



125 Hopping Brook Road
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New England Water Works Association 2025 University Outreach Committee Report

Committee Mission:

Engaging with colleges, universities, and technical high schools throughout New England by providing presentations and workshops to encourage interest in the drinking water industry and membership in NEWWA. As an added benefit of the committee's outreach, we hope to grow the pipeline of future water professionals in all segments of the industry (operations, consulting, construction, etc.)

The committee's mission is to prepare, coordinate, and give presentations at New England colleges and universities to encourage interest in water works careers and membership with New England Water Works Association.

Accomplishments/Activities and New Initiatives During the Past Year (Sept. 2024 August, 2025):

- University visits:
 - Northeastern University
 - UMass Boston
 - UMaine
 - UNH
 - UMass Dartmouth
 - WPI
 - Harvard Career Panel
 - UVM
 - UMass Amherst
 - UMass Lowell
 - Norwich University
 - Nashua CTW Center
- Technical/Vocational High Schools:
 - Norton High School
 - Weare High School
- By the numbers:
 - Total number of university visits: 13
 - Total number of high school/tech school visits: 2
 - Type of Event
 - Total number of career panels: 7
 - Total number of career fairs: 3
 - Total number of presentations: 5



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- Developed the master contact sheet to track contacts at schools throughout New England along with committee point of contact. This will help to maintain line of communication with schools if committee members leave New England or the industry.
- Restructured the committee SharePoint folder to streamline the resource
- Created tips and best practices to follow while conducting outreach visits to universities and schools

Plans for 2025:

- Return to universities/colleges that we did not visit during the 2024-2025 school year.
- Establish more connections with professors at universities/colleges.
- Continue building relationships with new schools while maintaining strong connections with current schools.
- Identify additional professor contacts at universities.
- Advertise NEWWA's free student membership.
- Promote greater accountability among committee members by assigning each school a "champion" responsible for maintaining the relationship.
- Continue use of the UO Visit tracking spreadsheet.
- Engage the NEWWA marketing staff person to create promotional content for social media.

Committee Member Roster:

- Attached under separate cover

Other Committee Related Efforts/Notes:

- Grace and Srushti took over as Chair and Vice-Chair of the committee.
- We conducted more university visits this year.
- There was a noticeable uptick in career panels and presentations.
- We continue to recruit university members to support ongoing development and engagement.
- We have significantly increased the use of the SharePoint university folder for sharing resources.

Succession Planning - Incoming Leaders & Anticipated Appointment Date:

- Grace and Srushti continue to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair of the committee. There is a proposal to introduce a Co-Chair and/or Co-Vice Chair to support leadership and continuity.

Respectfully submitted,



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**Grace Ronca – MassDEP
NEWWA University Outreach Committee Chair**

**Srushti Shah – Apex
NEWWA University Outreach Committee Vice-Chair**