e-News Updates from the PSIEE listserv!

News Highlights and Announcements

Limited number of Obama tickets available for employees and students: President Obama's visit now Thursday, Feb. 3
President Barack Obama will be on Penn State's University Park campus on Thursday, Feb. 3, where he will speak at Rec Hall. University students and employees are invited and a limited number of tickets will be available.

Photo of the Week Request
We are requesting interested researchers to submit research photos for the new "photo of the week" section on the PSIEE website. Along with the photo, we need a photo caption, photo credit, and short paragraph describing the research related to the photo. Related links are also welcome. Jeffrey Catchmark has graciously agreed to be our first postings. See the PSIEE website for his example text.

Special Invitation - Evening of "Close Encounters of the PSIEE Kind"
The Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment is inviting faculty to an evening of "Close Encounters of the PSIEE Kind" on Wednesday February 16, 2011. The event will be held in the Nittany Lion Inn from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (flyer attached) Tom Richard, director of the Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment (PSIEE), and Denice Wardrop, assistant director of PSIEE, are hosting the event. This energy and environmental "speed-meeting" event (similar to speed-dating format) is for PSIEE faculty to get to know their colleagues and to advance future networking and collaborative activities. Reservations will be accepted from first 100 responses! RSVP to Sandy Maitland at slm30@psu.edu by February 10, 2011.

PSIEE is now on Facebook!
We have just launched a Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment Facebook page. We don't have much information posted yet but we will be adding information that we send out through our listserv on our Facebook page too. You can "Like" our page and view updates as we post them.

Kristen Saacke-Blunk named new Chair of Spring Creek Watershed Association
Kristen is well qualified to fill this position. In the mid-1990s, during the formative years of the Spring Creek Watershed Association and the Spring Creek Watershed Commission, Kristen served as the Executive Director of the ClearWater Conservancy. Since then she has completed her Master's Degree under the direction of Rob Brooks, professor of geography and director of Penn State's Cooperative Wetlands Center (Riparia). She is currently the director of the College of Agriculture’s Agriculture and Environment Center. (News shared by ClearWater Conservancy)
Interdisciplinary Climate Change Education Modules Available

NASA, has developed 8 self-contained modules for undergraduate general education on climate change. The modules using NASA data and web materials is presently available on the Encyclopedia of Earth. They include: 1) NASA Time Machine, 2) Climate Change Impacts on Colorado River water supply, 3) Seasonality, 4) Introduction to Remote Sensing Metrics, 5) Advanced Topics in Remote Sensing, 6) Ice Core Data, 7) Recent Climate Change, and 8) Climate Change and Wine.

C2C: Climate Ethics and Open Classrooms

Know anyone teaching courses related to environmental politics or policy this term? Please forward this e-mail along to them. Why? Because the Bard Center for Environmental Policy has a terrific, easy opportunity for them to get face-time for their students with their member of congress or US Senator. They are sponsoring April skype dialogues between campuses and Congress on energy, climate and jobs as part of their C2C/EARTHweek.

Letter Report Assessing the USGS National Water Quality Assessment Program's Science Plan

The U.S. Geological Survey's National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program is poised to expand its current, nationally recognized role in monitoring water quality to the ability to forecast likely future conditions, according to a National Research Council report.

Open Position: Assistant/Associate Professor

The department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering at Iowa State University seeks applications for a 9-month, tenure-track, faculty position in Water Quality and Nutrient Management.

Open Positions: Graduate Fellows

The University of Florida Water Institute seeks applicants for up to 6 Ph.D. Fellows to join an interdisciplinary team working on complex, emerging issues related to nutrient dynamics, management and policy in watersheds. The 4-year fellowships include a $25,000 stipend, tuition waiver and health insurance. Deadline to apply is February 11, 2011.

(View all news)

Upcoming student research exhibitions

- Gamma Sigma Delta Annual Graduate and Undergraduate Research Expo; March 16-17; 2011
  Undergraduate and graduate students advised by a faculty member in the College of Agricultural Sciences are eligible to participate. About $3700 in prize monies will be awarded. Application deadline is Friday, February 25, 2011.

- 26th Annual Graduate Exhibition; March 27, 2011 - Noon - 3:00 p.m.
  The application process is conducted electronically via a secure web site. Entry forms will be accepted beginning Monday, January 3, 2011, and continuing until 3:00 p.m. Friday, February 18, 2011. A hard copy of the application must be signed by the entering student's adviser, program chair or department head and the hard copy is due in 114 Kern by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 18, 2011.

- 14th Annual Environmental Chemistry Student Symposium; April 8-9, 2011
  The deadline for Presentation Abstract Submissions is March 4, 2001. Please start submitting your abstracts.
There are a limited number of time-slots for oral presentations and early submissions are given priority, so get those abstracts in!

Select Campus Events

**February 1, 2011**

- **Cyberinfrastructure Day**
  Poster Reception Kickoff: Jan. 31; 5-7:00 p.m.
  Conference Program: Feb. 1; 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
  Free but registration required

- **Environmental and Water Resources Engineering faculty candidate seminar**
  Ming Pan, Princeton University, *"Global Capability and Local Utility – Visions on Future Research"*
  12:00 p.m.; 220 Hammond Building (Stavely conference room)

- **Mechanical Engineering Seminar Series**
  Chris Rogers, Tufts University
  4:00 p.m.; 135 Reber Building

- **Geosciences Colloquia**
  Sue Cashman, Humbolt State University, *"Fault rocks: a record of earthquakes"*
  4:00 p.m.; 22 Deike Building

**February 2-5, 2011**

- **Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture’s 20th Annual Conference "Farming for the Future"**
  Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel (Registration Fee)

**February 2, 2011**

- **Meteorology Colloquia**
  Sukyoung Lee, *"On the attributes of Northern Hemisphere winter surface air temperature change between 1958-2001"*
  3:30 p.m.; 112 Walker Building

**February 3, 2011**

- **Infectious Disease Dynamics Seminars**
  Felicia Keesing, Bard College, *"Biodiversity loss and infectious diseases: a recipe for risk?"*
  4:00 p.m.; 510 Mueller Laboratory

- **Frontiers in Genomics Seminars**
  Nicole Riddle, Washington University in St. Louis, *"Epigenomic Analysis of the Drosophila Chromatin Landscape"*
  4:00 p.m.; 100 Life Sciences (Berg Auditorium)

**February 4, 2011**
- **M.E. John Seminar Series**
  Chyi-Lyi Lang, University of Vermont, "Multifunctional Farm Enterprises: A Conceptual Model to Improve Long Term Sustainability and Prosperity of Small and Medium-Sized Farms and Rural Communities"
  2:30 p.m.; 215 Armsby

- **Geography Coffee-Hour**
  Grad Student TED talks, featuring physical geography grads:
  Nathan Amador
  Andrew Pierce
  Anna Vandervlugt
  Elizabeth Crisfield
  Seth Wilberding
  Luke McCormack or Sarah Pabian
  Justin Vanderberg
  Aliana Reichert-Eberhart
  4:00 p.m.; 112 Walker Building

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**Saturday February 5, 2011**

- **Lectures on the Frontiers of Science**
  Vivek Kapur, "Vaccines in the 21st Century"
  11:00 a.m.; 100 Thomas Building

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**February 7, 2011**

- **Plant Biology Seminar**
  Hong Ma, "Arabidopsis Receptor-linked Protein Kinases and Transcriptional Regulators Play Essential Roles in Controlling Anther Cell Division and Differentiation Required for Male Fertility"
  12:10 p.m.; 108 Wartik Laboratory

- **Plant Pathology Seminar Series**
  Heather Simmons, "Effect of Transmission Mode on Genetic Diversity in Zucchini Yellow Mosaic Virus"
  3:30 p.m.; 112 Buckhout Laboratory

- **Stone Lecture**
  Roberto Kolter, Harvard University, "Making and Breaking Biofilms"
  4:00 p.m.; 101 Althouse Laboratory

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**February 8, 2011**

- **Chemical Engineering Seminar**
  Christian Metall, MIT, "Rethinking Carbon Utilization in Human Cells"
  11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; 108 Wartik Laboratory

- **Cows and Carbon: Dairy Impacts, Mitigation, and Adaptation in a Warming World Brown Bag Series**
  Armen Kemanian, "Crop nutrient requirements in a high CO2 World: Problem or opportunity?"
  Noon - 1:30 p.m.; 244 Agriculture Engineering Building

- **Distinguished Lectures in Life Science**
  Patricia Wright, Stony Brook University, "Long term Research in the Rainforests of Madagascar: Consequences for Conservation"
  4:00 p.m.; 100 Life Sciences (Berg Auditorium)

- **Mechanical Engineering Seminar Series**
  Michael Alley
  4:00 p.m.; 135 Reber Building
• **Geosciences Colloquia**
  Jacob Sewall, Kutztown University, "Oxygen Isotopes, Climate Models, and the Sevier Highlands"
  4:00 p.m.; 22 Deike Building

**February 9, 2011**

• **Meteorology Colloquia**
  Da-Lin Zhang, University of Maryland, "Impact of Upstream Urbanization on the Urban Heat Island Effects"
  3:30 p.m.; 112 Walker Building

**February 10, 2011**

• **Chemical Engineering Seminar**
  Carlos Rinaldi, University of Puerto Rico, "Suspensions of Magnetic Nanoparticles: From Fluid Physics to Biomedical Applications"
  11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.; 108 Wartik Laboratory

• **Horticulture Seminar Series**
  Annette Dathe, "Community Gardens"
  4-5:00 p.m.; 111 Tyson Building

**February 11, 2011**

• **Architectural Engineering Seminar Series**
  Mohammad Heidarnejad, "CFD as a Tool to Predict Performance of Upper-Room Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation (UR-UVGI) Disinfection Systems"
  12-1:00 p.m.; 107 Engineering Unit B

• **M.E. John Seminar Series**
  Tom Beddard, Lady Moon Farms, "Lady Moon Farms: The Finest Produce, in the Sharpest Package, Every Time!"
  2:30 p.m.; 215 Armsby

• **Geography Coffee Hour**
  Madhuri Desai, "In search of the sacred and antique in colonial India"
  4-5 p.m.; 112 Walker Building

*View all calendar of events* |  

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**Featured conferences**

• **Community Wind across America Conference**
  The 2-day regional conference will be held February 8-9, 2011 at the Penn State Conference Center Hotel. Penn State is a silver-level sponsor. View program

• **Innovating Policy for Chesapeake Bay Restoration**
  Conference is scheduled for March 29, 2011 in Cambridge, MD.

• **33rd Symposium on Biotechnology for Fuels and Chemicals**
  Conference is scheduled for May 2-5, 2011 in Seattle, WA. Deadline for poster presenters is March 15, 2011.
2011 Energy Sustainability Conference & Fuel Cell Conference
The conference is scheduled for August 7-10, 2011 in Washington, DC.

tcbiomass2011 abstracts due March 15, 2011
Conference is scheduled for September 28-30, 2011 in Chicago, IL.

(View all 182 upcoming conferences) – searchable by month, keyword, or accepting abstracts

Select Funding Opportunities

- **Basic Research in Novel Polymeric Compounds Containing Magnesium** (February 27)
- **FY 2011 National Network for Environmental Management Studies Fellowship Program** (March 4)
- **Nanotechnology Undergraduate Education in Engineering** (April 20)
- **Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers** (March 11)
- **Fostering Interdisciplinary Research on Education** (April 29)
- **Reduction of Vulnerability to Coastal Natural Hazards in Asia** (March 7)
- **Health Impact Assessment to Foster Healthy Community Design** (March 28)
- **Research, Development and Training in Isotope Production** (April 18)
- **Extreme Event Impacts on Air Quality and Water Quality with a Changing Global Climate** (April 18)
- **Early Career: Extreme Event Impacts on Air Quality and Water Quality with a Changing Global Climate** (April 18)
- **Dietary Influence on the Human Health Effects of Environmental Exposures** (April 21)
- **ROSES: NASA Energy and Water Cycle Study** (March 22)
- **FY-2011 New Jersey Conservation Innovation Grant** (March 11)
- **Water Resources Research National Competitive Grants Program** (March 10)

(View all 28 recent announcements | View all open 234)

Special Funding Announcements

**Funding Available for Environmental Technology Demonstrations**
The Department of Defense’s (DoD) Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP) released its FY 2012 solicitation on January 13, 2011, requesting proposals for demonstration of environmental technologies. The Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) and Non-DoD Federal Call for Proposals request pre-proposals for the following topics only: (1) Management of Contaminated Groundwater; (2) In Situ Management of Contaminated Sediments; (3) Military Munitions Detection, Discrimination, and Remediation; (4) Recovery of Threatened and Endangered and Sustainment of At-Risk Plant Species; (5) Inventory and Monitoring Technologies for Vertebrate Populations; and (6) Environmentally Sustainable Energetic Materials and Manufacturing Processes. The due date for all pre-proposals from both the Federal and non-Federal sectors is Tuesday, March 8, 2011.

The goal of the Department of Energy (DOE, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), Solar Energy Technologies Program (SETP), is to make solar energy cost compatible with grid electricity and also to enable the high penetration of solar energy without subsidy in the U.S. electricity market. The DOE $1/W Workshop held in Washington,
DC on August 11 and 12, 2010, identified approaches to reduce the cost of installed photovoltaic (PV) systems to $1 per watt by 2017, including several major areas where significant cost reductions in power electronics can be made including: 1) economies of scale; 2) advanced components; 3) reliability; 4) smart grid integration and 5) understanding of system implications. Through this announcement, DOE is requesting information on Solar Energy Grid Integration Systems, Advanced Concepts (SEGIS-AC) and how changes in power electronics impact the cost of the PV system as a whole. Deadline: February 4, 2011.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS
If you know of others that may be interested in joining this listserv, they can join by sending an e-mail to: L-PSIEE-subscribe-request@lists.psu.edu - no subject or message text is required. The system picks up the name and address from the e-mail headers.

We welcome your input!
In order to make this listserv useful for our subscribers, we appreciate your feedback! Please send your comments/suggestions to Patricia Craig at plc103@psu.edu. Please use “PSIEE listserv” in the subject line. If you have information that you would like us to distribute please send that as well. Thanks!

Thank you for your continued interest in the Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment!

Best regards,
Patricia Craig