



# WWM International

The Resource Recovery People  
A 501 (C) (3) Organization  
www.wwminternational.org

INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE RECOVERY  
CONFERENCE & EXPO ON

# WATER, WASTE MANAGEMENT ONE HEALTH & ENERGY



**MAY 18 - 19, 2026**  
**2142 Shealy Dr, Gainesville, FL 32608**

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM & AGENDA

### Monday, May 18, 2026

08:00 - 09:00 AM

**Registration, Networking Breakfast**

09:00 - 09:05 AM

**Welcome Remarks by Master of Ceremonies**

Dr. Gopal Kakani Professor University of Florida

09:05 - 09:15 AM

**WWM International President Welcome Address**

Sam Pappu P.E, President WWM International

09:15 - 09:30 AM

**Conference Welcome Address**

Dr. Sharon Waller, Commissioner, MWRDGC

09:30 - 09:40 AM

**Conference Inaugural Address**

Dr. J. Scott Angle

Senior Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources

09:40 - 09:50 AM

**Distinguished Opening Talk**

Dr. Robert Gilbert

Dean for Research and Executive Director of Academic Affairs

University of Florida

09:50 - 10:05 AM

**Conference Featured Speaker**

Ramesh Babu Lakshmanan

Consul Gen of India - Atlanta

10:05 - 10:15 AM

**Conference Keynote Address**

Cliff Haefke, Director ERC, UIC

10:15 - 10:25 AM

**Conference Business Presenter-1**

Bryan Johnson P.E

President, Energy Tech Innovations, Wisconsin

10:25 - 10:35 AM

**Conference Business Presenter-2**

Tharun Kumar

Founder & CEO, ECOSTP Technologies, India

10:35 - 10:55 AM

**WWM International -- Rural Development Alliance**

Inauguration of the program

10:55 - 11:50 AM

**Presentation by MWRDGC Team**

Dr. Sharon Waller, Pinakin Desai, Dr. Prakasam Tata, Khaja Moinuddin

11:50 - 12:00 PM

**Vote of Thanks: Chetan Kale, Secretary WWM International**



# May 18, 2026

Track – 1 Water/Wastewater	Track-2 One Health	Track-3 Energy Resources
<p><b>Track Coordinator:</b> Dr. Ananda S Bhattacharjee / Chetan Kale</p>	<p><b>Track Coordinator:</b> Dr. Benjamin Anderson</p>	<p><b>Track Coordinator:</b> Cliff Haefke</p>
<b>1:30 pm to 3:00 pm</b>		
<p>A New Integrated Approach for Beneficial Uses of Biogas-CO2 in Wastewater Treatment</p> <p><b>Bryan Johnson</b> President, ETI</p> <p>Enhancing Resiliency and Sustainability Through Aquifer Recharge with Reclaimed Water in Hillsborough County, FL</p> <p><b>Dr Emma Lopez-Ponnada</b> Process Control Engineer, Hillsborough County, Florida</p> <p>Biochar-based Filtration Column to Mitigate Antimicrobial Resistance in Irrigated Agriculture</p> <p><b>Dr. Ananda S Bhattacharjee</b> Asst Professor, USF</p>	<p>From Molecule to Meal: Designing Health through Purdue Food Science</p> <p><b>Dr. Senay Simsek</b> Head &amp; Professor Food Science, Asst Dean of One Health, Purdue University</p> <p>Overview of global Clostridium difficile infections and the One Health angle to their epidemiology.</p> <p><b>Dr. Ravi Durvasula, M.D</b> Chair, Division of Infectious Diseases, Mayo Clinic Jacksonville</p> <p>Colloidal Activated Carbon-Enabled in situ Remediation Technologies of PFAS-Impacted Water</p> <p><b>Dr. Dengjun Wang</b> Asst Professor UF</p>	<p>Optimizing Energy Use in Wastewater Treatment Plants: A Path to Net-Zero</p> <p><b>Dr. Cristian Cardenas-Lailhacar</b> Assistant Director Industrial Training &amp; Assessment Center Assistant Director Mobile Energy Laboratory University of Florida</p> <p>Direct water use for data center in North Dakota</p> <p><b>Dr. Xinhua Jia</b> Professor of Agricultural &amp; Biosystems Engineering North Dakota State University</p> <p>Unlocking Biogas CHP potential in Wastewater Treatment Plants</p> <p><b>Cliff Haefke</b> Director, Energy Resources Center, UIC</p>
<b>3:00 PM TO 3:30 PM COFFEE BREAK</b>		
<b>3:30 PM TO 5:00 PM</b>		
<p>The impact and kinetics of pre-fermented versus direct injection of glycerol on effluent nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations in a 3 stage and 5 stage Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) Systems</p> <p><b>Andrew A Randall, PhD, PE</b> Professor Civil, Environmental, and Construction Engineering Department UCF</p> <p>Designing Sewage Treatment Like a Cow's Stomach: The ECOSTP Biomimicry Approach</p> <p><b>Tharun Kumar</b> CEO ECOSTP - India</p> <p>Computational Modelling of PFAS Capture from Semiconductor Waste Streams: Optimizing GAC Adsorption for Wastewater Treatment</p> <p><b>Hubert Treve</b> Ph.D Student UF</p> <p>Spatial, social, and political dynamics underlying unequal access to drinking water in the Republic of Benin</p> <p><b>Alain Elegbe</b> Texas State University</p>	<p>Using One Health to Address Wicked Problems</p> <p><b>Benjamin Anderson, MPH, PhD, CPH</b> Assistant Professor, One Health, University of Florida</p> <p>Environmental Health Research using a One Health Framework</p> <p><b>Dr. Joseph H Bisesi</b> Associate Director and Associate Professor, University of Florida</p>	<p>Hydrogen Energy in a Sustainable Economy: Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p><b>Dr. SA Sherif</b> Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Director Industrial Training and Assessment Center University of Florida</p> <p>Role of Biogas in a Circular Economy</p> <p><b>Dr. Pratap Pullammanappalli</b> University of Florida</p>

# May 19, 2026

## Track – 1 Water/Wastewater

**Track Coordinator:**  
**Dr. Ananda S Bhattacharjee / Chetan Kale**

## Track-2 Solid Waste

**Track Coordinator:**  
**Ruth Abbe / Dr. Pratap C. Pullammanappallil**

**9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM**

Restoring Urban Rivers and Lakes through Environmental Justice:  
A Policy Framework for Sustainable and Inclusive Outcomes

**Dr. Prakasam Tata**  
**Executive Director, CTWT**

Using Machine Learning and Hyperspectral Imaging to Improve Process Control for Anaerobic Digestion of Food Waste

**Dr. Ana Martin-Ryals**  
**Assistant Professor UF**

Creating Zero Waste Systems in Gainesville, FL

**Amanda Waddle**  
**Director**  
**Zero Waste Gainesville**

The City of Berkeley's Zero Waste Future: Strategic Planning for Waste Reduction through a Community-Driven Process

**Christienne de Tournay Birkhahn**  
**Zero Waste Consultant & Educator**  
**Berkeley, CA**

**10:00 AM TO 10:30 AM COFFEE BREAK**

**10:30 AM TO 12:15 PM**

Bioremediation of agro-industrial wastewater using algal-bacterial consortia: Treatment performance and microbial diversity assessment

**Dr. Halis Simsek**  
**Asst Professor**  
**Purdue University**

AI in Water Industry

**Chetan Kale**  
**WWMI**

Biosolids as an Alternative Nutrient Source to Improve Pasture Productivity and Minimize Nutrient Losses

**Nikitha Reddy Kovvuri**  
**University of Florida**

Assessing Sediment-Bound Phosphorus Mobility with Different Fractions and Internal Loading Potential in Overlying Water Column.

**IFFAT TASNIM**  
**Grad Asst - UF**

Zero Waste and Tourism - Lessons Learned from Costa Rica, Nepal, and USA

**Ruth Abbe**  
**President, Zero Waste USA**

Thermo-mechanical treatment of nonrecyclable municipal solid waste to enhance organics recovery

**Dr Luca Zullo**  
**CTO, BurCell Technologies, Kennesaw, GA**

Plastic-Free Biomass Processing: A Selective Approach for Organics Isolation and Lignin Quantification

**Leonardo Crelier**  
**University of Florida**

# RESOURCE RECOVERY CONFERENCE MAY 19TH 2026 | VALEDICTORY PROGRAM

1:30 – 1:35 PM

## Welcome Remarks by Master of Ceremonies

Sam Pappu P.E, President WWM International

1:35 - 1:45 PM

## Valedictory Featured Speaker

Dr. David Fuller

Associate Dean for Research, University of Florida

1:45 – 2:00 PM

## Valedictory Keynote Speaker

Dr. Senay Simsek, Head & Professor Food Science,  
Asst Dean of One Health, Purdue University



2:00 – 2:50 PM

## Track Leaders Presentation

1. Water / Wastewater
2. Energy
3. One Health
4. Solid Waste

2:50 – 3:30 PM

## Concluding Remarks

Dr. Sharon Waller- Chairperson WWMI

Sam Pappu -- President WWMI

3:30 - 3:40 PM

## Vote of Thanks: Chetan Kale, Secretary WWMI

## CONFERENCE PARTNERS

