

Graduate Students Round Eleven (first awarded in 2024):

- **Paul Ayayee**, Assistant Professor, UNO Biology, for the project: *Investigating the impact of recreation on riverine microbiome and process rates, and ecosystem functions in Elkhorn and Niobrara River systems* Student: **Bincy Sunny**, Master's, Biology
- **Liang Chen**, Assistant Professor, UNL Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, for the project: *High-Resolution Simulations of Hydroclimate over the Glacial Regions of the High Mountain Asia* Student: **Tika Gurung**, Ph.D., Climatology/Meteorology
- **Cody Creech**, Assistant Professor, UNL Agronomy & Horticulture, for the project: *Evaluation of Cold-Tolerant Grain Sorghum in the High Plains of Nebraska* Student: **Rafael Bley Cottica**, Master's, Agronomy
- **Bruce Dvorak**, Ray Fauss Professor, UNL Civil and Environmental Engineering and Biological Systems Engineering, for the project: *Utilizing Fermentation HAP Air Emissions Data to Improve Ethanol Sustainability* Student: **Mahyar Mahdavi Hezaveh**, Ph.D., Environmental Engineering
- **Tonya Haigh**, Research Assistant Professor/Social Science Coordinator, National Drought Mitigation Center, UNL School of Natural Resources, for the project: *Water Management and Agricultural Community Resilience: Communication Approaches* Student: **Rachel Williss**, Master's, Natural Resources
- **Francisco Munoz-Arriola**, Associate Professor, UNL School of Natural Resources, for the project: *Predictability of surface water-groundwater resilience to climate and contaminant forcings* Student: Rimsha Hasan, Ph.D., beginning Fall 2024 (recruitment underway, focusing on students with irrigation and hydrologic engineering background)
- **Xin Qiao**, Associate Professor, UNL Biological Systems Engineering, for the project: *Development of an innovative partial variable rate irrigation (VRI) system* Student: **Joseph Oboamah**, Master's, Mechanized Systems Management
- **Amy Schmidt**, Professor, UNL Biological Systems Engineering, for the project: *Evaluation of Potential Water Quality and Health Risks Associated with Leachate Produced During On-Farm Livestock Mortality Disposal* Student: **Gustavo Castro Garcia**, Ph.D., Biological Systems Engineering
- **Bing Wang**, Associate Professor, UNL Food Science and Technology, for the project: *Risk-based Assessment and Criteria Specification of the Microbial Safety of Greywater Reuse in Food Crop Irrigation* Student: **Andrew Ortiz**, Ph.D., Food Science and Technology

Hubbard Fellowship:

- **Nirupam Aich**, Associate Professor, UNL Civil and Environmental Engineering, for the project: *Investigating the Leaching and Fate of Forever Chemical Pollutant Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) from Land-applied Biosolids in Agricultural Watersheds* Student: **Amy Yanagida**, Ph.D., Civil and Environmental Engineering
- **Elizabeth VanWormer**, Associate Professor, Director of Nebraska One Health, for the project: *Assessing neonicotinoid and fungicide exposure in wildlife sentinels in eastern Nebraska: A One Health study on agrochemical contamination linked to the AltEn facility* Student: **Shabani Muller**, Ph.D., Natural Resources

Graduate Students Round Ten (first awarded in 2023):

- **Irina Filina**, Assistant Professor, UNL Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, for the project: *Gravity and seismic measurements over Nebraska aquifers to detect seasonal changes in water level* Student: **Kaitlin Steinauer**, M.S., Geology

STUDENT SUPPORT AWARDS



- **Troy Gilmore**, Associate Professor, UNL School of Natural Resources, for the project: *Advancing environmental sensing through fixed ground-based camera imagery* Student: **John Stranzl**, Ph.D., Natural Resources
- **Kristina Kintziger**, Professor of Health & Environment, UNMC Environmental, Agricultural & Occupational Health, for the project: *Detection of Poly- and Perfluoroalkyl Substances in Nebraska Drinking Water and Exposure Assessment in Adult Rural and Service Member Populations* Student: **Sarah Tucker**, Ph.D., UNMC Toxicology, Environmental Health & Occupational Health (expected graduation: December 2026)
- **Taro Mieno**, Associate Professor, UNL Agricultural Economics, for the project: *Drought Impacts on Cattle Stocking Density and Land Use* Student: **Shara Akat**, Ph.D., Agricultural Economics
- **Eleanor G. Rogan**, Associate Dean – Strategic Initiatives, UNMC College of Public Health, for the project: *Possible correlation between exposure to agrichemicals and pediatric cancer or birth defects* Student: **Alex Nnanyelugo Egbuchiem, MD**, for a Master's of Public Health, Concentration in Environmental Agricultural and Occupational Health
- **Saleh Taghvaeian**, Associate Professor, UNL Biological Systems Engineering, for the project: *Improving water and nutrient management under center pivot irrigation in south-central Nebraska* Student: **Rintu Sen**, Ph.D., Biological Systems Engineering
- **Mehmet Vuran**, Professor, UNL School of Computing, for the project: *Fast-LoRa: High-Throughput and Long-Range Wide Area Networks for Advanced Connectivity and Automation in Agricultural Fields* Student: **Sangwon Shin**, Ph.D., Computer Science
- **Hongfeng Yu**, Associate Professor, UNL School of Computing, for the project: *Revealing Dynamic Spatial Patterns of Groundwater Quality Modeling* Student: **Xinyan Xie**

Hubbard Fellowships:

- **Shannon Bartelt-Hunt**, Professor and Dept. Chair, UNL Civil and Environmental Engineering, for the project: *Connecting Antimicrobial Resistance, Agricultural Decisions, and Environmental Systems: A tool for mitigating AMR and assessing risk to human health in agro-ecosystems* Student: **Moriah Brown**, for a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering (graduated with Master's May 2024)
- **Michael Kaiser**, Assistant Professor, UNL Agronomy & Horticulture, for the project: *Sustainable soil management strategies to improve water retention and quality in agricultural systems* Student: **Britt Fossum**, Ph.D., Agronomy

Graduate Students Round Nine (first awarded in 2022):

- **Trenton Franz**, Associate Professor, UNL School of Natural Resources, for the project: *Investigating proximal gamma-ray sensor for soil moisture monitoring* Student: **Sophia Becker**, Ph.D., Hydrological Sciences
- **Aaron Mittelstet**, Assistant Professor, UNL Biological Systems Engineering, for the project: *Vadose Zone Nitrate Accumulation Lower Loup Natural Resources District Area 30, Relation to Manure Application, Fertilizer Management and Groundwater Nitrate Concentrations* Student: **Muili Lawal**, M.S., Biological Systems Engineering
- **Karrie Weber**, Associate Professor, UNL School of Biological Sciences and Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, for the project: *Nitrate-stimulated uranium biogeochemical cycling in soils and sediments* Student: **Taylor Rosso**, Ph.D., Biological Sciences
- **Martha Rhoades**, Research Assistant Professor, UNL School of Natural Resources, for the project: DWFI Continued Support of Birth Outcomes and Water (BOW) Study, in collaboration with Kent

STUDENT SUPPORT AWARDS



Eskridge, Professor, UNL Statistics and Troy Gilmore, Associate Professor, UNL School of Natural Resources Student: **Augustine Kena Adjei**, Ph.D., Statistics

Graduate Students Round Eight (first awarded in 2021):

- **Erin Haacker**, Assistant Professor, UNL Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, for the project: *Modeling Nitrate Contamination in Northeastern Nebraska* Student: **Atif Atiqullah**, for a Ph.D. in Geosciences

Hubbard Fellowship:

- **Tirthankar Roy**, Assistant Professor, UNL Civil and Environmental Engineering, for the project: *A comprehensive framework to assess flood risk within the context of public health* Student: **Shivendra Srivastava**, Ph.D., Water Resources Engineering

Undergraduate (annual awards):

- **Platte Basin Timelapse Project:** **Emma Bullerman**, Story & Social Media Intern; **Caden Connelly**, Production Intern; **Valentina Catalano**, Production Intern; **Marissa Lindemann**, Production Intern; **Nia Meyer**, Production Intern; **Tyler Newlin**, Social Media Intern; **Kaden Polt**, Production Intern; advised by **Michael Forsberg**, Research Assistant Professor, UNL School of Natural Resources and Producer & Project Manager, **Mariah Lundgren**, UNL School of Natural Resources, and **Michael Farrell**, DWFI Faculty Fellow.