

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Carl Koval, 303-492-5564
Carl.Koval@colorado.edu
Elaine Tucci, 303-492-8530
Elaine.Tucci@colorado.edu
Jim Scott, 303-492-3114

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CU-BOULDER ENERGY INITIATIVE NAMES
NEW LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEMBERS

The University of Colorado at Boulder's Energy Initiative, created in 2006 to help meet the world's sustainable and renewable energy needs, has announced a group of corporate leaders, entrepreneurs, investors, advisors, scientists, policy makers and academics as members of its newly formed EI Leadership Council.

The council currently is made up of 13 private sector seats and includes chief or senior executives of top global and United States energy companies as well as top executives in the fields of finance, investment, transportation, information technology, law and energy utilization, said EI Director Carl Koval, also a CU-Boulder chemistry and biochemistry professor. The council also includes 10 honorary seats held by prominent policy makers and academics, including former Colorado Gov. Dick Lamm and former U.S. Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton.

Each private sector seat makes at least a \$50,000 annual contribution to CU-Boulder's EI and a minimum two-year commitment to the council, Koval said. CU-Boulder plans to cap the EI private sector seats at 20, which will generate \$1 million annually for novel energy research on campus by funding seed grants in partnership with national laboratories.

The fund also will be used for "proof-of-concept" grants that will accelerate

commercialization of energy technologies discovered at CU-Boulder and will actively engage the private sector, said Koval. The EI Leadership Council is co-chaired by CU-Boulder Chancellor G.P. “Bud” Peterson and Dick Kelly, CEO of Xcel Energy.

EI administrators also announced the first 12 “Energy Initiative Advocates” made up of high-profile individuals that are serving as ambassadors for the CU-Boulder initiative. They include Federico Pena, former U.S. Secretary of Energy and former Denver mayor, Earl Wright, CEO of the Denver-based AMG National Trust Bank and Richard Truly, former director of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colo. and former chief administrator at NASA.

"We are very grateful that individuals and corporations of the caliber represented on the EI Leadership Council, and as EI Advocates, have agreed to partner with CU-Boulder in this endeavor," said Koval. "With their support, we are confident the Energy Initiative will rapidly become a leading organization in renewable energy and energy sustainability and provide new research opportunities for faculty, new career opportunities for students and new opportunities for economic development in the state, nation and world."

The council will meet in Boulder three times each year to provide strategic insight aimed at transforming CU-Boulder’s EI into an international powerhouse and stimulating economic development associated with clean energy in the region, Koval said.

CU-Boulder’s EI is aimed at helping to solve global energy challenges through research, education and technology commercialization, said Koval. Faculty and students are working on issues like biofuels and biorefining, solar energy conversion, wind energy, energy storage and conversion, hydrogen production and use, energy efficient buildings, “smart grid” concepts as well as nanoscience materials and catalysis research.

CU-Boulder’s EI also is heavily involved in energy and climate policy formulation, studies of societal and economic barriers to implementing renewable energy, and entrepreneurship efforts targeting local, state and national companies, Koval said.

“In the coming decades, the best public universities will be those agile enough to anticipate and embrace change on a dramatic scale,” said Peterson, who noted that more than 180 CU-Boulder faculty and researchers are engaged in some type of energy research. “The Energy Initiative places CU-Boulder at the center of a global crossroads of discovery, one characterized by academic excellence, economic vitality and environmental awareness.”

CU-Boulder Energy Initiative Leadership Council, Private Sector Seats:

Electricity/Natural Gas Utility Seat: Dick Kelly, chairman, president and CEO, Xcel Energy, top ten national energy company, largest wind energy utility in the United States.

Global Venture Capital Seat: Michael Ware, managing director, Good Energies, Inc, the world’s largest venture capital company for renewable energy.

International Energy Seat: Stephen Brand, senior vice president for technology, ConocoPhillips, third largest U.S. energy company with operations in 40 countries.

Solar Energy Seat: Jigar Shah, founder, Chief Strategy Officer, SunEdison, a global company and the largest solar energy service provider in North America.

Investment Fund Seat: Rebecca Kauffman, president and Chief Operating Officer, Southern Ute Alternative Energy LLC, alternative energy investment company for Southern Ute Tribe.

Automaker Seat: Bill Reinert, national manager of advanced technologies, Toyota, world’s largest automaker and advanced vehicle technology developer.

Individual Energy Investor Seat: Bruce Oreck, founder, Zero Carbon Initiative, attorney and energy investor.

Scientific/Technical Seat: Ron Rudolph, vice-president and director of strategic business development, Science Applications International Corporation, largest U.S government contractor, significant energy work, 44,000 employees and \$10 billion in annual revenues.

Computer/Information Technology Seat: Kristin Russell, vice president for IT operations, Sun Microsystems, Fortune 500 company, top five in IT industry, focus on energy use in electronics and systems.

Independent Power Producer Seat: Craig Mataczynski, president, Renewable Energy Systems Americas, Inc., an American subsidiary of a British-based wind, solar and biofuels company with its North American headquarters in Colorado.

Wind Technology Seat: Christian Venderby, acting president, Vestas Americas, an American subsidiary of the Danish company Vestas, the world's leading supplier of wind power solutions with a manufacturing plant near Windsor, Colo.

Geothermal Seat: Lucien Y. Bronicki, chairman and CTO, Ormat Technologies, one of the world's leading geothermal power companies headquartered in Reno, Nev.

Law and Policy Seat: Steven Demby, senior shareholder, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, Denver.

CU-Boulder Energy Initiative Leadership Council, Honorary Seats:

Policy Seat: Dick Lamm, former Colorado governor, University of Denver professor and co-director of the Institute for Public Policy Studies.

Policy Seat: Gale Norton, former U.S. Secretary of the Interior, former Colorado Attorney General and current general counsel for the Unconventional Oil division of Shell Oil Co.

Discovery/Climate Seat: Konrad Steffen, director, CU-Boulder-based Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, Greenland climate expert, shared in 2007 Nobel Peace as co-author of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report.

Discovery/Biofuels Seat: Alan Weimer, executive director, Colorado Center for Biorefining and Biofuels, CU-Boulder professor of chemical and biological engineering.

Discovery/Wind or Solar Seat: Lucy Pao, CU-Boulder professor, electrical engineering, lead organizer for the Colorado Renewable Energy Collaboratory's Center for Research and Education in Wind, or CREW.

Transformation/Law Seat: Mark Squillace, director, CU Natural Resources Law Center, CU law professor.

Transformation/Arts and Sciences Seat: Patricia Limerick, director of the Center for the American West, CU-Boulder history professor, MacArthur Fellow.

Environmental Initiative Seat: Carl Koval, CU-Boulder Energy Initiative director, professor of chemistry and biochemistry.

Entrepreneurship Seat: Paul Jerde, executive director, CU-Boulder Center for Entrepreneurship, professor, CU Leeds School of Business.

Chancellor Seat: G.P. “Bud” Peterson, CU-Boulder Chancellor.