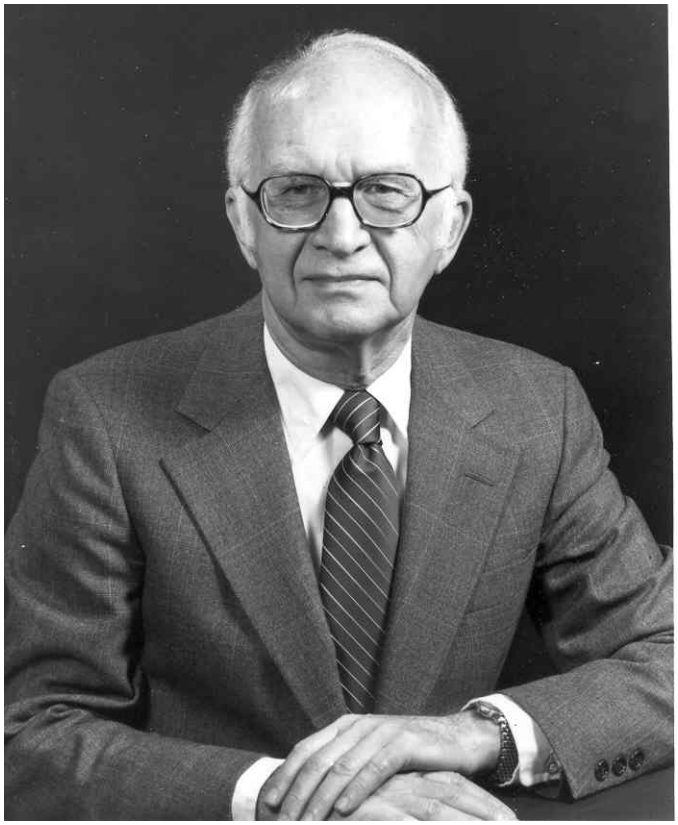
Kindsvater Symposium

On April 24, over 100 participants gathered at Georgia Tech for the first annual Carl E. Kindsvater Environmental and Water Resources Symposium and Distinguished Lecture. The event was organized by the Environmental Technical Group (ETG) of the Georgia section of ASCE, the Georgia Water Reources Institute (GWRI), the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the U. S. Geological Survey. The symposium is named in honor of Professor Carl E. Kindsvater (1913-2002) who had a distinguished career at Georgia Tech from 1945-1972. Professor Kindsvater began his career in the area of hydraulic engineering and then moved into the field of water-resources engineering and planning in a multidisciplinary academic setting. Professor Kindsvater built the hydraulics laboratory in the old CE Building and created the graduate program in hydraulics and water resources at Georgia Tech. In addition, he initiated and led the Georgia Water Resources Institute from its infancy into a viable research entity that continues today according to the principles that he established. He was the winner of numerous ASCE awards including the Collingwood Prize, the Norman Medal (twice), the Rickey Medal, and the Julian Hinds Award. Professor Kindsvater also served as President of the Georgia section of ASCE, and Director of the District 10 ASCE Board.



Professor Carl E. Kindsvater (1913-2002)

The symposium was opened by welcoming remarks from Dean Don Giddens, Dr. Aris Georgakakos, Director of GWRI, and Dr. Jim Wallace, who served as symposium moderator representing the ETG of ASCE. In the afternoon session, participants enjoyed the rare treat of listening to speakers whose careers spanned more than three decades as directors of environmental and water resources planning and regulation in the State of Georgia. Leonard Ledbetter, former Commissioner of Natural Resources, Harold Reheis, former Director of the Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and Dr. Carol Couch, current Director of EPD, discussed Georgia environmental and water resources issues from the early days of environmental regulation through the Georgia-Florida-Alabama "water wars" to the present-day efforts to develop a policy and planning framework for the State Water Plan that is currently under development. A panel discussion led by Dr. Jim Kundell of the University of Georgia highlighted regional water issues in Georgia. At the banquet, a brief synopsis of Professor Kindsvater's career was given by Dr. Terry Sturm of the School of CEE. In the evening session following the banquet, Dr. L. Douglas James, Program Officer of Hydrologic Sciences at the National Science Foundation (NSF), delivered the Kindsvater Distinguished Lecture. Dr. James gave his views on the future of resolving water resources and environmental issues from the perspective of NSF. Dr. James challenged the audience to follow in the footsteps of Professor Kindsvater to use objective analysis and new remote sensing and computational modeling tools to overcome water shortages, extreme hydrologic events, and pervasive environmental contamination to ensure adequate supplies of clean water for future generations.