

**James D. Rees**  
Curriculum Vitae

**EDUCATION**

PhD, Electrical Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, 2019

Thesis: “*Shewanella oneidensis* MR-1 as an avenue for green nanoparticle biosynthesis and next-generation biosensing”

B.A., Physics, Oberlin College, 2011

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

2021-Present Lecturer, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

2019-2020 Postdoctoral Researcher, Darrin Fresh Water Institute, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Peer-Reviewed Publications**

J. D. Rees, Y. A. Gorby, and S. M. Sawyer, “Synthesis and characterization of molybdenum disulfide nanoparticles in *Shewanella oneidensis* MR-1 biofilms,” *AVS Biointerphases*, vol. 15(4), 2020, p. 041006.

**Manuscripts in Submission**

N. B. Stanton, J.D. Rees, “From environmental futures to alterities: relating and speculating with microbes and human nature(s),” *World Futures Review*

**AWARDS AND HONORS**

2019 Three-Minute Thesis Competition Finalist, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

2017 Energy Fellowship Honorable Mention, Link Foundation

**GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

2023-2026 National Science Foundation, SitS Socializing Soil: Enhancing Community CoOperation with Iterative Sensor Research (S3-ECO-wISeR)

**CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

2020 “Engineering with trickster microorganisms and their assemblages,” Northeast STS Conference, March 7

2019 “Streak plating and silicon: an STS re-examining of engineering from within the discipline,” 4S New Orleans, September 7

2019 “Biosynthesis of molybdenum nanoparticles using the metal-reducing bacterium *Shewanella oneidensis*,” 61<sup>st</sup> Electronic Materials Conference, June 27

2018 “Behavior of *Shewanella oneidensis* MR-1 in a sulfur and zinc-rich medium and its applications for biosensing and biomaterials,” AVS Pacific Rim Symposium on Surfaces, Coatings and Interfaces, December 4

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Courses Taught as Instructor**

Fields and Waves  
Electronic Instrumentation  
Introduction to Engineering Design  
Multidisciplinary Design Lab  
Embedded Control  
Computer Components and Operations  
Computer Architecture, Networks and Operating Systems

### **Courses Taught as Teaching Assistant**

Fields and Waves  
Electric Circuits  
Electronic Instrumentation  
Introduction to Philosophy  
Introduction to Logic  
Law and Public Policy  
Cognitive Modeling

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

### **2023-Present Principal Investigator, NSF S3-ECO-wISeR**

Assisted with the creation of a biosensor in which a coculture of two bacteria produced electrode current in the presence of arsenic.

### **2019-2020 Postdoctoral Researcher, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

Developed techniques for the detection of nitrate using bacterial biofilms growing on electrodes. Used *Shewanella oneidensis* MR-1 bacteria to synthesize tungsten nanomaterials with semiconducting properties.

**2016-2019     Graduate Research Assistant, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

Demonstrated biosynthesis of metal sulfide nanomaterials using *Shewanella oneidensis* MR-1.

**2014-2015     Graduate Research Assistant, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

Designed and simulated circuits using Josephson junctions and rapid single-flux quantum (RSFQ) technology

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**Manuscript Review**

2021    *Journal of Sulfur Chemistry*

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

2018-2019     Volunteer scientist, NATURE Lab, The Sanctuary for Independent Media, Troy, NY. Created public science demonstrations on aquaponics and insect biodegradation of polystyrene.

**MEDIA COVERAGE**

2020    "Metal-breathing bacteria synthesize high-tech material," *Scientific American*, online.  
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/metal-breathing-bacteria-synthesize-high-tech-material/>

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

IEEE

4S