

Environmental and Water Resources Engineering and Center for Water and Environment Seminar Series Presents:

Thursday, January 30th 2025, 3:30-4:30pm, ECJ 1.324



Zoom Link: <https://utexas.zoom.us/j/94105241294>

Transitioning to Industry after Graduation: Q&A Panel

Kade Kearney P.E, Mekayla DePaolis EIT, Eric Kong P.E.

*All recent graduates from our EWRE graduate Program!
GSI Environmental, HDR Austin, Guadalupe Blanco River Authority*

Come Join for Questions!

This week we will have visitors from recent EWRE graduates who have spent time transitioning from their master's degree to working in private consulting firms as well as the public sector. Come ask questions to hear their perspectives in navigating the transition from graduate school life to working full time.

The Panel:

Mekayla Estella DePaolis

Mekayla is a Water/Wastewater engineer at HDR in Austin, TX. She graduated from the EWRE program in 2022 and was advised by Dr. Manish Kumar. Since graduation she has worked on a variety of design projects including pump stations, ground storage tanks, water transmission mains, and wastewater gravity mains. Her work also includes water supply studies, water and wastewater hydraulic modeling and master plans for clients throughout Texas.



Kade Kearney

Kade is an environmental engineer at GSI Environmental in Austin, TX. Kade graduated from the EWRE program in 2023 and was advised by Dr. Charles Werth. His work at GSI primarily involves the investigation and remediation of contaminated environmental media (e.g. , soil, groundwater) under the Texas Risk Reduction Program (TRRP), or supporting federal research projects related to management of PFAS at Department of Defense sites under the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program

Eric Kong

Eric is a project engineer with Guadalupe – Blanco River Authority in New Braunfels, Texas with design and construction experience in water production and water resource recovery facilities ranging from 0.25 to 150 MGD. His experience includes membrane and water quality studies, and reclamation facilities. He graduated from Texas A&M in 2017 and graduated from the EWRE program in 2021.

