



# FIRST YEAR GUIDE

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2021 EDITION





# CEVSOC INDUSTRY PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

## Funders of Academic Positions



## School Industry Partners



## School Industry Supporters



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# PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Congratulations on joining UNSW and most importantly, CEVSOC welcomes you to our community! Our school of Civil & Environmental Engineering is ranked 1st in Australia and 8th in the world, so rest assured that you've made some good calls!

CEVSOC is the school affiliated student society dedicated to enhancing your experience at UNSW by providing opportunities for students to build friendships and gain insights from their peers. No matter what you're hoping to get out of university; whether it's making lifelong friends, learning more about your future career in the industry, or just straight up partying, we have you covered!

My biggest advice to you is to make the most of all the extracurricular opportunities UNSW has on offer and to lean into anything that interests you. Give yourself the chance to thrive and you might just surprise yourself. On that note, if you're interested in joining the CEVSOC Subcommittee to have a genuine impact on the student body, be sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page!

I want to invite you all to our First and Second Year Orientation Camp held on May 14th - 16th, the weekend after the Term 1 exams. Camp is the best opportunity to meet new people in your cohort, gain some invaluable uni hacks from students at the tail end of their degree and to learn about the engineering industry, all while having an amazing weekend filled with challenges and parties.

The CEVSOC team and I can't wait to meet you at our events this year! In fact, why don't you join us at Welcoming Night in Week 1 to get to know the team, grab a free feed and meet other first-years who are just as excited to make new friends. To find out more, our Facebook page is the home of all our event details!

Christopher Wang  
CEVSOC President 2021



# SCHOOL'S ADDRESS

Welcome to the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at UNSW. We appreciate your decision to join us and look forward to a long future of close involvement both during your studies and throughout your life. While the global situation has meant that there have been many challenges for everyone, we will chart our way through the upcoming years together.

You are joining the School as we outline a future vision of "Ethical Civil Infrastructure and Sustainable Environments". Civil and Environmental Engineering, as well as the many further disciplines within the School, play vital roles within broader society. We believe that our profession must provide and maintain infrastructure that is ethically and equitably considered for everyone while ensuring the sustainability of our shared environment. I ask that you help to grow this vision into action as professional leaders.

I hope that you are proud to be joining one of the premiere Schools of our type in the world. The School is ranked globally as 8th (ARWU), 11th (QS) and 14th (US News). We are ranked 5th in the world for Water Resources (ARWU) and 13th for Remote Sensing (ARWU). We could not achieve this recognition without the efforts of our leading staff and by attracting the best of the best students locally and globally. Each of us is privileged to have an opportunity to carry on this tradition of excellence.

During your time at UNSW, I would encourage you to become involved in as many of the opportunities presented to you as possible. In addition to being dutiful in your classes, of course, join student organisations, get to know your fellow students and staff, proactively engage in humanitarian and industrial activities and consider opportunities for interacting with research projects. To make the most of modern educational opportunity, there should be deep intellectual as well as experiential engagement. You may never again in your life have such an open flexible environment to explore your interests as you will during your time at UNSW. Please pause to experience all that you can.

For those joining us from abroad, know that we understand the deep strains that a global relocation implies particularly during our current worldwide situation. We appreciate the sacrifices required to be so far from family and support systems. We hope that your time at UNSW will be a positive life-changing experience and will do all that we can to help ensure that. We will endeavour to support you and we value your life-long membership in our community.

To close, let me say how proud I am that each of you has chosen to join us, thank you. Ultimately, our School's core mission is to educate and shape the future of our profession. You are why we do what we do and we look forward to undertaking our mission together.

Best,  
Professor S. Travis Waller  
Head of School, Civil and Environmental Engineering UNSW Sydney



# COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS



## CHRISTOPHER WANG

### PRESIDENT

Chris is a final year Civil Engineering with Architecture student who has developed a love for UNSW's makerspaces and is the reason there are never any laser cutting bookings available. (Sorry!). Over the first COVID lockdown, Chris picked up gardening and has since turned his living room into a forest. Now he is always on the lookout for the next plant to join the family. Chris is always down to serve you advice left and right, be it for architecture studios or your future in general, so don't be afraid to say hey if you see him around!



## KAYLA CHAOUI

### VICE PRESIDENT

Kayla is a fourth-year Civil Engineering with Architecture student who loves cupcake decorating, falling asleep on car rides and collecting CEVMerch. She aspired to start a quarantine cake business but settled for granola instead (it's quite good, DM her). Kayla's a fan of large scale DIYs, it often does not go further than just an idea but she's quite proud of her recent wooden Christmas tree. You'll find her at CEVSOC events (not just for the merch) over the next year so come say hi!



## KEVIN HUANG

### TREASURER

Kevin is a final year Civil Engineering and Materials Science Student who is incredibly handsome and humorous. Brimmed with optimism, energy, and curiosity, Kevin is constantly seeking your restaurant recommendations! Being super friendly and keen to converse, feel free to pop up to him about anything - asking for directions, new years resolutions, weekend plans, whatever it is! :)

# COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS



## ERIC ZHANG

### SECRETARY & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Eric is a 4th year Civil Engineering and Commerce student who enjoys watching and playing sports, especially tennis and basketball. He is always down for a nice feast and loves to explore different places to eat. He goes to the gym but will never get bigger no matter how hard he tries #builtdifferently :)



## JOHN TRIMMER

### ARC DELEGATE

John is a 4th Year Civil w/ Architecture student that can't get enough of 90 Day Fiance, or any TLC "documentary" for that matter. Prior to his 50 year old knees giving out, he enjoyed playing soccer and completing half marathons (\*21.1km\*) without training for them (he isn't fit, just thinks he is). John also enjoys at least two lunches and three coffees per day. He also just switched from Android to iPhone and has no idea how to use his phone anymore.



## IRENE SHEN

### ACADEMICS MANAGER

Irene is a 4th year Civil Engineering student who has an unhealthy obsession with knitwear, collecting books she'll never use and taking photos of the sunset. If you can't find her at Stockmarket in the Matthews food court, you can find her chilling in the CEVoffice or taking a quick power nap.

# COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS



## JENSON MA

### CAREERS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Jenson is a 4th year civil engineering student who is religious about working out but would also spend his free time building up his spreadsheet of Good Eats in Sydney. Besides being too much of a foodie, he is always down for thrilling experiences, goes wild on his disposable film camera and enjoys feeling insignificant under the mightiness and beauty of nature. Jenson tries to find time in his day to train Ella the Border Collie to not go crazy over kookaburra laughs, whipper snippers and most recently Jenson's step brother.



## CATHERINE TRINH

### DIVERSITY & INCLUSION MANAGER

Catherine is a 5th year Environmental Engineering and Computer Science student who often gets mistaken for being younger because she has really nice skin (not because she has an immature sense of humour). She feels most zen when she is at the beach or when she's in her room dancing to some tunes. Speaking of tunes, she LOVES discovering new music to add to her extensive list of Spotify playlists so hit her up when you feel like a session of musical bonding! :D



## CHRISTINE HA

### MARKETING MANAGER

As a 3rd Year Civil Engineering/Commerce student, you'll often see Christine roaming the campus exploring the best eateries (or finding free food). Despite being an ex Civil with Architecture student, she still appreciates all things aesthetic and in her spare time, loves to go (window) shopping. You'll catch her on the weekend going out with the CEVFam, finding new places to eat or hitting up beach yoga with her mum.

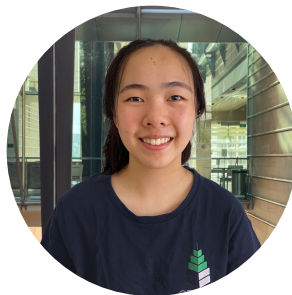
# COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS



## MATTHEW HANANIA

### SOCIAL (INTERNALS) MANAGER

Matt is a 4th Year Civil Engineering student who loves everything Star Wars, The Inbetweeners and a pinch of Transport Engineering. In his spare time, you'll often find Matt trying out weird new products at every Asian grocer on Anzac Parade (ask about his Ramune drink marble collection). Despite getting old, Matt is always down for getting to know everyone! If you see him on campus be sure to say hello!



## RACHEL LIN

### SOCIAL (EXTERNALS) MANAGER

Rachel is a 2nd Year Civil Engineering with Architecture student who is currently smashing her laptop because AOT and Jujutsu Kaisen are still currently airing. She is a night owl who can sometimes be found dancing or stretching at 3am in her room to music and earphones. To bribe Rachel, all you need to bring is some yummy food and a smile!



## NIKITA SETHI

### SPORTS & CHARITY MANAGER

Nikki is a 2nd year Civil engineering and Commerce student who has way too much energy. When caught off-guard she can be found scrolling through Pinterest or eating cereal, and loves all things jewellery and streetwear! She loves to play badminton, and in her spare time you can find her on a walk, or snuggled on the couch watching Netflix with a cup of MILO :)

# CEVSOC TEAMS



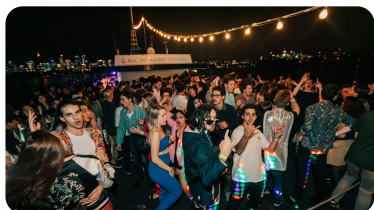
## PROGRAMS

Our Programs Coordinators aim to upskill and enrich the student university experience through supportive programs, such as the CEVBuddy mentoring program and Industry Mentoring Program.



## SOCIAL (INTERNALS)

Our Internal Social Events team creates a variety of events and activities, ranging from Trivia Nights to free BBQs and Beer & Pizza Nights. We have you covered for free food, drink and hangouts on campus!



## SOCIAL (EXTERNALS)

This team conducts the biggest parties across UNSW such as our Cruises, Pub Crawls and Final Year Dinner. They often collaborate with other societies at UNSW to create some amazing memories to look back on.



## SPORTS & CHARITY

Whether it is carving up the sporting pitch, raising money for charity, donating blood or playing soccer with industry professionals and lecturers, our Sports and Charity team has you covered.



## DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

This team creates events that ensure students from a variety of backgrounds are being catered to, including, but not limited to, women in engineering, LGBTQIA+ and international students.



# CEVSOC TEAMS



## CAREERS DEVELOPMENT

Daunted by the thought of getting a job? Hear all the tips from industry and alumni at this team's events! Develop yourself professionally and learn about Industrial Training, networking and how to become the best engineer you can be!



## ACADEMICS

Feedback on your learning is important - so we offer a dedicated subcommittee to liaise between the School and you, the student body! Look out for crash courses, and other events where you can impact our learning experience.



## MARKETING

Need some CEVSOC merchandise to fill up that empty space in your closet, or need to stay up to date with our great events? Like us on Facebook at "CEVSOC UNSW", on Instagram at @cevsoc and check your email fortnightly for CEVNews!



## HUMAN RESOURCES

Interested in joining CEVSOC? Want to get involved in planning our events? Speak to anyone from HR! They recruit keen and creative students to join our team, as well as organising bonding initiatives to boost internal team morale.

# CEVSOC 2021

## Trimester 1

Speed Friending	Online Games Night	Diversity Podcast	Careers Fair	Escape Room	Amazing Race
Welcoming Night	A Guide to Your Thesis	CEVDevelopment			Blood Drive
					Diversity Podcast
WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6

## Trimester 2

Welcoming Night	Coastal Walk	Cultural Social Night	Blood Drive	Engineering ESports Night 2	Diversity Podcast
		Written Skills Workshop	Excel Workshop		
WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6

## Trimester 3

Welcoming Night (Our 70th Birthday!)	Case Competition Opening	International Students Industry Night	Thesis and Professional Electives Night	Blood Drive	Diversity Podcast
			Cardno Cup	Case Competition Closing	
				AGM	
WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6

# EVENTS CALENDAR

Women in Construction	Pub Crawl	Food For Thought	Careers Podcast	Camp
		ENGG2500 Workshop		
WEEK 7	WEEK 8	WEEK 9	WEEK 10	HOLIDAYS

MECHSOC vs CEVSOC Trivia Night	10 Year Career Progression	Wear It Purple Day High Tea		
	Cruise	Food For Thought		
		ENGG1300 Workshop		
WEEK 7	WEEK 8	WEEK 9	WEEK 10	HOLIDAYS

Halloween Party	Sustainable Engineers	Diversity Podcast		
	Industry Disciplines Night	Food For Thought		
		CVEN3202 Workshop		
WEEK 7	WEEK 8	WEEK 9	WEEK 10	HOLIDAYS



# GET INVOLVED!

## FIRST YEAR CAMP

Are you a first or second year Civil, Environmental, Surveying or Flexible first year Engineering student? Need a fun social activity for the Term 1 holiday break? Missed out on CEVSOC's 2020 First Year Camp (#corona #cancelled)? Want to meet new people in your degree?

If you said YES! to any of the above, look no further than the UNSW Civil and Environmental Engineering Society's 2021 First and Second Year Camp! Sail into a fun, exciting, action-packed weekend where you can celebrate the end of first term in style. We'll equip you with all the must haves to successfully navigate through the stormy seas of your first and second years of university.

What to expect:

- An unforgettable weekend with heaps of new friends
- Fast-paced engineering team bonding challenges
- All your burning uni and industry questions answered
- Two wild themed parties
- And so much more...

Camp is a tried and tested method to help students, much like yourself, settle into university. Whether you're coming with a group of friends or none at all, we encourage you to attend regardless, you won't regret it!

**WHEN:** Friday 14/05 12PM – Sunday 16/05 (Term 1 Break)

**WHERE:** Camp Morisset, 30 Nentoura Rd, Morisset, NSW 2264

Scan the QR code to visit the event's Facebook page and get tickets now!





# GET INVOLVED!

## CEVBuddy PROGRAM

Don't know what to expect from university? Looking to make friends with like-minded engineering students? Do you wish you knew more about Sydney and all the great things it has to offer? Of course, you do! And you're not alone!

The CEVBuddy Program is back again in Term 1 2021! Running for the majority of the first term, you'll be matched with experienced students to guide you through the start of university life. Join your fellow first-year undergraduates in making connections, unforgettable memories and having great fun.

The CEVBuddy program is a peer mentoring program which runs in every Term 1 and 3, aiming to facilitate first-year students with their transition into university by pairing them with current students that are carefully selected and trained. It allows YOU to gain insight into your degrees as well as tips to tackle uni life through completing weekly checkpoints in addition to self-organised meetups.

The program provides a great opportunity for you to meet and form connections with current students as well as other first year students that are doing the same degrees in a casual and interactive way. We always receive positive feedback from the mentees, and on top of that the CEVBuddy Program was Highly Commended in Arc Club On Campus Activity of the Year 2019.

Scan the QR Code to register now! Or find out more at the event's Facebook page.





# GET INVOLVED!

## WELCOMING NIGHT

The first CEVSOC event of the year; come along to meet new people, make new friends, enjoy some board games, and most importantly, have some FREE beer and pizza on us! Welcoming Night will be hosted in Week 1 of the new term! Whether you're coming alone or with a group of friends, we warmly encourage all to attend!

Find out more at the event's Facebook page.



## SPEED FRIENDING NIGHT

Can't make it to Welcoming Night in person? We've got you covered! Stay safe whilst still making friends, meeting new people, playing games and having fun. Online Speed Friending is our COVID safe and socially distanced version of Welcoming Night, also held in Week 1!

Find out more at the event's Facebook page.



## CEVSPORTS

Every year, CEVSOC organises teams in various sports, such as Futsal and Otago. This is a great opportunity to get to know new people, make friends and stay active! Teams are mixed and open to all skill levels, so everybody is welcome. You might even get the chance to meet Simu Liu!

Find out more and register at the event's Facebook page.





# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## CHALLENG PROGRAM

Multiple new engineering projects are held under the Challeng Program, which connects UNSW engineering students, academics and industry to real-world, project based learning initiatives. Students are exposed to a multidisciplinary learning approach that emphasises development of technical and design skills, and expands their professional expertise. There are four main pillars within its framework; Vertically Integrated Projects, The Maker Games, Student Projects, and Social Impact.

Find out more at [www.challeng.unsw.edu.au/about](http://www.challeng.unsw.edu.au/about).

## STUDENT ACADEMIC CAREER SUCCESS (SACS)

It's never too early to start considering your career path. Attend professional development seminars, book a one-on-one appointment to have your CV reviewed or access free careers-related resources!

Find out more at [www.careers.unsw.edu.au](http://www.careers.unsw.edu.au).

## VOLUNTEERING

UNSW Arc offers a number of volunteering opportunities within UNSW and in the local community. Some of the many opportunities include: Yellow Shirts, Arc Street Team, Volunteer Army, Shack Tutoring and Stationery Reuse Centre.



Find out more at [www.arc.unsw.edu.au/volunteering](http://www.arc.unsw.edu.au/volunteering).

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE

### Timetabling

CrossAngles is the ultimate timetable creator for UNSW students to plan their term before enrolment. Find out more at <https://crossangles.app/> (not associated with UNSW).



### General Enrolment Enquiries

 The Nucleus, Main Library Level 2 (entry level)  
 02 8936 7005

### Specific Course Enquiries

Contact the Engineering Student Support Services:

 [unsw.to/webforms](http://unsw.to/webforms)

 The Nucleus, Main Library Level 2 (entry level)  
 +61 2 9385 8100

# TIPS FOR SURVIVING FIRST YEAR

Join/create facebook course chats consisting of everyone enrolled in the same course as you. You can find/give help to other First Years when doing past papers or tutorial questions.

Grab some under \$10 or even FREE food by joining societies like UNSW Free Food, VSA, Vegetarian Society. A lot of societies like CEVSOC also host free BBQs!

Join the Facebook page "UNSW textbook exchange" where you can buy cheaper second hand textbooks.

Put effort into talking to people in your first classes even if it's online because without friends, uni may be a little dull. It also makes it a lot easier to get through studying with friends.

Investigate Arc Sport - there are so many different social and competitive sports to play. Come join one of our CEVSports teams if you can't get a team together!

When creating your timetable, check what rooms subjects are in to avoid trekking around campus.

Ask your lecturers and tutors plenty of questions, become a familiar face and go to course help sessions. You're paying for them anyway, so use your resources wisely!

Download your lectures from Echo360 or BlackBoard Collaborate so you can watch them on public transport and not kill your data.



# FIRST YEAR TESTIMONIAL

NIKITA SETHI

BACHELOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING & COMMERCE

The transition from high school to university can seem like a big jump because it is, and I certainly found Uni to be a whole other world, but there are so many ways to manage this jump and embrace and make the most of your first year of Uni! With much of Uni being online last year, I definitely know how difficult it is to stay connected, motivated, and to form friendships, and going into 2021 many classes will still be online so these things will continue to be a challenge. Here are some tips to make your first year Uni experience the best it can be despite these challenging times!

## 1. Seize opportunities!

I seriously recommend spreading yourself further than just your academics; get involved with societies, sports, industry events, volunteering opportunities and more! At the end of the day you need to be an all rounded person, and employers will 100% be looking at your extra-curriculars! :) So many exciting opportunities will come up during the year through which you can improve your communication and organisational skills, pursue your hobbies, make friends, improve the community, and even form valuable industry connections! I made some of my closest friends at CEVSOC's welcoming night last year, and let me say that having friends in your courses makes studying and stressful periods so much more manageable as you're all in it together.

Why not look into applying to be on the CEVSOC subcommittee, or look out to get involved with case competitions? Being on CEVSOC's Sports and Charity subcommittee last year gave me invaluable skills through planning events and working in a team.

## 2. Create a routine

At the beginning of quarantine I can definitely say that I struggled to keep motivated when everything shifted online, but my second tip is to CREATE A ROUTINE! This will help you to keep on top of everything without feeling drained. Schedule in your classes and when you'll study, and make sure to keep active and incorporate exercise into your routine. Regular group study sessions are also great as you keep each other motivated! I'm definitely guilty of falling behind on online lectures, but I'm telling you that if you push through and watch them at their scheduled times each week, your coursework and exams will become so much more manageable! Stick to your routine!

## 3. Balance is key

It is so important to balance your commitments! As I said in tip 1, definitely seize opportunities, but be selective in the ones you take up so you can dedicate enough time to each commitment whilst also leaving enough time for your Uni work. Please don't underestimate the time and effort required for Uni work!

Remember there are always people to reach out to about anything :) Best wishes for the coming year!!

# CONTACT US

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cevsoc@gmail.com



## LOCATION

