Dear PSIEE faculty affiliates and friends,

In an effort to enhance our water research, education and outreach at Penn State, a Water Task Force has been working diligently over the last 8 months to assess opportunities and recommend strategic actions. The Task Force was charged by outgoing Vice President of Research Hank Foley to address the following:

1) **Strengthen Institutional Capacity** in terms of research infrastructure, analytical equipment, and support for novel research
2) **Expand Human Capacity**, including educational programs, priorities for new faculty hires, and leadership development for both faculty and students.
3) **Build Community** by increasing connections across campuses, colleges and disciplines, between faculty, staff and students, and with external partners both in the U.S. and internationally.

Many of you were able to participate in the Town Meetings the Water Task Force held throughout the spring semester. The input from those meetings and the committee’s own research and analysis resulted in a draft report that is available at http://www.psiee.psu.edu/news/2013_news/aug_2013/waterTaskForce.asp online. Before the report is finalized, the Task Force wanted to give you an opportunity to review and comment on this draft.

In an effort to complete this process before the beginning of the semester, we are requesting comments by the end of next week (August 9). Please share any comments you have on the report with any of the Water Task Force members or directly with me. Comments will be made in confidence. The Task Force members and I sincerely welcome any input and ideas you may have.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Water Task Force, including Iliana Baums, Beth Boyer, Larry Gorenflo and Demian Safer. I particularly want to thank Mike Goosoff who recently moved to Colorado State, was a wonderful contributor while he was here, and continues to work hard on behalf of water science at Penn State. Their contact information is below:
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

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