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Information and news from WIRC @ Bath.

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**Water Innovation
& Research
Centre**



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

Contents

Upcoming events

[WIRC Water Colloquium Series](#)

[World Water Day across the GW4 Water Security Alliance](#)

[1st WEF Nexus Winter School for Southern Africa](#)

News

[Call for participants: National Geographic film on water scarcity](#)

[Invitation to virtual coffee and catch up](#)

[GW4 WSA: Urban Water Dynamics Special Interest Research Group](#)

[UKWIR 2020 conference now online](#)

Research

[Institute of Water Innovation Awards](#)

[EPSRC Bioenergy Visit](#)

[New EPSRC Water Engineering Portfolio Manager](#)

Recent publications

Upcoming conferences

[Supporting women in water conference](#)

[Fairness in utilities: What are the implications of public purpose for companies, policy makers and regulators?](#)

[IWA Digital World Water Congress](#)

Upcoming events

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The next WIRC water colloquium will be held on **11th March 2021** and will feature **Prof Annemarie van Wezel of the University of Amsterdam**. Prof van Wezel will give a presentation titled, "Science to help reach a toxic-free environment." Full details, including registration information, can be found [here](#).

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



[UN World Water Day - on line events across the GW4 Water Security Alliance 22-26 March 2021](#)

[World Water Day](#) is on Monday 22nd March 2021, and this year it has a theme of "[Valuing Water](#)" Join the conversation about what water means to you on social media, using the following hash tags: **#WATER2ME** **#GW4WorldWaterDay**.

1) TWEET YOUR RESEARCH

On behalf of the GW4 Water Security Alliance [WIRC@Bath](#) will be running a **Tweet your research poster / short video event** to promote our water research to a wider audience, and to demonstrate the valuable contributions being made to water issues.

We would encourage as many colleagues as possible to join in with this activity, and to start preparing a poster (or digging out and recycling recent one) and / or recording a 3-minute video which describes your work. Feel free to target a scientific / engineering audience or to produce something more suited to public engagement. We hope that the Twitter exchanges that follow will gain you some new contacts, provide some feedback on your research, perhaps gain a new collaborator, and promote our very important work on water. Further details to follow via email shortly.

SEE - The Cabot Institute for the Environment at the University of Bristol. **Monday 22 March 2021, 17:15-18:30 GMT**, [Register here](#)

3) DOCUMENTARY DISCUSSION: FLINT – WHO CAN YOU TRUST? - Cardiff Water Research Institute's early-career group virtual Documentary Discussion. **Wednesday 24 March 2021, 17:00-18:30 GMT**, [Register here](#)

4) MANAGING THE WATER WE EAT - WSA Friday webinar will feature Stefan Uhlenbrook, Strategic Program Director for Water, Food & Ecosystems at the International Water Management Institute. Further details to follow. **Friday 26 March 2021, 14:30 - 15:30 GMT**, [Register here](#)

News

[Call for participants: National Geographic film on water scarcity.](#)

WIRC has been approached by a TV production company that is producing a film on water scarcity for National Geographic, in partnership with Finish dishwater tablets. They are looking for young UK nationals, aged under 30, who are passionate about saving water and involved in promoting water conservation. The film will be presented by a National Geographic explorer, who would talk with you about why saving water is so important in the UK, and how you are helping. This would make up around 1 minute of the film.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone to promote themselves and their work on an international, popular platform. If you are interested, please email [WIRC General Enquiries](#) **ASAP**. They would like to confirm volunteers by the first week of March, with filming beginning at the end of that month.

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

We are still facing major limitations for in-person meetings and everyone is a bit 'over zoomed' after only

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Although it is again an online meeting, we think that there might be a need to have a regular meeting for small talk.

To organise these, we would like to ask you a few questions so that we can better align the meetings with your needs. Please fill in 3 questions in this form:

[Microsoft Forms](#)



[GW4 WSA: Urban Water Dynamics Special Interest Research Group](#)

The [GW4 Water Security Alliance](#) recently launched a Special Interest Research Group (SIRG) around the theme of Urban Water Dynamics. Over the coming months, the GW4 WSA will be holding a series of events around this theme, including seminars, panel discussions and lectures. The aim of these events is to explore the specialisms of researchers working on this broad theme across the GW4, and to try to identify opportunities for future collaborative research.

If you are interested in participating in these events, please contact Andrew Schofield at the GW4 WSA: a.schofield@cardiff.ac.uk.



[1st WEF Nexus Winter School for Southern Africa](#)

The first Water-Energy-Food Nexus Winter School for Southern Africa will be held from the 26th to the 30th of July 2021 at the University of Pretoria, South Africa (COVID restrictions permitting). Hosted by the Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft), the WEF Nexus Winter School's overall objective is to improve the evidence-based decision-making capacities of early career researchers, postgraduates, managers and practitioners. The winter school will focus on:

management and regional policies.

- Strengthening skills and knowledge about tools and methods for WEF Nexus assessments, planning, monitoring and evaluation.
- Networking and mentoring, i.e., improving international communication between practitioners, postgraduates, early career researchers, senior researchers, and experts to build and consolidate a WEF network in Southern Africa.

Full details of the Winter School, including the call for application and the registration form, can be found [here](#). The deadline for applications is 31st March 2021.



[UKWIR 2020 conference now online](#)

If anybody is interested is watching highlights from the UKWIR 2020 conference, which focussed largely on the new [Water Innovation 2050 Strategy](#) and the [Ofwat Innovation Fund](#), then they are now available online. A series of short videos, capturing the key moments from the conference presentations and discussions, is now available online via the UKWIR website, you can view them here <https://ukwir.org/annual-conference-2020>

Research

[Institute of Water Innovation Awards](#)

The Institute of Water has opened applications for its National Innovation Awards. The National Innovation Awards give a spotlight for the innovative individuals and companies within the water sector to demonstrate their excellence.



– the list goes on!

Each year, each Area of the Institute holds a regional innovation competition and the finalists from each are shortlisted for the National Award. The deadline for applications for the South West area is Friday 19th March. Full details can be found [here](#).

[New EPSRC Water Engineering Portfolio Manager](#)

Many of you will know Dr Georgie Freeman, who has been managing the [Water Engineering portfolio at EPSRC](#) and representing EPSRC on the UKRI Water Interest Group. I know Georgie well as she has been the contact point at EPSRC for the WISE CDT. Georgie has recently moved to a new role within UKRI at STFC, and we wish her well in his new opportunity, and thank her for her friendly and efficient support over the past six years.

Dr Maria Calderon Munoz has taken over Georgie's role in managing the Water Engineering portfolio, and I had the pleasure of meeting her at a recent WISE CDT Advisory Board meeting. Maria is keen to learn more about the range of water research at Bath, and how she can support us. We will therefore soon be organising a virtual visit to [WIRC@Bath](#) for Maria.

Tom Arnot

[EPSRC Bioenergy Visit](#)

On the 19th March **Prof Marcelle McManus**, Co-Director of CSCT, is hosting a virtual visit to Bath for [Zaffie Cox](#), who is the new Portfolio Manager for [Bioenergy at EPSRC](#). I will be making a short presentation at the event, alongside [Marcelle](#), [Chris Chuck](#), and [Davide Mattia](#), and I would like to represent the bioenergy research on campus related to waste water valorisation, Net Zero 2030, and the circular economy. I have some thoughts already, but if you would like me to include a slide covering your work then please get in touch.

Tom Arnot

Recent publications

- ['Developing a biorefinery from spent coffee grounds using subcritical water and hydrothermal carbonisation'](#), *Biomass Conversion and Biorefinery*, Massaya, J, Chan, KH, Mills-lampsey, B & Chuck, CJ 2021
- ['Optimal influent N-to-P ratio for stable microalgal cultivation in water treatment and nutrient recovery'](#), *Chemosphere*, Wagner, D, Cazzaniga, C, Steidl, M, Dechesne, A, Valverde-Perez, BO & Plosz, B 2021
- ['Micropollutant fluxes in urban environment – A catchment perspective'](#), *Journal of Hazardous Materials*, Proctor, K, Petrie, B, Lopardo, L, Muñoz, DC, Rice, J, Barden, R, Arnot, T & Kasprzyk-Hordern, B 2021



Upcoming conferences

[Institute of Water 'Supporting Women in Water' conference, 4th & 5th March – online](#)

The Institute of Water, in association with British Water, is holding a virtual conference titled 'Supporting Women in Water.' Held over three sessions over the 4th and 5th of March 2021, the conference will discuss and address equality, diversity and inclusivity issues within the water sector.

Full details of the conference, including information on how to register and attend virtually, can be found [here](#).

[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](#).

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[companies, policy makers and regulators?](#)
[30th March, 2:00 – 4:30pm](#)



One of our WIRC@Bath Advisory Board members, Martin Hurst, is organising the above conference, and has asked that we promote the event across our networks. This conference is free to attend, [click here](#) to register.

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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