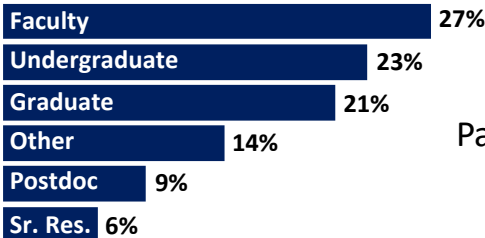


Findings are presented from the 2015-2016 annual post-survey of project participants.

### UCI Water-PIRE 2015-2016 Annual Post-Survey Findings

#### Current Project Participants



**81**  
Participants



**48%**  
Female

**48%**  
Caucasian

**3**  
Institutions in AUS



**52%**  
Male



**9%**  
URM

**9**  
Institutions in US



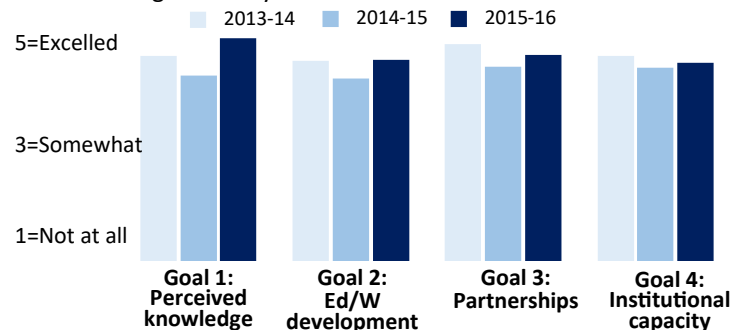
#### Project Engagement in 2015-16

Participants rated all project components as *extremely useful* and they are listed below in order of usefulness. H2Outreach participation in 2015-16 **decreased** from 13 in 2014-15 to 7.

Project component	# of participants
Research Abroad Experience	4  <b>Rated most useful component</b>
UPP Down Under	12
Digital Water Symposia Series	65
H2Outreach	7  <b>Participation decreased by nearly 50%</b>
4 activities reached <b>704</b> students	

#### Perceived Goal Achievement

All ratings increased from 2014-15 post-survey, and participants rated the project has *excelled in achieving* three of the four goals. They rated Goal 4 as *achieved well*.



#### Strengths of PIRE

PIRE participants identified five strengths of the project. **Collaboration** was mentioned most often.



#### Challenges with PIRE

Although participants were pleased overall with the PIRE project, they identified challenges and frustrations they have encountered which are shown below (some were also strengths):



##### Seminars/Panels

- More academic speakers
- Topic selection



##### Interdisciplinary work

- Connecting topics
- Lack of having an engineering background



##### Research

- Lack of time
- Lack of planning among members
- Too many topics
- Not enough help



##### Collaboration

- Size & complexity of teams
- Completing work in a timely manner
- Integrating UPP & ROCCT



##### Industry

- Infrastructure
- Barriers to progress



##### Participation

- Involving NGO partners & students
- Involving undergrads after UPP

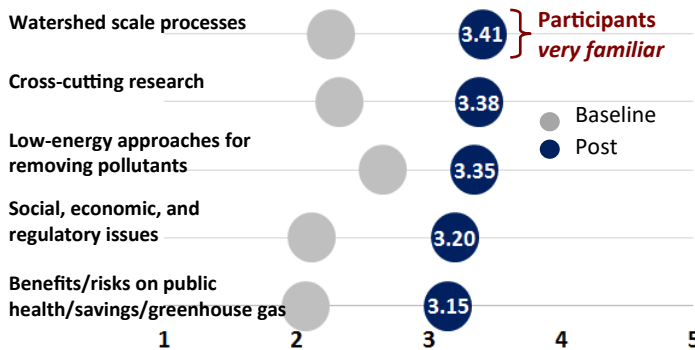
## Achievement of Project Goals

Thirty-nine participants completed both a baseline and a post-survey at the end of the 2015-16 academic year providing matched data for analysis. Results from the post-survey were compared to baseline survey responses to assess growth in the four goal areas. Highlights from each goal area are shown below.

### Goal 1: Scientific Knowledge/Research

Participants' perceived knowledge increased in all areas; however, they are only *somewhat familiar* in four of the five objective areas, indicating there is still room for growth.

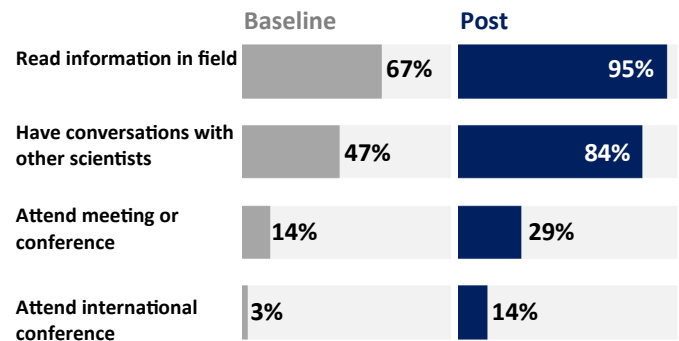
#### Goal 1 Objectives:



### Goal 2: Education/Workforce Development

Frequency of involvement in activities related to water sustainability increased. At the post-survey, participants most often "read information" & least often "attend conferences".

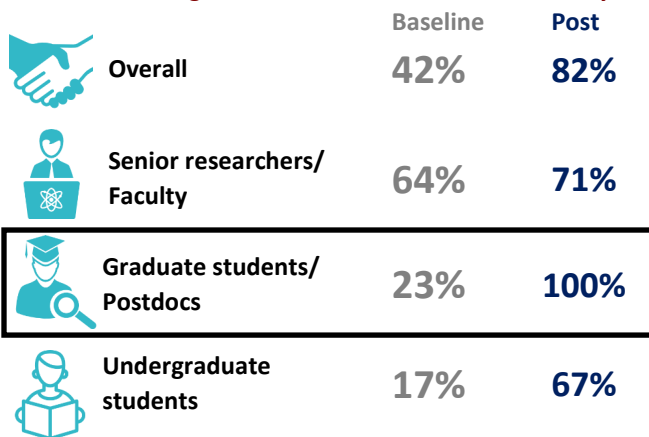
#### % of participants engaged in activity at least monthly



### Goal 3: Partnerships

Graduate students and postdocs had the greatest increase in collaborations with scientists from another country.

#### % collaborating with scientists from another country



### Goal 4: Institutional Capacity

UCI participants (n=19) rated HSSOE's ability to foster international research and education abroad programs went from *good* to *excellent* from baseline to 2015-16 post-survey.



#### HSSOE's ability to foster international research and education abroad programs



"This is the most successful international educational/research partnership in which I have been involved."

-PIRE faculty participant

## Evaluator's Recommendations

- **Increase industry partner awareness** of different project components so they are informed and know how to get involved.
- **Increase student awareness** of project components by having faculty members discuss the project in their classes and ways for students to become involved.
- **Engage undergraduates** after UPP Down Under through research, conference, and presentation opportunities.
- **Increase exposure of the digital water symposia series** by using the videos in the classroom and identifying other modes to market the videos.
- **Increase participants' knowledge** by focusing on "benefits and risks of public health, savings, and greenhouse gas" in panel presentations and lectures.
- **Ensure there are clear expectations and organization of roles and timelines** in research projects to minimize challenges associated with collaboration.
- **Host a telecon to share research and programmatic updates** to keep all US and Australian participants informed and to promote further collaboration and collaborative research.
- **Host a conference where all US and Australian participants can share achievements** as the PIRE project is closing out. Invite individuals/groups who can help with promoting the project and with sustainability of different project components.