

FACES OF ASHRAE: *Grace Bailey*

Grace Bailey, Associate Member ASHRAE, is a Technical Lead for Building Controls and Embedded Software at Trane Technologies. She has been in the HVAC&R industry for seven years and has been a member of ASHRAE for two years.

► **What is your current job?**

I work on the Building Controls and Embedded Software team for Commercial HVAC at Trane. As a Technical Lead, I am a software engineer and lead a team working on some of our controls applications.

► **What is your level of education?**

I graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Computer Engineering and a minor in Sustainability Studies.

► **ASHRAE Chapter**

Minnesota ASHRAE Chapter

► **How long have you been an ASHRAE member?**

Two years! My first ASHRAE conference was in Tampa, Summer 2023. I was very inspired and eager to get more involved, so I officially joined as a member.

► **What technical committees or other parts of ASHRAE are you involved with?**

- BACnet Standard Committee
- TC 1.4 Controls Theory & Applications

► **What got you into the industry?**

I always knew I wanted to work on something tangible that has an impact on the world, and in college I took a course on sustainable housing that really sparked my interest in how we can make buildings better. Then, once I heard about Trane and talked to them at my school's

career fair, I felt that it would be a great fit for me. Through my internships at Trane, I saw the impact I could have by applying my computer engineering degree to projects that I was passionate about.

► **What is one thing you wished you knew when you started in the industry?**

How much engineering and innovation goes into making spaces comfortable, healthy, and efficient.

► **What is your favorite part of your job?**

Every day I am learning something new and collaborating across teams on complex projects. I love the problem-solving aspects of my work and understanding the impact our teams have on the efficiency, usability, and reliability of our systems.

► **What has been your favorite part of being an ASHRAE member?**

The conferences and committee meetings are such valuable resources for learning and developing connections. I also really value learning about different players in the industry and seeing the excitement people share for the future. Plus, there are amazing tours!

► **What advice do you have to young people starting out in ASHRAE?**

Explore and ask questions! Find your people. There are other people that are always looking at (and taking pictures of) HVAC equipment.



► **How do you think the industry can best Empower Our Workforce?**

One way to promote our industry and empower our future workforce is to engage with students earlier and across engineering disciplines. I think two big keys to this are outreach to local universities and strong internship programs that show students the opportunities and impact of our expanding industry. I've been a leader in our controls and software engineering internship program, and there are a lot of passionate students out there that just haven't thought about the world of HVAC&R.

What are your goals in ASHRAE?

I am looking forward to becoming more involved with my local chapter and with the technical committees and finding more ways to contribute.

► **What do you enjoy doing when you are away from work?**

Away from work I love to travel, spend time outdoors, and volunteer with local robotics teams. ●