The Technical Program at ACE 2016 in New Orleans offers something for everyone. Whether you are looking for information on the status of the Clean Power Plan, figuring out how to comply with the latest MACT standard, wondering how to permit a new facility in an ozone non-attainment area, or train your young professionals on industrial processes, you’ll find it at ACE.

The 2016 Technical Program received more than 400 abstracts, resulting in 11 concurrent tracks held over three days, covering topics as diverse as new source review, zero waste systems, thermal treatment technologies, near-road air quality, mercury emission control technologies, fugitive dust, fenceline monitoring, atmospheric chemistry, and local climate action planning. A complete list of track sessions is available from the ACE website.

This year’s program also includes the 2016 Mini-Symposium, “Industrial Growth and Environmental Stewardship”. The mini-symposium will consist of a single track of sequential paper and panel sessions addressing issues facing industry on maintaining environmental progress while accommodating industrial growth, in line with the Annual Conference theme, “Unmasking the Industrial Renaissance.” Sessions on current U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) priorities, new source review updates, permitting in ozone nonattainment areas, permitting problems and solutions, and innovative permitting approaches, as well as panels on risk management plans and trends in citizen air quality measurements will be included.

For students and young professionals in attendance, there will be three panels, held under an umbrella title, “What’s That Thang?” This is a popular session from the Louisiana Section’s Annual Conference, where industry representatives explain how their processes work and vendors discuss common control devices and how they work. Industry representatives will give an overview of the industry/process, discuss common emission sources and regulatory challenges, and give a brief look at the future of that industry. Industries covered will include power generation, specialty chemicals, air separation, natural gas processing, and oil refining.

Whether you’re a seasoned professional or a young professional, an air head or a waste guru, the 2016 ACE Technical Program has something for you.

Karen Brignac is the environmental compliance manager in PPM’s Baton Rouge office. With more than 30 years of environmental experience both in industry and consulting, she is the Immediate Past-Chair of the Louisiana Section and Technical Program Vice-Chair for ACE 2016.