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FEATURED MEMBERS

1. *Career Path*

I received my BEng in Environmental Engineering from Harbin Institute of Technology and MS in Environmental Science from the Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences (CAS) in 2006 and 2009, respectively. Then I came to US, and obtained my Ph.D. in Geology from Baylor University in 2013. Prior to my current position at University at Albany, I had spent four years as a postdoc associate in the School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at Georgia Tech. My career is shaped by a diverse educational background and positive role models set by advisors, mentors, and colleagues, and benefits from research experiences in a variety of areas.

2. *Research*

I consider myself to be an environmental chemist with fundamental training in applications of analytical chemistry to study physicochemical and biogeochemical processes governing the transport, transformation, and fate of critical elements and pollutants in both engineering and natural systems. I am currently working on research directions that address issues associated with urbanization, resource depletion, and climate change. My first research area focuses on solid biowaste treatments using thermochemical techniques, aiming for efficient and effective resource recovery. The second research area revolves around the cycling of nutrients and heavy metals in systems such as agriculture, forest, and green infrastructures, aiming for soil management for sustainable agriculture and climate change mitigation.

3. *Teaching*

I teach two undergraduate-level courses (Energy Engineering and Solid Waste Management) and one graduate course (Environmental Physical and Chemical Processes) at University at Albany. These courses closely relate fundamental theory, natural processes, and engineering practices, and I relish learning these subjects with students.

4. *Professional Activities*

I am a member of the American Chemical Society (ACS) and the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (AEESP).

5. *University, Area and Community*

University at Albany locates in the Capital Region of New York, which comprises several small towns with distinct culture. Albany is small enough that it lacks common problems of big cities, while is big enough to offer all desired conveniences. Besides, it is close to mountains, lakes, coast, and big cities.

6. *More About Me*

I grew up in the countryside, and my childhood was filled with farming and playing with dirt, plants and animals. My academic pursuit has been influenced by my curiosity of how things work in the nature and how can people live sustainably on their land. Although had worked on relatively "high-tech" nanoscience, I found myself more intrigued by "down to earth" research.

