



FEATURE

Multi-disciplinary Team at CSU reaches final stage of USAID's Securing Water For Food (SWFF) Grand Challenge



Dr. Jason Prapas from the Energy Institute along with Professor Jessica Davis from Soil and Crop Sciences and Denver-based NGO, iDE, have reached the final 39 out of 520 proposals for the SWFF Grand Challenge. Through the SWFF Program, USAID is looking to fund innovations that help "to enable the production of more food with less water and/or make more water available for food production, processing, and distribution in developing and emerging countries." The CSU Team's innovation is the establishment of regional biofertilizer/feed production systems (BPSs) in Bangladesh that create substantial agricultural value from marginal water and land resources. Each system utilizes sunlight, ambient air, and brackish water to grow azolla, a

nutrient-rich aquatic fern, rapidly and sustainably. This biomass can serve as a superior agricultural input for low-income farmers to increase yields and improve the long term health of their soil through increased organic matter content. Increasing the organic matter content of soil is a well-proven strategy for increasing water retention/water use efficiency. The nutrient-rich biomass produced from the BPS can also fill a crucial need for a source of high-protein animal feed that doesn't compete with human food crops. It is anticipated that these systems will be installed and operated by local farmer-entrepreneurs, stimulating economic growth for the base of pyramid.

USAID and Partners will award up to 40 organizations between \$100,000 and \$3 million in funding and acceleration support. Winners will be announced at [World Water Week 2014](#) in Stockholm, Sweden.

Photos courtesy of Jason Prapas.

HIGHLIGHTS

Join the Colorado Foundation for Water Education's Water Educator Network

This network seeks to improve understanding of Colorado water issues by increasing the amount, quality, and effectiveness of water education. Local water educators will be provided with tools, trainings, and collaborations that are relevant to their work, easily accessible, and simple to implement.

For more information, click [here](#). To join the network, click [here](#).

Colorado Student Water Field Conference

September 26-28, 2014 | Grand Valley

The Water Center at Colorado Mesa University invites water faculty and students to attend the premiere Colorado Student Water Field Conference. The goal of the conference is to introduce and engage students of Colorado water in water science, studies and issues around the state. This year, the focus will be on how issues related to agricultural irrigation and environmental health come together in western Colorado's Grand Valley via field trips, tours and presentations by faculty, water professionals, and students. The conference is aimed at undergraduate students, but grad students are welcome.

For more information, click [here](#). To register, contact Gigi Richard at g理查德@coloradomesa.edu.

GRAD 592 Interdisciplinary Water Resources Seminar

The Fall 2014 Theme for this seminar series is *Water, Climate & Extreme Events*. Students interested in taking the one-credit seminar should sign up for GRAD592, Water Resources Seminar, Section ID Number: 74006. The seminar will be held at 4:00 pm on Monday afternoons in Engineering E104. Students who have enrolled in GRAD592 in the past may also enroll for

this offering.

For more information click [here](#).

POND Mentoring Program

Interested in a career in the water industry? Join the Colorado Water Congress POND Mentoring Program on LinkedIn and participate in discussions with industry professionals and university professors. Search "Colorado Water Congress POND" on LinkedIn to request to join this group.

For more information, click [here](#). Click [here](#) for this summer's POND flyer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Management of Limited Irrigation Water Field Day

August 8, 2014 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm | Greeley, CO

This event will demonstrate research to maximize productivity with limited water supplies and management practices and technologies that may be used in the future to manage limited irrigation water. The event will take place at the USDA Central Plains Limited Irrigation Research Farm in Greeley.

For more information, click [here](#).

Northern Water Tours

Northern Water is conducting full-day tours of the Colorado-Big Thompson and Windy Gap projects this summer. They are sponsoring two East Slope tours that highlight their conservation gardens, water operations, and proposed storage projects. The two West Slope tours travel through Rocky Mountain National Park to view the C-BT collection system and the Windy Gap Project.

Click [here](#) for tour dates and registration information.

2014 Rocky Mountain Water Reuse Workshop

Workshop Date: August 14, 2014

This Workshop is devoted to sustaining water supplies through water reuse in Colorado, New Mexico, and current and potential users of recycled water, consulting engineers, attorneys, and other interested parties.

Click [here](#) to download the registration form. Click [here](#) for more event information.

Call for Posters - South Platte Forum

Submission Deadline: August 15, 2014 | Forum Dates: Oct 22-23, 2014

The call for posters is open for the 25th Annual South Platte Forum in Longmont, CO. This year's theme is Water and Wisdom.

For forum information, click [here](#). To submit a poster, click [here](#).

Call for Side Events - 2014 Water for Food Global Conference

Proposal Deadline: August 15, 2014

This year's conference theme is "Harnessing the Data Revolution, Ensuring Water and Food Security from Field to Global Scales." The conference will focus specifically on how data can improve the productivity and sustainability of small and large farmers. Side event proposals supporting this theme from academia, industry, government, non-profits and more are welcome.

For more information, click [here](#).

Colorado Water Congress 2014 Summer Conference

August 20-22, 2014 | Westin Snowmass Resort | Snowmass Village, CO

This year's theme is "Rallying Our Water Community." The conference will include sessions on being an effective advocate for water, Colorado groundwater policy, embracing water supply sustainability, and more.

To register, click [here](#). Click [here](#) for the program outline.

Registration Open - 29th Annual WaterReuse Symposium

Advance Registration Deadline: Aug 22 | Symposium Dates: Sept 7-10

The Annual WaterReuse Symposium is the largest gathering of water professionals focused specifically on issues associated with water reuse and desalination.

For more information and to register, click [here](#).

Hydraulics 101 Webinar

Tuesday, August 26 and Thursday, August 28 | 12:00 pm MT

Join former IECA President, Dr. David Williams for a live two-part series exploring the concepts, terms, and analyses behind hydraulics, and the basis of the analyses that goes into hydraulic studies.

For more information, click [here](#).

Registration Open for 2014 Water and Health Conference

Early Reg. Deadline: Aug 29, 2014 | Conference Dates: Oct 13-17, 2014 | Chapel Hill, NC

The 2014 Water and Health Conference: Where Science Meets Policy, organized by The Water Institute at UNC, considers drinking water supply, sanitation, hygiene and water resources in both the developing and developed worlds with a strong public health emphasis.

For more information, click [here](#).

Registration Open for RMSAWWA/RMWEA Joint Annual Conference

Conference Dates: September 7-10, 2014 | Albuquerque, NM

Sign up early to take advantage of the early registration discounts. There will also be a bike ride and a tram ride available for an additional fee.

For more information, click [here](#). To register, click [here](#).

Early Registration Open for 2014 Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference

Conference Dates: October 7-9, 2014

This year's conference, *Come Hell or High Water!*, will explore the spirit of community resiliency in the wake of the 2013 floods, wildfires, and other risks to our watersheds.

For more information and to register, click [here](#).

2014 Upper Colorado River Basin Water Forum

Forum Dates: November 5-6, 2014 | Colorado Mesa University | Grand Junction, CO

The 2014 conference, hosted by the Water Center at Colorado Mesa University, will create a forum for wide-ranging discussion looking toward a resilient water future in the Upper Colorado River Basin. Important issues for the conference include a growing population, shifting water needs, environmental issues and climatic changes.

For more information, click [here](#).

Registration Open for AWWA Water Quality Technology Conference

Conference Dates: November 16-20, 2014 | New Orleans, LA

This conference provides a practical forum for a wide range of water professionals to exchange the latest research and information.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Registration Open for ASCE-EWRI Low Impact Development Conference 2015

Conference Dates: January 19-21, 2015 | Houston, TX

The LID Conference will highlight new and continuing work including research developments and community adoption of LID throughout the United States and internationally. In addition, this conference will focus on the application of LID technology in the Southwest region of the US and will also include a mini-symposium on arid region LID.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Call for Papers - 3rd International Conference on Water and Society

Conference Dates: July 15-17, 2015 | A Coruña, Spain

This meeting will encourage trans-disciplinary communication on issues related to the nature of water, and its use and exploitation by society. The conference is motivated by the need to bridge the gap between the broad spectrum of socio-political sciences and humanistic disciplines and specialists in physical sciences, biology, environmental sciences and health, among others.

Click [here](#) for more information.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

EPA's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program

Application Deadline: September 11, 2014

EPA is calling for small businesses to apply for Phase I awards up to \$100,000 to demonstrate proof of concept in one of the following topic areas: air and climate, manufacturing, toxic chemicals, water, building materials, food waste, and homeland security.

For more information, click [here](#) (must have or create FedConnect.net account).

EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Hydrologic Technician and Data Analyst

Job duties include: Collect weekly and monthly tree, soil, lysimeter, throughfall collector, stream, and well samples in support of two hydrologic research projects at the Savannah River Site near Aiken, South Carolina. Maintain and manage hydrologic and water quality sampling equipment, including automated water samplers and recording water level sensors. Candidate should have

a Bachelor's or Master's degree in hydrology, soil science, geography, agricultural sciences, forestry, engineering, or geology.

To apply, contact [Rhett Jackson](#).

Texas A&M Extension Program Specialist I

The successful candidate will provide leadership for the highly successful watershed education program called Texas Watershed Stewards, coordinate outreach education events delivered in target watersheds across the state, and coordinate with other members of the Soil and Crop Sciences Water Quality Team, Specialists, County Extension Agents, partner agencies and various external parties to conduct project activities.

For more information, click [here](#), then Search Postings and type NOV number 07858.

Collaboration Program Manager - Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute

New Mexico Highlands University seeks a collaboration program manager to serve as the Forest Watershed Restoration Institute's specialist in community collaboration, facilitation, and socio-economic dimensions of restoration.

For more information, click [here](#).

Research Assistant Professor or Research Associate Professor

The Water Institute of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill wishes to recruit a Research Assistant Professor or Research Associate Professor. The successful candidate will serve as Director for Research of the Water Institute at UNC.

For more information, click [here](#).

Natural Resources Analyst - Cheyenne, WY

Supports the State Engineer's Office in management of the groundwater resources of the State of Wyoming, primarily through the processing of water right applications and conducting field inspections of those water rights.

For more information, click [here](#).

Two Assistant Professorships in Hydrology - New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology

Application Deadline: October 1, 2014

Applicants should have a Ph.D. in Earth Sciences, Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, or a related field. Seeking candidates with interests in flow and transport in porous media, hyporheic zone studies, karst hydrology, hydrogeomechanics, isotope hydrology, or aqueous

geochemistry.

For more information, click [here](#).

SCHOLARSHIPS

2014 Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference - Scholarships Available

Conference Dates: October 7-9, 2014

A limited number of scholarships are available for the 2014 Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference! Scholarship recipients must be able to fulfill a volunteer duty before or during the conference. Apply by September 8 to be considered.

For more information, click [here](#).

MISCELLANEOUS

Colorado's Eastern Plains Photo Contest

Submission Deadline: September 5, 2014

The Colorado Foundation for Water Education seeks photos of Colorado's Eastern Plains to be featured in their *Headwaters* magazine. The winner will receive a free subscription to *Headwaters*.

For more information, click [here](#).

2014 Wild Waters Photo Contest

Submission Deadline: September 30, 2014

The Roaring Fork Conservancy seeks river and stream photos from wilderness areas within the Roaring Fork watershed.

Click [here](#) for more information and contest rules.