

[Jurors Selected for 3rd Water Prize](#)



The University of Oklahoma Water Prize exists to honor the outstanding contributions of an individual in the field of water, sanitation and health (WASH). Every two years the WaTER Center assembles a group of experts in the field of WASH to serve as the prize selection jury and to speak at the University of Oklahoma Water Prize Symposium. Previous jurors have come from academia, industry, government and NGOs. This years panel is equally diverse.

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[Social Entrepreneurship at OU](#)



Dr. Lowell Busenitz, the co-founder and Academic Director of the OU Center for Entrepreneurship and member of the WaTER Center team, has been pivotal in helping the WaTER Center see the value of social entrepreneurship and promoting entrepreneurship at the University of Oklahoma. His research has appeared in the leading journals in management and entrepreneurship, and he has recently co-authored an article defining the scope and substance of social entrepreneurship. His current research includes in the incorporation of SE and business principles into water system analysis, including the assessment of market and small business potential. Dr. Busenitz will be traveling to Ethiopia with the WaTER Center team later this summer.

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[Visit from Jenna Davis of Stanford](#)



Friday, April 27, was a busy day for Dr. Jennifer "Jenna" Davis, as she was shuttled from one meeting or seminar to another at OU, talking about her favorite human resource. Davis, Assistant Professor at Stanford University, is the faculty adviser to the "Poop Group" and a co-founder and faculty lead of the Water, Health & Development program at Stanford University. Her research and teaching focuses on the interface of engineered water supply and sanitation systems and their users in developing countries.

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[Anne Kroeger Receives NSF Fellowship](#)



Anne Kroeger, a PhD student in Anthropology, has been awarded an NSF Fellowship to study skeletal and dental fluorosis in Ethiopia. Kroeger did her undergraduate training in chemistry and biology, and focuses on human health in her discipline of Biological Anthropology. Her research involves understanding the progression and health effects of skeletal fluorosis within populations living in the Ethiopian Rift Valley. In the Rift Valley, fluoride levels have been detected as high as 33 mg/l. The WHO recommendation for maximum fluoridation is 1.5 mg/l. Skeletal fluorosis can develop with chronic exposure to fluoride levels as low as 3 mg/l, and crippling skeletal fluorosis with fluoride levels above 6 mg/l.

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[About the Water Center](#)

Developing Countries are replete with interventions that fail due to:

1. use of inappropriate technologies,
2. failure to consider cultural/human factors, and
3. failure to mobilize local entrepreneurs.

The WaTER Center seeks to develop sustainable solutions that we believe are only possible through integrating technology, business and social understanding.

Vision: The vision of the WaTER Center is to pioneer integrated solutions that revolutionize development and adoption of sustainable water and sanitation technologies for developing countries through teaching, research and service innovations. We will do this through integrating technological, business and human factors in pursuit of sustainable water and sanitation solution.

Mission: The mission of the WaTER Center is to promote peace by advancing health, education, and economic development through sustainable water and sanitation solution for impoverished regions, using innovative teaching, research, and service/leadership activities.

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The first offering of the first-of-its-kind course, Sustainable Development in Emerging Regions: WaTER Field Methods, has come to a conclusion. Thirteen students from the University of Oklahoma completed the three-week course. Both undergraduates and graduate students participated, with students coming from microbiology, public health, international area studies, and engineering.

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[Visit from Uganda Hero, Sr. Rosemary](#)



Sr. Rosemary Nyirumbe of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus based in Juba, South Sudan, spent two days visiting with students and faculty at the WaTER Center. She presented her work to the Sooners Without Borders evening meeting, and met privately with WaTER Center staff and interested students over the course of her visit. The next morning she toured the Fears Lab where she showed much delight at the projects involving ecolatrines, brick-manufacturing, and Field Methods training.

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