

Nora Savage, PhD, Environmental Engineer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research & Development

Nora obtained her bachelors degree in Chemical Engineering in 1992 from Prairie View A&M University, in Prairie View, Texas. She received two Masters Degrees (in Environmental Engineering and Environmental Science) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in Madison, Wisconsin in 1995, and a doctoral degree in Environmental Science from the same institution in 2000. She was employed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in the Air Monitoring Division while attending graduate school. In addition, she worked as a mentor/counselor for both high school and undergraduate students through involvement in various educational programs at UW-Madison, including serving as a Counselor for the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program. Upon completion of her doctorate, she obtained a one-year post-doctoral research associate position at Howard University, in Washington DC, where she taught a senior-level Civil Engineering class and worked on various educational initiatives in the graduate school.

Her current position is that of environmental engineer at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Washington, DC in the Office of Research and Development. Her focus areas include nanotechnology, pollution prevention, and life cycle approaches for emerging technologies. She serves as co-lead for the EPA's Office of Research and Development Nanotechnology Research Team, which is developing a focused nanomaterial Research Strategy (NRS) for the Agency. Her primary responsibility in this role involves creating opportunities to enable the EPA to continue to protect human health and the environment as nanotechnology and other novel technologies emerge and evolve. Specific goals of this Team include: developing a focused, prioritized research strategy; coordinating an in-house research plan and developing an extramural research plan that meet current and future Agency policy and regulatory needs; and coordinating Agency research priorities with other agencies to ensure critical research gaps are met and unnecessary duplication is avoided. The NRS will undergo external peer review in April 2008.

She is one of the Agency representatives on the Nanoscale Science, Engineering and Technology subcommittee of the National Science and Technology Council that implements the activities and strategies of the National Nanotechnology Initiative. Other activities include serving as the Vice Chair and Chair of a Technical Coordinating Committee in the Air & Waste Management Association and involvement in various other professional and scientific organizations. She has also authored and co-authored several articles on nanotechnology in leading journals, including the Journal of Nanoparticle Research and Toxicological Sciences.