Editors' Message: The 2014 Editors' Choice articles and the 2014 'Coolest Paper' award

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Hydrogeology Journal's Editors' Choice articles for 2014

"Editors' Choice" articles are ones selected for special attention by the *Hydrogeology Journal* (HJ) editorial team (Liz Screaton, Maria Schafmeister, Jimmy Jiao, Vincent Post, Cliff Voss) and the guest editors of the 2014 HJ theme issue (Diana Allen, Peter Bayer, Grant Ferguson, Philipp Blum). These articles may be selected for any of several good reasons including: outstanding science, innovative approach, potentially important conclusions, interesting field area or phenomenon, unusual topic, political/social/historical/philosophical interest, etc. At the conclusion of each publishing year, the editors select up to five articles from among the year's crop of about 150 published articles. The HJ editors believe that our readers will find these articles to be somehow interesting or valuable. Both authors and readers of the selected articles benefit because Editors' Choice articles are: (1) highlighted on the International Association of Hydrogeologists' (IAH) website and in the IAH newsletter, and (2) Springer, HJ's publisher, makes

these articles freely available on their website for full viewing and downloading at no cost to everyone for 2 years.

The Editors' Choice articles for the 2014 publishing year are given in Table 1. Congratulations to all of these authors!

Announcing the IAH 2014 'Coolest Paper of the Year' award

IAH is pleased to announce the 'Coolest Paper of the Year' contest for 2014, organised by the IAH Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network (ECHN; <http://echn.iah.org/>). ECHN was formed in 2011 with the aim of providing support in information sharing, networking and strengthening the status of early career hydrogeologists. It provides a voice for young hydrogeologists and organises events at international conferences. The network is free to join for IAH members through a LinkedIn group (<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Early-Career-Hydrogeologists-Network-ECHN-3717583/about>).

This 'Coolest Paper of the Year' contest aims to raise the profile of hydrogeology articles considered new and/or interesting by early career hydrogeologists, simultaneously empowering and encouraging discussion among up-and-coming scientists. It is being run online using the ECHN website, with crowd-sourced nominations and voting. The definition of 'cool' has been deliberately left open to interpretation to encourage a wide range of nominations. It could be that an article is nominated because of its originality and creativity, because of its detail and rigor, because of its outstanding presentation—or any other reason that can be convincingly justified.

The process is designed to be open and democratic. Anyone currently studying or holding a hydrogeology-related degree completed in the last 10 years is considered an early career hydrogeologist and can participate in nominations and voting through the online forms. Nominators and voters do not need to be IAH (or ECHN) members. The only restrictions are:

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Table 1 *Hydrogeology Journal's* 2014 Editors' Choice articles

Authors	Title	Vol/No., pages DOI
Alan L. Mayo, Scott A. Himes, David G. Tingey	Self-organizing thermal fluid flow in fractured crystalline rock: a geochemical and theoretical approach to evaluating fluid flow in the southern Idaho batholith, USA	22/1, 25–45 DOI 10.1007/s10040-013-1071-3
A. Vandenbohede, E. Vandevyvere	Potable water for a city: a historic perspective from Bruges, Belgium	22/7, 1669–1680 DOI 10.1007/s10040-014-1154-9
Jean-Christophe Comte, Jean-Lambert Join, Olivier Banton, Eric Nicolini	Modelling the response of fresh groundwater to climate and vegetation changes in coral islands	22/8, 1905–1920 DOI 10.1007/s10040-014-1160-y
Thomas M. Missimer, Christiane Hoppe-Jones, Khan Z. Jadoon, Dong Li, Samir K. Al-Mashharawi	Hydrogeology, water quality, and microbial assessment of a coastal alluvial aquifer in western Saudi Arabia: potential use of coastal wadi aquifers for desalination water supplies	22/8, 1921–1934 DOI 10.1007/s10040-014-1168-3
Teppo Arola, Kirsti Korkka-Niemi	The effect of urban heat islands on geothermal potential: examples from Quaternary aquifers in Finland	22/8, 1953–1967 DOI 10.1007/s10040-014-1174-5

1. You may not nominate or vote for an article on which you are an author, and nominators should not work at the same institution as authors of their nominated article.
2. Each person can only nominate once and only vote once (this will be validated by checking e-mail and IP address details).

This structure ensures transparency and will result in a genuine 'people's choice award'.

The award selection process consists of two stages:

NOMINATIONS: First, any early career hydrogeologist can nominate any hydrogeology article published (online or in volume) during 2014 in *any peer-reviewed journal* (not only *Hydrogeology Journal*), subject to the restrictions above, with a maximum 50-word justification of their nomination. **Nominations will close on May 31st, 2015.**

VOTING: Second, there will be an open, online poll in which any early career hydrogeologist can vote for the published article that they consider 'the coolest' of the nominations. **Voting will begin on June 1st 2015.**

All links required in order to nominate and vote, and detailed terms and conditions can be found on the competition webpage: <http://ech.n.iah.org/2014-coolest-paper>.

The winner will be the nominated article receiving the most votes at the close of voting. The winning article will be announced at the 2015 IAH congress in Rome, Italy, in September 2015, where the primary author (or representative) will be presented with the prize of a 1-year IAH membership. Additional prizes will be awarded to one participant in each of the two stages of the selection process (i.e. one nominator, and one voter) through a random prize draw. These lucky winners will receive their choice of a book from the IAH book series.

We are looking forward to your participation!

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