

HRWM News

ISSUE 11 - May 2013



**International
Water Association**

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www.iwa-microbiology.org



WaterMicro 2013
September 15 - 20, 2013
Florianópolis, Brazil
WWW.HRWM2013.ORG

WaterMicro Symposium 2013

Invitation to 17th International Symposium on HRWM

Dear Colleagues,

The Organizing Committee of the 17th International Symposium on Health-Related Water Microbiology invites you to the WaterMicro2013 Symposium, which will be held in Florianópolis Island, Santa Catarina, Brazil, from 15-20th September, 2013. This is a biennial event organized by the International Water Association (IWA) Specialist Group on Health-Related Water Microbiology (HRWM) established in 1977 that covers all aspects of infectious diseases transmitted by water.

The event congregates experts working in many fields: environmental and clinical virology, bacteriology and parasitology; infectious diseases epidemiology, microbial risk assessment; water treatment engineering and environmental health practices, amongst others. This is a valuable and unique opportunity for the scientific community, students and professionals to meet and exchange ideas, to explore the state of the art and to debate the key issues related to the importance of the microorganisms in water quality and their impact on human health. This is also a great opportunity to meet environmental microbiologists studying health-related water microbiology in the Latin America and the Caribbean .

Topics to be covered at WaterMicro 2013 include water pollution and diseases; microbial source tracking; catchment protection; water reuse and health, microbial biofilms; water and sanitation in developing countries; global change and water quality; recreational water and health; epidemiology of waterborne diseases; microbial risk assessment as well as factors relevant to the microbial quality of shellfish growing areas.

The Symposium will also offer mini- courses and a workshop in a specific topic of water microbiology and health, organized by the World Health Organization, to be held on the last day of the meeting.

We welcome you to Floripa, the island of one thousand charms, for an intensive, cheerful and an enjoyable exchange of scientific information. Visit www.hrwm2013.org and register now. Submission for Poster Abstracts will remain open through May 2nd.

Sincerely,

Maria Inês Z Sato
Symposium Chair
CETESB – Companhia
Ambiental do
Estado de São Paulo

Célia R M Barardi
Symposium Co-Chair
Universidade Federal de
Santa Catarina

Important Dates

May 2, 2013

Extended deadline for WaterMicro 2013 Poster Abstract Submission

June 1, 2013

Deadline for Water Micro 2013 Early Registration Discount

June 3, 2013

Notification of Acceptance for WaterMicro 2013 Oral and Poster Presenters

Notification of WaterMicro 2013 Bursary Award Recipients

September 15-20, 2013

WaterMicro 2013 Symposium, Florianópolis, Brazil

September 21-26, 2014

IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition, Lisbon Portugal



WaterMicro 2013

Florianópolis, Brazil

Venue: Majestic Palace Hotel

Dates: September 15-20, 2013

Topics: Water pollution and diseases; Microbial source tracking; Catchment protection; Water reuse and health concerns; Biofilm studies; Water and sanitation in developing countries; Global changes and water quality; Recreational water and health; Epidemiology of waterborne diseases; Microbial risk assessment; Microbial quality of shellfish growing areas.

Abstract Submission: Poster abstract submission has been extended through May 2, 2013. Oral abstract submission is now closed. Notification of acceptance for all abstracts will be sent by June 3, 2013.

Bursary Awards: The application deadline has passed for bursary awards. Notification of acceptance will be sent by June 3, 2013.

Registration: Please visit www.hrwm2013.org to register securely online. Registration is now open. Early bird rates apply through June 1, 2013.

Entertainment: Florianópolis is the island of one thousand charms, featuring gorgeous beaches, islands, lagoons, dunes, historic buildings, and nature sports – a true entertainment park at open sky. Sea food is part of the local gastronomical culture, from the most exotic options to the refinement of the best international cuisines.

Workshops: Please see additional information regarding the workshops on page 3 of this Newsletter.

Organizers: CETESB, University of São Paulo, FIOCRUZ, Federal University of Santa Catarina, and AIDIS



Newsletter Staff

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WaterMicro 2013 Workshops

Mini-Course: How to get your research published

Date: September 15, 2013

Time: 01:00 pm – 05:00 pm

Professor: Paul R. Hunter, Professor of Health Protection, The Norwich School of Medicine, University of East Anglia, England; Editor - Journal of Water and Health

Topics: Choose which Journal to submit your work to; Write clearly even when English is not your first language; How to structure your paper; Increase your chances of getting your paper accepted; Dealing with referee's comments; Coping with rejection

Registration required – R\$ 150,00

Workshop: Impact of climate change on health

Date: September 15, 2013

Time: 01:30 pm – 05:30 pm

Contact: Marize Miagostovich, FIOCRUZ- Rio de Janeiro

Registration required – R\$ 150,00

WHO Workshop I: Application of microbial risk assessment in the context of WHO guidelines

Date: September 20, 2013

Time: 08:30 am – 12:00 am

Contact: Margaret Montgomery (World Health Organization)

WHO Workshop II: Rapid microbial methods: optimizing the development of monitoring programmes

Date: September 20, 2013

Time: 01:30 pm – 04:30 pm

Contact: Jennifer DeFrance (World Health Organization)

About: The greatest risk to drinking-water safety is contamination with human pathogenic bacteria, viruses and parasites. Testing and monitoring the microbial quality of drinking-water is therefore a key element to ensure drinking-water safety and to prevent waterborne infectious diseases and protect public health. Though new microbial methods keep evolving, there are many challenges in monitoring drinking-water quality, particularly in low-resource settings. In this workshop, both challenges and opportunities will be reviewed and discussed. Moreover, attention will be paid to how to support stakeholders in developing risk-based monitoring programmes, including the selection of appropriate water quality tests in low resource settings. More information will follow in the coming months.

Grabow Young Investigator Award Recipient

The 2013 IWA-HRWM Willie Grabow Young Investigator Award recipient is Tobias G. Barnard who comes from the University of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mr. Barnard was selected for the award based on his outstanding research in the field of health-related water microbiology, specifically in developing countries. The award consists of a stipend for travel, lodging and registration costs for the to attend the WaterMicro 2013 Symposium in Florianópolis, Brazil in September.

The Young Investigator Award was established in honor of Professor Willie Grabow, a brilliant environmental virologist whom has dedicated part of his professional life to implementing the IWA and specialist group concept, and giving technical and scientific support to developing countries in the environmental microbiology field and continues to inspire emerging scientists. The award, generously sponsored by IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. is presented biennially in conjunction with the HRWM Symposium.

The Award committee members are Ms. Bettina Genthe (S. Africa), Dr. Andreas Farnleitner (Austria) and Dr. Alexandria B. Boehm (USA). Please direct any questions regarding the Young Investigator Award to Bettina Genthe at bgenthe@csir.co.za.

Elections and Nominations

HRWM will elect a new Secretary and Vice Chair later this year. The current Chairperson, Dr. Gertjan Medema will move to the position of Past Chair and the current Vice Chair, Dr. Marion Savill will move into the position of Chairperson following the WaterMicro 2013 Symposium.

The elected secretary will serve HRWM for 4 years. The elected Vice Chair will serve HRWM for 6 years in total; 2 years as Vice Chair, followed by 2 years as Chair, and 2 years as Past Chair.

In addition to officer elections, voting will also take place for the destination for the next HRWM Symposium, WaterMicro 2015.

Online voting will begin prior to the 2013 WaterMicro Symposium and in person voting will take place at the HRWM Business Meeting held at the Symposium. Results will be announced at the WaterMicro Gala Dinner held on Thursday, September 19th, 2013.

Please see biographies of current candidates on pages 2 and 3 of this Newsletter issue as well as the options for WaterMicro 2015 on pages 4 and 5.

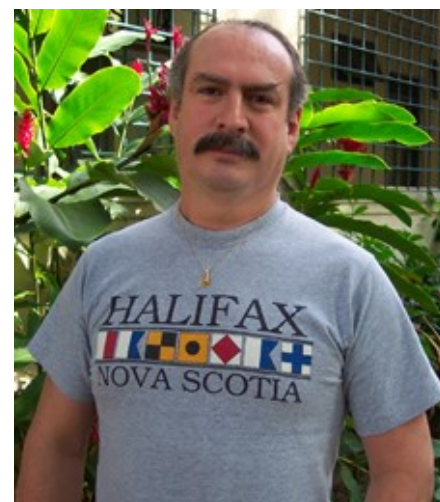
Note that nominations for 2013 are now closed. If you are interested in serving or nominating someone to serve as a HRWM officer or board member in the future please contact Joan B. Rose at rosejo@msu.edu. If you are interested in hosting the WaterMicro Symposium in the future please contact Gertjan Medema at [kertjan.medema@kwrwater.nl](mailto:gertjan.medema@kwrwater.nl)

HRWM Candidate Statements

HRWM Vice Chair Candidate

Gary A. Toranzos-Soria, PhD

Gary A. Toranzos-Soria, a native of Cochabamba, Bolivia earned his Ph.D. at the University of Arizona in 1985 in Environmental Virology. After a post-doctoral position at the University of Florida, he relocated to the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus where continues to conduct research in environmental microbiology. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement in Science and the American Academy of Microbiology. Toranzos Soria has served the Health-Related Water Microbiology as a member and board member for over 20 and 10 years respectively.



HRWM Secretary Candidate

Rosina Girones, PhD

Rosina Girones is full professor at the University of Barcelona, Spain has been a researcher at the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, NIH, USA, and since 1989 is professor of Microbiology at the University of Barcelona being the responsible of the Laboratory of Viruses contaminants of Water and Food. Rosina Girones has published more of 80



scientific articles and has been involved in research in the area of Environmental Virology for about 30 years, developing molecular methods for the detection and study of human and animal adenoviruses, enteroviruses, noroviruses, hepatitis E and A viruses, human and animal polyomaviruses and the development of new potential indicators and MST tools. Dr. Girones has been coordinator of national and international research projects and has studied viral contamination in shellfish, drinking, bathing and ground waters, and prions as environmental contaminants continuing at the present with the study of the impact of climate change on the fate, transport and risk management of viral pathogens in water. The laboratory of Rosina Girones has also established collaborations with water companies, regulatory agencies and nongovernmental organizations in order to apply current developments related with water safety to the improvements of microbiological water quality controls, regulations and water treatments in high and in low income countries.

Candidate Statements (cont.)

HRWM Secretary Candidate



Alexandria (Ali) Boehm, PhD

Alexandria (Ali) Boehm is an associate professor in the environmental and water studies program in civil and environmental engineering at Stanford University. Dr. Boehm's research area is broadly water quality with an emphasis on coastal water quality and water and sanitation in developing countries. Her work on coastal water quality is focused on understanding the sources, transformation, transport, and ecol-

ogy of biocolloids - specifically fecal indicator organisms, pathogens, and phytoplankton, as well as sources and fate of nitrogen and phosphorus. Field sites for the coastal water quality work include beaches of California and Hawaii. The work on sanitation aims to develop microbial risk assessment models to gain a better understanding of how pathogens are transmitted to humans through their contact with water, feces, and contaminated surfaces. Field sites for this work include Tanzania and Bangladesh. Dr. Boehm is involved in the Urban Water Engineering Research Center ReNUWIt and serves on the center leadership team. Her work in the Center focuses on the use of wetlands and bioinfiltration systems to remove pathogens from urban water waste streams. She has authored 92 papers in peer reviewed journals and 7 book chapters. Boehm teaches six classes at Stanford including a laboratory class on environmental health microbiology. She currently serves as the co-chair of the science advisory team for the California Ocean Protection Council, the chair of the California-Oregon Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Blue Ribbon Panel, and is a member of the California Clean Beach Task Force.

International Society for Food and Environmental Virology Created

The International Society for Food and Environmental Virology (SFEV) was created and registered in Portugal in 2012.

This Society was created to convene the best expertise in the field of Food and Environmental Virology and also, to provide new students with the best knowledge on this field.

Conferences will be held every two years being the next in 2014 in Corfu, Greece. Members of the Society will have discounts when registering for the conference. Training schools will be organized within the topic and exchange of personnel and students will also be available.

The membership is €25 for students and €50 for a full member registration.

Please contact Ricardo Santos via email at ricardosantos@ist.utl.pt for more information or with questions.



Bid for WaterMicro 2015

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Proposed Dates: May/June 2015

Location:

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill was the nation's first state university to open its doors and the only public university to award degrees in the 18th century. Today, UNC is widely recognized as one of the best universities in the country both in terms of academics and in value. Chapel Hill, nicknamed "The Southern Part of Heaven," is

nestled in central North Carolina, on the east coast of the United States. As a college town of just more than 50,000 residents, Chapel Hill maintains its status as a close-knit community while simultaneously being a major research hub and center of arts and culture. Joining state capital Raleigh and Durham, Chapel Hill helps form an area known as The Research Triangle, which is home to numerous Fortune 500 companies. Chapel Hill is centrally located in North Carolina, between the state's mountains and beaches.

Venue:

UNC's William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education. This modern facility hosts more than 600 events with more than 50,000 participants annually. The building has 23 meeting areas, including a 400-seat auditorium, that are equipped with built-in audiovisual support systems and staff on-site.

Travel/Entertainment:

From the misty mountains to the sunny coast, North Carolina is the nation's variety vacationland, featuring natural beauty, history, arts, culture and adventure - something for everyone. In the mountains, one is surrounded with scenic beauty while picnicking, hiking, golfing or even whitewater rafting and rock climbing. In central North Carolina, find one-of-a-kind shopping, tee off on one of the state's more than 400 golf courses and experience the "home" of NASCAR. Sample wine at one of North Carolina's wineries or step back in time at a Civil War battlefield. Along the coast, dive into water sports like boating, swimming and saltwater fishing; climb historic lighthouses and bask in the warm sun on the Atlantic coastline. Savor Eastern Carolina BBQ and Calabash seafood.

Themes:

Microbial ecology; coastal water; drinking water; rural water supply and sanitation; storm water; survival and transport; hazards (growth); shellfish, produce and irrigation; health risk; aerosols; viruses; detection methods; microbiomes and community analysis; testing technology; indicators; microbial source trackers; water treatment and disinfections; monitoring, criteria, and standards; preventative management; QMRA

Workshops:

Interactive workshop sessions will be offered during the conference. Conveners will not be charged to host sessions, however it is their responsibility to create, organize, and market their sessions. Any participant in a workshop must be a registered conference attendee.

Local Organizing Committee:

Dr. Jamie Bartram, Dr. Mark Sobsey, Dr. Jill Stewart, Dr. Rachel Noble



Bid for WaterMicro 2015

Lisbon, Portugal

Proposed Dates:

September 20-25, 2015

Location:

'Lisbon has a different light'. Millions of tourists visiting Lisbon each year affirm that 'Lisbon has a different light'. Sunshine is present during almost the entire year, which combined with the beautiful Tejo River transform the city into a thousand colors pallet - making the city memorable for its unique beauty and architecture.

Venue:

The venue would be at the congress center at Instituto Superior Técnico which offers an Auditorium with 300 seats fully equipped with the most modern sound and image technologies and also four congress rooms with variable capacity from 20 to 80 people. There will be free Wi-Fi available in all areas of the university.



Travel/Entertainment:

So many things can be seen and done in Lisbon, that visitors have a broad array of experiences. Walking through Lisbon - whose history dates back a thousand of years - one can see its quintessential neighborhoods where the city was born and from where it has developed and which can still be experienced at its most

genuine level. Cross the streets replete with heritage monuments that transports you into the Discovery Era. Visiting Lisbon with the Tejo riverfront connecting the old part of city, Belem, to the newest part, Parque das Nações where the visitors can enjoy of several leisure activities. Practice sports and be delighted with some of the most beautiful beaches of the world.

Experience bucolic moments in Lisbon's city parks, gardens, belvedere, esplanades and cafes during the day and by night explore the amazing nightlife which continues till dawn. Or just savor the pure pleasure of being in Lisbon, through its well-renown gastronomy. Lisbon. An intimate experience.

Themes:

The Symposium would focus the most up-to-date and relevant themes in the health related water microbiology area. The themes include Microbial Source Tracking, Microbial Risk Assessment, Emerging Issues, Epidemiology of waterborne diseases, and Microbial Quality of shellfish growing areas, among others.

Local Organizing Committee:

Ricardo Santos , Silvia Patricia Nunes Monteiro



Meet the New Board Members

HRWM Past Chair, Dr. Joan B. Rose has led the re-organization of the HRWM Board to include eleven members, in addition to officers, with representations from various continents. Current board member Gary Toranzos will step down from the board and other current board members Robert Armon (Israel), Nick Ashbolt (USA), Bettina Genthe (South Africa), Maria Ines Sato (Brazil), and Albert Bosch (Spain) will continue to serve the board for two years. Christobel Ferguson (Australia), Andrea Rechenburg (Germany), Orin Shanks, Walter Betancourt (Venezuela), Georg Reischer (Austria), and Daisuke Sano (Japan) will join the board following the WaterMicro Symposium in September and serve for 4 years with the option of continuing an additional 4 years.

Biographies for Drs. Betancourt, Reischer, and Sano are included below and on Page 5. Please see the November 2012 issue of HRWM News for biographies of Drs. Ferguson, Rechenburg, and Shanks. If you are interested in joining the HRWM Board in the future or would like to help nominate someone please contact Dr. Joan B. Rose at rose-jo@msu.edu.

Walter Betancourt, PhD

Dr. Betancourt is a scientific researcher at the Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research (IVIC) and Microbiology and Cell Biology Center (CMBC) in Venezuela. He received his Ph.D. in Marine Science from the University of South Florida in 2003 with Joan Rose as his advisor. Prior to taking his current position in 2007, Dr. Betancourt held positions as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Texas A&M University, Texas Research and Extension Center in El Paso, Texas and then as an Assistant Specialist/Faculty Position at the Pacific Research Center for Marine Biomedicine, Center for Ocean and Human Health, University of Hawaii. Dr. Betancourt's primary research interests include Environmental Parasitology, Environmental Virology, Water Pollution Microbiology, Molecular Microbiology, and Microbial Risk Assessment. He is currently involved in two major research projects focused on ecology of human viruses and fecal bacteria in tropical coastal ecosystems, and in collaboration with Dr. Charles Gerba (University of Arizona) studying viruses as tracers of sewage pollution in ground water sources.



Georg Reischer, PhD

Georg Reischer studied Technical Chemistry at the Vienna University of Technology and graduated with a masters degree in Biochemistry, Biotechnology and Microbiology. He did his PhD with Andreas Farnleitner at the same University specializing in microbial source tracking and environmental molecular diagnostics. In recent years his research interests broadened to intestinal microbiology, next generation sequencing and applied bioinformatics. He is currently a senior scientist at the Farnleitner Lab and member of the Inter-University Cooperation Center Water&Health in Vienna, Austria.



Meet the New Board Members (cont.)



Daisuke Sano, PhD

I'm Daisuke Sano, Associate Professor at Hokkaido University, Japan. It is my great honor to be nominated as a candidate of the HRWM Board member. I earned my Ph.D. at Tohoku University, Japan in 2003, under the supervision of Prof. Tatsuo Omura, and then spent 6 years in Tohoku University and University of Barcelona as a post-doctoral research fellow. In University of Barcelona, I joined the laboratory of Prof. Albert Bosch, and was involved in multiple projects regarding with culture-independent evaluation of virus infectivity and genotyping of human noroviruses and sapoviruses in environmental water. Now I have been managing a team of water and public health study in Hokkaido University, where I'm responsible for the research and supervision of international and domestic projects in the field of public health microbiology and sanitary engineering. Not a few Asian countries are still suffering from infectious diseases through contaminated water, and the study group of health-related water microbiology must be one of the most

important and high-level international platforms for exchanging precious scientific knowledge to overcome such problems about poor sanitation and hygiene in Asian countries. I really hope that I can contribute to the further growth of this study group as a representative of Japan and Asia.

IWA Announces New Executive Director

Ger Bergkamp appointed as IWA Executive Director

Ger Bergkamp, PhD has been appointed the Executive Director of the International Water Association.

Ger (pictured below, right) joined the IWA as a Regional and Programmes Director. A little over two years ago. Prior to joining IWA, Ger held positions as a senior executive with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and more recently the Director-General (Executive Director) of the World Water Council.

Ger is a recognized leader in water and environment issues with over 25 years of experience in sustainable development focusing on solutions for world-wide water challenges. He has supported colleagues in over 40 countries world-wide as a director in international organizations, program coordinator, scientist and as a private consultant.

Ger's experience in water and environmental issues include scientific research, local water management, national water policy and international negotiations. His special areas of expertise include optimizing water resources for human and environmental needs, adaptation to climate change, and management of large scale infrastructure in river basins. Most recently he has focused on urban water management, water – energy optimization and utility management.

As a manager, Ger has been instrumental in developing world-wide programs on water management and building capacity to for local change processes. He is the author of several books and reports and speaks and facilitates regularly at international events focusing on transitions and innovations in water management. In doing so, he helps to create strategic insight and foresight for global water security.

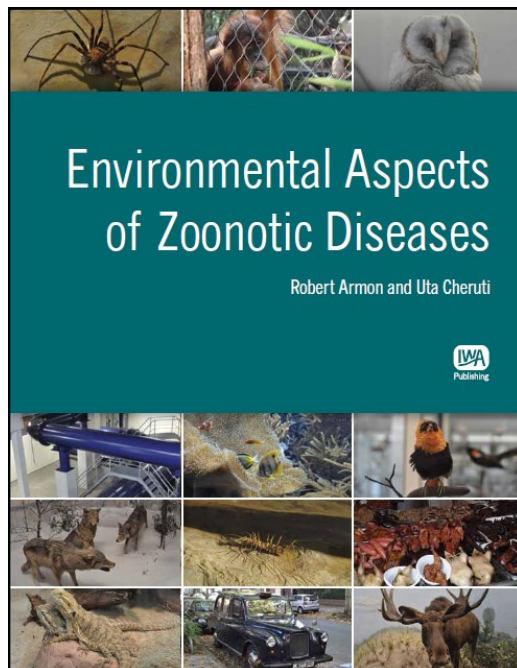


Recommended Reading

Environmental Aspects of Zoonotic Diseases

Author(s): Robert Armon and Uta Cheruti. Publication Date: 31 Jan 2012. ISBN: 9781843390855

This book, available through IWA Publishing, provides a description, commentary and research needs of environmental aspects related to zoonotic diseases. It highlights the interrelated connections between the environment and zoonotic diseases such as: water, soil, air and agriculture. The book presents investigations of these connections, with specific reference to environmental processes such as: deforestation, floods, draughts, irrigation practices, soil transfer and their impact on bacterial, viral, fungal, and parasitological spread. Relevant scientific data is condensed and organized in order to give a better picture of interrelationship between the environment and current spread of zoonotic diseases. Altogether, the book presents a remarkable and a vast amount of potential future research directions based on the link: environment-vectors-pathogens-humans.



Additional Readings

Water Footprinting in the Urban Water Sector

Editor: Kylie Hyde. Publication Date: 15 Feb 2013. ISBN: 9781780404806

Milestones in Water Reuse: The Best Success Stories

Editor(s): Valentina Lazarova, Takashi Asano, Akica Bahri, and John Anderson. Publication Date: 15 Jan 2013. ISBN: 9781780400075

Calibrating the SMART Biosolids Model and Applying it to Fault Scenarios

Author: Patrick L. Gurian. Publication Date: 15 Nov 2012. ISBN: 9781780404530

Treatment Processes for Removal of Emerging Contaminants

Author: John T. Novak. Publication Date: 15 Nov 2012. ISBN: 9781780404004

Board Members

Chair:

Dr. Gertjan Medema
(The Netherlands)

Vice Chair:

Dr. Marion Savill (New Zealand)

Past Chair:

Dr. Joan B. Rose (USA)

Secretary:

Dr. Hiroyuki Katayama (Japan)

Honorary President:

Dr. Willie O. K. Grabow
(South Africa)

Management Committee:

Dr. Robert Armon (Israel)
Dr. Nicholas J. Ashbolt (USA)
Dr. Albert Bosch (Spain)
Ms. Bettina Genthe (South Africa)
Dr. Maria Ines Sato (Brazil)
Dr. Gary Toranzos (Puerto Rico)

Contact HRWM

Email:

hrwm@msu.edu

Website:

www.iwa-microbiology.org

HRWM Facebook

Are you a Facebook member? Now you can connect to HRWM on Facebook for news, events and discussions. Search Facebook for "Health-Related Water Microbiology" and "like" our page.