

The logo for Toronto Metropolitan University, featuring the text "Toronto Metropolitan University" in white on a blue rectangular background. To the right of the blue box is a yellow L-shaped graphic element.

**Toronto  
Metropolitan  
University**

**Urban  
Water**

## Urban Water TMU - March 2023

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### Welcome New UW Researcher!



**Dr. Pedro Ortiz** has joined Stefania Impellizzeri's Group as a Postdoctoral Fellow to study and develop sustainable chemical formulations for the JetIce project and will be supporting the sampling analysis in CUI104. Pedro earned a PhD in Chemical Sciences at the University of Havana, Cuba.

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### Spotlight on Urban Water TMU

*Urban Water TMU is heading to the UN Water Conference 2023 in New York City!*

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## Programme

### UN 2023 Water Conference

**A delegation from Urban Water is participating in the UN Water Conference 2023** to learn, contribute, and develop our own commitments toward SDG#6. To this end, Urban Water is partnering with York University to deliver a panel on “Water security, disasters, and resilience in a changing climate: challenges, opportunities, and solutions.” And our delegates will be participating in many of the dynamic parts of the conference.

Members of the delegation are: Patricia Hania, Angela Murphy, Fatih Sekercioglu, David Atkinson, Roxana Suehring, Kim Gilbride, Rania Hamza, and Claire Oswald.

The UN Water Conference 2023 is taking place at UN Headquarters in New York, March 22-24 2023. The UN Conference is a global initiative focused on Water for Health, Water for Sustainable Development, Water for Climate, Resilience and Environment, Water for Cooperation, and Water Action Decade (SDG 6). The Conference is led by participating countries and stakeholders that include non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, and philanthropic organizations.

## *Urban Water Researcher Ian Young Receives CIHR Project Bridge Grant*

**Urban Water researcher Ian Young** is one of five TMU researchers to have jointly secured over \$2M in funding through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Project Grant program to advance health research. The bridge grant Ian

**Read more about it here:**

<https://www.torontomu.ca/research/news-events/2023/02/tmu-faculty-advance-health-research-with-cihr-project-grant-support/>

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## *Dr. Todd Howell Visits Urban Water and presents seminar on “Nuisance Benthic Algae and Nearshore Water Quality in Western Lake Ontario: Uncertain Connections?”*

**On Feb 15, invited guest speaker Dr. Todd Howell** delivered an informative presentation in CUI317 on his work in the Nearshore Great Lakes monitoring program. The presentation was attended by staff, members, and students of Urban Water. A virtual audience attended the presentation as well and had the opportunity to pose their questions pertaining to Todd's work.

Dr. Howell is a research scientist and Great Lakes Ecologist with the Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Branch of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks. He has worked on the Ministry's Nearshore Great Lakes monitoring program since joining the Ministry in 1991. His areas of experience are monitoring strategies for Great Lakes nearshore waters, limnology of the Great Lakes coastal zone, and ecology of nuisance algae. His work has ranged over the geographic extent of the diverse shores of the Canadian Great Lakes.

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## *TMU Participates in Toronto Wastewater Surveillance Conference*

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## FEBRUARY 2 AND 3, 2023

Livestreamed on MS Teams Live

ePosters and Recordings Available on [Kubify](#)

### HOSTED BY:

Wastewater Surveillance Initiative, Ontario's Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Toronto Metropolitan University, Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation

### SPECIAL THANKS

Toronto Metropolitan University  
University of Ottawa

**On February 2-3, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks hosted** the Wastewater Surveillance Initiative Workshop in downtown Toronto. The goals of the workshop were to showcase research stemming from the Ontario government's multi-year investment in developing a province-wide wastewater surveillance program for COVID-19 and to bring together the 13 academic labs from across Ontario who are part of the initiative. TMU's OVPRI provided financial support for the workshop, and three TMU researchers presented their work.

**Dr. Claire Oswald presented** on 'Identification of sentinel SARS-CoV-2 wastewater surveillance sites in a large urban area,' a study conducted in collaboration with Drs. Stephanie Melles, Kimberley Gilbride, and Christopher Wellen. Dr. Eyerusalem Goitom (Research Associate working with Drs. Oswald and Gilbride) presented on 'Selected physiochemical parameters underpinning the variability of Pepper Mild Mottle Virus in wastewater influent samples' and Dr. Sarah Ariano (PDF working with Drs. Oswald and Darko Joksimovic) presented on 'Evaluation of sanitary sewer flow regimes using hydrometric and isotopic approaches: implications for wastewater-based epidemiology.'

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*Student Leadership Committee Hosts Quiz Night!*

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*Image features the UW Student Leadership Committee and Participants*

**On Feb 6th, the UW Student Leadership Committee hosted their first Quiz Night** featuring exciting trivia questions centered around the 3 Urban Water TMU research themes - water management and governance, natural systems & green tech, and freshwater science & governance. The event was held at the Centre for Urban Innovation. Attendees had a chance to compete for prizes and enjoy some pizza and snacks during the event! Thank you Jannatul, Zanina, Brianna, and Diana for hosting this event!

You can read more about it on our

website: <https://www.torontomu.ca/water/events/2023/02/student-leadership-committee-hosts-quiz-night/>

*You are encouraged to reach out to the UW Student Leadership Committee via Diana Paredes at [diana.paredes@torontomu.ca](mailto:diana.paredes@torontomu.ca) with any questions and event ideas.*

If you have something you would like to share with the UW community, please let us know at [urbanwater@torontomu.ca](mailto:urbanwater@torontomu.ca).

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## Upcoming Urban Water TMU Seminars

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guest speakers from various organizations and research institutes. Please see details below for upcoming seminars.

### **Wednesday March 15, 1-2PM**

[Dr. Diana Karwan from the Department of Forest Resources at the University of Minnesota](#) will be speaking about an urban tree ecohydrology focused project she is involved with as part of the new Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area Long Term Ecological Research project.

Zoom link: <https://ryerson.zoom.us/j/99470690874?pwd=QWJBWjl2YXBjc0U1S3RlS0lUeEFUZz09>

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## **Upcoming External Events**

### **CAWQ Conference 2023**

The 58th Annual Central Canada Research Symposium of the CAWQ is being organized by UW TMU members along with UofT and York. This year it will be held at York University in Toronto from March 20-21 2023.

TMU is sponsoring the event and registration is **FREE** for TMU students.

**Link to register:** [https://www.cawq.ca/cgi-bin/symposium/details.cgi?language=english&pk\\_symposium=63](https://www.cawq.ca/cgi-bin/symposium/details.cgi?language=english&pk_symposium=63)

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### **Intl Association of Great Lakes Research (IAGLR) 2023 Conference**

The International Association for Great Lakes Research is holding its annual conference on May 8-12, 2023 in downtown Toronto. Urban Water TMU and TRCA are co-chairing the local organizing committee.

**Link to register:** <https://iaglr.org/iaglr2023/registration/>

**Urban Water is seeking students** to volunteer May 9-12. Students who volunteer will receive **FREE REGISTRATION!** Follow up at [urbanwater@torontomu.ca](mailto:urbanwater@torontomu.ca).

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## **Research Proposals and Funding Calls**

## **NSERC Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program**

The Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) program supports the training and mentoring of teams of highly qualified students and postdoctoral fellows from Canada and abroad through the development of innovative training programs that

- encourage collaborative and integrative approaches, and address significant scientific challenges associated with Canada's research priorities
- facilitate the transition of new researchers from trainees to productive employees in the Canadian workforce

These innovative programs **must foster** the acquisition and development of important professional skills among students and postdoctoral fellows that complement their qualifications and technical skills, and improve their job readiness for careers in industry, government, non-governmental organizations and/or academia.

### **Important Dates:**

[May 1](#) (letter of intent)

[September 22](#) (application, if invited to apply)

## **View All SRC Funding Calls**

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## **Recent Publications of Full Members**

Full Members are highly involved and regular contributors to Urban Water research projects and initiatives. Check out their publications in January and February (below) and full publication list (yellow button).

Bhavna Arora, Sylvain Kuppel, **Christopher Wellen**, **Claire Oswald**, Jannis Groh, Dahédrey Payandi-Rolland, James Stegen, Sarah Coffinet, Building Cross-Site and Cross-Network Collaborations in Critical Zone Science, Journal of Hydrology, 2023, 129248, ISSN 0022-1694, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhydrol.2023.129248>

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parking lot, *Journal of Environmental Management*, Volume 328, 2023, 116903, ISSN 0301-4797, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2022.116903>

Mahmood, R., Castillo-Rodriguez, J., Grandy, R. A., **Koivisto, B. D.** (2023). Energy transfer between molecules from core to shell in one-dimensional coaxial electrospun nanofibres. *Materials Chemistry Frontiers*. <https://doi.org/10.1039/D2QM01196D>

Zaghloul, M.S.; Halbas, A.M.; **Hamza, R.A.; Elbeshbishy, E.** Review on Digestibility of Aerobic Granular Sludge. *Processes* 2023, 11, 326. <https://doi.org/10.3390/pr11020326>

## See Our Full Member Publications

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