



Friday, August 26, 2016

ACEEE Summer Study at Asilomar, California

Efficiency Finance Is Heading For The Fast Lane



Jim Barrett,
Chief Economist, ACEEE

If you're at the Summer Study this year, you're probably among those who recognize that energy efficiency is one of the best and cheapest energy resources out there. One of the big questions at the Summer Study, and our other conferences, is how to create programs that drive investment into projects that take advantage of efficiency.

It's becoming increasingly clear that finance is an important key. For efficiency to reach the scale most of us think is possible, it's going to take a lot of investment from a wide range of sources. Efficiency finance can help that happen by turning cost-effective efficiency into financial assets that governments, banks, and other sources of capital can invest in.

Finance is already a large part of the energy-efficiency landscape. From the tens of billions hiding in plain sight in ENERGY

STAR® equipment leases, to new and innovative vehicles like Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) and "green banks," there is a large and growing number of efficiency finance vehicles all working to drive capital into energy efficiency investments. Yet, there are a number of outstanding and important questions such as how finance works with traditional efficiency programs, which markets it works best in, and how to design financial vehicles that work for investors.

The landscape is constantly changing. From our white paper, *Energy Efficiency Finance 101: Understanding the Marketplace*, which after five years is still one of our most downloaded papers, to this year's follow up, *Energy Efficiency Finance: A Market Reassessment*, we are constantly trying to stay on top of it all.

This summer we have worked on research reports and white papers examining various types of efficiency finance options, like PACE, on-bill repayment, and green banks. We've also gained access to detailed data on a loan program that Bank of America put together to finance efficiency upgrades in low- to

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Latham Scholars Make a Splash at Asilomar

Another batch of Latham Scholars has joined us at ACEEE Summer Study. Awarded every year since 2012, the Latham Scholarship provides financial support to a well-vetted group of up-and-coming young professionals. This year, Latham Scholarships were awarded to 14 individuals from many parts of the globe, including Ireland, Germany, China, and North America.

The Grapevine staff met for breakfast with the 2016 Scholars in the din and clank of Crocker Dining Hall. We heard in no uncertain terms how their Scholarships have already helped focus and accelerate their careers. But we also realized, as we looked around at the faces and heard their stories, how much our science, society, and industry will gain from this increasingly influential and inspired group.

"I'm working on the de-carbonization of California's buildings."

"I'm a graduate student in engineering, so I'm surrounded by nerds who talk all the time about energy. But it's cool being here and learning how other people think about it."

"I'm studying environmental marketing. I sell values."

"I'm from Europe, so it's been very interesting to learn more about the American approach. Everyone is more involved in the dialogue, and your conferences are much more laid back than in Europe. At ACEEE you can learn about actual jobs."

"At school, they try to keep commercial interests out. But here I can see industry in action. In academia, I read a lot of papers. Here I get to work directly with the real people behind the research."

Continued on page 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Study Evaluation Form

Before you leave, remember to complete an evaluation form for a chance to win an iPad Mini! The form can be found in your Summer Study packet, using the mobile app, or through Survey Monkey using this web address: www.surveymonkey.com/r/SummerStudy16.

Return the hard copy form to the office in Surf & Sand.

Your thoughts and suggestions are extremely important to us and will help in the planning of future Summer Studies.

Action Alert From The Energy Efficient Codes Coalition

Register your ICC Governmental Member Voting Representatives by Sept. 19! Act now to secure your jurisdiction's maximum voting rights to improve America's Model Energy Code.

Join with ACEEE, the Energy Efficient Codes Coalition (EECC), Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), National Association of State Energy Officials, and other energy efficiency advocates in this year's campaign to improve the 2018 IECC by a minimum of 5% and adopt a practice of regular and steady efficiency improvements every three years. Join us in this national energy policy initiative.

Learn more: <http://energyefficientcodes.com/power/>

Franklin Energy's AFTER PARTY:

"On Demand Savings: Introducing Demand Management in an Efficiency World"

Join Friday's Panel 8 at 8:30AM
in the Chapel

Come Surf the Ride Board!

Are you looking for a ride after the Summer Study?
Can you offer someone else a ride? Some of The Latham Scholars, for example, could use a lift to the SF Bay Area, and you'd love the company!

Please visit the Ride Board in **Surf and Sand**

*"When I've shipped on my last voyage
To the Isle of Kingdom Come,
Let me swell with the jolly Pirates
Singing o'riot and rum!"*

*Give me the touch of the breezes
And the thunder of the sea,
And a starlit night on the sand dune
and a Stuck-up to stroll with me!"*

Clarence W. Young
Pirate, 1928

Poet denizen of the Pirate's Den

2018 Summer Study Co-Chairs



Bing Liu is a group manager responsible for Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's Building Energy Regulatory Analysis Group. She is also a program manager overseeing the Building Energy Codes Program in support of the U.S. Department of Energy.

Paul Mathew is Staff Scientist at the Energy Technologies Area of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, where he is also Department Head of Whole Building Systems.

Fast Lane, continued

moderate-income communities. Our report on that program takes a closer look at how efficiency loans can become a viable financial vehicle, even in difficult-to-serve markets.

It's not clear how all of this will play out in the long run. Recent guidelines from the Federal Housing Authority may have profound impacts on how PACE programs work with existing mortgages, which could take PACE lending from a billion-dollar

market to the next level. Green banks, on the other hand, are just getting started in a handful of states and localities.

What *is* clear is that the emergence of financial tools that support energy efficiency is changing the efficiency landscape. We will do our best to determine what it means for you and everyone else who is working to bring energy efficiency to its fullest potential.

The Pen and the Stone are Mightier Than the Sword

The Tor House in Carmel is just one of many short trips from Asilomar that Grapevine staff have taken during the Summer Study. The house, built on a barren tor [type of rocky outcrop on which the house is situated] above Carmel Bay, is remarkable because its walls are built entirely of local stone and by hand, and—more remarkably—by the hands of the brooding Central Coast anti-war, ecologist poet Robinson Jeffers.

The house includes Hawk Tower, fashioned after an Irish castle, and built by the poet as a retreat for his wife and their twin boys. For their delight, it includes a secret narrow winding interior staircase.

Jeffers and his wife Una arrived in Carmel in 1918 to select a barren patch of wild beauty on which to build a British farmhouse of stone. It was empty of houses, trees, and neighbors at the time. Once the home was completed in 1919, the family retreated into solitude with the cliffs to themselves. When you arrive there today, you'll find a rarified wealthy neighborhood. The small house and gardens look like an Irish 15th century castle in the distance.

Here is Jeffers the poet, when he found the land in Carmel: "For the first time in my life I could see people living amid unspoiled scenery; unencumbered by the mass of poetically irrelevant details and complexities that make a civilization."

The house is low and designed like a British barn to withstand the exposure, built into the landscape out of materials onsite.

Until electricity was installed there in 1949, they used oil lamps for light.

During the building process, the poet apprenticed himself to a stone mason. He eventually took over construction, single handedly completing Hawk Tower over a period of four years, capturing a view of the Pacific Ocean from the top. He wrote poetry in the morning,

and stacked stone for the rest of each windy, foggy day—brooding about mankind, the terrible beauty of nature, and the sorry state of a civilization that seemed a sell-out and sham compared to the greatness of nature.

"Nature knows that people are a tide that swells and in time will ebb, and all their works dissolve ... As for us: We must uncenter our minds from ourselves. We must unhumanize our views a little and become confident as the rock and ocean that we are made from." -- Robinson Jeffers, 1887 - 1962.

Tours are offered by reservation on Fridays and Saturdays only (\$10 for adults, limited to 6 people). 26304 Ocean View Avenue, Carmel Point. <http://www.torhouse.org>



ACEEE Panel Leaders



Pie-rats invade the Stuck-Up Inn

Latham Scholars, continued

"I had high expectations for this event, and it's been as good as I hoped. I am getting a TON of exposure, and to a much broader set of people."

"My big interest is in producing de-carbonized gas (derived from non-fossil sources) so that—rather than switching everything entirely to electricity as some people suggest—we can keep the gas network intact for specialized uses. I'd also like to work on power-to-gas, but that technology will take a while."

No one among the crowd at Summer Study can doubt that there's a lot of work to be done as we build a transition to a

Top row (left to right): Dakota Pekerti, Swarthmore College; Kurt Borth, University of Alberta; Colm Gallagher, University College Cork; Brittany Carl, University of Colorado, Boulder; Anayo Ezeamama, Brandenburg University of Technology

Bottom row (left to right): Annie Secrest, California State University, Fullerton; Oluwatobi Adekanye, Carnegie Mellon University; Ellen Abramowitz, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Science; Michaela Neuberger, University of British Columbia; Darren Bingham, Utah State University; Imran Sheikh, University of California, Berkeley; Jin Guo, Renmin University of China; Emily Howell, University of Wisconsin



sustainable economy. But we can offer assurance, having spent time with this new crop of scholars, that some high-caliber young people are arriving to help with the task.

Learn more, or donate to the Latham Scholarship:
www.aceee.org/about/latham-scholarship

Beach Play and Dance at Asilomar



The Grapevine Staff burning the midnight oil. Tom White, Steve Greenberg, Chris "Montana" Dorsi, Leslie Jackson, (l-r).

the grapevine

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