

## TRAINING & CURRICULUM

### Clean Energy Banner Center Internship Program

The Banner Center for Clean Energy has established an internship program for those interested in pursuing jobs in the broad range of careers that have evolved in the clean and green energy industry. The initial stage of the program involved consultation with members of the Clean Energy Industry Advisory Council to determine the skill sets needed to support the growth of this industry sector. The Banner Center then conducted outreach to those individuals who had participated in Banner Center training and others who had registered with the Employ Florida Marketplace system, indicating an interest in this field or having skills that were transferable to the clean energy industry sector.

Once implemented, the program will assist Brevard residents in assessing skills gaps and additional training needs that will allow them to obtain employment within the Clean Energy Industry Sector. The program will engage the region's energy industries in the program by hosting job fairs and recruitment events, as well as securing an active list of job openings.

*Assistant Secretary of Commerce John Fernandez (center) presented commemorative plaques to M.J. Soileau, vice president for Research & Commercialization at UCF, with Associate Vice President Tom O'Neal, Chester Straub, executive director for the TRDA and Dr. Tim Anderson, director of the Florida Energy Systems Consortium.*



## PROGRAM UPDATE

### UCF Team Wins Grant for Clean Technology

The University of Central Florida will lead the state's only winning team for the "i6 Green Challenge," an important component of President Barack Obama's Startup America initiative to promote American innovation. UCF and its grant partners won the \$1.3 million grant for their future efforts in driving technology commercialization and entrepreneurship to support a green-innovation economy in Central Florida. UCF's grant partners include the Technological Research and Development Authority and the Florida Energy Systems Consortium. Each partner will receive an equal portion of the funding.

The winning project, titled Igniting Innovation Cleantech Acceleration Network, is a unique distributed proof-of-concept model with intentions to accelerate the commercialization of innovative clean technology research into new technology companies or to license those technologies into existing firms. The grant emphasizes conducting research in areas in which Florida currently excels – solar energy, biofuels, green building technologies and smart grids.

*UCF Team... continued on page 2*

## Clean Energy Banner Center Newsletter

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## PROGRAM UPDATE

*UCF Team... continued from page 1*

This federal competition builds on the success of last year's inaugural i6 Challenge by focusing on the connection between economic development and environmental quality. It encourages communities to accelerate technology-led economic development to pursue a vibrant, innovative clean economy by rewarding innovative, groundbreaking ideas that enable technology commercialization, new venture formation, job creation and economic growth.

"[A clean-innovation economy] is the future, and we need to be leading the charge so we can position ourselves as a market leader in this high-wage, high-value industry," said Tom O'Neal, associate vice president for UCF's Office of Research & Commercialization and the lead investigator on the project.

"It helps us build capacity for our region in an area that pays higher-than-average salaries and creates wealth for our community by increasing the amount of new discoveries that make it to the market," O'Neal said. "Hopefully, that will create lots of jobs in Florida and position UCF as a center of excellence in this area."

## PROGRAM UPDATE

### **Clean Technology in Central Florida Gains New Support**

Great news for Central Floridians! Two local partnering efforts have resulted in more than \$3 million in regional funding for the creation of a clean energy hub and clean technology commercialization efforts - both of which could positively impact Central Florida's job market. By offering customized training to entrepreneurs and individuals seeking to make an impact in the Clean Energy/Technology Industry sector, the Banner Center for Clean Energy (BCCE) will serve a supporting and enabling role to each of these winning projects. [*See related stories in this issue*]

## INDUSTRY NEWS

### **FL CAN Develops Catalog for 'Cleantech' Companies**

Florida Cleantech Acceleration Network, FL CAN, has published the only catalog of "cleantech" research from UCF and other Florida universities, which is available on its website, [www.FLcleantech.com](http://www.FLcleantech.com).

In one of the first phases of the project, led by UCF, research conducted at Florida universities was collected, organized and indexed to provide entrepreneurs, investors and industry an easy reference to the latest in cleantech innovations in Florida. Cleantech refers to products, services and processes that utilize renewable materials and energy sources, and subsequently reduce emissions or waste.

There are more than 300 innovative and patented technologies collected from six Florida universities and organized into two listings, by university and technology. These categories range from solar to fuel cells to displays. Each technology listed contains a link that takes the reviewer to a description of the technology. Users can find additional information on the website, including how to contact the universities directly for collaborative opportunities.

The technologies listed in the University IP (Intellectual Property) Catalog are available for licensing and are supported by the network of Florida universities, their researchers, technology-transfer offices and select laboratories for further R&D and commercialization.

By licensing research from Florida universities, entrepreneurs, investors and industry support the state's economy, education and researchers, and they can accelerate their company's R&D at a faster rate than if it were done internally.

The catalog is continually updated as new innovations are discovered and patented. This effort is part of the FL CAN project funded by the Economic Development Administration.

## PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

### Space Coast Clean Energy Jobs Accelerator to Expand Central Florida's Clean Energy Hub

Several Space Coast-based organizations were collectively awarded \$2.2 million in federal funds, as one of 20 projects nationwide who will share \$37 million in federal funding designed to accelerate cluster development and job growth. Led by Space Florida, the Clean Energy Jobs Accelerator grant will enable the Space Coast Energy Consortium, Brevard Workforce and Technological Research and Development Authority to enhance their current activities to transition the Space Coast to a Clean Energy Cluster. The grant will fund:

- Space Coast Energy Consortium's efforts to create a One-Stop Connector to assist local energy firms in connecting with state and national resources and expanding the local capacity of clean energy companies.
- A Space-to-Energy Regional Innovation Center, which will help space-related and traditional energy companies bring clean energy applications to market through trials and demonstrations using the world-class engineering resources housed at NASA's Kennedy Space Center.
- Brevard Workforce efforts to assist local energy company growth by identifying personnel and training needs and assisting members of the Central Florida community in gaining that training or certification(s) to fill those job opportunities. The Banner Center for Clean Energy will support Brevard Workforce's training activities.
- The Technological Research and Development Authority's mentoring program for small businesses as they work through contracting and proposal processes to build their organizations.

*"These federal funds come at a time when the clean energy cluster is really beginning to thrive in Central Florida," noted Space Florida President Frank DiBello. "Having four of the area's top economic development and workforce agencies working together is a recipe for success. We envision this effort resulting in significant job and overall clean energy cluster growth in the next two years."*

## TRAINING PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

### Daytona State College

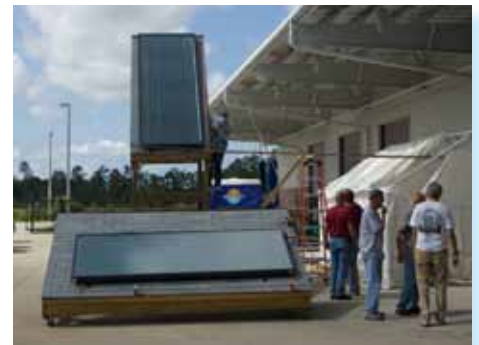
BCCE's training partner, Daytona State College, provides degree programs in the latest technological advances, including solar energy, through their School of Technology. School programs include: (1) certificate programs designed to be completed in two to three semesters (one year or less) which give students the skills necessary to become workplace ready; (2) Associate of Science programs, which can be completed in four to five semesters; and (3) Bachelor's Programs that build on Associates programs as a full four-year degree.

*Recent offerings:*

- Introduction to Solar Thermal (Hot-Water) Systems
- Introduction to Solar PV Installation
- Going Green with Eco-Options
- Advanced Technology College Forum on Solar Energy
- Building Analyst Professional Certification

Professors Larry Pivec and Jim Cox each recently received solar water heater and photovoltaic training at the Florida Solar Energy Center and proceeded to get their NABCEP certification. Because of their efforts, the college has become a NABCEP Entry Level Exam Provider, and now provide both solar electric (photovoltaic or PV) and solar water heating courses that help students prepare for NABCEP certification examinations. Upon receipt of their approval as a NABCEP Provider, Professor Pivec notified FSEC via e-mail:

*"We have been approved by NABCEP today as a PV entry level provider. Also, we completed our PV Entry course today with 21 students. We could not have accomplished all this without you. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!!!"*



## PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Daytona... continued from page 3

Recent student evaluations of these instructors and courses show just how well their efforts have been received. On average, 97 percent of students rated the courses and instructors very

positively – with 82 percent giving their instructors the top rating. Congratulations on a job well done!

## INDUSTRY NEWS

### The Places We've Been, the People We've Seen ...And What's Next?

It's been a busy period for the Banner Center, participating in meetings, networking events, conferences and working groups that are poised to build the clean energy sector. Here are just some of those happenings.

#### Past Events

*August 22, 2011:* Space Coast/Central Florida Clean Energy Cluster Workshop, FSEC, Cocoa

*August 25, 2011:* Tour of Brevard Workforce's new Service Center, Rockledge

*September 14, 2011:* Clean Technology Technical Group Meeting (via Web)

*September 14, 2011:* Florida Energy Workforce Consortium, FPL, Juno Beach

*September 15, 2011:* Banner Center for Energy Industry Advisory Council Meeting, Ft. Pierce

*September 16, 2011:* League of Cities Energy and Environmental Quality Committee Meeting, Kissimmee

*September 20, 2011:* Banner Center for Clean Energy Industry Advisory Council Meeting

*September 26-28, 2011:* Florida Energy Systems Consortium Summit (presented at Community College Energy Workshop and Jobs in the Clean Energy Supply Chain, sponsored by the US Department of Energy).

*October 17, 2011:* Briefing to Space Florida, newest member of the Banner Center for Clean Energy Industry Advisory Council

*October 19, 2011:* Clean Energy Cluster Workshop, Rockledge

*October 25, 2011:* US Economic Development Agency Announcement, Space Coast Clean Energy Jobs Accelerator Grant

*November 9-10, 2011:* Florida Solar Energy Industries Association Annual Meeting and Board Meeting, Cocoa

*November 18, 2011:* Brevard Workforce Service Center Grand Opening

*December 14, 2011:* Clean Energy Cluster Workshop, Cocoa

*December 14, 2011:* Get Ready Central Florida (Preparing Central Florida for Electric Transportation), Orlando

*January 27, 2012:* Get Ready Central Florida (Preparing the Metro Orlando area for Electric Transportation), Orlando

*January 30, 2012:* Space Coast Clean Cities Coalition Board Meeting, Orlando

#### Upcoming Events

*February 15-16, 2012:* Space Coast Energy Consortium Annual Symposium, Cocoa

*February 22, 2012:* Space Coast Clean Cities Coalition Member and Stakeholder Meeting, Orlando

*February, March, April and September, 2012:* Igniting Innovation Clean Tech Ventures Opportunities ([www.trda.org](http://www.trda.org))

*February 29, 2012:* Local Government Clean Energy Forum (<http://energysmartplanning.org/Webinars.html>)

*March 3, 2012:* Deadline for Applications to Megawatt Ventures 2012 Competition (<http://megawattventures.com/competition/how-to-apply/>)

*TBD 2012:* Clean Energy Banner Center Industry Advisory Council Meeting

*March 19-21, 2012:* PV America, San Jose, CA (<http://www.pvamericaexpo.com/west/>)

*April 24-25, 2012:* PV Siting and Permitting Seminar, Las Vegas, NV (<http://www.seia.org/cs/sps>)

*May 5, 2012:* Energy Whiz Olympics, Cocoa ([http://www.fsec.ucf.edu/en/education/k-12/energywhiz\\_olympics/index.htm](http://www.fsec.ucf.edu/en/education/k-12/energywhiz_olympics/index.htm))

*May 13-17, 2012:* World Renewable Energy Forum, Denver CO ([www.ases.org](http://www.ases.org))

*September 10-13, 2012:* Solar Power International Conference, Orlando, FL ([www.seia.org](http://www.seia.org))