

Urban Water TMU - March 2024

The Smart Blue Roof Project has Launched!



Urban Water TMU Researchers and graduate students are coming together in this 2 year multidisciplinary project to assess the performance of the newly installed **Smart Blue Roof on Credit Valley Conservation Headquarters** in Mississauga!

The Research Team had its Official Project Launch at CVC headquarters at the end of January. The Launch included TMU and CVC project teams meeting in person to view the equipment, discuss methodology, and logistics for the project.

The Urban Water TMU team includes PhD students **Afsana Akhie** (Civil Engineering), **Dorothy Johns** (Architecture), and **Dima Balaa** (Public Health), led by researchers **Drs. Darko Joksimovic** (Civil Engineering), **Hitesh Doshi** (Architecture), **Kim Gilbride** (Chemistry/Biology), **Fatih Sekercioglu**, **Ian Young** (Public Health) and project managed by **Angela Murphy** (Urban Water TMU).

The goals of the study are to evaluate the public health hazards, the energy and GHG reductions, and the economic benefits of the blue roof; challenge existing Codes and Guidelines related to blue roofs; and determine best practices and the scalability of blue roofs.

This study is being funded by a **Federation of Canadian Municipalities** grant and a cluster of **Mitacs Fellowships**.

[Please see more on our website here](#)



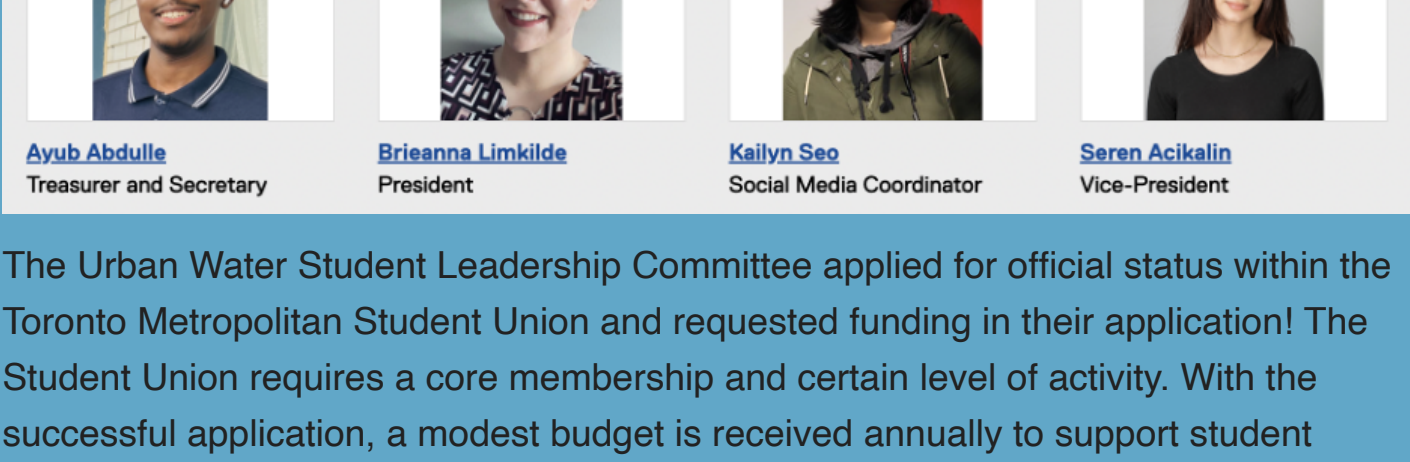
Finland Delegation Tours Urban Water TMU Laboratories



On February 14th, Urban Water TMU was joined by a delegation from Team Finland Knowledge and Finnish Higher Education Institutions for a tour of the Urban Water TMU laboratories The purpose of their visit was to discuss overlapping interests such as urban water, energy, transportation, and health.

During the tour, graduate researchers **Eric Fries**, **Brieanna Limkilde**, and **Wyatt Weatherson** spoke about their research and **Director Angela Murphy** shared more details about Urban Water TMU and its various research programs!

The Urban Water Student Leadership Committee is successful in funding application!



The Urban Water Student Leadership Committee applied for official status within the Toronto Metropolitan Student Union and requested funding in their application! The Student Union requires a core membership and certain level of activity. With the successful application, a modest budget is received annually to support student events and activities. This will allow the Committee to amplify and expand upcoming events and activities in their strategic plan.

Congratulations Urban Water SLC !

Urban Water Student Leadership Committee and Faculty Seminar Event



On February 27th, the Urban Water Student Leadership Committee hosted their second Faculty Seminar Series! **Drs. Chris Wellen** and **Stephanie Melles** presented their research at the event which was well attended by a mixture of undergraduate and graduate students! The in-person guests were also able to enjoy some food and drinks as the committee now has funding courtesy of TMSU!

[Please see more on our website here](#)

Urban Water TMU Students Present at Ocean Wise Event



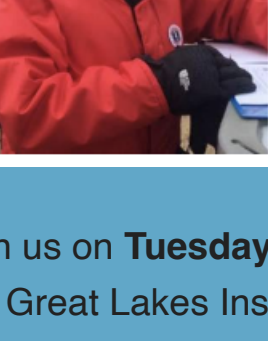
Urban Water TMU graduate students **Brieanna Limkilde** and **Bryant M. Serre** presented at Ocean Wise's networking event "Building Bridges- Tackling the Environmental and Social Challenges of Our Time."

Bryant delivered a talk on the research at the Urban Water TMU and Brieanna discussed her master's research and the impact of road salt on zooplankton in Southern Ontario Lakes. The event was well attended by consultants, scientists, the general public, and the OceanBridge youth program!

[Please see more on our website here](#)

Upcoming Seminars

Safeguarding Healthy Great Lakes: The Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research
Dr. Robert Michael McKay
Director and Professor, Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research
School of the Environment, University of Windsor
Tuesday March 12th, 2024
1:00 – 2:00pm in CUI-219
Virtually via [Zoom](#)



Biography: In 2019, Robert Michael McKay joined the University of Windsor where he serves as the Director of the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research and Professor in the School of the Environment. Professor McKay's research is focused on large lakes where he studies environmental microbiology including harmful cyanobacterial blooms and blooms of ice-associated algae in the Great Lakes. During the COVID-19 pandemic, his lab group made a successful transition to wastewater surveillance in support of public health. He is the author of over 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts and currently serves as an investigator on grants from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research

Join us on **Tuesday, March 12th at 1 PM** in CUI-219 as **Dr. Michael McKay** from the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research, University of Windsor will be speaking on "Safeguarding Healthy Great Lakes: The Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research."

Dr. McKay will be joining us on campus for research meetings and a tour of Urban Water Laboratories. Let us know if you would like a research meeting time.

For those joining us remotely:
[https://torontomu.zoom.us/j/97264972428?](https://torontomu.zoom.us/j/97264972428?pwd=WVXvQnM1YUpTT1F1UUFZxallMwcERoUT09)
[pwd=WVXvQnM1YUpTT1F1UUFZxallMwcERoUT09](https://torontomu.zoom.us/j/97264972428?pwd=WVXvQnM1YUpTT1F1UUFZxallMwcERoUT09)

Recent Publications of Full Members

Full Members are highly involved in the Centre and are regular contributors to Urban Water research projects and initiatives. Check out their recent publications below and [a full list of publications on the UW website linked here.](#)

Asheghmoalla, M., & **Mehrvar, M.** (2024). Integrated and hybrid processes for the treatment of actual wastewaters containing micropollutants: a review of recent advances. *Processes*, 12(2), 339. <https://doi.org/10.3390/pr12020339>

Balsdon, M. K. C., & **Koprivnikar, J.** (2024). Effects of microplastics and nanoplastics on host-parasite interactions in aquatic environments. *Oecologia*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00442-023-05502-x>

Chala, D. C., Quinones-Bolanos, E., & **Mehrvar, M.** (2024). Land subsidence due to groundwater exploitation in unconfined aquifers: experimental and numerical assessment with computational fluid dynamics. *Water*, 16(3), 467. <https://doi.org/10.3390/w16030467>

Chegin, S., & **Elbeshbishy, E.** (2024). Enhancing single- and two-stage anaerobic digestion of thickened waste-activated sludge through FNA-heat pretreatment. *Processes*, 12(2), 345. <https://doi.org/10.3390/pr12020345>

Ho, K., & **Tenkate, T.** (2024). Safety data sheets as a hazard communication tool : an assessment of suitability and readability. *Saf Health Work*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shaw.2024.01.006>

Parsa, Z., Dhib, R., & **Mehrvar, M.** (2024). Dynamic modelling, process control, and monitoring of selected biological and advanced oxidation processes for wastewater treatment: a review of recent developments, *Bioengineering*, 11(2), 189. <https://doi.org/10.3390/bioengineering11020189>

Smith, T. R., & **Koprivnikar, J.** (2024). Influences of compound age and identity in the effectiveness of insect quinone secretions against the fungus Beauveria bassiana. *Parasitol Res*, 123(121). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00436-024-08145-w>

Smith, K., Stone, W., Botha, A., Steffen, H., & **Wolfaardt, G.** (2024). Riverine mycobiome dynamics: from South African tributaries to laboratory bioreactors. *Mycology*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/21501203.2023.2278309>

Swartz, C. D., **Wolfaardt, G. M.**, Lourens, C., Archer, E., Truter, C., Brocker, L., & Klopper, K. (2023, November). *Real-time substances as alert system for substances of concern*. Water Research Commission. <https://www.wrc.org.za/wp-content/uploads/mdocs/3103%20final.pdf>

See Our Full Member Publications



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