Building the Distributed Wind Workforce

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Moderated By: **Brittany Davis (PNNL)**

Designing Curriculum for an Improved Distributed Wind Workforce

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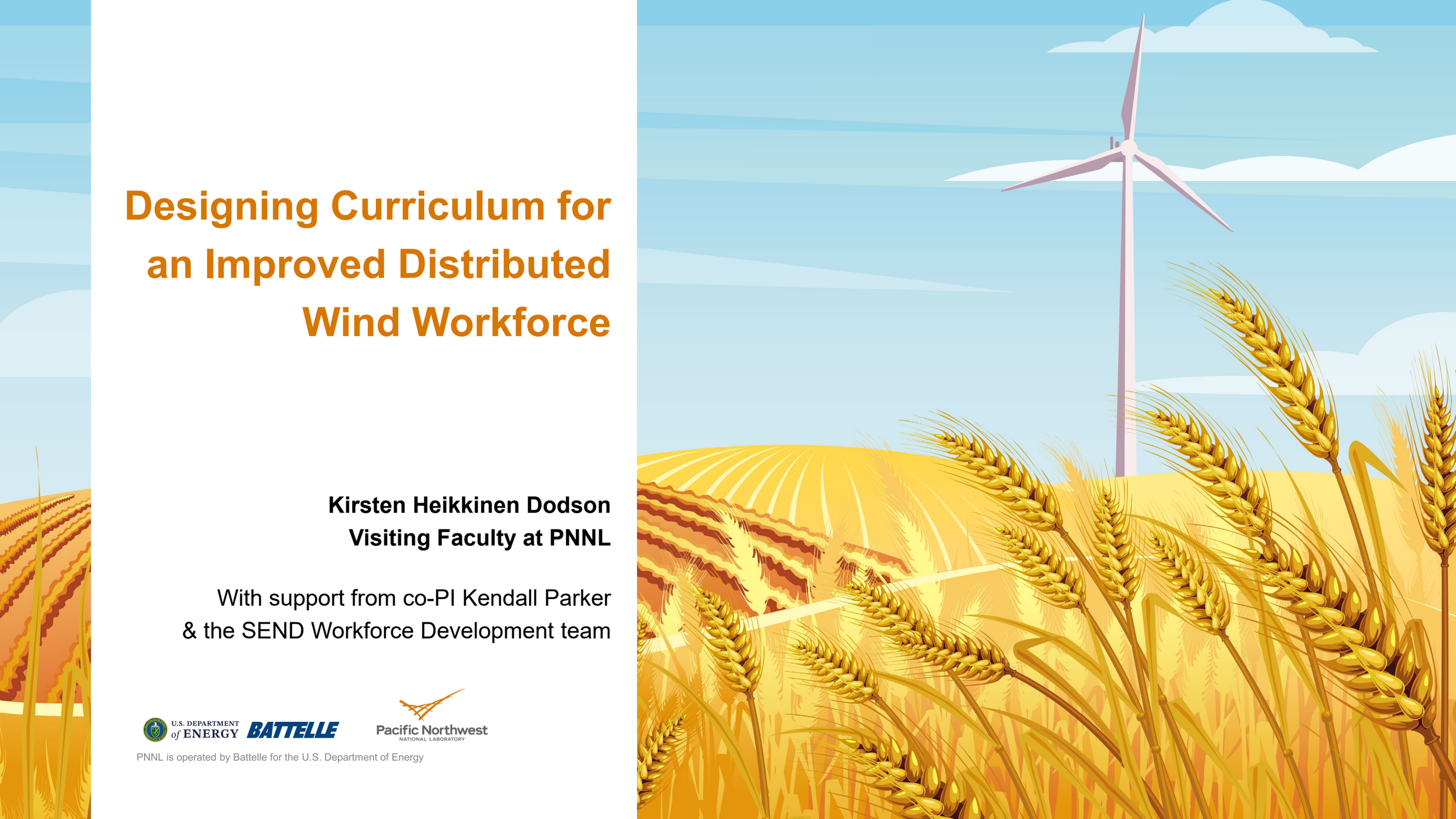
Visiting Faculty at PNNL

With support from co-PI Kendall Parker
& the SEND Workforce Development team

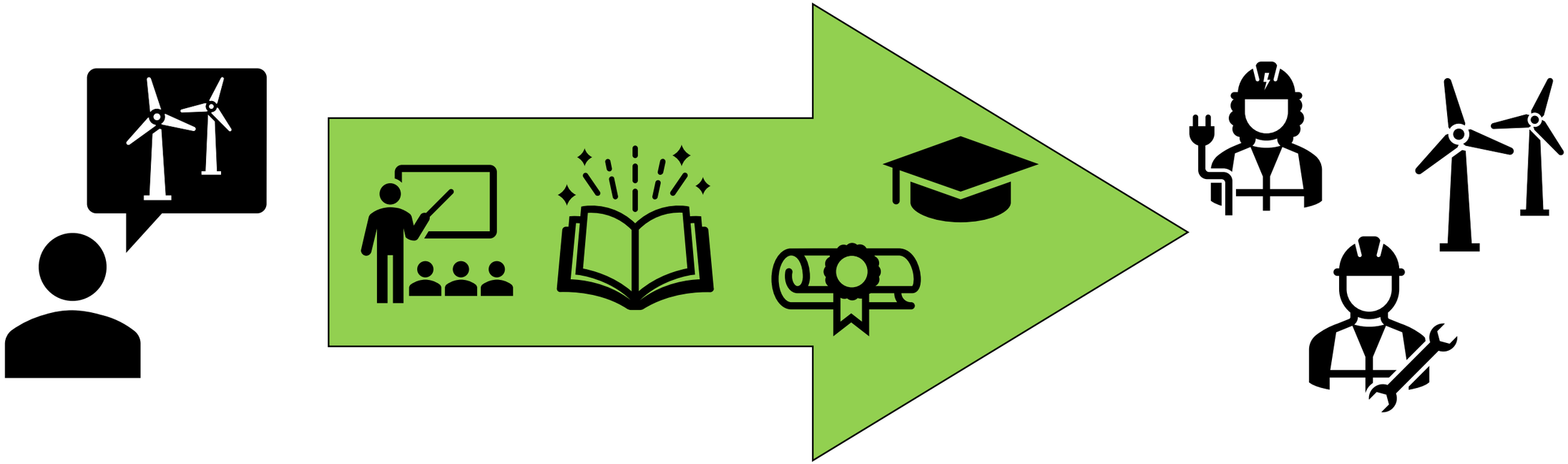


U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY BATTELLE Pacific Northwest NATIONAL LABORATORY

PNNL is operated by Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy

Objective

Design curriculum to increase awareness of and improve preparation for multifunctional worker roles in the DW industry



**focus on operations & maintenance (long-term roles) = Wind Turbine Technicians

Design curriculum to increase awareness of and improve preparation for multifunctional worker roles in the DW industry

Curriculum Strategy

Learning Modules

- Specific to DW
- Applicable to any learner
- Easy to integrate

Gaps within scope:

- ***Location*** – consider curriculum that can be easily integrated independent of location
- ***Awareness*** – design curriculum to engage learners in the unique aspects of the job
- ***Skills*** – include technical and professional skills relevant to the job within the curriculum

Curriculum Design

How can the learning modules…

- Encourage interest in a DW career path?
- Prepare learners with the professional skills needed to be DW Wind Techs?
- Be accessible in any location (with DW need)?

Site Visit with DW Tech

- “Day in the life” including professional skills
- Option for virtual reality

DW Career Playbook

- Shows pathways in DW with prompts & guidance
- Publicly available online

DW Simulations

- Task = focused on technical
- Stakeholder = focused on professional / people
- Option for virtual simulation

This work was supported in part by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of Workforce Development for Teachers and Students (WDTS) under the Visiting Faculty Program (VFP) at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education.

Thank you!

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Findings from this project are slated for potential inclusion in the forthcoming publication from the SEND group…

REpowering Schools

STRENGTHENING THE CLEAN ENERGY INDUSTRY BY GROWING A SKILLED AND PREPARED WORKFORCE

REpowering Schools is a 501c3 organization working with educators and the renewable energy industry and in coordination with national and state government projects to support programming and opportunities to engage and train a diverse and sustained renewable energy workforce.

Remy Pangle

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www.repoweringschools.org

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

SUPPORT PROGRAMS

- Project-based Funding
- Sponsored Research, currently on hybrid system design and solar agrivoltaics
- Faculty Network Webinars
- Collegiate competition team support

CONFERENCES & SYMPOSIA

- Conference Experiences at Cleanpower and RE+
- Student Symposia at the DWEA and ASES conferences in 2025
- Wind Works Forum with NREL

RECOGNITION PROGRAM

- Renewable Energy Awards with KidWind to recognize excellence for educator, students, schools, and industry

CAREER EDUCATION

- College & Career Stories
- Student Network Webinars

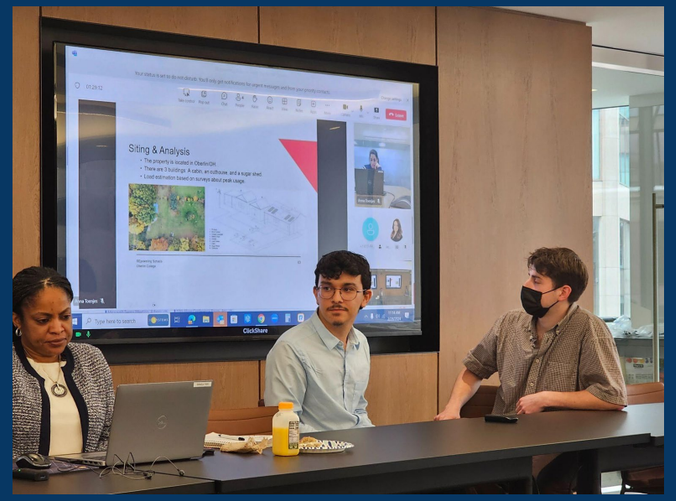
INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED?

CONTACT: INFO@REPOWERINGSCHOOLS.ORG

DWEA
DISTRIBUTED WIND ENERGY ASSOCIATION

Student Symposium

February 23-25, 2026
Arlington, VA



- Student poster session
- Industry presentations
- Technical review panel
- Student presentations
- Industry visit / experience

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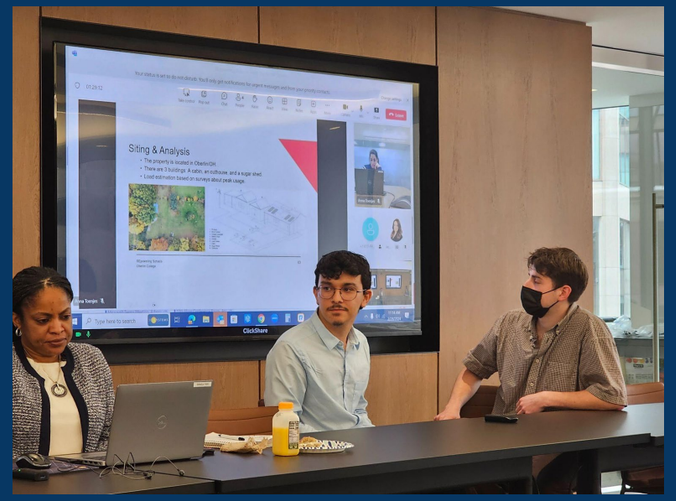

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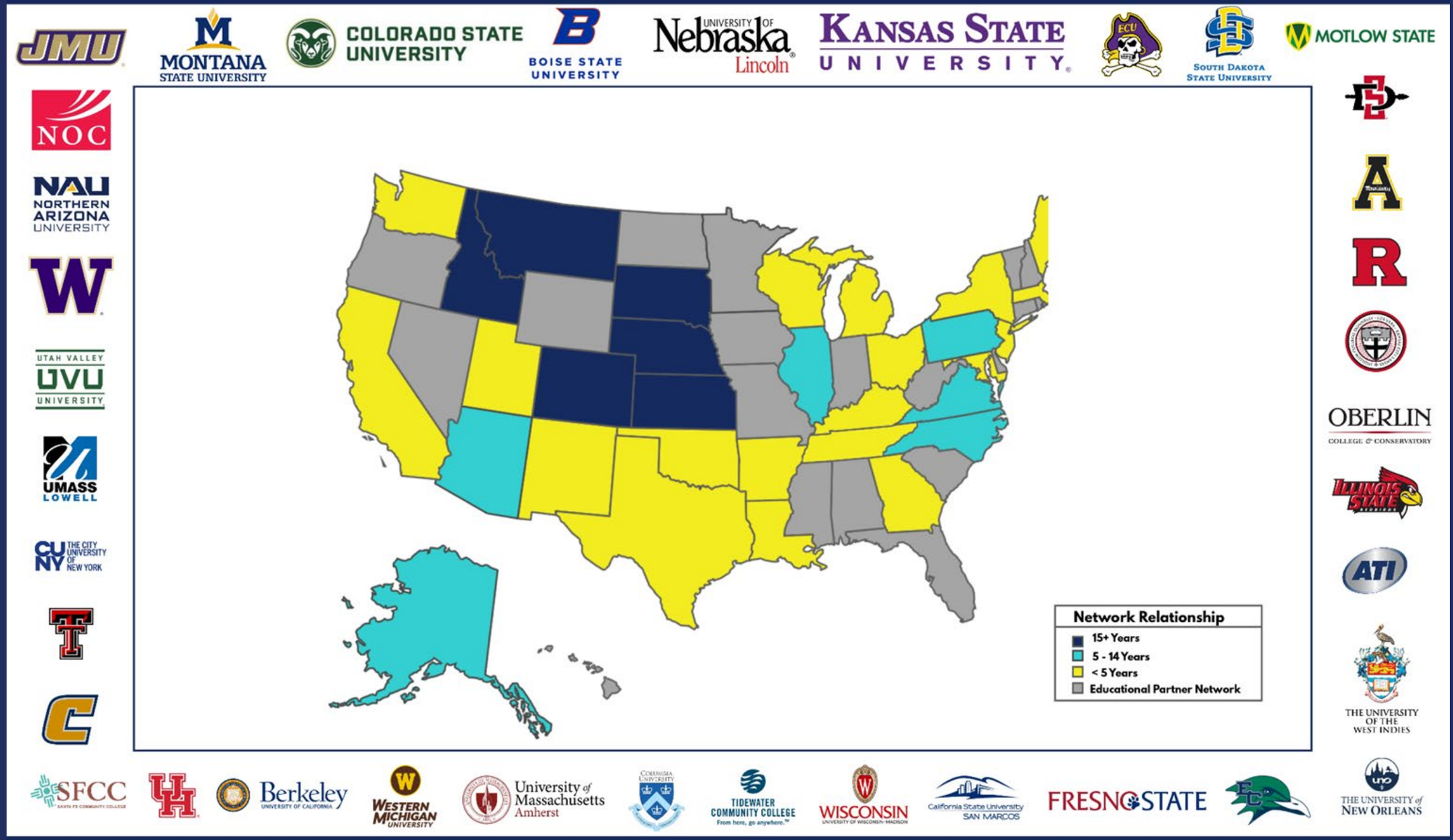
AMERICAN SOLAR ENERGY SOCIETY

Student Symposium

October 19-21, 2026
Austin, TX

- Student poster session
- Industry presentations
- Career fair
- Industry visit / experience


Network Relationship
15+ Years
5 - 14 Years
< 5 Years
Educational Partner Network