

2025  
Academy Convocation and  
*Celebration of Excellence*



 AMERICAN  
ACADEMY  
OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS & SCIENTISTS®

Thursday, April 10, 2025  
Washington, DC | Arlington, VA

*Thank You to Our Patrons*

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## *70 Years of Excellence and Leadership in Environmental Engineering and Science*

In case you haven't already heard, the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists is celebrating 70 Years of Excellence.

The American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists® was founded in 1955 for the principal purpose of serving the public by improving the practice, elevating the standards, and advancing public recognition of environmental engineering through a program of specialty certification of qualified engineers.

The genesis of the Academy began in 1952 with a few dedicated professional sanitary engineers working in the public health and defense communities. Their concerns were addressed to the Committee for the Advancement of Sanitary Engineering of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). Subsequent events led to the formation of the Joint Committee for the Advancement of Sanitary Engineering which was composed of the ASCE, American Public Health Association, American Society for Engineering Education, American Water Works Association and the Water Pollution Control Federation. With the sponsorship and support of these five organizations, the American Engineering Intersociety Board was created in 1955.

The American Sanitary Engineering Intersociety Board, the predecessor of the Academy, was officially incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware on October 21, 1955. So as not to compete with other associations or societies, it was provided that certified sanitary engineers would be identified as Diplomates (now known as Board Certified Environmental Engineers) of the American Academy of Sanitary Engineers yet be free to retain their memberships in other societies. The Board was responsible for annually preparing a Roster of current BCEEs and BCEEMs listing the names of each and the specialty(ies), recognized by the Board, in which they were certified. Other organizations joining as sponsors included the American Institute of Chemical Engineers in 1957 and the Air Pollution Control Association in 1962.

In 1966 the Articles of Incorporation were amended to change the name of the Board to the "Environmental Engineering Intersociety Board" (EEIB) and the name of the Roster from the "American Academy of Sanitary Engineers" to the "American Academy of Environmental Engineers®" (AAEE). A year later, in 1967, the Board of Trustees changed the American Academy of Environmental Engineers® from just a Roster of certified engineers to an organization with its own rights, bylaws and officers. This new organization was charged with working cooperatively with the EEIB in the advancement of all aspects of environmental engineering. The American Public Works Association joined as a sponsor of these organizations in 1969.

The AAEE and the EEIB were merged into one organization in 1973. Since that time all the objectives of both predecessor organizations have been carried out by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers®. In 1976 the National Society of Professional Engineers became a sponsor of the Academy and it was followed by the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors in 1977, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in 1981 and the Solid Waste Association of North America in 1988.

In January 2013, American Academy of Environmental Engineers® became the "American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists.®"

To celebrate the Academy's 70th birthday, we are sharing 70 stories in 2025. We post them on our social media platforms, so make sure you are following us! As of press time, ten stories have already been posted spanning multiple categories including student chapters, public service, membership, sponsoring organizations, and leadership.

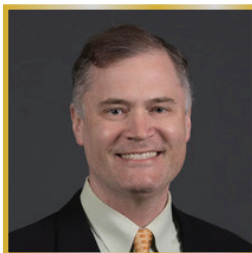
You can also catch up on recent stories on our website: <https://www.aaees.org/70years70stories>.

# THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC



ISREAL RAY HODGES, JR.



DANIEL B. OERTHER



DAVID A. CHIN



IAIN G. SHUKER

## *Lunch*

George Washington University  
School of Engineering and Applied Science  
800 22nd Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20052

### Agenda

Introduction from our Master of Ceremonies,  
Isreal Ray Hodges, Jr., P.E., CHMM, BCEE

Welcome to George Washington University by  
Dr. Danmeng Shuai

A few words of thanks from our Executive  
Director, Dr. Daniel B. Oerther, P.E., BCEE, BCES

Announcement of the 2025 Environmental  
Communication (EComm) Competition Awards

Keynote Speaker:  
Iain G. Shuker, World Bank

Lunch/ Posters Session

Remarks from our AAEES President,  
Dr. David A. Chin, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE

Excellence in Environmental Engineering and  
Science Awards Announcements

PechaKucha Presentations featuring  
George Washington University Students

Conclusion from our Executive Director,  
Dr. Daniel B. Oerther, P.E., BCEE, BCES

Closing remarks from our Master of  
Ceremonies, Isreal Ray Hodges, Jr., P.E.,  
CHMM, BCEE

# *George Washington University Student Speakers*

## *Pecha Kuchas*

Jiahao Chen

Xun Guan

Zhenzhen He

Li Qian

Yihan Wang

## *Poster Session*

Khashayar Aghilinasrollahabadi

Shi Fan

Jia Fu

Rui Fu

Liu Jiang

Junhan Li

Samarpan Deb Majumder

Xiaonan Tang

Amira Yassine

Hongyue Zhang

Shuxin Zhang

## *Keynote Speaker*

**Iain G. Shuker**

*Regional Director, Sustainable Development for Eastern and Southern Africa  
World Bank*



Iain G. Shuker is the World Bank's Regional Director for Sustainable Development for Eastern and Southern Africa. He is an economist with over 30 years of experience in the World Bank and has occupied various roles in the Europe and Central Asia, East Asia and the Pacific, and Africa regions, offering expertise in the areas of environmental and natural resource management, agriculture, finance, disaster risk management and land reform. Prior to joining the World Bank, he worked at the International Food Policy Research Institute. He holds a PhD degree in Applied Economics from the University of Minnesota in the United States.

In his current assignment, Mr. Shuker oversees the policy direction, strategic partnerships, and delivery of sustainable development lending programs in the 26 countries in the Eastern and Southern Africa region. His focus is on developing innovative products and delivering programs at scale for tangible impact. He oversees a team of over 300 staff and an active portfolio of \$24.9 Billion in investments across the region in agriculture, environment, water, urban and social development sectors, as well as the delivery of the Bank's new core analytical report on climate change. His goal is to address prominent challenges in the region, such as food security, social inclusion, equitable economic transitions, access to water and sanitation, and climate resilience.

## Environmental Communications Award

This award is designed to recognize outstanding environmental communication efforts by industry; municipal, state and federal governments; and consulting firms to convey their important environmental messages to the public and other stakeholders.

Entrants (listed alphabetically by project name)

### New Jersey American Water's Lead Service Line Replacement Communications Campaign

ENTRANT: CDM Smith and New Jersey American Water

PERSON-IN-CHARGE: Veronica Horvath, Environmental Scientist, CDM Smith and Chelsea Kulp, Acting Director of Communications and External Affairs, CDM Smith

### PFAS Kitchen

ENTRANT: Digital Writing Environments, Location, and Localization (DWELL) Lab

PERSON-IN-CHARGE: Dr. Madison Jones, Assistant Professor of Professional and Public Writing and Natural Resources Science

### 2025 Environmental Communications Awards Committee and Judging Panel

James J. Newton, P.E., BCEE, ENV SP

Michael J. Petti, P.E., BCEE

### 2025 Officers

Dr. David A. Chin, P.E., BCEE ..... President  
 Dr. Jeffrey Greenfield, P.E., BCEE, BCES..... President-Elect  
 Dr. Charles N. Haas, BCEEM ..... Vice President  
 Richard P. Watson, P.E., BCEE ..... Treasurer  
 Wendy A. Wert, P.E., BCEE ..... Past President  
 Dr. Daniel B. Oerther, P.E., BCEE, BCES..... Executive Director/ Secretary

### 2025 Trustees

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 Vacant.....APWA  
 Dr. David A. Dzombak, P.E., BCEE .....ASCE  
 Co. Andrew R. Pfluger, P.E., BCEE..... ASEE  
 Dr. John E. Tobiason, P.E., BCEE..... AWWA  
 Dr. Joel Jean Ducoste, BCEEM ..... AEESP  
 Adam Sandahl, P.E., BCEE ..... NSPE  
 Darrin Dillah, P.E., BCEE..... SWANA  
 Lucos Botero, P.E., BCEE..... WEF  
 Isreal Ray Hodges, Jr., P.E., BCEE..... Trustee-at-Large 2025  
 Shuang (Sharon) Yin, P.E., BCEE..... Trustee-at-Large 2025  
 Maya Rao, P.E., BCEE ..... Trustee-at-Large 2026  
 Dr. Berrin Tansel, P.E., BCEE..... Trustee-at-Large 2026  
 David J. Kerr, P.E., BCEE ..... Trustee-at-Large 2027  
 Joan Ann Oppenheimer, BCES ..... Trustee-at-Large 2027



## *Excellence in Environmental Engineering and Science Awards*

The hallmark of the Excellence in Environmental Engineering and Science (E3S) project awards and the principal judging criteria include:

- Demonstration of a comprehensive, integrated approach that considers all environmental media, i.e., air, water, and land.
- Quality as evidenced by the degree of user satisfaction and proven performance.
- Originality and innovation, representing the application of new knowledge, a new application of existing knowledge, or an innovative mix of existing knowledge.
- The complexity of the problem or situation addressed.
- The extent to which the project contributes to or offers the prospect of contributing to social and economic advancement.

Entrants are listed alphabetically by category:

### Design

#### **Morro Bay Water Resources Center**

ENTRANT: Black & Veatch

ENGINEER-IN-CHARGE: Chad Brown

LOCATION: Morro Bay, California

#### **Bee Ridge Water Reclamation Facility Expansion and Conversion to Advanced Wastewater Treatment**

ENTRANT: Carollo Engineers, Inc.

ENGINEER-IN-CHARGE: Joseph Barksdale, P.E.

LOCATION: Sarasota, Florida

### Environmental Sustainability

#### **Native Salmonid Conservaton Facility**

ENTRANT: HDR

ENGINEER-IN-CHARGE: Mark Hassebrock

LOCATION: Usk, Washington

#### **Los Angeles Groundwater Replenishment Project**

ENTRANT: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and LA Sanitation & Environment

ENGINEER-IN-CHARGE: Gabriel Vargas

LOCATION: Los Angeles, California

### University Research

#### **Electrochemical Frontiers in Marine Carbon Dioxide Removal**

ENTRANT: University of Houston

ENGINEER-IN-CHARGE: Mim Rahimi, Ph.D.

LOCATION: Houston, Texas

#### **2025 Excellence in Environmental Engineering and Science Awards Committee and Judging Panel**

Allison MacKay, Ph.D., BCEEM

John M.G. Bryck, P.E., BCEE

Georgine A. Grissop, P.E., BCEE

Syed MD Iskander, P.E., BCEE

Menu Leddy, BCES

William P. Krill, P.E., BCEE

Colin J. McKenna, P.E., BCEE

Michael S. Mieyr, P.E., BCEE

## *Dinner*

Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel  
2800 Potomac Ave  
Arlington, VA 22202

### **Agenda**

Introduction from our Master of Ceremonies,  
Isreal Ray Hodges, Jr., P.E., CHMM, BCEE

Enjoy Dinner

A few words of thanks from our Executive Director,  
Dr. Daniel B. Oerther, P.E., BCEE, BCES

Student Chapter Blue Marble Award

Environmental Engineering and Science Foundation  
Scholarships

Student Award Winners

40 Under 40 Recognition Program

New AAEES Board Certifications

AAEES Individual Award Winners

Conclusion from our President, Dr. David Chin, P.E., BCEE

Closing remarks from our Master of Ceremonies,  
Isreal Ray Hodges, Jr., P.E., CHMM, BCEE



## Chapter Blue Marble Award

Founded in 1955, the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists promotes continual improvement in environmental engineering and science education and practice. To this end, the Chapter Blue Marble Award exists to recognize local chapters – students and professionals – who demonstrate leadership and excellence to grow, connect, and diversify the environmental profession.

The Academy Chapter Blue Marble Award is a new award to recognize our active student chapters.

University-hosted AAES student chapters (and local professional chapters) are eligible and must submit a report that includes the following criteria:



1. Name of host University for students or appropriate local name for professionals (i.e., Houston region)
2. Name and contact information for current President, Vice President, and Faculty Advisor (i.e., email, phone, mailing address)
3. Evidence of at least six bi-monthly chapter meetings during the prior calendar year (i.e., at least six regular meetings during the year)
4. Evidence of at least one webinar watch event during the prior calendar year (i.e., event may take place as part of a regular bi-monthly chapter meeting)
5. Evidence of at least two recruitment activities during the prior calendar year (i.e., once during the spring semester and once during the autumn semester; events may take place alongside a regular bi-monthly chapter meeting)
6. Evidence of a chapter activity shared as a story that supports an Academy social media campaign (i.e., submitting at least one story of a chapter activity – such as a neighborhood or stream cleanup, or design competition, or similar – that supports at least one event on the Academy Social Media Calendar)
7. Evidence of member advancement (i.e., that student members have transferred to members of the Academy at the time of graduation – or – members of the Academy are pursuing Board Certification)

There were two winners for the 2025 Chapter Blue Marble Awards: University of Miami and Universidad Central del Ecuador.

## University of Miami

Student Chapter President: Anna Skare

Student Chapter Vice President: Garrett Miller

Student Chapter Secretary: Mikaela Jones

Student Chapter Faculty Advisor: Dr. David Chin



## Universidad Central del Ecuador

Student Chapter President: John Guamán

Student Chapter Vice President: Carla Villacís

Student Chapter Faculty Advisor: MSc. Natalia Alarcón





2024  
*Environmental Engineering & Science  
Foundation Scholarship Recipients*



**ABIGAIL CHAPMAN**  
The University of Texas at Austin



**SHAWNEE CHAVEZ**  
Texas A&M University



**ALEXIS EATON**  
University of New Hampshire



**TIONE GRANT**  
University of South Florida



**ANTONIA KOPP**  
Georgia Institute of Technology



**THOMAS AVERY MCCALL**  
Clemson University



**CHLOE MELLGREN**  
University of Minnesota-Duluth



**ANA LUIS SANCHEZ**  
Arizona State University



**JOELLE SOLOWIECZYK**  
St. Peters College

<https://www.eesfoundation.org>



## *Student Awards*

### *W. Brewster Snow Award*



**BRUNO FULCO MANCINI**

### *W. Wesley Eckenfelder Graduate Research Award*



**SAVANNA K. SMITH**

### *Boulos Excellence in Computational Hydraulics/Hydrology Award*



**MOHAMED FATHI SAID**

# 40 UNDER 40

## The Rising Stars in Environmental Engineering and Science

### 40 Under 40 Recognition Program

The AAEEES 40 Under 40 Recognition Program was introduced to recognize talented individuals who have, either personally or as part of a team, been responsible for helping to advance the fields of Environmental Science or Environmental Engineering in a demonstrable way within the last 12 months. Winners are chosen by a panel of past recipients who weigh equally business successes and civic/philanthropic activities.



**AHMED ABDELMONEIM**



**ARIEL ATKINSON**



**ADALINE BUERCK**



**JOE CHARBONNET**



**JIANNAN NICK CHEN**



**ALEX HO SHING CHIK**



**REBECCA CIEZ**



**SHERRI COOK**



**TIMOTHY D'AGOSTINO**



**JESETH VELA DELGADO**



**SARAH FAKHREDDINE**



**BEZAWIT GETACHEW**



**ALEXANDER GORZALSKI**



**SARAH-JANE HAIG**



**ANDREA HICKS**



**LING NATHANAEL JIN**



**ASHLEY KENT**



**HANYANG LI**



**LU LIU**



**XITONG LIU**



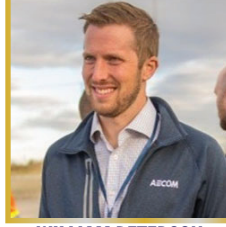
**PANITEJA MADALA**



**CRESTEN MANSFELDT**



**EMMANUEL OBENG-GYASIE**



**WILLIAM PETERSON**



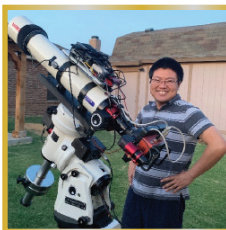
**KELSEY PIEPER**



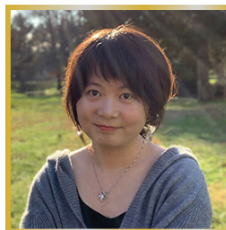
**BRETT POULIN**



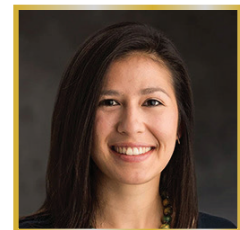
**MIM RAHIMI**



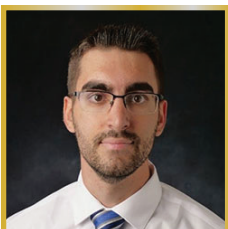
**YUEXIAO SHEN**



**YUN SHEN**



**LAUREN STADLER**



**KYLE THOMPSON**



**MICHAEL THOMPSON**



**ARJUN VENKATESAN**



**MICHAEL WANDERSEE**



**YUAN YAO**



**JESSICA YEAGER**



**JIACHEN ZHANG**

2025 40 Under 40 Award Selection Panel

Gabriel Trejo, P.E.  
Renzun Zhao, Ph.D.



## *New AAEEES Board Certifications*

The following are individuals who became newly Board Certified or earned additional Board Certifications in 2024.

**Arvind Kumar Akela, P.E., BCEE**  
*Director of Eng & Env Services*  
 Silicon Valley Clean Water

**Jorge Miguel Arevalo Morales, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE**  
 CDM Smith

**Brian Barkdoll, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE**  
*Professor*  
 Michigan Technological University

**Shannon Bartelt-Hunt, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE**  
*Professor and Department Chair*  
 University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Aaron William Bivins, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE**  
*Assistant Professor*  
 Louisiana State University

**Kirk Craig, P.E., BCEE**  
*Senior Engineer*  
 Geosyntec Consultants

**Yang Deng, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE**  
*Professor*  
 Montclair State University

**Aliasghar Ghadimkhani, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE**  
*Senior Water Resources and Environmental Engineer*  
 CDM SMITH

**Jeffrey H. Greenfield, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE, BCES**  
*President-Elect*  
 American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists

**Lucian L. Hill, III, Esq., PE, MBA, BCEE**  
*Environmental Director*  
 CAMS

**Syed Md Iskander, PhD, PE, BCEE**  
*Assistant Professor*  
 North Dakota State University

**Trenton Amoz Jackson, P.E., BCEE**  
*Environmental Engineer*  
 CDM Smith

**Vijay Kubsad, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE**  
*Senior Environmental Engineer*  
 Washington State Department of Ecology

**John Michael Kwoka, P.E., BCEE**  
*RESTORE Act Program Mgr*  
 Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

**Justin C. Mattingly, BCES**  
*Environmental Protection Specialist*  
 US EPA

**Alexandra Lauren Meyers, BCES**  
*Human Health Risk Assessor*  
 Integral Consulting Inc

**Joseph M. Nattress, P.E., BCEE**  
*Drinking Water Discipline Leader*  
 CDM Smith

**Anthony Joseph Niemiec, Jr., P.E., BCEE**  
*Associate*  
 Hazen and Sawyer

**Joseph Eric Odencrantz, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE**  
*Principal*  
 Tri-S Environmental

**Daniel B. Oerther, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE, BCES**  
*Executive Director of AAEEES and Professor at Missouri S&T*  
 Missouri University of Science & Technology

**Ronald N. Palacios, P.E., BCEE**  
*Project Manager*  
 Carollo Engineers

**Mehul Vitthal Patel, P.E., BCEE**  
*Ex Director of Operations*  
 Orange County Water District

**Gerald Rhoads, P.E., BCEE**  
*C&D Group Manager*  
 Metropolitan Water District

**Diego Rosso, Ph.D., BCEE**  
*Professor*  
 University of California - Irvine

**Adam Tabbouche, P.E., BCEE**  
Water & Wastewater Technical Leader  
Weston & Sampson

**Matthew Talbert, P.E., BCEE**  
Senior Engineer  
Geosyntec Consultants

**Volodymyr Tarabara, Ph.D., BCEEM**  
Professor  
Michigan State University

**Svetoslava Todorova, Ph.D., BCEEM**  
Professor of Practice  
Syracuse University

**Kirankumar V. Topudurti, P.E., BCEE**  
Senior Vice President  
Willdan Group, Inc.

**Gilbert Trejo, P.Eng., P.E., BCEE**  
Vice President of Operations and Technical  
Services  
El Paso Water

**Martha Rincon Tremblay, P.E., BCEE**  
Asst Chief Engineer/Asst General Manager  
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

**David Tsetse, Ph.D., BCES**  
Chief, Technical and Logistical Services Section  
Indiana Department of Environmental  
Management

**Sharon L. Walker, Ph.D., BCEEM**  
Dean and Distinguished Professor  
Drexel University, College of Engineering

**Mavis C Wong, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE**  
Water / Wastewater Treatment Engineer  
Freese and Nichols

**Ruoren Yu, PE, BCEE**  
Wastewater Engineer/Technologist  
Jacobs

*Congratulations to all of this year's award winners  
and honorees!*

## *Individual Awards and Honorees*

### *Honorary Member*



**TISSA ILLANGASEKARE**

### *International Honorary Member*



**CHENG-DI DONG**

*Excellence in Environmental Engineering  
and Science Education Award*



**RAMANITHARAN KANDIAH**

Sponsor of the 2025 Excellence in  
Environmental Engineering and  
Science Education Award



**ABET**

*The Ralph and Joe Bales Graber  
Science Award*



**WILLIAM ARNOLD**

*Gordon Maskew Fair Award*



**MICHAEL STENSTROM**

*Edward J. Cleary Award*



**KEVIN WHITE**

*Stanley E. Kappe Award*



**LISA WOODWARD**

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