

Education

- PhD (2021-2025), Civil Engineering, University of Ottawa, Topic: Opportunities and challenges for engineering standards and the engineering profession to improve their consideration of equity, diversity, and inclusion principles
- JD (2020-2023), Common Law, University of Ottawa
- MASc, Civil Engineering, University of Waterloo
- BASc, Civil Engineering, University of Waterloo



Photo by Bonnie Findley

Michelle Liu, P.Eng., MASc, LEED-GA for Councillor, Eastern Region Engineer ♦ Lawyer-to-be ♦ Speaker ♦ Educator ♦ Researcher

I am a voice of the future. I am a young civil engineer with my finger on the pulse of the engineers of the future. I am the inaugural Chair of University of Waterloo's Recent Engineering Alumni Council, working with nearly 13,000 engineering graduates of the last decade to build an equitable and inclusive engineering community. I co-fund Canada's first university-level scholarship for 2SLGBTQ+ engineering students and have mentored over 150 undergraduate and graduate engineering students, many of whom remain in my network.

I understand PEO's statutory mandates and current strategic priorities. With Ontario's *Professional Engineers Act* at the heart of my ongoing PhD research, I have in-depth knowledge of PEO's mandate to regulate the practice of professional engineering in the interest of the public—a highly diverse public. I also understand that Council has the duty to uphold regulatory excellence, including in its operational efficiency, and be accountable for its activities to the Attorney General given that self-regulation is a privilege, not a right. As an early-career Councillor, I also stand to help PEO remain relevant and valuable to fellow early-career stakeholders per PEO's 2023-2025 strategic plan.

I have formal training in law and policy. My simultaneous pursuit of a law degree (ending in April 2023) will provide me with different skills and perspectives in developing practice standards and various policies that respond to the needs of the profession. I have spent the past two years critically examining and writing about various PEO and Engineers Canada policies as part of my research on the engineering profession. My passion for professional regulation has also brought me to the Equity Advisory Group of the Law Society of Ontario (the regulator of lawyers in Ontario) where I support the development of policy options for the promotion of equity and diversity in the legal profession.

Please connect to learn more about my leadership, service, educational and speaking engagements, and research endeavours, all of which make up what I hope to contribute as a PEO Councillor.

Leadership and service recognitions

- EDI Leader in Engineering Workplaces, Engineers Canada (2022)
- Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, NSERC (2022)
- Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholarship (2022)
- Rovinescu Award of Excellence for Community Service, University of Ottawa (2021)
- Kitchener-Waterloo Women of the Year Finalist (2019)
- Waterloo Mayor's Certificate of Recognition (2018)

Service to PEO & Engineers Canada

- Future of Engineering Accreditation, Engineers Canada (2022)
- 30 by 30 Action Planning, PEO (2019-present)
- Secretary, PEO Grand River Chapter (2018-2020)
- PEO liaison, Waterloo Engineering (2013-2018)



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