

# 2017 ESE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

## AWARD PRESENTATION AND SEMINAR



### **Marla Smith-Nilson**

(MSEE 1994)

Founder and Executive Director of  
Water 1<sup>st</sup> International

**Friday, April 6**

**1:00 PM**

North Carolina Blue Cross Blue Shield Auditorium  
(0001 Michael Hooker Research Center)

### ***Solving Global Water & Sanitation Problems with Lessons Learned as an ESE Student***

Over her 25-year career, Marla Smith-Nilson has brought clean water and sanitation to 250,000 people in Latin America, Asia and Africa. These people continue to benefit because Marla has recognized that water projects can only be sustainable if principles of environmental engineering, community empowerment and health education are integrated. Marla's career path showcases the ideals not only of ESE but also of the Gillings School of Global Public Health. She was the co-recipient of the 2013 Self Magazine Award for Most Inspirational Woman and was recognized for this award on the *Today Show*." She was a featured presenter at TEDx Portland in 2017.

The Department of Environmental Sciences  
and Engineering



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