

# iah Australian National Chapter NSW Branch



### www.iah.org.au

# Student Night Tuesday 22 September 2015 5:30 pm for 6 pm start

### **Parsons Brinckerhoff offices**

Ernst & Young Centre
Level 26, 680 George Street, Sydney CBD
\*\*For late arrivals, please phone Sean Daykin on 0413412980 for access\*\*

The 2015 Student Night is sponsored by Sara Mehrabi

### Danielle Griffani, University of Sydney:

#### Contaminant and heat transfer in fractured porous materials

Fracture networks in aquifers and geothermal reservoirs, can act as preferential pathways for groundwater flows, significantly influencing contaminant transport and heat recovery processes. This presentation will focus on how the advection-diffusion mechanisms within the fractures and the surrounding matrix underpin the effective transfer properties at the macro-scale. We will introduce a series of numerical simulations, which quantify the transfer efficiency of model fracture-matrix systems, covering a wide range of; flow rates, diffusivities and fracture network geometries. From an analysis of these results, we will identify a semi-empirical formula that can predict the effective transfer efficiency of all tested systems.

### Monika Markowska, UNSW, Australia:

# Cave monitoring to constrain the paleoclimate interpretation of $\delta^{18}$ O proxy in speleothems from semi-arid areas

The stable oxygen-isotope ratio ( $\delta^{18}O$ ) is the most commonly used paleoclimate proxy in speleothems (i.e. cave deposits) to reconstruct records of past environmental change. Over the past decade it has become apparent that the oxygen-isotope signal preserved within speleothems is complex and reflects changes in climate, hydrologic pathways and the depositional environment within the cave. Disentangling the preserved  $\delta^{18}O$  signal is critical to the correct interpretation of high-resolution records and often requires site specific hydrological and climate understanding.

## Rory Williams, Macquarie University:

# The geomorphic and hydrological structure and function of a chain-of-ponds river system: A unique Australian river type

This talk focuses on the subsurface characteristics, evolution and continued maintenance of the Mulwaree River Ponds. The Ponds sit within a valley fill setting; they have not been scoured by the current fluvial regime, suggesting antecedent controls from a gravel-bed palaeochannel. A perched aquifer saturates extensive gravel layers under a broad fine-grain-topped floodplain and  $\delta^{18}$ O and  $\delta^{2}$ H results suggest that the ponds water is refreshed during flood events and becomes enriched over time due to surface evaporation.

### Please RSVP to:

#### IAH NSW Branch - 2015 Committee

Committee Chair - Katarina David, UNSW

Treasurer - Tingting Liu, HydroSimulations

Secretary - Sean Cassidy, EMM

Technical presentation secretary - Graham Hawkes, AECOM

Meeting Facilitator and Internal Communication - Sean Daykin, Parsons Brinckerhoff

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