



Students Seeking Solutions for the SDGs



*Friday, April 20th
United Nations Headquarters
Conference Room 2*



#S3in2018



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

NYC Time, GMT-5

Welcome

9:00.....Arrival, Security, and Registration

Morning Session 10:00—12:30

10:00.....Introduction

10:15.....Morning Keynote by Ms. Deepika Kurup

10:30.....Panel 1: Innovation

12:00.....Oral Presentations—Session 1

Lunch 12:30—14:00

12:30.....Break for Lunch

13:55.....Return to Conference Room

Afternoon Session 14:00 —16:30

14:00.....Welcome Back

14:05.....Afternoon Keynote by UN ASG Elliott Harris

14:20.....Oral Presentations Session 2

15:00.....Poster Prizes

15:10.....Panel 2: Implementation

16:20.....Closing Remarks

Featured High School Presentation

The S3 Team would like to congratulate and recognize Hunterdon Central Regional High School for their poster contribution and ideas.

Lunch Suggestions

- United Nations Café—located down the stairs near the main entrance
- Cafe Olympia—2nd Avenue and 44th Street
- Terri—3rd Avenue and 43rd Street
- Two Boots Pizza—Lexington Avenue and 40th Street
- Pennylane Coffee—45th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenue
- Chelsea Bagel—2nd Avenue and 43rd Street



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Deepika Kurup is a scientist, social entrepreneur, speaker and student at Harvard University. She has been passionate about solving the global water crisis ever since she was in middle school, as she was exposed to the water problem at a very early age. Recognized as “America’s Top Young Scientist” in 2012, Deepika won the grand prize in the Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge, was honored with the “United States President’s Environmental Youth Award,” and represented the United States at the international Stockholm Junior Water Prize. Deepika was also named one of the Forbes’ “30 Under 30: Energy,” was the National Geographic Explorer Award Winner in the Google Science Fair, and presented at the White House Science Fair twice. Currently she is CEO of Catalyst for World Water.



Elliott Harris serves as Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and Chief Economist in the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Until March 2018 Mr. Harris served as Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme. He brings over 25 years of international experience in the fields of international economics and development policy analysis, coupled with knowledge of the United Nations system, multilateral and inter-agency coordination processes.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZER



Veronica McKinny serves as a Youth Representative to the UN for the American Association of University Women and is a fourth-year bachelor’s student at Lehigh University studying Physics and Cognitive Science. Her ultimate career goal is to serve as a liaison between the scientific and policy-making communities. Veronica strives to connect complex concepts across fields through her work in a physics lab, where she researches microfluidic porous particle production, and a capstone project covering the socioeconomic effects of Brexit on STEM research at UK universities. Next year, she will begin her PhD in Condensed Matter Physics at the University of Edinburgh.



ABOUT THE PANELISTS

Morning Panelists



Antonella Vagliente was born and raised in Argentina. Antonella began conducting water and youth projects when she was 15 years old, specializing in WASH projects, multi-stakeholder collaboration and youth empowerment. She is co-founder of SedCero (ThirstZero), and Young Water Solutions, that seeks to empower young people to implement water projects at a community level. She is also a water and youth advocate, former Vice President of the World Youth Parliament for Water, and a Global Shaper (youth community of the World Economic Forum). Antonella now lives in Brussels, directs Young Water Solutions and coordinates its flagship program, the Young Water Fellowship.



Ioana Belu is dedicated to building bridges across cultures and strongly believes that information and knowledge foster a greater understanding while ushering in new eras of communication, trust and cooperation. Ioana has extensive experience in developing networks for corporations, investors and governments worldwide. Whether as a government consultant or a public relations professional, she remains committed to bringing forth positive change, innovation and socially responsible practices. Ioana collaborates with institutions and universities worldwide on sustainable practices and multicultural interaction. She speaks multiple languages, loves to travel and is a healthy living enthusiast.



Ganesh Muren is a propagator of cost efficient green technology. He is the founder and the current CEO of Saora Industries, a social enterprise that looks into touching and uplifting lives through green technology. Their main focus is providing access to safe drinking water to underprivileged as well as marginalized communities. They are a triple bottom line organization that focuses on social impact and also safeguarding the planet. He is always incorporating innovative green technology to improve his products' efficiency and maximize the benefits received by the end users.



The morning panel will be moderated by **Dr. Kristen Jellison**. The ultimate goal of Dr. Jellison's research is the prevention of waterborne disease. She strives to achieve this goal from two different, but complementary, approaches: (i) the protection of drinking water sources from contamination with waterborne pathogens and (ii) the design/optimization of household water treatment technologies appropriate for use in developing countries. Dr. Jellison is recipient of a CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation, and her research is also supported by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Philadelphia Water Department.



Afternoon Panelists



Dr. Veronica Herrera is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Connecticut and author of *Water and Politics: Clientelism and Reform in Urban Mexico* (University of Michigan Press, 2017). Her research investigates how urban communities interact with the state to impact the provision of local public services such as water and sanitation service and confront environmental hazards, with a regional focus on Latin America. Her focus in recent work is on the rise of advocacy networks and environmental litigation surrounding exposure to toxic contamination from wastewater pollution in Latin American cities.



Melinda Alfano is an environmentalist working in the nonprofit sector in New York City. She has a Master's Degree in Integrated Water Resources Management from McGill University, which she applies in her role as Communications and Operations Coordinator at NYC H2O. She is also interested in food justice and works as a Partner and Volunteer Outreach Analyst for Rescuing Leftover Cuisine. She was previously an intern at the United Nations focusing her work on SDG 6: Clean Water & Sanitation.



Warren Pruitt is Vice President – Global Engineering Services for Colgate-Palmolive. He is responsible for the global capital expenditure program, category engineering management, developing 3rd Party Alliances to leverage expertise of non-core competency work, and putting into place a standardized structure to drive the factory of the future using IIoT and SMART Technology platforms. He previously served as Vice President – Global Supply Chain Personal Care Products, where he led the development and execution of the Global Supply Chain strategy for Personal Care including Network Operations, Manufacturing Management, Capital Expenditure, Capacity Management, and Funding the Growth.



Karina Karuwi is a civil engineer specialized in innovative structural materials. Her master degree research succeeded in optimizing self-healing concrete, a material which utilizes bacteria and organic compounds to close up micro-cracks in concrete structures, therefore increasing their sustainability. Karina is currently the United Nations Representative of the Royal Academy of Science International Trust. Having being born in Nigeria and raised between Nigeria, Brunei and the United Kingdom, her cross-cultural awareness and engineering background gives her a socially conscious perspective on how everyday challenges can be tackled with science.



The afternoon panel will be moderated by **Dr. Donald Morris**. Dr. Morris has a broad interest in aquatic ecosystem ecology but the consistent underlying theme of his research has been investigations into the role of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) in freshwater ecosystems. His work has encompassed 3 broad areas related to DOC and lakes: 1) aquatic ecosystem productivity, 2) aquatic ecosystem optics, and 3) photolytic transformation of DOC. Much of his scholarly work is collaborative in nature, being conducted with multidisciplinary teams of scientists.



STUDENT PRESENTERS



Emma Clement, Andrew Pei, and Ziyuhan Wang make up the Penn State Moringa Team of the Schreyers Honors College. Emma is a senior, graduating with a BS in Civil Engineering and a minor in Environmental Engineering. Andrew is a freshman in Chemical Engineering. Ziyuhan is a senior, graduating with a BS in Civil Engineering and a minor in Environmental Engineering. Emma will be attending Carnegie Mellon University in the fall, while Ziyuhan will be attending Stanford University in the fall.



Allison Arsenault is pursuing a degree in Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering and minors in Chemistry and Spanish at the University of Minnesota. Allison is currently conducting research on algal assisted nutrient removal from wastewater. After graduation, Allison plans to become a licensed professional engineer, and pursue a career in either water quality or renewable energy. She hopes to travel abroad where she can utilize her engineering and Spanish background to improve the standard of living.



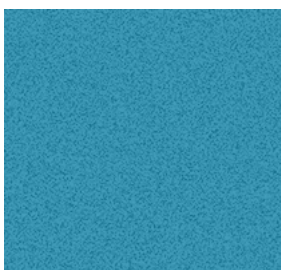
Amar Bhardwaj is a Chemical Engineering student and C.P. Davis Research Scholar at Columbia University. He aspires to a career in engineering research to improve humans' environmental sustainability, especially with regard to water and energy issues. His current research is on silicon oxide nanofilms for water-energy applications, and is conducted in Columbia Engineering. Aside from research, Amar is a leader of EcoReps, Columbia's campus sustainability group, and is the Sustainability Representative on the Columbia Engineering Student Council.



Katherine Hartman studies Mechanical Engineering at Northwestern University. She observed the effects of the drought in South Africa firsthand while participating in Northwestern University's Global Healthcare Technologies Program at Stellenbosch University. Kate has tackled projects such as developing adaptive fishing equipment for a dedicated fisherman with quadriplegia, creating a SCUBA system which includes a ventilator for an athlete with quadriplegia, and modifying nCPAP equipment in order to decrease nasal injuries among neonates in South Africa.



Jenny Olmsted is in her fourth year of Environmental Engineering at the University of Florida. Her upbeat personality and steadfast dedication recently got her elected President of her school's American Water Works Association student chapter, awarded the most prestigious undergraduate scholarship by her department, and an internship as a hydrologist this summer at the USGS Caribbean/Florida Water Science Center. Through the support of the Institute for Excellence in Engineering Education in the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering, Jenny applied her passions for water to create this unique idea that she will share today.



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JUDGES PANEL



Dr. Habib El-Habr

Coordinator, Global Programme of Action
for the Protection of the Marine
Environment from Land-Based Activities
United Nations Environment Programme



Vance Merolla

Director of Environmental
Sustainability Global Supply Chain
Colgate-Palmolive Co.



Dr. Tara Troy

P.C. Rossi Assistant Professor
Water Resources Engineering Faculty
Lehigh University

THE S3 TEAM

Victoria McCulley

Conference Co-Organizer

Jordan Davis

Conference Co-Organizer

Sarita Mitzin

Conference Co-Organizer

Jessica Williams

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Dr. Bill Hunter

Lehigh University Representative
to the United Nations

Dr. Jenny Hyest

Lehigh University Alternate
Representative to the United
Nations

Chris Harvey

Technical Director

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:

The American Association of University Women

<https://www.aauw.org/>

United Nations Academic Impact

<https://academicimpact.un.org/>

Royal Academy Science International Trust

rasit.org/

United Nations Environment Programme

<http://drustage.unep.org/>

Lehigh University

<https://www1.lehigh.edu/home>



Lehigh University and Water

Lehigh University is an accomplished research institution with a commitment to providing the world with access to clean water. Across different colleges and departments, Lehigh's faculty and students work diligently to develop innovative and accessible solutions to the clean water crisis.

The Civil & Environmental Engineering Department hosts a technical group called Water Resources Engineering, which contains the professors in the department whose main research is in clean water. S3 judge Dr. Tara Troy is one of these professors, and she focuses in the climate-water-food nexus, computational approaches to hydrology, and flood hydrology. For more information about Water Resources Engineering, check out: www.lehigh.edu/~incee/research/research_water-resources.html

Additionally, several professors in with focuses in Environmental Engineering perform research in water treatment and filtration. Here, these scientists combine their desire to work with water with a background knowledge in chemistry, biology, and materials sciences in order to best tackle the contamination and cleaning of water. Faculty includes the internationally renowned Dr. Arup SenGupta and S3 morning panel moderator Dr. Kristen Jellison. For more information about Lehigh's Environmental Engineering work, check out: www.lehigh.edu/~incee/research/research_environmental.html

In partnership with the United Nations and communities around the world, Lehigh University will continue its path of researching effective and implementable ways of addressing the clean water crisis.

The 'Students Seeking Solutions' Team would like to give special thanks to the following people and organizations for their dedication, resources, and contributions to make this conference possible:

- The Martindale Center for the Study of Private Enterprise
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- Taynah Oliveira