

CICV Sun Times

September 28, 2015

*Welcome to news about the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia (CICV)
Solar Market Pathways (SMP) Project*

The RFP Is Coming!

Here's the news we've all been waiting for! In just a few days, our schools will be able to review their final campus assessment reports and the draft RFP.

Tyler Espinoza of Optony, who serves ably as the project's consultant, is completing the full investment-grade **assessment reports** and expects to have them in the hands of each participating college shortly. Tyler will then assist our college leaders in evaluating the opportunities and challenges identified for solar development on their respective campuses.

Colleges will also be offered the opportunity to review the draft **Request for Proposals (RFP)** that Optony is preparing, and to enter some or all of their potential solar sites into the RFP.

We expect that CICV will issue the first RFP before the end of the year. The RFP will invite qualified bidders to offer **turn-key proposals** to develop solar projects on some or all of our school campuses.

In early 2016, Optony will lead the bid-evaluation process and announce the winning bid(s). Each college will then have the option to sign contracts with the winning bidder(s) to develop solar on their campuses.

It is hoped that the projects included in this first RFP can be completed before the end of 2016.

And the winner is . . . EFCICV: \$150,000 Solar Grant

CICV staff submitted an application on behalf of participating schools in Dominion's service territory for a grant which is designed to encourage colleges' participation in Dominion's PPA pilot program. We are very proud to report that this grant – in the amount of \$150,000 – is being awarded to CICV's Educational Foundation by an anonymous donor. Our project schools that participate in Dominion's PPA program and meet the grant's criteria will be eligible to receive a share of the grant money. So let's celebrate the great solar development that this generous grant will help our schools achieve!

Not a Dominion customer? Well, we have good news for you, too. Jenny Bousquet of Shenandoah University, Carol Hardin of Lynchburg College, and other college grants officers are actively looking for grants for which our other schools can apply. If you have any ideas regarding grants or other funding opportunities, please send them to carol.cicv@gmail.com.

September 11th Workshop: Red Carpet Treatment at Marymount

CICV's second semi-annual solar workshop of 2015 was held at Marymount University on September 11. The team at Marymount really rolled out the red carpet for us! And Marymount's location near Washington, D.C., enabled CICV to attract nationally-known solar experts to speak at the workshop. They joined an all-star cast of faculty and students from our colleges who briefed us on their solar and sustainability efforts. Here was the line-up:

- **Welcome:** Marymount President Matthew Shank, who recognized the solar project and the outstanding service of CICV President Robert Lambeth
- **Federal Overview** Angela Crooks, National Coordinator of Solar Market Pathways for DOE
- **Keynote speaker:** Scott Sklar, Stella Group, GWU faculty, & "Godfather of Solar"
- **Other speakers:** James Critchfield, EPA Green Power Program
Daniel Hill, Green Impact Campaign
Anya Schoolman, Community Power Network/DC SUN
Valerie Banschbach and student Mackay Pierce, Roanoke College
Barry Erdeljon, Marymount University
Tyler Espinoza, Optony, representing ASL/BC/LC team regarding APCo learning module
Teshome Molalenge, Bridgewater College
Andrew Yoder, student at Eastern Mennonite University
- **Every Attendee:** Comments in the "lightning round" to further our students' involvement in solar-related learning, certifications, public service, and much more (35 onsite attendees and numerous remote participants contributed ideas)
- **Tour** Approximately 10 workshop attendees toured Scott Sklar's two net-zero buildings in Arlington, leaving with a wealth of ideas and materials
- **Informal Dinner** More networking and fellowship by six attendees

Please go to <http://commons.marymount.edu/cicv/> and click on "Round Table Solar Education" to view the powerpoints, handouts, and other information from this workshop.

Exciting Ideas Growing out of Marymount Workshop, to date:

- **Internships:** Doug Seidler of Marymount is compiling a list of solar-related internships for which our students may apply, which will be disseminated to all schools in the coming weeks. Virginia Union and Randolph-Macon are already pursuing an opportunity identified in the Richmond area. Please continue to submit ideas to Doug at dseidler@marymount.edu.
- **Website:** Barry Erdeljon and his media students at Marymount created a flyer about this workshop and have begun work on the new project website. Each participating school has a page on which to tell their solar/sustainability story. Go to <http://commons.marymount.edu/cicv/> and click on "Participating Schools" to see what has been posted so far. Barry and his students look forward to more postings from all schools!

- **Coordination:** Speaker Anya Schoolman of DC/SUN and her VA/SUN colleague Aaron Sutch are meeting in October with CICV staff about outreach activities.
- **Fieldtrips:** Staff members at several colleges are contacting Scott Sklar about future tours of his buildings. All project contacts have received a wealth of material from Scott that he uses in the classes he teaches at George Washington University.
- **Teach-In:** Many attendees at the workshop expressed interest in the Teach-In that Valerie Banschbach coordinated at Roanoke College. Valerie has agreed to lead efforts by interested colleges to hold a coordinated teach-in on multiple campuses this coming year.
- **Lobby Day:** Representatives of Sierra Club and MDV-SEIA offered to investigate whether our students might be invited to their joint Lobby Day during the 2016 session of Virginia's General Assembly, as a learning experience.

Contact carol.cicv@gmail.com if you are interested in working on any of these ideas!

APCo Renewable Generation Purchase (RGP) Filing: Learning Module Posted

In April, Appalachian Power (APCo) asked the State Corporation Commission (SCC) to approve its proposed RGP tariff, which would apply to power purchase agreements (PPAs) for colleges and similar entities in APCo's service territory. Over the summer, faculty and students at three CICV project schools used college electricity usage and solar generation data, as well as the sample calculation provided by APCo in its filing, to calculate the projected financial impact of the proposed rider on our schools. This was a great opportunity for hands-on learning in a real-life situation, and we thank **Appalachian School of Law, Bridgewater College, and Lynchburg College** for their dedicated work on the exercise, under the direction of project consultant, **Tyler Espinoza of Optony**. We also appreciate APCo's assistance in providing their sample calculations to our teams. Tyler presented the teams' great work at the September 11th workshop and posted the learning module on the project website at <http://my.solarroadmap.com/ahj/smp-icv/view>.

Special recognition: Dr. Kevin Peterson of Lynchburg College devoted a whopping 24.5 hours of his time this summer in making mathematical calculations in support of the learning module. Thanks, Kevin!

In addition to the learning module done under the auspices of the Solar Project, CICV has filed a notice of participation in the APCo case. This case will be heard by the SCC hearing examiner on September 29. Information about the case may be found on the SCC website at <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/docketsearch#caseDocs/134485>. CICV's witnesses are Christopher Burnley of Ferrum College and Tyler Espinoza of Optony.

Governor McAuliffe Praises CICV's Solar Project at ASL Symposium

On September 21, 2015, the Appalachian School of Law hosted the Governor's second biennial "Natural Resources and Energy Law Symposium" in Abingdon. The Symposium provided outstanding panel presentations on the Clean Air Act's Clean Power Plan, hydraulic fracturing, natural gas pipelines, and renewable energy.

In his luncheon address, Governor Terry McAuliffe gave special recognition to the three renewable-energy projects being discussed on the Renewables panel, beginning with CICV's Solar Market Pathways Collaboration. Governor McAuliffe expressed praise and support for our colleges as they seek to install solar on their campuses and to prepare the next generation of solar leaders. Hayes Framme, the Governor's "energy czar" and member of our project's Advisory Panel, reiterated in private conversations the Governor's support of our schools.

During the Renewables segment of the Symposium, Project Manager Carol Wampler discussed the CICV SMP Collaboration, Tyson Utt of Apex described progress on his company's utility-scale wind project in Botetourt County, and Tom Tuffey of Community Energy described the Amazon 80-MW solar project that his company is developing on the Eastern Shore. Hayes Framme and Cale Jaffe of SELC rounded out the panel. We are proud that all members of this panel serve on our project's Advisory Panel. Please also note that Dr. Tuffey offered to provide information and tours to our students as the Amazon solar project is constructed.

We congratulate Dean Daniel Caldwell and the entire ASL team on a highly successful Symposium. Thanks for including CICV SMP!

Getting to know . . . Students Mackay Pierce and Andrew Yoder



MACKAY PIERCE

Student, Environmental Studies & Sociology, Roanoke College

Mackay is a junior double major in Environmental Studies and Sociology at Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia. On campus he is actively involved in the environmental community. He hopes to engage Representative Griffith in productive discussions about action on climate change while drawing on his experience leading alternative break trips to rural communities in Appalachia.



ANDREW YODER

Student, Economics and Environmental Sustainability, Eastern Mennonite University

Andrew is a native of Lancaster County, PA. Currently a senior at Eastern Mennonite University, he is studying both Economics and Environmental Sustainability. During the summer of 2015, he interned as a technical analyst at Secure Futures, a solar development company in Staunton, VA. His role consisted of calculating the economic benefits solar energy would have for a customer. As an intern, he learned about the practicality and efficiency of solar energy, as well as the complications involved in developing solar in a nascent market like Virginia's.