

## A MESSAGE FROM JOSEPH MANTUA, CEE CLASS OF 1984

### PRESIDENT, AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION



Dear UD Civil Engineering Students:

I hope you are enjoying your time at UD and with the Civil Engineering program. Personally, my time at UD was the most memorable four years of my life and the place that got me started down the path of a fantastic career in the water industry. Although I've spent my entire career in this field, I have to admit it didn't happen by design. About 6 months after graduation, no prospects in sight, I finally listened to my father who had a friend at the local water utility. I hadn't given it much thought prior to that but applied for a job, went in for an interview, got hired and soon found it to be the perfect place for me. My first boss encouraged me to get involved with the American Water Works Association so I joined, got recruited to serve on a committee and several years later

became the Chair of the local section. I never imagined all this would lead to an opportunity to be the President of the Association but somehow it did and it has been a truly rewarding experience. In this position I've had the opportunity to travel to places like Singapore and Australia, where the water issues are much

more drastic, and I've seen firsthand how ingenuity and innovation can really make a difference. Now is an exciting time to be part of the water industry so I would encourage you all to think about this as a career path. More importantly though, I would offer that whatever civil discipline you choose for a career, do so with energy and enthusiasm, accept and embrace challenges and new ideas, and remember to give back through volunteer service. A few months ago I had the chance to visit UD for a weekend and actually spent some time in the "student neighborhood". I was glad to see that things haven't changed much since I left many years ago and that UD is still the same special place it has always been. Best regards with your studies and please contact me if there is anything I can do to assist you. Go Flyers!!!

Joe Mantua, P.E.

President, American Water Works Association

Joe Mantua has been with Black & Veatch since 2007 and currently works as a Client Services Manager in the greater Washington DC area. Joe is responsible for managing a variety of water and wastewater projects for several clients in the Washington DC metropolitan area. Joe works closely with two of the nation's largest utilities, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and DC Water. Black & Veatch is a leading global engineering consulting and construction company with more than 100 offices and 9600 professionals worldwide.

Prior to joining Black & Veatch, Joe spent 23 years working for the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission in Laurel, Maryland in a variety of roles including Quality Assurance Section Head, Director of Development Services and Project Delivery Group Leader. In 2005, Joe received the Malcolm Shaneman Quality of Life Award from the Maryland National Capital Building Industry Association, given to a public sector person who demonstrates concern for Montgomery County quality of life and fosters partnership with the development industry.

Joe has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Dayton and is a registered professional engineer. He has been actively involved as a volunteer with the American Water Works Association since 1987 and is a recipient of the George Warren Fuller Award. He has held numerous leadership positions at both the Section and Association level and currently serves as President of the Association.



**American Water Works  
Association**

*AWWA is the authoritative resource for knowledge, information, and advocacy to improve the quality and supply of water in North America and beyond. AWWA is the largest organization of water professionals in the world. AWWA advances public health, safety and welfare by uniting the efforts of the full spectrum of the entire water community. Through our collective strength we become better stewards of water for the greatest good of the people and the environment.*

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