Hi All

Well I hope you are all well rested, had a great Christmas and are ready for the New Year. Here’s the latest news:

Reports & Papers
Reports completed and issued in the last few months have been:
- Dirty Water -Literature Review completed Dec 2005 (see Karen);
- Capability statement revised Dec 2005 (see Karen);
- Pilot scale testing of Biofiltration at Wanneroo – jointly done with CSIRO and Water Corporation (see Anna);
- Two papers were published this month:

Workshops & Meetings
- Jean-Philippe Croue will be arriving on the 5th of February and heading back to France on the 18th. JP will be attending the AOG NOM Conference at Rottnest from 12-15th Feb
- At the forthcoming AOG –NOM conference 4 members of the Water Research group will present talks and several other papers by group members will be presented as posters.
- Phil Singer from University of North Carolina will be coming to Australia around October to spend time with our group. His interests involve natural organic material and its characterization, DBP formation and control, anion exchange, and lead solubility in distribution systems. He is prepared to give seminars on the following topics: "Coagulation of Natural Organic Material," "Formation, Regulation and Control of DBPs," and "Removal of DBP Precursors by Ion Exchange," and to interact with scientists and engineers on matters related to these subjects. Paul would also be willing to participate in on-going research on these subjects.
- A Technology Transfer session on the Formation of Discoloured Water is planned for the 8th February at the Water Corporation. Anna & Karen will be 2 of the presenters.
- The next CWQRC Culture Blending Workshop will be held on February 24th - further details & agenda will follow.
- Keith Hall of Hall Analytical and CEO of MS solutions, a hardware development company is currently in Perth for the LC-MS installations. He will be presenting a seminar on his business and research interests at Curtin on 23rd January 12-1pm.
- The members of the CWQRC Reference Group, Professor Barney Glover, Mr Keith Cadee, Professor Bob Kagi, Ms Mary Papachristos and Mr Tony Tate, met on 30 November 2005. At the meeting, a number of key issues were discussed that will impact upon the future development of the Centre. These include:
• The need to identify a Director for the Centre who will work with Bob Kagi, as the Director of CAOG;
• The need to continue to recruit professional and technical staff to ensure there is sufficient capacity available to meet the project needs;
• The proposed visit to the Centre by Professor Chen from Harbin Institute of Technology in China; and
• The proposed strategic alliance with EAWAG.

The Reference Group thanked Bob Kagi, Alan Maus and all Centre staff for the development of the CWQRC Action Plan 2005/2006 and noted that significant progress has been made in establishing the Centre.

A proposal from CSIRO Water for Healthy Country Flagship to become a member of the CWQRC was considered and referred back to CSIRO for further work. It is the long term aspiration the CSIRO will become a member of the Centre and through that membership value add to its activities.

The Reference Group noted with pleasure that a significant number of proposals had been submitted to outside funding bodies in order to leverage the Centre’s core funding.

Staff
  o Anna Heitz was promoted to Associate Professor in December and would like to thank all the people who have supported her over the past few years. She is very mindful of how much others in CWQRC have helped her with this achievement and that she would not have got there without every member of the team's wonderful support and contribution. Congratulations Anna!
  o Congratulations again to Anna who is also expecting her 3rd baby mid-March
  o Arron Lethorn joined us this month, his work will focus on the chlorinous odours project, taking over from Hanna Driessen who will commence her PhD (CRCWQT funded) on the same topic in the beginning of March
  o Paul Pringle has also joined our team. He will work predominantly on the chlorine demand and THMfp experiments.
  o Chad MacAuliffe has left us and has gone to work for Amdel in Wangara for three months before heading overseas.
  o Mick Alessandrino has gone to Europe for six to eight months to see family and generally have a great time. The World Cup in Germany also being a strong deciding factor in his choice of destination. Scott Garbin will also be at the World Cup.
  o Alan Maus is just back from proudly attending his daughter Lisa’s graduation, as a Doctor, from University of Adelaide.
  o Barney Glover is leaving Curtin to become Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research at The University of Newcastle. All at the CWQRC wish Barney all the best in his new role.
  o Karen is busy buying Barney’s house.

Promotional Items
  o Report Covers have arrived and are in my office, so remember for all reports see me and also ask for the Report Number so we have a record of all.
  o A number of draft PowerPoint Templates have been created are currently being reviewed (see Alan or Anna).

Other Items
  o Congratulations to Aaron Lethorn and John Miles who were placed first and third respectively in the AWA undergrad water prize on the 30th November 2005. Arron will go to the National AWA Conference in Melbourne later this year to present his work. It’s fantastic for Curtin to have won this award two years in a row, with Hanna Driessen winning this award in 2004.

If you have any news for our next issue, please contact me, Tanya Chambers, by telephone on 9266 4957, or by email at T.Chambers@curtin.edu.au.