MEMBER PROFILE

PIERRE-YVES CAUX

International Joint Commission

My work is to ensure decisions made at the International Joint Commission in my areas of responsibility are based on a credible and defensible science and engineering foundation. My team advises on several scientific and engineering projects throughout transboundary watersheds including the Great Lakes. The work focuses on transboundary water levels and flows and on water quality.



What inspired you to get into this work?

Many environmental issues that we are faced with today require problem solving that is multidisciplinary in nature. I enjoy making the linkages between the science and policy.

What body of knowledge would you like to build on?

This is a tough question for a scientist. Currently I feel climate change and adaptive management are worth building on as that knowledge will help us make the most sensible choices for the future of our waters, however daunting that may be.

If you could change one thing about the way science is done, what would it be?

We are fortunate in our organizations to conduct scientific investigations that our society believes in and are supported by our governments. Many will say more resources are needed to do a better job and in some cases they are correct. The scientific method we are utilizing is solid but needs to be more inclusive; that is, more of the population needs to take part in the science to empower them. For example, with all these apps being developed, think of the breadth of applicability these could have in water quantity and quality monitoring.

How long have you been an IAGLR member and why did you join?

I've been a member on and off for five years. I'm making an effort to stay connected despite my busy schedule.

Where will we find you at the conference?

I'm co-chairing a session with a colleague of mine, Jesse Feyen from NOAA, called *Hydraulics, Hydrology, and Human Interactions in the Lake Champlain/Richelieu River Basin*. The session is Wednesday afternoon in Seymour Union, Room 220.