



HRWM NEWS



Health Related Water Microbiology Specialist Group Newsletter

Volume 25 – January 2023

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Message from our Chair

Dear colleagues and friends of the HRWM family!

The year is coming to an end, and whoever you talk to, it has been a very busy one. This is also true for our SG HRWM, which has carried out numerous activities, some examples are:

Our second Mini Symposium Webinar, jointly organized with the SG Water Reuse (Chair: Josef Lahnsteiner) was held on 27th July 2022. It was entitled “Advancements in Microbiological Safety for Potable Water Reuse” and very well received by the participants.

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A big thanks to the main organizers Daisuke Sano (SG HRWM secretary) and Samendra Sherchan (SG WR secretary) and the excellent speakers.

Moreover, I represented the HRWM SG at the 3rd IWA Conference on Disinfection and DBPs (IWA DDBPs 2022), which took place from June 27 to July 1, 2022, in Milano, Italy, and was organized by the IWA Disinfection SG. Both activities show that networking between the IWA specialist groups is very important and will become even more important and that this is also implemented by our SG.

Our SG was particularly active at the IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition (Water for smart livable cities, 11-15 September 2022 in Copenhagen, Denmark). In addition to many platform lectures and keynotes presented by members of our SG, it was especially the joint HRWM-WHO workshop “Recreational Water: Quality Translating Science to Policy” that was very well appreciated by the audience. Our HRWM open meeting was well attended, and it was great to see so many colleagues again. It was also a special pleasure for Hiro Katayama (HRWM Past Chair) and me that our specialist group was highlighted as one of the most active in the SG Leaders Forum at the World Water Congress. You can read more about it in the newsletter. Again, many thanks to Maronel Steyn, our Newsletter Editor, for all the work she puts in.

New elections for Vice Chair, Secretary and members of the Management Committee are coming up. We look forward to receiving many applications, it is rewarding to be actively involved in our SG.

I would like to draw your attention to the calls for entries for the Willie Grabow award and Huw Taylor Prize that are now open.

As we gaze into the year 2023, we can look forward to the 21st HRWM Symposium finally being realized. The date has been set as 4 to 9 June 2023, Darwin, Australia. The organizing committee (represented by Darryl Day, Annalisa Contos, Nick Ashbolt and Anne Roiko) is very busy with the preparations, for which we wish them every

success. The conference website can be accessed: <https://aapevents.eventsair.com/watermicro23/>

Our HRWM SG will sponsor three IWA Young Water Professionals with a free registration for best abstracts and three scholarships for authors of best abstracts from developing countries.

We are already very much looking forward to this long-awaited conference coming together and hope to see many of you there!

I thank the Management Team (Daisuke Sano, Secretary; Rosina Girones, Vice Chair; Hiro Katayama, Past Chair), all members of the Management Committee (<https://hrwm-watermicro.com/management/board-members/>) as well as Rachna Sarkari (IWA SG officer) and all members of our SG Health Related Water Microbiology for their marvellous cooperation in the year 2022 and I am looking forward to more joint activities.

I wish you and your families a peaceful holiday season and a prosperous New Year!

Warm regards,

Regina Sommer
HRWM Chair



Become an IWA member

Not yet a member and interested in joining IWA and specifically HRWM? Then click on the link below and see how you can become a member of this family.

<https://iwa-network.org/join/>

*Health Related Water
Microbiology (HRWM)
Specialist Group (SG)
at the IWA World
Water Congress
(WWC) & Exhibition,
September 10 - 15,
2022*

-Article contribution by Regina Sommer

With around 9000 participants from 102 countries, 400 oral presentations, 500+ Poster presentations, 160 Technical sessions and Workshops and 300+ Exhibitors the WCC has been named as the Association's most successful event held to date. For the underlying theme of 'Water for smart liveable cities', Denmark was a perfect location, and Copenhagen a visionary choice for a host city, surrounded by water and embodying the Danish philosophy of holistic, smart water management to empower cities to adapt to climate change, while improving the quality of life and wellbeing of its citizens. In the Congress opening ceremony Professor Jason Box gave a keynote speech on 'Rapid Arctic climate change and water issues around the world'. He has studied the Greenland ice sheet since 1994. His fascinating address highlighted the severity of the impacts of climate change and the speed at which these dramatic changes are occurring. Delegates were left under no illusions as to the urgency and dedication that will be required to manage water in an already testing climate.

It was wonderful to meet so many dear colleagues from all over the world. Especially members of our HRWM SG. In particular, it was great to see how actively the members of our HRWM SG participated in the programme of the congress. Just to mention one of many examples: the excellent keynote by Gertjan Medema on the topic "Wastewater Gone Viral_ Pandemic Signals from

the Sewers" followed by a panel discussion moderated by Joan Rose.

Specific activities of our HRWM SG are reported below, and included the SG Leaders Forum, the HRWM-WHO workshop and the HRWM SG open Meeting.

In the frame of the Congress, IWA members were honoured for special merits, including two members of our HRWM Management Committee. We congratulate Prof. Joan Rose on her IWA Honorary Membership and Prof. Rosina Girones for being elected as an IWA Fellow 2022.

The next IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition will be held in Toronto in August 2024.

Joan Rose
IWA Honorary
Membership



CONGRATULATIONS

Rosina Girones
IWA Fellow 2022



YWP in Australia

- Article contributed by Chelsea Hayward and Sonya Kozak

Australia's active Young Water Professionals (YWP) networks offer an engaging and supportive community for young professionals in the water industry to connect and grow their knowledge and skills. With local committees in many of the major Australian cities, YWPs across the country have a range of opportunities to participate in activities from professional development sessions to social networking events to mentoring programs and more.

Currently, the YWP networks are an initiative of the Australian Water Association (AWA); however, there are strong links with the International Water Association (IWA), and efforts are underway to formalise an Australian IWA YWP chapter.



Sonya Kozak and Sital Uprety (honorary Aussie) are organising a range of engaging events for the YWPs at the Darwin HRWM. If you have ideas you would like to contribute, or want to be involved in the planning, we would love to hear from you!

Email: s.kozak@griffith.edu.au and sital.uprety@eawag.ch



Sonya is a doctoral candidate in the School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences at Griffith University. She is exploring approaches to quantitative microbial

risk assessment for recreational exposures, specifically focusing on managing the inherent variability and uncertainty in risk model input parameter estimates.

Alongside her doctoral studies, Sonya works part-time as a Water Supply Microbiologist for Melbourne Water. Her role helps to ensure that the latest scientific evidence underpins the development of microbial risk models that inform drinking water management. Darwin will be Sonya's fourth HRWM conference, and she looks forward to fostering connections between YWPs and HRWM veterans.

Sital Uprety is currently working as a postdoctoral scientist at the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag) in Zurich, Switzerland. He has over seven years of experience working in and leading international development and water and sanitation projects in several developing countries.



He has also recently worked as a consultant for World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) for drafting high-level action documents to address the current and emerging challenges in sanitation space in the pan-European region. Sital has a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Missouri and an MS and Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from the University of Illinois. Sital has been an IWA member since 2017 and has attended two IWA HRWM conferences and two IWA water congresses. He also serves as an IWA Open Access Ambassador.

IWA SG Leaders Forum at the IWA World Water Congress 2022

- Article contributed by Regina Sommer

The IWA SG Leaders Forum took place on September 10, 2022, as part of the IWA World Water Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark.

In the Leaders Forum, Specialist Groups' Leaders (Management Committee, Chair or nominated representative) come together to discuss scientific, technical, and management topics. Regina Sommer (Chair) and Hiro Katayama (Past Chair) represented our Health Related Water Microbiology (HRWM) Specialist Group (SG). After a warm welcome by Tom Mollenkopf (IWA President), Kalanithy Vairavamoorthy (IWA Executive Director) and Walter Kling (Chair of IWA Strategic Council), we were informed about the achievements made in the last years and the new developments. The Specialist Groups were referred to as the “engine” of IWA and the most active of the 50 Specialist Groups were presented on a slide, including our HRWM SG.



Presentation given as part of the SG Leaders Forum
(Rachna Sarkari, IWA Membership Engagement Officer, Specialist Groups)

Main topics were the preparation of the new IWA website and the redesign of the communication tool IWA connect. In future, there will be many more opportunities to network better. The innovations are scheduled to go into operation in January 2023. Another topic was the new publishing partnership between VIVA (Virginia's academic library consortium) and IWA Publishing, which will boost open access publication of research from VIVA member institutions. The three-year partnership, going into effect on January 1, 2023, allows researchers from participating institutions to publish OA across IWA Publishing's extensive range of journals, without an Article Processing Charge. We learned that Specialist Groups have the possibility to publish books on specific topics. In the afternoon session we discussed issues relating to IWA strategies, exchanged experiences on SG management and member engagement, and how to maximise the use of available resources from IWA Secretariat.



IWA World Water Congress 2022, Copenhagen: Leader's Forum including HRWM SG representatives, Hiro Katayama (Past chair) and Regina Sommer (Chair)

HRWM-WHO Workshop at the IWA World Water Congress 2022

RECREATIONAL WATER QUALITY- TRANSLATING SCIENCE TO POLICY

- Article contributed by Regina Sommer

IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition
11 – 15 September 2022 | Copenhagen, Denmark



Organized by SG HRWM (Susan Petterson, Regina Sommer)



The joint WHO workshop was organized by our SG Health Related Water Microbiology (lead Regina Sommer and Susan Petterson). It took place on September 15, 2022, in the frame of the IWA World Water Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The aim of the workshop was a presentation and discussion on risk management and water quality guidelines for the protection of public health from microbial agents in recreational waters and the link to the best available scientific evidence. In recent years, procedures for guideline development (e.g.

World Health Organization. (2014). WHO handbook for guideline development, 2nd ed. World Health Organization have become increasingly stringent with clear requirements for systematic reviews and evidence driven recommendations. This has presented some challenges in the context of health - related water microbiology, where the evidence - base rarely fits the public health gold standard of randomised controlled trials. At present, regulations are being revised in several countries and in the European Union.



The presentations were very well received by the numerous attendees. A lively discussion ensued on the basis of targeted poll questions. It was nice to be able to finally hold a face-to-face workshop again. Many thanks to the great speakers and the friendly audience.

Recreational Water Quality - from Science to Policy	
Welcome and introduction	Regina Sommer, SG HRWM Chair, AT Kate Medicott, WHO
STATE OF THE ART OVERVIEW	
New WHO guidelines and overview of process	Kate Medicott, Water Sanitation Hygiene and Health, WHO
Faecal pollution of recreational water	David Kay, Centre for Research into Environment and Health, UK
Determination of Beach Sand Contamination	João Brandão, National Institute of Health, PT
Questions & Answers & POLL QUESTIONS	Chairs
CASE STUDIES	
Great Lakes, USA	Joan Rose, Michigan University, USA
Australia	Anne Roiko, Griffith University, AUS
Review of the Bathing Water Directive	Maja Feder, European Commission – DG Environment
Panel discussion with all presenters and Summary	Moderators: Session Chairs



Kate Medicott



João Brandão



David Kay



Anne Roiko



Maja Feder



Regina Sommer

HRWM open meeting 2022 at IWA World Water Congress, Copenhagen, Denmark

The HRWM Specialist Group Members organised an open meeting on September 15, 2022, at Bella Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark.

At our open meeting we welcomed 28 colleagues on site (including YWP). Rosina Girones (HRWM vice chair) was connected via WEBEX. Regina Sommer (HRWM Chair) and Daisuke Sano (HRWM secretary) reported on the activities of HRWM SG since the 2019 HRWM Symposium in Vienna. This comprised among other issues, the successful Mini-Symposium Webinar Series, and other initiatives, as well as the coming election of the Management Committee, Vice Chair and Secretary.

Members of the organising team (Darryl Day, Annalisa Contos and Anne Roiko) for the upcoming 21st HRWM Symposium presented the current state of planning. The symposium will be hosted in Darwin, Australia on 4th - 9th June 2023. The conference is entitled “Water Safety for All - reflections and emerging concerns”. The information can be found on the Congress website: [21st International Symposium on Health-Related Water Microbiology](#)

Discussing future plans, Gertjan Medema suggested that cooperation between the Waste Water Surveillance and Public Health disciplines would be very valuable for the upcoming challenges. The idea was welcomed by all, and possibilities will be sought to realise this project (e.g., IWA Cluster). Many thanks to all who participated so actively in our meeting, it was a great pleasure.



HRWM SG Open Meeting at the World Water Congress 2022, Copenhagen, Denmark

Joint activities with other Specialist Groups

SG HRWM & SG WATER REUSE - MINI-SYMPOSIUM WEBINAR



The joint IWA webinar of HRWM SG with Water Reuse SG was held on July 27th, 2022. For our first MINI-SYMPOSIUM WEBINAR, we have issued a call for contributions from the scientific community. The call was very positively received by our colleagues. Due to the limited time allowed by the webinar, only a few contributions could be integrated into the programme, which can be seen below.

The joint webinar gave an overview on microbiological safety in indirect/direct potable reuse (IPR/DPR). A big thanks to the speakers and moderators for working together so wonderfully and thus creating a most successful event and a special thanks to the secretaries of the two Specialist Groups Daisuke Sano and Samendra Sherchan for organising the event as well as to the Chair of SG Water Reuse, Josef Lahnsteiner.

- Welcome, introduction, housekeeping rules – Josef Lahnsteiner (WR Chair) & Regina Sommer (HRWM Chair)
- Converting operational monitoring data to probabilistic log reduction values in water treatment for potable reuse – **Stuart Khan**
- Q&A – Samendra Sherchan & Daisuke Sano
- Quantification of viruses before and after RO at a potable reuse facility – **Midori Yasui**
- Removal of viral indicators of advanced treatment performance evaluated at full-scale water reuse facilities – **Walter Betancourt**
- General discussion – Ricardo Santos & Kwanrawee Joy Sirikanchana
- Soft-sensor development for monitoring virus removal performance of wastewater reclamation processes – **Yifan Zhu**
- QRMA to inform health protection for de facto and planned potable reuse scenarios – **Jeffrey Soller**
- Discussion, final remarks and conclusion – Hiro Katayama & Rosina Girones

HRWM Specialist Group at IWA Disinfection Specialist Group Conference

- Article credit Regina Sommer

3rd International Conference on Disinfection and DBPs



The IWA Disinfection SG (Chair Chao Chen, CN) organised the 3rd Congress IWA D&DBPs at the prestigious Campus of the POLITECNICO Milano, in Milan, Italy. 185 participants (hybrid mode) enjoyed the program consisting of 5 keynotes, 77 platform presentations, 30 poster presentations and 3 workshops.

Topics were among others, innovative technologies and practices related to water, wastewater and sludge disinfection, emerging pathogens and disinfection by-products, antimicrobial resistance, biostability control in drinking water and wastewater reuse and formation, fate and control of disinfection by-products. The conference was excellently organized under the lead of the Co-Chairs Andrea Turolla and Manuela Antonelli.



The Congress organising team at Politecnico Milano, Italy (Co-Chairs Manuela Antonelli and Andrea Turolla)



Manuela Antonelli and Andrea Turolla (Co-Chairs of the Congress) with their organising team

Technical tours were offered after the conference. One such tour provided the opportunity for Regina Sommer to visit the water treatment plant for the city Sirmione at Lake Garda (AcqueBresciane). Garda Lake is the most important source of freshwater in Italy. It provides drinking water for many towns in the coastal area, and it could become more and more important in the future as water reserve for cities such as Brescia and Milan because of the climate change.



Technical tour at the Water Work, Sirmione (AcqueBresciane S.p.A)



A view at the Sirmione peninsula in the Garda Lake (Photo credit © AcqueBresciane S.p.A.)

Open meeting of the IWA Disinfection Specialist Group at the World Water Congress 2022, Copenhagen, Denmark

Emmanuel Mousset (CNRS, France), a member of the Disinfection SG Management Team, represented the Disinfection SG Chair Chao Chen (Tsinghua University, Beijing, China), who was not able to travel. Joan Rose and Regina Sommer participated in the open meeting. Emmanuel gave an overview on the activities of the Disinfection SG, especially on the 3rd Congress of the Specialist Group on Disinfection and Disinfection-Byproducts, which was recently held in July 2022. He reported on the webinars organised by the Disinfection SG. The coming webinar will be held on November 9, 2022, and is entitled “The future of disinfection in drinking water & wastewater”. It will be available on demand: <https://iwa-network.org/learn/the-future-of-disinfection-in-drinking-water-wastewater/>.

The 4th Congress IWA D&DBPs will be held in Almera, Spain in 2024.

The IWA Disinfection SG is very interested to collaborate more actively with our HRWM SG.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The SG Water Reuse will hold their 13th IWA International Conference on Water Reclamation and Reuse from 15th - 19th January 2023. The central theme of the conference is “Water Reuse: Overcoming the Challenges of Growth and Climate Change”. This thematic framework shall help moving forward to create sustainable water reuse solutions by a multidisciplinary cooperation and learning from the rich experience already accomplished in countries around the world. It is innovation and solution focused by addressing water stress from three different perspectives in an integrated fashion:

Further information can be found here: <https://iwareuse2023.com/>



21st Symposium on Health-Related Water Microbiology - WaterMicro23



Join us in Darwin for the world’s leading health-related water microbiology event. [WaterMicro23](#) will explore the very latest research and practice including lessons from wastewater surveillance to best practice water and sanitation safety planning and implementation.

Building on the theme of One Health at the 20th Symposium in Vienna, in 2019, the International Water Association’s 21st Symposium on Health-related Water Microbiology, will be held in Australia at the waterfront Darwin Convention Centre from **4-9 June 2023**.

With a focal theme of “*Water Safety for All — reflections and emerging concerns*”, WaterMicro23 will run as a single-session Symposium program and will welcome over 250 delegates from all around the world. The conference provides an opportunity to present on all aspects of health-related water microbiology across the whole water cycle, applied and basic research on water, micro-organisms and impacts on human health.

The call for papers included research on pathogenic bacteria, parasites and viruses, microbial indicators, modelling associated risk and microbial source tracking tools, as well as water treatment and disinfection, water reuse, recreational water, water management in disaster situations and extreme events, antimicrobial resistance, as well as water quality and infection control in health care facilities. Contributions related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) were particularly welcomed. Sunday 4 June workshops include: Impacts of climate change on waterborne pathogens, MST applications, Wastewater-based surveillance, AMR Management; and the WHO Event for Friday 9 June will address WSP in regional/small/indigenous communities and Vectorborne disease management.

Abstract submissions were due by 14 December 2022 under the following symposium themes:

Indigenous knowledge and engagement

- Cultural indicators of water health
- Co-designing water and sanitation safety plans
- Incorporating indigenous knowledge and values in water quality management

Water safety planning - reflections and improvements

- Lessons from success
- Incorporating indigenous knowledge and values into water and sanitation safety planning
- Water quality management in emergencies, disaster situations and other extreme events
- QMRA and achieving health-based targets
- Capacity development

Climate change impacts on water safety

- Water-sensitive cities and adapting to the changing environment
- System impacts of climate change
- Climate impacts on catchments, drinking water sources, sanitation and recreational waters

Pathogenomics and bioinformatics

- Metagenomics
- Microbial source tracking
- Anti-microbial resistance
- Applications in QMRA

Realising the potential of new technologies and data analytics

- Rapid point of use surveillance technologies
- Using digital platforms
- Real-time, remote sensing
- Automation of water quality information and interpretation
- Using citizen data and apps

Evolution of wastewater-based surveillance

- Lessons learned from Covid-19 and new possibilities/application
- Quality assurance in sampling and laboratory analyses
- What do policymakers need and when?
- Social licence for surveillance

From research to practice

- Evidence-based policy vs policy-based evidence
- Global environmental change – emerging research needs
- Unrecognised pathogens and those of emerging concern

Find information on the draft program and Conference registration on the Webpage: WaterMicro23



OPEN CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

IWA HRWM Vice-Chair

CLOSING DATE: 28 FEBRUARY 2023

We are looking for Vice-Chair of the IWA Health Related Water Microbiology Specialist Group (HRWM SG)! HRWM SG is inviting applications for the election of Vice-Chair, who will be elected for one term (2 years), and then become Chair (2 years) and Past-Chair (2 years). Applicants have to be members of IWA.

The main duties of the Vice-Chair:

- To take care of the daily business of running the SG.
- To support Chair in every issue for fostering SG activities.
- To be the second contact person for IWA.

How to apply?

If you would like to apply, please submit a **3-page max. curriculum vitae** and a **letter of motivation** describing your involvement with the IWA and/or Specialist Groups and how you aim to serve the group. Please submit your application to the IWA HRWM SG Secretary, Daisuke Sano by **February 28, 2023**.

daisuke.sano.e1@tohoku.ac.jp

After the applications/nominations are received, IWA will prepare a ballot form with the nominees' names and will distribute it to all the HRWM colleagues for voting.

More information about HRWM SG group, please visit here:

<https://iwa-network.org/groups/health-related-water-microbiology/>

<https://hrwm-watermicro.com/hrwmgroup/>

For questions, please E-mail the IWA HRWM SG Secretary: (daisuke.sano.e1@tohoku.ac.jp).

To find out more about IWA Specialist Groups and how you can manage and engage, you can consult the [IWA Specialist Group on IWA Connect](#). See under "About this Group" and "Pages" tab where

you will find info on engagement, group management, FAQs and more. **You have to be logged in to IWA Connect and join the group to view the content.**

OPEN CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

IWA HRWM Secretary

CLOSING DATE: 28 FEBRUARY 2023

We are looking for Secretary of the IWA Health Related Water Microbiology Specialist Group (HRWM SG)! HRWM SG is inviting applications for the election of Secretary, who will be elected for one term (4 years). Applicants have to be members of IWA.

The main duties of the Secretary:

- To Handle practical SG matters, such as organizing MC meetings and open meetings, writes and distributes meeting minutes.
- To send notices of meetings to all MC members, and record the results of all elections and votes of the MC on any matter submitted to them.
- To support Chair and Vice-Chair in every issue for fostering SG activities.

How to apply?

If you would like to apply, please submit a **3-page max. curriculum vitae** and a **letter of motivation** describing your involvement with the IWA and/or Specialist Groups and how you aim to serve the group. Please submit your application to the current IWA HRWM SG Secretary, Daisuke Sano by **February 28, 2023**.

daisuke.sano.e1@tohoku.ac.jp

After the applications/nominations are received, IWA will prepare a ballot form with the nominees' names and will distribute it to all the HRWM colleagues for voting.

More information about HRWM SG group, please visit here:

<https://iwa-network.org/groups/health-related-water-microbiology/>

<https://hrwm-watermicro.com/hrwmgroup/>

For questions, please E-mail the IWA HRWM SG Secretary: (daisuke.sano.e1@tohoku.ac.jp).

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OPEN CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

IWA HRWM Management Committee (MC) Members

CLOSING DATE: 28 FEBRUARY 2023

We are looking for Management Committee members of the IWA Health Related Water Microbiology Specialist Group (HRWM SG)! HRWM SG is inviting applications for the election of its Management Committee (MC) members. Seven seats are available this time. Applicants have to be members of IWA. The current Management members will be able to re-nominate themselves as well to express their interests to continue.

Also, separately from the above seven seats for HRWM MC, we will newly prepare three seats for IWA Young Water Professionals.

Each MC member will be elected for one term (4 years).

The main duties of the MC:

- Strategically coordinate and manage the activities of the HRWM group
- Contribution to the HRWM group website
- Updating and monitoring the group space within IWA Connect
- Lead/Help in the organization of the specialized conferences as a member of the program committee or organizing committee.
- Attend regularly the MC meetings (physically or online) and group members open meetings during conferences.
- Act as ambassadors for the HRWM group (and IWA) to the countries in the region they

represent and help to recruit new members to the group

- Seek to identify and appoint individuals to act as national representatives for the group in countries within their region
- Encourage the involvement of young professionals in the HRWM group's activities
- Assist IWA in the strategic planning and development of the Association's programme of activities
- Elect the Management team and make appointments for specific positions necessary to fulfil the objectives of the group

How to apply?

If you would like to apply, please submit a **3-page max. curriculum vitae** and a **letter of motivation** describing your involvement with the IWA and/or Specialist Groups and how you aim to serve the group. Please submit your application to the IWA HRWM SG Secretary, Daisuke Sano by **February 28, 2023**.

daisuke.sano.e1@tohoku.ac.jp

After the applications/nominations are received, IWA will prepare a ballot form with the nominees' names and will distribute it to all the HRWM colleagues for voting.

More information about HRWM SG group, please visit here:

<https://iwa-network.org/groups/health-related-water-microbiology/>

<https://hrwm-watermicro.com/hrwmgroup/>

For questions, please E-mail IWA HRWM SG Secretary, Daisuke Sano (daisuke.sano.e1@tohoku.ac.jp).

To find out more about IWA Specialist Groups and how you can manage and engage, you can consult the [IWA Specialist Group on IWA Connect](#). See under "About this Group" and "Pages" tab where you will find info on engagement, group management, FAQs and more. **You have to be logged in to IWA Connect and join the group to view the content.**

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

HRWM Willie Grabow Young Investigator Award 2023

**CLOSING DATE: 28 FEBRUARY
2023**

**NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE
ACCEPTED**

Background

The IWA-HRWM Willie Grabow Young Investigator Award was officially announced in June 2009 during the 15th International Symposium on Health-Related Water Microbiology, WaterMicro 2009, in Naxos, Greece. Professor Willie Grabow, a brilliant environmental virologist, 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. He continues to inspire emerging scientists and has been appointed as Honorary President of our HRWM SG. The award, generously sponsored by IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. is presented in conjunction with the SG HRWM Symposia.

Objective

The IWA-HRWM Willie Grabow Young Investigator Award is made for the purpose of assisting and encouraging young scientists, who are doing outstanding research in the field of health-related water microbiology, specifically in developing countries.

Award

The award consists of a travel support grant (EUR 4.000) and a free registration fee for the HRWM Symposium the year of the award. In addition, a plaque will be presented to the recipient at the Symposium's Gala dinner. The Award winner will be asked to give a presentation on their work applicable to developing countries during the Symposium.

Nomination Process

A candidate must be nominated. Nominators may be HRWM members, schools or other organizations involved in the Health-Related Water Microbiology field.

Selection Criteria

Candidates need not be a current Member of IWA, although they should preferably have some past involvement in the HRWM Specialist Group and are encouraged to become an IWA member.

To be eligible for the Award, a nominee shall not be older than 35 years (year of birth 1988 or later).

Candidates conducting research in a developing country will have advantage in the selection process.

Research published in peer-reviewed journal(s) will be considered an advantage in the selection process.

Evaluation Process

Award Submissions will be received by the Coordinator of the Award Committee. Submissions will be compiled/organized and distributed for review by the Committee. Candidates not in compliance with application rules will be disqualified. The selection criteria will drive the evaluation process. In judging the candidates' research the originality shown and the major contributions in the area of health-related water microbiology will be considered. Results of the application will be sent to the applicants. The decision of the Award Committee will be final.

Award Committee

- Bettina Genthe, South Africa, (Coordinator)
- Andreas Farnleitner, Austria
- Alexandria B. Boehm, USA

Deadlines

Application Deadline: 28 February, 2023

Award Notification: 28 March, 2023

Applications should include the following:

Completed Nomination Form – <https://hrwm-watermicro.com/2022/12/23/call-for-applications-willie-grabow-young-investigatoraward-2023/>

- At least one letter of support, giving the basis for nomination and supporting the qualifications on research on which the nomination is based.
- Curriculum vitae of the nominee.

At our last HRWM Symposium 2019 in Vienna, Austria, we had the pleasure to award the prize to **Dr. Isaac Dennis Amoah**, Durban University of

Technology (South Africa).



Winner of the 2019 Willie Grabow Award (Photo credit Isaac Dennis)

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Huw Taylor Prize 2023

CLOSING DATE: 28 FEBRUARY 2023

NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED

Background

In 2017 the Health-Related Water Microbiology (HRWM) Specialist Group of the International Water Association (IWA) established the continuing prize in recognition of Prof. Huw Taylor, who passed away far too early. His outstanding research has been instrumental to the development of Microbial Source Tracking (MST) as scientific method and later application as a tool to identify contamination sources. His work pioneered MST in developed and developing settings, from mapping contamination sources in river and marine systems in the UK and Europe, to mapping and managing disease transmission in Indian megacities. His research is providing water and sanitation solutions in Haïti, West Africa, Brazil, Malawi, Kenya, Nepal and India. He assisted the NGO Médecins Sans Frontières in Haïti during the cholera outbreak that followed the 2010 earthquake to design a safe treatment system for cholera hospital wastewaters. He coordinated an international WHO expert team to advise on the sanitation response in the Ebola outbreak in West Africa in 2014-2016. His lasting legacies are seen through various novel low-cost approaches to disinfecting human waste in emergency settings, along with microbial source tracking tools, that deliver public health improvements globally.

It was the HRWM Board's unanimous decision to award **Professor Huw Taylor with the first prize 2017** in recognition of his exceptional contribution to the Health-Related Water Microbiology science field and to the HRWM Specialist Group.



Huw Taylor Prize 2017 awarded in memory of Prof. Huw Taylor at the 20th HRWM Symposium, Vienna, Austria (Photo Credit SG HRWM)

The **Huw Taylor Prize 2019** was awarded to **Laura Braun of Imperial College in London, UK** at the HRWM Symposium in Vienna, Austria in September 2019.



Huw Taylor Prize

Objective

To assist and encourage outstanding research in the field of Health-Related Water Microbiology that provides water and/or sanitation solutions in emergency and/or developing settings.

Criteria

- Nominees may be students and researchers that have produced outstanding research in the field of HRWM to provide water and/or

sanitation solutions in emergency and/or developing settings.

- Nominees have conducted research in the abovementioned settings and the research has led to (or is leading to) tangible solutions in water and/or sanitation to improve the health of the population in this setting.
- Nominees should generally have published their research in peer-reviewed journals.
- Nominees must be members in good standing of the IWA-HRWM Specialist Group.

Nomination Process

- Candidates may be nominated by IWA-HRWM members, their institution of higher learning, or other organization involved in the HRWM field.
- Nominations must include the name, address, age, educational background, relevant employment history, and HRWM experience of the nominee.
- Nominations must include a narrative summary, not to exceed two typed pages, supporting the qualifications of the nominee and the basis for the nomination.
- The HRWM Huw Taylor Prize selection committee must receive nominations prior to the next scheduled HRWM biennial Symposium (4-9 June 2023, Darwin, Australia).

Selection Process

- A standing committee to be known as the Huw Taylor Prize Committee will review nominations for the award and will make a selection known to the HRWM Board.

Nature of Prize

- The award will consist of a prize statue, a framed certificate identifying the recipient, and a stipend for registration costs associated

with the IWA-HRWM Specialist Group meeting scheduled for the year of award.

- Huw Taylor Prize recipients are expected to give a presentation on their work during the meeting for which they receive the award.

Prize jury

- Nicholas Ashbolt (Chair), Australia
- Celia Barardi, Brazil
- James Ebdon (Secretary), UK
- Gertjan Medema, Netherlands

Deadlines

Application Deadline: 28 February 2023
Award Notification: 28 March 2023

Applications should include the following:

- Completed Nomination Form - <https://hrwm-watermicro.com/2022/12/23/call-for-applications-huw-taylor-prize-2023/>
- At least one letter of support, giving the basis for nomination and supporting the qualifications on research on which the nomination is based (free format).
- Curriculum vitae of the nominee (free format).

Applications must be submitted to the Secretary of the Prize Jury James Ebdon via email (je3@brighton.ac.uk) by 28 February 2023.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

WaterMicro 2025 Host - 22nd Symposium on Health-Related Water Microbiology

CLOSING DATE: 30 APRIL 2023

Health-Related Water Microbiology (HRWM) is one of the Specialist Groups of the International Water Association (IWA). Our group was the first of the specialist groups, installed in 1977 as Water Virology Specialist Group (within the former IAWPRC). The Specialist Group is a forum for the exchange of scientific information in the field of health-related water microbiology. This encompasses many fields of expertise: from environmental to clinical virology, bacteriology and parasitology, from infectious diseases epidemiology to risk assessment methodology; from water treatment engineering to environmental health practice.

The IWA SG on HRWM organizes the international symposium biennially and our members play a key role in deciding on the venue and planning the symposia. We cordially invite our SG members to propose venues to host WaterMicro2025. In order to host the conference, it is necessary to ensure you can provide the following:

- Team (including experience running conferences)
- Suitable venues and facilities for the conference session for about 300 participants.
- What country can offer (water issues/experience/differences)
- How above fits into global HRWM
- Hotel accommodation for approximately 300 participants.
- Meals (i.e. coffee/tea breaks and lunch) for approximately 300 participants.
- A social-cultural programme.

The venue for WaterMicro2025 will be decided by a vote in the open business meeting during WaterMicro2023 at Darwin, Australia. HRWM Management committee will ask the applicants to give invitation speech prior to the vote.

Host candidate Information

Full Name of Applicant: _____ Title/Profession: _____

Institution/Affiliation _____

Postal Address : _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Signature:

Printed Name:

Date:

Applications should be submitted to the Secretary of HRWM SG via email (daisuke.sano.e1t@tohoku.ac.jp) by 30 April, 2023.

HRWM Young Water Professional and Sponsorship Award for WaterMicro'23

The **IWA Young Water Professionals** (www.iwa-network.org/young-water-professionals) are an active part in the symposium organization and program and are especially encouraged to submit abstracts. The **three best abstracts** authored by an YWP (year of birth 1988 or later) will be awarded with **free registration**.

The abstract has to be submitted on-line (via Conference Website). Send a copy of the abstract and your application as well as your CV via email to the HRWM secretary Daisuke Sano (daisuke.sano.e1t@tohoku.ac.jp) not later than 28 February, 2023. The awardees will be announced by March 28, 2023.

HRWM Scholarships for authors of best abstracts from developing countries for WaterMicro'23

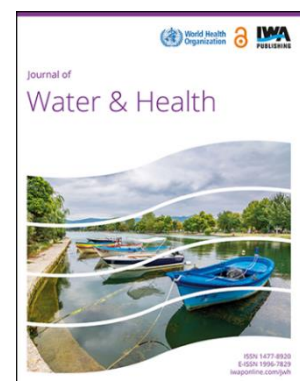
Three scholarships for authors of best abstract from **developing countries** will be funded by our SG HRWM. The bursary includes free registration and financial support of EUR 2,500.

The abstract has to be submitted on-line (via Conference Website). Send a copy of the abstract and your application as well as your CV via email to the HRWM secretary Daisuke Sano (daisuke.sano.e1t@tohoku.ac.jp) not later than 28 February, 2023. The awardees will be announced by March 28, 2023.

Call for Editors - Journal of Water and Health

Prof. Nicholas Ashbolt, HRWM member and Editor in Chief of *Journal of Water & Health*, is looking for Editors to add to the team of internationally renowned subject experts.

Journal of Water & Health is an Open Access journal devoted to the dissemination of information on the public health impacts, surveillance, monitoring, and control of waterborne pathogens and chemical substances in the broadest sense for lower, middle, and high-income countries worldwide. This includes microbial toxins, chemical quality, and the aesthetic qualities of water when human health could be impacted. https://iwaponline.com/jwh/pages/call_for_editors



Applicants should have:

- An interest in developments with an international scope to address waterborne hazards: microbial, chemical and radiological;
- Great organisation, time management and communication skills;
- A dedication to the role of Editor and the time commitment it entails; and
- An established record of work and scholarship in relevant scientific field(s).

Other qualities that are desirable:

- Previous service and contribution to Journal of Water and Health, i.e., being an author or reviewer.
- Membership to the International Water Association (IWA); and
- Association or institutional awards.

To apply, please send your CV and a cover letter, expressing your suitability for the role and your vision for the journal, to the Editor-in-Chief: jwh@iwap.co.uk

Deadline: 16 January 2023

IWA HRWM now on Instagram!!!

- Article credit Carmen Rehm

HRWM has recently joined Instagram through our three very talented and motivated social media team members: Samendra Serchan (USA), Wakana Oishi, (Japan), and Carmen Rehm (AT).

They are all working on current topics of health-related water microbiology. Sam is an associate professor; and Wakana is an assistant professor. Their research topics range from microbial source tracking, environmental virology, water treatment and wastewater surveillance to antibiotic resistance.

Carmen on the other hand, is a PhD student, in her final year. Her passion is *Vibrio cholerae* and if you are interested to learn more about the latest HRWM news, interesting conference updates or simply why Carmen loves her *Vibrios* – stay tuned and follow them!

<https://www.instagram.com/iwahrwm/>



Carmen



Sam



Wakana

News from IWA Headquarters

Coming soon – IWA’s new Connect Plus networking and knowledge platform. IWA is soon to launch its Connect Plus membership platform in an exciting upgrade that will provide access to valuable new networking tools and knowledge resources.

The new, much improved platform will go live on 17 January 2023. [Coming soon – IWA’s new Connect Plus networking and knowledge platform - International Water Association \(iwa-network.org\)](https://www.iwa-network.org)

Highlights to look forward to include a sleek and intuitive design. Coupled with new and improved networking options, this will allow members to interact with fellow water sector professionals around the world. Members will also be able to access an extensive and exclusive library which already contains thousands of resources. This is just a sample of what will be on offer in Connect Plus.

To allow for the final preparations for the launch, the current IWA Connect platform will no longer be available from 23 December 2022 onwards.

Further updates on the new features and functions of Connect Plus will be shared in the run-up to the launch on 17 January. Users will receive details directly on how to access the new platform.

The changeover has been timed to ensure the least inconvenience possible to members. The IWA membership team is contacting any members who are due to renew their membership between 23 December and 17 January to ensure a smooth transition for them. Any members requiring further information can contact us on: members@iwahq.org



News from IWA Publishing

Selected books

Hospital Wastewater Treatment: Global Scenario and Case Studies

Nadeem A Khan; Viola Vambol; Sergij Vambol; Nastaran Mozaffari; Niloofar Mozaffari

ISBN: 9781789062618

July 2022 • 250 pages • Paperback

IWA Members price: £90.00 / \$152.00 / €113.00

<https://www.iwapublishing.com/books/9781789062618/hospital-wastewater-treatment-global-scenario-and-case-studies>

The features of hospital wastewater (HWW) are identical to domestic wastewater in general, but a subset of HWW includes toxic/nonbiodegradable/infectious contaminants. The hospital effluents include a wide range of chemicals utilized in medical, laboratory, and study settings, as well as patient excreta. Antibiotics, lipid inhibitors, among other medications and their metabolites are among the wastes.

This book will help in understanding through the case studies from around the globe how to deal with HWW effectively, as well as help Governments to modify laws relating to it.



Integrated Wastewater Management for Health and Valorization: A Design Manual for Resource Challenged Cities

Stewart Oakley

ISBN: 9781789061529

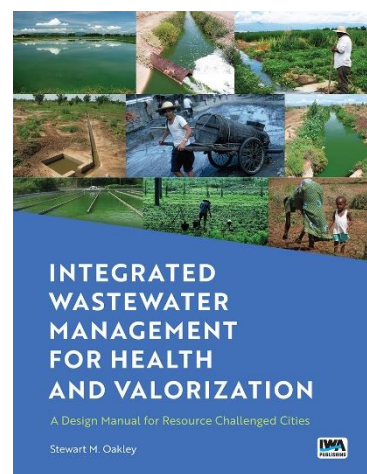
October 2022 • 370 pages • Paperback

IWA Members price: £ 90.00/ \$135.00/ € 113.00

Also available as an Open Access ePDF

<https://www.iwapublishing.com/books/9781789061529/integrated-wastewater-management-health-and-valorization-design-manual-resource>

This book incorporates the new paradigm of integrated wastewater management for valorization without surface water discharge using waste stabilization pond systems and wastewater reservoirs. In this paradigm the purpose of treatment is to protect health by reducing pathogens to produce an effluent that is valorized for its fertilizer and water value for agriculture and aquaculture. The book is designed for upper-division and graduate level engineering students, practicing engineers, regulatory professionals who help establish and enforce effluent standards, international development professionals, and policy stakeholders.



Water Interactions – A Systemic View: Why we Need to Comprehend the Water-Climate-Energy-Food-Economics-Lifestyle Connections

Gustaf Olsson

ISBN: 9781789062892

August 2022 • 240 pages • Paperback

IWA Members price: £38.00/ \$57.00/ €48.00

Also available as an Open Access ePDF

<https://www.iwapublishing.com/books/9781789062892/water-interactions-systemic-view>

The purpose of the book is to demonstrate and describe how climate change, water, energy, food, and lifestyle are closely depending on each other. It is not sufficient to handle one discipline isolated from the others. This is the traditional “component view”. The book defines and describes a systems view. The communications and relationships between the “components” have to be described and recognized.

Consequently, the development of one discipline must be approached from a systems perspective. At the same time, the success of the systems perspective depends on the degree of knowledge of the individual parts or disciplines.

Selected journal papers

Estimating sewage flow rate in Jefferson County, Kentucky, using machine learning for wastewater-based epidemiology applications

(OPEN ACCESS)

Dhiraj Kanneganti; Lauren E. Reinersman; Rochelle H. Holm; Ted Smith

Journal: *Water Supply*

<https://doi.org/10.2166/ws.2022.395>

Wastewater-based epidemiology (WBE) for SARS-CoV-2 – A review focussing on the significance of the sewer network using a Dublin city catchment case study

(OPEN ACCESS)

Joanne Mac Mahon; Alejandro Javier Criado Monleon; Laurence W. Gill; John J. O'Sullivan; Wim G. Meijer

Journal: *Water Science & Technology*

<https://doi.org/10.2166/wst.2022.278>

Research needs for optimising wastewater-based epidemiology monitoring for public health protection

(OPEN ACCESS)

Katie Robins; Anne F. C. Leonard; Kata Farkas; David W. Graham; David L. Jones; Barbara Kasprzyk-Hordern; Joshua T. Bunce; Jasmine M. S. Grimsley; Matthew J. Wade; Andrew M. Zealand; Shannon McIntyre-Nolan

Journal: *Journal of Water and Health*

<https://doi.org/10.2166/wh.2022.026>

Complexity of adoption and diffusion of ecological sanitation technology: a review of literature

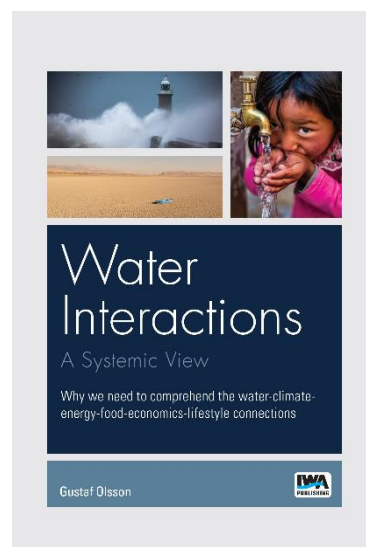
(OPEN ACCESS)

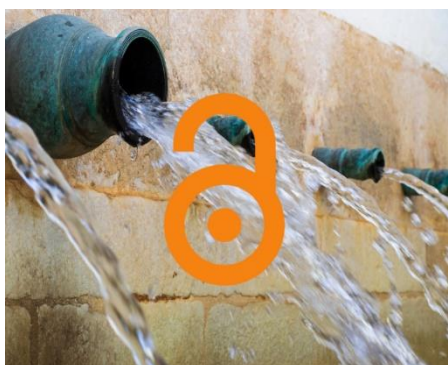
Celestin Banamwana; David Musoke; Theoneste Ntakirutimana; Esther Buregyeya; John Ssempebwa; Gakenia W. Maina; Nazarius M. Tumwesigye

Journal: *Journal of Water, Sanitation & Hygiene for Development*

<https://doi.org/10.2166/washdev.2022.041>

Call For Papers





[Drinking Water Safety Plans](#)

This Special Issue will gather studies and reviews on all key issues contributing to the effectiveness of Drinking Water Safety Plans, first introduced with the 2004 World Health Organization Drinking Water Guidelines and since widely adopted in many countries worldwide.

Journal of Water and Health is a peer-reviewed Open Access journal devoted to the dissemination of information on the health implications and control of waterborne microorganisms and chemical substances in the broadest sense for developing and developed countries worldwide. There are no fees for authors.

If you would like to contribute to this special issue, please submit a short manuscript proposal (200 - 300 words) to jwh@iwap.co.uk by 31st January 2023. If your proposal is selected, you will receive an official invitation letter from IWA Publishing and full manuscripts will be due by 30th April 2023. Submitted full manuscripts will be subject to the full peer review process. Accepted and formatted manuscripts will be published online immediately.

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Website: www.iwa-network.org

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