

The Colorado Water Center Student Fellowship

A Reflection on 2021

The Colorado Water Center Water Student Fellowship Program aims to elevate and serve students who identify as belonging to groups that have been historically excluded and underserved in the water sector. We provide students with a community of support as they navigate their college degree and provide opportunities for learning, networking, and research.

This year our students and program leaders participated in research, networking, and training experiences, here are a few highlights:

Swee ('22) and Theresa ('21) joined the WSFP in spring semester of 2021 and continued on to complete a summer research experience supported by funding from the CSU Center for Collaborative Conservation and help from our water community partners. Swee and Theresa focused on two important aspects of water sustainability in their project:

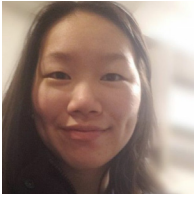
1. conducting technical analysis of water quality and pollution sources in the South Platte River and
2. creating and deploying experiential learning activities for youth in Denver and Adams County.

They presented their work at the Sustaining Colorado Watershed Conference in Avon, Colorado in October.

Three more students joined the WSFP in the fall of 2021 and early on participated in a mentor mapping exercise to reflect on the strengths and gaps in their current network. Thankfully, most of our students identified a solid network to support their health and well-being, however, they lacked individuals in their lives who could further their career or serve as references. Our goal is to fill this gap in their network by the time they graduate.



Student Spotlight



Swee Suen Tee

Major: Environmental Engineering

“The fellows program for me, is a pathway to advancement, personal growth, and building/maintaining a professional network.”



Thomas (T.R.) Heydman

Major: Natural resource management

“I’ve met important people and stakeholders in many water related fields and I’ve been exposed to professionals, managers, advocates, as well as heard stories from the communities working on solutions for water supply and addressing future scarcity.”

Alumni Spotlight



Daniel Dominguez, an alumnus of CSU and our Water Fellows program, took the stage at the closing plenary of the Conference of the Parties in Glasgow, Scotland. He is currently attending the University of Glasgow on a Marshall Scholarship.

Faculty Leader Spotlight



Aditi Bhaskar

“Water affects every single one of us, but water decision-making and water research has been carried out mainly by people from dominant groups. This program is seeking to expand water leadership by facilitating network building for students of color interested in water, connecting them with role models, and giving them professional development opportunities.”

Thank You!

With immense gratitude we would like to thank those individuals and organizations who supported The Colorado Water Student Fellows Program in 2021:

- Colorado Water Trust
- Colorado Water Congress
- Colorado Water Congress POND Committee
- The CSU Center for Collaborative Conservation
- AECOM
- Robert Ward

We would like to thank these individuals who volunteered their time in 2021:

Emily Hunt, Maggie Lewis, Paul Hellmund, Shane Wright, Jojo La, Dana Dallavalee, Rio de la Vista, Ronda Lobato, Melissa Burt



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