

IAHR University of Illinois Young Professionals Network

2020 Annual Report of Activities



University of Illinois
**Young
Professionals
Network**



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1. Introduction

The IAHR University of Illinois Young Professionals Network (YPN) is a cohort made up of graduate students from across the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign who have professional and academic interests that focus on hydraulic and hydrologic research.

2. 2020 main goal and key objectives

The primary objectives for the chapter throughout 2020 have been to continue to provide programming to student members on a virtual platform, and maintain communication regarding IAHR global events, as well as campus specific events. One of the key objectives of the IAHR chapter is to organize departmental participation in the University of Illinois Grainger College of Engineering, Engineering Open House (EOH) annual event.

3. Communications

[Website and social networks]

Twitter	@HydroLab_UIUC
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4. Activities

Activity 1

Picture/s N.a. (Due to Pandemic)	Name of the activity Bi-Weekly Hydro-Geo Student Seminar
	Dates 09/07/2020 – 12/7/2020
	Objectives <i>Professional Development, Academic Research Support</i>
	Description The Hydro-Geo Student Seminar is a bi-weekly student led seminar for graduate students within the hydraulic engineering, geology, and geography departments with research focuses in the fields of water resources and hydro-geology. The seminar provides students with the opportunity to practice presentation

	skills as well as to receive peer-feedback on their research progress.
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Activity 2

Picture/s N.a. (Due to Pandemic)	Name of the activity Weekly Water Resources Engineering and Science (WRES) Guest Speaker Seminar Series
	Dates 08/28/2020 – 12/04/2020
	Objectives <i>Raising Awareness About Water Resources Issues</i>
	Description The weekly WRES seminar brings in visiting faculty members to present on topics related to issues of water resources and hydrologic academic research.

Activity 3

Picture/s N.a. (Due to Pandemic)	Name of the activity Engineering Open House (EOH)
	Dates March 26-27
	Objectives <i>Community Involvement</i>
	Description EOH is the largest annual public event put on by the Grainger College of Engineering. The purpose of the event is to showcase the incredible diversity of study and research that is done amongst the different engineering departments by providing educational scientific exhibitions and demonstrations to members of the greater community of all ages. It is a fantastic event, and the WRES program has had incredible success over the years at presenting award winning exhibitions at EOH.

5. Partnerships and collaborations

Partner organisations and/or interaction with related national organisations

Organisation	Description of partnership
International Water Resources Association (IWRA)	The student chapters of IWRA and IAHR partner to facilitate social, professional, and community service programming for graduate students within the water resources disciplines.

Collaboration with other YPNs

YPN name	Description of collaboration

6. Contributing to the strategic plan

7.1. Please describe how your activities in 2020 have contributed to and advocated for IAHR's vision and strategic plan (<https://www.iahr.org/index/detail/101>)

Through the promotion of multiple water resources research oriented seminar, the University of Illinois student chapter of IAHR has successfully provided access to up to state-of-the-art research dissemination as well as a diverse community within which to amplify and promote innovative academic research in the field of water resources engineering. The chapter's continued participation in the University of Illinois EOH allows us to share our knowledge and passion for Hydro-Environmental issues with the surrounding community and the University of Illinois at large.

7.2. Please describe how your YPN contributes to the IAHR YPN high-level aims

The YPN chapter of IAHR at the University of Illinois has been able to contribute to the high level aims of the international organization throughout the 2020 academic year despite COVID-19 restrictions put in place by the university. Our members have consistently attended virtual student and faculty led seminars which provide a platform for the dissemination of up to date research initiatives in the field of hydrogeology and hydraulic engineering. The bi-weekly hydro-geo seminar, which has been converted to a virtual meeting space, brings together students from different scientific disciplines to discuss novel research methods and collaborate to solve individual research issues from a inter-disciplinary perspective. Finally, the 2021 EOH will be held on a virtual platform for the first time since the program's inception. This new platform will provide our members with the unique opportunity to act as a global voice on behalf of the Hydro-Environment community by virtually bringing field and laboratory experiments and concepts into people's homes around the world.