

## Postgraduate Forum

Postgraduate Study is not just about submitting a thesis. It is an opportunity to expand your knowledge and find out about new ideas. Postgraduates from within the Water Research Cluster have proposed a Forum for postgraduates with an interest in water research to meet and exchange information and ideas.

**The Inaugural Water Research Cluster Postgraduate Forum will be held:**

March 2nd from 11am - 1:30pm.

Room 209 (Seminar Room)

Floor 2 of the Darling Building on North Terrace.

Lunch will be provided.

### Agenda

1. Purpose of Forum
2. Intro to the Water Research Cluster
3. Overviews from each group
4. Future meetings and communication
5. Menu preferences for future Forums
6. Any other business
7. Lunch

If you would like to attend the Forum, please contact Paul Dalby for catering purposes (we need enough pizza)

Telephone 08 8303 6697 or Email [paul.dalby@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:paul.dalby@adelaide.edu.au)

## Water Research Links - Funding Opportunities

Closing dates for grants: March - May

### Australia and Pacific Science Foundation

Internal Closing Date: 18 March 2005

<http://www.apscience.org.au/background.html>

Purpose: Encourage high quality research by scientists in Australian national or state institutions, and universities. "Seed money" to initiate projects, which may subsequently expand and attract major funding from other sources

### Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage – International Fellowships

Internal Closing Date: 1 March 2005

[http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ari/researchers/grants/ARC\\_LinkIntern.html](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ari/researchers/grants/ARC_LinkIntern.html)

Purpose: The reciprocal exchange of postdoctoral researchers under international agreements

### Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage – International Awards

Internal Closing Date: Continuous

[http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ari/researchers/grants/ARC\\_LinkIntern.html](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ari/researchers/grants/ARC_LinkIntern.html)

Purpose: Build links between research centres of excellence in Australia and overseas by funding extended collaborations

### Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage – Projects

Internal Closing Date: 15 April 2005

[http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ari/researchers/grants/ARC\\_LinkProj.html](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ari/researchers/grants/ARC_LinkProj.html)

Purpose: Linkage-Projects aims to foster alliances between higher education institutions and external organisations. A specific objective of this programme is to provide opportunities for Postdoctoral and Postgraduate researchers to pursue high quality research collaboration with external organisations

THE WATER RESEARCH CLUSTER WILL PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR WRITING APPLICATIONS FOR ARC LINKAGE.

Keep your eye out for new funding opportunities on the ARI website <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ari/researchers/grants/fundingopps.html>

### Endeavour Australia Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

Internal Closing Date: April 2005 (tba)

[http://www.dest.gov.au/International/Awards/end\\_postgrad.htm](http://www.dest.gov.au/International/Awards/end_postgrad.htm)

Purpose: The Endeavour Australia Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Research Fellowships provide financial support for postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows to undertake short-term research in Australia in any field of study. In addition, three Endeavour Australia AusAID Iraq Research Fellowships will be offered to citizens of Iraq in the field of Agriculture.

### Macquarie Bank Foundation

Internal Closing Date: Apply any time

[http://www.macquarie.com.au/au/about\\_macquarie/macquarie\\_in\\_the\\_community.htm](http://www.macquarie.com.au/au/about_macquarie/macquarie_in_the_community.htm)

Areas of interest: education, the arts, health research and health care, welfare and the environment. Opportunities that are innovative and genuinely responsive to the community's needs

### Middle East Desalination Research Center (Oman)

Internal Closing Date: Apply any time

<http://www.medrc.org>

Purpose: conduct, support and coordinate basic and applied R&D in water desalination and supporting fields, with the overall objective to reduce the cost of desalination.

### Myer Foundation

Internal Closing Date: Apply any time

<http://www.myerfoundation.org.au>

Areas of Focus: Arts and Humanities, "Beyond Australia", Water and Environment, Philanthropy, Social Justice

### Sarah Scaife Foundation (USA)

Internal Closing Date: Apply any time

<http://www.scaife.com/sarah.html>

Interest: public policy programs that address major domestic and international issues

# WATER RESEARCH Cluster



# Newsletter

MARCH 2005

# LAUNCHED



The two Water Cluster Champions David Chittleborough and Graeme Dandy celebrate in style the official launch of the Water Research Cluster.

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If you would like to advertise or send material for the University of Adelaide Water Research Cluster, please contact Paul Dalby on: 0401 122 204 or [pdalby@internode.on.net](mailto:pdalby@internode.on.net)

## Official Launch of the Water Research Cluster



Graeme Dandy, James McWha (Vice Chancellor), Neville Marsh (Deputy Vice Chancellor Research) and David Chittleborough (Photo Howard Salkow)

The Official Launch of the Water Research Cluster was held on February 8th in the National Wine Centre in Adelaide. The event was attended by many dignitaries from the University and the stakeholders of the Water Research Cluster.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor of Research, Neville Marsh, noted the many achievements of the Cluster already and gave his personal thanks to the eminent members of the new Advisory Board to the Cluster.

In launching the Cluster, the Vice Chancellor James McWha noted the central importance of water as a major geo-political as well as local political issue and went on to conclude that:

“It is not surprising that Water was to be a theme of the first Research Clusters to be approved within the University of Adelaide”.

Finally Graeme Dandy, one of the two Champions of the Cluster noted that the Water Research Cluster was more than just a collection of researchers.

“It is a serious attempt by its members to increase the impact that research has for society and the environment”.

Guests of the Launch were able to stay on after the formalities to meet members of the Cluster and see examples of the range of research capability the Cluster has to offer.

## Water Cluster Advisory Board

The Deputy Vice Chancellor of Research of the University of Adelaide has invited a number of eminent persons to participate in an Advisory Board to the Water Research Cluster. The purpose of the Advisory Board is to provide feedback and advice to the Cluster on how we can better engage with our stakeholders.

The members of the new Advisory Board (below) meet on 14th March.

- Rob Freeman, Chief Executive, Department of Water Land and Biodiversity Conservation
- John Johnson, Managing Director, River Murray Catchment and Water Management Board
- Jack McKean, SA Water
- Wayne Meyer, Chief Scientist, CRC Irrigation Futures
- John Radcliffe, CSIRO and Chair of Centre for Natural Resource Management
- Tony Smith, Business Development Manager, United Water
- Graeme Dandy, Water Research Cluster Champion, University of Adelaide
- David Chittleborough, Water Research Cluster Champion, University of Adelaide

The DVCR and the Water Research Cluster Management Panel welcome these members to the Advisory Board and thank them for their willing and enthusiastic participation.

## Would you like HELP with ARC Linkage Applications?

ARC Linkage grants are a useful mechanism to bring University researchers together with industry and government stakeholders. The Water Research Cluster has been established to support such linkages and University staff have indicated that if they had more support in the writing of these grants, particularly all of the administrative details, they would be able to submit more grants per annum.

In light of this the Water Research Cluster will appoint a short term, part time position to work with research teams to prepare ARC Linkage grants. Preference will be given to projects that involve early career researchers and/or that involve researchers from different disciplines and schools.

Any research team that involves staff from the University can apply for this assistance if their research will improve the understanding of processes and better management of water resources.

Please contact Paul Dalby to register your interest: Telephone 08 8303 6697 Email [paul.dalby@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:paul.dalby@adelaide.edu.au)

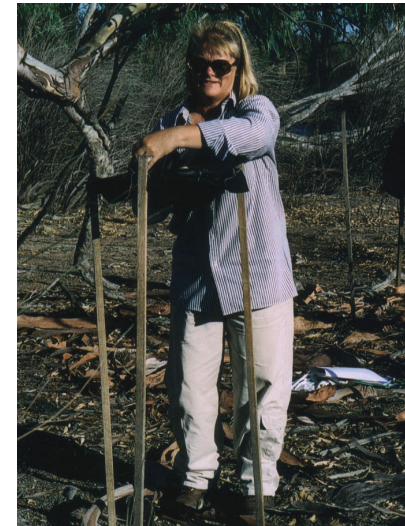
## Information Session with Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation

The Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity have invited the Water Research Cluster to an information sharing session on March 16th from 9am to 1pm. A number of speakers from both organisations will present their research and activities. A venue for this event is still being finalised.

The outcome is hopefully that the Department understands more about what we can contribute in terms of research and information and we understand better what is in the Department in terms of information, research, policy directions and research needs.

An email was sent to all Cluster members on Thursday February 10th to identify interest in participating and presenting.

If you are a member of the Water Research Cluster and would like to attend this event, please contact Paul Dalby to register your interest: Telephone 08 8303 6697 or Email [paul.dalby@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:paul.dalby@adelaide.edu.au)



## PROFILE: Anne Jensen

**PhD Student:** River Ecology Laboratory, Environmental Biology

**Supervisor:** Assoc Prof Keith Walker

**Research topic:** Seed banks on River Murray floodplain

Anne Jensen's road to undertaking a PhD has been a long one. She started out her studies as a computer programmer after being streamed into maths and science at high school. She received a scholarship during her first year at University and visited the United States. While she was there, she witnessed local high school students using dye to demonstrate that a sewerage outlet was the cause of the local beach being closed, despite denials from the local authorities.

“This was the first time I had seen local community action achieve an environmental outcome”.

Inspired by this new interest, when Anne returned to Adelaide, she asked her professors what she needed to study to become an environmentalist. This was at the beginning of the development of the environmental movement and specific courses had not yet been developed. It was suggested that she might study botany and zoology.

Anne has not looked back since. On completing her degree, Anne worked in government for 20 years on environmental impact assessment, wetland policy and management, with a particular focus on the South East and Murray River. In the early 1990's Anne identified the need for the Murray to have environmental flows to protect wetlands along its floodplain, and worked to develop relevant policies.

Wetland Care Australia was a not-for-profit organisation that poached Anne from the public service, and Anne spent six years working for them as their first employee and eventually as their CEO. Her role was to seek funding for and implement projects to protect and enhance wetlands, including improving flow paths to allow floods to reach the wetlands. When funding rules changed, the company moved to NSW where project funding was available. At the same time, Anne had read an article in the newspaper advertising a seminar for people interested in doing a PhD.

Keith Walker from the University of Adelaide assisted me in applying for a scholarship with Land and Water Australia, which I was lucky enough to get”.

Anne has now started her PhD project which is to identify the response of the seed bank of the Murray River Floodplain to different flooding regimes. All going well, she hopes that her research will identify the most effective use of the limited water that will be available for environmental flows.

Keith Walker and David Paton have worked with Anne on various projects over many years. They are her current supervisors and the scientists she most admires.

“I really admire their ability to be both very good communicators of science as well as highly regarded scientists”.

Anne's motivation for her research has only intensified as she has watched some of the best red gum forest along the River die in front of her.

“An area I regard as the best forest of tall, dense trees on the Murray floodplain has gone from being stunningly beautiful to being devastated in the space of four years. I have seed traps at this site which I hope will show recovery of the forest when a proposed watering trial commences soon”.

Anne can be contacted on [anne.jensen@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:anne.jensen@adelaide.edu.au) or 8303 5690.