

NSW YWP Subcommittee 2022 Nomination Statements

Chirayu Subedi | WSP

As a Civil Engineer working in the WSP Water Utilities team, I have been interested in the conservation and management of water resources in Australia. I completed my honours thesis in Hydrology and together with my other University subjects and professional experience working in and with Sydney Water, I have come to appreciate the science and engineering behind Australia's water/ wastewater management practices. By joining the AWA YWP subcommittee, I want to meet with enthusiastic water professionals, and as such expand my knowledge and gain a holistic understanding of the water industry.

Danika Smith | Arup

I am currently working as a water engineer specializing in Water Sensitive urban design and integrated water management planning at Arup primarily on the Sydney Water planning partner and have been for the past 3.5 years. I have recently taken on the role as Australia Water Skills Manager focusing on securing water research funding promoting Arup's contribution to conferences and supporting employees in attending these. I am currently on the 2021-2022 YWP committee coordinating the mentoring program. With a record number of pairs signing up this year, I have organized various virtual and hybrid events as part of the program. I have enjoyed being involved in the committee this year as I am able to give back to the industry, meet like minded people and am exposed to new water innovations. I would like to continue my involvement in the committee for another year as this I have more ideas to add and more ways to contribute outside of running the mentoring program.

Frankie Coen | Arup

I have an interest and experience in waterway management, particularly in water quality modelling and finding sustainable solutions to waterway health problems. Since 2020, I've been developing a TUFLOW FV water quality model for the Hawkesbury Nepean and Wianamatta-South Creek catchments, analysing the impacts of development and climate change in Western Sydney. Prior to this project, I worked primarily in flood modelling and drainage design. Growing up and completing a six-month internship on the far South Coast has given me an insight into rural water issues and the impacts that poor water management and climate change can have on waterways and people's livelihoods. These experiences give me a broad understanding of water issues across the state, and a passion to share knowledge and technical expertise. I'd love to be on the committee to be more involved in sustainable and innovative water management, and connect with like-minded people in the industry.

Brianna Duncan | Forbes Shire Council

I am a Cadet Engineer, who is currently working within the Water team at Forbes Shire Council. I have been in this position for a little over 10 months now and have worked on both water and sewer design projects as well as in the improvement of our current assessment management systems. I have a strong interest in improving infrastructure and asset management in regional areas. Being from the country, and having the unique perspective of the operations of smaller water facility. I would bring to the committee a voice from regional NSW, one that has seen a different set of challenges faced in the water industry. I would also like to be on the committee, as it would be a great opportunity for me to learn about the operations of other facilities and make connections on how we can better utilize resources in regional NSW.



NSW YWP Subcommittee 2022 Nomination Statements (cont)

Kate Smith | Aurecon

I've served on the YWP Committee since 2020, first as University Outreach Representative, then as Vice-President. More broadly, I'm Co-Chair of one of the AWA Specialist Networks and on the organising committee for an upcoming AWA conference, which allows me to facilitate connections between multiple committees and events. At Aurecon, I specialise in energy and greenhouse gas emissions reduction and resource recovery in the water industry across clients like Sydney Water, Icon Water and Northern Territory Government.

Alex Reilly | Arup

It's an exciting time to be a young water professional, and our industry is well-positioned to be a major player in shaping the world around us as we move into an increasingly uncertain future. As a member of the YWP committee, I am looking forward to spreading my excitement and contributing to the growth of the industry outside of my direct work as a process engineer with Arup. My experiences include an internship at Sydney Water as part of the Science, Research and Innovation team, 3 years as the treasurer of Sydney University's Ultimate Frisbee Society and a current role as the development officer for Bench Ultimate Club. I am passionate about water with particular interests in drought response and sustainable infrastructure, and I would love the opportunity to join the NSW YWP committee in 2022-2023.

Ryan Siriwardane | Arup

In the water industry, I am involved in the design of water, recycled water, and wastewater assets in urban and greenfield environments, which has given me an understanding of design challenges in these settings. In this role I want to contribute to how NSW can be designed to be more water sensitive with new and existing infrastructure as it becomes more urbanised. Prior to this, I worked in geotechnics, where I assessed the impact of groundwater fluctuations and coastal tides on retaining walls, and soil collapse potentials due to excessive rainfall events. This led me towards an interest in the complex interaction of soil, water, and structures, especially in recent times with NSW's flash flooding and droughts. I would be thrilled to explore and contribute to overcoming issues such as these in NSW's water industry, as a YWP committee member in an industrial capacity.

Patrick Schnelle | Arup

Hello! I'm a Chemical Engineer from Arup with a passion for creating social impact through sustainable resource management. I am passionate about values-led engineering. This is my fourth year in the water industry, having worked for both regional and urban water utilities in operations, design, construction and strategy roles. I've been involved with AWA as the YWP Committee Secretary for the past two years, and have experience delivering successful seminars on data and resilience, facilitating community outreach programs, mentoring students, and shaping events that connect and empower young water professionals. Having grown up regional NSW, I am eager to develop AWA opportunities, strengthening connections for metropolitan, regional & rural young professionals alike. I'd love to continue the work of the NSW YWP committee with a position in 2022-2023.

NSW YWP Subcommittee 2022 Nomination Statements (cont)

Candice Nguyen | Aurecon

I have been an active member of the NSW YWP Committee over the past two years, coordinating the Mentoring Program and Social & Professional Development portfolios. I am in Aurecon's Infrastructure Advisory team, working on anything with an investment flavour – Due diligence, business case development, economic analyses, risk-based capital prioritisation, etc. I am passionate about sustainability, developing self and others and promoting intersectional diversity in STEM. It would be an honour to remain involved with the Committee, as I feel there are still so many initiatives that I am interested in pursuing.

Annabel Biddulph | Arup

I am a new graduate engineer within Arup's Water team. Throughout my time at university, I worked as a student drainage engineer at Randwick City Council which allowed me to work on a range of stormwater projects from design work, flood reports, flood studies and project management of relining projects. At university I was also part of a college House Committee and have joined internal committees at Arup. I am particularly interested in long term water management, sustainability and ensuring the resilience of our systems and infrastructure in both extreme flooding and drought events. This was informed by the experiences of my local farming community during the millennium drought, and my experience living in Cape Town during their 2018 water restrictions. I'd be a great pick for the YWP subcommittee as I would bring my passion and enthusiasm for sustainable water solutions to all events and activities.

Elliot Cichero | Sydney Water

I have worked in the water industry for the past 5 years, across a range of roles from wastewater network management/rehabilitation, to drought response planning, and most recently in resilience & climate change analysis for the past 18 months. I am excited by the opportunity to join the YWP committee and share my experiences of the challenges associated with Climate Change risk management - both from the abatement side of the equation (i.e. reducing the water industry's impact on the climate), and adaptation side (i.e. preparing ourselves for more intense and extreme weather influenced by a changing climate). As young persons, this is the future that we will inherit, and I believe it's imperative that we are aware of the risks that our future hold - I would aim to improve the understanding of climate impacts across the YWP network, and enjoy the new connections that such networking brings along the way!

Jasmine Gray | AECOM

As a graduate within AECOM's Water Resources team, I have been involved in a variety of projects relating to water sensitive urban design, water quality, surface water drainage and flooding. This role has sparked my interest in how the water industry interacts with the local environment and community. I am particularly interested in the flooding space and the impacts of climate change on disasters. I have a strong passion for engaging collaboratively across roles and disciplines and sharing knowledge wherever possible. As a committee member in YWP I would like to bring an enthusiastic approach to fostering network connections and broaden communication channels that will assist in overcoming both present and future challenges within the water environment. Water plays an integral role in the sustainability of projects in many forms, and I look forward to engaging with my young water professional peers to help shape the future of this industry.

NSW YWP Subcommittee 2022 Nomination Statements (cont)

Michael Wilson | Aerofloat

I am a dedicated project manager with a chemical/process engineering background who designs, builds, and commissions wastewater treatment infrastructure for municipal and industrial clients. My project delivery experience ranges from 1000 EP sewage treatment plants for regional towns, industrial biological treatment plants for formaldehyde removal and dissolved air flotation plants for industrial kitchens. These projects are all within the \$500k to \$2m value ranges. I believe I can bring a different perspective to the YWP committee as my experience within a small, family-owned Australian design and construct business with a suite of patented products and a wide array of clients is unique. This experience has allowed me to interface with consultants, builders, equipment suppliers, water authorities and industrial clients and I believe my experience and connections would make me an asset to the committee."

Ann-Marie Farlow | Aurecon

I have been working in the water industry for 3 years and have been on the YWP committee for 2 of those years. My previously held portfolios include Social & PD and Communications, and in the next financial year I would be interested in nominating for VP, branch or general representative. My previous experience in the committee, along with my work in the Sydney Water Planning Partnership have gifted me with a large network of YWPs which has helped with promoting the committee's activities. I am also an open and friendly personality who enjoys meeting new people and making committee discussions fun and engaging for everyone.

Binod Rayamajhee | UNSW

I'm investigating how water is linked to the very damaging corneal infection, Acanthamoeba keratitis in the greater Sydney region, and ways to make people aware not to mix contact lenses and cases with water. Therefore, I would like to join the YWP subcommittee for better communication for transferable science. I had the opportunity to serve as community ambassador (2019-2020) of the eLife Sciences Publications, Ltd, U.K., international representative of the early career scientists (ECS) committee of the Society for Applied Microbiology (SfAM), U.K. and I'm serving Australian Society for Microbiology (ASM) as a communication ambassador. I believe my academic accomplishment and past work experiences on science advocacy, inclusive science communication, and work experience with peers from diverse backgrounds synchronize well with my aspirations and help me to be a part of the YWP subcommittee.

Preeti Berwal | Western Sydney University

I am a PhD scholar working in Rainwater Harvesting research from last four year in Western Sydney University. I am interested to join YWP Committee team to connect and develop professional development activities for young generation. It is a great opportunity to build strong network in my field and also gain valuable experience working across Australia and connect with experts. I will be more than happy to contribute in any possible way for IWA.



NSW YWP Subcommittee 2022 Nomination Statements (cont)

Chris Butson | Stantec

I have been working in the water industry for over a year now as a Graduate Process Engineer with Stantec as well as having gained 6 months of experience working on a water project with Griffith City Council while writing my university thesis. Over this time I've gained experience in wastewater treatment design, commissioning activities and hydrodynamic modelling (with Griffith). I have also gained a significant amount of experience in odour and corrosion prevention and treatment and will be presenting at Oz Water and the Young Water Professionals conferences in May and June this year. While not holding any formal titles on previous committees, I have consistently been involved in committees including helping committee members organise events at university and with Stantec's developing professionals group. I want to join this committee to meet more people in the industry and use my position to engage more people in the association.

Amanda Tobias Costa de Oliveira | WMS

I have been part of the NSW YWP Committee for the past two years in the role of University Outreach Rep. I love being able to provide networking and development opportunities for the students and young water professionals that are looking to know more about the industry and maybe make some new friends. For this next year I want to continue supporting the Uni Outreach events, but also would like to join a different portfolio where I can use my previous experience to do something different. I also want to increase the Committee's outreach into the Floodplain Management and Water Resources areas, which are the areas I'm currently working on - and areas I've noticed sometimes get left out in our events.

Morgan Foster | Arup

I am a Sustainability and Environmental Engineer at Arup. My expertise is articulating the value proposition of sustainability and motivating people to make better choices. The main focus of my work is to present and shape the delivery of infrastructure projects to maximise sustainable outcomes. This has included Yarra Valley Water's Doncaster Hill water recycling project and Sydney Water's Upper South Creek water recycling centre. I am responsible for integrating sustainability performance and ensuring compliance through the Infrastructure Sustainability (ISCA) assessment rating process. I have previously worked with City West Water and Ventia, managing compliance for construction projects such as watermain renewals and sewer rehabilitation. Through my current role and from my previous experience in the water industry, I am committed to working to support the water industry in achieving carbon neutral and net zero emission commitments. I see being part of the committee as an opportunity to contribute and learn from a like-minded forward-thinking association.

Dane Naiker | BMD Constructions

I am a Civil Engineer with experience working as a Project Engineer, Operations Manager and currently as a Site Engineer. Over my career, I have been heavily involved in end-to-end project management, from initial scoping, contract negotiations and setup to the organisation and management of teams, cost tracking and financial reporting. I also have experience in quality assurance and workplace health and safety compliance, having carried out all site supervision and quality assurance for a multitude of clients. It's my current involvement on the West Camden Water Recycling Plant amplification project (one of the largest current water related projects in New South Wales), that has motivated me to become involved with the Australian Water Association (AWA). Involvement in a large-scale water project would provide me with an opportunity to not only share my knowledge and experience, but to learn from others and develop myself in the water/wastewater industry.



NSW YWP Subcommittee 2022 Nomination Statements (cont)

Chris Skellern | Stantec

I've loved working in the water industry so far through Sydney Water, Aurecon and now Stantec as I've been able to apply my chemical engineering skills from Uni in a rewarding, sustainable industry. I've been part of the NSW YWP committee for 2 years now first as the Social/PD rep, and more recently taking on the Mentoring portfolio where we continued the exciting growth seen in the last few years. It'd be great to stay a part of this committee for another few years!

Madeleine English | KPMG

I am a young consulting professional working with clients to drive a sustainable water future. Throughout my previous terms on the committee, I have been elected as the mentoring program representative, and more recently have been working on a Sustainability Action Plan that I am driving to national endorsement. Although I have worked across many sectors, I notably hold an interest and have primarily worked in the water sector at both AECOM and currently at KPMG in several capacities. I am excited at the prospect to continue working with the committee to embed sustainability initiatives across our events in line with the AWA's mission to share knowledge, connect people with purpose, and inspire positive change for the sustainability of water infrastructure. In this capacity I would like to contribute as either a general committee member or continuing as the sustainability and community representative.

Sharolt Kicsi | KPMG

I am a civil/environmental engineer with 5 years of diverse industry experience. I am very passionate about the environment, water & wastewater treatment, sustainable engineering and resource recovery. I love giving back to the community through volunteering and I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year on the YWP Subcommittee, as one of the Social & Professional Development Portfolio Leads. I would like to continue my tenure with the committee because I see it as a fantastic opportunity to collaborate and connect with likeminded professionals, implement the AWA's Strategic Plan of inspiring and driving a sustainable water future, and giving back in a meaningful way to the water industry. I strongly believe that the combination of my passion for sustainable water engineering, enthusiastic, team-oriented attitude, and highly developed interpersonal skills will ensure that I am successful at growing the YWP network in NSW yet another year.

Brendan Dagg | GHD

I'm a process engineer with 3 years' experience in the water industry, originally from Singleton, now based in Newcastle. I have varied experience in municipal water, wastewater and industrial water treatment including desalination, recycled water, and trade waste. These projects have collectively incorporated all design stages from feasibility to detailed design and construction. I am a current member of the YWP committee, and one of two regional representatives as well as being the secretary of the AWA Newcastle Sub-Committee and have been since its inception 3 years ago. In addition to my AWA involvement, I am the deputy chair of the Newcastle Chemical Branch Committee for Engineers Australia having previously been the secretary of the committee for 2 years. I would like to continue on the YWP committee to provide a regional perspective and continue to provide regional members with engagement and a chance to share their perspectives and experiences.



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NSW YWP Subcommittee 2022 Nomination Statements (cont)

Trevor Sultana | Goulburn Mulwaree Council

I'm a YWP working for a regional water utility and have worked for regional water utilities for the past 6 years. I've been on the NSW YWP sub committee for the past 2 years, and am keen to continue helping with the AWA's plan to increase regional engagement. I am also grateful to be able to add a regional perspective to the YWP subcommittee, having spent my career working and living outside of Sydney. As one of the Regional Representatives, I've had the chance to work with some great regional water professionals, and am keen to continue the work Brendan Dagg and I have accomplished over the past year. This includes continuing the regular interviews of regionally based YWPs (and meet some great YWPs in the process) and co-hosting some regional events for regionally based YWPs. Living and working south of Sydney, I also hope to continue meeting and engaging the various YWPs in southern NSW.