



Dustin Bales

Dustin Bales Awarded William Brewster Snow Award

*Awarded by American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists to
top Master's degree environmental engineering student*

TAMPA, Fla (April 1, 2013) The American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists (AAEES) has awarded Mr. **Dustin Bales** their **2013 William Brewster Snow Award**. This award is made to an outstanding environmental engineering student currently pursuing or recently completing a Master's degree in environmental engineering or closely related degree program. The award recognizes talented and dedicated environmental engineers as practice and technical leaders of the future. Dustin will receive the award at the Excellence in Environmental Engineering and Science Awards Luncheon and Conference held at the National Press Club (Washington, D.C.) on April 25.

Dustin was awarded an M.S. degree in environmental engineering from the University of South Florida (USF) in December, 2012. He is also part of the Peace Corps Master's International Program at USF and will begin his training and two years of engineering Peace Corps service in Uganda in April where he will implement water and sanitation engineering projects. His graduate advisors were Maya Trotz (Associate Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering) and Dawn Lei, PhD (Water Quality Assurance Officer, Water Department, City of Tampa).

For the past two years while completing his graduate degree requirements, Dustin worked at the David L. Tippin Water Treatment Facility that serves the City of Tampa and surrounding areas. There he was able complete pilot scale biofiltration and bromate control research studies that will reduce chlorine demand and bromate levels while resulting in annual savings of \$1 million. He presented a paper on his research titled "Bench Scale Evaluation of Chlorine Ammonia Process for Bromate Control During Ozonation" that was awarded the Best Paper Award at the fall 2012 conference of the Florida Chapter of the American Water Works Association.

Dustin has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Missouri Science & Technology and has passed the FE examination in Missouri. As an undergraduate student, Dustin served as president of his university's Engineers Without Borders – USA (EWB-USA) student chapter and was leader on a project to supply safe drinking water to a rural community in Honduras. He has also served as a mentor to the student chapter of EWB-USA at the University of South Florida. After graduation, Dustin plans to remain

in the engineering practice as a developing world water/sanitation/hygiene (WASH) engineer working for USAID or some nongovernmental organization (e.g., Oxfam, CARE, or Action Against Hunger) or return to the United States and seek employment with a utility or engineering consulting firm with specialization in water or wastewater treatment.

The American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists is a group of highly-qualified environmental engineers and environmental scientists that was founded in 1955 for the principal purpose of serving the public by improving the practice, elevating the standards, and advancing public recognition of environmental engineering through a program of specialty certification of qualified environmental engineers and scientists.

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The University of South Florida is a high-impact, global research university dedicated to student success. USF is classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in the top tier of research universities, a distinction attained by only 2.2 percent of all universities. The Carnegie Foundation also classifies USF as a community engaged university. It is ranked 44th in total research expenditures and 34th in federal research expenditures for public universities by the National Science Foundation. The USF System has an annual budget of \$1.5 billion, an annual economic impact of \$3.7 billion, and serves 47,000 students in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee and Lakeland.