Mid-Atlantic SWANA Chapter 2019 Scholarship Award Winner
Ipsita Kaushlendra Singh Tingi

By: Mehal Trivedi
Frederick County, MD

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter received one application. Ipsita Kaushlendra Singh Tingi received a very high score by the Chapter Evaluation Committee and will be awarded a well deserving $2,000 George L. Winfield Memorial Chapter Scholarship Award to be conferred at the 2019 MRN/SWANA-MA Conference, on June 11, 2019 at the BWI Airport Marriott.

As a Category 1 winner, Ipsita plans to major in Chemical and Biological Engineering at Princeton University. She is sponsored by her father, Dr. Kaushlendra Singh, who is a Chapter member and Associate Professor of Biofuels and Bioenergy at the School of Natural Resources, Davis College West Virginia University.

The Chapter voted to forward Ms. Ipsita’s Category 1 application to the SWANA National Headquarters for a chance of an additional scholarship.

Excerpts from Ipsita’s essay can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

Congratulations! Ipsita

SWANA Mission Statement:
“Advancing the practice of environmentally and economically sound management of municipal solid waste in North America.”
Excerpts from Ipsita’s essay appear below:

“Let’s talk trash. Solid waste management is a complex process that involves waste generators, waste collectors and waste collection technology, waste recycling and environmentally benign disposal while minimizing the carbon footprint… Through education and implementation of sustainable practices the destructive path of humanity can be diverted. Three practices to reduce the amount of trash produced is waste reduction, recycling, and composting.

Waste prevention, especially the use of single-use plastics, is the best method to reduce waste… Single use plastics have been a conversation in media in recent years, yet the change to truly alleviate the issue has not fully taken foot. Plastics and chemicals harm marine life, especially their digestive and reproductive systems. Micro plastics take hundreds of years to decompose, if they do at all… Consumer should carry a tote bag, reusable bamboo or metal utensils and a water bottle every day. Say no to straws. If one cannot, they should bring their own reusable straw. It’s that simple educating people about simple changes in their lifestyle and encouraging them makes a difference.

Compostable items, such as food, should be either already eaten or Composted. They should not enter the land fill… Composting also needs to be made into a program. Citizens should be able to compost either individually or into a community area. This will encourage society to reduce their waste further.

One individual can lessen the effect on the environment, but it is necessary for the public to adopt this lifestyle for the impact on the environment to truly lessen. To accomplish this, people must be educated… Working together, society can lessen the detrimental effects of waste on the environment.”

**2019 MRN/SWANA Mid-Atlantic Conference**  
The Changing Climate of Solid Waste & Recycling:  
A Practical Approach for the 21st Century  
**June 11, 2019**

Mark your calendars for the [2019 MRN/SWANA-MA Conference](https://www.mrn.org/conference), which will be held at the BWI Marriott, Linthicum Heights, Maryland, on Tuesday, June 11, 2019.

The Conference offers:

- Technical sessions that bring you up-to-date on the hottest topics in the industry, including changing waste management and recycling models, policy and regulation, commodities markets, new technologies and more.

- Exhibits displaying the latest and greatest tools and equipment to help you do your job better. Build your brand and your business in the Maryland recycling community. A variety of [sponsorship and exhibit options](https://www.mrn.org/conference) are available.

- Networking opportunities to connect with your peers—Step out of your office environment and be among those who understand what you’re faced with day in and day out. Recharge your thinking and inspire creative approaches. The ideas you generate could improve your program—and your career.

You’re not going to want to miss what this event has in store for you!

Please visit the [MRN website](https://www.mrn.org) for additional information, [preliminary program](https://www.mrn.org/conference), and on-line [registration](https://www.mrn.org/conference).
LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

SWANA
SWANA issued an Earth Day announcement to reiterate the importance of sustainable recycling systems with decreased reliance on markets and profitability. SWANA is working with the EPA and leaders across North America to advocate for reducing contamination and increasing the value of recyclables. A recycling media kit is available on the SWANA website [here].

SWANA has released an analysis of solid waste industry fatalities in 2018, which indicates an increase of 19 fatalities from 2017 in the United States and Canada. The majority (71%) of these fatalities have occurred during waste or recycling collection. More information including charts and a map of incidents are included on the SWANA website.

Federal / EPA
On April 9, 2019, the EPA, USDA, and FDA issued a federal interagency strategy for reducing food waste, as part of their “Winning on Food Waste” initiative. The strategy includes six priorities to work towards a national goal of reducing food loss and waste by 50 percent by 2030. The priorities include improving interagency coordination, increase education and outreach, improve guidance, communicate information on food, collaborate with private industry, and encourage food waste reduction within the federal government.

In July 2018, a group of multiple states sued the EPA for not enforcing a deadline for reviewing submitted state emission guideline (EG) plans as required by new rules for MSW landfills, published under the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS). On May 6, 2019, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California issued a ruling in this case, requiring that EPA approve or disapprove of already-submitted state plans (including that of Delaware) by September 6, 2019, and publish a federal plan by November 6, 2019. The court did not address EG plan submission deadlines for states that have yet to submit a plan to the EPA (which includes Maryland). Separate from court actions, the EPA has previously indicated that it plans to issue a reconsideration of both the EG (Subpart Cf) and Subpart XXX under the NSPS in March 2020. However, under the typical EPA timeline, a draft of the reconsideration should have been published by March 2019.

Maryland Legislative
The 438th Legislative Session began on January 9, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. and adjourned on April 8, 2019. A summary of relevant legislation and status is summarized below. Information on the Maryland legislative process can be found on its website.

Passed Legislation

SB 370 – Recycling – Office Buildings – Would amend Maryland code to require county recycling plans to address collection and recycling of recyclable materials from commercial properties that are 150,000 square feet or larger and zoned for office use. This bill passed the Senate on March 16 by a vote of 33-13 and passed the House on March 29 by 103-30.

HB 109/SB 285 – Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Products – Prohibitions – Under this bill, polystyrene products would be prohibited from being sold or from being distributed by food service in Maryland starting July 1, 2020. This bill passed in the Senate by 34-13 on March 5 and in the House by 97-38 on March 9.

HB 510 – Organic Waste – Organics Recycling – Collection and Acceptance for Final Disposal – This bill would prohibit the owner/operation of a refuse disposal system from accepting loads of separately collected organic waste (yard waste and food waste) for final disposal unless the owner/operator provides for the recycling of the organic waste. The bill unanimously passed in both the House and the Senate.

Bills Withdrawn or Not Passed

HB 125 – Solar Photovoltaic Recycling – Starting on October 1, 2019, this bill would require solar electric installers to pay a fee that would establish a solar photovoltaic recycling fund. The bill received an unfavorable report by Economic Matters on March 14.

By: Jacob Shepherd, P.E.
SCS Engineers

June 6, 2019
HB 134 – Single-Use Plastic Straws – Use in Restaurants  – Under this bill, restaurants would be prohibited from providing single-use plastic straws to customers unless requested. The bill received an unfavorable report by Economic Matters and was withdrawn on March 11.

HB 502 – Office of Recycling – Mattresses and Box Springs  – This bill would have required the Office of Recycling in MDE to provide encouragement and information related to programs that divert mattresses and box springs from waste disposal/incineration streams. On March 13, the bill unanimously passed the House by 139-0 but failed in the Senate.

SB 183 – Recycling – Lodging Establishments – Notification to Guests  – This bill would authorize lodging establishments to collect recycling from guests. If a lodging establishment does collect recycling, they must provide information in the form of signs and orally to guests about what can be recycled. Fines are imposed for violations. This bill was withdrawn on March 14 following an unfavorable report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

HB 973 – Baltimore City – Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Ineligible Tier 1 Sources  – This bill would have removed the eligibility of waste-to-energy and refuse-derived fuel from inclusion in meeting the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard for facilities located in Baltimore City. Bill was withdrawn on March 4 following an unfavorable report by Economic Matters.

HB 961/SB 548 – Public Utilities – Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Tier 1 Sources  – This bill removes waste-to-energy and refuse-derived fuel from the list of Tier 1 renewable sources to be used to meet the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard. In 2017, 10 percent of renewable energy credits submitted for compliance were from waste-to-energy facilities. A hearing was held in the Senate on February 11 but was not pushed through the House.

HB 1419/SB 563 – Zoning – Special Exceptions – Construction or Operation of Landfills  – This bill would amend Maryland Land Use Code to require an environmental justice analysis when a property owner applies for a special exception to construct or operate a landfill in an area zoned for residential use (at property owner’s expense). This bill passed the Senate on March 14 by a vote of 36-11 but was withdrawn in the House.

Maryland MDE
Passed during the 2017 Maryland legislative session, House Bill 124 directs MDE to adopt regulations related to recycling facilities. As part of this initiative, MDE is holding work group meetings with stakeholders and the public. Currently, the working group is reviewing proposed draft regulations. More information can be found at the MDE website. The most-recent meeting was held on May 2.

MDE is also holding study group meetings to study and make recommendations regarding diversion of yard waste, food residuals, and other organic materials and the status of state infrastructure, as required by House Bill 171 (also passed in the 2017 session). Currently the group is reviewing a draft final report. The most recent meeting was held on April 23. More information is available here.

Delaware Legislative
The Delaware General Assembly Legislative Session began on January 8, 2019 and will convene on June 30, 2019. Bills related to waste management or recycling currently being considered are summarized below.

SB 5 (substituted with SS1 and amendment SA1) – An Act to Amend Title 16 of the Delaware Code Relating to the Delaware Litter Control Law  – Adds a definition of “substantial quantity” of litter and provides enhanced penalties for littering this amount, creates a fund for investigating litter violations, changes the definition, and clarifies when litter receptacles are required on public property. The bill passed the Senate 17-4 and is currently in the House where it was reported out of committee and is ready to be voted on.

HB 130 – An Act to Amend Title 7 of the Delaware Code Relating to Recycling and Waste Reduction  – This bill expands the requirements for in-store recycling programs for stores that provide single-use plastic bags to include plastic films in addition to bags and to ban stores from providing single-use plastic bags at check-out beginning January 1, 2021, except for certain uses (e.g.: for raw meats, chemicals, produce/bulk bags, bags containing live animals, containers of bags for other purposes). A committee hearing for this bill is scheduled to occur within 12 legislative days after April 18, 2019.
Delaware DNREC

Polly Drummond Hill Road Demonstration Yard Waste Permanent Closure – The Polly Drummond Hill demonstration yard waste drop-off site, which is the last of 3 pilot drop-off sites opened in 2007 to help facilitate the diversion of yard waste from the Cherry Island Landfill, opened on April 6 and will be permanently closed on June 30, 2019. While yard waste is banned from landfill disposal, DNREC reminds residents of New Castle County that many waste hauling companies provide yard waste pickup services. There are also private operations nearby for yard waste disposal available at the link above. Additional resources for managing yard waste can be found here.

District of Columbia Legislative

Council Period 22 began on January 2, 2017 and will end at 12:00 p.m. on January 2, 2019. No bills related to solid waste or recycling are currently being considered by the Council.

District of Columbia DOEE

The updated Sustainable D.C. 2.0 was released on April 23, 2019. The plan, updated since the first version was released in 2014, is intended to strengthen the District’s sustainability goals in 13 separate areas. Goals related to waste are described below.

To reduce waste generated in the District, reduce per capita waste generation by 15% by 2032 – (short term) Develop a comprehensive Zero Waste Plan and study the feasibility of an equitably priced collection billing structure; (medium term) Expand polystyrene and bag bans; (long term) Coordinate with surrounding jurisdictions.

To facilitate local reuse and recovery of materials, reuse 20% of all waste produced in the District by 2032 – (short term) Develop a GHG impact calculator for waste streams and facilitate the separation of waste into commodity streams; (medium term) Reuse or recycle 50% of all commercial construction waste; (long term) Reuse 5% of total non-hazardous residential building materials.

To achieve zero waste city wide, achieve an 80% waste diversion rate without the use of landfills, waste-to-energy, or incineration by 2032 – (short term) Enhance education resources and outreach; (medium term) Provide households with bins for separating waste/recyclables/compost, establish a new organics processing facility, increase co-located receptacles, expand the District’s product stewardship program, and enhance enforcement of recycling and trash collection rules.

City of Baltimore

On March 18, 2019, the Baltimore mayor signed a Baltimore City Council ordinance (Council Bill 18-0306) to regulate emissions from commercial solid waste incinerators and add additional requirements to waste-to-energy (WTE) facilities. The law requires expansion of emission controls at WTE facilities in the City and is set to go into effect in 2022. An in-depth article on this topic was produced by WBUR (broadcast on the NPR show Here and Now) and is available here. The article expands on the background and the implications of ceasing WTE in the city. The article also notes that Wheelabrator is planning to take this fight to the courts.

In partnership with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), representatives from the City will be attending the Food Matters Study Tour in Milan, Italy in June to study food waste reduction and support its efforts to reduce and recover food waste. For more information, visit the NRDC website.

NEWS UPDATES

Most People Waste More Food Than They Think—Here’s How to Fix It – National Geographic – April 24, 2019 – More than a third of our food supply becomes food waste and adds to the human global climate footprint. Many Americans, including the White House, consider food waste a problem. So what are the reasons for such a high amount of food waste? This article answers this question, and provides strategies to avoid these common causes that you may contribute to food waste.

Top Green Cities in the US for Recycling Phones, Tablets, and Other Electronics – CNET News – April 28, 2019 – Various electronic recycling marketplaces released top-ten lists of cities that account for the highest number of electronics trade-ins and recycling donations. D.C. comes in at 7th on SellCells’s list and Elkridge, Maryland comes in at 7th on Best Buy’s list.

DC Public Works Breaks Down Successful Recycling Education Campaign – Waste Dive – May 1, 2019 – Through a public campaign and outreach, the District managed an 8% drop in contamination and a 9.5% increase in collected recycling between 2017 and 2018, and even added foodservice packaging to its recycling program. This is good news for the District and was achieved despite changes to the recycling market and international export rules that are challenging ambitious municipality recycling and waste reduction goals.
Mid-Atlantic Chapter Board Meeting & Zoo Sustainability Program!

Join Us
Thursday, July 18th, 2019
Lunch, Zoo Presentation, and Scavenger Hunt [optional]

$30 per Person* - SPACE IS LIMITED

AGENDA
Board Meeting - 10:00 - 12:00 PM; Lunch - 12:00 - 1:00 PM; Zoo Sustainability Program Presentation - 1:00 - 1:30 PM; Scavenger Hunt [optional] 1:30 - 4:00 PM

LOCATION
Mansion House @ 1876 Mansion House Drive, Baltimore, MD 21217

* $30 member/$35 non-member - includes lunch, admission to the zoo, scavenger hunt, and Presentation on the Maryland Zoo’s Sustainability Program by Zoo Education Staff Member

Any questions? Please contact Cory Daviau at 443-762-0194 / cdaviau@baltimorecountymd.gov or Craig Schriner at 717-379-1004 / csshriner@armgroup.net

LUNCH MENU OPTIONS
includes water, soda, lemonade, and/or iced tea

Grilled Jerk Chicken Sandwich pepper jack cheese, mango chutney, lettuce, tomato with side of Pasta Caprese, fruit salad, and chips.

The Chicken Cuban grilled chicken, smoked ham, gruyere cheese, dill pickles, Cuban mustard spread on ciabatta with side of Pasta Caprese, fruit salad, and chips.

Roasted Cauliflower Steak green garbanzo hummus, arugula, roasted peppers with side of Pasta Caprese, fruit salad, and chips.

The Marylander 4 oz jumbo lump crab cake, mixed greens, chipotle remoulade withh side of Pasta Caprese, fruit salad, and chips.
Mid-Atlantic Chapter Board Meeting & Zoo Sustainability Program! REGISTRATION FORM
(If attending the lunch, presentation, and/or scavenger hunting, please send by Friday, July 11th)

Please check all that apply:

☐ I plan to attend the Board Meeting
☐ I plan to attend Lunch and the Presentation (payable by check to address below, RSVP by Friday, July 11th)
☐ I plan to attend the Scavenger Hunt (RSVP by Friday, July 11th)
  o The Scavenger Hunt is a rain/shine event. The event will take place on the grounds of the zoo as well as through the zoo’s exhibits. The event provides attendees with the opportunity to visit the Zoo and learn about the animals as well as network with other professionals in the industry!

Lunch - includes non-alcoholic beverages

Choose 1 of the following (see descriptions on previous page):

☐ Grilled Jerk Chicken
☐ The Chicken Cuban
☐ Roasted Cauliflower Steak
☐ The Marylander

NAME: ________________________________________________________________

SWANA ID: _______________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: ___________________________________________ CITY_____________ Zip________

AFFILIATION: ___________________________________________________________

PHONE: (_______) ____________________

EMAIL: ________________________________________________________________

# OF MEMBERS ATTENDING x $30 ________ (PROVIDE SWANA ID# ABOVE FOR EACH MEMBER)
# OF NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING x $35 ______
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $ _______

Please send checks made payable to SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter and registration form by Thursday, July 11th, 2019 to:

Craig Schriner, E.I.T.
ARM Group, Inc.
9175 Guilford Road, Suite 310
Columbia, MD 21046
As a staff engineer who was first introduced to the Solid Waste Industry (the Industry) less than two years ago, I always thought of the Industry as “simple” in the terms of someone generated the waste, someone collected the waste, and someone disposed of the waste through means of recycling centers, incinerators, landfills, etc. However, after attending SWANApalooza 2019 in Boston, MA this past February, my “simple” understanding of the Industry was significantly expanded upon with regards to the intricacies of the Industry and the significant impacts that these inner workings have made/will make on our future.

SWANApalooza 2019’s tagline was “Building the Future”. As one can imagine, most of the panel discussions/presentations centered around this tagline in one form or another. The panel discussions/presentations were focused on issues encountered in both the landfill and recycling/waste diversion spheres of the Industry. As a staff engineer who has predominately worked on landfills during my young career, I attended panel discussions/presentations aimed towards landfills; however, I also attended a few panel discussions/presentations aimed towards recycling/waste diversion.

The landfill panel discussions/presentations at SWANApalooza tackled a wide range of topics from how the United States handles leachate in comparison to other countries, to reviewing safety measures that field personnel need to be educated on and execute when operating on/within a landfill to the establishment of a new Industry approved policy. I found it extremely thought-provoking not only to see the comparison between how the United States, Europe, and China manages leachate but to also learn about how the United States’ handles of emerging contaminants (PFAS, pharmaceuticals, etc.) within leachate and the “Catch 22” that results from containing these emerging contaminants. Additionally, as an engineer who has worked predominantly in the field, learning how other individuals conduct safety measures in the field was a great opportunity to perform a check and balance on myself/my company to ensure that we are conducting ourselves at or above the safety level conducted by others within the Industry. It was also a great opportunity to learn of other safety methods that could be incorporated into our safety protocol when personnel are in the field. Lastly, the biggest and most surprising presentation that I attended discussed the lack of a national policy establishing the termination of regulatory post-closure care of municipal solid waste landfills. The presentation highlighted how each state has their own policy for determining the termination of post-closure care, the two evaluation methods used to establish the termination of post-closure care, and the recently released SWANA Policy T-9.3 Termination of Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Post-Closure Care Requirements. I am intrigued to see if this Industry-authored policy becomes widely approved across the nation, as intended, or if the individual states will continue to utilize their own established policies.

SWANApalooza 2019 continues on page 11
Most of the recycling/waste diversions panel discussions/presentations centered around China’s recent ban on importing waste and how the ban has impacted the United States from an operational standpoint (i.e., how waste is obtained and handled through means of recycling, diversion, or disposal) to a financial standpoint (i.e., the selling of United States' waste to alternative consumers as well as determining means to finance increased material recovery/decreased waste generation programs). After sitting in on these presentations/panel discussions, I found myself, most likely, in the minority as I believe this ban will be “exciting” for the Industry. I am excited to see what innovations will result from this ban to better our society, whether it be through better education of the public on how to handle generated waste to the invention of a product/system that can aid in the reuse/diversion of materials.

In addition to the panel discussions/presentations at SWANApalooza, SWANA conducted Technical Division meetings throughout the conference for the seven SWANA Technical Divisions. Out of curiosity and interest, I attended several Technical Division committee/sub-committee meetings during my time in Boston in order to a) learn more about what the SWANA Technical Divisions were and b) learn about what topics were actively being discussed in the Industry and how the topics were being addressed by a respective Technical Division and/or sub-committee. I found it thrilling to discover that not only do the Technical Divisions work to provide the Industry with Industry-approved technical literature on a wide range of topics (i.e., slope stability webinars) but it also addresses impending/current government policies that impact/may impact the Industry through means of providing Industry-supported responses to government entities (i.e., Responses to EPA Advanced Notice of Proposed Rule Making: Revisions to the Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills to Address Advances in Liquid Management) or establishing guidance policies on specific topics for government entities (i.e., SWANA Policy T-9.3 Termination of Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Post-Closure Care Requirements).

Lastly, at SWANApalooza, I discovered the Industry to be extremely welcoming. Everywhere I looked people were excited to be at SWANApalooza and excited to share information with one another to further the Industry. As a Young Professional (YP), I found the Industry to be even more open to me and other YPs as they wanted to share their knowledge and provide valuable insight with us from trending topics within the Industry to how to get myself more involved within SWANA/the Industry. To be able to speak with seasoned professionals and learn from them was truly a priceless experience.

In conclusion, SWANApalooza was truly an eye-opening experience that has made me more aware of the intricacies of the Industry and strengthened by desire to become more invested in the Industry and help the Industry move forward towards a brighter future.
Reminders / Wanted

- “Reporters”/writers for our Chapter newsletter.
- Training the Trainers: Contact a Board member if interested in being trained to be a trainer for a SWANA course.
- SWANA Web Sessions: If your organization presents web sessions, make them a Chapter event so that all attendees can get CEU’s. Contact Steve Lippy, Dana Murray or Shirl Wright.
- Job Vacancies in your Organization: Contact swright@nmwda.org for inclusion in our Chapter newsletter and website.
- Articles, information, recent/on-going projects of interest, active purchase orders, etc.: Contact swright@nmwda.org to be placed in our Chapter newsletter.
- Scholarship Sponsors: The Chapter is currently looking for an organization to sponsor the highest scoring candidate. The sponsor could be any organization and can suggest a name to be given to the award. The Chapter will accept an annual sponsorship of either $500, $1,000, $1,500 or $2,000. Please contact Steve Lippy or Mehal Trivedi.
- Name(s) of Prospective SWANA Members: Contact either our Chapter Membership Chair, Deji Fawole dfawole@scsengineers.com or direct the prospective member to our Chapter website www.swana-midatl.org or SWANA’s website www.swana.org.
- Newsletter Ads: These are business card size ads only (2” x 3.5”); $100 for 4 issues. Send your ad in a JPG or PDF file to swright@nmwda.org. Please make check payable to Mid-Atlantic Chapter of SWANA and mail to the attention of Shirl Wright at NE MD Waste Disposal Authority, 100 S. Charles Street, Tower II - Suite 402, Baltimore, MD 21201-2705.
- American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists: If you are an environmental engineer or environmental scientist, you are eligible to become a member or to be certified in solid waste management by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists. See www.swana-midatl.org or www.aaees.org.

SWANA Guiding Principle:

“Local government is responsible for municipal solid waste management, but not necessarily the ownership and/or operation of municipal solid waste management systems.”