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**Water Innovation  
& Research  
Centre**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**BATH**

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## Upcoming events

[WIRC Water Colloquium Series](#)

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from WISE CDT. If you missed the talk, you can find a recording on our website here: [James](#) and [Juliana](#).



Our next colloquium is on **20th May @ 1.15pm BST** **Professor Maria Kennedy of Water Treatment at IHE Delft**, presents 'Assessing biofouling in seawater reverse osmosis systems'. Full details, including registration information, can be found [here](#).

You can keep up to date with the WIRC water colloquia series, and the other events hosted by WIRC, by continuing to subscribe to this mailing list, as well as by following our [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages.

Please note that these events are free and open to all.

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### [The WSA's Water, Infrastructure and Extreme Events - Workshops](#)



The WSA's Water, Infrastructure and Extreme Events Special Interest Research Group will be hosting [workshops](#) during May, to help better connect stakeholders with GW4 researchers in addressing the impact of extreme events on managed assets and infrastructure, in the region. The workshops are:

**5 May:** Urban Planning - focusing on Cardiff City Council's concerns about future flood risk;

**17 May:** Transport - involving Network Rail and Highways England, looking at the resilience of transport infrastructure;

**26 May:** Water Sector Infrastructure - involving South West Water, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, and Wessex Water.

[Read more about these events](#)

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## [News](#)

A warm welcome to two new colleagues who have recently joined us to work on circular economy projects.

**Dr Chris Ibenegbu** has joined us in a postdoc position to work on approaches to cleaning waste plastics prior to recycling. The plastics are recovered from an anaerobic digestion site operated by Severn Trent Green Power, which uses the organic fraction of depackaged food waste as feedstock to generate heat and power for local reuse. Innovate UK have funded the project so that Recycling Technologies, a plastics recycling start-up, can explore the potential for recovering and recycling plastics sourced from anaerobic digestion facilities. If the plastics can be made sufficiently clean prior to reprocessing, it will be possible to use the wax / oils generated by the Recycling Technologies process as feedstock for the plastics manufacturing supply chain. We hope that this will open the door to going circular with plastics. Future work will consider other plastics sourced from wastewater treatment sites. **Chris is based in Chemical Engineering and working with Dr Tom Arnot and Professor David Leak.**

**James Bacon** has joined us recently from Loughborough University, where he has just completed his PhD in Chemical Engineering. James is a postdoc working on a BBSRC/FAPESP funded project to develop novel routes for biofuel production from lignocellulosic feedstocks. James' role is to conduct techno-economic evaluation of different technology combinations, to design a process flowsheet with the best performance in terms of economies and sustainability. This brings together experimental data from collaborators at Bath, from Aberystwyth University and Imperial College, and UNICAMP and the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil. In the future we aim to apply similar approaches to waste biosolids from the water treatment industry, but for now we are looking at the use of sustainable crop feedstocks. **James is based in Chemical Engineering, working with Dr Tom Arnot and Professor David Leak.**



Chris Ibenegbu

James Bacon



## Water Colloquium

WIRC is organising a monthly seminar series, called the Water Colloquium. The Water Colloquium is open to anyone who is interested in water research. Through the seminars we offer a platform for our researchers (post-graduate and academics) to showcase their research, but also to meet external water researchers. In the last year, the seminars were online, but hopefully we can go back to life events soon.

We are currently preparing the programme for the academic year 2021-22, and we will have another line-up of interesting speakers. We have already a few speakers on our list, but we would like to offer our WIRC community to nominate candidate for speaking at the Water Colloquium between October 2021 and September 2022.

So, two questions:

- We are looking for external speakers from the water sector and academic institutions who could give a contribution to the Water Colloquium. Please contact us if you want to nominate a person who we can invite for giving a talk.
- PhD students, post-docs and academics: if you are interested in sharing your research with a broader audience, you are very welcome to nominate yourself.

Please contact [Sonia Skaczowska](#) with your nominations, preferably before 15 May 2021.

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## Watershare

**watershare<sup>®</sup>**

Since 2015, [WIRC](#) is member of Watershare.

Watershare is a network of water research organisations and utilities who are dedicated to apply their expertise to master local water challenges by

created over 10 years ago and is still growing. The community is focusing more and more on accelerating innovations and create impact. Recently, regional hubs have been established to strengthen the network's position beyond Europe. Regional Hubs now are available in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

There are currently five themes where collaboration is taking place: water scarcity, compounds of emerging concern, future-proof water infrastructures, Energy and resource recovery, and Resilient urban water management. Also, webinars are regularly organised on topics as circular water solutions and COVID-19 wastewater surveillance.

For more information: [www.watershare.eu](http://www.watershare.eu) or [Jan Hofman](#)

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### [Invitation for a coffee and a catch up](#)

WIRC is organise regular meetings for small talk, so we have booked a few afternoon catch up dates after May Bank Holiday weekend **12th May, 26th May and 9th June at 16:15-16:45**. Come alone to have a chat with us. Contact [Sonia Skaczowska](#) for meeting details.



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### [Water Industry Film Shorts](#)

Water Industry TV has launched a video competition to build awareness of the challenges facing the world's water systems ahead of COP26. It is a chance to tell your water stories, help propel the water industry into the digital age and show how the research community is driving us towards solutions. The competition is open to everyone, whether you are a professional in the industry, a student, or just a water enthusiast. Please consider making a video entry to highlight your research and its potential impact.



[Industry TV](#).

Deadline for entries is 15 May, 2021.

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## [The UK Young Coastal Scientists and Engineers Conference](#)



The UK Young Coastal Scientists and Engineers Conference (YCSEC) 2021 was run online by the National Oceanography Centre on 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> March. YCSEC provides a unique opportunity for leading young coastal scientists and engineers working in academia and industry, to present their work and network with their peers in an informal setting. In most years, the conference is UK-focussed, however the move to online delivery opened it up to international participation.

Sponsored by Marlan Technologies, the conference this year included talks on topics ranging from the effect of the COVID19 pandemic on coastal communities to numerical modelling of landslide generated tsunami waves. [Dr Kit Stokes](#) (University of Plymouth) gave a keynote address and [Ollie Foss](#) from the [WISE CDT](#) presented on his PhD which is exploring sustainable coastal protection.

In addition to traditional conference talks, students in the early stages of their research were invited to share a “hot plot” and a number of networking opportunities were scheduled, including an evening social event and discussions focussing on the contribution of PhD and Postdoctoral research on COP26 priority areas. In total 96 participants were registered and while we look forward to running the 2022 conference in-person at Bournemouth University, the 2021 event was enjoyed by all and was a great success.

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## Recent publications

- ['Do we know how to best develop new wastewater-based epidemiology applications?'](#), SETAC Europe 30th Annual Meeting, Dublin, Castiglioni, S, Zuccato, E & Kasprzyk-Hordern, B
  - ["Effects of free heave motion on wave resonance inside a narrow gap between two boxes under wave actions"](#), *Ocean Engineering*, Gao, J, He, Z, Huang, X, Liu, Q, Zang, J & Wang, G
  - ['Photocatalytic ZnO Foams for Micropollutant Degradation'](#), *Advanced Sustainable Systems*, Tasso Guaraldo, T, Wenk, J & Mattia, D
- 

## Upcoming conferences



### [IWRA Online Conference on 'One Water, One Health: Water, Food & Public Health in a Changing World' - 7th June - 9th June](#)

The International Water Resources Association is pleased to announce its **upcoming online conference** on “*One Water, One Health: Water, Food and Public Health in a Changing World*” to take place from Monday, June 7th, to Wednesday, June 9th, 2021. You are cordially invited to **participate!**

To find out more go [here](#)

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### [IWA EcoSTP 2021 - Impacting the environment with innovation in wastewater treatment, 21st June- 25th June 2021](#)

IWA EcoSTP 2021 will take place in June 2021 and will be hosted by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering of Politecnico di Milano. The conference is organized by a program committee composed by Politecnico di Milano staff and chairs of previous editions of the IWA EcoSTP conference. IWA EcoSTP 2021 is supported by Water Utilities, Companies in the Water Sector, Local Authorities and other stakeholders. [Read more](#)



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## [GWF2021 Annual Open Science Meeting - May 17-19](#)



GWF are inviting the WSA research community to join their online annual conference 17-19 May. The varied programme includes key note talks, panel discussions and an interactive poster session. [Read more](#).

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## [IWA Digital World Water Congress 24th May - 4th June 2021 - online](#)

The International Water Association (IWA) will be holding a major virtual event – the Digital World Water Congress – from the 24th May to the 4th June this year. The Congress will include a range of presentations, networking opportunities, poster sessions and much more.

If you would like to register your interest in attending, please [click here](#). For more updates in the coming weeks, please visit the [event page](#).

**Let us know if you are aware of any new colleagues or students working within water research at the University of Bath, so that we can add them to our mailing lists!**

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