



Civil and Environmental Engineering Professor to Give Keynote Address at Industry Conference

TAMPA, Fla. – James R. Mihelcic, professor of civil and environmental engineering, has been named the keynote speaker of the AAES/AIDIS/WEF breakfast at the Water Environment Federation’s Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC) to be held Sept. 24-28 in New Orleans. WEFTEC is the largest conference of its kind in North America and offers water quality professionals unparalleled access to cutting-edge research and technologies as well as serving as a forum for domestic and international business opportunities.



Dr. Mihelcic, professor and the Samuel L. and Julia M. Flom Endowed Chair in Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of South Florida, is an international leader for incorporating principles of sustainable development into engineering education, research, and practice. In his presentation, he will take the audience on a trip around the world telling unique stories and demonstrating how water quality professionals work with local households and communities to develop sustainable infrastructures that provide clean water, improved sanitation, and hygiene. He will also provide insight on unique geographic and cultural aspects of a project, all to achieve a vision of a world where all people have access to sanitation, potable water, and safe indoor air; where all children are able to learn in well-built classrooms; and where families no longer suffer from disease, starvation, and poverty.

Dr. Mihelcic is a Board Certified Environmental Engineering Member and the author of four environmental engineering textbooks, several which have been translated into Spanish and Portuguese. He currently directs over \$6 million of research projects that include the EPA funded National Research Center for Reinventing Aging Infrastructure for Nutrient Management and an NSF Partnership for International Research & Education (PIRE) project that studies geographically and culturally appropriate technologies to recover water, energy, and nutrients from wastewater.

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The University of South Florida is a high-impact, global research university dedicated to student success. USF is a Top 25 research university among public institutions nationwide in total research expenditures, according to the National Science Foundation. Serving over 48,000 students, the USF System has an annual budget of \$1.6 billion and an annual economic impact of \$4.4 billion.