# **L5U** | Center for Energy Studies

**News & Events** 

September 9, 2016

# Energy Summit<sup>™</sup> 2016 to Address Recent Challenges to Energy Industry

The Center for Energy Studies and the LSU Economics & Policy

Research Group will present Energy

Summit™ 2016: "Managing through

Energy Challenges," on Wednesday,

October 26, at the Energy, Coast & Environment Building.



This year's summit will address

recent challenges to the energy industry affecting unconventional activities and offshore development, state fiscal concerns related to changing energy markets, global geo-political impacts, and power generation issues with baseload generation. The conference will also feature a Louisiana economic roundtable that will address local economic challenges.

The annual energy conference, open to the public, attracts representatives from major petrochemical and refining companies, state agencies, state legislators' offices, regional investor-owned, municipal, and cooperative utilities, environmental groups, and university faculty.

For program and registration information, click <u>here</u>.

#### Wang Participates in Nuclear Tour de France

Wei-Hsung Wang, professor, LSU Center for Energy Studies, and director, LSU Radiation Safety Office, attended the 2016 Technical Tour of French Nuclear Facilities July 3-9. The objectives of the tour were (1) to promote and develop exchanges about the status and knowledge of nuclear development and achievements in France and in the U.S. in different technical fields and (2) to continuously enhance the relationship between France and the U.S. in the field of nuclear education and training.

Wang is a fellow of the Health Physics Society.

The biennial event is organized by the French Section of the American Nuclear Society (Section Française de l'American Nuclear Society) and

the French Nuclear Energy Society (Société Française d'Energie Nucléaire) and sponsored by ANDRA (French National Agency for Radioactive Waste Management), AREVA, Electricity of France (Électricité de France), and the French Atomic Energy Commission (Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique).

Wang and eleven other U.S. university professors of nuclear energy from the Georgia Institute of Technology, Purdue University, Virginia Commonwealth University, University of California Irvine, University of Florida, University of Idaho, University of Tennessee, and University of Wisconsin

Madison were invited to participate in the tour. They travelled 2,000 miles throughout France and visited Cadarache Technological Research and Development Center for Energy, the MELOX facility for MOX fuel fabrication, Atalante facility for fuel cycle studies, a large LWR components fabrication plant, a deep underground radioactive waste research laboratory, a fuel reprocessing plant, and the EPR construction site.

# Upton Collaborates with Division of Electrical & Computer Engineering on **Solar Project**

CES Assistant Professor Greg Upton is working with Amin Kargarian Marvasti and Shahab Mehraeen, both faculty members in LSU's Division of Electrical and Computer Engineering, to determine how residential rooftop solar power could be incorporated into the electric grid and whether the incorporation of battery storage could enhance the scalability of solar in an economical way to account for a relatively large share of the state's electricity production.





A unit of American Electric Power

**SOUTHWESTERN** The project, titled "Integrating Storage into ELECTRIC POWER Rooftop Solar: An Economics and Engineering Approach," received

\$117,051 of funding through the Louisiana Board of Regents as part of its Industrial Ties Research Subprogram (ITRS). The

Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO), which provides electricity to 225,000 customers in 13 parishes in Northwest Louisiana, is the industry partner for the project.

## **Pulsipher Reappointed to NPC**

Allan Pulsipher, associate director and Marathon Professor of Energy Policy, was appointed to a fifth two-year term on the National Petroleum Council. The council is an advisory body to the Secretary of Energy whose members represent all sectors of the oil and gas industries.

# NATIONAL COUNCIL

Under President Obama the NPC was expanded to include representatives of PETROLEUM academic and public interest groups. It advises the secretary and conducts studies of interest to the industry, the public and the secretary. The current chair of the council is

Rex Tillerson, chairman of the board and chief executive officer, Exxon Mobil Corporation.



Pulsipher begins his fifth two-year term on the NPC.

## **Health Physics Society Honors Wilson**

Charles A. Wilson IV, radiation safety officer for the Bennett Johnston Sr. Center for Advanced Microstructures and Devices (CAMD), was honored with the Elda E. Anderson Award, bestowed upon a young member (younger than 40 years of age) of the Health Physics Society (HPS) to recognize excellence in research or development, discovery or invention, devotion to health physics, and/or significant contributions to the profession of health physics. Wilson was recognized for his accomplishments at the 61st HPS Annual Meeting Awards Banquet in Spokane, Washington, on July 19, 2016.



Wilson is a former technical assistant for the LSU Radiation Safety Office.

Wilson received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Physics (2009) and Master of Science Degree in Medical and Health Physics (2012), both from LSU. He is currently a doctoral candidate in environmental sciences, environmental health physics concentration, at LSU. His research interests center on the development of feasible solutions to practical radiation protection and radiation detection issues on radioactive waste management, NORM measurement methodology, and gamma-ray spectrometry.

Wilson has authored or co-authored two peer-reviewed publications and eleven conference proceedings, abstracts and presentations. He is the recipient of the HPS J. Newell Stannard Fellowship (2010) and Scott and Susan Brodie Distinguished Graduate Fellowship in Physics and Astronomy at LSU (2013). He is also an associate member of the American Academy of Health Physics.

Wilson served as vice president of LSU's student branch of the HPS, vice president and president of the Deep South Chapter of the HPS, and chair of the Student Support Committee of the HPS. He was an adviser to the HPS Board of Directors and currently chairs the Society Support Committee of the HPS and is a member of the International Radiation Protection Association Task Force.

#### **LGS 2016 Publications List Available**

This summer, the Louisiana Geological Survey produced an updated catalog of their publications and products. <u>Publications of the Louisiana Geological Survey 2016</u> includes a chronological list of publications dating back to 1899, with brief descriptions and ordering information. Included are

- early geological bulletins on Louisiana mineral resources, topography and geology;
- groundwater and hydrological reports;
- technical reports on coastal geology;
- atlases and geologic maps;
- water resource bulletins and pamphlets;
- and a state parks and land series.

Publications of the Louisiana Geological Survey

View or download the catalog here.

# **Upton Op-Ed Featured in Business Report**

In its June 7, 2016, issue, *The Greater Baton Rouge Business Report* featured an op-ed by Greg Upton, CES assistant professor, titled, "Was the Stelly Plan really revenue neutral." In it, Upton describes the "structural shift" in Louisiana's tax revenue that began with passage of the Stelly Plan in 2002 and argues that any discussion about taxation must address tax revenues in comparison to the amount of economic activity in the state. Read the full piece here.



Upton encourages discussion of the appropriate level of taxes for the state.

# Governor Proclaims Oct. 9-15 Earth Science Week

Governor John Bel Edwards has issued <u>a proclamation</u> <u>declaring October 9-15 "Earth Science Week"</u> in Louisiana, as requested by the Louisiana Geological Survey (LGS). The annual event is organized by the American Geosciences Institute and is commemorated by many state governors issuing similar proclamations.



Earth Science Week is designed to provide students and the public "a better understanding of and appreciation for the Earth sciences and to encourage stewardship of the Earth." This year's theme celebrates "Our Shared Geoheritage" and promotes public understanding and stewardship of Earth science, energy, paleontology, water quality, conservation, and climate science.

For the event, LGS has Earth science educational packets containing geologic information for distribution to school teachers, with assistance from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources and the Baton Rouge Geological Society.

# Speaking Engagements

# Dismukes Speaks on Utility Regulation, Natural Gas Policy

CES Executive Director David Dismukes spoke at the annual meeting of the National Conference of Regulatory Attorneys, or NCRA, in Tampa, and at the Fundamentals of Natural Gas Policy Academy in Bismarck, N.D.

For the NCRA meeting in June, Dismukes presented <u>"The Future of Policy and Regulation."</u> The NCRA provides educational opportunities tailored to government regulatory attorneys, with a focus on state regulatory issues. The conference covers regulatory topics related to electricity, gas, water, telecom munications, federal regulations, and ethics.



Dismukes presents regularly on utilities, natural gas policy.

In August, at the <u>Natural Gas Policy Academy</u>, Dismukes taught "Natural Gas 101," an overview of the natural gas industry, to legislators and executive agency staff. Presented by the Council of State Governments, the three-day program covered smart modernization and emerging issues in natural gas and included a visit to a site in the Bakken shale play.

## Vachon Presents Energy Labor Market Research

In June, Assistant Professor Mallory Vachon presented the findings of her project, "The Temporary Migration Response to Industry-Specific Shocks: Evidence from the U.S. Shale Boom," at the International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE) annual conference in Bergen, Norway. The goal of the project, sponsored by a W.E. Upjohn Early Career Research Award, is to estimate the impact of local labor demand shocks on temporary migration. While the project is still in progress, preliminary results suggest the shale boom increased the presence of temporary workers in resource-rich areas. Vachon will also present the findings at the Southern Economic Association annual conference in Washington, D.C., in November.

Later this month, she will present "Labor Market Impacts of Oil and Gas Industry Activity" at the University of New Orleans Engineering Forum and serve on a "State of the Industry" Panel for the Women's Energy Network-South Louisiana Annual Dinner in November.



Vachon's research interests include a focus on the local economic impacts of natural resource extraction.

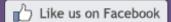
# **Upton Guest Speaker for DIS-TRAN Event**

On August 18, Assistant Professor Greg Upton presented <u>"Funding Renewable Energy and the Future of the Power Grid"</u> at DIS-TRAN Packaged Substations' Conference & Expo in Pineville, La. Upton explained the role of subsidies in the growth of renewable energy investments and the importance of utility rate design in aligning incentives for distribution, transmission, and generation.

<u>DIS-TRAN Packaged Substations</u>, based in Pineville, designs and supplies high voltage, open-air substations and switchyards.



Upton discusses the role of subsidies in renewable energy investments on August 18 in Pineville,



Follow us on twitter

