



ACE Mentor Bio



Crystal Markley
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Civil Engineer

Education:

Penn State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, Bachelor of Science, Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Licenses and Certifications:

Professional Engineer (Florida), LEED Accredited Professional

Professional Affiliations:

ASCE, EWB-USA, SAME, ASHE, ASABE

How long have you been a mentor? 12 years

Who or what inspired you to join ACE as a mentor?

ACE founder Charlie Thorton came to Jacksonville to talk to a group of professionals from local firms about why he started the ACE Mentor Program and why he thought we could make a difference in Jacksonville by starting an affiliate here. From that first meeting, I was all in.

What have you found to be most rewarding about being a mentor?

I really enjoy seeing the students get excited about ACE-related careers and in particular, when they decide to pursue careers in the field and we keep in touch as they move on and attend college. I feel honored to be a small part of their journey.

What is the most surprising thing(s) you've learned from being a mentor?

I have learned a lot from my fellow mentors about their professions, and I also learn a lot from the students. I have learned that even when I might be having the craziest day at work and feel like I don't have time for ACE, that's precisely why I need to make time for ACE, because I know it makes a difference for the students and it always brightens my day as well.