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Newsletter of Water Quality Research Australia Limited

Issue 29 –November 2010

Welcome to the twenty ninth issue of Water Quality Research Australia News.

WQRA is a company, funded by Members, that coordinates and manages collaborative research on water issues related to public health and aspects of water supply, water recycling and wastewater management. WQRA was incorporated in October 2007.

Issues 1 – 28 of Water Quality Research Australia News can be downloaded from the WQRA website: www.wqra.com.au

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Dates for your diary

19 Nov	Adel	WQRA Summer Student Orientation Day
22-26 Nov	Syd	IMSTEC
6 Dec	WA	WA Node Meeting
23 Feb	QLD	Board Meeting
24-25 Feb	QLD	WQRA Members Meeting and Summer Scholarship presentations
9-11 May	Adel	Ozwater 11

WQRA Research Programs News

As the festive season approaches, it's a great time for Project Leaders to take stock of their project activities, to ensure that work commences on track for the New Year. Please feel free to contact the DW/RW/WW Program Managers if you wish to discuss any of your current project commitments.

Finally, a brief reminder that WQRA will consider two-page applications for ARC Linkage funding for the May 2011 round. Project submissions (i.e. 2 page concepts) are due to WQRA by the 31st January 2011. Note that WQRA no longer requires proponents to complete the WQRA full proposal form for ARC Linkage submissions. Thus, all that is needed for WQRA to assess proposals and make a funding decision (i.e. for WQRA funds) is our 2 page project concept form by 31st January 2011. Please contact the respective Program Manager if you require further information.

Drinking Water Program

The peer review process is nearing completion for two drinking water projects of interest. Blair Nancarrow's project 1023 regarding "Public perception of source protection and its relationship to recreation and water treatment" and the team at UNSW's work on "Scale formation and prevention in small water supplies reliant on ground water" (Project 1019) are both nearing completion and the reports will be available to WQRA members soon.

Recycled Water/Wastewater Programs

For those interested in the 'cross connections' issue in dual pipe estates Dr Roger O'Halloran has recently completed the final report for WQRA Project 3001 'Detection of cross connections to potable water distribution systems – Stage 2' (contact Angela.Gackle@wqra.com.au for a copy). This project was a continuation of a former CRC WQT project, which tested analytical devices that could detect 10% cross connection of RW into the potable water supply. Several successful technologies were evaluated in the field at Rouse Hill (NSW) and the Hunt Club (Victoria).

WQRA is sponsoring the IMSTEC Conference, which will be convened from the 22-25th Nov 2010. The RW/WW Program Manager will be attending and looks forward to catching up with WQRA members and other stakeholders at the event.

Education Program News

PhD Initiative

Project proposals have been assessed and shortlisted. The student applications are currently being assessed.

Honours Initiative

Three students have been awarded an Honours Scholarship and will commence their projects in 2011.

Summer Initiative

Ten students have been awarded a Summer Scholarship and they will commence the Program in Adelaide this week with the Student Orientation Day on Friday. Details of all the research projects and the student profiles will be placed on the website mid December for Members to view. The students will give presentations on their research outcomes at the February Members meeting.

Position at Sydney Catchment Authority – Senior Scientist (Microbiologist)

Reporting to the Science Director, the successful applicant will be a principal point of contact for specialist scientific advice in the Sydney Catchment Authority, providing sound, world class scientific advice in identified fields to inform high level policy and operational decisions on management of Sydney's drinking water catchments.

The role will involve managing complex scientific projects and investigations such as the assessment of catchment pollutant sources and pollutant fate and transport mechanisms, evaluation of catchment interventions, and the investigation of storage behaviour and event response.

Another important component of the role will be to support and mentor scientific staff on sound scientific method and the practical application of expert knowledge.

Specialised knowledge is required in Environmental Microbiology/Pathogens.

For further information please contact Dr Penny Knights on (02) 4724 2497.

Applicants must go to www.jobs.nsw.gov.au and search on Requisition No. 000009WR Principal Scientist to obtain the position description and selection criteria.

The closing date for applications is Monday 22 November.

French Students seeking Internship

Maxime Le Maillot, a 5th year Engineering student at ESSTIN (Superior School of Sciences and Techniques of the Engineer of Nancy) who is currently finishing his studies at the Polytechnic University of Valencia (Spain). He would like to build a career in the field of energy and environment and is looking for a six month internship in environmental engineering. Maxime is fluent in English.

Cécile Bonnet is a fifth year student at the Ecole Supérieure de Chimie Organique et Minérale (ESCOM), a French institution of higher education specialising in chemistry and chemical engineering. She is seeking a position in chemistry engineering beginning in March 2011

Anyone wishing to explore either of these opportunities further can contact Carolyn Bellamy for Maxime's and Cécile's details.

Publications

We have received a copy of the PhD thesis submitted by Shengfu Fang (University of South Australia) – *Adsorption and decomposition of triclosan by activated carbons, manganese oxides and their composite materials from aqueous solution*.

Charlotte Andringa-Bate (Curtin Water Quality Research Centre) has completed her Honours dissertation – *An improved method for prediction of monochloramine stability in the disinfection of potable water*.

Abstracts for both of these publications are on the WQRA website at:

http://www.wqra.com.au/crc_archive/PhD_thesis_abstracts/Phd_students_theses.htm

Contributing to WQRA News

Water Quality Research Australia News is sent to people associated with member organisations and others who have an interest in WQRA and its activities. If you would like to be added to the mailing list or submit an item for the next newsletter, send an email to Angela.Gackle@wqra.com.au

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