

WEEKLY WAVE



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**WATER RESOURCES
RESEARCH CENTER**



October 14, 2022 / Volume 10, Issue 27

The Water Resources Research Center - a research unit of the [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#) and an Extension unit in [UA Cooperative Extension](#) within the Division of Agriculture, Life & Veterinary Sciences & Cooperative Extension. [Land Acknowledgement](#).

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IN THIS ISSUE:

Dr. Thomas Meixner, WIFA, Needs Assessment Survey, CAP, Monica P. Medina

Remembering Thomas Meixner

JULY 29, 1970 – OCTOBER 5, 2022



A Tribute to Dr. Thomas Meixner

On October 5, the University of Arizona community suffered a huge loss with the tragic and senseless death of Dr. Thomas Meixner, professor and department head of Hydrology

and Atmospheric Sciences. He was beloved by friends and family and highly regarded by his colleagues. At the WRRRC, Meixner was considered a kindred spirit: he led efforts to make University of Arizona (UArizona) water science locally and regionally relevant, encouraging his students and colleagues to do the same.

Assistant Dean for Faculty Advancement in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Jean McLain, who was the WRRRC's Associate Director for six years, wrote that when she first met Tom, "I was struck by his no-nonsense attitude — he would enter a meeting with a goal or an agenda, and that goal would be accomplished. It was quite impressive — and I quickly learned to trust his judgment." In her first months at the WRRRC, Meixner encouraged her to succeed him as a member of the City of Tucson Citizens' Water Advisory Committee, believing the committee should have an effective UArizona presence. Not only was he mentoring a colleague new to water resources, but he also was ensuring continued UArizona engagement with the water community. Remembering their interactions, WRRRC Director Sharon Megdal stated "Tom was an absolutely wonderful colleague — as good a colleague as there could be. ... He was brilliant. Tom was generous with his time and counsel and was always responsive. He helped the campus community in so many ways ... I can still hear him saying "understood." He understood so much! ... My heartfelt sympathies to the family and all who knew and/or worked with Tom."

Our condolences go out to all of Dr. Meixner's friends, family, students, and colleagues. There is a GoFundMe to support the Meixner family, and a UArizona memorial fund has been set up to honor his legacy.

[GoFundMe for Meixner Family](#)
[Dr. Thomas Meixner Memorial Fund](#)

EVENTS

WRRRC "Imagine a Day Without Water" Special Event: Thirst for Justice Panel

Date: Oct 20, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm–5:00 pm Arizona Time

Location: [Webinar Only](#)

Speakers:

- Leana Hosea, *Director, Thirst for Justice; BBC Multi-Media Investigative Journalist*
- Laura Sullivan, *Professor, Mechanical Engineering, Kettering University*
- Nayyirah Shariff, *Director, Flint Rising; Grassroots Organizer*
- Janene Yazzie, *Co-Founder and CEO, Sixth World Solutions*
- Chris Shuey, *Director, Uranium Impact Assessment Program, Southwest Research and Information Center*



In conjunction with [Imagine a Day Without Water](#), a national day of action to support communities lacking access to clean water, the WRRRC is pleased to announce a special panel discussion of *Thirst for Justice*, as well as a free screening of the documentary for all event registrants. The film follows residents of the Navajo Nation and Flint, MI in their efforts to ensure clean, safe drinking water for their communities, both of which are continuing their daily fight for water justice. This special panel includes individuals who were featured in the documentary and can share some of their first-hand experiences.

[Register Here](#)
[More Info](#)

Upcoming Events

Oct 26: [Native Voices in STEM Fall 2022 Seminar Series: Groundwater to Snow Science: My Research and Teaching Path to Becoming a "Jack\(lyn\)- Of-All-Trades](#)

Nov 10: [WRRRC Brown Bag Webinar: 104\(b\) Grant Program: Student Research Presentations](#)

Nov 18: [WRRRC Brown Bag Webinar: Watershed Collaboration in the Tucson Basin: Santa Cruz Watershed Collaborative Adopts a Watershed Restoration Plan to Promote Flowing Rivers](#)

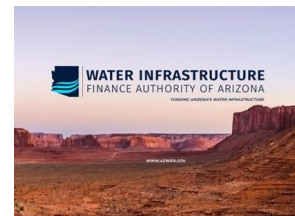
Nov 29: Water and Agriculture: Chile-Arizona Experience; Co-hosted by the Agricultural Office of the Embassy of Chile in the US and the University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center; 11:00 am to 1:00 pm AZ Time – Save the Date

Nov 30: [Native Voices in STEM Fall 2022 Seminar Series: Featuring Dr. Raymond Torres – Save the Date](#)

NEWS

Gov. Ducey Appoints Four WIFA Board Members

On October 3, Arizona Governor Doug Ducey announced the appointment of four members to the new Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) Board. The board, which will have nine members appointed by the Governor and State Legislature, will be responsible for awarding loans and grants to Arizona water providers and other water entities for the purpose of bringing new water into the state, developing water-saving technologies, or improving water use efficiency. The Governor stated, "Now, with the right team, we're positioned with \$1.4 billion to secure our state's water future for the next 100 years." Ducey's appointees include David Beckham, Buchanan Davis, Jonathan Lines, and Andy Tobin. The President of the Arizona Senate and the Senate Minority Leader have also selected their respective appointees. The WIFA board has three vacancies yet to be filled; the Speaker of the House and House Minority Leader will each choose an appointee, and the Governor will make one additional selection from a list of nominees provided by the House Speaker and Senate President. The President of the Arizona Senate and the Senate Minority Leader have already selected their respective appointees.



News Release

2022 Cooperative Extension Statewide Needs Assessment Survey

The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension (UACE) invites your input for their 2022 Statewide Needs Assessment. The purpose of this survey is to understand

community needs and assets across the state as a basis for guiding and prioritizing Extension investments and programmatic activities to maximize their impact now and into the future. As a unit of UACE, the WRRRC is part of a nationwide network of scientists and educators who work with communities to solve problems using scientific and local knowledge. UACE has offices in every county in Arizona and on some Tribal lands, connecting the university to communities throughout the state. By completing this 15-minute survey, you will be helping UACE make important choices about how to best continue serving the community through programs and partnerships. The survey is open until **October 31**. Please reach out to cred@arizona.edu with any questions.



Image: Nikki Tulley, WRRRC 2020 Photo Contest

[Take the Survey](#)

Voter Education Guide: Candidates for the CAP Board of Directors

Five seats on the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) Board of Directors are up for election on November 8, 2022. CAWCD is responsible for maintaining operations of the Central Arizona Project (CAP). Tasked with meeting future water demands, balancing energy cost inflation, and abiding by groundwater regulations, the CAWCD board makes decisions that shape Arizona's water future. The Board of Directors is comprised of fifteen elected, non-partisan members: ten from Maricopa County, four from Pima County, and one from Pinal County. Each board member serves an unpaid term of six years, and in Maricopa County, five board positions will be on the November ballot. To better inform voters on their decision, the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Arizona State University's Kyl Center for Water Policy, and the Arizona Hydrological Society have created a Board Election Voter Education Guide. All fourteen candidates were given an opportunity to share their motivations for joining the board as well as their perspectives on solutions for water-related challenges regarding the CAP system.



Image: Central Arizona Project

[Board Election Voter Education Guide CAP Board](#)

Appointment of US Special Envoy for Biodiversity and Water Resources

A September 28 press release from the US Department of State announced the appointment of Monica P. Medina to the position of United States Special Envoy for Biodiversity and Water Resources. Medina will also continue in her role as Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. As Special Envoy, she will coordinate federal government resources across all departments and agencies to engage in global efforts to address biodiversity loss and promote water security. The press release states, "Decades of evidence shows that water security is essential to global efforts to increase equity and economic growth, build inclusive and resilient societies, bolster health and food



security, decrease the risk of conflict or instability, and tackle the climate crisis.” It adds that this appointment “signal[s] the Biden-Harris Administration’s commitment to resolving the world’s intertwined biodiversity and water crises.” This appointment comes just in time for the upcoming Convention on Biological Diversity Conference of Parties (COP15), a United Nations biodiversity conference that will be held in Montreal, Canada in December.

Image: US Department of State

[Press Release](#)



WRRC 2022 Photo Contest

WATER NOW!
Living With Less

Submit your photos!

WATER JOBS

ADWR [Hydrogeologist Associate](#)

Please visit [WRRC's website](#) for a complete listing of water jobs & opportunities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Oct 14:** [ADEQ Webinar: Proposed General Permit Fees](#)
- **Oct 17:** [GRACast: Downhold Geophysics for Groundwater and MAR](#)
- **Oct 17:** [AZ Water Association: October 2022 Phoenix Technical Luncheon: SRP Update](#)
- **Oct 17:** [ADEQ Public Hearing on Surface Water Protection Program Rulemaking](#)
- **Oct 17:** [AWRA 2023 Summer Conference – Topical Session Proposal Deadline](#)
- **Oct 19:** [Indigenous Knowledge and Water Security Mini Film Festival & Speaker Panel](#)
- **Oct 20:** [Imagine a Day Without Water](#)
- **Oct 20:** [WRRC “Imagine a Day Without Water” Special Event: Thirst for Justice Panel](#)
- **Oct 20:** [ADEQ Public Notice: EPA's Approval of State Drinking Water Program Primacy Revision Determination – Deadline to Submit Requests for Public Hearing](#)
- **Oct 20:** [Watershed Management Group: Community Conversation: Take Action for a Hydro Local Future - Desert Living Home Tour Kick-Off](#)
- **Oct 22:** [Watershed Management Group: 11th Annual Desert Living Home Tour](#)
- **Oct 26:** [One Water Salinity Management Innovation Summit 2022](#)
- **Oct 26:** [Native Voices in STEM Fall 2022 Seminar Series: Groundwater to Snow Science: My Research and Teaching Path to Becoming a "Jack\(lyn\)- Of-All-Trades](#)
- **Oct 28:** [Public Comment Period for Arizona Water Protection Fund Fiscal Year 2023 Grant Applications – Deadline](#)
- **Oct 30:** [Campus Sustainability Fund Mini Grants – Final Application Deadline](#)
- **Nov 7-9:** [AWRA 2022 Annual Water Resources Conference](#)

- **Nov 7:** [SCWC Fall Field Trip: Connecting with our Watershed: Springs, Shallow Groundwater Areas, and River Restoration](#)
- **Nov 10:** [WRRRC Brown Bag Webinar: 104\(b\) Grant Program: Student Research Presentations](#)
- **Nov 12:** [ADWR Public Hearing: Proposed Hualapai Valley INA](#)
- **Nov 15:** [SCWC Fall Field Trip: Connecting with our Watershed: Springs, Shallow Groundwater Areas, and River Restoration](#)
- **Nov 16:** [Yuma Center of Excellence for Desert Agriculture: Desert Agriculture Research Symposium](#)
- **Nov 18:** [WRRRC Brown Bag Webinar: Watershed Collaboration in the Tucson Basin: Santa Cruz Watershed Collaborative Adopts a Watershed Restoration Plan to Promote Flowing Rivers](#)
- **Nov 27-Dec 1:** [The 8th International Conference on Drylands, Deserts & Desertification: Learning from Drylands: A Global Effort Towards Ecosystem Restoration](#)
- **Nov 29:** [Water and Agriculture: Chile-Arizona Experience; Co-hosted by the Agricultural Office of the Embassy of Chile in the US and the University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center – Save the Date](#)
- **Nov 30:** [Native Voices in STEM Fall 2022 Seminar Series: Featuring Dr. Raymond Torres – Save the Date](#)
- **Dec 8:** [ADWR Supply and Demand Assessment Informational Meeting](#)
- **Jan 15, 2023:** [Campus Sustainability Fund Annual Grants – Preliminary Application Deadline](#)
- **May 7-10, 2023:** [National Association of Environmental Professionals \(NAEP\) 2023 Conference](#)
- **May 8-9, 2023:** [Water for Food Global Conference: Cultivating Innovation: Solutions for a Changing World](#)
- **Jun 13-15, 2023:** [UCOWR/NIWR 2023 Annual Water Resources Conference](#)

OTHER NOTICES

[City of Tucson Seasonal Watering & Landscape Resources](#)

Do you have a story idea, water job announcement, or event to share?
[Contact us here](#)