

Dr. A. Alan Moghissi is currently President of the Institute for Regulatory Science (RSI), a non-profit organization dedicated to the principle that societal decisions must be based on best available scientific information (BAS). The activities of the Institute include research and science education at all levels—particularly the education of minorities.

Dr. Moghissi received his education at the University of Zurich, Switzerland and the Technical University of Karlsruhe in Germany, where he received a Doctorate degree in physical chemistry. Following his immigration to the U.S., Dr. Moghissi joined the U.S. Public Health Service, which, upon the formation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), became a part of that Agency. Dr. Moghissi served in a number of capacities at the EPA. He managed the Bioenvironmental/Radiological program at the National Environmental Research Center in Las Vegas, NV; and the Health and Environmental Risk Analysis Program in Washington, DC. He was also Principal Science Advisor for Radiation and Hazardous Materials at the EPA. Prior to his retirement from the EPA, Dr. Moghissi represented the Office of Research and Development (ORD) in a number of work groups responsible for drafting regulations. As the representative of the EPA's ORD, he emphasized the need for reliance upon peer-reviewed information as the basis for regulatory activities. Subsequent to his retirement from the EPA in 1985, Dr. Moghissi formed the Institute for Regulatory Science. The activities of RSI include research, development, training and similar activities related to environmental and occupational protection.

In 1989, Dr. Moghissi joined the University of Maryland at Baltimore as Assistant Vice President for Environmental Health and Safety, and a professor in the School of Medicine. In 1993, he was appointed Associate Vice President for Environmental Health at Temple University in Philadelphia. During his tenure at these institutions, the functions of RSI were transferred to these universities. In 1995, RSI was reconstituted as an independent institute with Dr. Moghissi as its President. He held other academic appointments as Visiting Professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Virginia, as well as affiliations with the University of Nevada and the Catholic University of America. His international activities included lectures at Hahn Meitner Institute in Berlin and Technical University in Munich—both in Germany; Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow; University of Puebla (UPAEB) in Mexico; and University of Kuwait.

Dr. Moghissi's extensive research experience has dealt with diverse subjects ranging from the measurement of pollutants to the assessment of the biological effects of environmental agents. A major segment and focus of his research are concentrated on scientific information upon which laws, regulations, and judicial decisions are based. During the last 20 years of his career, he has emphasized the need for reliance upon "Best Available Science" or BAS as the foundation for regulatory decision-making, and has strongly promoted and advocated the peer review process as the cornerstone of BAS. In addition, he has fostered the formation of a consensus in certain contested areas of science by reliance upon professional societies as an appropriate and effective vehicle to organize; plan; conduct training courses, professional meetings, training workshops; and similar approaches to develop and prepare consensus reports on specific topics.

Since 1987, Dr. Moghissi has been awarded a number of grants and contracts to foster the development and application of BAS. Recognizing the need for the inclusion of many scientific and engineering disciplines in the application of BAS these grants include provisions for the cooperation and active participation of various professional societies.

Dr. Moghissi is author of over 400 publications, including several books. He founded and was the Editor-in-Chief of *Environment International* and *Waste Management*. He is currently the Editor-in-Chief of *Technology*, which is the continuation of the *Journal of the Franklin*

*Institute*—one of America's oldest, technical journals. Dr. Moghissi is a member of the editorial boards of several other scientific journals, and is active in a number of civic, academic, and scientific organizations that accept the concept of BAS. He is an honorary member of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements; a member of the International Academy of Indoor Air Sciences; and an Academic Councilor of the Russian Academy of Engineering. He was appointed by the U. S. Secretary of State as a Commissioner of UNESCO. He has served on a number of national and international panels and is the recipient of several awards including the Distinguished Service Awards of the EPA.