

# WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY TRI-CITIES CLEAN ENERGY AMBASSADORS NETWORK



WASHINGTON STATE  
UNIVERSITY



## Why I became an ambassador...



With climate change being a prevalent topic, more than ever, I wish to collaborate with a like-minded yet diverse group of people on the matter. The opportunity being here in my home, the Tri-Cities, also motivated me to join since I want to become a part of the Tri-Cities legacy as a frontier in renewable energy. —Student ambassador (Spring 2023)



## NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAM

New curriculum for WSU Tri-Cities' Clean Energy Ambassadors Network (CEAN) incorporates student research/innovation teams ("incubators") working with WSU faculty, industry mentors & their peers to address local challenges related to climate change & its impact on disadvantaged communities. *Part of Dept. of Energy's Inclusive Energy Innovation Prize*

## NETWORK FRAMEWORK

**Tiered-mentorship model:** 35 student ambassadors, 3 network team assistants/mentors, 21 industry mentors, 5 faculty mentors, WSU/community partners (EIR, TCHCC)

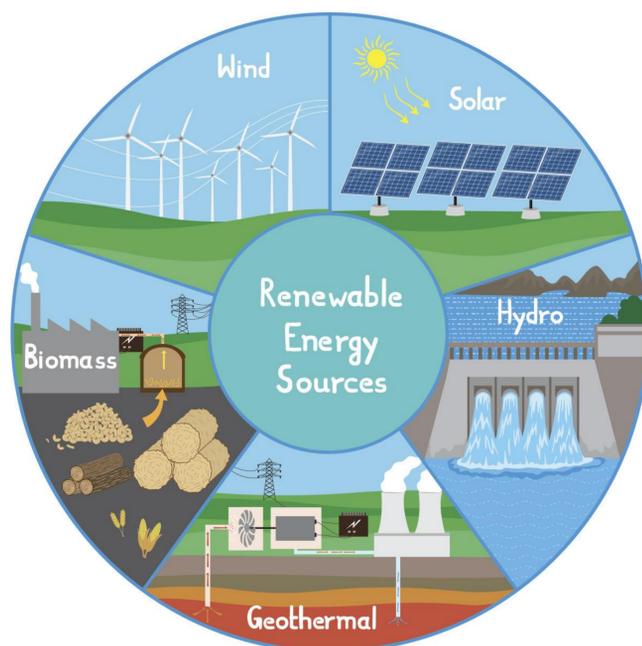
## INDUSTRY MENTORSHIP + COMMUNITY OUTREACH

WSU Tri-Cities Entrepreneurs in Residence (EIR) & Tri-Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (TCHCC) worked together to recruit a diverse group of industry mentors for CEAN. Action items included working together to make announcements in existing industry & community events/meetings, distribution of fliers & running email & social campaigns.



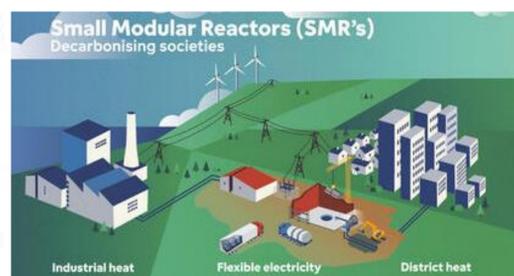
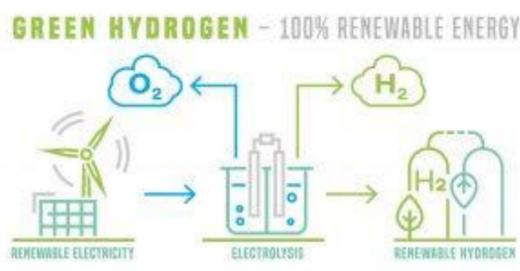
## WHAT ARE AMBASSADORS WORKING ON?

- Innovation in clean energy & climate
- Community engagement & outreach
- Just & equitable energy development according to Justice40 Goals



## PROJECT TOPICS:

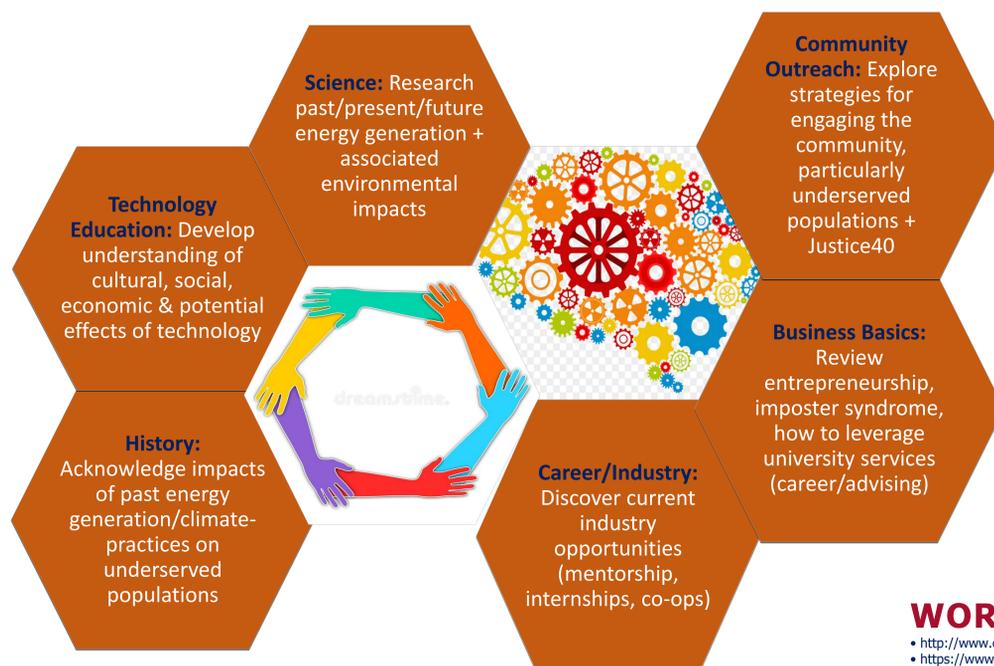
- Evaluation of energy-grid balance & future electric vehicle charging station increases
- Potential of offshore wind energy
- K-12 access to clean energy education + internships + opportunities + awareness
- Production, impact & sustainability of current/prospective clean energy technologies
- Environmental impacts of current & upcoming (hydrogen & SMRs) green technology
- Potential for Hanford WTP boiler electrification
- Equity & access of low-income houses & communities to switch to clean energy
- Community outreach to inform about clean energy & net-zero economy outlook
- Potential for bioremediation to remove microplastics from the ocean
- 3-D printing of carbon-neutral modular housing



## THANK YOU PARTNERS & CONTRIBUTORS!

- Dept. of Energy Inclusive Energy Innovation Prize
- Entrepreneurs in Residence (Paul Carlisle)
- Tri-Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (Martin Valadez & Raul Contreras)
- WSU's Institute for Northwest Energy Futures
- WSU Tri-Cities Energy/Climate UCORE Curriculum Faculty Team
- Tri-Cities' Clean Energy/Climate Sector
- WSU Tri-Cities TRIO STEM
- Student Success Lab- WSU Tri-Cities
- Jade Garrett- Positive Deviancy (DOE IEI Prize Connector)

## PROGRAM GOALS/OUTCOMES



## PROGRAM EVALUATION:

- **80%+** of ambassadors report *high sense of inclusion in CEAN Program & WSU Tri-Cities*
- **80%+** of ambassadors believe *mentorship helped deepen their knowledge about real-world career options in climate science & clean energy sectors*
- **90%** of ambassadors believe in *importance of clean energy generation & moving toward a zero-carbon economy*

Tri-Cities Hispanic  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



## WORKS CITED:

- <http://www.clipartbest.com/brain-clipart-for-kids>
- <https://www.nrel.gov/news/program/2022/increased-spacing-of-solar-panelscomes-with-benefits.html>
- <https://justenergy.com/blog/nuclear-energy-guide-atomic-power/>
- <https://clipartix.com/handshake-clipart-image-28780/>
- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/mikescott/2019/09/09/companies-continue-to-drive-demand-for-clean-energy/?sh=689fb1abfa41>
- <https://americanmadechallenges.org/challenges/inclusiveenergyinnovation/index.html>