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Information and news from WIRC @ Bath.

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Water Innovation
& Research
Centre



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH



Dear all,

Last week we were already halfway the first semester. It is unbelievable how fast time flies. Teaching digests a large portion of the time.

Nevertheless, WIRC continues to develop. In the last week we had meetings with most of our research theme leaders. Just before summer, we developed the eight new research themes and I was delighted to see how much progress already has been made with these themes. Preparations are now being made to share this success with the research community on campus on 25 January 2017. Watch your email for the invitation.

Jan Hofman
Director WIRC @ Bath

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Upcoming Events at Bath

23 November 2016: [Shale Oil and Gas and its Impact on the Water Industry – The Truths, Myths and Legends](#), Andrew Gunning, Partner, [RSKW](#)

15 December 2016: WIRC Colloquium - "[Assessing the element of surprise of record-breaking flood events](#)", [Dr Thomas Kjeldsen](#), Department of Architecture & Civil Engineering, University of Bath

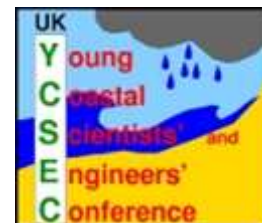
25 January 2017: [WIRC Open Discussion Day](#).

10-12 April 2017: [18th UK-Young Water Professionals Conference](#)

11-12 April 2017: [13th UK Young Coastal Scientists and Engineers Conference \(YCSEC\)](#)

13th UK Young Coastal Scientists and Engineers Conference (YCSEC)

You are warmly invited to attend the [13th UK Young Coastal Scientists and Engineers Conference \(YCSEC\)](#). The conference is organised and hosted by the University of Bath, and will take place at the University of Bath Campus on Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12 March 2017.



Rationale for YCSEC

Research on coastal physical processes in the UK occurs under various disciplinary labels, including oceanography, geography, geology and engineering. This results in a fragmented coastal research community with limited interaction and collaboration between different disciplines. The lack of integration is felt most by young coastal

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research community, the first Young Coastal Scientists and Engineers Conference (YCSEC) was held in Nottingham in 2005. It is now an annual event travelling the UK and has been replicated in North America.

Building on the success of previous conferences, the 13th YCSEC brings together young researchers and practitioners from different disciplines all concerned with physical coastal processes. Young researchers have the opportunity to discuss and present their work, orally or by poster in an informal setting, with prizes awarded for the best presentation and poster. This year's keynote lecture will be given by Prof Ad Reniers from Delft University of Technology.

Who should attend?

The conference is aimed at young scientists and engineers concerned with any aspect of physical coastal science or engineering. These include post-graduate students and post-doctoral researchers in universities. <https://cms.bath.ac.uk/research/centres/wirc/events/ycsec2017.html>

We also encourage junior engineers, scientists and researchers in private companies and government agencies to attend.

[Call for abstracts](#) is open now. Registration will open in December 2016.

WIRC representative at Newton Bhabha research link workshop: Solving water issues in India through UK-Indo research collaboration

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WIRC researcher Dr Jannis Wenk from the Chemical Engineering Department joined a workshop in Chennai which was intended to create new opportunities for water researchers in India and UK to initiate international collaborations over the next few year. The three-day workshop held in August and entitled 'Clean water through advanced and affordable materials' brought together 12 UK and 15 Indian early career researchers, as well as renowned senior researchers from both countries. The workshop was part of the British Council's collaboration with the Royal Society of Chemistry, and was the first of six 'Newton Bhabha Researcher Link Workshops' awarded in 2015-16.

The workshop included research presentations, brainstorming sessions and site visits to IIT Madras and the DST Unit of Nanoscience. Dr Wenk presented his recent results on sunlight-induced processes that govern natural contaminant and pathogen attenuation processes in sewage impacted surface waters, and how these processes could be also exploited in India as a reliable polishing step to clean water besides more costly techniques.

Main water issues of India were discussed during the brainstorming session on the last day of the workshop. The participants collected 50 research ideas, which were grouped into four topic areas: water harvesting in urban and rural India, materials and technology, socio-economic aspects and eco-friendly and cost-effective processes.

Dr Wenk is very excited about the upcoming research opportunities with India. Co-investment in joint research activities has risen from £1million in 2009 to around £12million in 2016; further increase can be expected. Currently, Dr Wenk is travelling again to India to meet with researchers at IISER Kolkata and Vellore Institute of

An Update on the WISE Centre for Doctoral Training

By Dr Tom Arnot, Co-director of the [WISE CDT](#)

1. Introducing Cohort 2 Bath students on the WISE CDT Programme.

The WISE CDT had its first intake in 2014/15, so Cohort 1 have completed the taught component at Exeter, and are just going through the confirmation process after their first year of research project. Cohort 2 have completed the taught component at Exeter, moved to Bath over the summer, and started their research projects full time in September / October. So we are delighted to welcome four new research student colleagues to the WIRC@Bath community:

Olivia Bailey

Prior to joining the WISE CDT programme, I completed my first degree in Chemical Engineering (MEng) at the University of Bath.

Research Project:

Sewer systems of the future, with Jan Hofman and Tom Arnot – both Chemical Engineering.



Aidan Barry

I graduated from the University of Bristol with a BSc in Biochemistry, and have interests in plant genetics and algal technologies.

Research Project:

Manipulation of micro-algal species for enhanced wastewater phosphorus removal, with Rod Scott (Biology & Biochemistry) and Tom Arnot (Chemical Engineering).



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I have a BSc in Earth & Environment Sciences from the University of Bordeaux 1, and an Erasmus Mundus MSc in Marine Environment & Resources from the Universities of Bordeaux 1, the Basque Country, and Southampton.

Research Project:

Resilience of the United Kingdom coastline under Sea Level Rise and the potential of adaptation using soft engineering, with Chris Blenkinsopp, Thomas Kjeldsen (both Architecture & Civil Engineering) and Ilaria Prosdocimi (Maths).



Ioannis Markidis

I have a BSc in Environmental Engineering and MSc in Environmental Science, Democritus University of Thrace, Xanthi - Greece.

Research Project:

Investigating the sustainability and economic viability of small scale urban anaerobic digestion systems, with Marta Coma (CSCT, Chemistry) and Tom Arnot (Chemical Engineering).



2. Cohort 3 and Research Project Development.

We recruited four candidates to join the WISE CDT from Bath for the 2016/17 entry. They are now mid-way through their first term at Exeter on the taught element of the CDT programme. We will shortly be issuing a call for research project proposals for them to consider. This will be the same process as last year, but we will bring it forward by a few months to allow more time for discussion. Potential supervisors should keep an eye on their emails for information about submitting outline project proposals, which will come out next week.

3. Cohort 4 and Recruitment for 2016/17

The recruitment process for joining WISE for 2017/18 entry is now open. As usual we welcome applications from graduates in Engineering, Physics, Applied

Please take the opportunity to promote the **WISE CDT scholarships** amongst your own contacts and networks. Please refer to the [WISE CDT website](#) for further information.

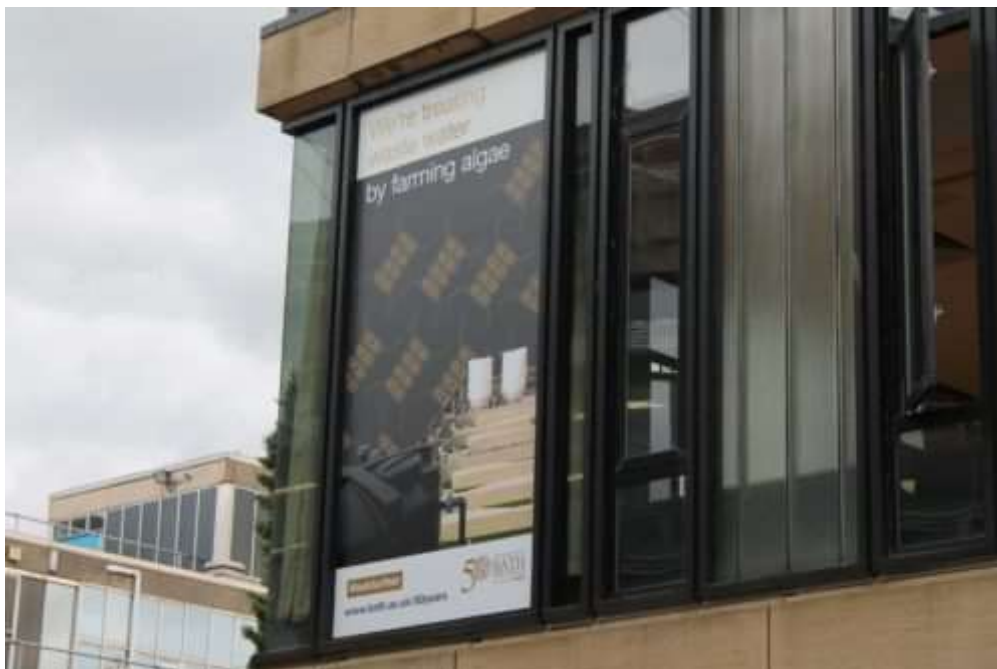
Glistening Research Stories Decorate Campus

WIRC's research has been highlighted by the University via [glistening research stories](#):

"Recently installed across 13 locations from the East Building to the entrance of 10W, these new window vinyls reflect some of the latest research successes across each of the Faculties, the School of Management and our Institutes.

Glistening in gold in the autumn sun they've been designed as part of the [50th Anniversary celebrations](#) and its 'look further' campaign.

'We're treating waste water by farming algae'



Water research at Bath, led through the [Water Innovation & Research Centre \(WIRC\)](#), is bringing together researchers from around the University to tackle key challenges faced by industry and wider society. Treating waste water is one such challenge. By harnessing expertise from Chemical Engineering and Biology &

Meet Our Colleague

Dr Benedek Plosz

Reader, Department of Chemical Engineering,
University of Bath

I am very excited to join University of Bath and WIRC as a Reader affiliated to the Department of Chemical Engineering. I was introduced to WIRC through a nice dinner I shared with Prof. Jan Hofman in September in Bath. Over great Italian food, we discussed many opportunities to set up new research and innovation collaborations under the WIRC umbrella. What am I interested in? Frankly, everything that is related to urban water management and mathematics, but more closely in trace organics in used water (pharma, drug biomarkers), computational fluid dynamics of engineered water systems, and biogeochemical used water resource recovery. These areas, of course, are related to what I have been doing for the last seven years working as an associate professor in bioprocess modelling at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU). Through these years I also had the honour to work together with Dr. Barbara Kasprzyk-Hordern from Bath with whom we further the emerging field of wastewater-based epidemiology in the SEWPROF EU-project. I look forward to meeting and talking to you all in the autumn and the New-year. By the way, I am Hungarian, hold a PhD in Chemistry, MSc in Bioengineering (both from the Budapest University of Technology), an industrial Marie Skłodowska-Curie post-doctor (in France), and was a research scientist at the Norwegian Institute for Water Research before moving to Denmark.



Upcoming Conferences

23 - 24 November 2016, Brussels, [WssTP Brokerage Event](#)

10 - 12 April 2017, Bath, [18th UK-IWA Young Water Professionals Conference](#), *A Water World without Boundaries*

29 May 2017- 2 June 2017, Florianopolis, Brazil, WA Leading Edge Technology,

3-5 July 2017, Ottawa, Canada, [International Conference on Water, Informatics.](#)

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You can find out all IWA event on their [website](#).



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