

WEAO Student Chapters

Transition from Students to New Professionals

If you are a university or college undergraduate student or graduate student proactive in interacting with professionals in the water environment field, or simply want to increase your knowledge and network opportunities as you transition into the job market, then you can join or form a Student Chapter of the Water Environment Association of Ontario (WEAO) within your college or university.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A WEAO STUDENT CHAPTER?

The purpose of the Student Chapter is to promote student interest in the water environment and to provide an avenue for professional development and exchange of information between Chapter members and members of the WEAO. Student Chapters liaise with WEAO through the WEAO New Professionals Committee for the initial Chapter set up, training and also for the coordination of joint events, such as technical seminars and site tours.

A Student Chapter is formed by one faculty advisor and students of the college or university.

WHAT IS THE NEW PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE?

The New Professionals Committee has been created under the WEAO to foster the technical and professional development of professionals new to the water environment industry. New Professionals can help students to understand what to expect upon entry into the labour market. The New Professionals Committee organizes and facilitates events and opportunities for networking, technical learning and professional development through interactive workshops, seminars and facility/plant tours.

BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

Whether through our Annual Conference, Seminars, Committee Meetings or Social Events, you will have the opportunity to network with the leading environmental professionals in Ontario, take plant/facility tours, receive employment guidance, and more. As a student member, you will receive the WEAO newsletter and have direct access to current member publications relevant to engineering and environmental course work to help establish yourself in the environmental field.

Students can also benefit by applying to scholarship opportunities that WEAO offers. A Scholarship Program kicked off in 2007 open to student members of WEAO currently attending an Ontario college or university.

STUDENT CHAPTER RESPONSIBILITIES

For Students:

- Organize events to keep the interest of students in the water environment industry;
- Recruit new members for the Chapter to ensure its continued viability;
- Liaise with WEAO New Professionals Committee; and
- Liaise with WEF Students & Young Professionals Committee.

For Faculty Advisor:

- Act as a counselor and advisor to Student Chapter members and its executive; and
- Promote students to get involved in the Student Chapter activities and assist if necessary in recruiting new members.