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ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION AWARDS FIRST MASTER'S LEVEL SCHOLARS

Alexandria, Va. - During its meeting held June 25, 2007 in Paris, France, hosted by Suez Environmental, the Environmental Research and Education Foundation (EREF) awarded its first two master's level scholars, recipients of the new Robert P. Stearns/SCS Engineers scholarship. Roberta J. Niemietz, Virginia Polytechnic Institute; and Anne-Marie P. Armstrong, Yale University were each awarded \$5,000 per year for up to two years. Also awarded were two Ph.D. level candidates, one as the Francois Fiessinger scholar, and one as an EREF scholar, both awarded scholarship of \$12,000 per year for up to three years.

The following were awarded the Robert P. Stearns/SCS Engineers scholarship:

- **Anne-Marie P. Armstrong** is seeking a Master's of Architecture degree at Yale University. Her research topic is Construction Ecologies: Waste Management and Architecture. Ms. Armstrong's research will seek to further understanding of ecological principals as they relate to the building process, and to apply successful waste management in construction to contribute to an effective green building movement.
- **Roberta J. Niemietz** is pursuing a Master's of Environmental Engineering at Virginia Tech, focusing on lignocellulose degradation in bioreactor landfills. Her research will aim to better understand the pathway and required inputs for the overall degradation of landfill materials.

The following were awarded Ph.D. level scholarships:

- **Junbeum Kim** was awarded an EREF Scholarship. He is seeking a doctorate degree at Arizona State University in his research titled, *Design for E-waste Collection and Recycling System in the United States*. Mr. Kim hopes to assess major concerns in E-waste collection and recycling management to reduce environmental impacts and increase recycling.
- **Mohan Dangi** is the 2007 Francois Fiessinger scholar. He is pursuing a doctorate degree at Johns Hopkins University. Mr. Dangi's research is titled, *Assessment of MSW Policy Failure in Developing Countries*. The research seeks to combine technical and physical issues and governmental processes, to determine needed resources to avoid future failures.

EREF's scholarship programs recognize excellence in doctoral, post-doctoral, and now master's level research and education. Awards are given in memory of Francois Fiessinger, P.E., Ph.D., a graduate of Rutgers University who was a founding director of the foundation; and by Robert P. Stearns, P.E., DEE/SCS Engineers, former Chairman of EREF.

In choosing its scholars, the foundation's Scholarship Review Committee uses a ten scale scoring matrix. The scholars selected are highly qualified finalists who are chosen in recognition of their credentials and potential future contributions to the environmental scientific community.

The Environmental Research and Education Foundation awards scholarships annually based onis the only independent foundation in the U.S. committed to research, education and science relative to the management and treatment of municipal solid waste.

For more complete information on EREF, go to its website www.erefdn.org or call 703.299.5139.

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