



Newsletter of Water Quality Research Australia Limited

Issue 7 – 23 September 2008

Welcome to the seventh issue of Water Quality Research Australia News, the newsletter of Water Quality Research Australia Limited (WQRA Limited).

WQRA Limited is a not-for-profit scientific research institution, established to provide strategic knowledge for the Australian urban water industry. Incorporated in October 2007, its registered office is at Level 13, 77 Grenfell Street, Adelaide.

Issues 1 - 6 of Water Quality Research Australia News can be downloaded from the website of WQRA Limited www.waterquality.org.au

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As you can imagine there has been significant activity at WQRA since the last newsletter, getting prepared and ready for the 2 Program Workshops being held on the 26th September (Wastewater/Recycled Water) and the 2nd October (Drinking Water).

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Research Issues list for both Programs and in such a short turn around time. It has been terrific to see the support and enthusiasm from a wide range of industry players, research organisations and government in aiding WQRA to develop relevant and topical Research Priorities.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Steering Teams – Heather Chapman, Judy Blackbeard, Peter Cox and Andrew Humpage – for a significant contribution in both time and effort to develop the processes for the workshops and to oversee the collation of Research Issues for each program and the running of the workshops. I would also like to thank and recognise the efforts of 2 staff members - Priscilla Barry and Angela Gackle– who have co-ordinated all the logistics and bookings for the program workshops in a very tight schedule of events.

On the recruiting of key staff, WQRA has been fortunate to secure three excellent staff members to fill the positions of Chief Operating Officer, Program Manager – Wastewater and Program Manager – Drinking Water.

1. Chief Operating Officer – Mr Simon Newbold –commenced on the 22nd September.
2. Program Manager – Wastewater Program – Dr David Halliwell (commences 7th Oct)
3. Program Manager – Drinking Water Program – Dr Michele Akeroyd (commences 12th Nov)

A brief Biography for each of the new starters will be in the next newsletter but both of the Program Managers will be attending the Program Workshops, and will be introduced to the Workshop attendees so please feel free to talk with them.

Lastly, I have just returned from a productive IWA World Water Congress 2008, held in Vienna. It was an excellent chance to network with both Australian and International delegates and the technical program was of a very high academic standard. A highlight was a keynote plenary presentation by the Dr Jim Gill, CEO of Water Corporation, a WQRA Founding Member Organisation. Dr Gill's

presentation addressed the myriad of issues that Water Corp has faced in looking forward in dealing with Climate Change in WA and Australia. There were many other WQRA members who provided informative presentations on a wide variety of academic topics at the Congress. Congratulations to everyone.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming Program Workshops

Best wishes

Jodieann

Forthcoming Dates

Important Dates for your diaries in the next few months:

26 th September	Sydney	Wastewater Systems Program and Recycled water/other sources Program Workshop
2 nd October	Melbourne	Drinking Water Quality Program Workshop
22 nd October	Teleconf	Board meeting 10am – 12pm (Adelaide Time–CST)
26 th November	Adelaide	Board meeting
27 th November	Adelaide	Project Seminars/ AGM 10 am – 4pm
10 th December	Teleconf	Board meeting 9 – 11am (Adelaide Time–CST)
16-18 February 2009	Melbourne	Members Meeting and Summer Scholarships Reporting Seminar,

Awards for Postgraduate students

Former CRC student Kylie Catterall is the winner of the Young Water Scientist of the Year Award for 2008. Kylie received the award at the recent *Riversymposium* conference in Brisbane for her PhD work on development of a rapid microbial-based toxicity assay system for detection of wastewater treatment problems.

Current PhD student Shoshana Fogelman also recently received an award in the Information and Communication Technology category of the Queensland Smart Women - Smart State Awards 2008. Her research project involved the development of range of on-line water quality monitoring sensors which are able to automatically adjust to environmental conditions.

Program Workshops

The Pre-program Workshop task has now been completed and a single list for each Program collated for all of the issues that were submitted.

Voting on the Program Issues will occur at each of the Program Workshops and all Member Organisations will be invited to nominate a representative to vote on their behalf. **Voting instructions and proxy nomination forms have been sent to all WQRA Member Delegates for action.**

There has been significant interest in both workshops and the Wastewater/Recycled Water Program is now full. If you are interested in attending the Drinking Water Workshop in Melbourne and have not yet responded please RSVP to Priscilla.Barry@sawater.com.au immediately.

Wastewater/Recycled Program –

Date of Workshop: 26th September – Sydney **9.30am – 4.00pm**

Drinking Water Program –

Date of Workshop: 2nd October – Melbourne **9.30am – 4.30pm**

WQRA Education Program

Please circulate relevant information to colleagues and students.

Summer Scholarships

The WQRA Education Committee has selected 10 projects for funding. The Supervisors have been notified and will be contacting students for interviews.

Summer Scholarship Reporting Seminar

This will be held in Melbourne on 16 & 17 February 2009 at a venue to be advised. Put the dates in your diary now!

Call for PhD Projects commencing 2009

Please follow the link below to access the proforma to submit a WQRA PhD project to commence in March 2009. Three projects will be selected for top-up scholarships to the value of \$5,000 x 3.5 years. In addition there will be a consumables budget of up to \$15,000 overall. (Please contact Carolyn Bellamy should you require further clarification on 08 8302 5771 or carolyn.bellamy@unisa.edu.au). Advise students that an advertisement was placed in The Weekend Australian 20th September.

http://www.waterquality.org.au/WQRA_education.htm

Small Grants Scheme

A Call for Small Grant Applications for Postgraduate Students for 2009

Applications from research members are called for grants to support individual PhD students who have obtained APA or university scholarships but who do not have a consumables budget.

The grant may be used TO PURCHASE consumables, services, travel or equipment specifically pertinent to the project. Grants are up to the value of \$5,000. The application (maximum of two pages) is to be submitted by the Supervisor and should provide a **PROJECT OUTLINE, BUDGET AND RATIONALE**. A Sub-committee of the Education Committee will assess the applications.

Closing date for applications is **COB Wednesday, 15th October 2008**.

Applications are to be e-mailed to Carolyn.bellamy@unisa.edu.au

New publications

Several more CRC project reports are now available on the (CRC) website. Recent additions include:

RR 59: Artificial mixing for destratification and control of cyanobacterial growth in reservoirs

RR 61: Cylindrospermopsin Mechanisms of Toxicity and Genotoxicity [PDF file](#)

RR 60: Screening Assays for Water-borne Toxicants [PDF file](#)

RR 64: Biological filtration processes for the removal of algal metabolites [PDF file](#)

We still have copies of some of the printed reports produced by the CRC (check the website to see which are available). If you would like a hard copy of any of these reports please contact Angela Gackle. They may be useful resources for workshops or students.

Contributing to Water Quality Research Australia News

This issue of Water Quality Research Australia News is sent to all nominated people associated with the members of WQRA Limited. If you would like to be added to the mailing list or submit a newsworthy item for the next newsletter, send an email to Angela.Gackle@sawater.com.au

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