2nd YWP-ZA Publications Workshop Roadshow

Call for Participants

August 2016

Eastern Cape, Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

PUBLISH OR PERISH!

The Publication Challenge for Young Water Professionals: Following on from the success of the 2014 Publications Workshop Series, YWP-ZA took the decision to try to host this training programme on a biennial basis and successfully applied for funding from the Water Research Commission. The format of the publications workshop will be 4 days consisting of a three day paper writing session, followed by a half day science communication/popular article writing session.
An invitation to young professionals and students (under the age of 35 or who gained their qualifications in the last 5 years) working in the water and wastewater sector in Africa

PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO COLLEAGUES WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED!

August 2016

Eastern Cape, Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal

Organised by the

South African Young Water Professionals (YWP-ZA)

under the auspices of the

International Water Association (IWA)

&

Water Institute of Southern Africa (WISA)

With funding from

The Water Research Commission (WRC)

Visit our website for more information: http://www.ywp-za.org/
DATES AND VENUES

Following the 2014 Publications Workshop Series held in Gauteng (University of Johannesburg), Western Cape (University of Stellenbosch) and Limpopo (University of Venda), the Second YWP-ZA Publications Workshop Roadshow will take place in August 2016. Please note that dates and venues are subject to changes:

Western Cape –Cape Town: 8-11 August 2016

Eastern Cape – Port Elizabeth: 15-18 August 2016


THE YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONALS

It is widely recognised that capacity building and sustainable knowledge transfer are critical concerns for several sectors in Africa, and the water sector is no different. The repercussions of not responding to these concerns can result in high staff turnover as well as the loss of skills and institutional memory. Young Water Professionals in Africa are therefore faced with the twofold challenge of developing their skills; finding mentors to help them do so; as well as grappling with the added responsibility of re-learning knowledge that could have been retained through sustainable knowledge transfer policies and programmes.

In order to respond to the current and future needs of the African water sector, we need a highly skilled community of professionals who can not only come up with technological and scientific solutions, but also implement them in a context relevant and appropriate manner. This requires that young professionals become highly skilled, agile in navigating the water sector landscape and are able to work together across disciplines and work contexts.

Fulfilling the present and future needs of the water and wastewater industries therefore requires the continuous development of a workforce which is adequate in size, capable in skills and strong in leadership. Recognising this, the Young Water Professionals (YWP) programme was established as an international initiative by the International Water Association (IWA). This programme aims to reach out to students and professionals in the water sector who are under the age of 35, or who attained their most recent qualification within the past five years.

In Africa, a range of YWP Chapters, volunteer-run by dedicated young professionals, have been established which aim to provide opportunities for YWPs to meet and communicate; provide career development opportunities for YWPs; support employers with the recruitment and retention of YWPs; and ensure that the Programme remains relevant to young professionals. The YWP initiative provides a range of activities and services to young professionals and students in the water and wastewater sector.

The South African chapter was formed in 2008 and has since grown to the largest water sector youth network in Africa with around 1000 members. It falls under the IWA as well as the Water Institute of Southern Africa (WISA). The Programme connects with employers, academic institutions and other professional associations to ensure that the future needs of the sector are understood and addressed, and that inter-generational dialogue is created to form links between senior professionals of the sector and the incoming young professionals.

PUBLICATION WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The Publication Challenge for Young Water Professionals: Journals remains remain important custodians of scientific endeavour, advancement, and credibility. As a result “publish or perish” is indeed a quip that is well known in academic circles. Following on from the success of the 2014 Publications Workshop roadshow, YWP-ZA took the decision to host this training programme on a biennial basis and successfully applied for funding from the Water Research Commission (WRC). The format of the publications workshop will be four days consisting of a three day paper writing session,
followed by a half day science communication/popular article writing session.

The Second YWP-ZA Publications Workshop Roadshow will differ from the previous workshops in that participants will need to submit draft papers prior to the workshop. The previous workshops were attended by some participants who were still in the process of collecting data or writing up their first paper drafts and thus could not reap the full benefit of the workshop process. These papers will be reviewed and assessed prior to the workshop with the rework taking place at the workshop. It is expected that at the end of the workshop participants will have a journal ready article and a short popular article. Popular articles are important for young academics to think about their research in terms of the developmental challenges facing South Africa and its neighbours.

PROJECT AIMS

1. Increasing scientific publication in the South African Water Sector amongst Young Water Professionals;
2. Improving capacity and understanding of how best to successfully publish in peer review journals;
3. Encouraging the communication, sharing and review of knowledge emerging from Masters and PhD level research in South Africa; and
4. Encouraging excellence in the communication and presentation of scientific work on public platforms.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

1. Support a cohort of young professionals to improve their academic publication and writing skills.
2. Increase the number of water publications by young people in South Africa.
3. Increase awareness of popular writing opportunities in the South Africa water sector and develop young academics awareness of how their research fits into a larger context.
4. Increase the number (currently at 30%) of YWP Conference presenters who are able to have their paper accepted for publication in peer reviewed journals.

FACILITATOR: PROFESSOR GUSTAF OLSSON

Professor Gustaf Olsson is a former IWA Publishing Award holder. As the former (2005-2010) Editor-in-Chief of Water Science and Technology and Water Science and Technology: Water Supply, Professor Olsson is highly experienced in the publishing and academic domain. He has also served as a member of the IWA Board of Directors and IWA Strategic Council. Professor Olsson facilitated the previous YWP-ZA Publications Workshop series in 2014.

APPLICATION PROCESS/ELIGIBILITY

Applicants can be post graduate, post-doctoral, student or young water professionals actively involved in research based in South Africa.

Applicants will need to email YWPZA.NationalEvents@gmail.com by the date specified on the website. Emails must contain 4 (FOUR) attachments

1. Cover Page with Motivation (template at end of document)
2. Letter of support from Supervisor or Direct Manager
3. Draft Full Paper (including images and tables) preferred, or at a minimum an extended
abstract (minimum 2 pages) with a summary of data included.

4. CV (two-page)

Applicants will be notified by email on the success of their application. Applicants will have to submit full workshop-ready papers. Failure to submit a full paper may result in your position in the workshop being allocated to another applicant. Applicants will have to confirm attendance and pay registration fees to secure their position at the workshop.

The registration fee will be R 300 for YWP members and R 500 for non-members (including VAT).

**ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORT**

All participants will be expected to arrange their own transport and accommodation. If funding becomes available, all participants will be notified of the opportunity.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND ENQUIRIES**

All correspondence can be directed to YWP-ZA or Project Leader

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