

# WEEKLY WAVE



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**WATER RESOURCES  
RESEARCH CENTER**

**December 15, 2017 / Volume 5, Issue 33**

The [Water Resources Research Center](#) - a research and [Extension](#) unit of the [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#)

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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**WATER RESOURCES  
RESEARCH CENTER**

WRRC CONFERENCE  
**THE BUSINESS  
OF WATER**

**MARCH 28, 2018**  
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA, STUDENT UNION

**WRRC 2018 Conference Agenda is Now Online!**

The agenda for the 2018 WRRC Annual Conference, The Business of Water, has been posted. The conference, to be held on March 28, 2018 at the UA Student Union, will feature a diversity of keynotes and panel presentations by water business experts from throughout the Southwest. The day will address a range of topics, from water transactions to the development and funding of public-private partnerships, to the business of water and the environment, to water and economic opportunity, and so much more!

Please plan on attending this exciting event on March 28, 2018. And watch the Weekly Wave for registration opening in January!

[Agenda](#)

**WRRC EVENTS**

## Looking Ahead to Spring 2018 Brown Bags Tentative Schedule

- **January 17** - George Frisvold, *Professor, Specialist AREC*
- **January 23** - Cynthia Wallace, *USGS Research Geographer*
- **February 6** - Maria Dadgar, *Executive Director of ITCA*
- **February 12** - Marty Ralph, *Director, Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes, University of California San Diego*
- **February 21** - Jacob Petersen-Perlman, *Research Analyst WRRRC*, Sharon B. Megdal, *Director WRRRC*, and James Callegary, *Hydrologist, USGS*
- **February 22** - John Fleck, *Author and Water Resources Program Director, University of New Mexico*
- **March 13** - Ben Wilder, *Director, Desert Laboratory on Tumamoc Hill*
- **April 12** - Felicia Marcus, *Chair, CA State Water Resources Control Board*
- **April 17** - Chris Castro, *Associate Professor, Hydrology and Atmospheric Sciences*

Check out all of our upcoming events and videos of previous events on our [website](#)

## NEWS

### WRRC Hosts USGS National Leadership Meeting

On December 5-7 the WRRC hosted personnel from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Office of Planning and Programming for a series of meetings. during which WRRC Director Sharon Megdal was given the opportunity to showcase the WRRC's mission and programs. The meeting also included an overview of the Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Program (TAAP). Dr. Sam Fernald, Director of the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute, led a discussion of collaborative efforts of the members of the National Institutes for Water Resources (NIWR). The 54 NIWR institutes and university research projects are funded by the USGS through Annual Base Grants, National Competitive Grants, and Coordination Grants. In addition, students are supported through the NIWR-USGS Student Internship Program. The group also attended a brownbag lecture on December 6th given by Meghan Smart of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.



[TAAP](#)  
[NIWR](#)

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### The WRRC Welcomes Leslie Bonilla

We are excited to announce that Leslie Bonilla has accepted the position of Accountant Associate and has started working December 6. Leslie has been with the UA Financial Services Office for 7 years. Leslie will work at the WRRC under the direction of Christie Mills, SWES Business Manager, Sr. Leslie's position, created as part of a shared business center model, will help offset the

departure of our dedicated business manager, LaVonne Walton, who is retiring. Her duties will include managing financial accounts for the WRRC, including APW.

Leslie is originally from the Pinetop/Lakeside area in the White Mountains. She is part owner of a landscaping company in Pinetop. Leslie has two children, one who will graduate from the UA in May, and five dogs. Although she grew up in the mountains, she is thrilled to be in Tucson and working at the WRRC.

Welcome, Leslie!



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## Gearing Up for Spring Underwater Robotics Competition



Sunee Stevens gushes about the Underwater ROV Club at Imagine Prep in Surprise, "My daughter rates it a 10/10!!! She loves it!" Students are already preparing for the spring

Aircraft, Earthquakes and Energy, 2018 MATE ROV Competition that will take place at the University of Arizona on April 14th. This competition will highlight the role that ROVs play in supporting underwater archaeology, seismology, and renewable energy activities. Heather Polk, a middle school science teacher at Imagine Prep, borrowed APW's underwater robot kits this November and used them to introduce ROVs to her students. "Using the kits helped the students comprehend the final product, while allowing the flexibility of individual designs. We had a great time driving them around our pool!" Inspired by this experience, the students are building frame prototypes to scale, soldering circuit boards, and assembling motors. And in the process, they are building life skills and interest in STEM careers - something we can already see!



### [Learn More About APW](#)

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## Zip Code Questionnaire Prize Winner

Congratulations to Tim Wheeler, the winner of a WRRC water map poster. Thank you to Tim and all of the others who participated in our online questionnaire. Your responses will help us assess our reach in the state of Arizona and beyond. We will use this information to improve upon our role as a water information hub!



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## Best of Luck to the WRRC Graduating Students!

In December, the WRRC will say 'so long' to two of our



long-time student employees. Juli Simons successfully defended her Master's Project, 'Self-Sterilizing Harvesting Tools and Irrigation Pipelines' in early December. Juli, who has been working in the lab of WRRC Associate Director Jean McLain since January 2016, also earned her Bachelor's Degree in the UA Department of Soil, Water and Environmental Science. Juli will be spending several weeks touring the Northwestern U.S. before relocating to her native Massachusetts to begin a career in environmental science.



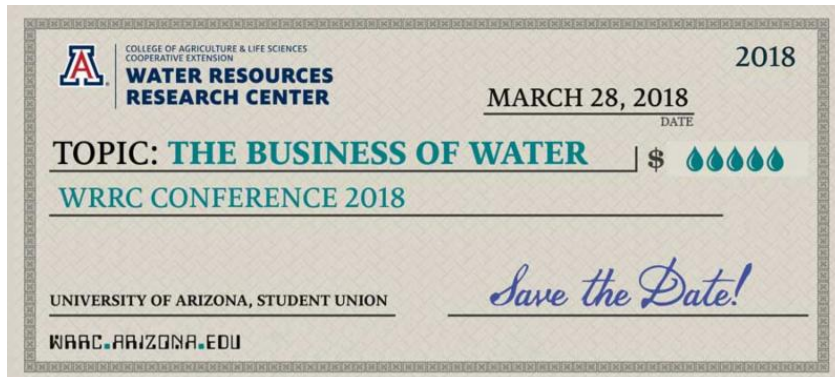
December also marks the graduation of WRRC Student IT Technician Brendan Murphy. Brendan, who is graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, has been maintaining the WRRC computer servers and laptops, printers, and scanners in good working order since December 2015. Brendan will be working in the computer industry for the next several months before returning to Graduate School in Fall 2018.

We will miss seeing Juli and Brendan but wish them both the very best in the future.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



ARIZONA WATER  
ARIZONA WATER  
MAP POSTER  
AVAILABLE  
ORDER HERE >>



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2018  
MARCH 28, 2018  
DATE  
TOPIC: THE BUSINESS OF WATER | \$ 💧💧💧💧  
WRRRC CONFERENCE 2018  
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WRRRC.ARIZONA.EDU  
*Save the Date!*

- [Job Announcement - City of Tucson & Tucson Water Lead Planner Positions](#)
- [January 9 AWRA Spring GIS Conference - Call for Abstracts](#)
- [January 12 Annual Water Management Workshop - Registration Closes](#)
- [January 22 UCOWR/NIWR Annual Water Resources Conference - Call for Abstracts](#)
- [January 26-27 Urban Waterfronts Conference](#)
- [February 5 Borlaug Summer Institute In Global Food Security - Call for Applications](#)
- [February 8-9 Western Water Law Conference](#)
- [February 14 U.S. Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security - Applications Due](#)
- [February 22-23 Land and Water Summit](#)

- [February 26-27 NGWA Groundwater Policy and Management in the Southwest](#)
- [March 25-28 AWWA Sustainable Water Management Conference](#)
- [April 9 El Día del Agua y la Atmósfera - Save the Date](#)
- [April 24-26 IFC Flow 2018 - Registration Open](#)

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