Happy New Year! As someone who, to quote my family, “has never really left school,” October is a time of professional impact. This is the case too for the AEESP organization as it moves into its 60th year of operation. The leadership of recent AEESP Presidents Joel Ducoste and Bill Arnold to launch and implement a new strategic plan has renewed and refocused the AEESP organization as it moves towards a Diamond Anniversary in 2023. The iconic characteristics of a diamond – shining brilliance and strength – are also emblematic of the AEESP membership. Indeed, the participants in the strategic planning efforts affirmed the strongest asset of this organization to be the lived experience of the whole AEESP membership. The collaborative contributions of members’ ideas and skills have sustained AEESP as an all-volunteer organization through six decades. Most recently, the excellent and inspiring 2022 AEESP Research and Education Conference was the product of the collective efforts of 4 academic institutions, over 100 workshop organizers, and over 800 attendees! What an amazing organization!!

To achieve these ends, AEESP will continue to be guided by our strategic plan for our members, as environmental engineers and scientists, to advance solutions to these hugely complex problems, along with the full team of environmental professionals – other technical specialists, social scientists, economists, policy makers, and stakeholders.

As we move into our 60th year as an organization, it is fitting to reflect on the vision of AEESP that emerged from the strategic planning efforts: “AEESP is a collaborative and supportive community of diverse researchers and educators that advances the professional development of its members to be successful innovators and leaders in creating solutions to local, regional and global environmental problems.” Outgoing President Bill Arnold led efforts during 2021-2022 to realize this vision by re-energizing and empowering AEESP committees with activities across the three themes of the strategic plan:

- Foster member connections by providing programs for members to develop academic networks and skills. In the past year, AEESP has maintained programs with a tradition of success, such as early career faculty development and new faculty mentoring. AEESP has added career showcases and committee conversations to develop mid-career and leadership mentoring programs that address the unique nature of the environmental engineering and science discipline.

- Increase societal impact of environmental engineering and science scholarship and creative expression. One highlight is strategy development for identifying opportunities to place AEESP members on Science Advisory Boards and other venues for policy guidance. A larger initiative was the creation of a task force on community-engaged research in environmental engineering and science that will report out in this coming year.
President’s Letter

The AEESP Newsletter is published three times a year in February, June, and October by the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors. Issues are published online at:

www.aeesp.org/news/newsletter-archive

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www.aeesp.org/membership

- Reimagine the skills necessary for future environmental engineers and scientists to provide solutions to environmental problems. This involved stronger engagement with state-of-the-art practice through sustaining Member relations and potential collaborations to the K12 pipeline with the North American Association for Environmental Education.

  The cross-cutting concept of equity mindset to create an inclusive climate in all the organization’s work across these themes was advanced by AEESP joining an ACCESS+ cohort in May 2021. This NSF-funded initiative, Amplifying the Alliance to Catalyze Change for Equity in STEM Success, aims to advance inclusion within STEM disciplines through policies, practices and program within STEM professional societies. These complement on-going efforts by STEM professionals to create inclusive education and workspace culture.

  At this transition point, I share my deepest appreciation of Bill’s leadership on these initiatives. I also note the personalized attention that Bill committed to understand and support the Board members, committee chairs and other stakeholders. He made sure that they each had the resources and strategies to be successful in their roles. His approach is truly a great model to emulate as we undertake the annual AEESP leadership transition.

  The high-level initiatives of AEESP in the 2022-2023 year will comprise both on-going and new activities.

  - Moving AEESP to a DEI-engaged organization. AEESP will maintain momentum to sustain and develop committee projects that were launched in this past year. Periodic engagement through bimonthly virtual coffee hours will allow us to come together around thematic topics. Transparency across the organization will be increased with the improved website, e.g., clarity on joining committees, access to

the strategic planning documents. The biennial conference cycle will be returned to odd-numbered years with the June 2023 AEESP Research and Education Conference in hosted by Northeastern University in Boston, MA. Throughout AEESP, we will look to continue practicing and implementing best practices as we learn from our engagement with our ACCESS+ cohort. Our organizational scan indicated an important starting point is, with a more detailed data collection, to understand the members whom we serve.

  - Education for a rapidly changing future. As a growing number of AEESP members are building out critical research discovery in thematic Grand Challenge goals, we need to come together as a community to discuss the accompanying adjustments in educational training. The NASEM report charts out an educational agenda prioritizing systems-thinking, decision-making, community engagement, and communication skills. Implementation brings some unique challenges for environmental engineering professors who are usually affiliated with a smaller sized program in their home departments. Fortunately, the challenges of low carbon energy futures, water scarcity, and resource circularity are recognized in many engineering professions, so there is opportunity for environmental engineers and scientists to provide leadership to other disciplines as well. Furthermore, the rapid and continued growth of ABET-accredited environmental engineering programs prompts reflection on graduate student training as the advanced specialization for civil and chemical engineering students is now gained in BS programs. In parallel, AEESP will continue to partner with the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists’ renewed efforts to upgrade the Environmental Engineering Body of Knowledge.

  - Pipeline for a diverse workforce. There is an urgent need to expand the environmental engineering and science workforce, both in its diversity and

continued on next page
size, to staff the creative teams tasked with solving complex environmental problems. The pathway to that future is through each of our home departments, yet it is unknown who are those potential students. AEESP, through its national reach, has potential to connect member’s institutions with a broader pool of students interested in environmental engineering than is achievable through individual faculty- or department outreach. Establishing such a pipeline from high school through bachelor and graduate programs to the practice space of Sustaining Members is a long-term strategy that will require new AEESP partnerships.

I close on a personal note by sharing how honored I am to serve as the President of AEESP for the 2022-2023 year. In the 20 years since my first AEESP Conference, I have benefited immensely, in both professional and personal growth, from my engagement with members of this organization. It is my pleasure to now have a leadership role in collaborating with so many other committed members to sustain the excellent work of this organization. In particular, I highlight the creativity and enthusiasm of the AEESP Board with whom I have enjoyed working this past year – Bill Arnold, Rob Nerenberg, Willie Harper, Treavor Boyer, Junko Munakata Marr, Debora Frigi Rodrigues, Lee Blaney, Susan Masten, and Mira Olsen. With heartfelt thanks, I recognize Bill, Rob, and Willie whose terms end this month. I welcome and look forward to the contributions of our new Board members Kara Nelson, Claudia Gunsch, and Donna Fennell. It will be an exciting and unique year as we also end this Board’s tenure with the 2023 AEESP Research and Education Conference in Boston.

All the Best,

Allison MacKay, PhD, BCEEM
AEESP President
The “Spotlight” column draws attention to selected articles in Environmental Engineering Science (EES), the official journal of the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (AEESP). Spotlight articles appear regularly in the journal as an Editor’s Note, as well as in the AEESP newsletter. Through the publication of high-quality peer-reviewed research, the EES journal helps AEESP achieve its mission of developing and disseminating knowledge in environmental engineering and science. In this entry we shine the spotlight on selected articles from the April 2022 through July 2022 issues of EES. Congratulations to all whose work is highlighted.


Microplastics and disinfection by-products are constantly on the minds of drinking water professionals. More to the point, they are on the minds of consumers as public awareness rapidly expands; however, this attention and awareness has largely been restricted to the water that comes from our taps, not to what we consume in the form of bottled water. That is until now! Parveen et al. (2022) quantified the concentrations of both microplastics and various types of trihalomethanes, which are disinfection byproducts, in bottled water samples. Interestingly it was determined that at least one type of trihalomethanes were detected in all 44 bottled waters, from 18 unique brands, that were sampled. Of these samples four types (chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform) of trihalomethanes were detected in 20 samples. These results were particularly surprising given that the bottled waters had not undergone chlorination, raising important questions about how trihalomethanes may enter bottled water sources. Similarly, the researchers detected microplastics in all of the tested bottled waters, with concentrations ranging from approximately 500 to 1,000 nanograms per liter (ng/L). These colloidal plastics were determined to be polypropylene or polyethylene terephthalate. Considering the general perception of the quality of bottled water compared to that of tap water this study may represent a watershed moment that leads to a reevaluation of the methods used in bottled water production.


Speaking of water quality, who amongst us has not had the pleasure of suffering from a broken hot water heater or from the accumulation of mineral scale in our faucets? Neither are pleasurable experiences, particularly when it results in cold showers for a family that includes children! Beyond considering installation of a home water softener, how deeply have you considered how such water quality related events prompted you to think of how the water quality that comes into your household, and your own water usage, affects your overall plumbing system? Even more interesting is how these, and other, variables determine the characteristics of microbial populations in our pipes. Luckily for the environmental engineering community and other stakeholders, recent work published by Tolofari et al. (2022) provides inciteful information on this topic. These researchers specifically examined how the chlorine type, water residence time within the plumbing system, and water heater temperature affected the presence of microbes (heterotrophic bacteria and nontuberculous mycobacteria) in water heaters and associated plumbing networks. It was observed that systems employing free chlorine as the primary disinfectant experienced no microbial growth, or presence, in the water heater reservoirs. Conversely, when chloramines were the disinfectant microbial growth was a function of water usage and water heater temperature. Here, higher usage and water temperature resulted in depressed bacterial counts in both the heater reservoir and the plumbing network. These findings shed new light on how disinfectant selection and usage patterns can affect the quality of the water we consume and the overall “health” of our home plumbing systems. This valuable information will hopefully serve as a springboard for other investigations, by these and other researchers, for developing ways to better manage our water resources within our households.


Staying on the exciting and highly relevant topic of disinfection and keeping our households safe from determined microbes, the development of point of use disinfection processes has long been sought. Nevertheless, not much progress has been made, at least in our humble opinion, since the advent of the iodine tablet and a myriad number of filtration devices. Though it should be noted that we would hardly complain of such things when stuck in the back country with only a small stream serving as our drinking water source! Anyone who has experienced the scourge of a waterborne pathogen of any type knows full well the importance of disinfection. Advancing the development of point of use disinfection systems that incorporate ultraviolet (UV) light was described in a recent article authored by Nguyen et al. (2022). They described the inactivation of bacteriophage MS2 and E. coli after having passed through a custom designed microscale UV reactor. The authors reported inactivation rates of 7 log/mL (8 sec exposure time) and 7.5 log/mL...
The AEESP Board of Directors had a hybrid meeting at the University of Notre Dame (South Bend, IN) on September 14-16, 2022. The meeting began with approval of the minutes from our June 27, 2022, Board meeting at Washington University in St. Louis. We also welcomed new Board members, Claudia Gunsch, Donna Fennell, and Kara Nelson. The Board recognized and thanked Bill Arnold (Past President), Rob Nerenberg (Past Secretary), and Willie Harper (Past Chief Information Officer) for their service to AEESP. Allison MacKay assumed the role of President, and Debora F. Rodrigues was confirmed as President-Elect. Elections were held for the incoming officers. Lee Blaney was elected Vice President, Mira Olson was elected Secretary, and Susan Masten was elected Chief Information Officer. Treavor Boyer will continue as Treasurer, and Junko Marr will continue as Chief Technology Officer. The date of our next (virtual) Board meeting was set for December 9, 2022.

Brian Schorr gave a report from the Business Office. He confirmed that our general membership is strong and continues to grow following the 2022 AEESP Research and Education Conference at Washington University in St. Louis. We expect additional growth ahead of the 2023 meeting at Northeastern University. The Board would like to increase the number of Sustaining Members, namely consulting firms, scientific organizations, and publishers. AEESP members with specific connections or ideas of how to attract new Sustaining Members are encouraged to reach out to Karl Linden, Chair of the Sustaining Members Committee (karl.linden@colorado.edu).

Treavor Boyer provided the Treasurer’s report and indicated that AEESP is in good financial position. AEESP received 10% of the 2023 conference registration fees from Washington University in St. Louis. A total of $15,000 was donated to the AEESP Foundation to support endowment of the following awards: AEESP Award for Outstanding Teaching in Environmental Engineering and Science, AEESP Master’s Thesis Award, AEESP Outstanding Publication Award, and AEESP Award for Outstanding Contribution to Environmental Engineering and Science Education. Additional donations for these and other awards can be made through the Foundation website (https://aeespfoundation.org/donate). We selected Allen Murphy and Associates to perform a financial review to confirm that our financial statements are consistent with general accounting principles. Brian Schorr is reviewing potential financial advisors to manage investments for the AEESP Foundation and organization.

The Board invited Mandy Ferguson to give an update on the new AEESP website, which is now live. We decided to restructure the AEESP Board and Committee documents using a shared Google Drive folder to improve retention of committee knowledge and history. Relevant documents from older, paper-based archives are being converted to electronic files. The Board has tasked committees with instituting term limits to ensure that more AEESP members have opportunities to contribute to the organization.

Phil Larese-Casanova joined us to give an update on the state of the 2023 AEESP Research and Education Conference (https://aeesp2023.sites.northeastern.edu), which is scheduled for June 20-23, 2023, in Boston, MA. Phil and the rest of the Organizing Committee have put together an exciting plan that will involve three days of workshops, two days of oral and poster presentations, field trips, and social, networking, and career activities. A call for workshop proposals will be released in

"Spotlight" cont.

(8 min exposure time) for E. coli and MS2, respectively. Both inactivation values were impressive and meet or surpass U.S. EPA standards. These findings and the developed technology represent an important step in achieving the overall goal of water treatment professionals to diversify our ability to disinfect water at multiple scales.

November 2022, and registration will open in March 2023. We hope that you will join us in Boston!

The Board also discussed updates related to AEESP’s participation in the ACCESS+ initiative, which aims to improve adoption of best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion in academic societies. A resource mapping session in August 2022 helped us plan for a mini-grant application to develop committee-specific opportunities to implement our Strategic Plan goal of “[increasing] our reach to those that do not currently participate in the development of innovative solutions in environmental engineering and science”. Our mini grant was recently approved, and we will be inviting the leaders of AEESP committees to engage in several working sessions with an external consultant in 2023.

The Board reviewed reports from all AEESP committees as part of our consent agenda. There are several exciting initiatives being undertaken by the committees. For example, an updated membership and demographics survey will be rolled out with the Fall 2022 membership drive. This survey will allow us to improve understanding of the membership and identify opportunities for continuous improvement with respect to representation in AEESP. We also discussed the efforts of the Awards Committee to evaluate the demographics of past awardees and enhance the diversity of future nominees. We encourage all members to take an inclusive approach to nominating their students and colleagues for AEESP Awards. Many committees reported their plans for engaging AEESP members at the 2023 conference.

We also voted to renew our 5-year agreement with Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., the publisher of Environmental Engineering Science, which is the official journal of AEESP. As part of this new agreement, AEESP members will receive a special annual subscription rate of $69 (+$2 processing fee). This offer is available when members renew their AEESP membership. We look forward to continuing this relationship, which offers special advantages for AEESP members to not only subscribe, but also publish in Environmental Engineering Science at reduced rates.

The Board will hold various “Coffee Hour” sessions throughout the year, so please keep an eye out for AEESP listserv emails with the details. We encourage you to join these events to connect with other AEESP members and chat about the current needs and future directions of the organization.

Respectfully reported by Lee Blaney (Vice President) and Debora Rodrigues (President-Elect)

Peace Corps Volunteers Return - Great News for our Students

Submitted by James Mihelcic, University of South Florida

Peace Corps announced this summer that volunteers are now returning. These initial volunteers are the first to return since global operations were suspended in March 2020 and almost 7,000 volunteers from more than 60 countries were evacuated.

The University of South Florida’s Engineering for International Development Program is again placing graduate students in the Peace Corps. Students are now entering Peace Corps as water/sanitation engineers or environmental health volunteers in countries that include Panama, Peru, and Tanzania.

This graduate program requires students take three courses (WaSH Engineering, Global Health Assessment, Applied Anthropology). Students also engage in an extended international field experience, which forms the basis of the thesis or dissertation. That international experience is usually with the Peace Corps but can also be set up with a nongovernmental organization or university. For example, a recent student completed her required field experience with the Barbados Water Authority. USF also directs a Coverdell Fellows Program for returned volunteers.

From a student perspective, returned Peace Corps volunteers qualify for noncompetitive eligibility for employment with the federal government. There are some pathways for student loan deferment or forgiveness and the extended time overseas combined with WaSH and global health training can lead to multiple career paths with humanitarian and development organizations.
Professor Daniel B. Logan Named Director of the Institutes for Energy and the Environment

Bruce Logan, Evan Pugh University Professor in Engineering and the Stan & Flora Kappe Professor of Environmental Engineering, has been named director of the Institutes for Energy and the Environment (IEE), effective August 15, 2022. Logan succeeds Thomas Richard, who is returning to a faculty role and pursuing other activities after 15 years as director.

Logan will work with Richard for at least the next month to affect a smooth transition. “We would like to sincerely thank Tom for his excellence as the institute director during these years,” said Senior Vice President for Research Lora Weiss. “Tom’s vision has enabled many advancements in the sciences and interdisciplinary teams who are dedicated to addressing some of the world’s greatest energy and environmental challenges.”

Logan’s role will expand on this foundation to further elevate the research excellence of IEE and the multiple geo-critical initiatives it represents. “Bruce’s role is vital for Penn State as our world is in the midst of multiple global energy and climate crises,” said Weiss. “From ecosystem change and energy shortages to water resourcing and urban development, Penn State is at the cutting edge of contributing essential solutions to these serious societal emergencies. Bruce’s experience, mindset, and vision are well-aligned to take our programs to the next level.”

Logan said, “I am pleased to take on this new role at IEE because it is unique among many of our peer academic institutions in that it combines both energy and environment into the same research and solutions framework. This broader role enables our research teams to simultaneously explore complex technical issues for energy technologies while at the same time being sure that solutions also address relevant societal and environmental concerns. For example, we can investigate complex issues related to the transformation of the energy infrastructure to address climate change, while also ensuring that these solutions are equitable for everyone in society as well as protective of the environment.”

Logan’s current research is focused on the development of an energy-sustainable water infrastructure, renewable energy production including green hydrogen gas production using microbial- and direct-water electrolysis, and novel methods of water desalination. He is the author or co-author of several books and over 550 refereed publications, and he is one of the most highly cited faculty members at Penn State (over 100,000 citations).

Logan is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering and the Chinese Academy of Engineering, and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the International Water Association, the Water Environment Federation and the Association of Environmental Engineering & Science Professors. He received his doctorate in 1986 from the University of California, Berkeley, and prior to joining Penn State in 1997, he was at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Professor Daniel B. Oerther to Chair the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

Professor Daniel B. Oerther, PhD, CEHS, DAAS, FCIEH, FAEESP, will chair the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health from January 2023 through December 2025. Headquartered in London, England, the CIEH was established in 1883 and includes more than 7,000 environmental health practitioners from across the UK and around the world. Similar to the American Public Health Association, the vision of CIEH is safer, cleaner, and healthier environments for the benefit of all. Prof. Oerther will be the first chair from outside the UK. He is a Certified Environmental Health Specialist in Missouri and a Diplomate of the American Academy of Sanitarians, and in 2015 he was the first recipient of the AEESP Award for Global Outreach after it was renamed in honor of the late Professor Steven K. Dentel. Prof. Oerther welcomes the opportunity to make introductions between AEESP members and CIEH members to promote environmental health locally while collaborating globally.
New Courses in Engineering for Climate Change Adaptation
Submitted by Prof. Dr. Edita Baltrėnaitė-Gedienė, Institute of Environmental Research

In the last 25 years, the state of the Caspian Sea has deteriorated, mostly because of the exploitation of oil and gas sources by Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, and Turkmenistan. The exploitation has, and is still, impacting the ecological, geological, and climatic status of the Caspian Sea. The Caspian ecosystem has a global meaning since the Caspian Sea is the largest lake with unique flora and fauna (400 types of animals and plants), which is now in danger. Opening a stage of problem-solving there is a need for new and modernized curricula for specialists of all spheres connected to the environmental problems of the Caspian Sea, who should be educated in methods and tools of how to monitor, analyze the environmental data and how, using the interpreted data, to develop ways of improvement of the state of the Caspian ecosystem. That initiated an EU-funded Erasmus+ project “New Courses in Geospatial Engineering for Climate Change Adaptation of Coastal Ecosystems (GEOCLIC)” in 2021.

The consortium of seventeen partners from four program countries (Germany, Lithuania, Romania, Netherlands) and three partner countries (Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, and Turkmenistan) are searching for the appropriate mix of current technologies of remote sensing, computer imaging, and current state of environmental management, by developing the curricula that should concentrate on competences and skills specifically requested by the various industrial enterprises, transport, small business enterprises, and IT services, where graduates will be exposed to system-level design, hardware and software integration and basic architecture.

Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (VilniusTech), with its environmentally focused research group led by Prof. Dr. Edita Baltrėnaitė-Gedienė, was invited to join the consortium with their environmentally oriented course modules. A team of environmental engineers and mathematical modeling specialists will provide their experience in four different fields: Modeling of Environmental Processes and Management, Environmental Impact Assessment, Ecological Design, and Commercialization of Innovative Products, Start-up Initiatives for Future Engineers.

“Environmental research with its links to practical implementation and modeling features has been an important approach in developing study modules from the very spring of environmental protection in the 1990es in Lithuania. My father, Prof. Dr. Habil Pranas Baltrėnas, has been a pioneer in environmental engineering study and research development in Lithuania. As his daughter, I was close to his professional achievements, namely the opening of the first environmental protection study program in Lithuania, the founding of the Environmental Protection Department, the Institute of Environmental Protection, the Journal of Environmental Engineering and Landscape Management at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University. We also joined together this project consortium; however, the news about the project funding sadly came on the day when my father passed away because of Covid” – Edita gives a short professional and personal introduction to the project.

A team from VilniusTech (Assoc. Prof. Dr. Teresė Leonavičienė, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jevgenijus Kirjakinis, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Raimondas Grubliauskas, Dr. Aleksandras Chlebnikovas, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jolita Braduliūnienė and Simona Bitarytė) led by Prof. Dr. Edita Baltrėnaitė-Gedienė are engaged in environmental engineering course modernization and adaptation, sharing their experience on innovative teaching and learning methods.

During the project modernization and internationalization of BA/MSc/PhD studies in coastal ecosystem environmental protection and monitoring will be achieved by implementing and accrediting new modernized practice-oriented, student-focused courses in geospatial technologies and coastal ecosystem environmental protection and monitoring, including innovative teaching/learning environment. The current BA/MSc/PhD courses will be updated according to the Bologna requirements and the new developments. Innovative teaching/learning environments (new labs and classrooms, International BA/MSc/PhD Summer Schools, webinars, website platforms) will be developed and established.
Innovative Wastewater Surveillance Response to the COVID Pandemic

AEESP Life Member Steve E. Hrudey (University of Alberta) chaired, and AEESP Member Heather N. Bischel (UC Davis) served, as one of two international panelists that recently completed a major policy brief for the Royal Society of Canada, Canada’s National Academy. This document reviews the adoption of wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 as a complementary approach to public health surveillance of the largest pandemic of the past century. COVID-19, as of October 2022 has caused over 600 million cases and over 6.5 million deaths worldwide. There have been over 96 million cases and 1 million deaths in the U.S. despite $4 trillion in federal spending and over 4.2 million cases, and Canada has seen over 45,000 deaths (Canada’s population is a tenth U.S.). The enormous scale of illness and death caused by COVID-19 has overwhelmed conventional public health surveillance approaches, making adoption of wastewater surveillance for the SARS-CoV-2 and several variant strains an important contribution by the environmental engineering and science community for public health protection and response. The Canadian response was facilitated by early coordination starting in May 2020 from the Canadian Water Network (https://cwn-rce.ca/covid-19-wastewater-coalition/), and it was largely achieved by the initiative of dozens of academics who developed the necessary lab capability, mostly with resources diverted from other sources and with extensive wastewater utility collaboration. A website maintained by AEESP Member Colleen Naughton and students at UC Merced (https://arcg.is/1aummW) reports adoption of this approach in 70 countries at over 3700 sites and involving at least 282 universities and maintaining over 150 dashboards reporting results. Many of these results have been publicly accessible to allow everyone to see the status of COVID-19 infections in the monitored communities. Although this surveillance approach had been practiced for decades, its success during COVID-19 is expanding to several other pathogens and substances relevant to public health. The 186-page RSC report, which includes over 215 relevant references, provides a convenient overview of this rapidly expanding field of research. It is free for download at: (https://rsc-src.ca/en/covid-19-policy-briefing/wastewater-surveillance-for-sars-cov-2-rna-in-canada). An edited version is also appearing in the interdisciplinary open access journal, FACETS: www.facetsjournal.com.
Dr. Eric M.V. Hoek, 2022 Clarke Prize Laureate

Courtesy of AEESP Sustaining Member National Water Research Institute (NWRI)

NWRI is pleased to announce that the 2022 Athalie Richardson Irvine Clarke Prize laureate is Eric M. V. Hoek, a professor in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at University of California Los Angeles (UCLA).

Hoek is also a Faculty Scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab and Director of the Sustainable LA Grand Challenge, which is a UCLA campus-wide initiative in partnership with the City and County of Los Angeles to help LA become the world’s most sustainable megacity by 2050. Hoek’s NanoMeTeR Lab at UCLA explores the union of nano-materials and membrane technology for water, energy, human health, and environmental applications.

Dr. Hoek received the 29th Clarke Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Water Science and Technology and gave the 2022 Clarke Prize Lecture at the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Center of the National Academies of Sciences and Engineering in Irvine, California, on the evening of October 22, 2022.

For more information contact: Mary Collins, mcollins@nwri-usa.org

Dr. Yang Deng Receives IWA Project Innovation Award

Dr. Yang Deng, University Distinguished Professor of Environmental Engineering at Montclair State University (Montclair, NJ), received the Project Innovation Award of the International Water Association (IWA) in the IWA’s 2022 World Water Congress & Exhibition in Copenhagen, Denmark. Awarded biennially, the Project Innovation Awards recognize excellence and innovation in water management, research, and technology. Dr. Deng’s project entitled “Ferrate(VI)-enabled Emergency and Daily Household Water Treatment” is the Gold Winner of the Project Innovation Award in the Category of Breakthroughs in Research and Development. His work advances ferrate(VI) chemistry and develops user-centered designs for immediately and proactively surmounting challenges in household water treatment (HWT) for emergency and daily water supply demands, particularly strengthening water autonomy and community resilience. Furthermore, the research identifies and deliberates essential, interrelated principles for the design of sustainable HWT.

Dr. Deng’s research centers on environmental systems and processes, with an emphasis on innovative technologies to address water and other environmental challenges. Specifically, his research is focused on two intertwined research themes, including mitigation of environmental pollution and adaptation of engineered water systems to climate change impacts.

Prior to joining Montclair, he was a faculty in the Department of Civil Engineering and Survey at the University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez. He has also been a licensed environmental engineer registered in the State of Florida. Dr. Deng presently serves as Editor of Journal of Hazardous Materials, Water Environment Research, and ASCE-Journal of Environmental Engineering. He earned his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering (Environmental Discipline) at the University of Miami (Coral Gables, FL) and his B.S. and M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Tongji University (China). He received several other awards in recognition of his research, such as 2019 Superior Achievement Award from the American Academy of Environmental Engineers & Scientists (AAEES) and 2018 Nanova Frontier Research Award from the Chinese-American Professors in Environmental Engineering and Science Society.
Columbia, SC- The Environmental Engineering Program at Benedict College received its initial accreditation by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), the national organization that accredits undergraduate programs in engineering, engineering technology, and computer science. Accreditation criteria and standards are developed with ABET’s member societies with the goal of assuring confidence in STEM education.

Benedict College is the first HBCU in South Carolina to offer an accredited BS degree in Environmental Engineering, one of only two in the state alongside Clemson University. Since its inception in 2012, the program has more than doubled its enrollment, indicating a growing demand for the major.

"ABET accreditation is the recognized seal of approval that validates that our environmental engineering program meets the highest standards and positions our graduates to pursue careers as licensed engineers and representing the BEST of BC!" said Dr. Roslyn Clark Artis, President, and CEO of Benedict College.

The 2022 graduating class had a 100% hiring rate. The program prepares students for careers in water and wastewater treatment, solid waste management, remediation in polluted sites, and air quality engineering. The scholars typically engage in internships during the summer, either with environmental engineering-related firms or in research labs at Benedict College and other institutions. During this time, the students complete a senior design project in partnership with local engineering firms or the City of Columbia.

"I commend our talented and hard-working faculty who have demonstrated commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and service," said Dr. Janeen P. Witty, Vice President for Academic Affairs.

"ABET accreditation is a game-changing for Benedict’s Environmental Engineering program, in terms of recruiting and the opportunities available to our students after they graduate," noted Dr. Jessica Furrer, Program Head and ABET Coordinator. “Earning a bachelor’s degree from an accredited program will allow our students to take the Fundamentals of Engineering exam immediately after graduation and ultimately pursue professional licensure, which is critical for design engineers in this field. Employers look for students to have an ABET-accredited degree because it gives them confidence that they are well-prepared for a career in environmental engineering.”

For more information go about ABET visit it: https://www.abet.org/about-abet/at-a-glance/

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About Benedict College

Founded in 1870 by a woman, Bathsheba A. Benedict, Benedict College is a private co-educational liberal arts institution, offering 26 competitive baccalaureate degree programs. The Midlands HBCU welcomes students from all 46 counties in South Carolina, 30 states across America, and 26 countries around the world.
Dr. Kaisen Lin joins Michigan State University

Dr. Kaisen Lin recently joined the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Michigan State University as an assistant professor in August 2022. Dr. Lin’s research focuses on the environmental behavior of biological aerosols and the health effects of inhalable particles. He is particularly interested in investigating the emission, transport, and decay of airborne pathogens, as well as exploring the deposition of inhalable particles in human respiratory tracts. Results from Dr. Lin’s research will advance understanding on human exposure to emerging air pollutants and help address health-related air pollution issues. Before joining Michigan State University, Dr. Lin worked as a postdoctoral fellow in the Air Quality Research Center at UC Davis for two years. Dr. Lin obtained his M.S. and Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Virginia Tech (2016 and 2020), and completed his Bachelor’s degree in Agronomy from Zhejiang University in China (2013).

Dr. Runwei Li joins New Mexico State University

Dr. Runwei Li (he/him) joined the Department of Civil Engineering at New Mexico State University (NMSU) as an assistant professor in October 2022. Dr. Li’s group will aim to provide new insights into the fate and transport of contaminants by conducting experiments and simulations at different scales. Prior to joining NMSU, he worked with Prof. Jacqueline MacDonald Gibson at North Carolina State University and Indiana University-Bloomington as a postdoctoral researcher, where he developed machine learning models to predict PFAS occurrence in groundwater. Dr. Li earned his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Florida State University under the supervision of Profs. Gang Chen and Youneng Tang.
Carnegie Mellon CEE Welcomes Two Faculty Members

Dr. Fethiye Ozis has joined the Carnegie Mellon University Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering as an Assistant Teaching Professor. She brings to the department teaching and research experience in sustainable cities, biotechnology for air pollution control, and sustainable methods of water treatment. Prior to moving to Pittsburgh, Dr. Ozis taught at Northern Arizona University where she was named a 2021 Educator of Influence and a 2020 Teacher of the Year. In 2022 she assisted in coordinating The American Society for Engineering Education’s annual conference.

Dr. Ozis is focused on supporting and working with underrepresented groups in engineering, and she conducts research related to engineering classrooms and innovative pedagogical strategies to broaden participation in the field. She earned a Ph.D. and M.S. in Environmental Engineering from the University of Southern California and a B.S. in Environmental Engineering from Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey.

Dr. Sarah Fakhreddine has joined the Carnegie Mellon University Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering as an Assistant Professor, bringing to the department a background in both engineering and earth sciences and broad expertise in water engineering and science. Her work has focused on developing approaches to improve the resilience of freshwater supplies to climate change and population growth. She researches strategies to store excess water underground in depleted groundwater aquifers as a way to balance disconnects between water supply and demand. She also studies fundamental geochemical processes that control water quality in aquifer storage systems.

Dr. Fakhreddine earned a Ph.D. in Earth System Science and M.S. in Environmental Engineering and Science at Stanford University, and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin. She also conducted postdoctoral research at the University of Texas at Austin.

San Diego State University Welcomes Two Faculty Members

Dr. Dongye (Don) Zhao joined the faculty of San Diego State University (SDSU) on August 16, 2022, as a Professor and Chair of the Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering. Before this post, Zhao served on the faculty of Auburn University for more than 21 years, where he held the title of Alumni Endowed Distinguished Professor of Environmental Engineering. Zhao received his Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Lehigh University in 1998. Zhao is internationally recognized for his pioneering work in developing novel stabilized nanoparticles for in situ degradation of organic pollutants and immobilization of metals, metalloids, and radionuclides in soil and groundwater. He is also recognized in developing adsorptive photocatalysts for degradation of persistent organic pollutants such as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). With more than 230 SCI-indexed journal papers, Zhao’s work has been cited more than 16,000 times (h-Index = 64). He is included in both the Clarivate World’s Top 1% Scientists and the Stanford World’s Top 1% Scientists. In addition, Dr. Zhao has delivered more than 135 invited seminars/keynote speeches worldwide. Dr. Zhao has served as Editor for three journals: Water Environment Research, Frontiers of Environmental Science & Engineering, and Current Pollution Reports.

Dr. Hanyang Li joined the Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering at San Diego State University as an assistant professor in August 2022. Dr. Li’s research interests include air quality monitoring, aerosol instrumentation, environmental justice, and machine learning analysis of aerosol properties. She has worked on characterizing the optical properties of carbonaceous aerosols and developing a low-cost toxic aerosol real-time analyzer. At SDSU, Dr. Li’s research group will combine engineering techniques and data mining approaches to better understand air pollution sources, emissions, and impacts. Prior to joining SDSU, Dr. Li worked as a postdoctoral research associate at the University of California-Davis Air Quality Research Center. She received her Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering from the Ohio State University and her M.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder.
Drexel University Welcomes Two Faculty Members

Fernanda Cruz Rios, Assistant Professor in circular economy and sustainability in the built environment, Civil Architectural and Environmental Engineering

Dr. Fernanda Cruz Rios will be joining the Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering at Drexel University as an assistant professor in Spring 2023. She received her B.S. in Architecture and Urban Planning from the Federal University of Bahia, Brazil (2012), and Ph.D. in Civil, Environmental, and Sustainable Engineering from Arizona State University (2018). Her research focuses on built environment complex systems, convergence research, social and environmental justice, and sustainability, with a particular focus on design for deconstruction and the circular economy. Dr. Cruz Rios applies life cycle assessment to understand the impacts of design for deconstruction and reused, recycled, and bio-based materials in the embodied energy and carbon of buildings. She recently worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pittsburgh, where she collaborated with environmental, civil, and chemical engineers, computer scientists, political scientists, economists, and anthropologists to do convergent research on the circular economy. Dr. Cruz Rios has a passion for diversity and inclusion in higher education. She worked as a postdoctoral fellow at Arizona State University to understand the challenges and opportunities on recruiting and retaining Native American students in engineering academia. She is committed to engaging in diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives and mentoring students from underrepresented populations. Dr. Cruz Rios will be teaching new courses on circular economy and sustainability in the built environment.

Zhiwei Chen, Assistant Professor in smart, sustainable, and equitable transportation, Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering

Dr. Zhiwei Chen joined the Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering at Drexel University as an Assistant Professor in September 2022. His research focuses on emerging mobility technologies, especially connected and automated vehicles, to solve fundamental problems related to technology development, system modeling, and societal impact evaluation. He is particularly interested in understanding the impacts of emerging mobility technologies on society (for example, access, environment, and public health) and leveraging this knowledge to facilitate the design of efficient, equitable, sustainable, and resilient transportation systems. Before joining Drexel, he was a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of South Florida and subsequently at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He received his B.E. degree from the South China University of Technology in 2017, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of South Florida in 2019 and 2020, respectively.

Dr. Jiale Xu joins North Dakota State University

Dr. Jiale Xu joined the Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering at North Dakota State University (NDSU) as an assistant professor in August 2022. His research group will focus on developing novel photocatalytic, membrane, and electrochemical technologies for water/wastewater treatment, and identifying transformation mechanisms of harmful organic contaminants in engineered and natural systems. Before joining NDSU, he was a postdoctoral fellow in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and a postdoctoral research associate in the WEST center, both at the University of Arizona. He has researched on developing photocatalytic processes for organic micropollutant removal, recovering rare earth elements from coal fly ash by ionic liquids, developing electrochemical-assisted high-efficiency reverse osmosis for brackish water desalination, and controlling disinfection byproducts in wastewater recycling. Dr. Xu received a Ph.D. degree from SUNY at Buffalo, an M.S. degree from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a B.E degree from Beijing Normal University.
10th International Water Association Membrane Technology Conference

We are honored to welcome you to the 10th International Water Association Membrane Technology Conference (10th IWA-MTC), which will be held on July 23-26, 2023, at Washington University in St. Louis, USA. The 10th IWA-MTC is a continuation of IWA membrane conferences organized in Tokyo (Japan) in 1999, Tel-Aviv (Israel) in 2001, Seoul (Korea) in 2004, Harrogate (UK) in 2007, Beijing (China) in 2009, Aachen (Germany) in 2011, Toronto (Canada) in 2013, Singapore in 2017, and Toulouse (France) in 2019. We are excited to bring this important water event to the U.S. for the first time. It will be a key platform for scientists and professionals in the membrane section of water research/industry to share their latest findings, exchange thoughts, and enlighten more ideas to advance membrane technologies for water and wastewater treatment. More information can be found on the conference website at https://mtc2023.wustl.edu.

Zhen (Jason) He, Co-chair, Washington University in St. Louis
Baoxia Mi, Co-chair, University of California Berkeley
About the Environmental Engineering and Science Foundation

The Environmental Engineering and Science Foundation's primary purpose is to recognize and promote excellence in Environmental Engineering and Science. As a result, the public will become more aware of the important role Environmental Engineers and Scientists play in managing global, national and regional environmental challenges. To accomplish its goals, the Foundation dedicates its resources to education, research and awards focused on outstanding Environmental Engineering and Science achievement.

The Environmental Engineering and Science Foundation was established in 1998 to serve as a non-profit partner of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists (AAEES) and shares many common purposes with that organization.

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Announcing Recipients of the 2022 Environmental Engineering and Science Foundation Scholarships

continued on next page
Environmental Engineering and Science Foundation Scholarships

The Environmental Engineering and Science Foundation (EESF) has as its Mission "to secure and direct resources to advance environmental engineering and science in the areas of research, education and practice". In line with its mission, EESF has created six annual scholarships for Environmental Engineering and Environmental Science students at the Master's level.

In 2022, six $2,500 scholarships are being awarded to outstanding students seeking their Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering programs at various schools around the country.

These individuals emerged from a highly competitive process that considered academic achievement, resume, essay, and letters of recommendation.

EESF was able to attract a sizable number of applicants and the quality of their qualifications was outstanding.

It is our privilege to introduce the six outstanding recipients and provide excerpts from their resumes and essays.

**Annalyne Doll**
University of Colorado, Boulder
Environmental Engineering

With a background in environmental engineering and a specialization in water resources, I will be able to tackle existing water issues as well as work on proactive policy development. I will continually hone my skills and knowledge within the specialization of water and related policy so that my questions can be answered and implemented.

**Nicole Martinson**
Iowa State University
Environmental Engineering

A personal goal I have is to apply the knowledge and skills I acquire through my experiences as an engineer to help society and the environment. I have the determination and work ethic to find solutions to the needs of a growing population and changing climate. Focusing my efforts in water and wastewater management is an area of engineering expertise that would undoubtedly satisfy this goal.

**Eric Mei**
Georgia Institute of Technology
Environmental Engineering

I want to learn more about how we can use satellites and remote sensing to more accurately pinpoint the sources of and changes in air quality. Past my doctoral program, I hope to work for a federal agency, such as the EPA or NASA, or a national laboratory, such as NCAR or NASA JPL, to further improve our understanding of air pollution via satellites and modeling. I want to focus my career towards developing science to inform air quality policies that enhance public health.

**Ashley Sanchez**
Purdue University
Environmental and Ecological Engineering

This coming summer, I will be joining a professor in a remote community in Peru, where we've been working with the University of Saint Augustine to support their community needs of water quality. After consistent outreach for the past 2 years, we will be installing a system of slow sand filtration as a method of drinking water treatment. This is the type of work I intend to further in pursuing my M.S. in Environmental and Ecological Engineering.

**Emma Slater**
Georgia Institute of Technology
Environmental Engineering

I love being outdoors in general, and I would love to work at least partially in the field in the future. I hope to apply my engineering background to work in environmental conservation and help protect coastal communities against sea level rise. I want to really work with communities to build a relationship, hear their concerns, and apply this to conservation work being done in the area.

**Chantaly Villalona**
Virginia Tech
Civil and Environmental Engineering

My passion for accessible and effective filtration technology originates from my own experiences with the Flint water crisis, sometimes termed "the next Flint, Michigan." This crisis created a state of constant fear and uneasiness in my community... For this reason, my career objective is to engage in effective water infrastructure management, water quality testing, and containment remediation to help avoid future water crises.
AEESP Membership

Membership in AEESP offers important benefits to educators, researchers, students, professionals, corporations and organizations engaged in the environmental engineering and science profession. All who are eligible for membership are welcome to join the Association and to participate in the full range of benefits and opportunities. Membership categories and fees are described below, with complete definitions provided in the AEESP Bylaws. Applying online is easy! We welcome your participation!

Regular and Student Membership

Regular Membership in AEESP is open to persons of full-time faculty or instructional rank (instructors, lecturers, assistant, associate, full professors) in environmental engineering or environmental science at academic institutions that offer baccalaureate, diploma, or graduate degrees in environmental engineering, environmental science or related fields.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Annual Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Professors</td>
<td>$130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professors</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Professors</td>
<td>$65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affiliate Members</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students and Post-docs</td>
<td>$20</td>
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Members residing in low and middle income countries as identified by the World Bank may request a discount by contacting the Business Office.

Applying for regular membership is made by submitting a completed application form and a brief, 2 page curriculum vitae online with payment. Alternatively, application materials may be mailed to the Business Office with a check enclosed.

Affiliate Membership

Affiliate Membership is open to individuals who are not eligible for regular membership including:

- Individuals primarily employed outside academia who also hold academic appointments in an environmental engineering or related academic program (e.g. adjunct faculty).
- Individuals primarily employed outside academia who have made contributions to education in environmental engineering or related fields.
- Educators in environmental engineering or related fields who are employed at junior colleges or other educational institutions that do not offer the degrees specified above.
- Individuals who were members at one time and who have retired from active teaching.

Application for affiliate membership is the same as for regular membership. The annual dues for affiliate members are $75.

Sustaining Membership

Sustaining Membership is open to individuals and organizations whose concern for education in environmental engineering and related fields stimulates them to assist in strengthening university programs devoted to this area. Sustaining members are often those who employ or interact closely with graduates of environmental engineering and science programs such as consultants, utilities, research foundations, professional organizations, publishers and equipment manufacturers. The financial support provided by Sustaining Members allows AEESP to carry out a variety of special programs that benefit all members of the profession. Sustaining Members have access to all AEESP publications and are invited to all AEESP events. Organizations or individuals desiring more information on Sustaining Membership should write to the Secretary, the President, or the Business Office.

Annual dues for Sustaining Members are $500. Organizations or individuals desiring more information on Sustaining Membership should write the Secretary, President, or Business Office.

Ready to join? You can apply for membership online! 

https://aeesp.org/membership

More information can also be obtained from the AEESP Business Office:

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