



INTERNATIONAL WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

Executive Office: 21 rue de Madrid, 75008, Paris, France

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President

Yuanyuan Li
China

24th – Capacity Development – Stakeholder Intervention – IWRA

Past President

Gabriel Eckstein
USA

Capacity development is about education, certification, training, instruction and can take place in a formal setting (institute), informal learning / experience / skills, twinning/ peer-to-peer learning, coaching / mentoring; in-person, online, on-the-job.

Vice-Presidents

Henning Bjornlund
Australia

Rabi Mohtar
Lebanon

Lesha Witmer
Netherlands

Capacity development has different goals / focusses: Institutional, technical, management and/ or governance

Secretary General

Eric Tardieu
France

Issues to consider: the target group (age group and connected learning styles; level of previous education and required level (basic, vocational, academic etc.), but also in or outside the water box.

Treasurer

Renée Martin-Nagle
USA

Develop briefs on what is the connection between water and (an) other sector – enlighten them to create willingness to cooperate.

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Asma Bachikh
Morocco

Guy Fradin
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Egypt

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Pilar Carolina Villar
Brazil

Tom Williams
United Kingdom

We strongly believe that innovation needs the transformation of education (to incorporate a change in) our educational system and curricula and not just what we teach, how we teach but also whom we teach.

There is a huge lack of qualified people at different levels to ensure we can fulfil our water-related promises – thousands of vacancies.

What are game changers?

- finally, finally get women access to non-traditional education in all shapes and forms and as a result to the labour market – this needs adjusted admission policies of education institutions and government and changes of mind-set to take the bias out
- create a platform for ministries of education and water resources and agencies and utilities etc. to improve / modernize curricula at different levels (academia, TVET, training courses) to incorporate water management governance in the broadest sense and give access to more stakeholder groups.
- Develop briefs for the media and involve networks of (young) journalists to develop those brief. This includes combining traditional and indigenous knowledge with new insights – there are a few institutes that are trying to do that already – build a larger network to do that, assist and motivate them
- countries to make a capacity (Gap) analysis and define needs and plans (see proposals UN Water on capacity development)

Committee Chairs

Awards

Lili Yu
China

Membership

Bassel Daher
Lebanon

Scientific, Technical & Publications

Jean Fried
USA

Editor-in-Chief

Water International
James E. Nickum
Japan

Learning “alternatives”:

- train-the-educators on different ways of teaching and the latest developments in their field
- train researchers/academics in how to make their knowledge accessible for the “laymen”
- allow for certification of earlier acquired competences, using existing methodologies for that and promote those



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- introduce Citizen's science data collection and information analyses – provide local groups with tools and train local groups to use those (example and extend Stakeholder Engagement Platform WWQA)
- tell people / companies about existing tools – connect to academia and standard-promoting business groups that have developed standards; using standards is in itself already a huge tool for knowledge exchange and increasing understanding – set up a portal for that?
- budget beforehand for capacity development plans and ensure the timelines are adequate for that

Lesha Witmer

International Water resources Association
Women for Water Partnership
European Pact for Water