



2009 WISCONSIN

Renewable Energy Summit

Renewables, Sustainability, Energy Efficiency,
Social Responsibility, and Green Energy Practices

Curriculum Programs/Course Design Session #4-2

DATE:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2009

Breakout Session 4-2:

Time:

3:45pm - 5:30pm

Presenters:

Renewable Energy for the Developing World

Ken Walz, Madison Area Technical College

This presentation will highlight a new course created by Madison Area Technical College titled Renewable Energy For the Developing World. The course was funded in part by a U.S. Department of Education Title VI International Studies grant, and was piloted in the winter of 2009. Twelve students from Madison, WI traveled to Costa Rica for a span of ten days, where they learned about renewable energy technology in a hands-on format. The class installed five small scale off grid solar electric systems for low income residents in the rural village of Mastatal, providing household illumination and offsetting consumption of firewood from local forests.

Engagement Strengthening: A Globally Collaborative Competitive & Green Workforce

Robert Franco, Kapi'olani (Hawaii) Community College

As the nation confronts two major challenges, engaging millions in strengthening local communities and preparing a globally competitive, collaborative, and green workforce, technical colleges are situated perfectly for a new burst of service-learning integration into both their liberal arts transfer and 21st century career programs. Local communities confront ecological constraints and opportunities and must make critical and correct decisions as the nation pivots towards a new energy future. Globally, the planet suffers and a new era of both scientific collaboration and competition are underway. Service-learning and community-based research (CBR) can simultaneously create citizens and members of the new green workforce. These consequential issues need to be integrated into the curriculum so that students can fully understand and act upon them in their career programs. Greater efficacy in using service-learning and CBR can better prepare students for their lifelong work in service to democracy.

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biographies
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Presenter Biography:

Ken Walz

Ken Walz is a chemistry and engineering instructor at Madison Area Technical College. Dr. Walz received his Ph.D. in Environmental Chemistry and Technology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, while conducting research on advanced lithium-ion battery technology. His scientific experience has included work on photo-induced charge transfer at the University of Rochester, and on hybrid technology at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. At MATC, Dr. Walz serves as a project director for the Consortium for Education in Renewable Energy Technology (CERET) while teaching courses in biodiesel fuel and renewable energy for the developing world.

Dr. Robert Franco

Dr. Franco is Director of Planning and Grants at Kapi'olani Community College, Honolulu, HI. Franco is also the Senior Faculty Fellow for Community Colleges at Campus Compact, and has provided service learning and civic engagement training in 35 states and 3 US territories. He was a lead researcher and author for the Campus Compact's publication, "The Community College: Indicators of Engagement at Two-Year Institutions". He has also published 5 major works from the Community College National Center for Community Colleges, and has contributed to publications from AAC&U and the Ed. Comm of the States.