

From Victoria Chraibi the President

Spring is burgeoning. Ice is breaking. Plants are budding. And for the limnologist, field work is beginning.



When it comes to conserving water bodies, it often truly does take a village. In this issue of *LakeLine*, I hope you enjoy the creativity and persistence

displayed by local groups and volunteers.

Volunteer efforts were also highlighted and applauded at the recent National Water Quality Monitoring Conference in Green Bay, where the National Monitoring Council recognized the efforts of individuals and communities that have dedicated decades of bright ideas and bright personalities to the cause of volunteer monitoring.

- **Barry Alan Long Award:** Jeff Schloss, Extension Professor/Specialist (Biology/Water Quality) Emeritus, University of New Hampshire Extension and Department of Biological Sciences
- **Elizabeth Jester Fellows Award:** Meghan Smart, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
- **Vision Award:** Blue Thumb Water Quality Education Program Volunteer Program, Water Quality Division, Oklahoma Conservation Commission

May we all find new strategies for community-building and tips for implementing strategies, technologies, and tools to improve watershed health and lake water quality within these pages.

NALMS wishes everyone a sunny and safe start to the field season.

Victoria Chraibi is a tenured associate professor of aquatic ecology at Tarleton State University and the assistant director of Timberlake Biological Field Station, for which she coordinates educational outreach programming and manages student research initiatives. She holds a B.A. in biology and Spanish from Hanover College, Indiana; a Fulbright scholarship to McGill University, Quebec; an M.S. in water resources science from the University of Minnesota Duluth; and a Ph.D. in earth and atmospheric sciences from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. As a paleolimnologist, past research includes Lake Memphrémagog, Lake Superior, and Yellowstone National Park. As a phycologist, current research focuses on Texas streams and reservoirs. Victoria joined NALMS as a student member in 2011, and has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2018. ✨

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