



**IWA SPECIALIST GROUP ON
HEALTH-RELATED WATER
MICROBIOLOGY**

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER - 6

March 2000

NOMINATIONS REQUIRED NOW!

In accordance with the resolution accepted at the Vancouver Biennial, the following positions on the Committee of the Health-related Water Microbiology Group will become vacant at the Paris Symposium:

Chair, Secretary, Editor

Accordingly, as indicated in the last electronic Newsletter, we are now seeking nominations for these posts.

Conditions for nomination are:

1. All those nominated, and their proposers, **MUST** be members of IWA
2. Each nomination must be accompanied by **TWO** proposers
3. Nominations must be submitted by **25 March 2000**

A list of those nominated (with their proposers) will be published in a special issue of the electronic Newsletter on 15 May 2000. Voting will be by emailed ballot and will commence after publication of the nominations list. Each voter will have one vote for each vacant position. The ballot will close 15 June 2000.

All nominations and ballots to be sent to Dr Ray Morris at

ballot@microbe.demon.co.uk

The results will be announced at the Paris Symposium when the new officers will assume their roles. All ballot papers received by midnight 15 June 2000 will be available for scrutiny at the Paris meeting

PARIS SYMPOSIUM

Without doubt the Paris meeting is going to be extremely successful! As this Newsletter is being written, nearly 200 abstracts have been received and the arduous selection process for the oral programme is underway. The final oral programme will be finalised by 15 March 2000 and will be available in the next Newsletter, by direct request from Ray Morris or from our Symposium web page which will be finalised in time for the next Newsletter.

Registration forms are still awaited (as of 27 February) but to move things on delegates are encouraged to contact the following for details of fees etc.

aghtm@aghtm.org

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Dear Colleagues,

I am involved in a research project associated with the development of a program to use reclaimed water as a source of stock drinking water in NSW, Australia. Naturally, there are a number of key issues involved with the use of reclaimed water including the potential adverse impact of pathogenic organisms and nitrates on animal health, milk production and human health (via milk consumption). Hence, I am looking for information regarding any;

- published literature investigating the impact of pathogens (and other reclaimed water constituents) on animal health/milk quality
- animal/public health guidelines that address this issue (e.g. pathogen levels)
- useful contacts in this area

I would be grateful for any information or suggestions that you could provide.

Melinda Pickup
mp14@uow.edu.au

HRWM PARTICIPATION AT BERLIN 2001

At this time, there are no plans to have a full meeting at the IWA Congress in Berlin 2001 although it is suggested that the Group may like to have a session or two on specific topics. How do members feel about this? Any suggestions?

AND HRWM SYMPOSIUM 2002!

The request for possible alternative venues to Australia in 2002 (last Newsletter) has met with (a) no suggestions and (b) strong support for our attendance there!

In light of no other proposals, it will be put to the Paris Symposium that the next full meeting of the HRWM Group will be alongside IWA in Australia 2002

POLISH CONFERENCE <http://www.lemprojekt.com.pl./water2000>

IVth International Conference "Water Supply and Water Quality"

11-13 September 2000

Krakow, Poland

For further information contact:

Adam Kalucki, *Conference Coordinator*

LEM PROJEKT

ul. Grodzka 1, 31-006 Krakow, Poland

tel. 48-12-423 08 55 (61), fax 48-12-421 81 99

biuro@lemprojekt.com.pl

HAVE YOU SEEN?

Outbreak of viral gastroenteritis due to drinking water contaminated by Norwalk-like viruses – Kukkula, Maunula, Silvennoinen & von Bonsdorff

J Infectious Diseases (1999) vol 180, pp 1771-6

Report on a large NVL outbreak in Finland associated with contaminated drinking water which had residual chlorine and no bacterial indicators. Estimated that 30-50% of town's population (of 4,860 inhabitants) affected. RT-PCR used as detection method with NVLs being demonstrated in raw and treated water, stools and final drinking water at consumer taps. Most NVLs of genotype II.

Interestingly, there seems to have been a connection with an earlier foodborne outbreak at another town with sewage from there entering (eventually) the lake used as the water supply for the most recently affected township. Same serogroup predominated in the first outbreak. Speculated that the viruses may have been trapped in ice during the winter freeze up and only slowly made their way down river over a four month period.

Further details from: Marja.Kukkula@sci.fi

IWA PUBLISHING NEWS

IWA Publishing is planning an exciting range of new publications for 2000 and beyond. Full details about forthcoming titles can be found at <http://www.iwap.co.uk>. If you have a publishing proposal, are in the process of writing a book or wish to discuss a new publishing idea, please contact Alan Click, Editor (aclick@iwap.co.uk) or download and complete an Author Proposal Form from the "New Proposals" section of the website.

IWA Publishing has launched a new journal alert service. Ensure that you are kept up to date of latest issues of IWA journals by subscribing to the FREE ContentsAlert service. This valuable service is available free of charge to IWA members and will enable you to keep up to date with articles published in the IWA journals. This service delivers the contents pages of each issue approximately 2-4 weeks prior to publication.

This electronic Newsletter aims to keep members of the Health-related Water Microbiology Group informed of forthcoming events and in contact with each other. Items of interest to the Group are always welcome. Please address correspondence to: Ray Morris (E-mail: wmorris@microbe.demon.co.uk)

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