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FUTURE ENERGY SYSTEMS: INTERDISCIPLINARY SOLUTIONS IN A CLIMATE CHANGE CONTEXT

Dr. Valerie Miller[1], Dr. Catherine Tays[2], Kenneth Tam[3]
[123]Future Energy Systems, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada

WORKSHOP PROPOSAL

Future Energy Systems (FES) at the University of Alberta is a $75 million research program funded by the Government of Canada's Canada First Research Excellence Fund. With more than 120 projects, more than 150 researchers, and nearly 1,000 graduate students, the program is studying humanity's energy transition from multiple perspectives. Existing energy technologies are being refined, new energy generation, transmission, and storage technologies are being developed, and economic, social, and environmental studies are assessing the implications of current and future systems. This work involves experts from numerous disciplines, including scientists, economists, sociologists, humanists, and dozens of engineers. How does FES successfully coordinate experts from these vastly different fields? In this workshop, learn about the FES research program, its successes to date, and the lessons it has learned about building a research community that spans numerous fields in order to address one of the defining challenges of our time: climate change. Understand the importance of effective internal communication, the danger of preconceptions, tactics for overcoming jargon, and methods for finding common ground. This workshop will be valuable for any engineer who must work with colleagues outside their field, or for anyone interested in learning about Canada's leading energy systems research program. Presented by members of the FES Communications team: Dr. Valerie Miller (Outreach and Engagement Coordinator), Dr. Catherine Tays (Research Communication Coordinator), and Kenneth Tam (Communications Manager).

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