

This year, the Association of Ecosystem Research Centers (AERC) will be holding our Annual Congressional Briefing and Research Symposium in Washington DC on Thursday October 18th with our Annual Business Meeting the following morning on October 19th, Friday. The AERC Board is very excited about the Research Symposium this year. Our 2012 theme is ***The Role of Ecosystem Science in National Security***, which builds on the Symposium last year that dealt with Ecosystem Services and their Importance to Humans. This event immediately follows the Annual NEON members meeting on October 17th. This year, members of each organization have been invited to attend both organizations' meetings. Below is the agenda for the AERC Research Symposium, and the NEON agenda can be found at <http://www.neoninc.org/content/2012-fifth-annual-neon-inc-membership-meeting> . AERC Members are requested to go to this web site <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AERC-RSVP> to RSVP for both the NEON and the AERC Meetings. Thank you in advance, and the Board of Directors look forward to seeing you in Washington, DC this October..

The 2012 AERC Congressional Briefing and Research Symposium

“The Role of Ecosystem Science in National Security”

Briefing Location & Time: Room 2325 Rayburn Office Building (By Invitation Only), 9:30-11:00

Research Symposium Location & Time: The Ripley Theater at the Ripley Center, Smithsonian; **Lunch at 12:00**, Symposium begins at 1:00

Date: October 18th, 2012 (Thursday)

Speakers:

Topic The Role of Ecosystem Science to National Security.....Speaker to be announced

Topic: The Role of Ecosystem Science in Water Security.....Dr. Paolo D’Odorico; Ernest H. Ern
Professor of Environmental Sciences; University of Virginia

Topic: The Role of Ecosystem Science in Food Security.....Dr. Molly Brown; NASA Research
Scientist & SAI Sr. Research Scientist

Topic: The Role of Ecosystem Science in Energy Security.....Dr. Avner Vengosh; Professor, Nicholas
School of the Environment, Duke University, North Carolina

Topic: The Role of Ecosystem Science in Disease Ecology and Security.....Dr. Richard Ostfeld; Senior
Scientist, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies; Millbrook, New York

Following the Symposium, AERC will host a reception for the Members and Speakers

Also, the 2012 AERC Annual Meeting is scheduled for the next day October 19th at the Ripley Center as well. On behalf of the Board of Directors we invite member representatives to attend!!

Important: Please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AERC-RSVP> to RSVP your attendance to the many different AERC events in October.