This year will mark the second joint meeting of GPLC and OTARG at the University of Oklahoma Biological Station. The meeting in 2002 was a tremendous success with students and academic and professional researchers from over 20 educational, state, and federal institutions.

This year’s meeting promises to be an even greater gathering of regional aquatic scientists, with plans for great plenary and technical sessions covering a variety of topics relevant to aquatic systems in the Great Plains.

OTARG strives to be of service to the next generation of regional experts - our graduate students. This year we have organized a special career-focused half-day expert panel session in which students can learn what to expect as they prepare for and enter the job market in science.

Lodging ($26.30/night) and meals ($25.50/day) will be available at the Biological Station. A registration fee of $50 (excluding students) includes costs associated with meeting packets, coffee breaks, and evening socials. Come network with aquatic scientists from throughout the region.

Website for registration and abstract submission: 
http://www.ou.edu/uobs/OTARGregistration.htm

All registration materials and payment should be received by 5PM (CST), Friday, 12 September, 2008

Student financial assistance available - see webpage for details
For more information, please contact Dave Hambright, (dhambright@ou.edu)

Career Workshop (Thursday 1PM)
Do you know your career prospects? How will you prepare an application dossier (for academic as well as agency positions)? How will you handle an interview? Are you ready to negotiate a job offer? Do you know what to expect after you get a job? After tenure?

Come hear our panel and ask questions!

Topics covered include:
- origin & expectations of academic positions (Kelly Damphousse, Assoc. Dean, Coll. of Arts & Sci., Univ. Oklahoma);
- non-academic opportunities (Jeff Boxrucker, Asst. Chief of Fisheries, Oklahoma Dept. Wildlife Conservation);
- success with non-academic jobs (Matt Mauck, Regional Supervisor, Oklahoma Dept. Wildlife Conservation);
- preparation of an application dossier (Raelynn Deaton, Asst. Prof., Sam Houston Univ.);
- the application screening process (Dan Roelke, Assoc. Prof., Texas A&M Univ.);
- the job interview process (Chad Hargrave, Asst. Prof., Sam Houston Univ.);
- negotiation of a job offer (Thad Scott, Asst. Prof., Univ. Arkansas);
- promotion & tenure (Val Smith, Professor, Univ. Kansas);

Other senior and junior faculty at the meeting will also be part of the panel discussion.

Plenary Lectures (Friday and Saturday)
  Eutrophication of aquatic ecosystems: Where do we go from here?
- Walter Dodds, Division of Biology, Kansas State University
  Ecology of Prairie Streams

Technical Presentations (Friday and Saturday)
Lectures and posters on any topic concerning aquatic sciences (please submit abstracts through the registration web page)

Social Events (Evenings)
In addition to great colleagues, cool beverages, basketball, volleyball, and horseshoes, our steering committee is planning several other recreational activities on the shores of beautiful Lake Texoma, including live music by Texoma’s own Cheap Diesel.