The Ohio State University’s Society of Environmental Engineers

It is a brand new year for The Ohio State University, bringing a new semester schedule, a new football coach, and most importantly, new students and opportunities. With that in mind, several students within the department of Civil, Environmental, and Geodetic Engineering have decided to form a new organization that will stir interest within the environmental field.

Although SEE has only just officially begun several months ago, it has gained a significant foothold. As of the end of September, SEE has approximately 20 active student members. Despite the name of the organization, SEE is open to not only environmental engineering students, but offers open membership to other disciplines—environmental sciences, civil engineering, chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, etc. This not only provides multiple perspectives on environmental topics, but also emphasizes the fact that every discipline can contribute to a positive environmental impact.

In August 2012, the Society of Environmental Engineers (SEE), began with the dual purpose of creating an academic atmosphere while offering networking opportunities to students. Originally two separate student chapters of national environmental organizations, one of them the American Water Works Association, SEE is now an umbrella organization among the Water Environment Federation (WEF), American Academy of Environmental Engineers (AAEE), and American Water Works Association (AWWA). By combining their resources and efforts, the SEE officers are more capable at reaching out to students and facilitating learning experiences such as field trips and educational presentations.

Within this academic year, SEE plans to host a series of events where students and professionals can interact and form discussions. In addition, the organization expects to lead in projects which would provide hands-on experiences for water treatment and sustainability. Last but not least, SEE looks forward to working with AWWA to build environmental interest and education in tomorrow’s young professionals.