

ACADEMY CONVOCATION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE



**AMERICAN
ACADEMY**
OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS & SCIENTISTS®

Thursday, April 16, 2026
Washington, DC | Arlington, VA

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DAYTIME CEREMONY



Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg Center
555 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC



ISREAL RAY
HODGES, JR.



CHRISTIAN
DAVIES-VENN



JEFFREY
GREENFIELD



VINIO
FLORIS

AGENDA

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

Welcome to Johns Hopkins University from
Christian Davies-Venn, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE, F.ASCE

A few words of thanks from AAEES President,
Dr. Jeffrey Greenfield, P.E., BCEE, BCES

Announcement of the 2026 Environmental
Communication (EComm) Awards

Keynote Speaker: Vinio Floris, Ph.D., PE, BCEE, CSP

Lunch Break

President's Remarks:

Dr. Jeffrey Greenfield, P.E., BCEE, BCES

Excellence in Environmental Engineering and
Science (E3S) Awards Announcements

Conclusion from

Dr. Jeffrey Greenfield, P.E., BCEE, BCES

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

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Vinio Floris, Ph.D., P.E, BCEE, CSP
Director of Health, Safety, Environment and Quality
AXIOS Industrial Group

Dr. Floris is an experienced environmental engineer in the sustainability, water resources, environmental management, and occupational health and safety fields. He has been an executive of several organizations managing their Environment, Health and Safety and Operations Excellence business units. He is currently the Director of Health, Safety, Environment and Quality at AXIOS Industrial Group in Houston, Texas. Previously, he has worked for Veolia, CEMEX, ERM, TETRA Technologies, the South Florida Water Management District, and the Port of Houston. In addition, he has been an international environmental and water management consultant for the Interamerican Development Bank, World Bank, International Finance Corporation, Andean Development Corporation, as well as USAID and other development agencies of donor countries.

Dr. Floris is a professor of sustainability at the SKEMA Graduate School in Lille, France, and at the GERENS Post Graduate School in Lima, Peru, and Colorado (in partnership with Colorado State University and the Colorado School of Mines). He is a proud long-term and active member of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists, having been the Academy's treasurer from 2020 to 2023. He is also an editorial board member of the Public Works Management & Policy Journal, which focuses on all aspects of the sustainable development of critical infrastructure systems.

Dr. Floris is a renowned international speaker, researcher, visionary, and prolific writer on the topics of water resources management, environment, sustainability, climate change, responsible mining and energy, and occupational safety, and has published extensively on those topics.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS

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 entrant name)

JCSD Community Academy: Building Trust Through Transparency

Entrant: Jurupa Community Services District
 Person-in-Charge: Azucena Quinones, Public Affairs Supervisor

Green Infrastructure Community Guide: Stormwater Strategies for Resilient Neighborhoods

Entrant: Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
 Person-in-Charge: John P. Murray, Executive Director

Wastewater 101 Citizens' Academy

Entrant: Orange County Sanitation District
 Person-in-Charge: Daisy Covarrubias, Public Affairs Supervisor

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS COMMITTEE

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 James J. Newton, P.E., BCEE, ENV SP
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 Beverly Ashmore-Bates, BCES Trustee-at-Large 2028

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.

Projects are listed alphabetically by category and entrant:

DESIGN

Blue River Wastewater Treatment Plant Biosolids Facility Improvements

Entrant: Black & Veatch
Engineer-in-Charge: Suzenne (Suzie) Carpenter, P.E.

The Big Creek WRF Expansion

Entrant: Fulton County and Archer Western/Brown and Caldwell Joint Venture
Person-in-Charge: Kelly Comstock

San Pedro Creek Culture Park

Entrant: HDR
Engineer-in-Charge: Chad Zimmerman, P.E.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

OC San Headquarters

Entrant: Orange County Sanitation District
Engineer-in-Charge: Mark Harper, P.E.

RESEARCH

Last Piece to the Carbon Puzzle for Pure Water Southern California: Partial Denitrification-Anammox Membrane Bioreactor Process

Entrant: Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Engineer-in-Charge: Bruce Mansell, Ph.D., P.E.

SMALL PROJECTS

Mighty Argo Cable Car Wastewater Reclamation Facility

Entrant: AquaWorks DBO, LLC - An Apex Company
Engineer-in-Charge: Adam Sommers, P.E.

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Mechanistic and Collaborative Wastewater-Based Epidemiology

Entrant: Kyle Bibby, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE
Engineer-in-Charge: Kyle Bibby, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE

AI-Driven Machine Learning Frameworks for Optimizing Biomimetic Algal Biofuel Production

Entrant: Purdue University
Engineer-in-Charge: Zhi (George) Zhou, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE

Mainstream Deammonification by Ion Exchange and Bioregeneration via Partial Nitration/Anammox

Entrant: University of South Florida, Penn State University, Technion Israel
Engineer-in-Charge: Sarina Ergas, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE

EXCELLENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE AWARDS COMMITTEE

Allison MacKay, Ph.D., BCEEM, Chair
Georgine A. Grissop, P.E., BCEE
Jay Herskowitz, P.E., BCEE
William P. Krill, P.E., BCEE

Jose Marti, P.E., BCEE
Colin J. McKenna, P.E., BCEE
James Newton, P.E., BCEE
Webster Owen, P.E., BCEE

CALL FOR PAPERS: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING & SCIENCE

AAEES invites submissions for a special issue of Environmental Engineer and Scientist exploring how AI is transforming environmental engineering and science—from air and climate modeling to water systems, waste management, energy, policy, and emerging ethical considerations.

We welcome Technical Notes, State-of-the-Art Reviews, Forums, and Editorials.

Submission deadline: June 30, 2026
Publication: October 2026

Full submission details: <https://www.aees.org/ees-call-for-papers>

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EVENING CEREMONY

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HODGES, JR.



JEFFREY
GREENFIELD



CHARLES
HAAS

AGENDA

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

Enjoy Dinner

A Few Words of Thanks

Student Chapter Blue Marble Awards

Environmental Engineering and Science
Foundation Scholarships

Student Award Winners

Tau Chi Alpha Inductees

40 Under 40 Recognition Program

New AAES Board Certifications

AAES Individual Award Winners

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

AAES AWARDS COMMITTEE

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Sherry Bradley, MPA, BCES
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Darrin Dillah, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE
Joel Jean Ducoste, Ph.D., BCEEM
Charles N. Haas, Ph.D., NAE, BCEEM

Rhonda Elaine Harris, P.E., BCEE
Daniel B. Oerther, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE, BCES
Joan Ann Oppenheimer, BCES
Andrew R. Pfluger, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE
Berrin Tansel, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE
David A. Vaccari, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE

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Jerry Meranus

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Shelby Kaminsky

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Student Chapter President:

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ABIGAIL MORGAN FIZER



FABIAN GOMEZ



ZACHARY KRAUSE



THANDO MAWASHA



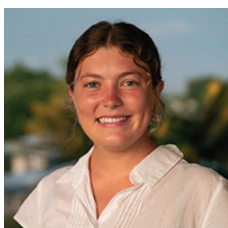
KERRY PRINSEN



MAR BALVANEDA RODRIGUEZ-ARMIJO
CECIL AND BERTHA WININGHAM LUE-HING DIVERSITY
SCHOLARSHIP



CHASE ROYALL



CATHERINE WAGGONER



KIERSTEN WILSON

STUDENT AWARDS

BOULOS EXCELLENCE IN COMPUTATIONAL HYDRAULICS/ HYDROLOGY AWARD



JEIL OH

W. WESLEY ECKENFELDER GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD



JIANAN FENG

TAU CHI ALPHA

Bucknell University

Kevin Gilmore, Faculty Advisor
Reagan Blackwell
Sean Oakey
Isabel Ramos
Caryn Rippey
Livia Zlockie

Central State University

Ramanitharan Kandiah, Faculty Advisor
Raniah Saunders
Bryant Willis

Florida Gulf Coast University

Mohamed Said, Faculty Advisor
Autumn Hurst
Kieran Mannering

Florida International University

Hooman Vatankhah, Faculty Advisor

George Washington University

Yun Shen, Faculty Advisor

Louisiana State University

Aaron Bivins, Faculty Advisor
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Alexis Kelley

Manhattan University

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Camilo Mote-Londono
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Marlenee Pimentel
Alexander Smith
Rosa Taormina
John Tiede

Missouri University of Science & Technology

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Morgan State University

Gbekeloluwa Oguntimein, Faculty Advisor
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Micheal Okegbola

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Hanyang Li, Faculty Advisor
Ehsan Goftari
Sasha Luhnnow
Matthew Luong
Jared Tristan Tiu

Stevens Institute of Technology

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Sarath Chandra Jagupilla
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40 UNDER 40 RECOGNITION

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.

Christopher E Adkison
Hassan Alzain
Mohamed S. Gaballah Awad, Ph.D.
Parul Baranwal, Ph.D.
Axel J Berky, PhD, MEM
Nefeli Bompoti, Ph.D.
J'reyesha Brannon, P.E.
John Brockgreitens, Ph.D.
Ashley Butzlaff, Ph.D.
Xiujuan Chen, Ph.D., P.Eng.
Mackenzie Cremeans, Ph.D., P.G.
Matthew Gonzalez, P.E.
Kelly D Good, Ph.D., P.E.
Huiyuan Guo, Ph.D.
Lei Guo, Ph.D.
Kerri Hickenbottom, Ph.D.
Russ Hyatt, P.E.
Joshua Jack, Ph.D.
Julie A Korak, Ph.D., P.E.
Max Krause, Ph.D.
Eric Krikorian, P.E.
David G. Kwabi, Ph.D.
Yuchuan Lai, Ph.D., P.E.
Jason Chun-Ho Lam, Ph.D.
Roderick Lammers
Mi-Ling Li, Ph.D.
Yalin Li, Ph.D.
Kaisen Lin, Ph.D.

Alison Ling, Ph.D., P.E.
Sheldon Vaughn Masters, Ph.D.
Martha McAlister, Ph.D., P.E.
Garrett McKay, Ph.D.
Gayathri Ram Mohan, Ph.D., P.E.
Taylor Maddalene Myers, Ph.D.
Jaewook Myung, Ph.D.
Sameer Neve, Ph.D., EIT
Luiza Notini, Ph.D.
Christopher Olivares Martinez, Ph.D.
Shu-Yuan Pan, Ph.D., P.E.
Zacharias Pandelides, Ph.D.
Brian Pinkard, Ph.D.
Mohan Qin, Ph.D.
Eric Redmond, P.E.
David Rounce, Ph.D.
Whitney Sandelin, P.E.
Parita Shah, EIT, M.ASCE
Leslie Smith, Ph.D., P.E.
Anthony P. Straub, Ph.D.
Yewei Sun, Ph.D., P.E.
Dengjun Wang, Ph.D.
Haoran Wei, Ph.D.
Tao Wen, Ph.D.
Tao Ye, Ph.D.
Yinyin Ye, Ph.D.
Min Zheng, Ph.D.
Shiqiang (Nick) Zou, Ph.D.

40 UNDER 40 AWARD SELECTION PANEL

Samik Bagchi, Ph.D., BCES
Syeed Md Iskander, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE
Fabrizio Sabba, Ph.D.

Gabriel Trejo, P.E.
Rocky Welborn, P.E., BCEE
Renzun Zhao, Ph.D.

NEW AAEES BOARD CERTIFICATIONS

The following are individuals who became newly Board Certified or earned additional Board Certifications in 2025.

Jean Marie Andino, PhD, P.E., BCEE

Kevin John Berg, P.E., BCEE

Kyle Bibby, Ph.D., PE BCEE

Francis John DeOrio, MS, BCES

Daniel Joel Fahr, MS, BCES

Mani Firouzian, P.E., BCEE

Wesley Roy Green, BCES

Daniel James Hall, P.E., BCEE

Matthew A. Hampton, BCES

Zhen (Jason) He, Ph.D., BCEEM

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Lance A Jones, P.E., BCEE

Rasha Maal-Bared, BCES

Stephen Andrew Maldonado, Jr., P.E., BCEE

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Peter Martin, P.E., BCEE

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Ali K Oskouie, BCEEM

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Jeffrey D. Zahller, P.E., BCEE

Xiaoqi Zhang, P.E., BCEE

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS AND HONOREES

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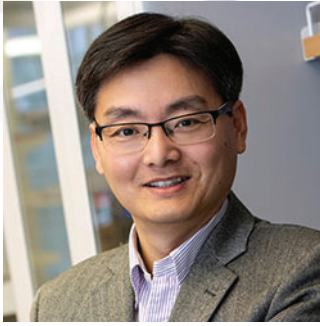
DOMENICO GRASSO, PH.D., P.E

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RAJASEKHAR BALASUBRAMANIAN, PH.D.

**RALPH AND JOE BALES GRABER
SCIENCE AWARD**



ZHEN (JASON) HE, PH.D., BCEEM

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EDUCATION AWARD**



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