



THE YP CONNECTION

4TH QUARTER 2021

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YPAC Chair Update:

Growing up in Louisiana, I always came to expect a couple of things as the calendar turned to Fall: football, humidity through Thanksgiving, and harvest festivals. While ubiquitous around the country, Louisiana's festival scene stands out for the unique crops and goods we produce. Everything from sugar cane to andouille to shrimp and petroleum is celebrated and of course the food cannot be beat. (I would like to think I have learned so much as YPAC Chair but the hill I will still unceasingly die on is Louisiana having by far the best food in the world).

Fall is a distinct seasonal change, now pushed on us as early as July 5th (thanks Starbucks). There is a unique thread in the American experience that has evolved into a yearning for pumpkin flavoring, corn mazes, and a yearly windfall for Bath & Body Works. But all these things point back to the harvest. The physical reward for the toils of the past year. From the First Nations to today's sprawling agricultural industry, the North American continent has been defined by our living with the land. Coming from an Ag background I see a lot of things through this lens, and I feel like it's the best way to wrap up the work YPAC has accomplished into this, our harvest season.

ACE is always an exciting and fruitful time for the Council. This year we were able to present five panels, our most ever, including two that were livestreamed to the virtual conference audience. Our Technical and Local Host Committees did an outstanding job in finding speakers, juggling schedules, and building a YP program that was as strong as ever. In addition, the online YP Hub was once again a great hit led by our headquarters staff. And in true YP fashion we ended the conference with a virtual happy hour and bartending class led by a local bartender in Pittsburgh that was a huge success. While we are extremely excited to be returning to in-person conferences in 2022, the ingenuity and grit displayed by the Council in setting up this year's ACE program makes me proud to be the Chair of YPAC.

A very successful harvest, indeed.

-Paul Algu



ACE 2021 Recap

By all accounts, the YP programming at the A&WMA's 114th Annual Conference and Exhibition (ACE 2021) was a success. Every year, YPAC hosts a series of technical panels that provide introductory information to students and young professionals attending ACE, as part of our "YP Wednesday" programming.

The virtual conference format allowed YPAC to host a record of five YP-centric panels this year:

- How Does it Work? Energy Production
- How Does it Work? Stack Testing
- How Does it Work? Environmental, Social, Governance
- How Does it Work? Recycling
- Adaptive Resilience Practices in the Environmental Industry

Two of our panels (Adaptive Resilience and HDIW? Recycling) were streamed live during the conference, and both were well attended with highly engaged speakers and audiences. Speakers included representatives from industry, government, consultants, academia, and non-profits from across the United States. Our pre-recorded panels were available on-demand during the conference and will continue to be available to conference attendees through the end of 2021.

The YP technical programming was complemented with social and networking events throughout the conference as well:

YP Breakfast Club – Students and young professionals were paired with mentors in government, academia, industry and consulting to network and seek mentoring advice. This event is a tradition for YPAC and is a great way to make connections in the association and in your industry.

YP Social Hour: Virtual Pictionary – Attendees wound down YP Wednesday with a social hour playing online Pictionary-style games Drawful 2 and Gartic Phone.

YP Mixology Class and Networking Social – Pittsburgh Mixology hosted a lively virtual mixology class where the group learned how to prepare Pimm's Tea and Good Morning cocktails. Our host, Stevie, put on a great show and gave out swag bags to our most knowledgeable drinkers.



[EM Magazine—YP Edition!!](#)

The August 2021 edition of the *EM* Magazine is the first ever YP Edition! The magazine features articles from four Young Professionals who have experience and expertise in a range of technical areas. The four female authors range in age from 20 to 30 years old and include students, recent graduates and working professionals. The authors and their articles are listed below. Check out the full August 2021 *EM* Magazine to read each article!

Megan Ginn - Performance in a Pandemic: Aerosol Transmission of COVID-19 and Risks for Musicians

Shelley Koehn - Air Permitting Options: Case Studies in Flexibility

Karin Teuffer - A Nationwide Challenge: Lessons from Prolonged Storage of Water Treatment Plant Residuals

Leah Dickerson - Study: The Feasibility of Floating Solar Arrays at Northern Kentucky Water District

The YP Edition of the *EM* has been such a success that A&WMA will continue with an annual “YP Edition” of the magazine! YPs are encouraged to contribute to the *EM* Magazine any time of the year with feature technical articles or professional development/soft skills-focused YP Connection articles. If you would like your work to be featured, please contact Lindsay Salvador (LLSalvador@edge-es.com) or Kerry Weichsel (kweichsel@cecinc.com).

The Air & Waste Management Association's 115th Annual Conference & Exhibition

June 27 – 30, 2022 • San Francisco, CA

Science & Sustainable Global Communities

Addressing the environmental impacts on communities in the United States and around the world requires innovative and sustainable solutions guided by science. California is a global leader in environmental policy and technology, making San Francisco a unique location for the 2022 Annual Conference. From June 27 – 30, 2022, the A&WMA will bring leading environmental scientists, practitioners, regulators, and companies to San Francisco to share the latest initiatives addressing environmental issues facing communities such as climate change, exposure reduction through innovative technology and regulatory approaches, sustainability, community monitoring, and environmental justice.

Call for Abstracts available! Share your work at the premier conference on environmental technology and regulation. Young Professional authors who submit an extended abstract or full length paper are eligible for the YP Best Paper award!

For more information, visit www.awma.org/ace2022

A Special Message from an Experienced Professional

Dear Young Professionals,

Today, I am writing to you these words to tell you that I am thinking of you, I have thought of you throughout this difficult period.

You have had and you are facing a lot of emotions and challenges: stress, lack of support and understanding, need to be listened to and helped during your classes, loss of jobs, loneliness and need to see your friends, return back to your activities, which generates an amalgam of emotions and affects your mental health.

You spent a period of distress behind your screen, you transformed half of your room into a workspace and your screen became your only window to the world.

But, through it all, you have shown a lot of courage and resilience. You have been creative and you have struggled to adapt. Some of us have tried to help you, others felt their hands tied or were concerned about their own daily challenges.

Today, I tell you that you are going to get through it with a lot of strength, more resilience and you will savor your well-deserved success. And above all, you will always remember it with pride.

But we have a duty to give you the means, to support you, to create resources for adaptation, innovation and creativity.

We must stimulate you, nurture your creativity and encourage your interests. We must above all, listen to you, understand your needs and accompany you. We have the obligation and the interest to put everyone together and each on the side of our efforts to stand-up by creating support, accompaniment, education and adaptation resources through a smart, thoughtful, responsible, sustainable and inclusive economic relaunch.

We have all learned lessons, now we have to inspire you, to influence you positively and to encourage you to make your dreams come true and transform them to reality.

You have undoubtedly taken the time during the pandemic to question yourself on several occasions to better define your goals, and to ask yourself who are you and what do you want. So courage, continue and do not give up, you can do it.

Many speak of the loss of a generation, I speak of strong, resilient, intelligent, compassionate and determined generation.

As I write these lines, a bird has landed on my window and it sings with passion. You know, you remind me of this bird that will not stop singing, flying with passion.

Nature has sent a strong message to all of us, so let's listen to it.

Today I leave the planet in your hands, not to put the pressure on you, but because I believe in you, in your resilience, your intelligence and your strength.

Take care of yourself, take care of the planet and follow your dreams.

Excited to see you again.

Love you,

Najat Kamal



YPAC Officers LIST

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YPAC Officer	Position	Chapter	Section
Paul Algu	YPAC Chair	N.A.	Louisiana Section
Vacant Until 2022	Past Chair		
Lindsay Salvador	Member-at-Large	N.A.	N.A.
Ross Lowe Beardsley	ACE Liaison (2022)	N.A.	Golden West Section
	ACE Liaison (2023)		
Kaitlyn Watkins	Local Support Committee Chair	NE Florida Chapter	Florida Section
Stephanie Friel	Local Support Committee Vice-Chair	Delaware Valley Chapter	Mid-Atlantic States Section
Kristin Fritchman	Vice-Chair/Technical Committee Chair		Midwest Section
Vacant	Technical Committee Vice-Chair		
Vacant	Vitality Committee Chair		
Vacant	Vitality Committee Vice-Chair		
Patrick Wright	Communications Committee Chair	Connecticut Chapter	New England Section
Vacant	Communications Committee Vice-Chair		
Kerry Weichsel	Publications Committee Chair		Allegheny Mountain Section
	YPAC Volunteer Coordinator		
Ryan Christman	Professional Development Committee Chair	Baltimore-Washington Chapter	South Atlantic States Section
Ross Lowe Beardsley	Professional Development Committee Vice-Chair	N.A.	Golden West Section
Shelley Koehn	Professional Development Committee		Upper Midwest Section

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 pwright@trccompanies.com