



WEAU Mid-Year Conference Student Water Challenge 2024

Students' Competition Package Contents

Wednesday, November 6th, 2024

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WEAU STUDENT WATER CHALLENGE

Student Activities Committee

November 2024

BACKGROUND:

The Water Environment Association of Utah (WEAU) is an affiliated Member Association of the Water Environment Federation (WEF). WEF is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization representing water quality professionals worldwide. WEAU works to connect Utah's water professionals through training, conferences, and other social activities to create a strong local network of dedicated experts. The student activities committee (SAC) of WEAU aims to connect and educate students about Utah's waste and wastewater industry.

WEAU's student activities committee has organized the first Student Water Challenge during the 2024 Mid-Year Conference between teams from different universities in Utah. The competition will focus on using a combination of engineering and science to address a water quantity/quality issue.

FORMAT OF COMPETITION:

The problem statement and judging criteria for the Water Challenge will be released two days prior to the Mid-Year Conference at 8 am on November 4th, 2024 via email to registered teams. The student water challenge will be advertised through the WEAU Mid-Year Conference website (https://weau.org/Mid-Year_Conference). The digital copy of the presentation is due on 5th November at 5 pm and should be emailed to Jayesh.Charthal@Jacobs.com. Each team should also bring a USB flash drive with a copy of their presentation at WEAU Mid-Year Conference.

During the WEAU Mid-Year Conference at the Utah Cultural Center in West Valley City, Utah, each team will report at the conference registration desk no later than 8:00 AM. Teams will then proceed to the Luncheon Ballroom. The presentations will start at 8:30 AM. The teams who won the 1st and 2nd will be announced during the lunch banquet at the Ballroom. The teams who secured 1st place and 2nd place will be awarded \$450 and \$300, respectively, out of which 20% will be sent directly to the chapter, and the rest will be equally distributed among the members of each team by the chapter.

Teams must provide their own transportation to the conference center. SAC committee members will be available to facilitate the competition. Consulting on competition day with professionals such as faculty advisors, consultants, manufacturer representatives, etc. is not permitted. Laptop will be provided for the presentation. Teams should bring a copy of the presentation in a USB thumb/flash drive.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF TEAM

- ☐ Each team must be registered before October 31st, 2024. Each team shall confirm their participation and team members to WEAU liaison for the university student chapter. There are no registration fees.
- ☐ Each member of the team should be a full-time student in good standing at the university being represented.
- ☐ Each member of the team has been selected by his/her University or Student Chapter to participate.
- ☐ Maximum of two teams entry per university may be submitted.
- ☐ Maximum of 6 students per team will be allowed



- ☐ Students must be registered for the 2024 Mid-Year Conference. There is no registration fee for students.
- ☐ If there appears to be ambiguity then Students may seek clarification on problem statement via email to Jayesh.Charthal@Jacobs.com no later than 4 PM, November 4th, 2024.

PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Each team will be allowed a thirty (30) minute block of presentation time. It is recommended that the time be used to make a twenty (20) minute presentation directly followed by a ten (10) minute question and answer session. Approximately five (5) minutes will be provided before and after the presentation for transitions between presentations. Each team may have up to four members on their presentation team. All presenting team members are encouraged to participate in the question-and-answer session. Questions are limited to the judging panel.

JUDGING CRITERIA

The judges will consist of distinguished experts in the water industry and SAC members.

The winners of the competition will be first publicly announced at the banquet, which will be held during lunch from 12- 1:20 pm at the ballroom. Team and faculty members or designees of all teams are encouraged to attend the banquet. The winning team will also be announced on social media platforms and WEAU's newsletter.

CONSIDERATIONS IN JUDGING

Format

To what extent was the subject researched and extent of information presented to the audience? How completely were all issues addressed? Were ideas innovative?

Content

To what extent was the subject of interest to a technical audience? Did the team give credit for the source of material or contribution? How much knowledge of the subject was exhibited? Was the subject technical or general in nature? To what extent was the problem solution made understandable to a technical audience?

Organization

Was there any novel approach to the subject? Was there sufficient background information provided to introduce the audience to the subject? Were facts developed in a logical and continuous sequence? Was there a definite conclusion and was it adequately based on the facts or data presented?

Delivery and Effectiveness

Were the words distinctly pronounced and did presenter use proper volume in delivery? Did the presenters use proper English, and was the vocabulary sufficient? Was personal appearance appropriate? Were there any distracting mannerisms? Was the manner of delivery (conversation, memorized, read from manuscript) satisfactory? If visual aids were used, how effectively were they used? Was the presentation within the time limit allowed for presentation?

Discussion

Did the presentation evoke spontaneous questions from the panel? Did questions indicate the need for clarification of facts presented or were they merely of the type seeking additional information? How readily and with what self-assurance did the speakers answer questions? Did the answers indicate knowledge of subject beyond that disclosed in the original presentation?



PARTICIPANT AGENDA

Wednesday, November 6th, 2024

- ❖ **8:00 AM** Team(s) will check in at the registration desk in the lobby of the Utah Cultural Celebration Center and then will proceed to the Ballroom.
- ❖ **8:30 AM – 11:30 AM** Team(s) will present their findings in front of the judging panel. Each team will have 20 minutes to present, followed by 10 minutes of Q&A.
- ❖ **10:00 AM – 10:20 AM** Scheduled Break
- ❖ **12:00 PM – 1:20 PM** Awards Banquet (Ballroom). Announcement of 1st and 2nd place teams and presentation of awards. Lunch is provided during the banquet.
- ❖ **1:30 PM – 4:00 PM** Students are encouraged to attend technical presentations during the afternoon session which includes a wide range of relevant topics in the water and wastewater industry.