

# ***Water Security and Sustainability***

## **Public Forum Series 2011**

Current political focus on water security and vulnerability is on the short-term fix with little evidence-based decision making. Also, there is seemingly little attention paid to making use of existing technologies that could be integrated to minimize the overall environmental footprint. Underpinning the essential requirement for sustainable clean water is a need to diversify water capture and storage systems. In order to prove the viability of alternative, diverse and possibly complementary water management options, they must be examined for scientific rigor and undergo public scrutiny. Multidisciplinary management processes must be developed based on environmental, social and economic virtues.



### **FORUM 1: 'Water wise city landscapes of the future'**

This forum will examine a range of urban water issues such as urban water demand, sustainable water planning in urban landscapes, potable water for cities, city planning and greenscapes, irrigation of city gardens and the health of urban ecosystem and flows.

#### **Speakers:**

- **Dr Chris Walsh**, Resource Management and Geography, Melbourne School of Land and Environment
- **A/Prof Tim Fletcher**, Faculty of Engineering, Monash University
- **Prof Chris Ryan**, University of Melbourne, VEIL

**Date:** Wednesday 23 March 2011

**Time:** 6.30pm-8.00pm

**Venue:** Lower Lecture Theatre, B:01, Melbourne School of Land and Environment (Building 142), Tin Alley/Royal Parade, University of Melbourne (Melways Map 43 G:3)

**Please RSVP by email:** [mssi-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mssi-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au)

## **FORUM 2: 'Water planning and governance'**

Recent economic restructuring has broken up the control over water management from the historical centres. Water management has been removed from the engineers and placed with the politicians and there is a strong need to insert a clear communication pathway that is scientifically informed. This encompasses recent political decisions on the desalination plant, pipeline and upgrading of open channel irrigation systems.

### **Speakers:**

- **Prof John Langford**, University of Melbourne, Uniwater
- **Prof Lee Godden**, University of Melbourne, Law; CREEL
- **Prof Don Bursill**, Adjunct Professor, University of South Australia, Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Water Quality and Treatment

**Date:** Wednesday 6 April 2011

**Time:** 6.00pm-7.30pm

**Venue:** Lower Lecture Theatre, B:01, Melbourne School of Land and Environment (Building 142), Tin Alley/Royal Parade, University of Melbourne (Melways Map 43 G:3)

## **FORUM 3: 'The water allocation balance'**

This forum will explore the debate regarding irrigation demand verses environmental flow. It will look at the social impacts on rural communities, the biological impacts on the environment, and the impacts of climate change/variation, as well as food security and natural resource management concerns.

### **Speakers:**

- **Prof John Langford**, University of Melbourne, Uniwater
- **Prof Snow Barlow**, University of Melbourne; PIARN

**Date:** Wednesday 20 April 2011

**Time:** 6.00pm-7.30pm

**Venue:** Lower Lecture Theatre, B:01, Melbourne School of Land and Environment (Building 142), Tin Alley/Royal Parade, University of Melbourne (Melways Map 43 G:3)

## **FORUM 4: 'Mitigating risks to public health'**

This forum will consider: Weighing up the benefits and risks from potable grey water recycling. This will include discussion on risk assessment from microbial and other contamination to human health. Also, risks to small rural community from independent water supplies will be considered.

### **Speakers:**

- **Dr Andrew Hamilton**, University of Melbourne; Science Director Dookie 21
- **Prof Peter Scales**, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, University of Melbourne

**Date:** Wednesday 4 May 2011

**Time:** 6.00pm-7.30pm

**Venue:** Lower Lecture Theatre, B:01, Melbourne School of Land and Environment (Building 142), Tin Alley/Royal Parade, University of Melbourne (Melways Map 43 G:3)

**Please RSVP for each forum you wish to attend, nominating the number (e.g. "Forum 1") by emailing: [mssi-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mssi-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au)**