Carnegie Mellon’s David A. Dzombak To Chair Prestigious New National Research Committee

PITTSBURGH—Carnegie Mellon University’s David A. Dzombak has been named chair of a new National Research Council (NRC) Committee, which will provide advice to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on scientific, engineering and water resource issues.

“I look forward to working with an experienced group of scientists and engineers assembled by the National Research Council and with the leaders of the Corps of Engineers on the complex water resource challenges facing the nation,” said Dzombak, the Walter J. Blenko Sr. Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Carnegie Mellon and faculty director of the Steinbrenner Institute for Environmental Education and Research.

Dzombak said the committee will develop a series of reports to help the Army Corps of Engineers anticipate and prepare for emerging water resource challenges. In addition to working with the Corps, the committee will work with experts and representatives from other federal agencies, including U.S. congressional staffers, state governments and the private sector.

“We are also charged with serving as a forum for occasional workshops on issues ranging from flood risk management to hydroecosystems restoration and water management implications of climate change,” Dzombak said.

For more than two decades, Dzombak has conducted leading-edge research in the areas of aquatic chemistry, water quality engineering, abandoned mine drainage remediation, river and watershed restoration and contaminated site remediation.

He also has contributed to the expertise and professional service at the local, state and national levels. He currently serves as a member of the Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board and chair of the SAB Environmental Engineering Committee. He chaired the NRC’s Committee on the Mississippi River and Clean Water Act, and currently serves on the NRC Committee on Clean Water Act—more—
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Implementation Across the Mississippi River Basin. He is an associate editor of the journal
Environmental Science and Technology.

Dzombak has received numerous professional honors and accolades. He was elected to the
National Academy of Engineering in 2008 and was named a fellow of the American Society of Civil
Engineers in 2002. He is a recipient of the Excellence in Review Award from Environmental Science and
Technology, the Professional Research Award from the Pennsylvania Water Environment Association,
the Jack Edward McKee Medal from the Water Environment Federation, the Aldo Leopold Leadership
Program Fellowship from the David and Lucille Packard Foundation, the Walter L. Huber Civil
Engineering Research Prize from the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Harrison Prescott Eddy
Medal from the Water Environment Federation and a National Science Foundation Presidential Young
Investigator Award.

Dzombak earned his Ph.D. in civil and environmental engineering from the Massachusetts
Institute of Technology in 1986. He received both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in civil and
environmental engineering from Carnegie Mellon in 1980. He also has a bachelor’s degree in
mathematics from Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa., where he was enrolled in a 3-2 liberal
arts/engineering program. He is a registered professional engineer in Pennsylvania and a diplomate of the
American Academy of Environmental Engineers.

About Carnegie Mellon: Carnegie Mellon (www.cmu.edu) is a private, internationally ranked research
university with programs in areas ranging from science, technology and business, to public policy, the
humanities and the fine arts. More than 11,000 students in the university’s seven schools and colleges
benefit from a small student-to-faculty ratio and an education characterized by its focus on creating and
implementing solutions for real problems, interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation. A global
university, Carnegie Mellon’s main campus in the United States is in Pittsburgh, Pa. It has campuses in
California’s Silicon Valley and Qatar, and programs in Asia, Australia and Europe. The university is in
the midst of a $1 billion fundraising campaign, titled “Inspire Innovation: The Campaign for Carnegie
Mellon University,” which aims to build its endowment, support faculty, students and innovative
research, and enhance the physical campus with equipment and facility improvements.