



Welcome

From Howard Wheeler

Happy spring and welcome to the fifth edition of *Water News*. It was good to catch up with many of you at the CGU/CMOS/CWRA Joint Congress, held recently in Saskatoon. The conference had a great turnout, with guests travelling from around the world to attend. Many thanks to the 80 contributors from GIWS as well as the backroom support from our student members.

In May, NSERC announced funding for the Changing Cold Regions Network (CCRN), bringing together over 50 university and government scientists with varying backgrounds. Funding was also recently announced by CFI for vital infrastructure expansions and upgrades to research facilities within the Saskatchewan River Basin. Other faculty members to receive funding for their projects include Helen Baulch, Tim Jardine, Grant Ferguson and Marcia McKenzie.

More recently, GIWS played host to a two-day Global Energy and Water Exchanges workshop. Fifteen international research leaders attended to develop a new research agenda for the World Climate Research Programme's water strategy, identifying knowledge gaps and the steps needed to address them.

Finally, our Distinguished Lecture Series, beginning in September, will bring a renowned water researcher to the U of S each week for the fall academic term. This exciting series will highlight the interdisciplinary nature of our work and our international collaborative partners.



Regards,

Howard Wheeler
*Canada Excellence Research
Chair in Water Security
Director, Global Institute for
Water Security*



Could that be? Is it... spring? After a long winter, the flowers have finally bloomed outside the NHRC building in Saskatoon.

Photo by Lesley Porter

Student members sweep Joint Congress

Congratulations are in order for some of our very own graduate students for winning top honours at the recent CGU/CMOS/CWRA Joint Congress:

- Elvis Asong Zilefac: Best Poster, CMOS
- Phillip Harder: D.M. Gray Award for Best Student Paper, CGU
- Anna Coles: Best Poster, CWRA

Congratulations to all three of you! A job well done.

Address: National Hydrology Research Centre
11 Innovation Boulevard, Saskatoon, SK

Website: www.usask.ca/water

GIWS research recognized by NSERC and CFI

Two initiatives spearheaded by GIWS faculty are at the receiving end of funding from two federal agencies.

The Changing Cold Region Network (CCRN) will study the detailed connections among changing climate, ecosystems and water in the permafrost regions of the sub-arctic, the boreal forest, the Western Cordillera and the prairies.

Created with \$5 million over five years from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), the CCRN will involve more than 50 university and government scientists and international collaborators from the natural and social sciences.

CCRN by the numbers...

- ✓ \$5 million over 5 years
- ✓ Over 50 university and government researchers
- ✓ 4 government agencies involved
- ✓ 8 universities involved
- ✓ 5 research themes
- ✓ 14 observatory sites
- ✓ 3 regional rivers to be examined

GIWS director Howard Wheeler was also recently awarded \$800,000 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) for his project, titled *Saskatchewan River Basin: a large-scale observatory for new interdisciplinary water science*. Equipment and infrastructure will be significantly updated and will build on to our sites, including John Pomeroy's Rocky Mountain Observatory in southern Alberta.

Faculty named to Stockholm Water Prize Committee

GIWS faculty Pat Gober was recently named to the Nomination Committee of the Stockholm Water Prize, administered by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI).

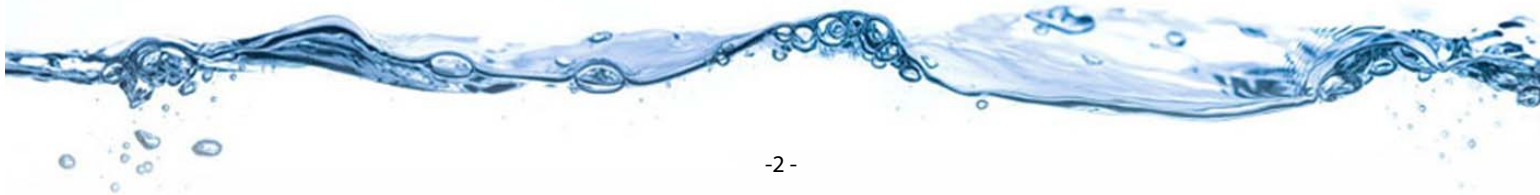
The Stockholm Water Prize is widely considered the world's most prestigious global annual award for outstanding achievements in water-related activities.



Pat will join nine other researchers from around the world on the Nomination Committee, who will review and assess nominations submitted for the prize.



Photo by Chris DeBeer



Building a talented team

Simply put, the institute couldn't do what it does without the help of our amazing administrative and office staff. Here are a few of them, to help you put faces to names.



Tiffany Schlosser, BComm, MPAcc

Prior to starting at GIWS in May, Tiffany worked as a staff accountant for KPMG in Saskatoon where she articulated to obtain her Chartered Accountant (CA) designation. As the GIWS Financial Officer, she oversees funds, provides financial information and is a resource on all financial matters for key stakeholders. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree, as well as a Master of Professional Accounting degree, from the Edwards School of Business at the U of S.



Kate Wilson, BA, MA

The first face you see when entering the office, Kate has been with the CERC program since 2010. In her role as Executive Assistant, she supports a broad range of institutional processes, such as recruitment, research services and funding opportunities. Previously, she had worked in the U of S Office of the Vice-President Research and the Student and Enrollment Services Division. She has a BA in sociology from the U of S and went on to complete her MA at McGill University.



Phani Adapa, MSc, PhD

Phani started at GIWS in February, taking the helm as Assistant Director. In this role, he conducts and facilitates research project management and network project management on behalf of the institute. Prior to this, he was with the U of S College of Engineering for 11 years. He completed his PhD in Chemical and Biological Engineering in 2011 and is a certified Professional Engineer (PEng) with APEGS, the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan.



This month, we bid a fond farewell to Twyla Rudovica, who has been the GIWS Finance Officer since 2010.

We wish her all the best in her move to Ontario, and thank her for all the great work over the years!

Student film event gets the conversation started

The GIWS Student Outreach Committee, in conjunction with the School of Environment and Sustainability Students' Association (SENSSA) and the Toxicology Graduate Student Association, organized the Let's Talk About Water film event on April 18. The event, which included a catered networking event, a feature presentation (*Last Call at the Oasis*) and a Q+A panel was a huge success, attracting almost 200 attendees.

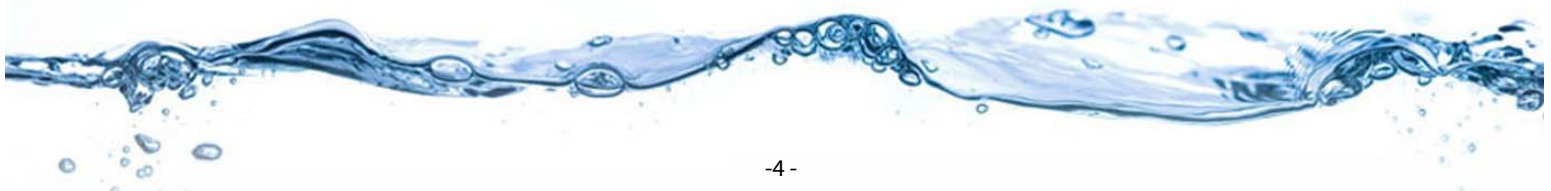
Among those guests were Jay Famiglietti (University of California, Irvine), who appeared in the film, and Rick Hooper (The Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc., based in Boston). Both Famiglietti and Hooper were part of the post-film expert panel, along with Howard Wheater and Jeff McDonnell (U of S), Wayne Dybvig (Saskatchewan Water Security Agency) and Brian Ayres (O'Kane Consultants).

Last Call at the Oasis examines the growing issue of water security around the world, and how some communities are struggling with its ill effects.

A big **thank you** goes to our talented student volunteers at GIWS, SENS and the Toxicology Centre for organizing the event – it couldn't have happened without you!



Photos by Lesley Porter



Upcoming events and important dates

Coming this September:

The Global Institute for Water Security, in conjunction with the School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS), is proud to present a weekly seminar series featuring the top water experts from around the world.

The **Distinguished Lecture Series** will span the fall academic term (11 weeks total) and feature a different world-renowned researcher each Wednesday, as part of the SENS ENVS 898 seminar class, *Breakthroughs in Hydrology*. These lectures are free and open to the public and will be streamed on the institute's website. Topics of note include isotope hydrology, hydroecological modelling, instrumentation, sociohydrology and many more. Graduate students looking to enroll in the class can do so on PAWS .

More information on this exciting initiative will soon be found on the GIWS and SENS websites – stay tuned!

Aug. 19-23

The Canadian Water Network (CWN) will be hosting a Lake Winnipeg Basin workshop in Winnipeg. More information can be found on the CWN website: www.cwn-rce.ca/

Sept. 26-29

Waterlution, in conjunction with the CWN, is hosting the 2013 Water Innovation Lab (WIL) in Kananaskis, AB. WIL is open to young researchers from all academic disciplines looking to apply both soft skills and hard evidence to make change happen. More information can be found on the Waterlution website: www.waterlution.org/wil2013

Oct. 6-9

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) will hold its annual conference in Nashville. More information can be found on the AASHE website: conference.aashe.org/2013/

For up-to-date event listings and more information, we encourage you to visit www.usask.ca/water regularly.



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Do you have a story, news item or event you'd like to see profiled in an upcoming issue? If so, please send your contribution to Lesley Porter, Communications Specialist for GIWS: lesley.porter@usask.ca.



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