

Kelly resigns from LOOW advisory group

ENVIRONMENT: *Niagara professor cites time constraints.*

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LEWISTON — The chairman of the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works Restoration Advisory Board resigned from his position Thursday.

Sean Q. Kelly, a Niagara University political science professor and director of the school's Environmental Leadership Institute, cited time constraints related to his job as the reason for his



Sean Kelly
Resigns from board

departure. "I am down to the bare threads," Kelly said, about the time he has left to give to the group. Kelly serves as the chair of NU's political science department, heads the ELI and directs the environmental studies program. Those duties, along with his academic research and his desire to spend time with his family, led to his decision, he said.

His announcement came at

the end of the RAB's Steering Committee meeting in St. Vincent's Hall at Niagara University.

Kelly took the position to lead the RAB — the public-process arm of the cleanup of a federal radiological dump site — in January.

The RAB works in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the federal agency in charge of the cleanup of the LOOW. The federal government dumped waste from the production of nuclear weapons at the site, which sits in the Towns of Porter and Lewiston.

Members of the Steering Committee and Army Corps officials in the room were all

basically shocked, said RAB vice chair Rebecca Zayatz, environmental engineering manager at CWM Chemical Services.

Kelly made a personal recommendation that Terry Yonker, chairman of the RAB chemical committee, to take over as chair.

Kelly said he'd be happy to help with the logistics of setting up meetings, but would have to think about remaining a committee member. He called the entire situation "unfortunate."

"It's been a great learning experience," he said.

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