



## INSIDE RFF

### RFF Welcomes New Director for the Center for Risk Management

**Michael R. Taylor** has been appointed the new director of RFF's Center for Risk Management. Taylor, a lawyer who has held senior policy positions at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), succeeds J. Clarence (Terry) Davies, who retired in May.

In addition to guiding the Center's future activities, Taylor will serve as a senior fellow and develop a research program on policy and institutional issues that affect the success of the global food and agricultural system. He will focus on food security, food safety and nutrition, environmental protection, and conservation of natural resources.

"I am delighted to be joining RFF, especially now, when its rigorous research and objective analytical work are needed more than ever to address pressing public issues," Taylor said.

Prior to coming to RFF Taylor was Vice President for Public Policy at Monsanto and

a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of King & Spalding. In addition, he served as Administrator of the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service from 1994 to 1996, as FDA Deputy Commissioner for Policy from 1991 to 1994, and as Executive Assistant to the FDA Commissioner in 1980. He is an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown University Law Center, and received his law degree from the University of Virginia.

"Mike's extensive experience in public health regulation as well as with aspects of the policy process—both as a practitioner and scholar—will make him a tremendous asset," RFF President Paul Portney said.

Analysts at the Center for Risk Management carry out a multi-disciplinary program of research, policy analysis, and outreach related to human health and the environment. ☞

### New RFF Fellow

**Sandra A. Hoffmann** has recently joined the staff of RFF's Center for Risk Management. She comes to RFF from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where she held a joint faculty position in the La Follette Institute of Public Affairs and the Department of Urban and Regional Planning.

At RFF, Hoffmann will work on both the law and economics of environmental management and agriculturally related environmental policy issues. In the law and economics area, she plans to focus on the interaction of regulation and private suits for environmental damages as environmental management tools.

Hoffmann received a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, and a J.D. from the University of Maryland Law School. She also has an M.A. from the University of Wisconsin,



*Sandra A. Hoffmann*

Madison's Department of Agricultural Economics. Before pursuing her Ph.D., she practiced law with the Washington, D. C., office of McKenna, Conner, and Cuneo, specializing in regulations governing pesticide and chemical manufacturing. ☞

### RFF Visiting Scholar Receives Honorary Degree

The University of St. Gallen (Switzerland) has awarded RFF Visiting Scholar **Wallace E. Oates** an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Economics to honor his achievements in the development of economic theory, particularly as it pertains to the environment and the theory of fiscal federalism.

The text of the honorary degree reads: "In his research, he has always aimed to contribute not only to academic debate—which he has influenced decisively—but also to political practice. He has thus demonstrated in exemplary fashion how theoretical research of high quality can aid the solution of practical problems." ☞

SYLVIA JOHNSON PHOTOGRAPHY



*Michael R. Taylor*

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### Fellowship and Internship Award Winners

RFF awards annual internships in honor of Walter O. Spofford Jr. As founder of RFF's China Program, Spofford helped to establish the Beijing Environment and Development Institute. His seminal work with Chinese officials contributed to the formation of environmental standards compatible with sustainable economic growth.

To continue work in this important arena, RFF has awarded **Xuehua Zuang** with this year's Walter O. Spofford Jr., Memorial Internship Award. At RFF Xuehua will work with researchers on various aspects of environmental protection in China, including issues regarding institutional development.

Xuehua is working towards her master's degree in geography, focusing on enforcement issues in China's environmental policies, in the Center for Geography and Environmental Social Science at Western Washington University.

In honor of Gilbert F. White, retired chairman of the RFF board of directors, distinguished geographer, and statesman of science, one resident fellowship has been awarded to **Allan Mazur**, political scientist and professor at the Maxwell School at Syracuse University.

Mazur will join RFF in the fall to analyze how the media, scientists, and the public have communicated and responded to risk over the past couple of decades. He plans to analyze several public warnings that were raised during the 1950s and 1960s about possible environmental and technical hazards to determine hallmarks that might distinguish whether the warnings were real hazards or false alarms.

Allan received his B.S. degree in physics from the Illinois Institute of Technology,

his M.S. in engineering (astrodynamics) from the University of California, Los Angeles, and his Ph.D. in sociology from Johns Hopkins University.

RFF awards fellowships every year in support of doctoral dissertation research on issues related to the environment, natural resources, and energy in honor of Joseph F. Fisher, RFF president from 1959 to 1974. The fellowships are intended to be the principal support for graduate students in the final year of their dissertation research. Congratulations to the following recipients:

**Paul Ferraro**, currently attending Cornell University in the Department of Agricultural, Resource, and Managerial Economics, is assessing the potential of conservation performance payments to transform the way in which environmental assets are conserved globally.

At Yale University's Department of Forestry and Environmental Studies, **Aarti Gupta** is examining national and transnational governance regimes for the safe use of biotechnology in agriculture.


**Tanya A. Heikkila**, from the School of Public Administration and Policy at the University of Arizona, seeks to explain the development and implementation of the coordinated use of ground and surface water supplies in Arizona, California, and Colorado.

**Nathaniel Keohane** has been studying the effect of SO<sub>2</sub> trading on technological change in pollution control at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Currently attending the University of Michigan within the Department of Political Science, **Kristin Kuntz-Duriseti**'s research attempts to frame the relationship between economic growth and potential climate damages.

**Monica Nevius**, from the University of Wisconsin, Madison's Department of Sociology is researching sociological factors that might determine certain patterns of energy use, such as family size and wealth.

Studying at Duke University's Department of Economics, **Randy Walsh** is analyzing the relationship between private and public open space and private residential demand for land, and the implications of different open space policies on land price.

**Karl Wunderlich**, from the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado in Boulder, is examining the effectiveness of local land trusts in protecting key parcels of land in the face of urban sprawl and habitat loss. 

Save the Date—  
October 11, 2000



**Resources for the Future  
12th Annual Fall Council Meeting**

**Environmental Constraints on  
Electricity Generation and the Role  
of Natural Gas**

**Washington, D.C.**

*For more information, please contact Russell Ray at 202-328-5154 or ray@rff.org*