

There's an abundance of events and funding opps to peruse this month, and an inside view into the research of J-WAFS fellow Krithika Ramchander.



IN THE NEWS

MARCH 2019



J-WAFS Seeks MIT PhD Fellowship Nominations

Faculty nominations of outstanding grad students pursuing water research are being accepted through mid-April.

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J-WAFS Fellow's Thesis Receives 1st Place Award

Congratulations to Sarah Fletcher PhD '18, for her achievement in the 2019 American Water Works Association thesis competition.

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MechE PhD Student Recognized for Desalination Research

Congratulations to MIT's Quantum Wei, winner of Best Student Paper at the 2019 American Membrane Technology Association conference.

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Water Club Event Highlights Flint Water Crisis

Joseph Goodwill of the U. of Rhode Island presented his research about contaminants in Flint's public water supply to an MIT audience in Feb.

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MIT Water Night Showcases Science and Art

Hundreds attended this annual MIT Water Club event to learn about local and global water challenges, discoveries, and research approaches.

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New Uses for Desalination Waste

J-WAFS' John Lienhard and his lab have developed a method to pull useful chemicals from desalination waste.

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IN-DEPTH LOOK

J-WAFS STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

J-WAFS Fellow Engineers Low-cost Filters for Clean Water Access

About five years ago, Professor Rohit Karnik in the Department of Mechanical Engineering first demonstrated the ability of the xylem tissue of coniferous trees to filter bacterial contaminants out of water. So when PhD student Krithika Ramchander began her graduate studies in his lab in 2015, Professor Karnik presented this challenge: make a filter using the xylem material that can function effectively in real-world, household settings.



Since that time, Krithika, a [2018-2019 J-WAFS fellow](#), has launched into a research trajectory with Professor Karnik that has grown into a multi-year collaboration with MIT D-Lab and other NGOs across India. Read this conversation between Krithika and J-WAFS' Andi Sutton to find out more about her inspirations, research process, and the next steps for the filter.

[READ MORE](#)

EVENTS

FOOD & WATER



Join the EAT Forum for the #planetaryhealthchallenge

[Feb. 2019 / Ongoing](#)

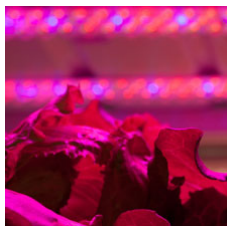
Take part in EAT's sustainable diet campaign for a month. MIT is an [Academic Partner](#) of the Eat Foundation. [MORE INFO](#)



7th Annual MA Water Forum

[Mar. 19, 11:30 AM - 1:45 PM / MA State House \(24 Beacon St.\)](#)

Attend this half-day forum to discuss how Massachusetts can achieve water resilience through innovation. [MORE INFO](#)



Business in the Era of Climate Change: Food and Diet

[Apr. 2, 6:30 PM / WBUR CitySpace \(890 Commonwealth Ave\)](#)

Find out how the food industry contributes to climate change challenges, as well as how businesses can offer solutions, at this panel event. [MORE INFO](#)



9th Annual MIT Africa Innovate Conference

[Apr. 14 / 8 AM - 7 PM / MIT Samberg Center](#)

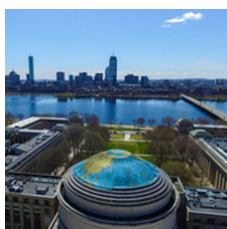
Attend one of the largest Africa-centric conferences outside of the continent and explore methods to scale innovations across Africa. [MORE INFO](#)



Water Innovation Prize Pitch Night

[Apr. 18 / 6 PM / MIT Media Lab, 6th Floor](#)

Hear finalist teams pitch water innovation start-up ideas and compete for cash awards at the culminating event of the Water Innovation Prize. [MORE INFO](#)



Explore Climate Solutions at MIT Climate Night

[Apr. 25 / Time TBD / MIT Samberg Center](#)

Join MIT innovators for a showcase of climate change research and policy solutions. [MORE INFO](#)



Aquifer Depletion on the High Plains

[Apr. 29 / 4 - 5:30 PM / E53-354, MIT Campus](#)

Join the Department of Anthropology for a discussion on aquifer depletion in the US, featuring Lucas Bessire of the University of Oklahoma. [MORE INFO](#)

Rabobank-MIT Food and Agribusiness Innovation Prize

[May 1 / 6:30 PM / MIT Samberg Center](#)



Hear student teams compete for \$30K in cash awards at this innovation prize for food and agribusiness start-ups. [MORE INFO](#)

FUNDING

AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

MassCEC Catalyst Program Award

Deadline: Mar. 14, 2019

(Open to all)

Submit clean water technology innovations developed in MA to MassCEC for commercialization awards of up to \$65K.

[MORE INFO](#)

J-WAFS Call for Proposals for Projects in India

Deadline: Mar. 18, 2019

(MIT only)

Apply for grants of up to \$15K for water- or food-sector projects that benefit low income communities in India.

[MORE INFO](#)

J-WAFS Call for Nominations for Water Fellowships

Deadline: Apr. 15, 2019

(MIT only)

As stated above: Nominations are being accepted for J-WAFS fellowships for 2019-2020. Water must be a research focus.

[MORE INFO](#)

New England Water Works Association Conference Research Poster Session

Deadline: Mar. 18, 2019

(Open to all students)

Students: Submit abstracts for water sector research posters and compete for a \$500 prize at NEWA's upcoming conference.

[MORE INFO](#)

MITOS Sustainability Fellowship

Rolling Deadline

(MIT only)

Apply for paid positions in analytics, resiliency, outreach, food systems, and procurement at the MIT Office of Sustainability.

[MORE INFO](#)

FFAR Seeding Solutions Grant

Deadline: Aug. 7, 2019

(Open to all)

Apply for grants of up to \$1M from the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research for projects addressing food and water systems challenges.

[MORE INFO](#)

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SUPPORTING J-WAFS?

When you make a gift, you are making an investment in both the future of J-WAFS and our Institute-wide work to improve the productivity, accessibility, and sustainability of the world's water and food systems.

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J-WAFS is an Institute-wide effort that brings MIT's unique strengths to bear on the many challenges our food and water systems face.

Our program catalyzes MIT research, innovation, and technology for ensuring safe and resilient supplies of water and food while reducing environmental impact, to meet the local and global needs of a rapidly expanding and evolving population on a changing planet.

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