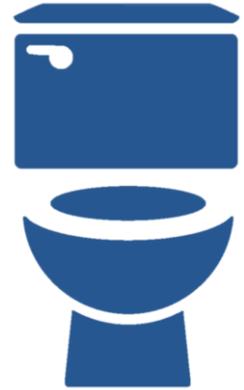

2017



Resolving sanitation issues in the developing world by educating people and engineering sustainable centralized solutions that keep waterways clean and communities healthy.



Spring Newsletter

Message from the Chair



A mission of Global Water Stewardship since 2015 has been to obtain a 501(c)3 status and become a non-profit organization recognized by the IRS. Thanks to the extremely hard working and generous volunteers GWS has, we have obtained our 501(c)3 letter this past spring. Congratulations GWS!

Having the government recognize our organization opens up many doors and possibilities for GWS. While we have had many generous donations to our cause through our parent organization CSWEA, we are now able to approach and apply for grants and donations under the Global Water Stewardship name. What an effort to capitalize on!

One of our biggest fundraising events for GWS occurs at the CSWEA Annual Meeting. This year, it occurred in St. Paul, Minnesota. This was the first time since GWS was formed that we have traveled to the Minnesota region for the Central States Annual Meeting to spread the news of our work, and WOW, was it an exciting time! Many new faces approached our booth to learn more about who we are, what we do, and how they can get involved. While our “Your Number 2 is Our Number 1” t-shirt sales were a hit, the most exciting part of the week was the standing-room-only during our presentation. The room was filled with interested potential volunteers and supporters. We had extremely positive feedback, questions, and comments from our viewers. As a group we are looking to incorporate this feedback as we move forward in our mission.

During the CSWEA Annual Meeting, we had two very exciting visitors from Costa Rica. Alvaro Araya-Garcia and Manuel Lopez Fonseca traveled from Costa Rica to visit the Central States and learn from our wastewater treatment processes and techniques. Both Alvaro and Manuel work for AyA. Alvaro is in charge of the regional wastewater treatment systems for all of Costa Rica, and Manuel is in charge of the metropolitan area wastewater treatment facilities. During their trip, they were also able to tour a few treatment plants operated by CSWEA members. I was fortunate enough to tour the Downer’s Grove Sanitary District with Alvaro and Manuel under the management of Nick Menninga. The differences and similarities between the operations of the plants was an interesting conversation. I believe both communities learned something new during the tour about wastewater treatment around the world.



We enjoyed meeting with Alvaro and Manuel, as well as all of the new faces we met at our booth. With our continuing increase in support, and our new 501(c)3 status, GWS is excited to move forward with our on-going projects and projects yet to come. It is certainly an exciting time for GWS and for the sanitation industry in Costa Rica. Thank you all for your support!

2017-2018 GWS Chairs

Each year at the CSWEA Annual Meeting, Global Water Stewardship selects the next year of Chairs. This year, we expanded our team, which will allow us to improve our impact and progress towards providing sanitation for all. Welcome to our new members and thank you to our continuing colleagues!

Amanda Heller	Chair
Mohammed Haque	Executive Director
Maureen Durkin	Vice-Chair
Tim Bronn	2 nd Vice-Chair
Matt Streicher	Treasurer
Eric Lynne	Past Chair
Richard Hussey	Fundraising Chair
Manuel de los Santos	International Programs Chair
Micah Pitner	International Programs Vice Chair
Liz Bohne	Marketing Chair
Alex Knicker	Social Media Chair
Matt Castillo	Social Media Vice-Chair
Zach Wallin	Student Design Chair
Paige Peters	R&D Chair
Elizabeth Brown	R&D Vice Chair
David Arnott	QA/QC Chair
Jennifer Svenes	QA/QC Vice Chair
Beth Vogt	CSWEA Trustee '19
Randy Wirtz	CSWEA Trustee '19

Treasurer Report

The Treasurer role has been a busy one, with much happening under the scenes. Besides the monthly payment of invoices, reconciliations, and general maintenance of finances – other fiscally related items are being worked through. Previously, GWS was on the search to move the budget out of Excel and into a budgeting program called Quickbooks. Support has been brought in and the process is underway. Now that GWS is officially a 501(c)3 organization, other changes are anticipated, as this allows the organization to be eligible for a variety of different financial



opportunities. Investigations are underway to have GWS recognized as a responsible charity so that donors can make informed giving decisions and enable GWS to demonstrate our commitment to proper stewardship of donor dollars.

If you are interested in assisting with related tasks, please contact the Treasurer, Matt Streicher at mstreicher@gbww.org. Help is always welcomed! (It may not be the sexiest work, but it is certainly vital to the organization!)

Fundraising

The Fundraising Committee has had a flurry of activities this spring, especially now that GWS has attained 501(c)3 status and can work on obtaining donations from larger corporations.

The CSWEA Annual Meeting in May always brings in donations from a silent auction and individual donors. Members worked tirelessly to raise money through t-shirt and pin sales, as well. However, major funds still must come from larger corporate entities, and GWS must gain their confidence. GWS will need to develop a business plan that outlines where it will be in 3, 5, and 10 years. The organization will develop tangible information on current projects that indicate how the design, and items included as part of the design, will impact both the environment and community health.

GWS is still a young organization with a growing team, therefore the Committee is also brainstorming ways to grow its staff and develop a strong foundation that will appeal to large donors and show GWS is capable of multiple successful sanitation projects.

Another endeavor within the Committee is social fundraising events at popular venues such as Top Golf or high speed go-carting. If your organization is willing to host GWS, provide catering, or help in any other way, please do not hesitate to contact Rich Hussey at RHussey@lai-ltd.com.

Further goals for the summer include:

- Working with other Water Environment Federation chapters to fundraise
- Schedule a social fundraising event
- Complete submission to at least one large donor
- Start modification of the existing GWS business plan

Fundraising is a key component of ensuring our proposed solutions can become a reality for communities in need. Please contact Rich Hussey at RHussey@lai-ltd.com if you are interested in joining our efforts!

Marketing & Social Media

The Marketing Committee was hard at work at the CSWEA Annual Meeting this past May selling water bottles, t-shirts with fun logos, and pins to conference attendees. The committee also got



the GWS name out there through a presentation and silent auction. GWS had consistent traffic with people who were curious about the mission and work of GWS. The committee also put together a sponsorship packet to help raise funds by outlining the organization, various committee efforts, and progress thus far in multiple communities. The conference was a great opportunity for GWS to receive feedback and guidance from others on approaching grant money and large corporations. GWS is now working to re-structure the donation platform and incorporate advice received into sponsorship packets and marketing plan. It was a great meeting for GWS!



Other activities include strengthening the foundation of the GWS organization, creating pamphlets and graphics, and developing a marketing plan to grow GWS' future. Throughout the year, the Marketing Committee pens articles and stories for related organizations and industry magazines. GWS is also growing its presence on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, but can always use more help in staying active and

sharing information appropriate for our target audiences. Contact the Chair now to be a part of our efforts!

Student Design

The GWS Student Design project for 2017 involved a challenging design for Dominical, Costa Rica. Dominical is a commercialized area consisting of restaurants, hotels, and shops. The challenges involved in this student design project consist of Dominical being a dense development with close proximity to protected areas, areas of future development, large water bodies, and steep mountains.

Several GWS mentors were assigned to the multiple student groups to answer day-to-day questions. Regular meetings were held twice a month to discuss student design questions and ensure that the same information was being shared with each student group to avoid misinformation. Each student group then presented their final designs on April 10th at the annual CSWEA student design competition in Madison, WI. University of Wisconsin-Platteville was selected as the winning design (left image below). Unfortunately, as they cannot travel to Costa Rica this coming August, the Milwaukee School of Engineering team (right image below) will take their place. Both team designs will be discussed and developed further to provide the optimum design solution for Dominical.





If you are a student team interested in participating next year, find out more at the following link, or contact the Chair.

<http://www.cswea.org/SYP/Competition/>.

International Programs

This committee was created to serve as the connection between local project contacts and the GWS project team in the US. While there are many hurdles to overcome, mainly due to local politics, the International Programs Committee continues to maintain contact with organizations and key contacts in Costa Rica. Amy Work has been working hard setting up meetings in order to encourage projects movement.

Current project updates are below:

Piedras Blancas: GWS has been working with the municipality on trying to get the proposed treatment plant property approved for use. This is moving slow, but it is steady progress.

Bahia Ballena: The team is working with the new manager for the local ASADA, as well as other organizations in Bahia, in order to determine the best available property to build the proposed treatment plant. GWS has continued working on acquiring land.

Dominical: After the recent design competition, designs were presented for the Dominical project to the Costa Rican Developer, and some additional options will have to be submitted to meet their needs. Local meetings are expected for the upcoming August trip.



Other programs:

San Isidro Plant: Last year, GWS presented a potential solution to AyA for upgrading the San Isidro lagoon, a wastewater treatment plant in Costa Rica's big city. Now, the committee is working on other options based on shortage of power; some of these solutions include solar powered equipment.

Work with ACEPESA: As a short term project, our team is working with ACEPESA to help build biogardens for schools in Costa Rica. ACEPE SA is a local organization that has been working in communities with localized treatment. The team is looking forward to the August trip for construction of a biogarden for one local school.

On the upcoming August trip, GWS will also have the opportunity to assess the situation at Palmar Sur, which is set to be GWS' next project.

International Programs and the QA/QC Committee will be joining forces and will have a combined phone call every month in order to discuss the existing projects and the projects to come. Contact the Chair for more information and to get involved today!

QA/QC

The Committee is evaluating the student design from Platteville for Dominical. This design includes an anaerobic lagoon. The developer for Dominical has expressed some concerns with odors and aesthetics with this approach. GWS is also investigating a package plant and rotating biological contactors as additional options. These mechanical alternatives should help improve the aesthetics of the overall proposed treatment facility.



GWS has also continued working to assist the San Isidro wastewater facility by investigating ways to achieve more mixing and aeration in their large lagoon system. A new mixer has been purchased, which will help the lagoon achieve greater performance by increasing aeration. This improves treatment by providing an oxygen source for microorganisms consuming organics in the water.

Research & Development

The R&D committee is growing! With a new Vice Chair and a handful of enthusiastic volunteers, R&D is shifting gears to focus on ways to support the ongoing projects in Costa Rica. An important aspect of this is continuing to collaborate with other committees such as QA/QC, Student Design, and International Programs to address needs before, during, and after project



design such as odor control, design optimization, and appropriate technology development. Additionally, R&D is looking forward to booting up the Education subcommittee in preparation for education workshops during the upcoming August Costa Rica trip.

If you are interested in volunteering, reach out to the R&D Chair Paige Peters at paige.peters2@gmail.com.

Closing Remarks

With 501(c)3 status and new enthusiastic members on our team, this year is shaping up to be a great one. We are excited to make an immediate educational and environmentally beneficial impact with construction of biogardens at local schools, and are thankful for our local supporters like Amy Work for moving our existing projects forward and maintaining communication. Costa Rica has taken steps to recognize the importance of improved sanitation infrastructure, and we remain dedicated to assisting them in that endeavor.

Stay tuned through our social media pages (@H2OStewards) and **don't miss our monthly conference calls, scheduled for the first Friday of every month at 12 pm!** Call in to 224-501-3318, access 133-059-333.

Our team is so thankful for the continuous support of our donors and volunteers. Check out our next newsletter for summer updates!



Monthly call, open to all: first Friday each month, 12 pm, 224-501-3318, access 133-059-333

Make a donation at www.globalwaterstewardship.org

Primary contact: Chair@globalwaterstewardship.org

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