

SMART ENERGY

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

Spring 2015



\$10-million U.S. Dept. of Labor TAACCCT grant led by state's top industries

A dynamic consortium guided by three of the state's leading industries – energy, advanced manufacturing and construction – with support from organized labor, workforce development and eight community and technical colleges, has been awarded nearly \$10-million from the U.S. Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) round 4 grant. The project, called Washington Integrated Sector Employment (WISE), has been supported by the three industry sectors since the grant application process began in 2014.

Industry representatives from Puget Sound Energy, Avista, CIMTech, McKinstry, Abscher Construction, the City of Seattle, WSU Energy Program, IBEW Local 77, Northwest Laborers Training Trust, Spokane Area Workforce Development Council, and Washington State Labor Council make up the 11-member Executive Leadership Team that will continue to support and guide WISE and its projects to improve Washington's workforce. The team, chaired by Troy Nutter, Manager of Operational Training at Puget Sound Energy, will serve as a resource for part-

ners to ensure grant goals are achieved.

WISE will assist 1,992 adults including dislocated workers, veterans and spouses, women, and minorities.

It will prepare participants for employment in entry level, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship occupations within the cluster. It will address the unique needs of unemployed and under-employed workers using innovative and sophisticated strategies – such as navigators, programs to skill-up workers, and enhanced educational programs, to name a few.

“The three industry sectors form a cluster which requires common skill sets among the trades,” Barbara Hins-Turner, Executive Director of the Center of Excellence for Clean Energy, said. “The WISE programs will articulate to pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, leadership in the trades and two applied bachelor programs offered within our community and technical college system.”

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Troy Nutter, WISE Executive Leadership Team Chair

Why Centers of Excellence?

In 2004/05, the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) selected 10 Centers of Excellence to serve as economic development drivers for the state's leading industries.

The Centers, which were placed on community and technical college campuses through a competitive application process, were codified into state statute in 2009 ([WA HB1323](#)) making Washington the only state in the country to have centers designated through legislation.

Guided by industry, the Centers serve as a point-of-contact and resource hub; and have become a national model for their impact on workforce education, ties to industry, economic development, professional development opportunities, and regional outreach. Collectively, the Centers have brought more than \$70 million in grants and industry funding into the state.

The Center of Excellence for Clean Energy has a proven progression of leadership in managing state and federally funded grant projects of more than \$30 million during a 10-year period. Such grants include the nearly \$10 million U.S. Dept. of Labor TAACCCT round 4; \$5 million, leveraged to \$12 million, from the U.S. Dept. of Energy ARRA; and others from the U.S. Dept. of Commerce; the National Science Foundation; and industry contracts such as Northwest Energy Efficiency Taskforce (NEET).

WISE cont.

The projects will be located within eight community and technical colleges and will include guidance from three Centers of Excellence: Clean Energy (as the lead) at Centralia College, Aerospace/Advanced Manufacturing at Everett Community College, and Construction at Renton Technical College. Other colleges involved with WISE include Bates, Green River, Shoreline, South Seattle and Walla Walla.

“The Centers’ ability to facilitate the long-standing industry-labor-education-government partnership is the keystone to leveraging the power of collaboration,” Troy Nutter, chair of the WISE Executive Leadership Team, said. “Statewide collaboration is essential to address workforce development concerns in all sectors now and well in to the future.”

The Center of Excellence for Aerospace & Advanced Manufacturing will lead the Work Ready Washington and ACT’s NCRC initiative. The Construction Center of Excellence will lead the Credit for Prior Learning and Leadership in the Trades initiatives; and the Center of Excellence for Clean Energy will lead the WISE deliverables including tracking and reporting systems.

“Since their inception, Centers of Excellence have been at the forefront of our community and technical college system’s strategy to better supply business and industry partners with highly skilled, workforce-ready graduates,” Jim Crabbe, former SBCTC director of workforce education and lead in developing the centers, said. “Our centers convene stakeholders, problem solve, and disseminate their solutions to the 34 colleges in our system, sharpening Washington’s competitive edge. It has been a journey of continuous improvement over the past 10 years and the sky is the limit.”

WISE Executive Leadership Team

Clean Energy

Chair – Troy Nutter, Puget Sound Energy
Jeremy Gall, Avista
Bob Guenther, IBEW Local 77
Todd Currier, WSU Energy Program

Construction

Stephanie Caldwell, Abscher Construction
Moe Salem, McKinstry
Daniel Villao, City of Seattle
Peter Lahmann, NW Laborers Training Trust

Advanced Manufacturing

Steve Kidd, CIMtech
Jesse Cote, 751 Machinists

Workforce Development Council

Dawn Karber, Spokane Area
Workforce Development Council

Labor Alternates

Joan Weiss & Kairie Pierce,
WA State Labor Council AFL-CIO

Ex Officio

Barbara Hins-Turner (PI), Center of Excellence
for Clean Energy, Centralia College
Mary Kaye Bredeson, Center of Excellence
for Aerospace/Advanced Mfg, Everett CC
Shana Peschek, Construction Center of Excellence,
Renton Technical College
Marla Miller, Centralia College

WISE lead project manager hired



Anthony Valterra, WISE
Lead Grant Manager

Anthony Valterra, M.A., formerly the TAACCCT Air Washington sub-grant manager and adjunct instructor at North Seattle College, accepted the lead WISE grant project manager position at the Center of Excellence for Clean Energy at Centralia College. He brings experience of working with federal grants, specific to U.S. Department of Labor, business and branding.

As Air Washington sub-grant manager, Anthony had oversight of \$1.16 million to provide education in the field of avionics/electronics. The project at North Seattle College exceeded its intake goals by 300 percent.

“All of the grants that I have worked on have been important and meaningful,” Valterra said. “The combination of clean energy, advanced manufacturing and construction is an arena that has long been an abiding personal interest.”

Anthony is responsible for strategic planning and managing the processes necessary to accomplish the grant deliverables. He will maintain collaborative partnerships within the consortium; lead the development and implementation of subcontracts; monitor contract compliance and accountability in accordance with deliverables and project time lines; prepare reports required by U.S. Department of Labor and ensure they comply with grant requirements.

He will also provide leadership in developing new programs and curriculum development for areas of responsibility including satellite sites; provide consultation to program participants and project navigators, staff and outside entities, and recommend resolution for complex problems and issues related to the project.

Anthony holds a Master of Arts from John F. Kennedy University in California.

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CTC Energy Programs Battery-based PV class coming to Shoreline

Will your solar, grid-connected energy generating system work during a power outage?

Most solar electric systems are designed to stop generating electricity during power outages to keep utility workers safe from potential contact of energy back fed through the grid. For systems to operate during power outages which are caused by weather related occurrences or disasters, systems must incorporate some means of energy storage. The most practical form - batteries.

“With the increased occurrence of disasters, natural and otherwise, the public has become increasingly concerned about the stability of the grid,” Louise Petruzzella, director of Clean Energy Technology & Entrepreneurship Program at Shoreline said.

With this concern in mind and the desire of some for energy independence, Shoreline Community College has expanded its solar electric system program to include the design of battery-based photo voltaic (PV) systems.

“We developed this class because we attended last year’s Energy & Construction Best Practices Summit,” Petruzzella said. The summit included information on how to prepare for natural disasters with special focus on the Cascadia Subduction Earthquake.

The objective of this 5-Credit course is to prepare students for the complex design requirements of battery based PV Systems. The course will review the design; code requirements, maintenance, and safety considerations for both utility interactive (grid-tied) and stand-alone (off-grid) battery based PV Systems. Shoreline Community College will offer this course beginning Winter Quarter 2016.



Integrated Battery Rack by OutBack Energy

skilled building science professional. It includes the complexities of building science, energy codes, building codes and facility management. Classes are scheduled in a hybrid model (online and face-to-face) to minimize interference with work schedules.

Cascadia College will offer a BAS in Sustainable Practices in fall of 2015. Graduates will be trained to develop, implement and evaluate practices and programs designed to achieve environmental objectives; thus creating real solutions to environmental and energy problems.

10th Annual Energy & Construction Best Practices Summit moves to May



Alan Hardcastle, WSU, facilitates the 2014 executive panel.

This year’s summit, themed **Clean Tech: Washington’s WISE Future**, will be held May 28 and 29 at Bates Technical College - south campus.

The featured keynote, Brian Young, is the new Director of Economic Development for the Clean Technology Sector within Washington’s Department of Commerce. Brian brings diverse strategic and operational experience to his role as Governor Inslee’s Clean Technology Sector Lead and is the point of contact for clean technology companies who want to navigate Washington state’s political and economic landscape.

Informative speakers, panels and an exciting trade show provide innovative thinking and professional development opportunities. Discover what is new in clean technology as it relates to the fields of energy and construction.

Sample of 1st day panel

Virtual Design and Construction - the Future of the Construction Industry:

Hear from experts on how technology is changing the industry. VDC is the key to resolving discrepancies within design related documents to improve construction efficiencies. The impacts of technology from design to build and what that means for the workforce.

cleanenergyexcellence.org/summit

Energy Program News

Walla Walla offers 2015 summertime workshop series

Partnering with WSU, Pacific Ethanol, and others, WWCC’s Plant Operations will offer a first time practical workshop series of continuing education for incumbent workers, undergraduate and graduate engineering students, and prospective WWCC students. www.wcc.edu/plantoperations

Bachelor of Applied Science degrees tie to energy programs

South Seattle College BAS in Sustainable Building Science Technology. The 90-credit degree program offers industry professionals a pathway to becoming a

Center of Excellence Advisory Board News

The Center's advisory board is a permanent standing board which provides advice, support and insight from the perspective of industry, education, organized labor, economic development and the community. The 22-member board helps the Center achieve its mission by ensuring that programs and projects advance the needs of the energy sector within the region. The diversity of membership provides an invaluable resource to Center staff and program partners to easily access information and contacts throughout the industry. The strength of the advisory board was a key component in the elevation of the center from a state organization to

a Department of Energy recognized Regional Center of Excellence. The board is chaired by Pat McCarty, Generation Manager of Tacoma Power.

Who's New



Matt Matayoshi,
Lewis EDC

Matt Matayoshi, Executive Director, Lewis Economic Development Council, joined the Center's advisory board in February. Matt, who has more than 13 years of experience working with businesses in Lewis and Mason counties, replaced board member Dick Larman, who retired in October.

Work Ready Washington Certified Talent = Business Success

What do 20 states, 6,700 companies and 2.6 million individuals have in common? They are all part of the growing National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) movement.

ACT's NCRC is a portable credential that is widely recognized throughout the country and in some states, is a high school graduation requirement.

The credential demonstrates achievement and measures a certain level of workplace employability skills - such as applied mathematics, reading comprehension and critical thinking - which are crucial for a majority of today's jobs.

NCRC has proven to save businesses time and money by reducing training costs, improving productivity, and reducing turnover. It offers the efficient matching of talent with work - which helps people find great jobs, and companies find skilled workers.

Certification verifies a person's skill level for potential employers and demonstrates commitment to success.

Work Ready Washington is leading a statewide initiative to bring awareness to NCRC. It is partnering with community and technical colleges and workforce development organizations to offer testing; and is recruiting businesses for support.

These assessments measure "real world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success. Test questions are based on situations in the everyday work world.

The TAACCCT WISE consortium will fund testing fees for 800 students who are enrolled in a WISE funded program.

For more information:

West: (425) 388-9987

East: (509) 533-8471

<http://www.workreadywa.org/>



10th Annual Energy & Construction Best Practices Summit moves to Bates



This year's summit, themed *Clean Tech: Washington's WISE Future*, will be held May 28 and 29 at Bates Technical College - south campus - 2201 South 78th St., Tacoma

Join us! Seating is open for 180 industry, organized labor, education, workforce and economic development experts who will gather to discuss the latest information on clean technology and how it relates to energy and construction best practices.

**Seating is limited. Register early.
Registration is required.**

cleanenergyexcellence.org/summit



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