



MEDIA RELEASE

ACLCA Announces 2019 Award Winners: Jim Fava, Anthesis Group, Abdelhadi Sahnoune, ExxonMobil, Timothy J. Skone, DOE National Energy Technology Laboratory, Hongyue Jin, University of Arizona, and Nathan Pelletier, Food Systems PRISM Lab Honored for Accelerating Implementation & Application of LCA.

September 25, 2019

LCA XIX Awards Dinner Shines Spotlight on Individuals and Organizations Advancing LCA and Life Cycle Thinking.

Tucson, AZ, September 25, 2019—ACLCA announced today that Jim Fava, Timothy J. Skone, Abdelhadi Sahnoune, Hongyue Jin, and Nathan Pelletier / Food Systems PRISM Lab have received the 2019 LCA Award for their bold and forward-thinking initiatives that advanced the implementation and application of LCA.

“This is a critically important moment where LCA and life cycle thinking matter more than ever,” said Bill Flanagan, ACLCA’s Board Chair & Co-Founder & Director, Aspire Sustainability. “We honor and celebrate these leaders and organizations that have truly made an impact on the acceleration and implementation of LCA. The awardees this year— Jim Fava, Abdelhadi Sahnoune, Timothy J. Skone, Hongyue Jin, and Nathan Pelletier—have been true catalysts in the field of LCA. Each of us has a role to play, and these five LCA awardees are leading the charge.”

This year’s LCA awardees include:

Rita Schenck Lifetime Individual LCA Leadership Award: Jim Fava, PhD, Executive Director, Anthesis Group, Chair of the Executive Committee – Forum for Sustainability through Life Cycle Innovation (FSLCI)

Dr. James Fava has spent over 40 years supporting businesses and governments to understand the sustainability risks and opportunities facing them. He provides strategic guidance, tools and expertise, enabling businesses to operate in a more environmentally responsible and sustainable way.

Currently, as Executive Director at sustainability consultancy Anthesis Group, Jim continues to drive business value such as increased revenue, risk mitigation, reduced costs and brand enhancement from operating sustainably with an unrivalled purpose and passion. Jim’s clients include numerous Fortune 500 companies, and he has guided governments and NGOs alike on ways to remain resilient in the face of major sustainability challenges such as climate change.

Dr. Fava has often been described as ‘the father of modern-day life cycle assessments’. He has spent over three decades promoting and developing the practice and application of life cycle information to support decision-making globally. For example, Jim led or played key roles in SETAC, ISO, UNEP/SETAC Life cycle Initiative, FSLCI, and was co-founder of Five Winds International (now thinkstep), and the Product Sustainability Roundtable (PSRT).

Jim and his wife Jane currently live in Dominical, Costa Rica, focusing on ‘retirement in training’. He has plans to continue using his experience to expand the demand for sustainability excellence and enhance positive sustainability impact and business performance.

Corporate LCA Leadership Award: Abdelhadi Sahnoune, PhD, ExxonMobil Chemical Company

Dr. Abdelhadi Sahnoune is a Product Innovation Manager in Global Technology at ExxonMobil Chemical Company, where he and his team work on the development of new products. Dr. Sahnoune led the Chemical Research Sustainability Team from 2008 to 2016, and set the foundation for life cycle assessment methodology and sustainability within ExxonMobil. In 2010, he founded a Corporation-wide LCA coordination network of practitioners to promote broad use of LCA. Dr. Sahnoune has been active in several workgroups from academia and industry, working on sustainability and life cycle assessments relevant to plastics, transportation fuels, and the petrochemical industry. He also served on the UNEP-SETAC International Life Cycle Board and participated in several SETAC Pellston® workshops to advance LCA data quality and life cycle impact assessment methods. Dr. Sahnoune was also a member of the US Technical Advisory Group to ISO/TC 207 on LCA, and an early member of the ACLCA Industry Committee. He continues to advocate for LCA and the incorporation of life cycle thinking in research and product development.

Government Leadership in LCA Award: Timothy J. Skone, P.E., DOE National Energy Technology Laboratory

Mr. Skone is a Senior Environmental Engineer within the Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory’s Systems Engineering and Analysis Directorate. He leads Life Cycle Analysis Research efforts within the Office of Fossil Energy on carbon utilization technologies, methane emissions from the natural gas value chain, alternative transportation fuels, and advanced power generation systems. He is the primary author on multiple natural gas and coal related life cycle analyses published by the Department of Energy. He also leads research on energy resource availability, integration of biomass and fossil energy resources, and strategic energy concepts for new programs. Mr. Skone has 21 years of experience in the field of energy analysis and is a graduate of the Penn State University.

Education LCA Leadership Award: Nathan Pelletier, PhD, Food Systems PRISM Lab

Nathan Pelletier is an ecological economist and industrial ecologist at the University of British Columbia. An exemplar of interdisciplinary research, he holds professorial appointments in the Faculties of Management and Arts and Sciences (Biology), as well as the Endowed Chair in Bio-economy Sustainability Management and the NSERC/Egg Farmers of Canada Industrial Research Chair in Sustainability.

Pelletier's Food Systems Priority Research for Integrated Sustainability Management (PRISM) Lab is a hub for cross-cutting research. It is currently home to 9 graduate students and two post doctoral fellows undertaking life cycle-based evaluation of precision agriculture and other sustainable intensification technologies and management strategies for application along Canadian egg supply chains and in the agri-food sector more broadly. The PRISM Lab is also leading development of the Canadian Agri-food Life Cycle Data Centre. For more information see www.prismlab.weebly.com.

Rising Star Award, Hongyue Jin, PhD, University of Arizona, Systems & Industrial Engineering

Hongyue Jin is an Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Systems & Industrial Engineering at the University of Arizona. She has become a leader within the DoE Critical Materials Institute (CMI) in integrating life cycle assessment (LCA) and techno-economic analysis (TEA) throughout CMI projects, both by teaching CMI researchers how to perform LCA/TEA and by collaborating with them in performing in-depth analyses. Hongyue's work helped five CMI research groups at LLNL, INL, Ames, and ORNL understand how their material, process, and logistics choices affect the commercialization and environmental impacts of the novel technologies they were developing. Hongyue Jin has also been recognized by her University and her students for her leadership and teaching in LCA as well as her collaboration with industry.

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About ACLCA

The American Center for Life Cycle Assessment (ACLCA) is a nonprofit membership organization providing education, awareness, advocacy and communications to build capacity and knowledge of environmental LCA. ACLCA membership consists of industry, academia, government, consulting, and NGOs. Visit www.aclca.org to find out more.