

Governor Paterson Names Stony Brook University Advanced Energy Center To Lead New York State Energy Policy Institute

Stony Brook University has been designated by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) under the direction of New York State Governor David Paterson, to lead the New York Energy Policy Institute (NYEPI), a state-wide consortium of energy research centers and experts that will advise the state on energy policy.

A partnership formed by Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Stony Brook University and Syracuse University will coordinate energy policy research and serve as a resource for state policymakers through NYEPI, which will be housed at the Advanced Energy Center (AERC), located at the Stony Brook University Research and Development Park. Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), a founding partner of the AEC along with Stony Brook will play a prominent role in New York energy-policy research through NYEPI.

NYEPI operations will be overseen by NYSERDA, which has allocated \$200,000 a year for up to three years to be matched by the consortium members. The consortium will also coordinate efforts with energy experts at partner institutions statewide, including BNL, City University of New York (CUNY), Clarkson University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Hudson Valley Community College, Morrisville State College, New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC), Polytechnic Institute of New York University (NYU-Poly), The Rockefeller Institute of Government, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF), the University at Albany, University at Binghamton, University at Buffalo and the University of Rochester.

The Stony Brook-led partnership submitted its proposal for NYEPI in November in response to a request for proposals from NYSERDA and was chosen following a competitive solicitation that attracted proposals from academic institutions across New York State.

"As the Governor proposed, the NYEPI will draw upon New York's incomparable base of energy experts to research and analyze energy policy options that will make our State more energy efficient, economically stronger, and environmentally responsible," said NYSERDA president and CEO, Francis J. Murray.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute President Shirley Ann Jackson said, "As a member of the NYEPI, Rensselaer will combine expertise in energy research from power storage to transportation infrastructure with the education of the next generation of bright and motivated scientists, engineers, and policy makers. Our combined efforts will help New York to build new industries, create jobs and bring lasting change to our economy and environmental landscape."

Syracuse University Chancellor and President Nancy Cantor said, "Collaboration of this kind is exactly what New York State needs to address the complex challenges of formulating energy policy. This cross-sector partnership will tap the state's vast community of experts working on sustainable solutions to our growing energy demands, and Syracuse University is proud to be a key partner in that community."

Dr. Yacov Shamash, Dean of Stony Brook's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Vice President for Economic Development said, "The translation of cutting-edge university knowledge not only into new technologies and new products but into new approaches to understanding and addressing our energy needs will provide a critical new dimension of expertise for state energy policymakers to draw upon. We are proud to collaborate with so many distinguished partners in this initiative that is so critical to our energy future."

NYEPI will be led by a board representing all participating institutions and will operate through an executive committee, a president and an executive director, and three hubs based at its core institutions.

John H. Marburger, III (Jack), will be senior policy advisor to NYEPI advising its board of directors. Dr. Marburger who will also serve as the interim vice president for Research at Stony Brook University effective January 21, 2010, was Stony Brook's third president (1980-1994), director of Brookhaven National Laboratory (1998-2001), science advisor to President George W. Bush, and director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (2001-2009).

Robert Catell, chairman of the AEC and former chairman of National Grid, USA, will serve as chair of NYEPI's Advisory Council. "We are delighted that the Advanced Energy Center can play a role in bringing together the outstanding talent in the energy field at New York's universities to establish New York as a leader in energy policy and analysis and to develop a clean energy economy providing for economic development and environmental stewardship."



Francis J. Murray, president, CEO, NYSERDA

Photo by Miranda Gatewood



Samuel Stanley, president, Stony Brook University

Photo by Miranda Gatewood



New York State Governor David Paterson

Photo by Judy Sanders

The consortium's stated long-term goal for NYEPI is "to develop a strong, dynamic, and networked community in New York State that conducts energy policy research and advises policymakers."

In its proposal, the three core consortium members said that the Institute will serve as the focal point for New York research and outreach on energy policy, as well as a bridge between the energy policy research community and stakeholders including government agencies, business, and non-governmental organizations. The Institute will bring together premier technology and policy resources from across the state to perform energy policy analysis, advising, outreach as needed to produce white papers, policy studies and recommendations grounded in a broad and deep understanding of energy systems and the current and emerging technologies that will shape their operation and development.

NYEPI will initially focus on five targeted programs: 1) providing rapid response policy analysis and advising; 2) conducting longer-term energy policy research; 3) serving as an academic, energy information and research clearinghouse; 4) creating a database of energy experts; and 5) conducting policy workshops and briefings to NYSERDA on key actual and emerging energy issues.

Each of the three hubs will serve as a regional center of the Institute, coordinating the project participation

of other institutions in its region, providing leadership for energy policy research and advising efforts in its areas of expertise, and communicating regional issues of concern to NYEPI leadership. The NYEPI team has an unusually broad range of research experience in energy technologies, in environmental, economic and political issues related to energy, and in the policy dimension where these issues merge. Equally important, it also has broad geographic reach, which enhances its ability to reach a broad array of stakeholders to gather information and to disseminate research results.

For additional information contact Dr. Guodong Sun, Advanced Energy Center at Stony Brook University, at 631-632-3241, or by email at guodong.sun@stonybrook.edu ■

"...the New York Energy Policy Institute will bring together the best and brightest minds in the energy field to help solidify New York's standing as a leader in energy policy and analysis."

—Governor David Paterson

BNL Associate Lab Director Gerald Stokes Will Head State Energy Policy Institute

Gerald Stokes, Brookhaven's Associate Laboratory Director for Global and Regional Solutions, will serve as president of the New York Energy Policy Institute (NYEPI). Before joining the staff at Brookhaven, Stokes was CEO of Battelle-Japan in Tokyo. He served as director of the Joint Global Climate Change Institute, located at the University of Maryland.

Dr. Guodong Sun, a professor in Stony Brook's Dept of Technology and Society, was named executive director of the institute, which will be led by three core organizations: SBU, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Syracuse University, assisted by 15 partner institutions including Brookhaven Lab.

"Our entire team is pleased and honored to be selected to establish this new institute in the service of the State of New York," said Stokes, who also teaches at SBU. "This is a challenging time for the State as it seeks to frame its strategy and select policies that will create a 21st century energy system that will sustain and enhance its economic, social and environmental well being. Dr. Guodong Sun and I are looking forward to working with our talented colleagues around the state in support of NYSERDA and the rest of the state's leadership in achieving the vision for energy that Governor Paterson has laid out for the future." ■