

Scientific award of the city of Vienna (special award “Water”) honoured Dipl.-Biol. Julia Vierheilg, PhD student of the Vienna Doctoral Programme on Water Resource Systems and member of the Interuniversity Cooperation Centre for Water & Health.

Dipl.-Biol. Julia Vierheilg (Centre for Water Resource Systems, Vienna University of Technology) received the scientific award of the city of Vienna, special award “Water” (MA22/MA31) on Oct. 28th in an evening ceremony at the Urania, Vienna. The prize was awarded for the evaluation of frequently applied, alternative methods concerning the analysis of microbiological water quality. The application possibilities and limits of the investigated methods were demonstrated on the examples of two drinking water catchments of the city of Vienna. The results have significant impact on the future use of these approaches and can thus considerably improve the drinking water management. These studies were realised in the course of the FWF founded “Vienna Doctoral Programme on Water Resource Systems” and within joint research activities of the Interuniversity Cooperation Centre for Water & Health (ICC Water & Health), a cooperation between the Medical University of Vienna and the Vienna University of Technology.

The awarded publications can be downloaded via the following links (open access):

“*Clostridium perfringens* Is Not Suitable for the Indication of Fecal Pollution from Ruminant Wildlife but Is Associated with Excreta from Nonherbivorous Animals and Human Sewage. Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 2013, 79(16): 5089-5092”

<http://aem.asm.org/content/79/16/5089.full>

“High Abundance of Genetic *Bacteroidetes* Markers for Total Fecal Pollution in Pristine Alpine Soils Suggests Lack in Specificity for Feces. J. Microbiol. Methods 2012, 88(3): 433-435”

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0167701212000103>



From left to right: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Günter Blöschl (Chair of Vienna Doctoral Programme, TU Wien), Ao. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Regina Sommer (Head of ICC Water & Health, MedUni Wien), Dipl.-Ing. Walter Kling (Managing Vice Director of Vienna Water, MA31), Awardee Dipl.-Biol. Julia Vierheilig, Privatdozent Dr. Andreas Farnleitner (Head of ICC Water & Health, TU Wien) and Ao. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Alfred Paul Blaschke (Vice Head of ICC Water & Health, TU Wien); Photo Copyright: Christian Houdek.