

ISIE Student Board 2019 Elections Candidate Statements

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Candidates for Vice-Diversity & Inclusion Officer (V-DIO)

Vote for **one (1) V-DIO** from the following four (4) candidates :

			
<p>Meshal Jamal Abdullah Institute Country: Japan</p>	<p>Negesa Doryn Institute Country: China</p>	<p>Diana Ita Nagy Institute Country: Peru</p>	<p>Eliette Restrepo Institute Country: Switzerland and Norway</p>

Meshal Jamal Abdullah

Institute Country: **Japan**, Nationality: **Kuwaiti**

Current Institute: Tohoku University

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Water Footprint and Multi-regional Industrial Commodities Analysis

Duration of the current program: from 04/2019 to 03/2022 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

Finding innovative solutions to challenging environmental issues requires establishing, maintaining and facilitating active communication networks among the full spectrum of stakeholder groups in order to meet development goals in a sustainable and environmentally responsible way. Equally important is a robust communication network within individual stakeholder groups — such as scientists — to keep on top of current research from a variety of viewpoints and practical applications. Becoming a board member in an international group of researchers focused on integrating environmental concerns with economic activities and the promotion of industrial ecology allows me to contribute to the important task of fostering a community of peers for the collective betterment of our individual work in this critical field.

With work experience spanning over ten years with the Kuwait Environment Public Authority (K-EPA) as a Unit Head and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as a Junior Professional Officer, I have firsthand experience with the cross-cutting issues that affect project cycles from conception to implementation and monitoring to policy development. Through this, in addition to the experience of living and studying as an international student in a vastly different cultural and educational context from my home country, I have come to recognize how easy it is to make the mistake of overlooking inclusiveness, community involvement and public awareness in favor of a one-size-fits-all procedure based on broad assumptions. To achieve equitable and sustainable development and human security, we must bridge the gap from this traditional process to acknowledging and respecting the contextual diversity and individualistic needs in planning, policy and research development and implementation. This is especially true for the thematic area of my PhD topic that looks at the water footprint and multiregional industrial commodities.

As a board member I would like to facilitate connections among my fellow members who come from a diverse spectrum of institutions and cultural backgrounds. An important aspect would be developing social opportunities to strengthen cooperation and sharing in order to transcend cultural differences and provide a safe, inclusive and respectful community where members can satisfy academic, cultural and professional inquiries.

Short statement for V-DIO candidates only

Understanding and accepting the fact that people generally have different characteristics and backgrounds means that they are also more likely to have a variety of different skills and experiences. Higher group diversity allows for a greater spectrum of perspectives on a multitude of issues. This carries with it the potential for increased creativity and a broader knowledge base from which to draw potential solutions. Diversity and inclusion is the key to a more empathetic and highly innovative social and academic group where scholars from different educational systems and cultural backgrounds are capable of understanding different viewpoints and working together more effectively for a common purpose. Ultimately, this fosters an environment to develop future open-minded leaders with inclusive decision-making skills better suited for an increasingly globalized context.

My interest and support for diversity and inclusion efforts stems from my personal experiences, bolstered by corporate and UN trainings on sensitivity and inclusiveness, and through my life coaching certification. Initiatives that I would pursue in this role include promotion of gender inclusive language in all group communications and actively engaging members in welcoming personal pronoun preferences, investing in group community-building activities that focus on empathy and cultural sensitivity, creation of a neutral safe space (digital or other expressive outlets) to allow for the initiation of sensitive dialogue in a stigma-free context, and involving members in identifying sensitive issues and non-inclusive behaviors and biases that can be actively resolved and proactively avoided.

Negesa Doryn

Institute Country: **China**, Nationality: **Ugandan**

Current Institute: Tsinghua University

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Environmental Management and Policy

Duration of the current program: from 08/14 to 06/20 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

Living in China for the past 12 years as a black African female has made diversity and inclusivity a necessity for survival. quintessentially, I am attempting to find inclusivity in different events- from within the academia, such as attending certain conferences where language might be a barrier but I am not included due to assumptions of not understanding yet am fluent in Mandarin, certain jobs that are only specific to native English speakers yet I am from an African English native speaking country, are a few of the struggles. In spite of this, I completed an internship in 2011 at a Chinese company specializing in oil drilling with offices both in China and Uganda which has given me firsthand insights into the practice of the impact of dumping waste without any regard to minimum standards in Uganda. Therefore, it is what triggered my desire to pursue a degree in environmental management and policy that placed me under an amazing supervisor.

I am conducting research on the sustainable development of Eco-industrial parks in Africa. This stems from my experience above and additionally from the rapid industrial development in Africa that is currently focused on economic gain at the depletion of biodiversity. I am passionate about this mostly because most of the European countries and Asian countries are relocating their industries to Africa and I fear the standards set in the West and East are not being implemented in the relocated countries. With the impending doom of climate change and the extreme cost of recovery as seen in the case of China's air pollution, steps must be taken at the early development stages. This will mitigate future environmental issues.

Short statement for V-DIO candidates only

I had the opportunity to participate in the 2018 Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) Climate corps fellowship program. I was the first foreigner and African to participate in the Chinese cohort and opened the door for the opportunity to engage more in diversity through showcasing the work I did with them over a summer fellowship at Kingfisher Plc in Shanghai, subsequently, two foreign students were selected for the 2019 cohort because of the impression I made as the pioneer.

As a Diversity and Inclusion Officer I would work to engage more mentorship opportunities for the least developing countries as the ISIE has a huge number of talented scholars with vast years of experience and lessons to offer to the community. Exchange will be encouraged and all voices will be heard to make for further progress in industrial ecology globally.

Diana Ita Nagy

Institute Country: **Peru**, Nationality: **Peruvian**

Current Institute: Peruvian Life Cycle Assessment and Industrial Ecology Network (PELCAN) / Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru (PUCP)

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Life Cycle Impact Assessment Methodologies

Duration of the current program: from March/2019 to December/2021 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

Since I came into the world of industrial ecology, I began to realize how broad this is and the importance of centralizing the different edges that this area of study entails. Thus, having a platform like the ISIE, and especially the ISIE Student Chapter, allows us to exchange ideas among other students of industrial ecology and within experts in the field, permitting us to grow as professionals.

I am an environmental engineer, which I studied in Lima, Peru. After completing my bachelor's degree, I worked for five years in consulting, specifically in the environmental management of extractive activities in Peru. This work experience allowed me to interact with professionals of all levels and experience, fully understand the main environmental and social problems of my country and countries with similar realities, and seek for efficient solutions from an environmental perspective. After that, I studied a master's program in Industrial Ecology at the universities of Leiden and TU Delft in the Netherlands. In the two years of that program, I managed to expand my knowledge related to the global environmental problems, and the possible tools to address them. Finally, since 2017, I am part of PELCAN, working as a researcher on LCA issues, and part of PUCP as an undergraduate professor.

If I become part of the Student Chapter Board, I would like to foster an environment that invites current and future members of the ISIE community to actively participate in semi-formal online meetings. During these meetings, topics could be proposed by the students themselves, to promote the exchange of experiences and knowledge in order to find synergies among the existing areas of expertise. Also, next year, in July 2020, the ISIE Americas will be held in Peru, and PELCAN and the PUCP are the hosts. During this event, one of our main objectives is to achieve the exchange between students from all over the world, within the theme of industrial ecology to achieve resilient and sustainable cities over time. Being a current PhD student, and possibly a member of the Student Chapter Board, will allow me to boost this exchange.

Short statement for V-DIO candidates only

Countries like Peru are currently working towards creating a more inclusive and diverse environment. The world of academia continues to be dominated by male researchers and developed countries, although this figure is already changing, there is still a need to push a bit towards that direction. A diverse and inclusive space allows us to expand common vision to a more holistic one, incorporating needs and solutions from different points of view. Likewise, diversity is a starting point for creating variability in thinking, ways of seeing the world and facing problems from different perspectives and experiences, enriching the exchange.

During my master studies, I became part of the Latin American Student Association of Delft (LATITUD), focusing on professional networking. The creation of this network was driven by the need to create a space to showcase the capabilities and achievements of Latin American fellow students as an example and motivation for new ones. During those two years, I could see how a right space helped create a strong and empathetic community.

If I become part of the Diversity and Inclusion Office, I would use my previous experiences to create a more inclusive environment, and I would try my best to represent my Latin American colleagues, and other less represented groups, in order to enable greater exchange among them and the rest of the world. I would like to start interacting with research groups present in areas that need to receive greater inclusion, and to be able to exchange opportunities between them, as well as encourage their participation in events within the ISIE. Following the example of "Women in STEM", there could be special areas of exchange for these groups, to increase their visibility in the scientific world.

Eliette Restrepo

Institute Country: **Switzerland and Norway**, Nationality: **Colombian**

Current Institute: Empa and NTNU

(joint position at the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology – Empa, and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology – NTNU)

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Recycling of car electronics

Duration of the current program: from 2014 to 2020 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

Hi! I'm Eliette, a mechanical engineer from Colombia, currently doing my PhD in Switzerland and Norway. My research is informing Swiss recycling policy on how to optimize the recycling of car electronics so that we can improve the recovery of critical metals (for example rare earths and precious metals).

I am pursuing the position as Vice-Diversity & Inclusion Officer (V-DIO). As a Latin American woman of color, I know what is like to be a minority. I'm a mechanical engineer. This means, I was one of the four females among the 54 students that graduated in my cohort (2009). Yes, we were the 7.4% here. I also worked at a nickel mine; you can imagine that this was again not a very "girly" thing to do back then. Later, I set myself to two cultural challenges: a master at the ETH in Switzerland and a PhD at the NTNU in Norway, so for a while, I was once more part of a small group of people that were "different". Ah, and because it was getting all too comfortable around the middle of my PhD studies, I decided to have a child ;-). As a result of my life experiences, I've become skilled at improving inclusivity in every context I am. As V-DIO, I will put these skills at your service and commit to being a point of contact for student members that are facing challenges related to, among others, where they come from, the color of the skin, whether they have kids or not, their gender, sexual orientation and religion.

Short statement for V-DIO candidates only

If you belong to a minority, I get you. I know what it is like to spend countless hours in a myriad of offices to get your student card, or your immigration documents. As a mom, I also know what is like to answer silly questions such as where my child is at when I'm working.

If you belong to a majority, I get you too. I know that you care and I can strengthen your efforts towards including those who aren't in the majority. And why is this so important? Why is it better to have a diverse and inclusive ISIE community rather than a homogeneous and exclusive one? Well, for starters, we are a **global community** that researches **global problems**, such as climate change, food supply chain, water scarcity, and resource depletion. By including and understanding humans from across the globe, we can make our results more **significant and impactful**.

Aside from supporting the Chief-DIO in her current activities, some of my concrete ideas to tackle diversity and inclusion as V-DIO are:

- First: **Talk about it**. You might be part of a few, but you are definitely not the only one. I will direct efforts towards creating a platform where you can drop your ideas, questions or concerns regarding inclusivity and diversion. Here, you can also find other students that have successfully conquered the situation you're in, and learn how they've managed.
- Second: **Visibility**. I will commit to improving the diverse representation of our student members in the activities of the Student Chapter.
- Third: **Balance**. I will devote to increasing recruitment of student members that are currently underrepresented.

Candidates for Board Member At-Large

Vote for **three (3) members** from the following ten (10) candidates :

	<p>Meshal Jamal Abdullah Institute Country: Japan</p>		<p>Amelie Michalke Institute Country: Germany</p>
	<p>Glenn A. Aguilar-Hernandez Institute Country: Netherlands</p>		<p>Diana Ita Nagy Institute Country: Peru</p>
	<p>Bertram de Boer Institute Country: Netherlands</p>		<p>Daniel Itzamna Avila Ortega Institute Country: Austria</p>
	<p>Sónia Martins da Cunha Institute Country: Portugal</p>		<p>Ferdinand Revellio Institute Country: Austria</p>
	<p>Aishwarya Iyer Institute Country: United States</p>		<p>Yang Qiu Institute Country: United States</p>

Meshal Jamal Abdullah

Institute Country: **Japan**, Nationality: **Kuwaiti**

Current Institute: Tohoku University

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Water Footprint and Multi-regional Industrial Commodities

Analysis

Duration of the current program: from 04/2019 to 03/2022 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

Finding innovative solutions to challenging environmental issues requires establishing, maintaining and facilitating active communication networks among the full spectrum of stakeholder groups in order to meet development goals in a sustainable and environmentally responsible way. Equally important is a robust communication network within individual stakeholder groups—such as scientists—to keep on top of current research from a variety of viewpoints and practical applications. Becoming a board member in an international group of researchers focused on integrating environmental concerns with economic activities and the promotion of industrial ecology allows me to contribute to the important task of fostering a community of peers for the collective betterment of our individual work in this critical field.

With work experience spanning over ten years with the Kuwait Environment Public Authority as a Unit Head and the UNDP as a Junior Professional Officer, I have firsthand experience with the cross-cutting issues that affect project cycles from conception to implementation and monitoring to policy development. Through this, in addition to the experience of living and studying as an international student in a vastly different cultural and educational context from my home country, I have come to recognize how easy it is to make the mistake of overlooking inclusiveness, community involvement and public awareness in favor of a one-size-fits-all procedure based on broad assumptions. To achieve equitable and sustainable development and human security, we must bridge the gap from this traditional process to acknowledging and respecting the contextual diversity and individualistic needs in planning, policy and research development and implementation. This is especially true for the thematic area of my PhD topic that looks at the water footprint and multiregional industrial commodities.

As a board member I would like to facilitate connections among my fellow members who come from a diverse spectrum of institutions and cultural backgrounds. An important aspect would be developing social opportunities to strengthen cooperation and sharing in order to transcend cultural differences and provide a safe, inclusive and respectful community where members can satisfy academic, cultural and professional inquiries.

Short statement for At-Large candidates only

To better engage and serve members, the Board could incorporate digital voting into the planning process to tailor group events to members' needs and interests, as well as an accessible feedback and suggestion mechanism to ensure that members' voices are being heard. The Board could initiate an outreach program to international organizations for the purpose of establishing a communication network that would connect group members' interests and research with real world issues and on-the-ground context. Professionals in this network could provide input and feedback on projects, alert the group to funding opportunities, and provide career support for group members through internships, referrals, and exposure to HR protocols at relevant organizations. The Board could also create an ambassador program with other student groups to allow members to exchange knowledge and experience in a wider academic context to help break down silos and foster interdisciplinary cooperation. A bulletin of cultural and academic activities offered by members' universities could provide opportunities for cross-institutional participation and facilitate access to online courses or conferences of interest. An accompanying feedback or rating board would help members make informed decisions from the catalog of choices.

To maximize accessibility to the virtual Peer Groups, I envision a user-friendly mobile app. Features could include support forums for a multitude of issues from academic to stress management and other life hacks, designated links to relevant social media groups and networks that would be of use to members, and a cloud sharing service where members could upload useful content, such as classes, talks, or even live-stream events, tutorial videos and digital manuals for specialized software and tools. A board with potential research topics and interest lists could also allow senior students to provide insight from their experience about promising research directions and links to external contacts.

For the 7th Symposium in 2021 I strongly support team building activities and community strengthening initiatives. This could involve creating group badges (sentimental value as well as community building), engaging in social bonding activities, from casual dinner to an organized trip if feasible or even a signature swap! Members would use a stamp, sticker or even a simple signature next to their name on a participant list to promote meet and greet and contact exchange. This type of activity also facilitates inclusion of socially anxious members by providing a concrete task to accomplish during each interaction.

Glenn A. Aguilar-Hernandez

Institute Country: **The Netherlands**, Nationality: **Costa Rican**

Current Institute: Institute of Environmental Sciences (CML), Leiden University

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Macro-level assessment of environmental and economic implications of a circularity transition

Duration of the current program: from 12/2016 to 11/2020 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

I am currently a PhD candidate in the Circular European Economy Innovative Training Network project (Circuit), where my aim is to understand the environmental and economic implications of a circular economy transition at macro-level. My motivation to become a student board member comes from my interest in sharing ideas and engaging with a community that is looking to address sustainability issues through the application of industrial ecology tools.

My experience comprises R&D in academic and non-academic organizations regarding multiple subjects, such as bioenergy, resource use and sustainability analysis. I obtained a bachelor degree of chemistry from the University of Costa Rica and a master of sustainability from the University of Sydney, Australia. I worked as production supervisor and researcher in a biodiesel company, in which I developed teamwork and leadership skills. In addition, I contributed to bioenergy projects and a climate change adaptation program at the University of Costa Rica.

During my masters studies, I specialized on techniques for sustainability analysis and I developed a project at the Centre for Integrated Sustainability Analysis at the University of Sydney, where I focused on the application of global, multiregional input-output analysis on biodiversity studies.

If I had the opportunity to become a student board member, I would like to support the members of the ISIE student community by collaborating in the main events and platforms brought by the Student Chapter Board, and also by involving more students in the ISIE network.

Short statement for At-Large candidates only

I would like to bring my support to the current activities of Student Chapter Board. Furthermore, I would like to:

- Engage with ISIE students through regional events: As our community is spreading worldwide, it might be convenient to encourage the interaction of members within a country/region prior the international events. That is why I think it might be useful to organize regional events where students of specific countries can get together and share ideas in a casual setting (for example, as an ISIE Student Meet & Mingle event). This also can lead to engage more students that are not yet part of the ISIE community.
- Foster career counselling activities: As students, we face (sooner or later) decisions about which career path we might take. I would like to provide students with guidance for future career development. For example, by creating webinars of career counselling or providing workshops in the main events.

I am very interested in the initiative of virtual peer groups. I think that a key aspect to ensure its benefits is to bring a friendly environment for constructive feedback. We could achieve friendly peer groups if we provide to the participants a proper training. For example, by providing webinars focused on peer group scheme and its impact on research. In this way, the students can learn more about best practices for providing/receiving feedback and their interaction with the peer groups.

Moreover, I believe that I can bring very useful ideas for the upcoming Symposium in Industrial Ecology for Young Professionals in 2021. I have lived in the Netherlands for the past 3 years and I think that we can find suitable activities for this event. I have organized events for my PhD fellows, such as writing workshops and networking meetings. Thus, there are plenty of options that we can explore for the upcoming event.

I look forward to sharing my ideas ISIE Student Chapter.

Bertram de Boer

Institute Country: **The Netherlands**, Nationality: **Dutch**

Current Institute: Institute of Environmental Sciences, Leiden University

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Trade-offs and synergies in environmental policy

Duration of the current program: from 01/16 to 12/20 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

The ISIE Student Chapter faces a huge challenge.

On the one hand, student communities are a vital part of what makes doing a PhD so fun and engaging. In our world of academia, national borders don't seem to matter as much and over the years I had the pleasure of meeting many of you at different opportunities. On the other hand, the current board raised the critical issue of 'walking the talk' when it comes to reducing our carbon footprint caused by air travel.

How to foster such a community while at the same time reducing air travel? This is the platform on which I am running.

Short statement for At-Large candidates only

At first glance, in this digital day and age we now have more tools than ever to facilitate our community. At the same time, information overload is a very real thing in our lives. Yet Another Newsletter might not cut it. Our email boxes are full enough as they are. Moreover, meeting face-to-face still offers a lot of value which is hard to replicate in a virtual environment.

That is why I propose a balance between virtual and real life encounters, where we organize in layers of complexity. At the lowest level, we get organized through IM services like WhatsApp. Such a group would offer the opportunity to get to know each other in a low effort environment. At the same time, it would facilitate organizing regional meet-ups.

From there, we can start to think bigger. Here, plans such as the virtual peer groups come into play. This summer I had an amazing experience during the virtual world cafe that was organized alongside the 6th SIEYP. This format of panel discussions in combination with real time collaborative minute taking through Google Docs proved to be invaluable.

Personally, I see two key topics that are of interest to many of us which could benefit from such a platform, and which could serve as themes for the 7th SIEYP: Policy relevance, and modeling/programming.

For the former, I can draw from my participation in this year's Young Scientists Summer Program at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis. This program offers a unique opportunity to collaborate with those who are directly involved with setting the stage for current debates on pressing environmental challenges. My aim is to introduce their expertise in our community, e.g. through seminars and virtual world cafes.

For the latter, I found that our community on the one hand has a lot of expertise when it comes to modeling and programming, and a great need for such expertise on the other. I aim to bring together both worlds in our community, where experts among us can offer their insight and help to others. This would foster collaboration and strengthen our community.

Finally, as the ISIE conference will take place in my home town I am keen to welcome you all here. Solidifying the possibility for virtually attending this conference and the 7th SIEYP would be one of my key efforts.

Sónia Martins da Cunha

Institute Country: **Portugal**, Nationality: **Portuguese**

Current Institute: Instituto Superior Técnico (IST), UL

Current Status: PhD Student

Subject of study/degree: Sustainable energy Systems, Circular economy and urban metabolism

Duration of the current program: from 09/2016 to 12/2020 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

After attending this year's ISIE conference and feeling so welcomed by the members of the student chapter I would like to contribute with my time and skillset to the growth of the ISIE student Chapter Board by becoming a Board Member At-Large. I believe this to be a great community and I feel that by contributing to its success I can have a positive impact and give a little back.

I am currently doing a PhD focused on subjects such as circular economy and urban metabolism. Nevertheless, I am always happy to learn more about other subjects whether they are in the realm of industrial ecology or not, as I am a fan of multidisciplinary approaches to problem solving. Before my PhD I worked for a H2020 project shared between the cities of Milan, London and Lisbon. This is a big project with a focus on the implementation of multiple actions to promote urban sustainability. I felt I truly got to experience how local governments and companies struggle in the implementation of such actions.

In Beijing I found the student Chapter to be made up by likeminded, incredibly intelligent individuals that strive to make the world a better place and that truly care. I hope to be able to stimulate the engagement of the Industrial Ecology students so that the stimulating and inspirational conversations I had in Beijing can occur throughout the year, despite the distance between its members. I also hope to have a better understanding of the member needs and to be able to contribute to the implementation of actions that can satisfy those needs and go beyond them.

Short statement for At-Large candidates only

If I become an At-Large member of the board, I will promote a questionnaire and some interviews of student members to get better insight on how the students feel the Student Chapter could better serve them.

I would like to promote the creation of a series MOOCs/videos/online workshops taught by members that are experts in a certain field. I believe these could be incredible useful for new students and for existing ones that would like to know more about a certain subject from a trusted source. Having experience teaching and organizing a summer school, I am confident this can be implemented.

From experience, I feel that initiatives such as the Peer Groups can only be successful if they truly engage its members by having them work for a common goal. Hence, I propose the creation of a list of problems and questions to be explored within the groups. The groups should meet via skype at least once a month. Hopefully these will result in marketable solutions, new methodologies and solutions or joint papers. There are no limits to what a group of motivated people can achieve by working together, even when they can only commit a limited amount of time.

Unfortunately, I didn't join the student activities in Beijing, but I believe they were quite a success. I would be happy to contribute to the organization of similar initiatives in the 7th Symposium in Industrial Ecology for Young Professionals. Furthermore, I believe that it could be a great icebreaker and a fun, useful activity to have the Peer Groups meet and invite new students that are not yet members with the aim of tackling an Industrial Ecology problem. From talks with colleagues around the world, I feel that it could be quite useful to have a special session about mental health for PhD students and in Academia as well.

I hope you find that I can positively contribute for an even better ISIE Student Chapter as a Board Member At-Large.

Aishwarya Iyer

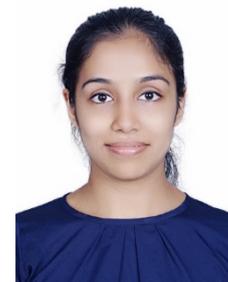
Institute Country: **USA**, Nationality: **Indian**

Current Institute: Yale University

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Industrial Ecology

Duration of the current program: from 08/18 to 05/23 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

The way human actions and life impact the environment has always interested me. After completing my Bachelors and Masters in Energy Science and Engineering, I felt the need to further understand the effects of broader energy uses on the environment. While looking for PhD positions, I came across the field of Industrial Ecology, which brought together a lot of topics of my interest and their associated subjects. My experience with the field so far excites me, and I would like to contribute to the effort to bring the research and breakthroughs in this field to more students across the world. The ISIE conference, and its excellent work at bringing together Industrial Ecologists from across the globe in different walks of their academic life, seems like a perfect first step towards this goal.

Industrial Ecology is an interdisciplinary area of study, with possible impacts on and contributions from a variety of other areas, including engineering, social sciences, geo-satellite studies, etc. A stronger community and outreach program in Industrial Ecology will benefit the overall effort against climate change. I have experienced a close-knit, yet welcoming community of Industrial Ecologists, both at Yale and in a summer spent in Austria, and I have received inspiration and advice from many of these people. Having participated only in one of the online events of ISIE this year, I was privy to some of the interesting discussions and topics introduced at the conference. As a board member, I would want to further access to this conference to other people across the globe, and add to the effort to further smoothen and ease out the process for existing members.

Short statement for At-Large candidates only

As someone who was unable to attend the conference this year, I think the Peer Groups initiative is an excellent one, and having participated in the online discussion for non-attending members prior to ISIE 2019, I believe it can be a huge success, creating exchange of ideas and collaborations. Some ideas for adding on to this initiative are creating mini talks from researchers to begin a certain discussion, allowing people to present and discuss their research, maybe connecting presenters with experienced students as first responders for these presentations.

Due to rising concerns about the emissions involved in flying to conferences, and also to improve accessibility to the conference and its proceedings to more people, I would like to work towards creating online live access to some of the conference talks and events for all those who are registered with ISIE. Working with the initiative of creating peer groups, interested people from each peer group can sign up to particular sessions, talks, and discussions.

For the conference in 2021, and the symposium, I would love to be part of both the organization and communication teams. Having worked for 2 years with the media team for Mood Indigo, the largest college fest in Asia, with more than 80000 visitors, I have some experience organizing and promoting events with people visiting from different parts of the world. In ISIE, I hope to be able to bring some of this experience, and also learn more about the organization of an international academic conference.

Amelie Michalke

Institute Country: **Germany**, Nationality: **German**

Current Institute: University of Greifswald, Institute of Geography and Geology

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Sustainability Science and Applied Geography

Duration of the current program: from 2019 to 2021 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

My first experience with the ISIE community was the Conference in Beijing in July 2019. What stood out to me the most about this great event was the engagement of the Student Chapter Board during the Symposium for Young Professionals and also throughout the whole conference. Meeting all these enthusiastic, inspiring and motivated young scientists in a relaxed setting before the actual conference emphasized open conversations about Industrial Ecology and beyond. All the ideas I gained from joining workshops, engaging in discussion rounds, and even sharing the mic on karaoke night helped me tremendously in shaping my further academic and personal future – all of which is what I would love to give back to the student community during the next term.

My academic background is in Industrial Engineering. However, through the research project I've been working on for the past three years my academic and personal engagement transitioned towards approaches for environmentally and socially sustainable shifts within the agricultural sector. From a scientific perspective I feel very well rooted within the field of Industrial Ecology and I benefit tremendously from the interdisciplinarity of the ISIE community.

Although I am currently at the very beginning of my PhD program, I was able to gain experience in the field of academia during the last year especially, be that scientific research, presenting at professional conferences and publishing papers. Therefore, I feel like I'd be a great candidate to especially help younger students find their way into the realms of academia or the ISIE community in particular.

Short statement for At-Large candidates only

I think engagement with the student group could be emphasized through channels of social media. The Student Chapter could introduce its members, or members of the board, as well as research successes of the ISIE community and especially its student members in an approachable way. This would give student members a chance to further the reach of their research, synergies of different research projects could be discovered more easily during the time between conferences and possible anxiety before conferences could be relieved as research and members are presented in a casual setting regardless of any alleged hierarchies.

For the initiative of Peer Groups, I would like to implement periodical skype conferences where student members get a chance to share their proceedings, successes and hardships occurring throughout their research projects. In a group of uninvolved but thematically informed people I'm sure there's a lot to learn as well as solutions to be found together. Also, these skype calls could be used to practice presentations and get feedback to help calm the nerves and improve individual preparation and presentation skills before professional conferences like the ISIE Conference 2021.

For the 7th Symposium for Young Professionals I think it'd be great to include some sort of "Keeping up with the Peer Groups" to find out what happened scientifically for the members but also which practices were beneficial for the success of the PGs to learn from each other across the groups and improve the initiative further. Also, maybe a round of workshops specifically targeted towards the supposedly difficult areas of scientific research like "data mining", "publishing", "funding proposals", with workshop leaders that have expertise in these fields would benefit the student members.

The 6th SIEYP was such a great experience for me personally and I look forward to being a student member and a part of the ISIE community in the future. More so, I would love to engage even further as a member of the Student Chapter Board!

Diana Ita Nagy

Institute Country: **Peru**, Nationality: **Peruvian**

Current Institute: Peruvian Life Cycle Assessment and Industrial Ecology Network (PELCAN)
/ Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru (PUCP)

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Life Cycle Impact Assessment Methodologies

Duration of the current program: from 2019 to 2021 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

Since I came into the world of industrial ecology, I began to realize how broad this is and the importance of centralizing the different edges that this area of study entails. Thus, having a platform like the ISIE, and especially the ISIE Student Chapter, allows us to exchange ideas among other students of industrial ecology and within experts in the field, permitting us to grow as professionals.

I am an environmental engineer, which I studied in Lima, Peru. After completing my bachelor's degree, I worked for five years in consulting, specifically in the environmental management of extractive activities in Peru. This work experience allowed me to interact with professionals of all levels and experience, fully understand the main environmental and social problems of my country and countries with similar realities, and seek for efficient solutions from an environmental perspective. After that, I studied a master's program in Industrial Ecology at the universities of Leiden and TU Delft in the Netherlands. In the two years of that program, I managed to expand my knowledge related to the global environmental problems, and the possible tools to address them. Finally, since 2017, I am part of PELCAN, working as a researcher on LCA issues, and part of PUCP as an undergraduate professor.

If I become part of the Student Chapter Board, I would like to foster an environment that invites current and future members of the ISIE community to actively participate in semi-formal online meetings. During these meetings, topics could be proposed by the students themselves, to promote the exchange of experiences and knowledge in order to find synergies among the existing areas of expertise. Also, next year, in July 2020, the ISIE Americas will be held in Peru, and PELCAN and the PUCP are the hosts. During this event, one of our main objectives is to achieve the exchange between students from all over the world, within the theme of industrial ecology to achieve resilient and sustainable cities over time. Being a current PhD student, and possibly a member of the Student Chapter Board, will allow me to boost this exchange.

Short statement for At-Large candidates only

During my master studies, I became part of the Latin American Student Association of Delft (LATITUD), focusing on professional networking. This experience showed me that it is not only important to provide a space for exchange, but also there have to be ways of enhancing this exchange. One idea I have in mind to engage students to join and share within the student chapter, is to separate topics related to industrial ecology in different forum areas. Topics could be differentiated from technical specific subjects, to every-day student problems. I have realized that sometimes students have similar concerns in similar topics, and identifying these issues in separated forums could be a way to engage them into exchanging experiences and ideas.

In previous activities I participated on, a dynamic that showed good results at the beginning of student workshops was a "scientific speed date" activity, where face-to-face short discussions were developed in couples, allowing students describe their investigation topics, expertise and doubts. This platform of exchange allowed students to quickly get to know each other and find people with similar doubts and expertise. During conferences, I think that a similar exercise could be done by gathering students in a classroom and dividing them in groups around big topics of concern. This could allow students share their doubts and, hopefully, find valuable points of view.

Additionally, it could be useful to continue developing the idea of virtual meetings for assistants to the conference and students that due to different circumstances won't be able to assist but would like to share some insights and ideas in different topics of discussion. With a meeting previous to the conference, students that will physically participate will feel more comfortable, and could increase the exchange during the actual meeting. Students that won't assist, on the other hand, will feel encouraged to attend future events.

Daniel Itzamna Avila Ortega

Institute Country: **Austria**, Nationality: **Mexican**

Current Institute: Institute of Social Ecology, BOKU

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Social Ecology/Dr. Rer. Nat. (The butterfly effect: deforestation and commodities)



Duration of the current program: from 2019 to 2023 (expected)

Short statement for all candidates

I studied a bachelor's in Industrial Engineering in Mexico. Being trained in linear production systems, made me realize how far we were from achieving sustainability in my country and the industry, overall. By chance, I co-founded the Mexican Center of Industrial Ecology in 2015, to emphasize the ecological side of the industry. It was after it - and thanks to a peer - that I discovered a master's in science in Industrial Ecology. Because I was already part of an organization with such a scope, it made total sense to study the master, which I did with the state-of-mind "YOLO". After two years of Master in the Netherlands, I decided that this science will be my motto and way of living for the rest of my life.

In the last three years, I have been actively involved in the Industrial Ecology (IE) community in Europe and Mexico. For a short period, I was (still am) part of the organization "International Industrial Ecology Professionals" that aims to shorten the gap between IE as science-academia and consulting. I have participated in several activities from Climate-KIC, bringing system-thinking and IE tools to enrich discussions and decisions among students. Also, I have put my IE knowledge & tools to the service of consultancies to have more informed decisions based on GHG accounting, carbon bonds, GIS, input-output, LCA, MFA, and circular economy.

I am driven by equity, justice, inclusiveness, sustainability, and profound relationships; this is what motivates me to be part of the Student Chapter Board from ISIE. I want fellows from different technical and cultural backgrounds feel that they belong to a community that is actively looking to achieve sustainability by various means all around the world. Hence, my main goal would be to set the basis for this "open" space for ideas within the ISIE framework and activities, such as the forthcoming Peer Groups.

Short statement for At-Large candidates only

I like to keep things clear, transparent, and to the point. For this reason, if elected I would engage in the following activities:

- Retake the "Buddy Program," as proposed by Hanjiro Ambrose when he was elected, to close the gap between Senior IE fellows and new IE students.
- Guide IE students into marketizing their skills and knowledge to faster their transition to the private sector.
- Organize webinars with Senior IE fellows and alumni that are actively working in academia and the private sector around the world.
- Support the formation of the Peer Groups that aim to connect student researchers across the world, creating cloud-maps and profiles.
- Map where IE studies/programs are taking place either as a master or IE-related.
- Engage with the current ISIE Board to communicate students' "issues," such as: vegan/vegetarian diets at conferences, or offsetting the carbon footprint of the people coming to the conferences and the conference in-itself.
- If allowed by the ISIE Board, coordinate with different consultancies where IE-fellows are working to participate in the forthcoming conferences.

Ferdinand Revellio

Institute Country: **Austria**, Nationality: **German**

Current Institute: Institute for Integrated Quality Design/JKU Linz

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: Sustainability Management

Duration of the current program: from 09/17 to 10/20 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

Although my background is in engineering, my research is now located at the intersection of technology, sustainability and organizational science with a focus on case study research. Over the last two years, I feel like I have found a new home in the Industrial Ecology (IE) community – although I do not use traditional IE methods in my research. But, as my work itself and also my research teams are interdisciplinary, I enjoy the openness of the IE community and would like to contribute to its further development.

My first IE conference experience was the GRC 2018 in Switzerland. It was an easy way to get to know the community and I particularly think that one of the major strengths of the IE student chapter is its self-governance. The first Symposium in Industrial Ecology for Young Professionals I participated in was in Beijing in 2019. I have experienced it as a truly open space for exchange of students.

I consider a firm and consumption centric perspective for IE research to be very important. This is because to reach sustainable development and in particular greenhouse gas targets, it is necessary to change the way our economy works. Even the best recycling technologies and targets won't help us to achieve these goals. Unidimensional focus on growth and product and material throughput needs to be enriched with societal and new economic paradigms. This means to facilitate "slower" consumption to reduce total material throughput. To achieve this IE needs to engage with corporations.

Short statement for At-Large candidates only

As an active and unique student organization. I think it would be great to have recurrently meetings on general and individual group level. The newly established peer groups are a great way to connect with peers from the same research topic. For the start a facilitation of virtual meetings would be helpful with clearly defined goals for the meetings. I would like to bring in my experience here.

For the 7th Symposium in Industrial Ecology for Young Professionals I would like to organize sessions to learn from case study research. Inspired by transdisciplinary research processes, in which academics work closely together with practitioners to co-define and solve sustainability problems, I think it would be helpful for IE students to connect with practitioners from the corporate world to learn and understand from each other. To organize these workshops, I can bring in my experience from organizing various practitioners and industry workshops on circular economy.

In general I have experience in moderating workshops using systematic creativity tools like design thinking or graphic recording. Therefore, I can facilitate sessions during the event.

Furthermore, I appreciate the initiative taken at the last ISIE conference to bring the environmental impacts of our own research activities on the agenda. Over the last years I understood the value of personal research conferences, but I do think that some kind of hybrid-conference arrangements with additional virtual spaces could be a feasible solution.

Yang Qiu

Institute Country: **U.S**, Nationality: **Chinese**

Current Institute: University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)

Current Status: PhD student

Subject of study/degree: PhD in Environmental Science and Management

Duration of the current program: from 09/2017 to 09/2021 (expected)



Short statement for all candidates

The industrial ecology is an interdisciplinary field that makes people from different backgrounds to work together. Over the past few years, I have attended several major ISIE conferences, and I found myself, as a young industrial ecologist, benefited a lot from these events by connecting with new people, discussing research ideas and even facilitating collaborations, so I do see there is a need to maintain these communication and networking afterwards. I believe the ISIE Student Chapter Board (SCB) can play a vital role in building such a platform that can bring students together, which really motivates me to become a member of the board and contribute to creating various activities to make this happen. During my PhD, I have also served in the annual symposium committee in my department at UCSB, and I have gained enough experience on organizing activities for research communications, so I will be able to take the responsibility as a board member to serve the students in our community.

If I were elected as a board member, I will firstly work with other members to proceed actions that has been planned out for the ISIE SCB. In addition to that, I would also like to pursue activities that emphasize on the career development, enhancing communications, and broadening the research impact. More details of my ideas are elaborated in the following statement for Member At-Large candidates.

Short statement for At-Large candidates only

In terms of activities that help the SCB to better serve the student group, I would like to propose two actions that are necessary and feasible:

- a. **Senior industrial ecologist interview** – This is a way for the students to learn from the experiences of the seniors and plan for their study and future career through the intergenerational communication. The SCB firstly collects questions that students care about most (eg. career development, PhD study planning, etc.). Then we interview 3 to 4 seniors for their thoughts and experiences on specific questions each time. These seniors can from both academia and industry so that the students can get ideas from different perspectives.
- b. **Five-minute research talk** – As researchers, we want to ensure that our works to have broader impacts through effective communications. The SCB can regularly select new published papers by the students and invites the author to give a well-formulated five-minute talk based on the research findings. The talk can be recorded as a video and circulated around using the ISIE newsletter or social media.

As for facilitating the virtual peer-group, I think we can start it with the following actions:

- a. The main activity can be the monthly webinar, which does not necessarily have to be research presentations every time. Depending on the interests of the members, the group can discuss various things such as new technology development, policies and on-going news related to the group topic.
- b. Each peer group can also create an online group using the social media (Slack, for example) to share any group announcement, research ideas, and job information among others.

According to my experience in the ISIE conferences, there has been few topics focusing on the role of industrial ecologist in the non-academic fields (NGOs, governments and companies). During the 7th Symposium in Industrial Ecology for Young Professionals (SIEYP), I think the SCB can invite practitioners from the non-academic fields to talk about the roles and the job information in their fields, which I think would be valuable for students who want to pursue their careers in those directions. Additionally, Netherland has a long history of using the wind energy. It would also fun to organize a tour to one of the windmill museum in Netherland during the 7th SIEYP, so students can get an idea of how the Dutch people used the wind as energy source for some light industries throughout history.