Meet the Authors

Blanca Antizar-Ladislao is a lecturer in environmental engineering at the University of Edinburgh. She received her PhD from the Technion Institute of Technology (Israel), MSc and BSc from Coventry University (UK) and BEng from Universidad de Cantabria (Spain). She was a research associate at Imperial College London (UK), Marie Curie research fellow at the Universidad Catolica Portuguesa (Portugal), Senior Ramon y Cajal researcher at the Universidad de Cantabria (Spain) and lecturer at University College London (UK). Much of her research has involved the integration and optimization of sustainable, environmental (bio-)remediation technologies in groundwater, soil, sediments and wastes. She is also interested in the assessment of the carbon and water footprints of current environmental technologies.

John R. Healey is a senior lecturer in forest ecology at Bangor University (UK) and co-director of the Centre for Integrated Research in the Rural Environment, jointly with Aberystwyth University. A major focus of his research is ecosystem restoration of forests, heathlands and grasslands. A major objective of his work is to improve environmental sustainability through increasing the efficiency of carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling and waste utilization, while enhancing other ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation.

Mark E. Hodson is a professor of environmental geochemistry and mineralogy at the University of Reading. He is also director of the University's newly formed Soil Research Center. His current research interests cover three interrelated strands: mineral weathering, remediation of contaminated land, and earthworm ecology (particularly the secretion of calcite by earthworms and their evolution and tolerance mechanisms at metal-contaminated sites). He is a recipient of the Mineralogical Society's Max Hey Medal and the European Association of Geochemistry's Houtermans Medal. He is on the editorial boards of *Environmental Pollution* and *Applied Geochemistry*.

David L. Jones holds a Professorial Chair in Soil and Environmental Science at Bangor University (UK). He focuses his research on understanding below-ground processes, with a specific interest in nutrients and human pathogen behavior in soil–plant–microbial systems. Current applications of his work include the use of wastes for land restoration, implementation of strategies for controlling *E. coli* O157 in agricultural systems, carbon sequestration in grasslands and ways to improve nutrient-use efficiency in cropping systems. He has published more than 180 scientific journal articles and has advised government on their waste and climate change policies.

Erik Meers graduated with an MSc in biotechnology, followed by an MSc in environmental technology, both at Ghent University (Belgium). In 2005 he completed his PhD research in the field of phytoremediation. He has been active as a coordinator in both academic and industrial research. Since 2009 he has been a visiting professor at Ghent University, while also being the technology development manager for the Belgian branch of a multinational renewable energy producer (Eneco). He has founded two technology-driven spin-offs (Innova Manure and Innova Energy) and has published over 50 peer-reviewed papers, 50 conference proceedings and 30 symposia contributions.

Nicole C. Mueller holds an MSc in environmental sciences from ETH Zürich and is currently working as a researcher in the Environmental Risk Assessment and Management Group at Empa (Switzerland). She is involved in the FP7 projects NanoImpactNet and ObservatoryNano and in 2008 published (with B. Nowack) the first exposure modeling of engineered nanoparticles in the environment.

Bernd Nowack is the leader of the Environmental Risk Assessment and Management group at Empa, the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Testing and Research. He obtained an MSc and a PhD in environmental sciences from ETH Zürich. His general interest is the study of anthropogenic pollutants in the environment and their interactions with biota. His research combines the development of analytical techniques, laboratory investigations, field studies, and modeling. Current projects deal with engineered nanomaterials: qualitative risk assessment, quantitative exposure modeling, the release of nanomaterials from products, and the behavior and effects of such materials in the environment.

Peggy A. O'Day is a professor and founding faculty member at the University of California, Merced. She received her BS from the University of California, Davis, her MS from Cornell University, and her PhD from Stanford University. She was a faculty member of Arizona State University for nine years before joining UC Merced in 2003. Her research currently deals with field and laboratory studies of environmental contaminants and remediation, in particular arsenic and mercury, and the application of spectroscopic and microscopic methods to determine speciation, distribution, availability, and reactivity of metal and metalloid contaminants in natural systems.

Filip M. G. Tack is a professor in the biogeochemistry of trace elements at Ghent University, Belgium. He is director of the Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry and Applied Ecochemistry, and is currently chairman of the Centre of Environmental Sanitation, which coordinates studies related to the environment at Ghent University. His current research involves the study of the occurrence, chemical speciation and behavior of trace metals in riparian zones and dredged sediment disposal sites, treatment of waste water using plant-based systems, and management/remediation of widespread, moderate metal contamination using phytoremediation and phytostabilisation.

Dimitri Vlassopoulos is a senior associate with Anchor QEA, LLC, in Portland, Oregon, where he practices environmental and water resources consulting, specializing in the development of in situ remediation strategies for contaminated waters, soils, and sediment. His areas of interest include biogeochemical reactive transport modeling, applied isotope hydrology and geochemistry, and environmental forensics. He received a BS in geology from Concordia University, MS degrees from McGill University (geological sciences) and the California Institute of Technology (geochemistry), and a PhD in environmental sciences from the University of Virginia.