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Newsletter of Water Quality Research Australia Limited











Issue 33 – June 2011

Welcome to the thirty-third issue of Water Quality Research Australia News.

WQRA is a national organisation that coordinates and manages collaborative research on water issues related to public health and aspects of water supply, water recycling and wastewater management. Incorporated in October 2007, the registered office is at Level 3, 250 Victoria Square, Adelaide.

Issues 1 – 32 of Water Quality Research Australia News can be downloaded from the WQRA website: www.wgra.com.au.

Contents

-  **Dates for your diary**
-  **CEO Jodieann Dawe**
-  **Marketing and Communications**
-  **New WQRA Website**
-  **OzWater'11 and the AWA Undergraduate Water Prize**
-  **Urban Water Research Brokers**
-  **Research Programs update**
-  **Education Program news**
-  **New publications**
-  **Contaminants of Concern in Water: Specialty Conference**

Dates for your diary

22 June	Perth	WA Node Meeting
25 August	Darwin	Board Meeting
26 August	Darwin	Members Meeting
27 October	Sydney	Board Meeting
28 October	Sydney	Annual General Meeting

CEO Jodieann Dawe

We are glad to welcome back CEO Jodieann Dawe from maternity leave. Jodieann returned in May, after having attended the Global Water Research Coalition Board Meeting between 12 to 15 April in Paris. We would also like to extend our thanks to Michele Akeroyd, who has been acting CEO during this period, and who continues in her role as Program Manager – Drinking Water.

New Marketing and Communications Manager

Eva O'Driscoll has joined Water Quality Research Australia as Marketing and Communications Manager, taking over from Angela Gackle. Eva comes to WQRA after six years in the role of Managing Editor for the Australian Medical Association (South Australia), a role which incorporated the management and production of its state magazine, and a range of other communications

responsibilities. Eva has a particular interest in public health, and is looking forward to helping WQRA to communicate and promote its research outcomes and facilitate their uptake. If you would like to discuss WQRA's marketing and communications activities, please do not hesitate to contact Eva. You can call her on (08) 7424 2441 or email eva.o'driscoll@wqra.com.au.

Welcome to new WQRA members

WQRA is very glad to welcome new members Veolia, Southern Water and the University of Western Australia. Technical Manager Troy Walker is the member representative for Veolia, CEO Mike Paine is the member representative for Southern Water, and Associate Professor Angus Cook is the member representative for the University of Western Australia.

WQRA Website

The new WQRA website is now live, and includes a wide range of useful information and resources, including publications, news, notifications of upcoming events, and project information. While some of the information on the website is publicly available, there is a range of material that is available to members only, so we strongly encourage staff at all member organisations to register, in order to gain the maximum benefits. Registration is quick and easy, and can be done via the website home page. Development of the website will be continuing over the coming months, as we bring in a range of further features, and we would welcome your feedback during this period. Comments and suggestions can be emailed to eva.o'driscoll@wqra.com.au.

OzWater'11 and the AWA Undergraduate Water Prize

We would like to thank all the members who joined us at the WQRA stand at OzWater'11 in May – it was great to have the opportunity to hear your news and ideas. WQRA was also very glad to sponsor the Australian Water Association's Undergraduate Water Prize, which was awarded at OzWater. This award aims to encourage and reward students for excellence in the field of water studies and research, and provides a forum for students to display their academic excellence and research findings to future employers, clients and the water industry. Our congratulations go out to Chris Browne from ANU, who won the prize for the project *Developing Transfer: Improving Household Water Supply in Rural Cambodia*.

Australian Water Research and Development Coalition (AWRDC)

A new collaborative group is bringing together key players within the Australian water community who undertake the role of research and development knowledge brokers, with an aim of sharing information on R&D and promoting knowledge and adoption of research outcomes to the industry. The new group – the Australian Water Research and Development Coalition – includes Water Quality Research Australia, the Australian Water Recycling Centre of Excellence, Goyder Institute for Water, National Centre of Excellence for Desalination, National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training, National Water Commission, Victorian Smart Water Fund, Urban Water Security Research Alliance, and Water Services Association of Australia.

Using these R&D knowledge brokers as a starting point, efforts are underway to explore the opportunity to design and implement a more cooperative and efficient national approach to urban water research investment and management. Following OzWater'10, an AWRDC (Urban Water R&D Broker forum) was initiated, and at OzWater'11 WQRA facilitated a forum workshop to discuss R&D and explore the broader community's views on a range of initiatives. If you would like to know more about the work of the forum please contact Michele Akeroyd at Michele.Akeroyd@wqra.com.au.

Research Programs update

Recycled Water Program: NatVal project to look at a national framework for water reuse schemes

WQRA's 'NatVal' project (*NatVal – The Map to an Accepted Workable National Validation Framework for Water Reuse Schemes*) has moved into the Streetmap drafting stage, in preparation for a workshop in late July, which will draw all of the knowledge gaps together for the final Roadmap report. The project is funded by the AWRCE (Australian Water Recycling Centre of Excellence). If you are interested in attending the July workshop, or would like further information, contact either Michael Muston (Project Manager – gem@1earth.net) or David Halliwell (david.halliwell@wqra.com.au).

Education Program news

WQRA PhD, honours and summer scholarships

The call for project proposals for PhD, honours and summer scholarships (for commencement in 2012) has opened, and the closing date is 15 July 2011. Forms and information are available on the WQRA website.

Contaminants of Concern in Water: Specialty Conference

The AWA Contaminants of Concern in Water Specialty Conference is being held in Sydney on the 8th and 9th of November 2011. The call for abstracts is now open, with a closing date of 31 July 2011. For further details [click here](#).

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 eva.o'driscoll@wqra.com.au.

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