

2009 – 2010 OFFICERS:

Enoch Nicholson, CH2M HILL – Chair
Kristel Fesler, City of Hillsboro – Vice Chair
Corianne Hart, Brown and Caldwell – Secretary/Treasurer
Sally U. Mills, City of Tigard – Trustee Board Liaison

COMMITTEE UPDATE:

The Young Professionals Committee continues to be very active. The recent focus of the committee has been planning for the four events at the upcoming annual conference (i.e. pre-conference seminar, networking event, fresh ideas program, Pioneer Award). At the local level, YPs continue to host a variety of events that are well received and well attended.

In addition, the committee would like to recognize CH2MHill for graciously donating the production of the flyers for the YP programs' at the annual conference.

Annual Conference Events –

1. Pre-Conference Leadership Seminar

Wednesday, May 12th
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

The Young Professionals Committee is pleased to present its third pre-conference program, Teambuilding and Networking. The program is a half-day interactive seminar in which attendees will be given the opportunity to learn networking skills and tips, and how to overcome workplace challenges by effectively creating teams. Presentations will include:

- ◆ **Dennis Lynch, USGS** - Team Building and Management Skills for YPs
- ◆ **Nicki Pozos, Carollo Engineers** - Unleashing the Power of your Team
- ◆ **Bill Richmond, Tualatin Valley Water District** – Taking Advantage of the Resource Around You
- ◆ **Mark Bransom, CH2MHill** - Networking Tips of Building Working Relationships

2. Networking Event - Scavenger Hunt

Wednesday, May 12th
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm (immediately following tapping competition)

Corianne Hart and Tony Lindgren (of Tacoma Water) have been working hard to organize this event. The sponsorship request for the event was included in the conference vendor packet and is included with the sponsorships for the conference. The YP committee would like to recognize Cindy Foss (of Tacoma Water) and Lori Servin (of Action Registration, Inc.) for their tremendous assistance in coordinating sponsorships for the networking event.

The sponsorship levels are as follows - Investor (Venue Hosts – Maximum of 3), Partner (\$300), and Patron (\$150). As of April 23rd the sponsors were as follows:

- Investor (Bronze sponsorship + YP Venue Host):
 - Murray, Smith & Associates, Inc.
 - West Yost Associates
- Partner (\$300):
 - Northwest Pipe
 - HDR

- CH2M HILL
- Brown and Caldwell
- Patron (\$150):
 - PACE
 - Goble Sampson
 - DYK Tanks
 - Carollo
 - Treatment Equipment Corp.

The total monetary donations received from Partner and Patron Sponsors will be directed to help defray the cost of the event. This year the cash donations for this event total \$1,950. All sponsors will receive an invitation to play an active role in the event. Depending on their sponsorship level, sponsors will receive varying levels of acknowledgement on all event materials.

3. **Fresh Ideas Program** - A joint sub-committee consisting of members of the MSC and Research committees has been created to help the YPs develop this year's Fresh Ideas Poster Competition. The sub-committee developed an invitation soliciting student posters for the upcoming 2009 Annual Conference.

Posters will be displayed outside the meeting rooms all day on Friday and will be judged Friday afternoon. Conference attendees are encouraged to stop by and interact with the students Friday, May 14th from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Afterwards, participants will be asked to stay for the banquet at which time the winner will be announced.

Two posters were submitted for the 2009 competition. The top student poster selected by the judges will present their poster at ACE. The selected posters are as follows:

- Suzanne Cox, Washington State University
Predictions of Phosphorus and Nitrogen in the Spokane River and two of its Tributaries.
- Ching-Yu Peng, University of Washington
Inorganic Contaminants in Scales Formed in Drinking Water Distribution Systems: Occurrence, Speciation and Release.

Many thanks to those who have agreed to serve as this year's judges!

The top poster presentations will be awarded cash prizes of \$150.00, \$100.00, for 1st, and 2nd place, respectively. The PNWS-AWWA will provide airfare, lodging and registration (up to \$1,500) for the winner to attend, and present his/her work at the international AWWA Conference and Exhibition in Chicago, IL this June.

The Young Professionals Committee encourages board members to participate in the program by visiting the poster display on Friday afternoon. The committee is looking for feedback and would appreciate comments and suggestions from the board.

4. **Pioneer Award** - The committee's board liaison, Sally Mills /MSA, has coordinated judging the applications. Candidates that exemplify extraordinary leadership, technical expertise, and community involvement have been nominated by their peers and mentors. The award will be presented at the conference banquet on Friday, May 14th.

Local YP Activities

All of the subsection's local chapters continue to look for new and improved ways to bring the water industry young professionals together. Below are a few of the activities that have occurred recently.

Boise:

- Kevin Boggs has been instrumental in jump starting the Boise area YP events. They continue to meet for Happy Hour to build their attendance and networks.

Seattle:

- Celina Doncov, the local contact for the Seattle area YPs continues to schedule Happy Hours on the third Tuesday of the month.

Northwest Oregon:

- The Northwest Oregon subsection is planning a Happy Hour for the end of April. After which they will begin plans for a summer event.

National YP meeting

Enoch Nicholson and Corianne Hart had the opportunity to participate in the AWWA Young Professionals Committee Meeting on March 11- 12. The first day was spent in leadership and work-life balance trainings with peers from WEF. On day two, the national YP meeting held discussions on how to more fully engage young professionals in AWWA. Another large topic of conversation was the importance of student chapters and how to build student involvement in AWWA.

Student Chapters

The Research and the Young Professional committees have been working together to promote student chapters throughout the section. The research committee has taken the lead and the YPs have assisted when needed. Once again the YP committee will be attending the Research committee's conference meeting to further develop our coordination on promoting Student Chapters.

The YPs of the NWOR subsection has begun inviting students from Portland State University to their functions. The YPs approved using funds for this year to purchase their memberships to AWWA. At Oregon State University Mark Knudson and Kristel Fesler intimately discussed the benefits of being involved with AWWA with about 20 students. Then Mark's presentation on his career in the water industry was very well received by the 50 students that attended.

The primary requirement for student chapters will be that they are recognized as student clubs on their respective campuses. This allows the group to gain funding from their university student activities council. Additional funding from PNWS has been, and may continue to be, required for support in the form of student AWWA memberships or other start-up costs.

Committee Transition

Enoch Nicholson will be stepping down as Chair after years of dedicated service. We thank him for growing the PNWS YP committee.

Kristel Fesler will be stepping up as Chair for 2010-2011. Corianne Hart will be stepping up as Vice Chair for 2010-2011.

The committee will be selecting a new Secretary/Treasurer at the committee meeting on Thursday afternoon.