Prince Sultan Water Specialist
Event Participation Grant

2017-2022
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**Introduction**

To build upon its success in awarding cutting edge innovation as the world’s leading scientific water prize, the Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water (PSIPW) wished to establish a programme to provide encouragement and recognition to researchers at all stages of their careers who are actively engaged in valuable water-related research, from the most senior scientists in their fields to students just starting out. This wish led to the establishment of the Prince Sultan Water Specialist Event Participation Grant, named in memory of HRH Crown Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, founder of the Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water. Encouraging water-related research is PSIPW’s vision, and this program extends that vision.

The Prince Sultan Water Specialist Event Participation Grant enables the participation of world-leading water scientists at conferences and as leaders of workshops and courses. It also enables distinguished water scientists from the developing world, and young researchers from all over the world, to attend conferences, seminars, workshops, and specialised courses.

The grant is administered by the Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water. Organisations holding water-related scientific conferences, seminars, workshops, and short courses are eligible to participate as PSIPW’s grant partners. Organisations wishing to cooperate in the grant programme should contact the Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water at info@psipw.org.

Grant recipients are chosen exclusively by the cooperating organisations, pending PSIPW’s approval. Individuals seeking grants should not apply to PSIPW directly. The organisation chooses the recipient of its own accord, based on one or more the following criteria:

1. Suitability of the recipient to make a positive contribution to, or benefit from, the event
2. The need of the recipient
3. Innovative nature of the recipient’s water-related work

There are three types of grants on offer. These are two types of Distinguished Researcher Grants and a Young Researcher Grant:

[1] Distinguished Researcher Grant (for plenary and keynote speakers). This grant enables the organisations hosting water-related scientific events to invite world-leading water researchers to present plenary lectures, keynote addresses, and head workshops.

[2] Distinguished Researcher Grant (for scientists from the developing world). This grant enables leading scientists and researchers from the developing world who have innovative water-related work to present their research and participate at international conferences and workshops.

[3] Young Researcher Grant. This grant enables undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate researchers with valuable water-related work to present their research and participate at international conferences and workshops.
Between 2017 and 2022, a total of 86 grants were awarded to 84 recipients from 30 countries. A total of 26 distinguished water and environmental scientists from 19 countries received the Prince Sultan Grant to present their research findings and lend their expertise to various conferences, congresses and workshops around the world. In addition, 58 young researchers from 20 countries received grants to participate in conferences and present their research. The conferences took place in Canada, China, Croatia, France, Greece, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, South Africa, and the United States.

The 30 countries that the grant recipients hailed from were: Austria, Bangladesh, Canada, Columbia, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Greece, India, Malawi, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Senegal, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Some of the cooperating organisations for this program have entered into memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with PSIPW. The participation grant forms part of a broader comprehensive cooperation agreement between the organizations. These organisations are:

• Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)
• Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE)
• Global Network on Environmental Science and Technology (GlobalNEST)

The grant is also administered within the context of conference sponsorships, where PSIPW agrees with the conference organisers to provide grants in cooperation with the conference as an activity, and in return the conference organisers provide PSIPW with sponsorship benefits.
Distinguished Researcher Grants
2017-2022
Diana Aga, Research professor in Environmental Analytical Chemistry and Mass Spectrometry, State University of New York at Buffalo, USA

“Now you see me, now you don’t: Revealing new chemical forms through high resolution mass spectrometry and complementary techniques” (2021) and: “Pharmaceutical monitoring paired with RNA detection in wastewater for early-warning of community viral outbreaks” (2022)

**Date:** 14-15 October 2021, 10-11 October 2022  
**Event:** 17th and 18th Annual Workshops on Emerging High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry and LC-MS/MS Applications in Environmental Analysis and Food Safety. Ottawa, Canada.  
**Partner Organisation:** Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)

Diana S. Aga is the Henry M. Woodburn Chair Professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo. She has extensively studied the presence of contaminants in ground and wastewater. Aga has worked to characterise and remove antibiotics from wastewater to prevent the spread of antibiotic resistance and the multiplication of superbugs. She has also studied the chemical composition of brominated flame retardants (polybrominated diphenyl ethers, BDEs), toxic chemicals which can cause brain damage, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and damage to the thyroid. These BDEs are washed into the public water supply, accumulating in the food chain and eventually reaching humans through meat and fish. She has shown that enzymes in the human body can break these BDEs down into a more dangerous hydroxylated form.

Her awards include the 2000 National Science Foundation Faculty CAREER Award, the 2007 New York Water Environment Association Kenneth Allen Memorial Award, the 2013 University at Buffalo Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring Award, the 2017 American Chemical Society Schoellkopf Medal and the 2017 American Chemical Society AGRO Fellow Award.
Alexandros Asimakopoulo, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim, Norway

“Pharmaceuticals, illicit drugs, and other organic micropollutants in wastewater treatment plants: A perspective on sewage epidemiology”

**Date:** 14-16 October 2022  
**Event:** 3rd International Conference on Risk Assessment of Pharmaceuticals in the Environment (ICRAPHE 3). Hangzhou, China.  
**Partner Organisation:** Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)

Alexandros G. Asimakopoulos was born in Athens, Greece in 1986. He received his PhD in Chemistry in 2014 from the Department of Chemistry at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece (E.U.). Currently, he serves as an Associate Professor of Environmental Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim, Norway. The current studies of his research group include untargeted and targeted environmental and bioanalytical approaches for organic compounds. The studies are focused on the understanding of environmental sources, pathways, distribution, dynamics and fate of contaminants and organic biomarkers in biological and environmental media.
Alistair Boxall, Professor in Environmental Science, University of York, UK

“New developments in modelling approaches for understanding the risks of pharmaceuticals in the environment”

Date: 14-16 October 2022
Partner Organisation: Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)

Alistair Boxall’s research focuses on understanding emerging and future ecological and health risks posed by chemical contaminants in the natural environment. Alistair is a member of the Defra Advisory Hazardous Substances Advisory Committee and is Chair of the Pharmaceutical Advisory Group of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. He regularly advises national and international organisations on issues relating to chemical impacts on the environment and has published extensively on the topic of emerging contaminants (pharmaceuticals, nanomaterials and veterinary medicines) in the environment. Alistair is co-ordinator of the 3.5 M Euro project ‘CAPACITIE’ which is exploring methods for monitoring pollution in cities.

Professor Boxall’s research has been funded by a variety of organisations that include the UK government (DEFRA, HSE, The Environment Agency, English Nature, BBSRC, the Highways Agency), the EC, American Water Works Association Research Foundation and industry. His research work focuses on understanding the fate, transport and environmental and human health effects of emerging environmental contaminants (including human and veterinary medicines, degradates and nanomaterials).
Mario Carere, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy

“Effect based methods for the detection of pharmaceutical contamination in the context of the water framework directive”

Date: 28-29 November 2019  
Partner Organisation: Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)

Mario Carere engages in research on chemical contamination of water bodies (rivers, lakes, seawaters, lagoons). He also undertakes the evaluation of risks for human health and the environment and is involved in European legislation for the protection of water resources, particularly the implementation of the water framework directive.
Date: 30 November-3 December 2021  
Event: 21st European Meeting on Environmental Chemistry (EMEC 21). Novi Sad, Serbia.  
Partner Organisation: Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE)

Tatjana Ćirković-Veličković is full professor in the department of biochemistry at the University of Belgrade and has been the Head of the Centre of Scientific Excellence from December 10, 2020.

Her awards include the 2003 COIMBRA Group Fellowship Award, the 2004 European Academy of Allergology and Clinical Immunology long term fellowship Award, the 2005 Award of the Serbian Chemical Society for young scientists, and the 2011 Postdoctoral fellowship award of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia.
Anne-Marie Delort, Institut de Chimie de Clermont-Ferrand, Université Clermont Auvergne, Aubierre, France

“The cloud microbiota – Microorganisms-H2O2 interactions”

Date: 30 November-3 December 2021
Event: 21st European Meeting on Environmental Chemistry (EMEC 21). Novi Sad, Serbia.
Partner Organisation: Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE)

Anne-Marie Delort is a Senior Scientist at the Institute of Chemistry of Clermont-Ferrand in France. In addition to a general background in chemistry and molecular biology, her expertise covers Microbiology and Metabolomics. Her studies focus on microbial metabolism in relation with the environment. She has been a pioneer in studying the microbial population in clouds. Her recent studies concern the adaptation of microorganisms to atmospheric stresses and the role of microorganisms in atmospheric chemistry and physics. This includes the transformation of organic matter, interaction with oxidants and formation of ice nuclei and cloud condensation nuclei (biosurfactants). Her group is part of MetaboHUB, the French national infrastructure of excellence in metabolomics and fluxomics.
Despo Fatta-Kassinos, Professor at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Director of Nireas International Water Research Center at the University of Cyprus

“On the fate of antimicrobial resistance during urban wastewater treatment and reuse”

Date: 14-16 October 2022  
Partner Organisation: Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)

Despo Fatta-Kassinos’ research expertise focuses on wastewater treatment and reuse, advanced chemical oxidation processes, contaminants of emerging concern, and antimicrobial resistance in the environment and wastewater technical systems. Despo is a Highly Cited Researcher since 2018 (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). She was the Chair of the Scientific and Technological Advisory Board of the European JPI ‘Water Challenges for a Changing World’ for the years 2015-2019, the Chair of the COST Action NEREUS ES1403, and the Coordinator of the H2020-MSCA-ITN-2015/675530/ANSWER project, focusing on challenges of wastewater treatment and reuse. Despo is recipient of various awards, and in 2022 she received the Noack Laboratorien Outstanding Science Career Award by The Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC).
**Tamer Gado**, Professor at the Faculty of Engineering, Tanta University, Egypt

“Bias correction of daily satellite-based rainfall estimates over Egypt”

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**Date:** 7-9 August 2019  
**Event:** International Conference on Water, Informatics, Sustainability and Environment (iWISE 2019). Ottawa, Canada.  
**Partner Organisation:** Ottawa Assembly of Knowledge

Tamar Gado is the Head of the Department of Irrigation and Hydraulics Engineering at the Faculty of Engineering of Tanta University. His work focuses on the estimation of extreme hydrologic events (extreme rainfall, floods, temperature extremes) with particular reference to the impact of climate change, as well as rainfall frequency analysis using satellite data and the automatic calibration of conceptual rainfall-runoff models.
Walter Gößler, Institut für Chemie, Universität Graz, Austria

“A closer look at the elemental composition of macrofungi, with a focus on arsenic”

Date: 30 November-3 December 2021
Event: 21st European Meeting on Environmental Chemistry (EMEC 21). Novi Sad, Serbia.
Partner Organisation: Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE)

Walter Gößler’s research deals with the development and improvement of analytical methods with a focus on inorganic analytics. The determination of trace elements and the identification and quantification of trace element compounds are among his core competencies. These methods are used to answer questions and problems related to human health and the environment. Other research areas include the use of LC/MS for the molecule-selective determination of analytes relevant to the environment and health. The biotransformation of arsenic compounds plays a central role in his research. He receive the 2006 Feigl Prize of the Austrian Society for Analytical Chemistry, ASAC (Austria).
Adama Gueye, Associate Professor of Economics at Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal

Delegate to the Economics Task Team for “Cities Facing Escalating Water Shortages: Lessons Learned and Strategies Moving Forward”

Date: 27-29 January 2020
Partner Organisations: Institute for Ecological Civilization (EcoCiv) & SOSNPO

Adama Gueye’s research engages with the economic dimensions of food and water shortages. She has been involved with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) conducting research on dietary adequacy and hunger among the poor in both urban and rural communities.
Ester Heath, Head of the Laboratory for Organic Analytical Chemistry, Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia

“Emerging Chemicals: A journey from source to environment”

Date: 5-8 December 2022  
Event: 22nd European meeting on Environmental Chemistry (EMEC 22). Ljubljana, Slovenia.  
Partner Organisation: Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE)

Ester Heath has been employed at Jožef Stefan Institute since 1991. She earned her M.Sc. (1994) and Ph.D. (1998) in Chemistry – Environmental Organic Analysis from the University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia. She spent 15 months at the University of Plymouth, Plymouth in the UK and two years at McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada. Currently, Prof Heath is Head of the Laboratory for Organic Analytical Chemistry within the Department of Environmental Sciences, Jožef Stefan Institute and a full professor at the International Postgraduate School Jožef Stefan in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Professor Heath has been working in the field of organic analytical chemistry for over 30 years and has a broad experience in experimental work (sample preparation, quantitative and qualitative determination) and analyzing trace organic compounds and their metabolites/transformation products using different analytical techniques (gas/liquid chromatography, mass spectrometry). Lately, she has been involved in studying the cycling of residues of contaminants of emerging concern in matrices related to the environment, food and health. Professor Heath is a Slovene representative of the European Chemical Societies’ Division of Chemistry and the Environment and an ESPR Editor.
Seppo Hellsten, Head of Restoration Assessment Unit at the Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), Oulu, Finland

“Management and restoration of surface water bodies receiving mine waters – lessons learned from Talvivaara mine impacts in northern part of Finland”

Date: 2-5 December 2021
Event: 20th European Meeting on Environmental Chemistry (EMEC 20). Łódź, Poland.
Partner Organisation: Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE)

Seppo Hellsten has been a principal researcher in several EU Framework projects for ecological assessment. He is the co-head of the largest integrated LIFE Nature project FRESHABIT in Europe as well as BIOWATER – the Centre of Excellence in Nordic Bioeconomy. These projects have a specific focus on assessment and monitoring. He has been a member of several EU official working groups, such as Pilot River Basins, Heavily Modified Water Bodies and Environmental Flows.
Eiman Karar, Water Governance Advisor, UNESCO Regional Center for Water Harvesting Capacity Building, Sudan

Delegate to the Politics Task Team for “Cities Facing Escalating Water Shortages: Lessons Learned and Strategies Moving Forward”

Date: 27-29 January 2020
Partner Organisations: Institute for Ecological Civilization (EcoCiv) & SOSNPO

Eiman Karar is a senior advisor for the United Nations Environment Programme as well as the water governance advisor for UNESCO’s Regional Centre for Water Harvesting Capacity Building. She also serves as the advisor to the Sudanese Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources. She is a senior governance and institutional reform expert with 15 years’ experience in integrated environmental management coupled with advanced scientific analytical capabilities in the public sector sphere offering policy design supported with citizen agentisation in democratic governance capacity building of governance institutions and non-state actors. She is also active in civic education.
Date: 27-29 January 2020  
Partner Organisations: Institute for Ecological Civilization (EcoCiv) & SOSNPO

Dorothy Kobel is an independent consultant, focusing on institutional development and capacity building, infrastructure and asset management, pro-poor service delivery and project development. She has contributed to infrastructure planning and institutional reforms for utilities in the water and energy sectors of Uganda, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya and Rwanda.

Dorothy Kobel, DARK Advisory Services, Kampala, Uganda

Delegate to the Technical Sciences Task Team for “Cities Facing Escalating Water Shortages: Lessons Learned and Strategies Moving Forward”
Silvia Lacorte, Vice-Director, Institute of Environmental Assessment and Water Research, Barcelona, Spain

“Soils, a sink for legacy and emerging pollutants: Impacts in natural areas”

Date: 5-8 December 2022
Event: 22nd European meeting on Environmental Chemistry (EMEC 22). Ljubljana, Slovenia.
Partner Organisation: Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE)

Silvia Lacorte got her PhD in Analytical Chemistry in the University of Barcelona (1997), made a post-doc in Lyon, France, and in 1999 became full researcher at the Department of Environmental Chemistry in IDAEA-CSIC. Nowadays, she is vice-director of the IDAEA-CSIC and leads an interdisciplinary research group in the field of analytical and environmental sciences. Her main research interest is to evaluate the presence and impact of legacy and emerging organic contaminants (including microplastics) in the environment and find solutions to mitigate the overwhelming problem of chemical pollution. Studies include (i) development and validation of analytical methods for the determination of organic pollutants including their degradation products in relevant environmental matrices using mass-spectrometric based methods; (ii) water-soil-sediment monitoring to evaluate the sources, distribution and fate of organic contaminants and (iii) integration of chemical and toxicological analysis to evaluate their potential effects in aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. Special effort is given to the protection of wildlife and natural resources.
Albert Lebedev, Department of Organic Chemistry, Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia

“Mechanisms of formation of disinfection by-products in water treatment”

Date: 30 November-3 December 2021  
Event: 21st European Meeting on Environmental Chemistry (EMEC 21). Novi Sad, Serbia.  
Partner Organisation: Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE)

Albert Lebedev is a full Professor at the Department of Organic Chemistry, Lomonosov Moscow State University. He conducts research in analytical chemistry, organic chemistry, proteomics, chemical biology and environmental chemistry. His current projects deal with aquatic chlorination of organic compounds including UV-filters, targeted and non-targeted analysis of organic compounds in water, snow, clouds, soil, etc., de novo sequencing of natural peptides, study of mechanisms of the gas phase reactions, the search for the new lipids - biomarkers of cardio-vascular diseases. He was awarded the 1983 Lenin’s Komsomol State Award in Chemistry and the 2007 Government of Russian Federation Award in Science and Technology.
Mayamiko Nkoloma, University of Malawi

Delegate to the Politics Task Team for “Cities Facing Escalating Water Shortages: Lessons Learned and Strategies Moving Forward”

Date: 27-29 January 2020
Partner Organisations: Institute for Ecological Civilization (EcoCiv) & SOSNPO

Mayamiko Nkoloma is the lead consultant for Malawi’s Ministry of Health. He has also developed an eHealth system to address the objectives of the Southern Africa Tuberculosis and Health System Support Project, while supporting the existing health and occupational health information systems and standards, such as DHIS2, Laboratory information system and to focus on the use of ICT to engage healthcare workers and communities in information systems that promote reporting, diagnosis, treatment follow up and responsiveness from the community level, health facility to the national levels.
Dr. Abd El Moneim Osman, Emeritus Professor of Mineralogy and Economic Geology, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt

“Using Ba-bearing natural minerals in the attenuation of polluted radioactive water wastes”

Date: 19-23 June 2017
Partner Organisation: Ottawa Assembly of Knowledge

Abd El Moneim Osman has had a long and distinguished career as one of Egypt’s senior geological researchers. He was involved in the joint geological research conducted between Egypt and the Smithsonian Institution from 1977-1980 under the principal direction of Professor Farouk El-Baz.
**Yolanda Pico,** Professor of Nutrition and Food Science, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Valencia, Spain

“Pharma residues and microplastics in Saudi Arabian lakes and pools irrigated with wastewaters: Bioaccumulation and plant uptake”

**Date:** 28-29 November 2019  
**Partner Organisation:** Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)

Yolanda Pico’s research involves environmental chemistry, emerging contaminants monitoring, risk assessment, environmental forensics, chromatography, and the identification of degradation products. Her priority research is the development and validation of methods of analysis for the determination of emerging organic contaminants in the environment, the development of methods and models for the control of the routes and the contaminant exposure assessment and the development of tools that improve the knowledge about their impact. She was an evaluator for the 5th, 6th and 7th Framework Programme of the European Union and for the 2020 Horizon as well as serving on the panel of experts for the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) (2009-2012).
Habibur Rahman, Bangladesh Water Development Board

Workshop delegate.

Date: 19-23 June 2017
Event: 7th Water Diplomacy Workshop. Massachusetts, USA.
Partner Organisation: Water Diplomacy

Habibur Rahman is known for his critical work as Project Director for the rehabilitation of 29 coastal polders in Bangladesh, and for running Bangladesh's River Management Improvement Project (RMIP).
Susan D. Richardson, Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of South Carolina, USA

“Emerging DBPs in drinking water: New discoveries, potential risks, and promising solutions”

Date: 15-16 October 2020
Partner Organisation: Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)

Susan D. Richardson’s research focuses primarily on identifying new disinfection by-products (DBPs) in drinking water, determining formation mechanisms, and integrating toxicological characterization with chemical characterization approaches. The overall goal of this research is to solve human health issues surrounding drinking water DBPs. She received the 2019 and 2020 Award of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and the 2020 Herty Medal in recognition of outstanding work and service by a chemist in the southeastern United States.
Eduardo Rodríguez de San Miguel, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

“Determination of arsenic(V) bioavailability in aquatic systems using a passive sampler based on polymer inclusion membranes (PIMs) and filamentous fungi”

Date: 2-5 December 2021
Event: 20th European Meeting on Environmental Chemistry (EMEC 20). Łódź, Poland.
Partner Organisation: Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE)

Eduardo Rodríguez de San Miguel’s research work is focused on the study of ion transfer processes in membranes with application in methods of separation, detection and quantification of cations, mainly with an impact on the environmental, hydrometallurgical and energy areas. He has directed various research projects sponsored by CONACyT, DGAPA and the European Economic Community, including the detection and removal of toxic metals (As, Pb, Cd and Zn) in fluids produced by the (hydro) metallurgical industry. He was a recipient of the “Alfonso Caso” medal.
José Antonio Sanchez Perez, Professor at Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Almería

“Solar photo Fenton as a tertiary wastewater treatment. From mechanisms to reactor design”

Date: 3-6 December 2018
Event: 19th European Meeting on Environmental Chemistry (EMEC 19). Royat, France.
Partner Organisation: Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE)

José Antonio Sanchez Perez is a full professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Almería. Director of the Solar Energy Research Centre, CIESOL, a centre jointly established between the University of Almería and the Plataforma Solar de Almería. His current research lines are solar technologies applied to wastewater treatment, especially solar photo-Fenton for microcontaminant removal and wastewater disinfection.
Ajit Sarmah, Associate Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Auckland, New Zealand

“Low-cost adsorbent for environmental remediation of pharma residues: How resilient is the approach?”

Date: 28-29 November 2019
Partner Organisation: Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)

Ajit Sarmah is an Associate Professor in the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department within the Environmental Engineering Group. Prior to joining The University of Auckland, he was a Senior Research Scientist with Landcare Research, a Crown Research Institute (CRI) in Hamilton, NZ for nearly 10 years. Earlier he worked in the School of Civil Engineering and School of Agronomy of Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA as a Visiting Scientist, as a Research Officer at the University of Western Australia, and as a Research Associate at the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand.
Ricardo Antonio Torres-Palma, Professor of Chemistry at the Instituto de Quimica, Universidad de Antioquia, Columbia

“Elimination of relevant pharmaceuticals in hospital wastewater from Colombia by combination of a biological system with a sonochemical process”

Date: 4-7 September 2019  
Event: 16th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology (CEST2019). Rhodes, Greece.  
Partner Organisation: Global Network on Environmental Science and Technology (GlobalNEST)

Ricardo Antonio Torres-Palma is head of the Research Centre at the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences of Universidad de Antioquia, leader of the Research Group on Environmental Remediation and Biocatalysis and Editor of the journal Environmental Science and Pollution Research (Springer). He has dedicated his scientific life to the understanding and development of water treatment systems through electrochemical, photochemical, and sonochemical processes, among others. He acts as an expert evaluator of the National Accreditation Council of the Ministry of National Education. He has been also a Guest Editor for Applied Catalysis B: Environmental, Journal of Hazardous Materials and ECS Transactions. He has been part of the scientific committee of renowned international congresses such as European Conference on Environmental Applications of Advanced Oxidation Processes, Asia-Oceania Sonochemical Society Conference, Iberoamerican Conference on Advanced Oxidation Technologies, and European meeting on Solar Chemistry and Photocatalysis: Environmental Applications. He has been awarded as the most outstanding Afro-Colombian of the last decade in the academy. Currently, he is also President of the Electrochemical Society in Colombia and Coordinator for Latin America of the International PhD School on advanced oxidation processes.
Aleksandr Tskhai, Principal Researcher, Institute for Water & Environmental Problems, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Barnaul, Russia

“Model assessment of the efficiency of water utility companies: approach to the analysis of resources and results”

Date: 1-6 October 2019
Partner Organisation: International Centre for Sustainable Development of Energy, Water and Environment Systems

Aleksandr Tskhai has had a long and distinguished career as Chief Research Scientist at the Institute for Water and Environmental Problems of the Russian Academy of Sciences. He has been UNESCO Chair Professor at the Altai State Technical University since 1996. He received the 1995 Tison Award from IAHS.
Young Researcher Grants
2017-2022
Belen Gonzalez Gaya, PhD contract at the European Project TAPAS, IMDEA Water, Madrid, Spain

“Optimizing a clean method for environmental samples: Antibiotics and matrix interferences in marine sediments, water and biota”

Paula Alexandra Rodrigues e Araújo Guedes, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Environmental & Sustainability Research, Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal

“Removal of PPCPs from effluent based on electrochemical process - possibility of further use in agriculture”

Mathilde Godere, Laboratoire Chimie Environnement, Aix-En-Provence, France

“Halogenated hydrophobic contaminants in a coastal industrialized area: Comparing passive samplers’ accumulation to concentrations in waters, sediments and mussels”
Luca Carena, Department of Chemistry, University of Turin, Italy

“Assessment of solar photo-Fenton in raceway pond reactors at neutral pH with Fe(III)-EDDS for micropollutant removal in municipal wastewater treatment plant effluents of different composition”

Davide Palma, Institut de Chimie de Clermont-Ferrand, Université Clermont Auvergne, Aubière, France

“Evidence of nitration and nitrosation of aromatic compounds upon irradiation of imidacloprid in water”

Paula Soriano-Molina, University of Almería, Spain

“Assessment of solar photo-Fenton in raceway pond reactors at neutral pH with Fe(III)-EDDS for micropollutant removal in municipal wastewater treatment plant effluents of different composition”

Filipe Rocha, University of Porto, Portugal

“Assessing the levels of siloxanes and musks in sewage sludges for sustainable and safe use in soils”
Sara Ramos, Laboratory for Process Engineering, Environment, Biotechnology & Energy, University of Porto, Portugal

“Extraction methodologies for UV-filters and synthetic musk compounds from soils and tomatoes”

Miao Wang, Laboratoire de Météorologie Physique, Université Clermont Auvergne, Aubière, France

“Air/droplet partitioning of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the cloudy atmosphere of the Puy de Dôme station in France”

Hani Farhat, Institut de Chimie de Clermont-Ferrand, Université Clermont Auvergne, Aubière, France

“Catalytic properties of Co/Mn LDH phases for the redox transformation of H2O2: Structural, morphological and electrochemical characterizations”

Amina Khaled, Institut de Chimie de Clermont-Ferrand, Université Clermont Auvergne, Aubière, France

“Phototransformation of myrigalone, a natural herbicide, in water and on leaves”
Ratnajit Saha, Senior Research Associate at the Research and Evaluation Division, BRAC, Bangladesh

“Geogenic arsenic and microbial contamination in drinking water sources: Exposure risks to the coastal population in Bangladesh”

Lester Lee Bayon, University of the Philippines

“Cobalt and phosphorous recovery from semiconductor wastewater through homogeneous crystallization of cobalt phosphate in a fluidized-bed reactor”

Amartya Pani, Doctoral Research Scholar at the Indian Institute of Technology, West Bengal, India

“Changing cropping patterns and irrigation practices: Implications for promoting sustainable growth of agriculture in West Bengal, India”
Filipe Rocha, University of Porto, Portugal

“Nutrient Content, Heavy Metals, Microorganisms and Organic Pollutants in Portuguese Sewage Sludge - A Country Level Analysis”

Franja Prosenc, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

“Microplastics in Soil and Soil-like Matrices: Extraction, Quantification, and Identification”

Hiba Zind, University of Poitiers, France

“Distribution of selected pharmaceutical residues and their related degradation products in different aquatic compartments”

Jakub Gruszka, University of Białystok, Poland

“Application of Single Particle ICP MS for speciation analysis of AgNPs and Ag+ ions in surface waters and green algae”
Jovana Orlic, University of Belgrade, Serbia

“Assessing the impact of urbanization on the sediment and bivalves archives of the Great War Island (Serbia)”

Lisa Shearer, University of the Highlands and Islands, Thurso, Scotland, UK

“Sustainable water treatment of pharmaceuticals using functionalised waste materials as adsorbents”

Magdalena Gajek, Łódź University of Technology, Poland

“Semi-quantitative assessment of selected metals of whisky samples in relation to their type and origin”

Olha Matviichuk, Université de Poitiers, France

“Evolution of antibiotics in two French rivers and incidence of antibiotic resistance in biofilms”
Pablo Irizar, University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU), Bilbao, Spain

“Design of epoxy-silica hybrids based on environment-friendly cycloaliphatic diol compounds for potential application as stone conservation materials”

Yara Arbid, Université Clermont Auvergne, France

“Development of an experimental system to measure air depollution performance of green roofs”

Marc Castaño Trias, ICRA Catalan Institute for Water Research, Girona, Spain

“Prioritization of pharmaceutical contaminants in the environment after the evaluation of 10 years in-house monitoring data for analytical method upgrade”

Mar García Valderde, University of Almeria, Spain

“Validation of a Quick and Easy Extraction Method for the Determination of Emerging Contaminants and Pesticide Residues in Agricultural Soils”
Carlos Perez, IDAEA-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain

“Non-target proteomics study of wastewater by ROIMCR procedure using polymeric passive samplers”

Wiebke Dürig, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden

“Novel prioritization strategy of non-targeted features in archived white-tailed sea eagle muscle tissue using temporal trend analysis”

Frank Menger, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden

“Pesticide transformation products in surface water: The benefits of combining national monitoring and suspect screening”

Francisco José Diaz-Galiano, Francisco José Diaz-Galiano, University of Almeria, Spain

“Analysis of plant commodities employing pressurized liquid extraction as a tool to avoid sample hydration”
Phuong Bich Trinh, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany

“Determination of glyphosate (GLY) and aminomethylphosphonic acid (AMPA) in water by liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)”

Jose Maria Castaño Ortiz, ICRA Catalan Institute for Water Research, Girona, Spain

“Biomonitoring of pharmaceutical pollution in the Ebro River: Comparing their prevalence and levels in different fish tissues”

Dyana Vitale, University of Valencia, Spain

“Advance sample preparation to analyses selected emerging pollutants in Anguilla anguilla by liquid chromatography coupled with tandem mass spectrometry” and “First determination of Carbamazepine emerging pollutant and your metabolites in Anemonia sulcata and Actinia equina species by ultra-high-performance liquid chromatography Mass Spectrometer (UHPLC-HRMS) and a quadrupole-time-of-flight”

Eleni Keliri, PhD Student in the Water Treatment Laboratory, Department of Chemical Engineering, Cyprus University of Technology

“Automated In-Situ Cyanotoxin Assessment Toolbox for Real-Time Surface Water Monitoring (CYANOBOX)”
Inês Bezerra Gomes, Junior Researcher in the Laboratory for Process Engineering, Environment, Biotechnology and Energy, Faculty of Engineering, in University of Porto, Portugal

“Are emerging contaminants affecting drinking water microbial biofilms?”

Olga Gómez Navarro, Department of Environmental Chemistry, IDAEA-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain

“Determination of pharmaceuticals in intermittent rivers in Spain using three data acquisition modes on Q-Exactive Orbitrap-MS”

Lahiruni Halwatura, Department of Chemistry, State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, USA

“Identification of wastewater-based unknown contaminants of emerging concern via in silico methods for non-targeted screening approaches”

Xuerong Li, Center for Aquatic Chemistry and Environment, Florida International University, USA

“Comprehensive assessment of PFAS on their occurrence, composition, spatial distribution, and seasonal variation in drinking and surface water in South Florida environments”
Lan Liu, Department of Food Science and Agricultural Chemistry, McGill University, Montréal, Canada

“Simultaneous targeted and suspect screening of contaminants in the spawning grounds of the endangered Copper Redhorse fish”

Diana Manjarrés-López, ENFOCHEM, IDAEA-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain

“Presence of pollutants of emerging concern in invasive and autochthonous species from l’Albufera Natural Park (Spain) by LC-HRMS/MS Q-Exactive Orbitrap”

Luisa Bellanova, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

“Environmental compartments (atmosphere, soil, marine and surface water) with focus on monitoring and processes”

Elena A. Detenchuk, Department of Chemistry, Moscow State University, Russia

“Transformation of body care products under the influence of chlorinating agents”
Konstantin B. Ilijević, Faculty of Chemistry, Belgrade University, Serbia

“Bioelements and non-essential elements in honeybees and their hemolymph, larvae, pupae, honey, wax, propolis and bee bread”

Tatjana Mijošek, Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb, Croatia

“Multibiomarker responses in the liver of the northern pike (E. lucius) from the Mrežnica River as an indication of water contamination”

Urszula Ryszko, Łukasiewicz Research Network-New Chemical Syntheses Institute, Lublin, Poland

“Speciation analysis of chromium in mineral fertilizers”

Francisco Sánchez Soberón, PhD Researcher in Environmental Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto, Portugal

“Mass balance of volatile methylsiloxanes (VMSs) in different WWTPs methanogenic digesters”
George Taxeidis, School of Chemical Engineering, National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Greece

“Discovery of novel polyesterases capable of degrading a variety of synthetic polyesters”

Nikola Zdolšek, “Vinča” Institute of Nuclear Sciences, University of Belgrade, Serbia

“Aqueous multivalent-ions electrolyte for electrochemical supercapacitors: Boosting electrochemical performances”

Cátia Vilas Boas, Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Porto, Portugal

“Impact of a new antifouling agent in human retinal cells lipidome using Liquid chromatography-quadrupole time of flight mass spectrometry (LC-Q-TOF/MS)”

Rubén Gil Solsona, Researcher at IDAEA-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain

“The chemical exposome in brain cancer: An exploratory study with links to waste water-based epidemiology”
Gabriela Castro Varela, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim, Norway

“Occurrence and removal of per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS) in sludge from Norwegian wastewater treatment plants through dry pyrolysis”

Vítor Pereira, University of Porto, Portugal

“New reactor approach for low-temperature catalytic methane decomposition”

Lydia Niemi, University of Highlands and Islands, UK

“Innovative data visualisation tool to aid addressing pharmaceutical pollution in the Scottish water environment”

Urška Šunta, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

“Leaching of insecticides in soil amended with microalgal biomass: the effect of microplastics in the soil”
**Alejandra Vargas**, University of the Balearic Islands, Spain

“Metal-organic framework coated portable 3D-printed paddle stirrer for eExtraction of chlorophenols, p-nitrophenol and bisphenol A in biodigester and wastewater samples”

**Miha Ravbar**, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

“Synthesis of zinc oxide nanoparticles using a Japanese knotweed root extract”

**Luis Alves**, University of Porto, Portugal

“The role of Ni film structure on catalytic methane decomposition”

**Manuel-Thomas Valdivia**, University of Highlands and Islands, UK

“At-source hospital wastewater treatment to eliminate harmful pharmaceuticals: A novel approach using UV-LED activated photocatalytic nanomaterials”
Daniela Pereira, University of Porto, Portugal

“Potential of nature-inspired prenylated flavonoids as a sustainable alternative to commercial biocides against marine biofouling”