

Name: Ross Lowe Beardsley, PhD
Title: Managing Consultant
Company: Ramboll
City/State: Novato, California
Section: Golden West Section
Join Date: 2011

Educational and Professional Credentials

B.S. and PhD in Environmental Engineering Sciences, University of Florida; Engineer Intern Certification, Florida

Biographical Summary

Ross Beardsley is a Managing Consultant at Ramboll where he leads air quality and climate change assessments for public and private sector clients across the globe. As the co-founder of Ramboll's climate risk startup HazAtlas, Ross develops cutting-edge digital solutions to help clients identify their climate-related risks and design adaptation measures to promote resilience. He also has extensive experience evaluating the impacts of energy development, mining, power, and transportation projects on air quality and climate under the National Environmental Policy Act. He specializes in synthesizing complex environmental data into actionable and easy to understand information that can drive sustainable change.

Ross has been a member of A&WMA for more than 10 years, first as a student member and student chapter President at the University of Florida, then as a member of the national Young Professionals Advisory Council and ACE Local Host Committee, and finally as board member of the Golden State West section in California. This diverse experience gives him a unique perspective into the opportunities and challenges facing A&WMA. He is passionate about creating new opportunities for our members and encouraging collaboration to help address the growing and increasingly complex environmental challenges we face.

A&WMA Activities and Offices Held

- Golden West Section Board of Directors, 2022 – Present
- Young Professional (YP) Chair of the Local Host Committee for the Annual Conference & Exhibition, 2022
- YP Advisory Council Member, 2017– 2022
- UF Student Chapter
 - President, 2013 – 2015
 - Student Member, 2011-2013

Goals/Vision for the Organization

In my view, the strength of A&WMA lies in its ability to bring together leaders, current and future, from across the discipline to engage in a neutral exchange of knowledge, ideas, and solutions. It is this exchange of information that keeps our members on the forefront of the field and forms the connections that allow us to maximize our benefit to the environment and society. My vision for A&WMA is two-fold:

First, I believe we need to lower the barriers to entry for new members and pursue new forums for all members to engage. I am a member today because of support and opportunities provided to me by the UF Student Chapter and Florida Section, both through their official meetings and the more frequent and informal events that were easy and affordable to attend. We need to identify and build

upon the successes of our local chapters and partner organizations in recruiting new members and scale them across the organization. Additionally, we need to evaluate how we can leverage new digital platforms that can enable our members to participate more easily and regularly. While we should not neglect ACE and other traditional channels, we need to evaluate the opportunities provided by social media, virtual events, and collaborative online platforms to increase participation, promote engagement, and meet our members where they are. If I am elected, I will work to identify ways in which we can facilitate and encourage the participation of new and existing members, both in person and virtually.

Second, the key environmental issues facing society and the technology available to address them are rapidly evolving, and this is creating both risks and opportunities for our organization and its members. I believe we can capitalize on this opportunity by becoming the forum for our members to learn about the intersections between air and waste and emerging issues such as climate change and artificial intelligence. Fortunately, we are well positioned to capitalize on the opportunities this creates due to the organization's diversity, reach, and technical capabilities. If elected, I will pursue opportunities to better inform our membership of these emerging topics through both internal engagement and collaboration with experts outside of our immediate field where needed.