



# WERI



## Water & Environmental Research Institute of the Western Pacific University of Guam

The Water & Environmental Research Institute of the Western Pacific, or WERI, is one of 54 similar water research institutes established by U.S. Congressional legislation at each Land Grant University in the United States and in several territories. The institute is now in its 32<sup>nd</sup> year of operation.

WERI's mission is to seek solutions through research, teaching, and outreach programs, to issues and problems associated with the location, production, distribution, and management of freshwater resources. WERI provides technical expertise, and conducts vigorous research and both undergraduate and graduate teaching programs aimed at improving economic conditions and the quality of life for citizens of Guam and various regional island nations. WERI also runs a state of the technology water analytical laboratory and geographical information systems facility.

WERI administers and carries out research, training, and other information transfer programs under a variety of federal and local funding sources, but the institute was created specifically to administer Department of Interior (US Geological Survey) money under Section 104-B of the National Institute of Water Research (NIWR) 104-B Program. WERI has responsibility for 104-B monies on Guam, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), and in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

In FY-2006 WERI faculty were involved as Principal Investigators on twenty research and training projects with a combined budget of about \$808,000: \$235,000 from

eight 104-B projects, \$70,000 from three other federal agencies, \$125,000 from Federal sources awarded through Local Agencies, and \$378,000 from local grants and direct funding from the Guam legislature.

Currently WERI has a fulltime director who is also a UOG faculty member, five regular research faculty, one adjunct research faculty, a water analysis laboratory manager and technician, two office staff, as well as five graduate research students who are completing their MS degree in the Environmental Sciences program. During the year 2005, WERI faculty and staff taught nine graduate courses and two undergraduate courses in the Environmental Science MS program and the undergraduate Pre-Engineering curriculums respectively. At the same time, WERI faculty were first or second authors on 14 refereed journal articles or conference proceedings, nine technical reports, and 11 professional presentations and workshops. WERI faculty currently serve as members or chairs of 23 research thesis committees of students in the Environmental Science and Biology graduate programs.

For more information on WERI's research and academic programs please see us on the web at:

[www.uog.edu/weri](http://www.uog.edu/weri)

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