

# THE *Core* SAMPLE

Internal Newsletter of the School of Energy Resources

August | 2021

## NEW FACES AT SER: MEET DR. NGUYEN AND DR. HOLBERG

The School of Energy Resources (SER) is pleased to welcome **Dr. Minh Nguyen** into the Center for Economic Geology Research (CEGR).



In his new role, Dr. Nguyen will serve as an Assistant Research Scientist specializing in geostatistics, reservoir modeling, and risk assessment. He will primarily be working on the Wyoming CarbonSAFE project, but will also assist CEGR on other high-profile research grants and initiatives. Utilizing his exceptional skills at explaining geologic and engineering data, he will work to analyze the spatial relations of seismic and well log data to build more predictive models in the subsurface.

Originally from Saigon, Vietnam, Nguyen earned his M.S. from the University of Kansas in Petroleum Engineering in 2014. He recently completed a Ph.D. at the University of Wyoming in Geology and Geohydrology.

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The School of Energy Resources (SER) is pleased to welcome **Dr. Stefan Holberg** into the Center for Carbon Capture and Conversion (CCCC).

Holberg is the first direct hire into the CCCC, where he will be serving as an Associate Research Scientist. He will work directly with the center's Director, **Richard Horner**, coordinating and facilitating ongoing and new project activities being performed by faculty-led research teams and external partners.

Originally from Mannheim, Germany, Holberg earned his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Stuttgart in Organic Chemistry. He previously worked in senior industry scientific positions, most recently in Denmark, developing coatings and resin systems at the Danish Technological Institute, a private consulting firm for international customers such as Chevron or Alfa Laval.

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## HIGHLIGHTS

### Research Centers of Excellence

- **The Center for Energy Regulation & Policy Analysis (CERPA)** Director **Kipp Coddington**, testified before the Joint Minerals Committee on carbon credits in Wyoming along with the Wyoming Business Council.
- **CERPA** is currently working on a techno-economic assessment of retrofitting CCS/CCUS to coal units in Wyoming.
- **CERPA** contract economist, Melissa Firestone, is working on a market assessment of Wyoming REE/CM in a variety of products.
- **The Center for Economic Geology Research (CEGR)** has received funding for two new hydrogen projects in Wyoming -- one blue, one green.
- **CEGR** Research Scientist **Davin Bagdonas** is presenting at the AGNC 2021 Economic Development Summit on September 9 where he will discuss REE's as an alternative use for coal.
- Award negotiations for the CORE-CM project in the PRB and the GGRB-WRB have been finalized and the projects will officially start September 1.



\*\*\* more details in features

To submit news and updates  
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School of  
Energy Resources

## UW SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES STUDENT CONDUCTS FIELDWORK IN MOBILE AIR QUALITY LAB

**Isaac Boettcher**, an Idaho Falls, Idaho, senior in the School of Energy Resources (SER), recently conducted fieldwork to survey methane emissions as part of an internship with the Center for Air Quality (CAQ) at the University of Wyoming.

Boettcher was awarded the research internship through a generous endowment from the Nielson family as part of his studies in the energy and environmental systems concentration for his degree. He is a student in SER's energy resources management and development degree program.

With supervisor **Dr. Robert Field**, a UW atmospheric science senior research scientist, Boettcher was tasked with assisting the CAQ in a cooperative agreement with — and funded by — the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Wyoming Air Quality Assessment and Outreach Program performs air quality monitoring that is required by National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) assessments to facilitate oil and gas development in Wyoming.

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## UW SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES LAUNCHES NEW MINOR IN ENERGY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**It's Official!!!!** The University of Wyoming's School of Energy Resources (SER) is offering a new minor in energy resource management (ERM) starting this fall.

The new minor will allow a wider array of UW undergraduate students to gain access to specialized energy instruction to supplement and enhance their education. The minor will benefit students who are interested in business, economics, finance, engineering, science, law, real estate, lab sciences, land management, political science, sociology, agriculture, and environment and natural resources. By acquiring a foundational knowledge of diverse energy topics and interdisciplinary training, students will gain a competitive edge to expand career opportunities.

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## HIGHLIGHTS CONT.

### Research Centers of Excellence Cont.

- **The Center for Carbon Capture and Conversion (CCCC)** is reposting a position for a Senior Research Scientist.
- **CCCC** has received site approval for the coal demonstration building. The structure will be located next to the High Bay Facility in the field along 22nd street.
- **The Shell 3D Visualization Center (3D Viz)** hosted an open house as part of UW's "Digi-Know?" Innovative Tech Open House Series.
- **3D Viz** hosted tours of the CAVE as part of Cowboy Comeback student event, welcoming students back to campus!



### Academics

- **Academics** has posted a position for a new recruiter. The position has closed and interviews will commence this week.
- **Academics** has officially launched the new energy minor and student enrollment has already begun to steadily increase!
- **Professor Dario Grana** has organized a series of seminars on Diversity and Inclusion in Geoscience. Seminars will be on Wednesdays at 12 pm on Zoom. Seminars are open to everybody interested in the topic. Students can officially register for the class (GEOL 4140 or GEOL 5140), for 1 credit. See the full schedule and register [HERE >>>](#)
- **Academics** hosted a booth at the Annual NAPE Summit in Houston. **Professor Kris Koski** attended with PLM students **Kieran McMullen** and **Eli Vigil**.



# UW SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES SUBSURFACE BBQ

Please join us for a humble subsurface bbq to get to know our colleagues, partners and neighbors. We will serve hotdogs (and veggie dogs), chips and drinks. This will be held outdoors with plenty of space to social distance

Friday, September 10, 2021  
12:00 - 2:00 PM

Located on the patio between SER and the  
Geology & Geophysics Building



**Welcome back to Campus!** As a way to connect with our esteemed colleagues in the surrounding area, SER is hosting a Subsurface BBQ the faculty and staff of SER, the Geology and Geophysics Department, the Petroleum Engineering Department, and the Wyoming State Geological Survey.

Please join for a friendly, outdoor lunch!

## IMPORTANT DATES

- **PAW Annual Meeting**  
August 25-27, 2021
- **Subsurface BBQ**  
September 10, 2021
- **SER Distinguished Speaker Series #1**  
September 17, 2021
- **Energy Day Networking Reception**  
September 17, 2021
- **Energy Day (UW v. Ball State)**  
September 18, 2021
- **SER Distinguished Speaker Series #2**  
October 1, 2021
- **CLERR Landscape Discussion on Energy Law & Policy in the Rockies**  
October 8, 2021

## ENERGY JOKE

I WAS GOING TO  
MAKE A JOKE  
ABOUT SODIUM  
AND HYDROGEN  
BUT...



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### U.S. Department of Energy Launches 2022 Geothermal Collegiate Competition

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the launch of the 2022 Geothermal Collegiate Competition, organized by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and funded by DOE's Geothermal Technologies Office (GTO). This national competition encourages students to develop innovative solutions for geothermal applications through a year-long project that engages collegiate school teams to analyze geothermal energy for a community or campus application.

[MORE INFO >>>](#)

### Notice of Intent to Issue DE-FOA-0002560 entitled "Direct Air Capture Combined with Dedicated Long-Term Carbon Storage, Coupled to Existing Low-Carbon Energy"

(NOI) on Direct Air Capture Combined with Dedicated Long-Term Carbon Storage, Coupled to Existing Low-Carbon Energy. This FOA is expected to make available up to approximately \$15 million for cost-shared research and development (R&D) project(s) for FEED studies.

This work will require host site letters of commitment to be included in the application documents, and therefore, this advanced notice is being given to aid in the development of these relationships. Additionally, a minimum of 20% cost share will be required and this notice will provide additional time to obtain those non-Federal resources.

[View NOI >>>](#)

### Notice of Intent to Issue Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0002519 titled Natural Gas Demand Response Pilot Program.

The overall objective of the planned FOA is to solicit and award Research and Development (R&D) cooperative agreements for the development of multiple, regional, natural gas demand response (NGDR) pilot programs in collaboration with utilities, local distribution companies (LDCs), and public utility commissions (PUCs).

Based on the success of demand response programs in the electricity markets, as well as a growing number of challenges with natural gas supply, government, regulators, and industry are exploring demand response programs for natural gas systems. Similar to electricity demand response programs, NGDR programs aim to reduce consumption by end-users during peak demand periods.

[View NOI >>>](#)