

Welcome to the first Stormwater Research Group Newsletter,  
we hope you enjoy reading about our successes.

*If don't wish to receive our news please reply to this email with 'Stop' in the subject line.*

## Welcome to Dr Katharina Tondera

This month we welcome a new Postdoctoral Research Fellow to the Stormwater Research Group. Dr Katharina Tondera joins us from RWTH Aachen University in Germany where she was Workgroup Leader of Urban Drainage. Katharina is passionate about the current transformation ongoing in the urban drainage community towards a water sensitive urban design and looks forward to investigating bridging technologies in a multi-disciplinary environment at USC.



## Australian-first Stormwater Treatment System at Pelican Waters



Through a collaboration involving the SWRG, Pelican Waters, Covey Associates, and SPEL Environmental, three Constructed Floating Wetlands (CFWs) are being fine-tuned at waterways within the residential estate of Pelican Waters.

While forms of CFWs have been used successfully in fresh water environments previously, Pelican Waters will achieve an Australian-first for implementing a system for salt water tidal canals.

The technology is being used as "end of the line" stormwater treatment, with the floating wetland modules being positioned at the opening of pipe outlets entering the canal system. It is anticipated that the results of the research program will demonstrate to local and state governments the potential to provide similar stormwater treatment technology to existing untreated coastal waterways, thereby improving the quality of downstream receiving waters.

## SWRG shows off the 'big rig'

On Friday 24 March, designers, developers and representatives from major civil engineering and construction regulatory bodies around Australia visited the SWRG's impressive stormwater testing rig for a special demonstration day.

The event, hosted by SWRG researchers and the [AHSCA Research Foundation](#) (AHSCA), demonstrated the research possibilities of the unique structure, which has been designed to model how a large building's drainage system copes with standard and extreme rainfall events.



The rig allows researchers to see how a roof drainage system would stand up to any kind of stormwater event – from a shower through to a serious storm event. The pumping system is one of a kind and fully programmable, allowing it to model any possible storm event.

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