Fall 2016 Lecture Series: Plugged into URI Energy Research

The University of Rhode Island Extension Outreach Center

Key factors & lessons learned in construction completion

- Planning/Preparation
- Stakeholder engagement and communication
- Proper site execution
- Having the right team and get working relationships
- Construction window and weather
- Solid coordination
- Weather
- International cooperation

Prepared by Devina Thakur
2016 Energy Fellow
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Acknowledgements

This initiative would not have been possible without the support and engagement of a dedicated team of University faculty and staff, external partners and URI Energy Fellows, including:

Administration:
Provost Donald DeHayes
Dean John Kirby
Dr. Deborah Sheely

Speakers:
Andy Boslett, PhD 16’
Ron Gerwatowski
Carrie Gill
Chris Kearns, ’08 BS
Captain John O’Keeffe
Vinka Oyanedel-Craver
Dr. Kenneth Payne
Rachel Sholly, ’06 BS,’09 MESM
Dr. Hollie Smith
Dr. Malcolm Spaulding
Becca Trietch, ’15 MESM

URI Energy Extension Advisory Committee:
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URI Energy Fellows:
Kellie Brown
Lindsey Goulet
Joseph Mattiello
Matthew Sullivan
Devina Thakur
Executive Summary

URI Extension provides a window to the College of Environment and Life Sciences through which stakeholders can access factually-based information that addresses environmental, economic and social issues. In an effort to empower individuals and community leaders as informed decision makers and advocates with respect to energy, the URI Extension Outreach Center (EOC) formed an energy literacy team comprised of Extension faculty, staff and undergraduate URI Energy Fellows. The team seeks to design and deliver Extension programming that will bridge the gap between URI research faculty, Extension resources and our stakeholders.

In response to the need to highlight ongoing academic energy research at URI, the second annual Plugged into URI Energy Research lecture series was offered during the fall 2016 semester. The lecture series afforded URI faculty, staff, industry professionals and students the opportunity to showcase their research and, where appropriate, call attendees to action with their newly-acquired research-based knowledge of the issues and priorities.


Each lecture in the series was developed through the careful examination of:

1) stakeholder input on topics of interest identified through last year’s lecture series;
2) an inventory of existing URI faculty and staff research projects related to energy; and
3) the desire of URI faculty and staff to share their research with the public.

Evaluation is a critical component to our work at URI Extension. All attendees were encouraged to evaluate the lectures they attended on a form, which can be found in Appendix 4. By completing the evaluation form, attendees assisted us in measuring the effectiveness of our program and identified how we can better educate in the future. Results of the evaluations are located on Page 4. The summary of responses below is based on the feedback we received.
Attendee Evaluation Summary

The second annual *Plugged into URI Energy Research* lecture series engaged approximately 200 attendees, including URI faculty, staff, students, industry professionals, and members of the general public as seen in Figure 4. Attendees responded favorably when asked to rate content delivery and presentation quality for the lectures given, and marked the interactive nature and organization of each talk within lectures the highest of all.

Overall, respondents found the content of all talks “excellent.” When asked if the information they received during the lectures would encourage them to make different decisions about their own behaviors related to energy, those who answered favorably said that they will shift towards more energy efficient behaviors and would pass their newly-acquired information on to members of their communities. A summary of the results can be seen in Figure 5:

- According to our evaluations, approximately 30% of the attendees stated they acquired new knowledge. For example, after the first lecture, *The Winds of Change: Ocean Energy Generation in RI*, a segment of student attendees were motivated to gain more knowledge in energy topics and explore a career path within the energy related field as a result of the information they heard.
- Overall, 20% of the attendees stated they would change their behavior in regards to energy efficiency. After the second lecture, *RI’s Push for Energy Efficiency: Lead by Example*, over 60% of the attendees stated they would start using Energy Star Portfolio Manager to track their energy use, reduce consumption and highlight opportunities for increasing energy efficiency.
- Overall, 17% of the attendees stated they increased awareness from the lecture series. For example, our final lecture, *Got Gas? Energy Generation in the Northeast*, yielded an overall increase in awareness and knowledge about the impacts of natural gas and oil extraction on local communities.

According to our evaluations, future topics of interest include solar, geothermal and hydroelectric power generation technologies and their applicability in Rhode Island.
Appendix 1: The Winds of Change – Ocean Energy Generation in RI

Publicity Announcement

Lecture 1:
The Winds of Change: Ocean Energy Generation in RI

Wednesday, November 2, 2016 | 6-8 p.m. | URI Pharmacy Bldg, Room 170

The State of Rhode Island’s Role in Advancing Offshore Wind
Chris Kearns ’08
Chief Program Development, RI Office of Energy Resources

Chris will share his perspective on and experience with the development of a state-level strategy for renewable energy deployment in RI.

Ocean Wind Energy Research for Offshore Wind Farm Siting
Dr. Malcolm Spaulding ’69, PhD ’72
Professor Emeritus, URI Dept. of Ocean Engineering

The designation of a renewable energy zone off RI’s coast has led the siting and installation of the first offshore wind turbines in the US. Dr. Spaulding will share insights from the comprehensive planning process that prepared RI for this development, the Ocean SAMP.

Deepwater Wind in RI: Operational Challenges and Triumphs
Captain John O’Keeffe ’16 MMA
Senior Marine Coordinator, Deepwater Wind

With America’s first offshore wind farm off the southern coast of Block Island installed, Captain O’Keeffe will provide a behind-the-scenes look at the logistical and operational challenges associated with constructing the project’s five turbines in deep water.

Media Coverage of Energy Technology in New England
Dr. Hollie Smith
Assistant Professor, URI Harrington School of Communication and Media

Dr. Smith will share the results of her research related to how the media frames renewable energy deployment efforts in New England, and discuss the possible effect media coverage plays in generating support or opposition to certain efforts.

Lecture 2:
RI's Push for Energy Efficiency: Leading By Example

Wednesday, November 9, 2016 | 6-8 p.m. | URI Pharmacy Bldg, Room 170

Lecture 3:
Got Gas? Energy Generation in the Northeast

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 | 6-8 p.m. | URI Pharmacy Bldg, Room 170

Questions? Please call 401-874-4096 for more information.
2nd Annual URI Plugged into Energy Research lecture series

November 2, 2016 | The Winds of Change: Ocean Energy Generation in RI

6:00 PM  Introduction
Dr. David Bidwell | Assistant Professor, URI Department of Marine Affairs

6:05 PM  The State of Rhode Island’s Role in Advancing Offshore Wind
Chris Kearns ‘08 BS | Chief Program Development, RI Office of Energy Resources
Chris will share his perspective on and experience with the development of a state-level strategy for renewable energy deployment in RI.

6:20 PM  Ocean Wind Energy Research and Site Selection Process for Offshore Wind Farms
Malcolm Spaulding | Professor Emeritus, URI Department of Ocean Engineering
The designation of a renewable energy zone off RI’s coast has led to the siting and installation of the first offshore wind turbines in the US. Dr. Spaulding will share insights from the comprehensive planning process that prepared RI for this development, the Ocean SAMP.

6:45 PM  Deepwater Wind in RI: Operational Challenges and Triumphs
Captain John O’Keeffe, | Senior Marine Coordinator, Deepwater Wind
With America’s first offshore wind farm off the southern coast of Block Island installed, Captain O’Keeffe will provide a behind-the-scenes look at the logistical and operational challenges associated with constructing the project’s five turbines in deep water.

7:10 PM  Media Coverage of Energy Technology Deployment in New England
Dr. Hollie Smith | Assistant Professor, URI Harrington School of Communications and Media
Dr. Smith will share the results of her research related to how the media frames renewable energy deployment efforts in New England, and discuss the possible effect media coverage plays in generating support or opposition to certain efforts.

7:35PM  Wrap-Up

7:45 PM  Adjourn / Reception*

*Please join the speakers after the lectures for an informal catered reception, sponsored by Deepwater Wind and the University of Rhode Island Office of the Provost.
Speaker Biographies

2nd Annual URI Plugged into Energy Research lecture series

November 2, 2016 | The Winds of Change: Ocean Energy Generation in RI

The State of Rhode Island’s Role in Advancing Offshore Wind
Chris Kearns, ’08 BS | Chief Program Development, RI Office of Energy Resources

Chris Kearns is a Chief of Program Development at the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources, where he is the Legislative Liaison and works on a variety of energy legislation during the state’s legislative session. Chris is also involved in the state’s implementation of renewable energy policies and programs, including state and federal offshore wind projects. Prior to joining the Office of Energy Resources, Chris worked for Governor Lincoln D. Chafee as the Governor’s Energy, Environment and Transportation Policy and Legislative Analyst. Chris also worked at Alteris Renewables, where he developed wind and solar projects and served as the company’s Government Affairs Manager for the New England region. He graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 2008 with a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics.

Ocean Wind Energy Research and Site Selection Process for Offshore Wind Farms
Dr. Malcolm Spaulding | Professor Emeritus, URI Department of Ocean Engineering

Dr. Malcolm L. Spaulding is Professor Emeritus of ocean engineering at URI, where he served for 40 years on the faculty and over a decade as department chair. He was the Founder and first Director of URI’s Center of Excellence in Undersea Technology from 2007-2012, and the founding President of the Northeast Regional Association for Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS) from 2008-2014. Dr. Spaulding founded Applied Science Associates (ASA) Inc. in 1979 and served in various leadership and technical roles through 2014. Dr. Spaulding specializes in numerical modeling of near shore and coastal processes of estuarine, coastal and continental shelf regions to include hydrodynamics, waves, sediment transport, and pollutant (oil) transport, fate, and effect. He served as Senior Advisor to the Ocean Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) to assist in siting of offshore wind facilities in RI coastal waters and played a similar role for land based wind energy development in the RI Renewable Energy Siting Partnership (RI RESP). He currently serves as a senior advisor for the RI Beach SAMP and is leading an effort called STORMTOOLS to make state of art modeling systems available to support professionals working around coastal and riverine flooding in the presence of sea level rise.

Deepwater Wind in RI: Operational Challenges and Triumphs
Captain John O’Keeffe | Senior Marine Coordinator, Deepwater Wind

John O’Keeffe currently serves as the senior marine coordinator for Deepwater Wind while assisting with logistics and operations as well as environmental planning and permitting. Prior to joining Deepwater Wind, John sailed for over 12 years as a full time mariner and worked globally for several organizations including Sea Education Association (S.E.A.) and the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences (BIOS). John currently holds a 1600 ton USCG Ocean Master’s license and earned his BS in Environmental Studies from Southern Vermont College and a graduate degree from URI’s Marine Affairs program.

Media Coverage of Energy Technology Deployment in New England
Dr. Hollie Smith | Assistant Professor, Harrington School of Communication and Media

As an Assistant Professor at the URI, Dr. Smith works primarily with the public relations program, teaching courses that will help our graduates enter the field as communication professionals. Prior to working in the Ocean State, she lived in Maine for four years while getting her PhD and working as a research fellow under a National Science Foundation grant at the University of Maine. Smith was born and raised in northern Utah and worked in Salt Lake City as a reporter and editor for various publishing outlets before pursuing my graduate work. Smith researches a variety of environmental communication issues, with a focus on collaborative work that yields practical results.
Appendix 2: RI’s Push for Energy Efficiency: Lead by Example
Publicity Announcement

Lecture 2:
RI's Push for Energy Efficiency: Leading By Example

Wednesday, November 9, 2016 | 6-8 p.m. | URI Pharmacy Bldg, Room 170

We're #1! Why RI Leads the Country on Energy Efficiency
Rachel Sholly '06, '09 MESM
Chief Program Development, RI Office of Energy Resources

Each year the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy scores states on a variety of categories relating to energy efficiency; in 2016, RI held the #4 spot by earning a perfect score for its utility policies and programs. Rachel Sholly will explain the importance of energy efficiency investment, how RI came to be leader in it, and what the state is doing to go even deeper.

Helping Rhode Island Cities and Towns Manage Energy Use
Carrie Gill, Ph.D. Candidate
URI Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

Reducing energy use in municipal buildings saves taxpayers money and lowers greenhouse gas emissions. Carrie will discuss the value of collecting and analyzing energy use data to inform strategic energy efficiency improvement decisions.

MPG for My House? RI's Efforts to Market Building Energy Performance
Becca Trietch ’15 MESM
Chief Program Development, RI Office of Energy Resources

Becca will discuss how an energy rating for homes could help the housing market to reduce consumer utility bills, and share information about what the RI OER is doing to support building labeling efforts locally and nationally.

Lecture 3:
Got Gas? Energy Generation in the Northeast

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 | 6-8 p.m. | URI Pharmacy Bldg, Room 170

Questions? Please call 401-874-4096 for more information.
Agenda

2nd Annual URI Plugged into Energy Research lecture series

November 9, 2016 | RI’s Push for Energy Efficiency: Leading by Example

6:00 PM  
**We’re #1! Why Rhode Island is Leading the Country on Energy Efficiency**  
Rachel Sholly ’06 BS, ’09 MESM | Chief Program Development, RI Office of Energy Resources

*Each year the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy scores states on a variety of categories relating to energy efficiency; in 2016, RI held the #4 spot by earning a perfect score for its utility policies and programs. Rachel Sholly will explain the importance of energy efficiency investment, how RI came to be leader in it, and what the state is doing to go even deeper.*

6:25 PM  
**Helping Rhode Island Cities and Towns Manage Energy Use through Data Tracking and Strategic Planning**  
Carrie Gill | Ph.D. candidate, URI Department of Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

*Reducing energy use in municipal buildings saves taxpayers money and lowers greenhouse gas emissions. Carrie will discuss the value of collecting and analyzing energy use data to inform strategic energy efficiency improvement decisions.*

6:50 PM  
**An MPG for My House? Rhode Island’s Efforts to Measure and Disclose Building Energy Performance**  
Becca Trietch, ’15 MESM | Chief Program Development, RI Office of Energy Resources

*Becca will discuss how an energy rating for homes could help the housing market to reduce consumer utility bills, and share information about what the RI OER is doing to support building labeling efforts locally and nationally.*

7:25 PM  
**Wrap-Up**

7:30 PM  
**Adjourn***

*Please join the speakers after the lectures for an informal catered reception sponsored by the University of Rhode Island Office of the Provost.*
Speaker Biographies

2nd Annual URI Plugged into Energy Research lecture series

November 9, 2016 | RI’s Push for Energy Efficiency: Leading by Example

We’re #1! Why Rhode Island is Leading the Country on Energy Efficiency
Rachel Sholly, ‘06 BS, ‘09 MESM, Chief Program Development, RI Office of Energy Resources

Rachel’s work at OER focuses on energy efficiency with an emphasis on the public sector. She led the Rhode Island Public Energy Partnership (RIPEP), which achieved 28% energy savings in 123 municipal, school and state facilities and addressed process and policy barriers to achieving deep energy savings in the public sector. She works closely with the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank and National Grid to administer the newly established Efficient Buildings Fund, which provides long-term financing for public sector efficiency projects, as well as commercial and residential PACE programs. She also staffs the Rhode Island Energy Efficiency and Resource Management Council and helps to oversee the state’s energy efficiency programs with a focus on the public and commercial sectors. Before coming to the OER, she spent five years at the URI Outreach Center managing its U.S. EPA Climate Showcase Communities initiative, the URI Energy Fellows Program and the URI Master Energy Program. She holds two degrees from the University of Rhode Island — a Masters of Environmental Science and Management with a focus on Policy and Planning and a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife and Conservation Biology.

Helping Rhode Island Cities and Towns Manage Energy Use through Data Tracking and Strategic Planning
Carrie Gill | Ph.D. Candidate, URI Department of Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

Carrie Gill is a Ph.D. Candidate in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics (expected 2017). In her research, she investigates household energy choices, explores how we can encourage energy efficiency, and is interested in market barriers to renewable energy. In 2011, Carrie was a Knauss Fellow at the U.S. Department of Energy, Wind and Water Power Program. Carrie earned her Master’s degrees in oceanography and business administration from URI (2010) and a B.S. in physics and math from Loyola University, Maryland (2007).

An MPG for My House? Rhode Island’s Efforts to Measure and Disclose Building Energy Performance
Becca Trietch, ‘15 MESM | Chief Program Development, RI Office of Energy Resources

Becca’s work at OER focuses on energy efficiency and the Governor’s Lead by Example initiative which aims to reduce State-owned facility energy use by 10% in the next three years. She also supports working groups on building energy labeling and zero-net energy buildings and leads an effort to develop Rhode Island’s first building stretch code in coordination with National Grid, the Rhode Island Code Commission, and other key stakeholders. She holds a Masters of Environmental Science and Management with a focus in Policy and Management from the University of Rhode Island and a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Yale University.
Appendix 3: Got Gas? Energy Generation in the Northeast

Publicity Announcement

Lecture 3:
Got Gas? Energy Generation in the Northeast

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 | 6-8 p.m. | URI Pharmacy Bldg, Room 170


Ron Gerwatowski | Energy Industry Advisor
Former Asst Secretary of Energy, Commonwealth of MA | Retired Utility Exec.

Ron will address the practical realities of the operation of the regional energy generation market, especially the challenge of weaning ourselves off natural gas while integrating renewable forms of energy into the resource mix.

The Local Impacts of the Oil and Gas Boom

Andy Boslett ‘16, PhD
Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Rochester

Andy will share his research about the local impacts of oil and gas extraction on people living in the regions of Appalachia, the Rocky Mountains and the southern United States.

Taking the Waste Out of Wastewater

Dr. Vinka Oyanedel-Craver
Associate Professor, URI Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

The new school of thought around wastewater treatment takes the "waste" out of wastewater to not only minimize impact on our natural resources, but also to harvest renewable forms of energy. Join Dr. Craver as she shares her latest research about this interesting topic.

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2nd Annual URI Plugged into Energy Research lecture series

November 16, 2016 | Got Gas? Energy Generation in the Northeast

6:00 PM      Introduction
             Dr. Kenneth Payne

             Ron Gerwatowski, Energy Industry Advisor
             Former Assistant Secretary of Energy, Commonwealth of MA and Retired Utility Executive

             Ron will address the practical realities of the operation of the regional energy generation market, especially the challenge of weaning ourselves off natural gas while integrating renewable forms of energy into the resource mix.

6:45 PM      The Local Impacts of the Oil and Gas Boom
             Andy Boslett, ‘16, PhD Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
             Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Rochester

             Andy will share his research about the local impacts of oil and gas extraction on people living in the regions of Appalachia, the Rocky Mountains and the southern United States.

7:00 PM      Taking the Waste Out of Wastewater
             Vinka Oyanedel-Craver, Associate Professor, URI Dept of Civil and Environmental Engineering

             The new school of thought around wastewater treatment takes the “waste” out of wastewater to not only minimize impact on our natural resources, but also to harvest renewable forms of energy. Join Dr. Craver as she shares her latest research about this interesting topic.

7:25 PM      Wrap-Up

7:30 PM      Adjourn*

*Please join the speakers after the lectures for an informal catered reception sponsored by the University of Rhode Island Office of the Provost
Speaker Biographies

2\textsuperscript{nd} Annual \textit{URI Plugged into Energy Research} lecture series

\textbf{November 16, 2016 | Got Gas? Energy Generation in the Northeast}

\textbf{Creating a Low Carbon Future without the Lights Going Out: New England’s Generation Challenge}
Ron Gerwatowski, Energy Industry Advisor

Ron Gerwatowski has over 29 years of experience in the energy industry, with expertise ranging from rate regulation, power markets, energy procurement, renewable energy, and energy policy, among a wide range of other subjects. In 2015 he served as Assistant Secretary for Energy in Massachusetts. After completing a year of public service, he returned to the private sector as an energy and regulatory policy consultant. He was formerly the Senior Vice President for Regulation and Pricing for National Grid, where he had responsibility for rates and regulation for the regulated subsidiaries in the United States, including those in New England and New York. He retired from National Grid in early 2014.

\textbf{The Economic, Environmental and Socio-Cultural Impacts of Fracking}
Andy Boslett, ’16, PhD Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Rochester

Andy Boslett is a recent graduate of the PhD program in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics at the University of Rhode Island. He is now a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Rochester and is working on a series of projects on the public health effects of unconventional oil and gas development in the northeastern United States.

\textbf{Taking the Waste Out of Wastewater}
Vinka Oyane-del-Craver | Associate Professor, URI Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Dr Vinka Oyane-del-Craver is an Associate professor at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Rhode Island. Her current research interests are in the areas of drinking water, wastewater and stormwater treatment. She had authored more than 30 peer review publications. She is the faculty advisor for the URI Chapter of Engineers for a Sustainable World where she is leading the efforts to implement the first water quality laboratory at the Mayan province of San Mateo Ixtatán at the Guatemalan highlands. She is the Chair of the Women-Water-Nexus task force at the ASCE Environmental and Water Resources Institute. Dr. Oyane-del-Craver has obtained over 2.5M research funding by several federal, state and non-profit agencies, including NSF, USAID and DOI. She has been involved in the development, implementation, and assessment of educational and outreach activities ranging from K–12 to graduate levels. Dr. Craver is also currently performing international educational and research activities with Jordan, Chile, Guatemala and South Africa. Her work has appeared in different media sources, more recently she is featured in the FOSS publication “Water and Climate” to be used nationwide as part of the 3rd grade science curriculum.
Appendix 4: Sample Attendee Evaluation

2016 PLUGGED INTO URI ENERGY RESEARCH LECTURE SERIES | PROGRAM EVALUATION

The URI Extension Outreach Center (EOC), housed within URI’s College of the Environment and Life Sciences, seeks to educate, inform, and empower citizens to solve the environmental, economic and social challenges of our state and world. We provide access to research-generated knowledge and expertise, in order to promote lifelong learning, community engagement and a desire to protect the natural environment. By completing this evaluation form you will assist us to measure the effectiveness of our programs and identify how we can better educate you in the future.

1. Who are you?
   - Student
   - Faculty/Staff
   - Industry Professional
   - General Public

2. How did you hear about the program?
   - Facebook
   - Twitter
   - Online calendar post
   - Outreach Center email
   - Other (please specify) __________________
   - Friend / Family member
   - URI news
   - Newspaper/Magazine
   - Other website post

3. Please rate your instructor on a scale of 1-5 (1=poor and 5=excellent).
   - Chris Kearns (The State of Rhode Island’s Role in Advancing Offshore Wind) ______
   - Dr. Malcolm Spaulding (Ocean Wind Energy Research for Offshore Wind Farm Siting) ______
   - Captain John O’Keeffe (Deepwater Wind in RI: Operational Challenges and Triumphs) ______
   - Dr. Hollie Smith (Media Coverage of Energy Technology in New England) ______

4. Did you learn anything new at this workshop that may influence future decisions related to energy in your life? If so, please explain.

________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________

5. What energy topics would you like to learn more about at future URI Extension workshops?

________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________

6. Do you have any other general comments or suggestions?

________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________

7. Do you have any additional questions for the speakers? If so, please write them below.

________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________