

SMART ENERGY

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
FOR CLEAN ENERGY
A Centralia College Partnership

Spring 2014



Jeremy Gall, Avista Training Coordinator is the Center's newest Advisory Board Member. Pictured behind, Avista's Post Falls dam. Courtesy of Avista.

Center of Excellence Advisory Board News

Jeremy Gall, Training and Development Manager at Avista, is the newest member of the Center's advisory board. He leads the development, design and implementation of training programs for technical, apprenticeship and journey level utility crafts. Prior to Avista, Jeremy worked as an instructor/trainer and manager at AT&T. His background includes setting up a ministry - a leadership training facility in Nairobi, Kenya - and serving as a nuclear power plant instructor with the U.S. Navy.

"I'm looking forward to working with the Center of Excellence for Clean Energy," Gall said. "The center represents the various members of the energy workforce pipeline and is looking to the future of the industry's

evolving needs. Being a part of the Center allows Avista to contribute to this future as well as benefit from the collaborative outcomes."

Jeremy's staff includes five training coordinators who are responsible for managing training and development of more than 600 craft employees in electric generation, transmission and distribution, as well as gas transmission and distribution across three states (OR, WA, and Idaho).

"Avista is filled with amazingly talented, collaborative and innovative people and has been an integral partner with the Center since 2008," Executive Director Barbara Hins-Turner said.

"Long-term advisory board member Mike Hanson retired in December. Mike's leadership and vision was key to our successes. We'll miss him and wish him happy travels! Welcome Jeremy."

9th Annual Energy & Construction Best Practices Summit

Sustaining Our Nation's Infrastructure
June 18 & 19, 2014
Registration is required

We're shaking up the summit and moving it to **Centralia College**.

Main Summit Day: June 18

Keynote: *The Stand Up Economist: Carbon and the Economy*, by Yoram Bauman, PhD.

Plenary Sessions: Industry experts representing energy, construction, and advanced manufacturing will respond to implications of climate shifts, carbon solutions and workforce impacts. As panelists, they will address three major topics: Urgency – What are the most pressing issues we face? Options/Solutions – What are the solutions to these issues? Impact on workforce – What are the implications for the workforce in terms of recruiting, training, retaining and developing any new skills which will be required?

The day will include breakout, wrap-up and networking sessions and will end with the Signature Crab Feed and Scholarship Auction.

Day Two: June 19 - *Cascadia Region Earthquake Readiness Workshop*

Scientists are telling us to brace for the big one. A catastrophic earthquake of magnitude 9.0 or a series of earthquakes ranging from 8.0 to 9.0 will hit the Pacific Northwest. It's not a question of if this will occur, but WHEN.

This workshop will provide an opportunity to develop more comprehensive scenarios that are related to transportation, ports and energy infrastructure – with an outcome of creating a Top 10 hit list of needed actions to prepare our region for catastrophic events.

Who should attend? Visit cleanenergy-excellence.org/summits

Veterans Corner: Transitioning into Energy Careers

Community and technical college (CTC) energy programs offer veterans excellent pathways to high-wage, high-skills careers. The programs, which can be found at 28 colleges around the state, offer energy degrees and networking connections within industry that along with military experience, gives veterans a jump-start into civilian careers. Meet three successful veterans who have made the energy career transition:



Amanda Bowman, Instrumentation & Controls Intern, Energy Northwest, Richland, WA
Military: Quartermaster & Chemical Equipment Repairer, U.S. Army National Guard

Program: *Nuclear Technology Instrumentation & Controls*, Columbia Basin College.

"The military taught me the basics of electrical systems and how to troubleshoot them. I also learned leadership skills, how to set and attain personal goals, and how to maintain a military bearing," Amanda said.

The Nuclear Technology program at Columbia Basin College gave Amanda the technical knowledge and foundation of the nuclear industry and helped her prepare for a career in this field.

"We've been able to build relationships with other students and program staff. I believe these relationships will continue and will give us a valuable network in our careers," she said.



Nick Kissinger, Hydropower Operator, Seattle City Light
Military: Nuclear Power Plant Operator, U.S. Navy
Program: *Energy Technology*, Centralia College

"I have always been kind of a science buff which has made me gravitate toward anything technical. I joined the Navy for the challenge and to satisfy my curiosity toward nuclear power plant operations. This industry offers a limitless amount of information and technical knowledge."

Nick spent two years learning how to be a nuclear power plant operator and completed a journeyman electrical apprenticeship while in the Navy.

"I obtained my first and only AAS degree at Centralia College. There, I learned about different power plant operations so that I could be more valuable to energy employers."

The energy program also taught Nick important electrical industry safety procedures and how to work with the EPA, OSHA and WISHA (Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act).

Nick chose CC because of who was hiring their graduates. "I learned about Seattle City Light when recruiters visited the energy technology class and applied right away."

Every CTC energy program is required to have an advisory board and many of them connect with students.



Chester Curtis, project engineer, McKinstry
Military: Combat Engineer, U.S. Army
Program: *Energy Management*, Edmonds Community College

Chester left the U.S. Army with a traumatic brain injury, Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome, and hearing loss in both ears. He knew he needed a college education as his Army training wasn't the career path to a job – he defused/destroyed explosives.

He found Edmonds CC, visited the Veterans Resource Center on campus, and promptly got elected to Veterans Club president. He supported veterans both on campus and off, including the Fisher House, where families live while their service person is recovering from injuries. He was also appointed to the National Student Veterans Association Board.

Chester secured the first 2-year college graduate internship at McKinstry, a full-service (building) design, build, operate and maintain firm. He worked as an energy project coordinator trainee for six months before being promoted to project engineer of the Fire Sprinkler Division.

NEW! Energy & Innovation Entrepreneurship Certificate

The Center received nearly \$88,000 from the U.S. Dept. of Commerce technical assistance grant to develop and lead the Academy of Energy Entrepreneurs (AEE).

The program, which was designed by Peninsula College and coordinated by Nancy Estergard of Grays Harbor College, will assist energy technology students who have an interest in starting their own business or have an innovative energy related design idea.

Energy & Innovation Entrepreneurship - a 26-credit certificated program - prepares students for new venture planning, entrepreneurial start-up, social media, marketing, and entrepreneurial finance. It teaches students how to build a successful entrepreneurial venture from the ground up including analysis of an entrepreneurial mind set, market assessment, how to write a business plan, and innovative marketing strategies.

The energy component of the program begins this spring with the following ENT 205 class:

ENT 205 - *Energy and Innovation Entrepreneurship*. This competency-based course introduces students to key opportunities in the energy marketplace. Students will learn and practice effective techniques related to the market and develop a business model that results in competitive advantage for a start-up energy business venture. *Instructor:* Rulon Crawford.

Information & Registration:

Grays Harbor College
Nancy Estergard, 360-538-4012
nancy.estergard@ghc.edu

Peninsula College
Dr. Mia Boster, 360-417-6484
mboster@pencol.edu

AEE Advisory Committee Chair:
Rick Jackson, Energy Specialist,
Greater Grays Harbor, Inc.



Energy Educators Association Board: Larry Owens, Carol Lewellen, Tom Barr and Alison Pugh; missing Gail Alexander.

Energy Educators Association (EEA)

Energized educators make a difference. The EEA was formally organized in 2012 through a National Science Foundation grant at Edmonds Community College (EdCC) called *Meeting the Challenge of Energy Management in a Carbon-Constrained World*. The grant brought energy efficiency training and curriculum, educator resources and the EEA - an organization that will serve educators from K-16 to the trades.

One of the objectives of the grant was to establish and disseminate industry-identified skills-based training options to support energy efficiency related industries. The project researchers convened an Industry & Labor Taskforce which identified the need for two sets of skill profiles: energy project/program management and commercial building analysis.

Look for more information later this spring at cleanenergyexcellence.org.

NTER - A resource tool for energy educators

The Department of Energy's National Training and Education Resource center (NTER) offers multiple easy-to-access online open source courses.

It's the host site for energy learning modules and videos which were developed regionally during the Center's three-year smart grid project. The Regional Education and Training Center (RETC) organized, uploaded and maintained the copious amount of material that was developed.

We invite all educators to visit **NTER**

Skill Profiles: The process used to establish skill profiles generated detailed summaries of the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to succeed in these targeted energy occupations.

Curriculum Integration: These results were then used to verify/modify existing courses or to create new courses and/or programs.

Outcomes: The EEA developed and updated energy management curriculum. It's free to energy educators and can be found [here](#).

The EEA is led by: Larry Owens, president; Carol Lewellen, VP of outreach; Tom Barr, VP of events; Alison Pugh, treasurer; and Gail Alexander, archivist.

The EEA will meet April 18 at EdCC and June 19 during the summit (see page 1 for summit details).

For more information:
<http://energyeducators.org>
alison.pugh@email.edcc.edu

(<https://nter1.retcs.org>) and use the modules to fit into your classroom needs.

Topics include: Field Measuring of Objects, Energy Reporting for Commercial Businesses, Substations and Distribution, Safety and Hazard Prevention, and Smart Grid Train the Trainer. Other energy programs are available for free use too.

Do let us know if you have visited the site and send comments to: mbrummer@centralia.edu

CoE - Clean Energy Energy Career Center

We're moving!

Watch our [Facebook page](#) for details
1217 Mellen Street, Centralia

Events:

Pacific Northwest Apprenticeship Conference, April 14 & 15
Emerald Queen Casino showroom
www.apprenticeshipconference.com

EEA Meeting, April 18 at EdCC

Energy Career Workshop, April 25
Energy Career Center on Mellen St for energy & pre-engineering students
[Meet energy industry experts, learn job hunting tips and build a better resume](#)

CoE Advisory Board Mtg, May 9
Energy Career Center on Mellen St

9th Annual Energy & Construction Best Practices Summit, June 18 & 19
at Centralia College

CoE Staff

Barbara Hins-Turner,
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cleanenergyexcellence.org



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