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Environmental Management Diploma Students Add Water Industry Certifications to Qualifications



(Left to Right) Environmental Management Diploma Students: Maggie Grodzinski, Craig Curragh, Mike Seabourne, Jason Parent, Sarah Cook, Steven Janes, Pauline Halder, Mike Smith

Eight Ridgetown Campus students who have just completed the academic requirements of the Environmental Management Diploma program were back on campus May 12th –16th to enhance their industry qualifications by completing the one week Entry Level Drinking Water Operator Course. Returning to campus after completing a four-week industry work placement, these students studied intensively to prepare for their end-of-the-week Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Certification exams.

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“The completion of this additional industry certification, along with their Environmental Management Diploma, and industry work experience, will help these students to secure jobs in Ontario’s water industry,” says Deborah Hills, course instructor. Deborah co-instructed the course content with Sandy Bassie, another full-time instructor in the Environmental Management diploma program. The additional course provides these students, who are new water operators, with an important basic understanding of water characteristics, pathogens, treatment and distribution processes, and the regulations that govern water quality. This course is mandatory for all drinking water operators working in municipal/town water treatment centres.

Earlier in their academic year, all eight of these students wrote and passed their Operator in Training (OIT) exam. These students, in the second year of the Environmental Management Diploma program are eligible to write the OIT Certifications in one or more of four categories: water distribution, water treatment, waste water collection or wastewater treatment. In order to take the Entry Level Drinking Water Operator Course, students must have their OIT certifications.

These extra qualifications are an asset to a new graduates resume and we wish these students the best of luck in their new careers.

For further information Contact:

Kory Lippert

Communications Assistant, University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus

120 Main Street , Ridgetown, ON

519-674-1500 ext. 63507

klippert@uoguelph.ca