

Engagement Achievements in Tennessee

MA Engagement with Academic Institutions





Clean water starts with us.





**WEF estimates
220,000
water job openings
every year from
now until 2026.**



**Water Research Foundation
projects that in the next 10 years,
roughly one-third of all current
water utility workers
will retire.**





**And, currently,
only 15%
of the water
workforce are
women.**





Student Design Teams

Existing Structure

At the inception of the partnership, both entities were well established with a record of success independently.



Intentional Collaboration

- Well-articulated goals
- Integration into existing programming
- Champions



Establishing a Framework

We focused one simple goal.

Fall

Team Competes at WEFTEC

Legacy team travels with competition team. Cheerleads, but also captures spirit of competition and records traits of successful teams.

Legacy team begins first semester of coursework.

Spring/Summer

Legacy Team now becomes competing team.

Team works through coursework and engages regularly with CWP representatives.

Team presents at MA.

Fall

Team competes at WEFTEC

Cycle introduces new Legacy team. Legacy team witnesses WEFTEC conference and begins preliminary project work in senior design course.

Spring/Summer

Team finalizes materials for spring and summer deadlines.

Team is mentored through course to prepare deliverables for competition.

Team is mentored at MA conference to prepare for competition presentation.

Student Testimonials



Student Testimonials

The WEA Student Design Competition experience was very valuable and enjoyable. I enjoyed the challenges of putting together a report for review by experts in the field and presenting our project to students and professionals from around the world.

- Chelsey Brummer

May 2018 Graduate

Currently, I am involved with AASHTO, ASCE, and SHPE. My experience with CWP did influence the continuation of being part of an organization. There is a lot of unity with the different associations and the networking that occurs either purposely or naturally is always a great thing.

- Jose Luna

May 2018 Graduate



Student Testimonials



Yes, I did enjoy the partnership built between the CEE department and the CWP professional society. I was already involved with ASCE, but it was just involvement in the student chapter. So, this partnership helped me get my foot in the door with a professional organization beyond a student chapter. This partnership also helped me network with professionals that I now work with, so I believe that experience was invaluable.

- Kelli Spradling

May 2017 graduate

Student Testimonials



I graduated 4 years ago in May 2017. Reflecting back, I'm thankful I was part of the design team. We were challenged with fixing a sand filtration system at a local elementary school, we learned real life problem solving. [This was one of the best experiences I had in college.](#) It was also an honor to be a part of the pilot team for the program.

- Katie Ware

May 2017 graduate

Iterations & Evolutions

Some lessons learned have included:

- Student teams have personality that needs to be respected.
- The cycle of a competing team and legacy team is impactful in long-term success.
- We had to know when we needed to pause and assess.
- Success requires people with a passion. It will be important for us to find enthusiastic individuals to fill in roles as committee members roll out of office.

Thank You

We are grateful for the opportunity to share our experiences with this esteemed audience.

