

**AWWA-PNWS  
2017 Spring/Summer Trustee Report  
Research Committee**

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**Research Committee Officers**

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| <i>Chair:</i>      | <i>Alex Mofidi, Confluence Engineering Group</i> |
| <i>Vice Chair:</i> | <i>Sophia Hobet, City of Hillsboro</i>           |
| <i>Vice Chair:</i> | <i>Damon Roth, Cornwell Engineering Group</i>    |
| <i>Secretary:</i>  | <i>Anna Vosa, Confluence Engineering Group</i>   |

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**Overview**

Our committee was founded in 2008. Our focus is to have a direct, positive impact on the ability of AWWA-PNWS to provide practical technical training to its members, bring cutting-edge and/or research-oriented water topics into mainstream discussion, and engage with national AWWA committees. This report highlights recent and planned future efforts in this regard.

**Membership**

Our committee continues to have several members that maintain an interest to do new things, develop training, and interact with other PNWS committees. Over the past year, we have had excellent participation by having periodic (ha ha) teleconference meetings, and completing multiple training events.

In our committee we truly believe we can evaluate and broaden member knowledge of nearly any topic area of the water industry. We are not limited to ‘treatment’ or ‘distribution systems’ or ‘asset management’; we are able to rapidly and methodically develop plans for investigating, evaluating, and developing training and member education on nearly any type of topic.

**Committee Activities**

Since the founding of our committee, we have regularly held annual training workshops on high-priority topics being faced in the water industry. Our planned and completed training activities are summarized below.

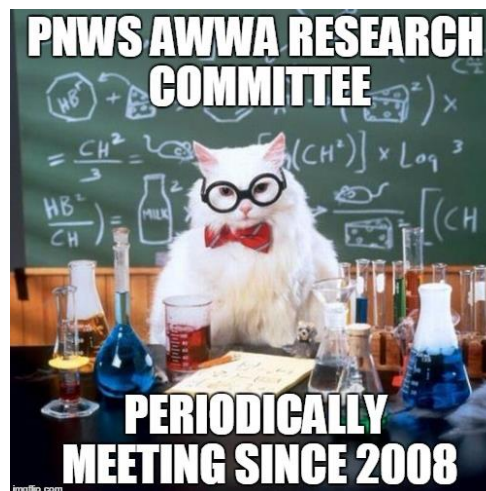
**Completed Lead and Corrosion Control Workshops (September 2016)**

These workshops were held in three locations (Bellevue WA, Hillsboro OR, and Eugene OR) in September 2016. We were able to provide training to approximately 30 paid attendees per site who received 0.6 CEUs in both WA and OR. These workshops provided approximately \$9,000 income.

**Kennewick – 2017 PNWS Annual Conference (May 2017)**

Our Vice Chair Damon Roth attended abstract selection at the Fall Trustee Our committee to finalize our technical track for the 2017 Conference. Our presentation block includes two talks on each of the following topics:

- Water system resiliency planning (A. Nishihara, Stantec-MWH and D. Evonuk, PWB)
- Distribution system lead/corrosion control (K. Gupta, PWB and C. Downs, Tacoma Water)
- Buildings water quality / pathogen control (S. Perry, WADOH and A. Mofidi, Confluence)



### Upcoming – Fall 2017 Workshop Series (September 2017)

Our committee has been discussing topics of interest for our 2017 workshop series. Our scheduled plan for producing these workshops are to finalize the choice in May, finalize speakers and venues by July, advertise starting in July, and hold the workshops in September. If anyone has a desire to sponsor or have Research committee use their facilities as a workshop location, they should contact Alex Mofidi ([alex@confluence-engineering.com](mailto:alex@confluence-engineering.com)). Topics include the following:

- Distribution System: The New Waterworks Frontier
- Stormwater Treatment
- Practical Guidance in Conducting Bench- and Pilot-Scale Testing
- Cutting-Edge Water System Issues: UCMR4, Buildings Becoming Public Water Systems and More

### Meetings

We are hoping to plan a Summer/Fall face-to-face meeting at a themed location (i.e., pub) or utility-sponsored location possibly in the northwest Oregon area. More info to come.

### **Succession Planning**

We have always thought of succession planning and strive to continue to ‘promote within our ranks’ as the years pass. Typically, the Vice Chair and Secretary positions move ‘up’ a spot every 2 years. We are entering the later-half of the current 2-year term and plan to keep this tradition alive. Here is a memory of our past (awesome) Chairs:

- Chris McMeen, Tacoma Water (2008-2010)
- David Peters, Portland Water Bureau (2010-2012)
- Sam Perry, Washington Department of Health (2012-2014)
- Lynn Williams Stephens, Brown and Caldwell (2014-2016)

It is planned that Damon and Anna will move up the ranks in 2018 when the next rotation is needed.