Welcome to Hartford!

Hello everyone! My name is Patrick Wright and I am a member of the Local Host Committee and YP Liaison for Annual Conference and Exhibition (ACE) 2018. We’re only a few weeks away until we kick off the big event and I wanted to be the first to welcome you to the wonderful city of Hartford. This is the first year ACE has ever come to Hartford and I’m sure for many the first time you will visiting as well, so what can you expect!? Located in the heart of New England, Hartford got its start back in 1635, making it one of America's oldest cities rich in colonial heritage. You'll see this heritage still embedded throughout the city, and in the inspiration to the theme of this year’s conference “Chartering the Future” which harkens back to the famous Charter Oak tree in which Connecticut hid its royal charter to keep from being confiscated by the British and was an iconic symbol for American independence. But Hartford is about so much more than just an old hollowed out oak tree. Visiting Hartford today you will find a city rich in diversity that has been rejuvenated by an influx of world class restaurants and embracing of the craft beer explosion. So come and enjoy the conference, but be sure to explore everything else Hartford has to offer outside the walls of the convention center! Can’t wait to see everyone here soon!

YP TOOLKIT COMING SOON!

Have you ever felt overwhelmed at work? Do you have trouble maintaining a work/life balance? Have you ever considered changing jobs or your career path, or even tried to figure out how to develop your career path?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, stay tuned! The new YP Toolkit will be hitting the website this year! The toolkit will be broken up into three categories; entry level YP, mid-level YP and experienced YP. We will be discussing a range of topics from resume building, transitioning out of a job and going back to school to making important decisions about your career and how to make yourself more marketable. There is something for everyone, no matter what stage of your career you are in.

We will even be discussing topics related to A&WMA, including a “What is YPAC” article, the benefits of volunteering and what it can do for your career and how to transition into other councils and boards once you phase out of YP status.

Other topics included in the new YP Toolkit to look forward to include the value of licenses and certifications, being a millennial in the workplace and workplace etiquette (how to deal with conflicts and the etiquette of resigning).

If there is anything specific you want to see, please contact Lindsay Rice (lindsay.rice@aptim.com) and we will be sure to include something in the Toolkit!
We’ve all been told time and time again that our professional network is important. Professional networks can help you find a job. Someone in your network might be able to answer a nagging question or act as a sounding board about a challenging project. Someone in your network may be your mentor or protégée. Your network may even extend beyond professional acquaintances to people who have become your friends. But that’s not where your network ends!

I think we often forget to utilize people in our extended network: our network’s network! At 3M, employees are encouraged to collaborate across multiple divisions and roles so much so that the company has an old adage: “the answer is only two phone calls away.” Or another way to put it “I know a guy, who knows a guy…” Does anyone else remember the six degrees of Kevin Bacon game (maybe I’m aging myself)?

I recently learned the value of reaching out to an extended network as part of YPAC’s preparation for the upcoming Annual Conference and Exhibition in Hartford, CT. While coordinating a YP panel session I was one speaker short for our monitoring technology session. I decided to call a colleague and see if he knew about any new or cool technology that is used in stack testing. He gave me an idea on a topic and said he has a contact who might be a potential speaker. Long story short, I found a very enthusiastic speaker and a great fit for my session. Without the help of my buddy, I never would have made this new connection!

So, what are the best ways to find and utilize your extended network? Below are my recommendations:

“the answer is only two phone calls away.”

Pick up the phone

Sorry my fellow millennial, sometimes a phone call is the best tool to communicate. I think it’s best to call or have a face-to-face meeting with someone in your immediate network to see if they can identify the best person to help you with your problem. If you can talk about what you are looking for (like a new vendor or contractor), you are more likely to find exactly what you are looking for.

Get an introduction

Ask your first-degree contact to send an introductory email to your new contact. Not only will this help provide some context to the person you are trying to connect with, but you are more likely to have the person respond to you than if you send them an unsolicited email.

Follow up/do what you said you are going to do

Once you’ve connected with your second-degree contact, maintain the momentum from your initial meeting. Follow up on the things you said you would do immediately. You don’t have a relationship with this person so the longer you wait to follow up, the less likely it is you will get the response or the outcome you are looking for.

Something else to consider – Your first-degree contact used their relationship with that person to help you. Don’t damage their reputation by being a flake.

Use online tools like LinkedIn

This service already identifies first, second, and third-degree relationships based on your existing network. You can visualize your extended network and make introductions on your own.
### ACE 2018: YP Program Overview

#### YP Mentor Breakfast

Wednesday, June 27th from 8:00am-9:00am

The regular kick starter to the ACE YP Program, join us for breakfast to begin YP Day at the conference! We will match you with an environmental professional you can network with and ask questions. Preregistration is required for this event, but there is still time to secure your spot!

#### Speed Networking

Wednesday, June 27th 9:15am-10:15am

ACE 2018 will be hosting speed networking once again, this year with a slightly new twist as it will take place at the YP Hub in the exhibit hall. A highly recommended event to anyone attending the conference, no matter what stage they are in their careers to attend - Open to students, YPs and professionals! Ditch the usual stuffy networking sessions over long dinners and come to a fast paced, straight to the point networking even where you'll be making new connections by the minute!

#### Career Panel

Wednesday, June 27th from 10:30am-12:30pm

We will have a panel of five environmental professionals across all different fields including consulting, industry, government, and environmental law. Each panelist will give a short introductory presentation and then we will open it up for a Q&A session!

#### Technical Sessions

“How Does It Work”?

These technical sessions are designed as introductory panel presentations where the audience can learn how various environmental industries work. Different from a college class, these sessions will be presented by experienced professionals and will cover the technologies and practices currently being used by industry. Whether you are still a student or a young professional, these sessions will cover a broad scope of information that will be timely and of great relevance for all levels of experience.

#### Networking Reception

Wednesday, June 27th 7:00pm-9:30pm

Join us for dinner and a drink at the City Steam Brewery Wednesday evening for a taste of some of Hartford’s finest local craft beer. A staple to Hartford for over 20 years, you’ll be sure to have a great time wrapping up YP day here while getting your last chance to network with young and experienced professionals alike.

#### YP Hub

Tuesday – Thursday – Exhibit Hall

A welcome new addition for all Young Professional attendees! Join us at our very own exhibit booth in the exhibit hall throughout the conference at the YP Hub to hang out with fellow young professionals, meet up with various industrial leaders, and watch vendor demonstrations of new technology being displayed at ACE 2018 this year. Be on the lookout for a schedule to be released soon for all the happenings that will go down at the YP Hub this year!

### Calling for Judges at the ECi Competition!

Looking for ways to volunteer and meet cool students at ACE? The Education Council is looking for YPs to help with judging student posters and serve as role players for the ECi competition. All events will be held on Tuesday, June 26th and time commitments vary from 45 minutes to 3 hours. If you’re interested please contact Paul Algu at palgu@rtpenv.com.
As a young professional, it can be difficult to get approval to attend conferences. We are less likely to present papers and our employers may not support attendance because we are still developing our areas of expertise and/or more experienced colleagues already have priority to attend. To combat these potential challenges our Section proudly hosted a scholarship fundraiser to send a Young Professional to the A&WMA Annual Conference and Exhibition (ACE) in Hartford, Connecticut.

On March 24, 2018, the Upper Midwest Section hosted the 2nd Annual Euchre (pronounced YOU-ker) Tournament to fund our YP-to-ACE scholarship. Euchre is a trick-taking card game popular in the Midwest. Ten two-person teams participated in the event and enjoyed an afternoon of drinks, laughs, door prizes, and stiff competition. Thanks again to our event sponsors: American Engineering Testing, Inc., HDR, Environmental Law Group, Barr Engineering, Wenck, 3M and A&WMA Upper Midwest Section for sponsoring the awards, door prizes, drink tickets, appetizers, and tables.

The event raised $2,300! The UMS awarded a scholarship to one YP – Hannah Brody from Wenck!

The YP-to-ACE program is an initiative started by the Louisiana Section YP group in 2010 and it’s spreading across the Association! If you are interested in hosting a YP-to-ACE fundraiser at your local Section or Chapter, please contact Jen Moore.
### YPAC Officers List

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<tr>
<th>YPAC Officer</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Section</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jen COWMAN MOORE</td>
<td>YPAC Chair</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>Upper Midwest Section</td>
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<td>Paul Algu</td>
<td>YPAC Vice-Chair</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>Louisiana Section</td>
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<td>Corey MOCKA</td>
<td>YPAC Professional Development Committee Chair</td>
<td>Research Triangle Park</td>
<td>South Atlantic States Section</td>
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<td>Ross LOWE BEARDSLEY</td>
<td>YPAC Professional Development Committee Vice Chair</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>Golden West Section</td>
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<td>Abhishek Bhat</td>
<td>YPAC Technical Committee Chair</td>
<td>Gulf Coast Chapter</td>
<td>Southwest Section</td>
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<td>Arpit Bhat</td>
<td>YPAC Technical Committee Vice Chair</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>Rocky Mountain States Section</td>
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<td>Laura CREMER</td>
<td>YPAC Communications Committee Chair</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>Golden West Section</td>
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<td>Lindsay RICE</td>
<td>YPAC Vitality Committee Chair</td>
<td>Alabama Chapter</td>
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<td>Brittney DUPRE</td>
<td>YPAC Vitality Committee Member</td>
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<td>Louisiana Section</td>
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<td>Jessica MILLER</td>
<td>YPAC Local Support Committee Vice Chair</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>Louisiana Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kaitlyn TINGUM</td>
<td>YPAC Local Support Committee Chair</td>
<td>NE Florida Chapter</td>
<td>Florida Section</td>
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<td>Christopher WHITEHEAD</td>
<td>Publications Committee Representative</td>
<td>Northern and Central New Jersey Chapter</td>
<td>Mid-Atlantic States Section</td>
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<td>Ryan CHRISTMAN</td>
<td>YPAC Member-At-Large</td>
<td>Baltimore-Washington Chapter</td>
<td>South Atlantic States Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pat WRIGHT</td>
<td>YPAC ACE 2018 Liaison Chair</td>
<td>Connecticut Chapter</td>
<td>New England Section</td>
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If you have questions or comments on the YP Connection, or would like to submit articles, please send an email with YP Connection in the subject line to lcremer87@gmail.com.