Ohio University and Ohio State to partner through ARRA grant

On April 8, 2010, Ohio University and The Ohio State University received a $500,000 state grant to develop a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and climate change impact analysis for Ohio businesses and communities faced with new risks and opportunities from proposed federal climate change legislation.

The grant was awarded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funded State Energy Program. The program includes a plan for a climate change action strategy aimed at helping Ohio absorb changes from federal climate change policies, as well as developing investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency programs such as the appliance rebate program.

The proposal request for the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and Climate Change Impact Analysis grant was announced on December 11, 2009, and the OU/OSU proposal was approved by the Ohio Controlling Board on April 5.

Ohio University and The Ohio State University combined their climate and energy expertise to outline a work plan to assess the impact of climate change policies to Ohio businesses, particularly for Ohio’s energy-intensive and trade-exposed industries, or EITE.

The work plan was developed through the collaboration of several entities at both universities such as The Voinovich School of Public Affairs and the Center of Air Quality at Ohio University, and the John Glenn School of Public Affairs and the Center for Resilience at The Ohio State University.

Scott Miller, director of the Consortium for Energy, Economics and the Environment (CE3), an interdisciplinary organization housed at OU’s Voinovich School, is serving as the project’s director. “We’re the fourth leading greenhouse gas emitting state in the nation. And so we have got to get out in front of this,” he said. “This legislation has the ability to fundamentally change the economy of the United States. If you use energy- it will change the way you will live your life.”

The work plan will include a statewide inventory of greenhouse gas emissions available as a web-based system. Additionally, the plan will include recommendations for an Ohio climate change plan based on analysis and modeling assessing the strengths and weaknesses of a collection of policy tools available to Ohio’s leaders. The project will culminate in a final report presenting the team’s findings and recommendations to Ohio stakeholders, helping to shape Ohio’s carbon strategy in the coming months and years.

UCEAO Conference Recap

On April 20-21, 2010, the University Clean Energy Alliance of Ohio (UCEAO) hosted its fourth annual conference in Columbus, Ohio.

The conference, entitled “Materials and Energy: The Building Blocks for Ohio’s Economic Future,” was presented through a collaboration between UCEAO and the Center for Multifunctional Polymer Nanomaterials & Devices.

This year’s conference featured a keynote address from Cathy Callo, executive director of the Apollo Alliance, an organization which works to promote investments in energy efficiency, clean power, technology, education and training. The conference hosted over 50 expert speakers to discuss undergraduate education in clean energy programs, energy and economic growth in Ohio, environmental impacts of alternative energy and more. More than 375 leaders in energy and materials from around the state participated. The UCEAO annual conference offers a unique networking and educational opportunity for representatives from Ohio business, industry, educational institutions, research labs and government agencies.

UCEAO aims to promote research and education at Ohio universities while sharing expertise in clean energy generation to inform energy policy decision makers and provide assistance on energy issues for university, government and industrial partners. Ohio University is a founding member of UCEAO, with the chair position currently held by Scott Miller, director of CE3.


For more information on UCEAO visit: www.uceao.org

For more information on CE3's current projects, visit: www.ce3.ohio.edu

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