

# THE LONG ISLAND SOUNDER



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# President's Message

Although the weather may not feel like it, we are well into fall and the final months of 2024. This season not only marks the transition into colder months but also serves as a critical juncture for compliance with Local Law 97 and the latest refrigerant requirements. As we prepare to meet these new deadlines, it's essential to stay informed and proactive, ensuring that our buildings and systems are complying with the upcoming changes. The presentation this month will explore refrigerant gas detection requirements for the new refrigerants, codes and safety standards. In this presentation, Alex will delve into the critical aspects of refrigerant gas detection, with a particular focus on ASHRAE 15 and A2L refrigerants. Attendees will gain a thorough understanding of the code requirements for specific applications and system design best practices. We hope you will join us to learn more!

The Long Island Chapter will also have our first YEA of the ASHRAE Calendar year. Join us on November 21st from 6–8 PM for an exclusive tour of the Lifetime Chimney Supply factory in Plainview!

The board is working hard to plan a variety of programs and events for this year. If you have ideas, or would like to participate, please join us at our board meetings at 5 PM before our Tuesday meeting!

Elizabeth Jedrlinic  
President

# Chapter Monthly Meeting - Program for 2023/2024

<p>September 10, 2024* At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation – Pressure Independent Control Valves: Benefit of Electronic vs. Mechanical PI Technology Presenter: Rick Smith</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH*</p>	<p>March 11, 2025* At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Long Island Trade Show</p>
<p>October 8, 2024* At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentations - Integrating Renewable Energy Systems into Buildings</p> <p>Presenter- Shelia J. Hayter</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p>	<p>April 8, 2025</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— TBD</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p>
<p>November 12, 2025 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— Refrigerant Leak Detection Guidance + Applications</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p> <p>Presenter- Alex Ballegoie</p>	<p>May 2025 * Cherry Valley Club, Garden City, NY</p> <p>ANNUAL GOLF OUTING</p>
<p>December 10, 2024 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation—TBD **1 PDH**</p>	<p>May 12, 2025</p> <p>Annual Field Trip—TBA</p>
<p>January 14, 2025 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— TBD</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p>	<p>June 9th 2025 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Free Buffet Dinner for Members</p> <p>PAST PRESIDENTS NIGHT &amp; OFFICER INSTALLATION STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED ASHRAE History Quiz and prize Give-A-Ways</p>
<p>February 11, 2025</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— PEX-A Pipe and PP-RCT Pipe Solutions</p> <p>Presenter: John Knowles</p>	<p>July 2025- TBD (4pm-8pm) * Dixie II @ Captree State Park Boat Basin, NY</p> <p>ANNUAL FISHING TRIP</p>
	<p>August 2025</p> <p>Chapters' Regional Conference (CRC) Region I GRANIT STATE</p>

## Long Island Chapter Officers & Committees

ASHRAE 2024/2025 OFFICERS		
POSITION	NAME	EMAIL
President	Elizabeth Jedrlinic	c006@ashrae.net
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Treasurer	Zhigang XU	c006tr@ashrae.net
Secretary	Richard Smith	c006sec@ashrae.net
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Board of Governors	Thomas DiBenedetto	c006bog2@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Peter Conte	c006bog3@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Steven Gerazounis	c006bog4@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Michael Nigro	c006bog5@ashrae.net

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Nominating	Michael Gerazounis, PE, LEED AP	nominating@ashraeli.org
Reception & Attendance	Steven Gerazounis	reception@ashraeli.org
PR & Engineering Joint Council of LI (EJCLI) Liaison	Andrew Manos, LEED AP	pr@ashraeli.org
Golf Outing	Peter Gerazounis, PE LEED AP	golf@ashraeli.org
Awards	Brian Simkins	c006ha@ashrae.net
ASHRAE LI, P.O. Box 79, Commack, NY 11725		

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# Long Island Chapter - Past Presidents

1958	H. Campbell, Jr. PE	1982	Timothy Murphy, PE	2006	John Nally
1959	Clyde Alston, PE	1983	Leon Taub, PE	2007	Peter Gerazounis, PE, LEED AP
1960	Sidney Walzer, PE	1984	Raymond Combs	2008	Steven Friedman, PE, HFDP, LEED AP
1961	Sidney Gayle	1985	Edward W. Hoffmann	2009	Steven Giammona, P.E., LEED AP
1962	William Kane	1986	Jerome T. Norris, PE	2010	Nancy Román
1963	Louis Bloom	1987	Abe Rubenstein, PE	2011	Carolyn Arote
1964	Milton Maxwell	1988	Michael O'Rourke	2012	Brian Simkins, LEED AP
1965	Will Reichenback	1989	Mel Deimel	2013	Andrew Manos, LEED AP BD+C
1966	Joseph Minton, PE	1990	Robert Rabell	2014	Richard L. Rosner, P.E.
1967	Irwin Miller	1991	Gerald Berman	2015	Thomas J. Fields, P.E., LEED AP
1968	Walter Gilroy	1992	Donald Stahl	2016	Donald Kane, P.E.
1969	Charles Henry	1993	Ronald Kilcarr	2017	Andrew Dubel, P.E., LEED AP
1970	William Wright	1994	Jerald Griliches	2018	Richard Halley
1971	Louis Lenz	1995	Walter Stark	2019	Frank Paradiso
1972	Ronald Levine	1996	Joe Marino	2020	James Hanna
1973	Henry Schulman	1997	Norm Maxwell, PE	2021	Matthew J. Vitrano
1974	Myron Goldberg	1998	Alan Goerke, PE	2022	Murat Bayramoglu
1975	John N. Haarhaus	1999	Frank Morgigno	2023	Michael Nigro
1976	Richard K. Ennis	2000	Michael Gerazounis, PE, LEED AP		
1977	Kenneth A. Graff	2001	Ray Schmitt		
1978	Evans Lizardos, PE, LEED AP	2002	Steven M. Stein, PE		
1979	Albert Edelstein	2003	Andrew Braum, PE		
1980	Ralph Butler	2004	Claudio Darras, P.E.		
1981	Robert Rose, PE	2005	Craig D. Marshall, P.E.		

# MEETING PROGRAM

Attendees  
Will Earn  
1 PDH!



Sheila J. Hayter, P.E.

**Date:** Tuesday, November 12th 2024

**Time:** 6PM-9PM

6:00 PM - Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres

7:00 PM - Dinner Presentations

8:45 PM - Conclusion

**Location:** *Westbury Manor*

1100 Jericho Tpke., Westbury, NY 11590

Directions are posted at @ [www.ashraeli.org](http://www.ashraeli.org)

## Fees:

Members - \$50 pp

Guests - \$70 pp

Students - \$15 pp

## Presentation Topic:

**This presentation will discuss Refrigerant Gas Detection Requirements with a dive deep into ASHRAE 15 and A2L Refrigerants. The focus of the presentation is on code requirements for specific applications with system design best practices. The topics of the presentation will include:**

1. Refrigerants Overview with A2L Focus
2. Types of Refrigerant Sensors
3. ASHRAE 15-2022 Safety Standards
4. Code Requirements
5. Refrigerants Applications & Design Best Practices

## About our Speaker:

Alex has been with Delta, BC based Critical Environment Technologies (CETCI) for 2 years as their National Sales Manager, focusing on channel sales for their gas detection solutions. In his career, Alex has worked for large multi-national contractors, HVAC distributors, and growth-stage OEMs in a business development capacity. Alex has a passion for technical training & empowering those who seek knowledge to better themselves & their customers. In his spare time, you can find him on the tennis courts over the summer or on the AB/BC ski slopes with colder weather.



# YEA

Hello everyone, I am your YEA chair, Steven Gerazounis. For all the new members if you are unfamiliar with the YEA committee, its purpose is to provide ASHRAE members 35 years old or younger with opportunities to network, educate and grow themselves through chapter events. Please check back regularly to the newsletter and on ASHRAE's website for all the news and opportunities available. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in the upcoming months at ASHRAE and YEA events!

On a Society level, ASHRAE offers many programs and events that can enhance the professional development of YEA members, such as Leadership Weekend, Leadership U, LeaDRS, and the HVAC Design Scholarship.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs>

## YEA Events



YEA Leadership Weekend  
1.0

LEARN MORE



YEA Leadership Weekend  
2.0

LEARN MORE



YEA Leadership  
International

LEARN MORE

## YEA Programs



Leadership U

LEARN MORE



LeaDRS

LEARN MORE



HVAC Design Scholarship

LEARN MORE



YEA Decarb Initiative

LEARN MORE

## **Leadership Weekend 1.0**

Coming to San Francisco this fall (November 8th-10th) is YEA Leadership Weekend 1.0 (YLW)! This event is for young professionals who are looking to improve in the areas of leadership, networking, communication, and professional development. YLW is led by Ralph Kison as he guides individuals through a self-discovery process that reveals their strengths, talents, gifts, and passion. In addition, there will be an optional technical tour of the iconic Salesforce Tower on November 7th. Please use the link below to register, and hurry if you are interested as registration closes on October 5th!

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/yea-leadership-weekend>

## **Leadership U**

If you wanted the opportunity to participate and follow regional and society officers there are two great options to do so! With Leadership U (4) YEA members will be selected for the winter or annual conference and attend all of their respective society officer's events, board meetings and social activities. Applications for the 2025 Winter Conference in Orlando are open until October 9th. Please use the link below to register and for more information.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/leadership-u>

## **LeaDRS**

Similar to the Leadership U program, LeaDRS allows a region to select any ASHRAE member to shadow their Director and Regional Chair (DRC) at an ASHRAE Conference. To apply for this program you must contact the DRC directly. For Long Island that would be Charles Bertuch.

Region I : Mr. Charles Bertuch

Email: [R01drc@ashrae.net](mailto:R01drc@ashrae.net)

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/ashrae-region-leadrs-program>

## **HVAC Design Scholarship**

Are you looking for the chance to get a better grasp of the fundamentals and technical aspects to design, install and maintain HVAC systems? YEA has a fantastic program to cover all of those bases with an attendance scholarship for either level I or II training. Applications for this program will begin in October so please be on the lookout to take advantage of this opportunity!

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/yea-scholarship-for-hvac-design-essentials-training>

## **Technical Committees**

Are you looking to get more involved with your industry or ASHRAE as a whole? Take a look to see if there are any technical committees that interest you!

<https://ashrae.org/technical-resources/technical-committees>

Getting more involved gives you the opportunity to directly impact our industry and expand your knowledge base. To learn more about these committees you can also reach out via phone or email at: 404-636-8400

[tcstaff@ashrae.net](mailto:tcstaff@ashrae.net)

## **YEA Awards**

So many YEA members are deserving of awards for their hard work, dedication and faithful service to this society but don't receive them because people don't know they are eligible to be nominated. Please look into the numerous awards available for YEA members under the Honors and Awards tab.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/honors-and-awards>

For any awards that you cannot nominate yourself or another YEA member you may need to reach out to your YEA Regional Vice Chair, Society YEA Committee member or Director and Regional Chair to provide them with the information they require to submit a nomination form.

## **2024-2025 Decarbonization Challenge**

ASHRAE Society President Dennis Knight has unveiled his presidential theme focusing on workforce development and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). As part of his plan, he will continue the Decarbonization Challenge Fund—a year-long competitive program offering grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000. This initiative aims to support decarbonization projects aligned with this year's presidential theme and will be executed through the YEA committee. Applications for the program will remain open until November 15th, 2024.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-decarb-initiative>

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or comments about YEA.

Steven Gerazounis



# Government

## Affairs

### **November Surprise Leads to Some Reassessments**

Just Remember a few months back we were in full Green Mode, Damn the Torpedoes Full Speed Ahead, moving forward with electrification. But wait, not so darn fast! The last time President Trump chimed in the Paris Accords we bailed. We left the rest of the flock and opened the flood gates on Drilling, Collecting Natural Gas and Oil and Increasing exports to Europe and Asia. In NY and California, we will not see much change due to overwhelming support of the State and City councils. In the outer boroughs and States who are not pushing the move to Electrification we may see Projects for Wind and Solar halted. This new administration has already called for the oil production and leasing of lands to development Pipelines and Oil Production Refineries. All these things will make the cost of Electrification look much more expensive. The Incentives and Fines at a federal level will begin to expire, removing incentives to move forward in the New Green economy.

### **Global Demand for Electricity Rises Faster Than Expected**

By 2035, the world is expected to require 6% more energy than initially forecast, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA). Nations usually see their electrical consumption grow as they grow wealthier and changing consumer trends have exacerbated this effect. Increased demand for air conditioning is expected as a nation becomes more affluent, but increased demand for data centers to power artificial intelligence was not included in IEA's initial forecasts. Likewise, the widespread adoption of electric vehicles is leading to greater demand, on top of the expected increased demand for power for new factories in developing nations. The 6% increase in demand will offset some of the global decarbonization gains being made by nations switching over to renewables. However, smaller-scale solar, wind, and nuclear power plants are expected to reduce demand and mitigate this increase. On the other hand, increased demand for electricity will make national goals to achieve a net zero grid by 2050 harder to reach. You can read a full report on how global demand for power is rising [here](#).

## Utility Companies May Increase Control Over Household Thermostats During Disasters

In September 2023, the Texas power grid was faced with the likelihood of rolling blackouts during a heatwave. This disaster was averted, thanks in part to utility companies aggressively pursuing demand-side reductions. Businesses such as stores, data centers and offices were paid to shut off their lights and air conditioners and slow down their computers. Ratepayers who had opted-in to a program that let utility companies have some control over their home thermostat and breaker boxes saw their ACs turn off intermittently throughout the day and their electric vehicles stop charging during peak hours. In the face of blackouts, these policies created a safety buffer equivalent to roughly one fully functional nuclear power plant and kept the Texas grid online. Expanding these policies could create the same safety buffer in other states but would require residents to allow utility companies to determine energy demand on their behalf. You can read a full report on how the blackout in Texas was averted, and the future of these policy levers here.

## DOE Issues Final Rules for Air-Cooled Commercial Packaged Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued final rules that will amend energy conservation standards for air-cooled commercial package air conditioners and heat pumps. The new rules will apply to these specified air conditioners and heat pumps with a rated cooling capacity greater than or equal to 65,000 Btu/h. The rules were proposed on May 24, 2024, in the federal register seeking public comment. The DOE determined that the comments received were not enough to withdraw the published rules. The new rules became effective September 17, 2024, with the new compliance standards being enforced on and after January 1, 2029.

Table II.1 Energy Conservation Standards for ACUACs and ACUHPs (Compliance Starting January 1, 2029)

Cooling Capacity	Subcategory	Supplementary Heating Type	Minimum Efficiency
≥65,000 Btu/h and <135,000 Btu/h	AC	Electric Resistance Heating or No Heating	IVEC = 14.3
		All Other Types of Heating	IVEC = 13.8
	HP	All Types of Heating	IVEC = 13.4 IVHE = 6.2
	AC	Electric Resistance Heating or No Heating	IVEC = 13.8
		All Other Types of Heating	IVEC = 13.3
≥135,000 Btu/h and <240,000 Btu/h	HP	All Types of Heating	IVEC = 13.1 IVHE = 6.0
	AC	Electric Resistance Heating or No Heating	IVEC = 12.9
		All Other Types of Heating	IVEC = 12.2
≥240,000 Btu/h and <760,000 Btu/h	HP	All Types of Heating	IVEC = 12.1 IVHE = 5.8

## Renewables Not on Track to Meet Growing Energy Demand

According to a September report released by McKinsey & Co., fossil fuels are still expected to be the primary source of energy for 40%–60% of global energy dependence in 2050 (a projected decrease from 78% in 2023.) The report found that global emissions may not begin to decrease until 2035 due to the increasing energy demand. Due to the fact that nations are currently in very different stages of enacting their decarbonization plans and goals, the McKinsey report cites a higher-range projection that global temperatures are expected to increase by almost three degrees Celsius by 2050. Clean energy is expected to eventually be the worldwide majority fuel choice, meeting an estimated 80% of energy demand by 2050. However, progress has been slow due to the challenges of rising costs, longer project timelines, and badly needed grid expansion. Though solar and wind energy generation is expected to continue to grow, hydrogen as well as carbon capture and storage are expected to remain stagnant due to increased costs and regulatory uncertainty.

### Closing Thoughts

The Stage is clear, and the new direction of the Federal Government will create a divide between the Electrification and Renewable expansion in the cities, suburbs, and more rural areas. Some plans may be scrapped, and old school Natural Gas and Oil may be around longer than planned.

Richard Smith – GAC Chair.

Matt Catan – Co-Chair

[006ggac@ashrae.net](mailto:006ggac@ashrae.net)



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# Historian

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**“Those who forget their history are condemned to repeat it.”**

**-George Santayana (Philosopher)**

In the world of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration, history often guides our progress. The ASHRAE Long Island Chapter was established on a foundation of shared vision, technical rigor, and community support. This founding constitution, crafted with bold aspirations, laid down the fundamental principles and objectives that would drive the chapter’s mission over the decades to come.

This month’s article takes us back to the early days of the chapter’s formation, revisiting the foundational document that united local professionals around the shared goals of education, excellence, and industry advancement. The following page includes an excerpt from the ASHRAE Long Island’s founding constitution for your perusal.

**Thomas DiBenedetto, PE**  
**Historian**



# Refrigeration

Check out Trane Commercial Equipment Update on A2L Transition. The article can be found via accessing the below link:

[Trane Commercial Equipment Updated for Refrigerant Transition | ACHR News](#)

Trane Commercial Equipment Updated for A2L Transition

SWORDS, Ireland — As of Jan. 1, 2025, all newly manufactured commercial chillers for comfort heating and cooling, plus newly manufactured packaged and split-system HVAC units, must ship with low-GWP refrigerants in order to meet the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) HFC phase-down requirements.

“At Trane, we believe performance and sustainability can coexist. Transitioning to low-GWP refrigerants is one of the most effective decarbonization strategies for commercial buildings,” said Oakley Roberts, vice president of product management at Trane, said in a press release. “Trane is quickly transitioning its product lines, so our customers have the solutions they need to help successfully comply.”

According to a UL safety standard, ducted HVAC systems with more than 3.91 pounds of R-454B refrigerant must include one or more refrigerant leak-detection sensors. Trane is adding factory-installed leak-detection systems to models with more than 3.91 pounds of refrigerant charge, Trane’s press release said. In addition, those systems will be equipped with building automation systems (BAS) points so building engineers can use Trane’s integrated Symbio controllers to help detect and mitigate leaks.

Trane has updated the following product lines with R-454B refrigerant and a standard factory-installed leak-detection system on models with a refrigerant charge of more than 3.91 pounds:

- IntelliPak 3 rooftop units (RTUs)
- Axiom horizontal and vertical water-source heat pumps
- Axiom vertical-stack water-source heat pumps

“Factory-installed leak detection systems help give contractors and engineers peace of mind, save time and money by not having to install leak-detection systems in the field, and help give them confidence that low-GWP systems are operating safely and efficiently on day one,” said Roberts.

Trane's air-cooled and Thermafit modular units are designed to help reduce direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions. With higher efficiency and the use of low-GWP refrigerant, they help owners comply with changing regulations and help meet sustainability goals, the press release said. The following product lines have changed over to low-GWP refrigerants:

- Trane air-cooled models ACS, ACX, and CGAM are available with R-454B.
- The Trane air-cooled model ACR is available with R-513A.
- The Thermafit modular-unit chillers, models AXM, WXM, MWC, MWS, and AMC, are now available with R-454B.

Transitioning products to next-generation low-GWP refrigerants is an important part of Trane's climate commitment, the company said. In alignment with this commitment, all Performance Climate Changer air-handling units (models UCCA, CSAA, PSCA, TCFS, TCPA) are now available with A2L refrigerants.

Kenny Balci



# Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

## **Beyond Buzzwords: The Tangible Impact of DEI in Organizations**

*By Eli Sanchez, Associate Member ASHRAE*

Welcome to the age of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (or DEI for short). These three words have become the guiding stars for organizations navigating the ever-changing landscape of the global workplace. We live in an increasingly diverse world, with the U.S. diversifying faster than predicted, making DEI not a luxury but a necessity in today's organizations (ACCA, 2021). Organizations far and wide have launched these initiatives, moving past mere lip service to real strides in policy changes and heightened awareness about DEI. However, this journey is not without its fair share of hurdles. Implementing DEI initiatives can feel like navigating a labyrinth filled with challenges at every turn. Consensus-building can be tricky, especially when some view such initiatives as unwarranted or politically motivated (ASHRAE, 2023). And are we sparking meaningful change to bolster employee engagement? That is a tall order. However, take heart because every challenge is an opportunity in disguise. With insights from different sectors, from corporate to institutional to grassroots, we can learn to maneuver through these complexities and implement DEI initiatives that genuinely make a difference. It is time to embrace the transformative power of DEI and unlock new opportunities for our organizations. Let's roll up our sleeves and get started.

From my perspective, embracing DEI goes beyond satisfying societal norms or ticking the box of moral duty; it is a strategic powerhouse that showers an organization with undeniable benefits. And I am not the only one saying this. Hunt, Layton, and Prince (2015) have the numbers to back it up. Their study revealed that organizations that champion racial and ethnic diversity, placing them in the top quartile, are 35% more likely to score financial returns that eclipse their industry medians. On the flip side, those bunched up in the bottom quartile tend to find themselves in the shadows. This got me thinking, a company that takes the inclusive path is setting the stage for a progressive increase in its market share. But the goodies do not stop there; DEI initiatives also serve as launchpads for innovation and put decision-making prowess into the hands of teams. Phillips, Liljenquist, and Neale (2009) bolster this point in their research, emphasizing that diverse teams outmaneuver their more homogenous competitors by igniting a more thorough information processing style, an attribute often found lacking in homogenous groups.

As I delve into the matter, I find that despite DEI's clear advantages, stark disparities persist in specific sectors. Take, for instance, the glaring underrepresentation of women in several industries, a fact pointed out by the Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) back in 2019. According to WGEA, women make up less than a quarter of the workforce in fields such as construction, mining, HVACR, and certain manufacturing sectors. This gender imbalance is more than an issue of equity and inclusivity; it is a missed opportunity. By sidelining women, these industries lose out on the wealth of diverse perspectives and skills they offer. Recall what we discussed earlier. A workforce that reflects a wide range of perspectives can significantly enhance decision-making processes, leading to better business outcomes. So, here is my understanding: When DEI becomes a core part of an organization's mission, it is not just about doing what is right but about unlocking a host of opportunities. And this is not merely my viewpoint, but a body of recent scholarly research supports it:

1. **Improved Financial Performance:** Research has indicated a positive relationship between diversity and business performance. For instance, a study by Lorenzo et al. (2018) found that companies with more diverse management teams reported 19% higher revenues due to innovation.
2. **Enhanced Innovation and Creativity:** Diversity brings different perspectives, experiences, and ideas, leading to increased innovation and creativity. Diverse teams are better at problem-solving and show higher creativity and innovation (Lorenzo et al., 2018).
3. **Increased Employee Engagement:** Inclusive workplaces can increase employee engagement. Employees who feel valued and included are likely to be more committed and engaged. A study by Nishii (2013) found that an inclusive climate positively impacts the performance of diverse groups.
4. **Better Decision Making:** Dunbar-Hester (2020) suggests that inclusive and diverse teams contribute to a more dynamic decision-making process. In her book "Hacking Diversity: The Politics of Inclusion in Open Technology Cultures," she explores how diversity and inclusion lead to better results by fostering a broader range of perspectives and ideas. This echoes the sentiment of multiple studies indicating that decisions made and executed by diverse teams can lead to significantly improved outcomes.
5. **Improved Company Reputation:** Companies committed to DEI often enjoy an enhanced reputation, making attracting top talent and retaining existing employees easier (Dobbin & Kalev, 2016).
6. **Enhanced Work Culture:** A commitment to DEI enhances financial performance, fosters innovation, and positively shapes work culture, mitigating the risks of toxic environments that can harm employees' mental and physical health (Gallagher, 2022). This emphasis on respect, acceptance, and equitable treatment leads to healthier and more productive employees.

As we traverse the diverse terrain of 2023, the roles of DEI in the corporate world are strikingly evident. These principles have become more than just buzzwords – they are integral components of a winning organizational strategy. When organizations weave DEI into their core operations, it is not just a nod to inclusivity. They are also making a strategic move to embrace a diverse workforce and position themselves to harvest the rich benefits that such diversity brings. This is not just about ticking the right boxes – it is about shaping the success of an organization in a world that's as diverse as it is dynamic.

## References:

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# Sustainability

Engineering sustainability is crucial in today's world as it addresses the urgent need to develop systems and technologies that support both environmental health and long-term economic viability. Sustainable engineering promotes methods that minimize environmental impact, conserve resources, and reduce waste. By integrating sustainability into engineering practices, we are better equipped to address challenges like climate change, resource depletion, and pollution, all of which have significant implications for ecosystems and human well-being.

Beyond environmental benefits, engineering sustainability drives innovation and economic growth. Sustainable practices often encourage the use of renewable energy sources, recycled materials, and efficient production processes, which can reduce costs in the long run. Companies investing in sustainable engineering not only gain a competitive edge but also enhance their corporate reputation and appeal to consumers who are increasingly conscientious about the environmental impact of the products and services they choose. This alignment of sustainability with economic goals fosters a resilient economy that can adapt to changing global demands.

Moreover, sustainable engineering is fundamental to building resilient communities and infrastructure. With rising urban populations, engineers face the task of designing buildings, transportation systems, and utilities that can withstand environmental stressors, such as extreme weather events. By prioritizing sustainable practices, engineers contribute to creating infrastructure that is adaptable, durable, and resource-efficient, providing communities with reliable services and improved quality of life.

In the end, engineering sustainability is not merely an option but a necessity for creating a future where technology and the environment coexist in harmony. By prioritizing sustainable methods, we can ensure that future generations inherit a world that is both thriving and resilient.

Thank you.

Michael Razzano



# Research Promotion

**“If we knew what we’re doing it wouldn’t be called research”**

**– Albert Einstein**

I would like to thank everyone who attended RP night at the October Meeting. I would like to thank the companies who have participated in the annual Product Directory of Manufacturers and their Representatives. The product Directory has been prepared as a service to all its members and as a service to the local HVAC industry. It will be made available to all ASHRAE and non-ASHRAE members at no-cost and can be obtained from our monthly meetings or directly from our website.

This year’s overall research promotion goal is \$2,575,000 with many research projects on board. Our chapter is expected to raise \$29,100.00 towards the overall goal. I am hoping that I can count on the continued support of all our past contributors who have generously supported us over the years. I also look forward to gaining the support of new contributors this coming year. Last year we were successful in beating our goal and am hopeful that this year we can continuously raise the bar.

**Thank you to our contributors!**

## **Individuals**

Mr. John D. Nally

Mr. Peter J. Conte, PE

Ms. Elizabeth Jedrlinic

Mr. Kenny Balci

Mr. Steven Gerazounis

Mr. Murat Bayramoglu

Mr. Michael Steven Gerazounis

Mr. Matthew K. Catan

Mr. Thomas Arthur DiBenedetto

Mr. Zhigang Xu

Mr. Michael Nigro

Mr. Richard W. Smith

Mr. Donald W. Kane, PE

Mr. Michael H. Razzano

**Contributions can be made in the following ways:**

Mail checks, made out to ASHRAE Research Promotion to:

Peter Conte

ASHRAE Research Promotion Chair

PO BOX 79

Commack, NY 11725

Hand check to me at any of the chapter meetings.

PayPal from the ASHRAE Long Island Website

Click Donate Button

[www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)

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# Student Activities

Hello everyone!

Welcome to the inaugural edition of 2024-2025 ASHRAE calendar! I am thrilled to serve as the Student Activity Chair again. Our goal with this newsletter is to keep you informed, engaged, and inspired as we navigate the exciting world of HVAC&R together.

In this newsletter, you can expect to find updates on upcoming events, opportunities for professional development, and highlights of the incredible work being done by our student members. We aim to provide valuable insights into the latest industry trends and share resources that will help you succeed in your academic and professional endeavors.

This newsletter is designed to be a platform for you – our vibrant and talented student community. We encourage you to share your achievements, projects, and ideas with us so that we can celebrate and learn from each other. Whether you're looking for internship opportunities, tips on career development, or simply want to stay connected with the ASHRAE community, this newsletter has something for everyone.

## **2025 ASHRAE Winter Conference Student Program** **Join us in Orlando!**



ASHRAE is looking forward to convening in Orlando at the Hilton Orlando February 8-12, 2025. The conference will be an opportunity for students and other HVAC professionals from around the world to share industry ideas and learn more about ASHRAE.

Registration is now open.

[Learn More](#)

## **Kick-Off Virtual Round Table Branch Officers and Advisors**

**Thursday Sept 12th 1-2:30pm**

Come speak to and learn from Student Branch Officers and Advisors in our first Round Table of the year. We will discuss how to get a good start to the ASHRAE year, challenges that you may face in the first few months and some tips and tricks for success!

[Register Here](#)

## **Student Travel Grant**

**Applications due September 30th**

The Student Activities Committee is offering five \$1,000 USD travel grants to help subsidize students to travel to the Winter Conference in Orlando, Florida in February 2025.

[Apply Here](#)

## **44 Society Scholarships Available 2025-2026**

**Applications due December 1, 2024**

Through its scholarship program, ASHRAE seeks to motivate students worldwide to pursue an engineering or technology career in the HVAC&R field that will further promote sustainable technology for the built environment. Scholarships range from \$3,000 to \$12,500 and awarded for the academic year following the application deadline beginning with the fall semester. Qualified students are encouraged to apply at [ashrae.org/scholarships](http://ashrae.org/scholarships). Now accepting applications for our Society Level Undergraduate Engineering, Engineering Technology, Regional/Chapter, & University-specific Scholarships.

[Learn More](#)



## **Undergraduate Program Equipment Grants Applications due December 15, 2024**

The ASHRAE Undergraduate Program Equipment Grants provide funding to engineering, technical and architectural schools worldwide with the goal of increasing student knowledge, learning and awareness of the HVAC&R industry through the design and construction of equipment. Grants are to be used to fund equipment and supplies for senior projects and 2-year technical school projects that focus on ASHRAE-related topics. Grants may cover projects lasting from one academic term up to one year.

NEW grant award of up to \$25,000 for the top application!

[Learn More](#)

## **2024 ASHRAE High School Design Competition Submissions due December 30, 2024**



This competition is for students 13-18 years of age and provides the opportunity to take the first steps in designing a building's HVAC system. This competition will expose high school students to the process that designers and engineers go through when designing building systems.

[Learn More](#)

## **Registration open for the 2025 Student Design Competition**

The 2025 student competition focuses on a new medical office building in the heart of Manchester, England. Each team must register online to participate. The first deadline for the 2025 competition is May 4th, 2025. ASHRAE will recognize the outstanding student design projects at the 2026 ASHRAE Winter Meeting to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada January 31st-February 4th, 2026.

**[Learn more and register today!](#)**

## **2025 Setty Family Foundation Applied Engineering Challenge**



The 2024 Applied Engineering Challenge is focused on an innovative carbon capture and utilization module that integrates with existing HVAC&R systems. ASHRAE will recognize the winner with a \$5,000 prize and invite the entire team to the 2026 ASHRAE Winter Meeting to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada January 31st-February 4th, 2026.

**[Learn more and register today!](#)**

## 2025 Building Energy Quotient Competition

Students will have the opportunity to evaluate and audit building energy consumption for buildings in operation to give the building a Building EQ score using the ASHRAE Building EQ online tools.

[Learn more and register today!](#)

## Registration is now open for the Solar Decathlon® 2025 Design Challenge!



**Are you a student or professor interested in transforming buildings  
to tackle the climate crisis?**

Each year, interdisciplinary collegiate teams compete to create high-performance, low-carbon building designs that address real-world issues such as existing building retrofits, community impacts, affordability, and resilience. Learn more about the competition through the 2024 Design Challenge Recap video. Collegiate students and faculty—start gathering your team and register by October 23, 2024, to compete.

[Learn more and register today!](#)

## Transfer your membership to the Smart Start Program!

SmartStart is a 3-year program that allows Student members to transfer to Associate grade membership at a rate that is recent-graduate friendly.

Visit the [SmartStart](#) page to learn more.



Thank you for being a part of our ASHRAE family. If you have any suggestions or would like to assist in anyway with student activities, please let us know. Together, let's make this a year of growth, learning, and success.

Warm regards,  
Zhigang Xu  
Student Activity Chair

## Certification



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- Are developed by industry practitioners who understand the knowledge and experience that are expected for superior building design and system operation
- Assure employers and clients of subject mastery
- Serve as a springboard for continued professional development
- Offer an easy-to-apply process

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO - <https://www.ashrae.org/education--certification/certification>



Follow **ASHRAE** on **Twitter** @ashraenews for up-to-date news, events, and articles about HVAC&R. Search #MyASHRAE on Twitter to see member photos from around the world.

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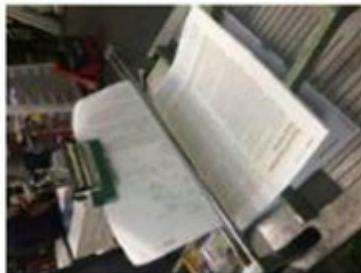


## Most Popular Tweets

**Does It Cost More To Build Green? Benefits include reduced operating costs & construction waste.**

**Online Thermal Comfort Compliance Tool Included In New ASHRAE User's Manual.**

**87% of households in the US have #AC, 5% do in India. India's tough choice on air-conditioning and climate.**



**The November issue of the Journal is tested for binding strength to see how many times a page can be turned before the binding would fail.**

**Harvard & SUNY Upstate Medical University find that workers are healthier and happier in certified green buildings.**

**ASHRAE Standard 90.1 has been redefining energy savings since 1975. A new version is available now.**

**Adapting historical buildings for sustainable reuse.**

Get To Know ASHRAE





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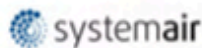
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