

**Innovation and Collaboration – Research Award: Dr. Gangadhar Andaluri and Md Saiful Islam, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Temple University** *In recognition of outstanding contributions toward addressing the critical challenge of removing carcinogenic emerging contaminants from water and wastewater through the innovation of novel and sustainable treatment technology.*

### **Temple University**

#### **Gangadhar Andaluri, PhD**

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Dr. Gangadhar Andaluri is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Temple University and Lead Researcher of the Thermal Technologies Laboratory. His research focuses on emerging contaminants in water and wastewater systems, including PFAS, microplastics, and antibiotics. Dr. Andaluri's work combines field sampling, risk assessment, and advanced treatment technologies such as supercritical water oxidation and foam fractionation. He collaborates closely with local agencies, water utilities, and communities to translate scientific findings into practical environmental solutions. He also actively mentors undergraduate and high school students through research and outreach programs such as the Society of Environmental Engineers and Scientists (SEES), Heights STEM pathway program and ACS SEED program. Dr. Andaluri's commitment to environmental health, community engagement, and student success reflects his broader mission to advance sustainable water management and environmental justice in urban settings.

*“We are honored to receive the 2025 Innovation and Collaboration - Research Award from the WRA. This recognition reflects the power of partnership and shared commitment to protecting the health of the Delaware River basin. Working alongside with Eric Stoltz and the Valley Forge Sewer Authority has been a true example of how science, policy, and practical solutions can come together to make a lasting impact on our communities and waterways”*

**Md Saiful Islam**

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Md Saiful Islam is a PhD student in Environmental Engineering at Temple University, specializing in the fate, transport, and sustainable treatment of emerging contaminants such as PFAS and microplastics. His research integrates field sampling, laboratory experimentation, and innovative technologies including foam fractionation and adsorption modeling. With over a decade of experience in environmental consulting and academia, Saiful has led projects in impact assessment, regulatory compliance, and wastewater treatment. In 2025, he received multiple awards, including the David A. Long Award (PA-AWWA), the Charles “Chick” Roberts Scholarship (AWWA), and Temple University’s GRASP Sustainability Award. He also served as Entrepreneur Lead in the NSF I-Corps Hub Northeast Region program and as a Student Board Member on the Hudson-Delaware Chapter of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (HDC-SETAC).