

Eckenfelder Lecture Series

October 20, 2026

Webster Civic Center | Webster, TX

8:00 AM	Registration and Breakfast	
8:30 AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Anton Dapcic, PE, Carollo
8:35 AM	WEAT Officer Welcome	Ana Julia Peña-Tijerina, PhD, PE, BCEE, WEF Fellow, Jacobs
8:40 AM	The Legacy of Dr. James Barnard – Fundamentals of Biological Nutrient Removal	Andrew R. Shaw, PhD, PE, ENV SP, BCEE, Black & Veatch
9:00 AM	The Next Generation of BioP: Harnessing Advances in Microbial Ecology and Process Intensification for Low-Carbon Low-Energy Biological Nutrient Removal	George Wells, PhD, Northwestern University
9:30 AM	Special Considerations for Successful Nutrient Removal in Membrane Bioreactor Systems	Carlos Lopez, PE, Carollo
10:00 AM	Networking Break	
10:30 AM	Achieving Ultra-Low Nutrient Limits with Bardenpho-MBR: A Tale of Two Facilities	Paula Monaco, PhD, PE, Plummer & Matt Dobbertein, PE, PMP, Hazen and Sawyer
11:00 AM	From Pathogen Barriers to Reactive Membranes: Advancing Reverse Osmosis Reliability for Potable Water Reuse	Manish Kumar, PhD, University of Texas-Austin
11:30 AM	From Wastewater Challenge to Water Supply: Liberty Hill's Path to Direct Potable Reuse	Jeff Meadows, PE, Garver
12:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00 PM	What Utilities Need Next: Challenges, Innovation, and the Future of Wastewater Treatment	Aaron Schindewolf, PE, SJRA, Sterling Beaver, Baytown, Jin Ye, PE, CWP, ENV SP Webster Moderator: Raj Bhattarai
2:30 PM	Networking Break	
2:40 PM	Produced Water: What It is and What It Could Be	Jonathan Sandhu, PE, Gulf Coast Authority
3:10 PM	Biofilm-Enabled Resilience: Protecting Nitrification During Extreme Wet Weather	Priyanka Ali, PhD, Black & Veatch
3:40 PM	Closing Comments and Adjourn	
4:30 – 6:30 PM	Plant Tour – Barry Rose Water Reclamation Facility, Pearland, TX	



Water Environment Association of Texas

