Center Research and reports are available as PDF file links on www.RenewableEnergy.ilstu.edu, bottom right corner. Reports include Wind Farms and Growth 2012, and Economic Impact of Wind Farms in Illinois 2012.

Illinois State Leads the Energy Learning Exchange for State

Illinois State University is leading the efforts in planning the Illinois Energy Learning Exchange (ELE), a public-private partnership to improve education and boost careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in Illinois. ELE has the support of Illinois State’s Center for Renewable Energy and Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies (Dr. David Loomis, Director of both), as well as the Center for Mathematics, Science and Technology (Dr. Willy Hunter, Director).

“Our mission is to prepare our students for the 21st Century workforce,” said Governor Quinn at a press conference in September announcing lead organizations for eight different types of Learning Exchanges in the state. “The Learning Exchanges will provide students with real-world experience and advanced educational opportunities to ensure they are ready to compete for the jobs of tomorrow.”

The ELE has already created three subcommittees to develop a plan for achieving nine specific functions assigned to the learning exchange, identifying key resources, areas of perceived need, and partnerships. The groups are meeting via conference calls, preparing presentations for the full group at an in-person meeting on January 18, 2013, at Illinois State University.

1. Curriculum, Equipment, Student and Teacher Support Committee
   Co-Chairs: Tod Treat (Student & Academic Services, Richland Community College) and Dr. Willy Hunter (Center for Mathematics, Science and Technology, Illinois State University)

2. Internships, Collaboration, and Career Development Committee
   Co-Chairs: Jim Monk (Illinois Energy Association) and Jolene Willis (Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, Western Illinois University)

3. Personalized Education Plans and Performance Evaluation Committee
   Co-Chairs: Julie Elzanati (Illinois Green Economy Network) and Dr. David Loomis (Center for Renewable Energy and Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies, Illinois State University).

For more information or to participate, please visit www.RenewableEnergy.ilstu.edu/ELE/or email EnergyLearningExchange@ilstu.edu.
Illinois Wind for Schools Celebrates Second Year

The Illinois Wind for Schools program uses an interdisciplinary and applied research approach, to incorporate wind energy into classrooms across the state. The team is comprised of expert personnel from the Center for Renewable Energy and the College of Education at Illinois State University, plus the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs and the College of Business and Technology at Western Illinois University. The Illinois Wind for Schools program is funded by a grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and nine schools are participating to date.

Through an application process, three to five middle and/or high schools are selected each year for intensive support through on-site teacher training and classroom resources. An open-enrollment generalized workshop will be available to all schools not selected but still wish to incorporate wind energy into their curriculum.

Details on the Illinois Wind for Schools program, including a list of schools, news, applications, and links to partner school weather stations can be found on the website www.IILWS.org. For more information, contact Matt Aldeman, Center for Renewable Energy, at maldema@ilstu.edu.

International Green Energy Council Conference at ISU in 2014

Dr. Jin Jo is Assistant Professor of Technology and Associate Director of the Center for Renewable Energy.

The conference is designed to provide a platform for exchanging latest development of policies, technology research and applications in the field of green energy. The event will include keynote presentations, specialized sessions, poster presentations, and a venue for exhibitors. Past conferences have been held in Canada, China, Sweden, and Turkey, with the 2013 event scheduled to be held in Ukraine.