL**

When is Competition the Regulator?

Elizabeth E. Bailey, the John C. Hower Professor of Business and Public Policy at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, was the recipient of the 2005 PURC Distinguished Service Award. Tim Devlin was the recipient of the 2004 Gerald L. Gunter Distinguished Service Award.

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

January 2004

- **Dissertation award**

Dr. Paul Sotkiewicz received the 2003 American Economic Association's Transportation and Public Utilities Group Ph.D. Utilities Dissertation Award.

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

Search for the dissertation [here](#).

- **15th PURC/World Bank International Training Program on Utility Regulation and Strategy**

78 regulatory professionals from 44 nations participated in the program.

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