

Member Newsletter

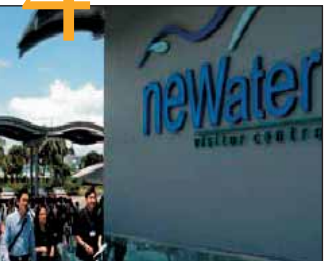
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News update from IWA Executive Director, Paul Reiter

In the February edition of the member newsletter I foreshadowed that 2006 promised to be both a full and exciting year for IWA and its members around the world. The first few months of the year have already proved this to be the case.

This edition of the members' newsletter includes just some of the highlights of the year to date.

Growing our membership

Membership is the foundation stone of the IWA: it is our members that create the collective wisdom and deliver the benefits and impact that we all seek.

2005 was a year of consolidation in terms of our membership numbers both individual and corporate. 2006 is looking encouraging with renewals and new membership numbers – both individual and corporate – already well ahead of where we were in 2005. This should not be a surprise as IWA strives to deliver value for money for its members and offers incredible reach around the world. A growing membership base benefits all of us by increasing the network and contributing to the financial stability of the Association. If you have a colleague who is not a member and is interested please have them contact the membership team with their details and we will be happy to send additional information (members@iwahq.org.uk).

Events and Programmes

Whilst the World Water Congress and Exhibition in Beijing obviously plays centre stage this year, there are

many other events and programmes running through the course of the year that should not be forgotten. Our Utilities Programme started with regional meetings of CEOs and Leaders in Tokyo and Romania. This was followed by our Utilities Leaders meeting in Berlin early in April, in conjunction with the Wasser Berlin Exhibition. All have been incredibly successful and we are now looking forward to the Singapore CEO Forum on 22-23 May 2006 in conjunction with the Singapore Public Utilities Board and supported by the Water Services Association of Australia.

Take a moment to look at the numerous other specialist group conferences that are publicised elsewhere in the newsletter and are also on our website. Speaking of websites, you will be pleased to know that effective 1 May 2006 we switched across to a new IWA website. The site will finally capture the new IWA style and logo that has been represented on many of our publications recently. It contains more up-to-date data and material and – in the long term – will provide far superior functionality. As with any new web-based system you may find a few glitches in the first few weeks. Please let us know if there is a problem but be patient with us.

Honours and Awards

We are fortunate at IWA to have an incredibly talented and committed group of people who devote their time to the advancement of sustainability in the water sector and to the development and dissemination of knowledge. This depth of talent has been evident in the many nominations that we have received for the various IWA



Paul Reiter

Honours and Awards. These Honours and Awards will be determined throughout May and June 2006 and the successful recipients will be acknowledged at the World Water Congress and Exhibition in Beijing in September.

IWA Project Innovation Awards

One of the new awards this year is the IWA Project Innovation Awards which recognise international excellence in water engineering projects.

Individuals, companies, organisations and government bodies are eligible to submit for this award series. For more detailed information visit the IWA website at www.iwahq.org

4th World Water Forum, Mexico City, 13-25 March 2006

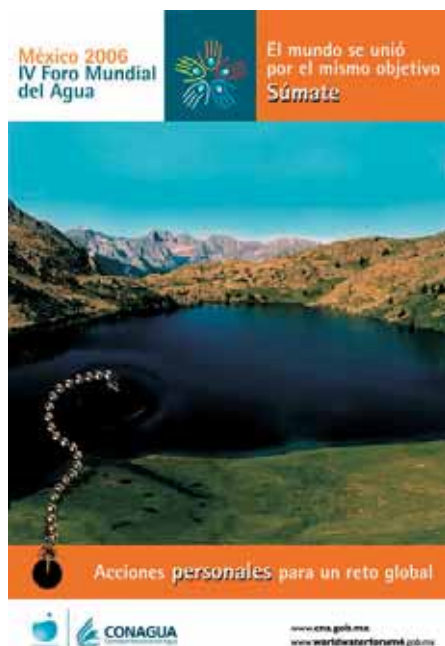
Representatives from the Association, including the Executive Director and Regional Director from the London office, were recently in attendance at the 4th World Water Forum, held in Mexico City in late March. The Forum, focused around the theme of Local Actions for a Global Challenge, was co-organised between the World Water Council and the Government of Mexico. The week-long event attracted nearly 20,000 individuals, 149 governmental delegations, 340 companies, 108 NGOs, 8 United Nations agencies and 1300 journalists.

IWA was involved in the following activities:

- Representing professional associations in the preparation of the Forum's baseline materials on Science, Technology and Knowledge;
- Participating in Ministerial level round table dialogues on the same theme
- Organising or participating as a presenter or expert panellist in four technical sessions (respectively on the subjects of: water safety plans; operation & maintenance issues; technology-user interface and sanitation options).

The Forum is an efficient way in which IWA can maintain and develop contacts with key external parties, ranging from companies, utilities, NGOs and United Nations agencies.

Immediately prior to the Forum, Paul Reiter was involved in the IWA Small Water and Wastewater Systems specialist group conference, and participated in the Board of Governors meeting of the World Water Council (WWC). Paul was successfully re-elected to the Board of the WWC, and will play a more strategic role in the development of the technical programme for the 5th World Water Forum, which will take place in Istanbul, Turkey in 2009.



IWA and AWWA sign Partnering Agreement



AWWA President, Andy Richardson and IWA Executive Director, Paul Reiter sign Partnering Agreement, Friday 7 April 2006, London

The IWA and the American Water Works Association (AWWA) have signed a Partnering Agreement to establish a strong partnership and working relationship in delivering common programmes to their members.

Both IWA and AWWA have the common

objective of improving public health through the enhancement and development of safe and sufficient water supplies and under this agreement both associations will benefit from shared ideas and information and will develop a work plan covering proposed cooperative efforts.

Sustainable Excreta Management – IWA's Sanitation 21 Task Force

One of the fundamental priorities in the coming century is the development of means of sanitation that is ecologically viable and universally available for the one-in-three of the world's population who lack basic access to sanitation.

One of the principal problems to addressing this challenge lies in the way we view the problem; our approach is generally dominated by the Victorian era perspective – use of technologies and systems which are water intensive, high in capital costs and sometimes environmentally damaging. The reality is that there are neither sufficient funds nor capital to accomplish universal sanitation using this method alone. There is still a widespread lack of consciousness about, and confidence in, sanitation alternatives which differ in their approach from the Victorian era described above. The lack of a well articulated portfolio of sanitation alternatives deprives both communities and planners the choice and access to viable sanitation options.

To respond to these identified needs, IWA has proposed and developed a task force referred to as Sanitation 21. The task force

seeks to address the challenge previously described in the following ways:

- Convene a cross-section of leading thinkers from different backgrounds working on all aspects of sanitation (hardware, software, planning, etc);
- Involve task force members in the development of key outputs: namely, a classification and review of sanitation technology options; identification of an analytical framework for evaluation of these technology options; and a review of selected case studies where such evaluation criteria have been applied.

The work of the task force is deliberately time limited and will come to a conclusion at the 5th IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition in Beijing, September 2006. It is hoped that following Beijing there will be sufficient demand for the creation of a specialist group within the IWA network on sanitation options, which will help to develop the agenda of the task force after its work is completed.

Further details are available on the IWA website.

Young Water Professionals Programme

Final preparations are being made for the 3rd biennial International Young Researchers Conference in Singapore (24-26 May 2006). IWA has provided financial assistance for over 60 international delegates to present their work on a variety of water related issues, from the latest research to practical implementations and managerial approaches. Look out for a report in the next member newsletter. Meanwhile, preparations have begun for the 2008 event in Berkeley, USA.

The international event builds on the success of a number of national Young Researchers Conferences. In February, the 1st Australian Young Water Professionals Conference attracted 140 participants, including nearly 100 young water professionals. IWA would like to extend its gratitude to Michael Storey (Chair), Pierre LeClech (Co-Chair) and Sandra Hall (Secretary) for their commendable work in organising the event.

The Young Water Professionals will have a significant presence at the forthcoming World Water Congress and Exhibition in Beijing. As well as organising two workshops and a social event for young water professionals, there will be two awards presented recognising the achievements of young water professionals and the excellence of their employers.

The **Professional Development Award** is a new award that recognises companies in the



Delegates of the 1st Australian Young Water Professionals Conference 2006 on their technical tour

water sector that are making a significant contribution to the professional development of young employees, less than 35 years of age. To nominate your employer for this award, or for more information, please visit the IWA website or email ywp@iwahq.org.uk

The Young Water Professional Award

recognises professionals under the age of 35 who are either water sector practitioners or from research/academia. Awardees will have had both outstanding career achievements to date and the potential to play a large and influential role in the water industry in the future. For more information about how to nominate a young water professional, please visit the IWA website.

International Muelheim Water Award 2006

The city of Muelheim an der Ruhr is known as a competence centre for water research and development in North Rhine-Westphalia. The intention of the International Muelheim Water Award is to promote and spread existing knowledge, to satisfy the great demand for internationally acknowledged research achievements with a strong focus on practical use and applications, and to generate interest in innovative solutions in the water and sewage industry.

The Muelheim Water Award is given to outstanding projects for practical research and the implementation of innovative concepts for the improvement of water and/or wastewater services. The projects are assigned to the categories: resources, technology, quality and/or organisation.

Sponsors of the International Muelheim Water Award are RWE Aqua GmbH and RWW Rheinisch-Westfälische Wasserwerksgesellschaft mbH, both situated at Muelheim an der Ruhr. The award is assigned by a neutral jury and is supported by the IWA. The endowed award (20.000, donated by RWE Aqua GmbH) will be awarded every two years and will be granted for the first time in 2006 under the patronage of the Lord Mayor of Muelheim an der Ruhr.

Applications are welcome from 1 May 2006 until 31 July 2006 and the topic is: Technological Progress in Urban Water Management

The award is focused on solutions with a high degree of innovation in the sector of water and wastewater in 15 selected Central-European countries. You will find further information and

application forms at: www.muelheim-water-award.com

Contact

Coordinating Office of the International Muelheim Water Award

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IWA Utilities

Three International Water Utility CEO and Leaders meetings are scheduled for 2006 - in Berlin, Singapore and Beijing. Complementing this initiative and the series of meetings has been the launch of a new publication focusing on the needs and interests of senior water utility managers - Water Utility Management International.

The first of the meetings was held on 3-4 April 2006 in Berlin, Germany, addressing the twin themes of Strategic Asset Management and Utility Reform and Regulation. This event was held in conjunction with the Wasser Berlin Exhibition with the support of the Kompetenzzentrum Wasser Berlin and their director, Mr Ludwig Pawlowski.

The meeting drew participants from across Europe and the US. An excellent panel of presenters included: Scott Haskins (Seattle, USA), Renato Parena (Italy), Vladimir Tausanovic (Serbia), Piet Jonkers (Netherlands), Diane D'Arras (France), Michael Rouse (UK) and Bernhard Hörsgen (Germany).

In addition to the keynote presentations there were also a series of interactive breakout sessions giving the participants the opportunity to discuss the issues in smaller groups and to provide some suggestions for elements that might be further developed into IWA position statements on the topics of sustainable cost recovery; utility consolidation; separation of policy, regulation and delivery; and competition and its potential benefit to consumers.

The second meeting of the year will be held in Singapore on 23-24 May 2006. Jointly organised by IWA and PUB Singapore, the International Water Utility Leaders' Forum will be co-chaired by Khoo Teng Chye, Chief Executive of PUB, and Ross Young, Executive Director of Water Services Association of Australia. The Singapore forum will focus on utility leaders from the Asia Pacific Region and it will form part of the lead up to the biennial IWA World Congress and Exhibition in Beijing, in September. More than 60 water utility leaders are expected to attend the 2-day forum. Attendees can look forward to keynote addresses on topical issues by IWA and leading water agencies from Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia and Singapore. They will be brought together in an intimate setting to discuss issues of common interest such as:

- The Benefit of Managing Water Resources in an Integrated Manner
- How the Global Water Industry Structure is Evolving to Meet the Challenges of the Future
- The Need to Leverage on Technology to Manage Water Supply in a Sustainable Manner
- How the Water Agency Faces the Challenge of Offering a Good and Reliable Service to its Customers.



Panel Discussion at IWA Utilities Meeting in Berlin, Germany

For more information about the Singapore meeting, please contact IWA Deputy Director, Tom Mollenkopf at tom.mollenkopf@iwahq.org.uk

The NEWater Visitor Centre is the focal point for Singapore's public education on NEWater. It was set up to explain the use of membrane and water purification technologies for the production of NEWater, using interactive multimedia displays and experienced guides.

The Utility Leaders' Forum will also have linkages to the IWA Young Researchers Conference on 24-26 May 2006. This back-to-back arrangement will add considerable value to all forum delegates by allowing utility leaders and young researchers, many of whom will grow up to be future leaders of the water industry, to exchange views and share experiences with one another.



NEWater Visitor Centre

IWA London Office Staff Update

We are pleased to announce that the following people have recently joined the IWA London office team.

Juliana Woolhead joined the HQ team in March as Office Administrator. Juliana hails from Brazil and most recently worked at Air France as an administrator/customer service executive. Amongst other talents, she is fluent in Portuguese, English and Spanish. Juliana can be reached on +44 207 654 5500 and juliana.woolhead@iwahq.org.uk

Also in March, we were joined by Adrian Puigarnau as Programmes Officer. Originally from Barcelona he has a BSc in Chemical Engineering. His focus of study was urban sustainability & pneumatic transport systems for garbage. He also carried out research including

consultations with pan-European waste management experts. Adrian's language skills include Spanish, Catalan, English and French. Adrian can be reached on +44 207 654 5556 and Adrian.puigarnau@iwahq.org.uk

And finally, Jo Cooper joined the membership team in early April as Marketing, PR and Membership Officer. Fluent in French, Jo is a marketing communications specialist with wide international experience. For many years she was based in Brussels where she worked for companies such as SWIFT and latterly she has been working in Australia as a Product Manager for Australia Post. Jo joins us from the Food Standards Agency where she has been working since her return to the UK. Jo can be reached on +44 207 654 5543 and joanna.cooper@iwahq.org.uk

60 second interview – Richard Franceys

Richard Franceys

Director

Water and Society Programme

Cranfield University, United Kingdom

Eur Ing Richard Franceys, PhD, MBA, BSC, FRSA, MICE, MILTM is Director of the Water and Society Programme at Cranfield University in the UK, following five years with UNESCO-IHE in Delft and thirteen years at the Water, Environment and Development Centre at Loughborough University. He has also been a regional member of the Consumer Council for Water in England and Wales for the past nine years. Before commencing this commitment to research and capacity-building, Dr Franceys spent five years in Southern Sudan with an NGO.

What do you consider to be the most significant recent change in your field of expertise to have occurred in the last 10 years?

Maintaining an appropriate academic scepticism about the role of international private operators in sensitive, community oriented development, I found my preconceptions confounded, sitting in a slum house in Buenos Aires and hearing from the community how they were involved, along with NGOs, in a participatory way with the supposedly 'wicked' private company so as to be able to access water and sanitation well in advance of any contractual requirements.

Subsequent work for the Asian Development Bank, looking at twenty cases of Public Private Community Partnerships for the Poor confirmed that this was not an isolated experience. The best international private companies could support service provision to the poor more effectively than NGOs who, not unreasonably, do not have the equivalent capacity for 'scaling up' their work. One of the reasons why the private operators could be (temporarily) so effective is that the concession model gave them the power, not only to invest when and where operations demanded it, but also to overcome the vested interests that so bind-up national public operators. But we all know that the initial surge of international private operator involvement is over for now. Governments have too often reneged on agreements and fail to recognise that without adequate revenues based on viable tariffs the capital maintenance, on which our asset intensive industry depends, is never undertaken.

I have since described Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) as 'development short-cuts', temporarily able to deliver; but by taking an institution so far ahead of the trend-line of socio-economic development it appears that they are doomed to failure.

What do you consider to be the most significant

future challenge that professionals must deal with in the next 10 years?

The challenge remains of serving the billion slum dwellers with adequate networked water and on-plot sanitation. To achieve that will require institutional reform of the public utilities, promotion of national water service contractors, involvement of local NGOs to act as social intermediaries and never-ending 'capacity-building' to ensure that the process remains in step with society's expectations.

One of the longer-lasting results of the 'privatisation experiment' has also been the introduction of economic regulators. These 'impartial referees' are very necessary to judge the appropriate tariffs which drive efficiency whilst enabling investment by the utility, whether public or private.

Whom do you consider to be the leading expert in your field, outside of your own organisation, and why?

I continue to learn most from Ofwat, the economic regulator for England and Wales. The improvement in services in the UK with the concomitant increases in efficiency, for all the occasional failures, has been dramatic and I believe that incentive-based regulation is a powerful tool which can be used widely. Ofwat continues to develop its thinking, as well as reporting in great detail on the performance of the water companies it regulates.

Which report, product or service from your organisation deserves more attention and why?

I have just finished a ten country study for DFID (UK's international development agency) investigating 'Regulating Public and Private Partnerships for the Poor'. The case studies and other outputs are now available online (www.silsoe.cranfield.ac.uk/iwe/projects/regulation/) and show that regulators can influence service to the urban poor, but that there remains a long way to go to achieve sustainable urban service for all. We can take communities 'beyond stand posts' whilst achieving cost savings through 'differentiated household connections' in the slums. However, the necessary adaptation of technical standards remains a challenge to many government agencies and there continues to be the need for community involvement, whether through NGOs or through customer committee type structures such as in Zambia and Indonesia.

In what ways would you like to see IWA change in the next 5 years?

I am very pleased that IWA is taking an integrated view to water development in the world. I look to see these ideas develop and am particularly interested in the development of the Regulatory Special Interest Group.

Special interests...

Coming full circle on all these ideas, Cranfield University is now a member of the Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor



partnership. This partnership brings together private companies, NGOs and knowledge partners to deliver full feasibility studies for at least twenty projects, which can move directly to funding and implementation to serve a hoped for 100,000 slum dwellers in the coming years. IWA has also now become involved in WSUP and we look to see water professionals from all countries assisting each other in this critical task.

Career defining moments...

Finally, you ask about who has had most influence on my career? I believe that person has to be Emeritus Professor John Pickford of Loughborough University. John recognised the critical role of on-plot sanitation before most others and, with great humour in his many lectures around the world, demonstrated how we could make a real difference in disposing of excreta safely and affordably. John developed and led for many years the excellent 'WEDC' (Water, Engineering and Development Centre) at Loughborough University and through it made a most significant difference in the world. I wish him very well in his retirement though sadly note that his health is now not so good.

Contact points

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IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition, Beijing, 10-14 September 2006

Over 3,000 Congress delegates and visitors from all over the world are expected to gather to discuss both the challenges and the solutions to the world's pressing water problems. Hosted by the IWA and the Ministry of Construction of China, this event is expected to draw together top water professionals from both China and the international community.

Congress Programme

The technical programme presents the latest research, best practice and effective management strategies to an international audience. There will be four full days of platform presentations, posters and workshops bringing together research, practice, regulation and business. The programme will cover all facets of the water cycle from source protection to collection, treatment, use and environmental impacts, not forgetting social, economic, management and regulatory topics. There are over 50 countries represented on the programme and during the conference there will be:

- 600 platform presentations, including 108 from China, 79 from USA, 53 from Korea, 47 from Japan, 46 from Germany, and 35 from France
- 300 poster presentations; and
- over 30 workshops

The programme will also include contributions from leading international organisations such as the World Health Organisation, the World Bank and the European Commission in the form of workshops and keynote presentations.

Examples of the breadth and scope of the conference programme include:

- Nutrient Removal (Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Carbon)
- Disinfection and Disinfection By-Products
- Membrane Technologies for Drinking and Wastewater
- Operating Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Governance, Regulation, Pricing and Financing
- Asset Management, Benchmarking and Performance Indicators
- Environmental Impacts - Point and Diffuse Pollution
- Water Safety Plans

For more information on the technical programme and for registration details, please visit the Congress website at:

www.iwa2006beijing.com

Exhibition

Parallel to the Congress, the Exhibition offers companies and institutions in the water sector a unique business opportunity to promote their products and services to a leading international audience of opinion leaders and decision makers. Besides the Congress delegates, we also expect thousands of additional 'Exhibition Only' visitors.

Stand space availability at the Exhibition is limited. Most of the available stand space has been blocked already (90%).

For more information about available stand space or about the Exhibition in general, please contact: roy.agterbos@iwa-exhibitions.com or robert.melaard@iwa-exhibitions.com



New Corporate Members

The following list of organisations gives an overview of the type and geographic reach of companies that have recently joined IWA as corporate members.

ZENON ENVIRONMENTAL Inc., Canada

www.zenon.com

ZENON is the world's largest manufacturer and system integrator of hollow fibre membrane technologies and complimentary products. Water for Humanity is a program that was created by ZENON employees as a way to give back to the world and improve people's lives with clean, safe water. Employees donate hundreds of hours to help construct, ship, and install water treatment systems for needy communities.

LIT TECHNOLOGY, Russian Federation

www.lit-uv.com

LIT Technology is a leading manufacturer of ultraviolet water disinfection equipment in Russia and Eastern Europe. They are among the top five manufacturers of UV systems in the world. Their mission is the worldwide application of ultraviolet technology for water, air and surface disinfection to protect the environment and health of human beings.

INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES, Vietnam

www.hcmier.edu.nam

Founded on the belief that environmental science and technology is the most effective

approach to achieve a better life for people around the world, the Institute for Environment and Resources (IER) advocates a greener development for a world free of pollution.

A.R.I. – FLOW CONTROL, Israel

www.arivalves.com

As one of the foremost manufacturers of air release and check valves A.R.I Flow Control has developed a wide range of products for various applications in water supply (municipal and domestic), sewage, industry, agriculture and landscaping.

OBRAS SANITARIAS DEL ESTADO, Uruguay

www.ose.com

Its mission is to improve the services of potable and clean water in both amount and quality. Obras Sanitarias del Estado's (O.S.E.) has a proven record of success. 90% of Uruguay's population now has potable water of excellent quality.

SAFLOC, S.L., Spain

www.safloc.com

Safloc are specialists in aluminium salts, used as coagulants for water treatment and as raw materials or additives for other chemical products. They have extensive experience with potable and waste water and commercialise flocculants to reach a wide range of customers. They have developed an environmentally friendly process for the treatment and valorization of hazardous residues from aluminium processes. Safloc has been recently certified ISO 14001:2004 and has certification ISO 9001:2000.

IWA Specialist Groups

Specialist Groups form the basis of IWA and are important vehicles for all "water people" throughout the world interested in interacting on specific scientific, technical and management topics. The Groups, formed as coalitions of individuals around subjects of common interest, provide a sound structure of networks for international specialists to share knowledge, information, skills, and make good professional and business contacts.

For a full list of IWA's Specialist Groups and their activities please visit the Specialist Group section of the IWA website.

To become a member of any Specialist Group - or to change your existing group membership - simply contact the IWA membership department (members@iwahq.org.uk) and tell us which groups you would like to join.

This issue of the newsletter features the activities of seven IWA Specialist Groups active in the research and practice of:

- Adsorption
- Advanced Oxidation Processes
- Assessment and Control of Hazardous Substances in Water
- Disinfection
- Instrumentation, Control and Automation
- Off-flavours in the Aquatic Environment
- Systems Analysis and Integrated Assessment

Adsorption

The Adsorption Specialist Group aims to bring together scientists and practitioners interested in all aspects of adsorption in the water environment - wastewater treatment, water treatment, pipeline systems and the natural water environment. The group has been relatively inactive over the past few years, but a new management committee of Craig D. Adams (USA), Wolfgang H. Hoell (Germany), Roberto Leyva Ramos (Mexico), and Héctor Valdés (Chile) has recently come together with the intention of reinvigorating the group and developing a plan of activities for the coming years. Further volunteers - especially young



Meeting of the group at the 3rd AOP Conference, May 2003

professionals - who can introduce new ideas and further energy to the group are currently being sought for the management committee. If you are interested in this topic and are willing to contribute, please contact Urszula Rychta at urszula.rychta@iwahq.org.uk

Advanced Oxidation Processes

In line with its objective of advancing the fundamental research, development and application of Advanced Oxidation Processes (AOP's) in the field of water and wastewater treatment, the group will be holding a Conference on Oxidation Technologies for Water and Wastewater Treatment on 15-17 May 2006, in Goslar, Germany

(<http://www.cutec.de/en/aop4.php>). This will be the 4th Conference in the series offering 35 oral presentations, over 100 posters, a special session on the removal of recalcitrant and anthropogenic micro pollutants, and a technical exhibition. It will be an excellent platform for discussion, exchange of information and for developing new contacts. For more information, please contact the group's secretary Michael Sievers at Michael.sievers@cutec.de or visit the IWA website.

Assessment and Control of Hazardous Substances in Water

The field of hazardous substances is quite broad and multi-disciplinary, as you will see from the aims, scope and activities outlined under the Specialist Group section on the IWA website. On several topics, there are strong inter-relations with other groups, e.g. Chemical Industries, Pre-treatment of Industrial Wastewaters, Groundwater Remediation, Sludge Management, Advanced Oxidation Processes, Advanced Treatment/Membrane Technology and others. It is our aim to prevent competition between these groups and rather support each other, e.g. by arranging joint sessions and joint conferences on focussed topics.

The work conducted by the group's management committee is entirely voluntary and there are potentially many more activities that could be initiated. This means that more helping hands and minds are needed and any contributions would be appreciated. We are

always seeking new people to review abstracts and papers related to hazardous substances and we would encourage any volunteers with the right background. Should you have any relevant information or announcements to disseminate to other ACHSW members, please contact any of the group's management committee and we will make this information available to them via the website or by direct mail.

The group is currently planning its next meeting at the IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition in Beijing, September 2006 and its next Specialised Conference is planned for 17-20 June 2007 in Frankfurt, Germany, which will be the 5th in the series. It will be a joint event organised in collaboration with DECHEMA, Germany, and the IWA Specialist Group on Chemical Industries. Keep an eye open for further information and for the Call for Papers. For more information please contact the group's chair Bo. N. Jacobsen at bnj@spvand.dk or visit the IWA website.

Disinfection

This group's programme considers disinfection principles and the design of facilities for disinfection. Knowledge transfer on new disinfection technologies is emphasised, as are issues of disinfection residuals within the distribution system and the by-products of the process. A new management committee, chaired by Dr Joseph Jacangelo, was formed in early 2006. The group contributed to the joint Disinfection Conference with the American Water Works Association and Water Environment Federation in February 2005, in Phoenix, USA. The management committee is developing a plan of activities for the coming year and would welcome proposals or suggestions for future conferences.

An interesting development by a sub-set of UK-based members has been the formation of a UK Working Group on Disinfection. Their aim is to develop a best practice guide that will cover the disinfection process in the context of Water Safety Plans. It will provide tools and techniques for the management of disinfection in the water supply process consistent with the implementation of Drinking Water Safety Plans.

Working group members will receive a guidance

manual (with associated software) to aid development of effective disinfection practices, and workshops will be held to facilitate the implementation of the guidance material. The output for the broader group membership will be a best practice manual that will be printed through IWA Publishing. For more information on all aspects of the group's activities, please contact the chair Joe Jacangelo at Joe.G.Jacangelo@us.mwhglobal.com or visit the IWA website.

Instrumentation, Control and Automation

This group provides a forum to exchange methodologies and experience on all aspects of sensor technology, instrumentation, control and automation for water and wastewater systems. Practical experiences, case studies, management problems, operator aspects and integrated solutions of these systems are important elements of the group's interests.

The group held a successful conference in Busan, Korea, in May 2005, with in excess of 200 participants and over 100 oral and poster presentations. The conference showcased the latest development of ICA in the water and wastewater industries, including many examples of full-scale applications of on-line control systems. The conference also provided an excellent opportunity for group members to meet and further develop personal and professional relationships. Changwon Kim and Tae Joo Park are to be congratulated for their great efforts in making the event successful. The group's management committee and members convened during the conference and Bob Hill (USA) and Miroslav Zelezny (Canada) were welcomed onto the committee. Sadly Michael Stenstrom has stood down from the committee after many years of service.

The group is supporting the organisation of the 3rd IWA Conference on Automation in Water Quality Monitoring (<http://biomath.ugent.be/AutMoNet2007/>) scheduled for the 10-12 September 2007 in Ghent, Belgium. And planning is already underway for the 10th Conference on Instrumentation, Control and Automation of Water and Wastewater Systems in Cairns, Australia (June 2009). For more information, please contact the groups' chair Zhiguo Yuan at zhiguo@awmc.uq.edu.au or visit the IWA website.



Auguste Bruchet (Speciality Group Chair) with Gary Burlingame (Group Secretary) during the Wednesday tour of the Thousand Islands.



Sue Watson (Symposium Chair) presenting award for best student presentation to Pinar Ömür-Özbek (Virginia Tech)

Off-flavours in the Aquatic Environment

The objectives of this group are to advance knowledge of off-flavours (tastes and odours) in drinking water and in the aquatic environment (including fish, wastewater, and natural waters). In October 2005, the group held its 7th Symposium on Off-Flavours in the Aquatic Environment in Ontario, Canada, and two awards of recognition were presented to:

- H. (Mel) Suffet - for his outstanding service to the IWA Specialty Group and for establishing a common language in the flavour wheel; and to
- Friedrich Jüttner - for his lifelong contributions to understanding the sources and causes of natural taste-and-odour compounds.

A new Canada-IWA student scholarship was established with \$500 of sponsorship funds, which was presented to the top student presenter, Pinar Ömür-Özbek, for her presentation "Ability of Humans to Smell Geosmin, 2-MIB and Nonadienal when using Contaminated Drinking Waters". This scholarship and will be carried forward and presented at future meetings of this international group.

The group is now planning the 8th Symposium in South Korea (2008). Hang-Sik Shin and Byunk-Uk Bae will represent the host country and will work with the group's officers to prepare for this symposium. Replacing Auguste Bruchet as Chair of this Specialist Group will be Djanette Khiari from the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (USA). Gary Burlingame will remain as Secretary. For more information please visit the IWA website.

Systems Analysis and Integrated Assessment

Systems Analysis is directed at providing guidance when choosing between alternative courses of action, i.e. decision-making. This

group addresses all aspects of the formal methods of applying systems analysis to managing the quality of the aquatic environment. This includes the development and use of mathematical models, optimisation algorithms, time-series analysis and forecasting, computational procedures for decision analysis, and support. The group is also responsible for maintaining a forum for discussing interdisciplinary issues within the IWA. Its subject area is not confined merely to wastewater treatment, or water supply, or to surface water, or groundwater systems. Increasingly, managing the water environment presents challenges in which the engineering and economic elements of problem-solving need to be augmented with those having human, institutional, and cultural dimensions to them and, as such, the group is also developing and promoting the application of systematic procedures of integrated assessment.

Beneath the umbrella of this specialist group is the Task Group on Benchmarking of Control Strategies for Wastewater Treatment Plants, whose goal is to promote the use of the benchmark simulation protocols and produce a Scientific and Technical Report. In November 2005, a two-day meeting was held in Lund, Sweden, where many issues were raised and a number of work tasks distributed among the members. A workshop, co-organised with the Task Group on Good Modelling Practice, will be held during the IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition in Beijing in September. It is planned that the work of the TG will be presented at the IWA Congress in Vienna, Austria (September 2008). For those who want to learn more about the benchmark or to be involved in the development work, please visit www.benchmarkwwtp.org or contact Dr Ulf Jeppsson at ulf.jeppsson@iea.lth.se

A new development occurred in September 2005 at the Watershed and River Basin Management conference in Canada. The Systems Analysis and Integrated Assessment and Watershed and River Basin Management specialist groups agreed to initiate a special issue on data driven modelling and evolutionary optimisation for river basin management within the **Journal of Hydroinformatics**.



For more information on all aspects of the group's activities, please contact the chair Peter Vanrolleghem at peter.vanrolleghem@modeleau.org or visit the IWA website.

Upcoming Events

IWA Workshop: Odour Assessment and Control

5-6 June 2006

Sydney, Australia.

This workshop aims to provide delegates, including design engineers, operators and managers from wastewater treatment, waste management and agricultural practices, with a statement of the current practices and limitations in the assessment and treatment of odorous emissions.

Contact: Center for Water and Waste Technology

Email: robby@unsw.edu.au

Website: www.odour.unsw.edu.au/iwa-workshop-on-odour-2006.html

****Submission of full papers - 1 June 2006****

8th Annual Symposium on Water Distribution System Analysis

27-30 August 2006

Cincinnati, Ohio, USA

Contact: Steven Buchner

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

PO Box 210071

765 Baldwin Hall

University of Cincinnati, Ohio

USA 45221-0071

Tel: +1 513 5563681

Fax: +1 513 5562599

Email: steven.buchberger@uc.edu

Website: www.eng.uc.edu/wdsa2006

****Final paper submission - 9 May 2006****

Hydroinformatics 2006

4-8 September 2006

Nice, France

Contact: HIC 2006 Conference Secretariat:

c/o Integrated Meetings Specialist Pte Ltd

Blk 998 Toa Payoh North

#07-18/19

Singapore 318993

Tel: +65 6356 4727

Fax: +65 6356 7471

Email: secretariat@hic2006.org

Website: www.hic2006.org

****Submission of full papers - 30 June 2006****

10th International Conference on Wetland Systems for Water Pollution Control

23-29 September 2006

Lisbon, Portugal

Contact: Verissimo Dias

Conference Organizer

Rua Quirino da Fonseca, 4 - 2º Dto

1000-252 Lisboa, Portugal

Tel: + 21 8483660

Fax: + 21 8483659

Email: verdis@gaiagreen.pt

Website: www.wetconf10.adp.pt

****Submission of abstracts - 15 May 2006****

Marine Wastewater Discharges and Coastal Environment

6-10 November 2006

Antalya, Turkey

Contact: Dr. Carlo Avanzini

MWWD Organization

Cemil Topuzlu Cad.

Bal Apt. 26-1

34726 Ciftehavuzlar, Istanbul, Turkey

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Email: carlo.avanzini@mwwd.org / mecc.cav@wind.it.net or organization@mwwd.org

Website: www.mwwd.org

****Submission of full papers - 30 June 2006****

7th International Symposium on Water Supply Technology

22-24 November 2006

Yokohama, Japan

Contact: Noboru Saito

Director of Japan Water Research Centre

Email: saito@jwrc-net.or.jp

Website: www.jwrc-net.or.jp/index_english.html

****Submission of abstracts - end June 2006****

International Conference on Membranes for Water and Wastewater Treatment

13-16 May 2007

Harrogate International Conference Centre, UK

Contact: Simon Judd

Professor in Membrane Technology and Director of Water Sciences

Building 61, Cranfield University, Beds. MK43 0AL

Tel: +44 (0) 1234 754173.

Mob: +44 (0) 7747 878944

Fax: +44 (0) 1234 751671.

Email: s.j.judd@cranfield.ac.uk

Website: www.iwamembranes.info

Advanced Sanitation: 12-14 March 2007, Aachen, Germany

Since water, sanitation and health go hand-in-hand, sanitation is a future-oriented topic. The demand for advanced and sustainable sanitation systems will increase due to several reasons, e.g. the predicted rapid growth in the world's population and an increasing water scarcity in many regions of the world. Thus new technologies and systems have to be developed.

The proposed topics of the conference are:

- Decentralized Wastewater Systems (on-plot systems)
- Advanced Systems for Urban and Rural Sanitation
- High-Tech Systems for Wastewater Treatment
- Non-Conventional Wastewater Treatment Systems, Concepts and Technologies
- Ecological/Environmental/Sustainable Sanitation (source control, separation systems, reuse systems, closed loop sanitation systems, etc.)
- Decision Support Systems: Centralised vs. Decentralised Wastewater Systems
- Economics (financing and cost recovery, cost-effective sanitation, pricing and tariffs, capital efficiency, utility finance, benchmarking, cross and direct subsidies, etc.)
- Social aspects
- Case studies

The conference is organised and sponsored by the Institute of Environmental Engineering of RWTH Aachen University (ISA) and the IWA. It will serve as a perfect venue to exchange the most advanced developments in the field of sanitation. Authors wishing to present a paper or a poster are invited to send an abstract of maximum 2 pages in English before 31 May 2006.

More information about the conference will be provided on the official conference website: www.advancedsanitation.de

Contact

Institute of Environmental Engineering- RWTH Aachen University

Mies-van-der-Rohe-Str. 1

D-52056 Aachen/ Germany

Peter Lambertz

0049-(0)241-8026821

lambertz@advancedsanitation.de

News from IWA Publishing – www.iwapublishing.com

We are delighted to bring you news of EIGHT NEW BOOKS from IWA Publishing:

* Integrated Transboundary Water Management in Theory and Practice *

Experiences from the New EU Eastern Borders



Authors: Geoffrey D Gooch, Per Stålnacke

This book will provide new knowledge and policy recommendations based on the experiences and results of a major 3-year interdisciplinary research project (MANTRA-East). It presents conclusions and policy recommendations for integrated transboundary water management that will be invaluable to water managers, policy-makers and academic researchers working in this rapidly expanding field.

ISBN: 1843390841 · May 2006 · 256 pages · Hardback
IWA Members Price: £52.50 / US\$105.00 / €78.75

* Recent Progress in Slow Sand and Alternative Biofiltration Processes *



Editors: Rolf Gimbel, Nigel Graham, M Robin Collins

This book provides an up-to-date perspective on the physical, chemical, biological, and operational factors affecting the performance of slow sand filtration, riverbank filtration, soil-aquifer treatment, and biological activated carbon processes. The main themes are: comparable overviews of biofiltration systems; slow sand filtration process behaviour, treatment performance and process developments; and alternative bio filtration process behaviours, treatment performances, and process developments.

ISBN: 1843391201 · April 2006 · 512 pages · Hardback
IWA Members Price: £71.25 / US\$142.50 / €107.25

* Strategic Planning of Sustainable Urban Water Management *



Authors: P-A Malmqvist, G Heinicke, E Kärrman, TA Stenström, G Svensson

This book synthesises the results of the Urban Water programme and presents a comprehensive approach to the strategic planning of urban water systems, which includes not only the technical, economic and environmental aspects, but also the challenges of institutional capacity and public participation in the planning process. A number of case studies are summarised and can offer readers inspiration for their own planning situations.

ISBN: 1843391058 · May 2006 · 284 pages · Hardback
IWA Members Price: £60.00 / US\$120.00 / €90.00

* Hydrology and Water Law: Bridging the Gap *



Editors: J Wallace, P Wouters

With 'integrated water resources management' the current buzzword in international circles, the real question is: how to operationalise a truly multidisciplinary approach to the effective management of shared watercourses. This book will act as a guide to how future water laws and policies can be made more effective via the use of accurate and up to date hydrological information.

Water Law & Policy Series

ISBN: 1843390701 · May 2006 · 360 pages · Hardback
IWA Members Price: £56.25 / US\$112.50 / €84.75

* Municipal Wastewater Management in Developing Countries *

Principles and Engineering



Editors: Zaini Ujang, Mogens Henze

This comprehensive reference, dealing with municipal wastewater management in developing countries, is prepared by leading international authorities, and will provide an invaluable reference for all those concerned with the management of sanitation services in developing countries worldwide.

ISBN: 1843390302 · May 2006 · 352 pages · Hardback
IWA Members Price: £52.50 / US\$105.00 / €78.75

* Communicating Science Effectively *

A Practical Handbook for Integrating Visual Elements



Authors: J Thomas, A Jones, T Saxby, T Carruthers, E Abal, W Dennison

This is a practical handbook on how to communicate science effectively. An introduction to the principles of science communication is followed by chapters outlining techniques and principles for communicating in different media. Finally, a case study is presented to illustrate how effective science communication has become an integral part of a successful environmental science, monitoring, planning, and implementation program.

ISBN: 1843391252 · June 2006 · 136 pages · Paperback
IWA Members Price: £22.50 / US\$45.00 / €33.75

* Advanced Biological Treatment Processes for Industrial Wastewaters *

Principles & Application



Editors: F Cervantes, S Pavlostathis, A van Haandel

This book provides unique information relative to both the principles and applications of biological wastewater treatment systems for industrial effluents. Case studies document the application of biological wastewater treatment systems in different industrial sectors such as chemical, petrochemical, food-processing, mining, textile and fermentation.

Integrated Environmental Technology Series

ISBN: 1843391147 · June 2006 · 416 pages · Hardback
IWA Members Price: £60.00 / US\$120.00 / €90.00

* Water Rights *

An International and Comparative Study



Author: Desheng Hu

This book identifies the essential elements a well-structured water rights system. It is the first to discuss water rights holistically, putting the three aspects of water rights (the property right of water resources, the human right to water and the environmental right to water) into a single, well organised water rights system under the principle of sustainable development.

Water Law & Policy Series

ISBN: 1843391082 · May 2006 · 208 pages · Hardback
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