

Thursday 3 August 2017

Words from the Director

South Africa recently hosted the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HYDROLOGICAL SCIENCES (IAHS) scientific assembly with much input and participation from CWRR members. For many, it was a rare opportunity to participate in a global conference and meet and interact with "famous" scientists. The emphasis of the assembly, was on the science of hydrology. This is somewhat unique in this day and age where scientific content is diluted in pursuit of simple take home messages and trying to reach "policy makers" - but it is equally important to showcase, critique and discuss advances in understanding, techniques and approaches. Nevertheless, the hydrology community (particularly our Northern colleagues) is keenly aware that we may have lost touch with the society our science is intended to serve. Hence the focus of the current IAHS scientific decade (2013–2022) known as "[Panta Rhei – Everything Flows](#)", which is focused on change in hydrology and society in support of sustainable water resources management. Whilst many of us from developing countries argue that considering society, hydrology and change is our reality, we have no meaningful presence in the Panta Rhei working groups and activities. Consequently, the discourse is being dominated by opinions from the global North. This is not the fault of IAHS, but rather ourselves. There is no intended restriction to our participation. Working groups are open to all - see the web link above for how to get involved. They may seem like closed clubs, but participation is welcomed - providing an opportunity to make a real and meaningful contribution to how hydrology evolves as a science. From the findings from our catchment laboratories, our experience through interactions with policy makers and the development of our unique education model, we have much that the rest of the world can learn from. We shouldn't be hesitant to participate and submit journal articles and opinion pieces based on our experiences here. Indeed - we have a responsibility to do so!

– Prof. Graham Jewitt, Director of CWRR.



A new Newsletter

You are reading the third issue of the CWRR's new Newsletter. The Newsletter is aimed at keeping everybody at the Centre updated about the movements and improvements – of our colleagues' achievements and endeavors, projects, outputs and outreach.

The Newsletter will come out monthly and requires inputs from all of us! Please send photos of your fieldtrips, information on your conferences, links to publications, and more, to CWRR@ukzn.ac.za or MalingaR@ukzn.ac.za



Young scientists at IAHS 2017

Included in the IAHS 2017 programme in Port Elizabeth in July, the Young Hydrologic Society (YHS) organized a series of events to catalyse interaction and development of hydrological-related careers for Early Career Scientists (ECS) from across the world. Several of CWRR's young scientists attended the three main events: (1) Meet the Expert: "Predictions in Ungauged Basins Under Change", (2) How to Write a Paper Session – where Prof. Graham Jewitt provided useful insights and shared experiences of paper writing, as well as (3) Early Career Community Building Discussion Session.



Important dates

◆ Thursday 31 August: Research on Tap! CWRR Seminar 3, themed Droughts and Disaster Management, will take place at 11.00-12.30 in seminar room 211.

CWRR hosted the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute **SMHI**

During 17-18 July we hosted a delegate of scientists from SMHI, led by Head of Hydrological Research, Dr. Berit Arnheimer. Recently, the CWRR has been collaborating with SMHI to enhance our water quality modelling in the uMngeni catchment. Jean Namugize has set up their model (HYPE) with David Clark for the upper uMngeni. SMHI have extended this to cover the whole catchment as well as the uMvoti, Thukela and uMkhomazi catchments. During their visit, the SMHI scientists participated in the national Citizen Science workshop and then spent two days interacting with members of the CWRR, Umgeni Water and other collaborators and visiting the catchment. This builds on many years of collaboration with SMHI, and CWRR is now a partner in a new research project GLORIOUS: GLObal useRs In the cOpernicUs climate change Service led by SMHI. Sean Thornton-Dibb will attend a HYPE training course at SMHI from 4-6 September and Prof. Graham Jewitt will join him for the inception meeting of the GLORIOUS project from 7-8 September.

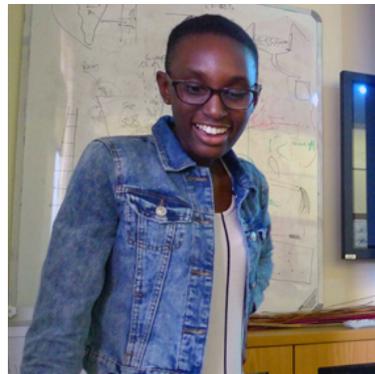
Meet one of the CWRR's associate members

Dr. Nick Rivers-Moore is an aquatic ecologist and environmental hydrologist, who obtained his PhD in Hydrology in 2003 from the University of Natal (Pietermaritzburg). Nick specializes in ecological modelling that links habitat drivers to freshwater ecological responses. His scientific profile includes numerous publications on pest blackfly in the Orange and Great Fish Rivers, water temperatures and environmental flows, and building models to predict wetland condition and location at a regional scale. Some noticeable products include the development of the first freshwater conservation plan for KwaZulu-Natal, and the development of a predictive management tool for Orange River blackfly out-breaks. Dr. Rivers-Moore currently supervises three MSc students.



Research on Tap...

... is the new name for the CWRR's Seminar Series, voted for by the participants of the second seminar, held on 27 July 2017. The seminar started off with a handful of fun and inspiring 2 minute speed talks by Centre members. The aim of the following session was to initiate collaboration around four new "Centre papers" where several members will be contributing with their skills and expertise to publish journal articles. We explored four different topics for papers and identified two champions for each paper to coordinate and lead the co-production. An invitation e-mail will be sent out to all members for anyone to join and participate in this exciting journey with brainstorming, workshops and writing retreats. Next seminar, themed Droughts and Disaster Management is scheduled to take place on Thursday 31 August. See upcoming e-mail and flyer for more information.



Latest publications – journal articles

- ◆ Prof. Roland Schulze and Dr. Sabine Stuart-Hill have a new article in [New Water Policy and Practice](#) where they share their "Reflections on the Framework of Water Governance in South Africa".
- ◆ In press at *Environmental Development* is a new publication by Simphiwe Ngcobo and Prof. Graham Jewitt on the impacts of sugarcane production on water resources in Southern Africa. Read it [here!](#)
- ◆ Published in *South African Geographical Journal* is [this](#) new article by Dr. Alistair Clulow, Prof. Colin Everson, Dr. Michael Mengistu and others, titled "Evapotranspiration from mine-affected riparian sites along the Vaal River in central South Africa".
- ◆ Prof. Graham Jewitt, Dr. Michele Warburton Toucher and others have a [new paper](#) out at *Water Science*, about ACUR hydrological model suitability in a rainforest catchment in Ghana.