

# BAMI-I RETURNS HOME TO ATLANTA!

## 4-day CTAM workshop held in Atlanta September 2019

By: The Trenchless Technology Center (TTC)

**A**s a result of the leadership and inspiration of Mayor Shirley Franklin and DWM Commissioner Jack Ravan, the Buried Asset Management Institute (BAMI) was established in the Department of Watershed Management (DWM) for the City of Atlanta in 2003. Mayor Franklin was passionate about developing the water program in Atlanta from one which had received the country's largest and most complex federal consent decree to date, into a proactive, forward-looking "first-in-class" organization.

To help accomplish the Mayor's vision, in 2003 Commissioner Ravan invited Dr. Tom Iseley, present day BAMI-I Chairman, to lead a team focused on the development and implementation of best business practices for managing Atlanta's buried assets – often referred to by Mayor Franklin as "buried treasures". This team became known as the Buried Asset Management Group. After a 2-day working forum involving academic leaders from multiple universities the name was changed to the Buried Asset Management Institute. The realization was that the biggest challenge was not the treatment plants rather the conveyance systems, which represent about 75-80 per cent of the value of water program assets. There are greater challenges in managing these assets since they are buried.

With rapidly growing interest in the US and other countries, BAMI transitioned to BAMI-International (BAMI-I) in 2004, and was established as a non-profit corporation whose main purpose is to educate and assist those who have an interest in applying best



practices to manage and extend the life and efficiency of their buried assets.

In 2006, BAMI-I was selected for U.S. EPA Cooperative Agreement (CP 83 282901-1), which was completed in 2008. As a result, BAMI-I launched the Certificate of Training in Asset Management courses (CTAM 100-400). This program consists of 4 online courses plus a 2-level certification program (Associate Water Asset Manager (AWAM)

& Professional Water Asset Manager (PWAM)). So far, individuals from 16 countries have enrolled in the CTAM program. BAMI-I has conducted 4-day CTAM classroom courses in Raleigh, NC, Columbus, OH, and Lewisville TX.

Most recently, BAMI-I was honored with an invitation from Atlanta DWM Commissioner Kishia Powell to return to its city of origin in September 2019 and conduct the fourth four-day classroom



*All 34 attendees successfully completed all requirements to become BAMI-I AWAM certified*



Dr. Tom Iseley, BAMI-I Chairman, gives overview of BAMI-I Asset Management Certification program

**Having 24 key employees spend 4 days in a classroom shows real commitment.**

- DR. TOM ISELEY, PHD, P.E., PWAM, CHAIRMAN BAMI-I

session of its exclusive four part CTAM course. With one course level covered per day, the workshop was an overwhelming success, with all 34 attendees, including 24 Atlanta DWM employees, completing the rigorous series of 23 exams, and achieving the BAMI-I AWAM certification.

According to BAMI-I Chairman Dr. Tom Iseley, these results were “extremely significant because asset management programs cannot be successful without

buy-in from all division of the organization with a champion. Having 24 key employees spend 4 days in a classroom shows real commitment. We appreciate Atlanta’s forward looking leadership.”

As the success of the BAMI-I Atlanta workshop shows, in the years since BAMI-I’s formation, Atlanta DWM has continued Mayor Franklin’s original vision, demonstrating national and

international leadership in learning and applying asset management principles. The passion and commitment to Atlanta’s water program inspired by Mayor Franklin continues to this day under the leadership and guidance of Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms and DWM Commissioner Kishia Powell.

For more information please visit [www.bami-i.com](http://www.bami-i.com) and contact Dr. Tom Iseley, [dtiseley@latech.edu](mailto:dtiseley@latech.edu). †

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**BAMI-I**

**IUPUI CEMT**  
Construction Engineering Management Technology

**Virtual CEMAM**  
Center of Excellence for Municipal Asset Management

**Municipal/Utility Needs Survey**

**Education Program**

**Web Support Certification**

**BAMI-I ASSET MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

**1 PHASE I** Fundamentals. Book and examination.

**2 PHASE II** Practical. Use of virtual CEMAM.

**3 PHASE III** Application to Industry.