

UCI WATER-PIRE

SMARTSTART EVALUATION NEWSLETTER



PROJECT GOALS

Goal 1: Knowledge/Research

Goal 2: Education/Workforce

Development

Goal 4: Institutional Capacity

Goal 3: Partnerships

Findings are presented from the evaluation of the usefulness and impact of the 2013 UPP Down Under Program.

2013 UPP Down Under Program

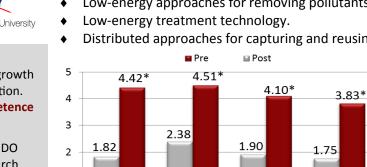
Twelve undergraduate students attended the Summer 2013 UPP Down Under Program held at UC Irvine, University of Melbourne, and Monash University.

- ♦ **UCI Week 1:** Student Orientation and lectures on climate change, economics and governance, wastewater treatment and reuse, and stormwater capture and reuse.
- ♦ Australia Weeks 2-3: Field excursions to wastewater stabilization pond, treatment wetlands, biofilters, and a mini-symposium on stormwater management.
- ♦ **UCI Weeks 4-6:** Presentations on microbial pathogens, analysis tools, sustainability and visit to Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

Achievement of Project Goals

Participants reported statistically significant increases in impact ratings across all four goals. Greatest growth was experienced in participants' understanding of sustainable urban water systems (Goal 1) including:

- Low-energy approaches for removing pollutants.
- Distributed approaches for capturing and reusing



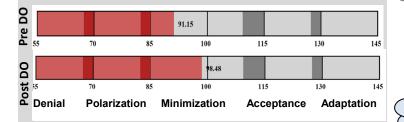
Goal 1: Knowledge *Statistically significant

Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)

All 12 undergraduates completed a pre/post IDI to assess growth in perceived (PO) and developmental (DO) cultural orientation.

PO = How they rate their own level of intercultural competence DO = Their actual level of intercultural competence

- ♦ The post-survey gap between students' PO (123.25) and DO (98.48) remained large despite participating in the Research Abroad Experience.
- ♦ However, the increase between pre-DO and post-DO ratings indicates students learned how to navigate more complex intercultural interactions but did not acquire intercultural acceptance or adaptation.



Additional Topics Requested by Students

Education/WFD Partnerships

Goal 2:



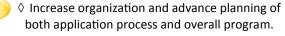
Goal 3:

Goal 4:

Institutional

Capacity

UPP Down Under Program Recommendations



♦ Increase preparation for fieldwork days.

- ♦ Increase knowledge of careers in urban water sustainability.
 - ♦ Foster collaborations and interactions with SCCWRP, governmental researchers, and Australian researchers.

Upcoming Evaluation Activities

- Evaluation of the CASQA meeting.
- Pre/Post IDI to students who participate in Fall and Winter Research Abroad Experiences.





