

THE Core SAMPLE

Internal Newsletter of the School of Energy Resources

May | 2024

SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES CELEBRATES CLASS OF 2024 AT SPRING COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

The School of Energy Resources celebrated the graduation of eleven students in the spring 2024 commencement ceremony.



Jacob Burns, of Wheatland, Wyo., **Micah Brandt** of Denver, Colo., **Tyler Schlagel** of Cheyenne, Wyo., **Read Sunn** of Wasilla, Alaska, **Hallie Jette** of Buffalo, Wyo., and **Russell Ferrell**, of Green River, Wyo. all earned a bachelor of science degree in Energy Resource Management and Development.

Students expanding their education and complementing their degree with additional programs offered through SER include **Sean Hartigan** of Berthoud, Colo., majoring in Construction Management; **Sloan Monks** of Franktown, Colo., majoring in Petroleum Engineering; and **Hailey Allison** of Green River, Wyo., majoring in Geology. All three students picked up the minor in ERM.

Additionally, **Katie Odom** of Medford Ore., is earning her degree in Agricultural Business and has also earned SER's Land Administration certificate.

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UW'S SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES LAUNCHES 'ENERGY FRONTIER' PODCAST

The University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources has launched a new podcast series, titled "Energy Frontier: The Wyoming Landscape," which brings together academic researchers, industry professionals, students, policymakers and more to explore energy topics, including SER's research efforts and developing Wyoming projects.



The podcast is available to stream on all audio platforms and is accessible through the SER website at www.uwyo.edu/ser.

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HIGHLIGHTS

Research Centers of Excellence

- The *Center for Economic Geology Research's (CEGR)* **Autumn Eakin** and **Lily Jackson** scouted sites around Moab, Utah for a geologic field trip in September. 
- *CEGR's* **Autumn Eakin** presented a guest lecture at Colorado State University on carbon sequestration site characterization.
- *CEGR* Director **Fred McLaughlin** traveled with project leads **John Jiao** and **Dan Eakin** to Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) to work on the HERO Basalt CarbonSAFE Project.
- *CEGR*-funded graduate student **N. Sloan Dworin** in the Department of Geology and Geophysics completed her thesis, "*Petrogenesis of Gold and Copper at the CK Gold Project along the Southeastern Flank of the Laramie Range.*" 
- *CEGR* hosted two grant writing workshops to continue training for SER faculty and staff and to help streamline the internal grant writing process.
- SER Professor of Law **Tara Righetti** contributed to the "*CCUS Handbook for Policymakers,*" released by the Commercial Law Development Program.

To submit news and updates
email: Christine.reed@uwyo.edu



UNIVERSITY
OF WYOMING

School of
Energy Resources

UW HOSTS SECOND IMMERSIVE REALITY TRAINING CONFERENCE FOR WYOMING INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP

The University of Wyoming hosted an immersive reality training conference last week as part of the Wyoming Innovation Partnership (WIP).

The three-day event brought together educators from Wyoming community colleges and secondary education institutions, as well as workforce service professionals from across the state to learn about integrating virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) resources.

Led by **Kyle Summerfield**, program manager for the 3D Visualization Center in UW's School of Energy Resources (SER), the VR subcomponent of the WIP consortial infrastructure program works to expand the capacity of Wyoming's higher education institutions to integrate VR technology into courses and programs; develop and create VR applications; and coordinate the deployment of these resources to maximize return on investment.

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UW'S RIGHETTI APPOINTED CHAIR OF FEDERAL CCUS PERMITTING TASK FORCE

The University of Wyoming's **Tara Righetti** will serve a two-year term as chair of the Carbon Capture, Utilization and Sequestration (CCUS) Permitting Task Force for Federal Lands and Outer Continental Shelf.

Righetti, a UW School of Energy Resources (SER) professor of law and the Occidental Chair in Energy and Environmental Policies, was appointed as a task force member in April and was among seven representatives from Wyoming selected to serve on the committee. She was named chair for her specialized knowledge in subsurface matters and pore space issues.

In March 2023, the White House Council on Environmental Quality announced the creation of two task forces that are required by the Utilizing Significant Emissions with Innovative Technologies Act to provide recommendations to the federal government. The task forces provide information on how to ensure that CCUS projects — including carbon dioxide pipelines — are permitted in an efficient manner, reflect the input and needs of a wide range of stakeholders and deliver benefits rather than harms to local communities.

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HIGHLIGHTS

Academics

- ERMD Student **Ainsley Harris** was awarded the Bill Goodin Scholarship through the Denver Association of Professional Landmen (DAPL). In addition to the \$3,000 scholarship, she will also receive free membership to DAPL.



- Students in the ERMD Program participated in the Energy Field Course Tour led by PLM Director **Kristen**

Pritchett. Students visited multiple industry sites throughout the state to learn first-hand about operations.

- The research group led by the John and Jane Wold Centennial Chair in Energy and SER Professor of Geology **John Kaszuba** traveled to Casper to visit the Wold Foundation. Student **Emily Clinkscales** gave a talk about her experimental work on how CO₂-water-rock interactions effects the porosity and permeability of the Minnelusa Formation.



- SER participated in the campus-wide (Women in STEM) WiSTEM workshop to help promote the ERMD degree program to high school students. Students built solar houses with **Heather Chandler** and heard from researchers **Autumn Eakin**, **Selena Gerace**, and **Sarah Buckhold** about their research areas.



UW SER HOSTS TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE AT WYOMING INTEGRATED TEST CENTER

The School of Energy Resources (SER) hosted carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) technology and project developers — with potential carbon capture customers — at a Technology Showcase at the Wyoming Integrated Test Center (ITC) Thursday, May 30.

With oversight from SER, the ITC is a public-private partnership dedicated to fostering next-generation energy technology. The facility provides individual test bays for researchers to conduct real-world assessments of CCUS technologies using actual coal-based flue gas from Basin Electric Power Cooperative's Dry Fork Station near Gillette.

The event provided Powder River Basin coal users, other private entities and representatives of the U.S. Department of Energy the opportunity to learn about different CCUS technologies being tested at the facility and meet with the companies developing them.

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UW'S SER AND COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES FUND ENERGY-RELATED EQUIPMENT PROPOSALS

Recipients have been selected from among 41 proposals for funding following a request from the University of Wyoming's School of Energy Resources (SER) to UW employees in need of energy-related laboratory equipment — including repairs — or supplies to conduct energy-related research.

Recognizing the need and merit among the proposals, the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences joined the commitment to fund additional equipment proposals from multiple departments around campus.

Proposals were considered for repairing or upgrading existing equipment up to \$100,000; new equipment purchases up to \$500,000; and requests for purchasing supplies, such as laboratory and testing supplies or computational resources, up to \$100,000.

Eight proposals were funded by SER, and nine were funded by the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, with a total of \$4.5 million allocated for equipment purchases.

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HIGHLIGHTS

Outreach

- The Office of Industry and Strategic Partnerships was featured in University-Industry Engagement Advisor! Senior Director of Corporate Engagement **Angela Ver Ploeg** shared her expertise on strengthening university-industry partnerships.
- SER Executive Director **Holly Krutka** and SER Professor of Law **Tara Righetti** served as panelists on the "CCUS in the Rockies" webinar as part of the AAPG Women's Network.
- SER Executive Director **Holly Krutka** represented Wyoming at the Global CCS Institute's annual policy forum in Washington DC to discuss ongoing state-level CCS policy development.
- SER Outreach Director **Christine Reed**, and Research Professional for Community Engagement **Selena Gerace** traveled to Ignacio, Colo. to attend the Native American Mining and Energy Sovereignty (NAMES) Symposium.
- SER activities were once again featured in *UWyo Magazine*. [Read Issue >](#)
- In response to an article published in *The Washington Post*, SER Executive Director **Holly Krutka** penned a letter to the editor explaining the merits of carbon capture and storage technology as well as the widespread community support for the technology in Wyoming. [Read Here >](#)



HEATHER CHANDLER JOINS SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES' ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The School of Energy Resources (SER) welcomed **Heather Chandler** to the Academic Program team in May as a Senior Office Associate.

A native of Cody, Wyo., Chandler earned her undergraduate degree in English from the University of Wyoming in 2020. Following her studies, she completed a Master's in Library and Information Science with a focus on Academic Librarianship from the University of North Carolina, where she excelled at cataloging, coding, instructional teaching, and information technology.

In her new role at SER, she will be utilizing her meticulous language, research, and organizational skills to support the important programmatic updates in the school's curriculum and scheduling.

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CERPA RELEASES SECOND WHITE PAPER IN NUCLEAR SERIES

The Center for Energy Regulation and Policy Analysis (CERPA) in the School of Energy Resources (SER) released a new white paper exploring the economic prospects for nuclear component manufacturing in Wyoming.

Authored by **Alex Gebben**, an energy economist in the UW Center for Business and Economic Analysis, and **Michael Peck**, a CERPA nuclear industry research consultant, the paper is the second in a series of six white papers exploring and evaluating different aspects of a developing an integrated nuclear industry in Wyoming.

The study performs a cost-benefit analysis on various factors related to nuclear component manufacturing and evaluates them accordingly to determine whether they pose an advantage or obstacle to implementing an industry dedicated to nuclear equipment and supplies in Wyoming.

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ENERGY JOKE

Why is Elton John's solar farm the most efficient in the world?

He doesn't let the sun go down on it!



HIGHLIGHTS

General

- Former Wyoming Rep. **Tom Lubnau** penned an op-ed about the success of SER. [Read Here >](#)
- SER Senior Director of Research **Scott Quillinan** and **CEGR** Director **Fred McLaughlin** competed in the annual Two-Fly Competition.



IMPORTANT DATES

- **ERC Reporting Director's Slides Due**
June 3, 2024
- **Tallgrass Ribbon Cutting Event**
June 6, 2024
- **Energy Resources Council Meeting**
June 6-7, 2024
- **Federal Pore Space Workshop**
June 14, 2024
- **UW In Your Community**
June 18, 2024
- **Energy Roadshow - Rawlins, Wyo.**
June 27, 2024

SER BIRTHDAYS!

MAY

Dan Eakin, May 2
Kami Danaei, May 8
Kristen Pritchett, May 12

Reminder: If you want your birthday recognized, please update your information with Kristi Russow at krussow@uwyo.edu.

