

NEHA Staff Profile

As part of tradition, NEHA features new staff members in the *Journal* around the time of their one-year anniversary. These profiles give you an opportunity to get to know the NEHA staff better and to learn more about the great programs and activities going on in your association. This month we are pleased to introduce you to one NEHA staff member. Contact information for all NEHA staff can be found on page 53.



Santiago Ezcurra

I moved to Denver in March 2016 with my wife and started to look for a job right away. After months of interviews and trips all over town, I got struck by luck—I joined NEHA in May 2016 as a temporary employee to help with some online courses that were being updated. I was given the opportunity to work on other projects and apply some of my experience in video editing and animation. That's how it all started.

Now I'm NEHA's media production specialist, helping to create online courses; managing our e-Learning platform; and filming, editing, and animating videos.

It's really a sum of awesome coincidences that NEHA and I crossed paths. Although my degree is in advertising, I always had a passion for video creation that I developed as a hobby. I've worked in the educational industry in different countries as a language teacher. This experience helps me approach my online training work at NEHA from that perspective. Also, my career has been related to environmental health as I worked in that industry for several years in China. All the elements were there! And the truth is, I'm truly happy. Making a difference while I work on my passions is more than I could have believed prior to moving to the U.S.

As for my future, I'm an optimist. I always expect the best, but I take responsibility for the part that I need to play in order for things to happen. I think that we might have a couple of tough years ahead of us, but that will unite and empower the environmental industry, getting us ready for the challenges of the next decade. I am excited about improving my skills and learning more, which will enable me to develop new tools that will help environmental health professionals and create new content that can inspire more people to join NEHA. 🍷

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