

Strategic Energy Institute

Mission: The mission of the Strategic Energy Institute is to serve as a conduit for integrating, facilitating, and enabling Institute-wide programs in energy research and development. Engaging the best and brightest from industry, government, and academia, SEI will create innovative solutions to current and future energy challenges.

Research Areas: Working with experts across the Georgia Tech community, the Strategic Energy Institute approaches the challenge to develop innovative energy technologies for a self-sustaining energy economy through collaborative interactions in the following research areas: Fuels and Chemical Processing, Energy Generation and Conservation, Energy Utilization, Delivery and Storage, and Policy.

Facilities & Resources

Space: The Strategic Energy Institute is located in the North Avenue Research Area. The administrative offices are housed within the Carbon Neutral Energy Solutions, or CNES, Laboratory. This space includes 9 offices, 40 workstations and 2 conference rooms that are for use by faculty, graduate level and post-doc students conducting research.

Facilities: The Strategic Energy Institute occupies the CNES Lab, a 42,000 square foot building that supports SEI's mission of developing technologies that will help advance the human condition. The platinum LEED-certified facility sets a new standard for sustainable design for buildings by optimizing passive energy technologies, reducing electricity loads, and maximizing the use of renewable energy.

Equipment: The Strategic Energy Institute is responsible for managing elements associated with the daily operations of the CNES Lab which includes equipment necessary to conduct ongoing research: a 30-ft. flexible high-bay, 14-ft. flexible mid-bay, multiple isolation labs and a wet lab.

Organizational Structure

The organizational structure of the Strategic Energy Institute is comprised of Senior Leadership (Executive Director, Tim Lieuwen; Senior Research Associate & Director of Research and Business Operations, Mary Hallisey Hunt; Senior Research Engineer & Fellow, Richard Simmons; and Director of Business & Research Development, Suzy Briggs), an administrative staff (Financial Manager, Administrative Manager, Facilities Manager, Communications Officer and Research Project Coordinator) and four Associate Directors - professors – who represent affiliated academic disciplines at Georgia Tech instrumental to the ongoing research being conducted by the Strategic Energy Institute.

The Strategic Energy Institute's organizational structure also has a Faculty Council, an External Advisory Board and Fellows who bring together internal and external resources to assist in achieving the mission of creating connections and building relationships that foster ongoing energy research. Internally, the twelve members of the Faculty Council represent all six college and major research units at Georgia Tech. Members of the External Advisory Board represent a cross-section of leading, national renowned corporate and nonprofit entities such as Exxon Mobile, General Electric, Southern Company, Siemens, Accenture, the Center for Global Enterprise and the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

The Strategic Energy Institute also maintains relationships with an extensive list of affiliated faculty who conduct energy and/or energy-related research.

Impact to Georgia Tech

Other Accomplishments

In September 2016, Georgia Tech announced the formation of an Energy Policy and Innovation Center (EPICenter) whose purpose will be to advance energy policy and technology innovation in the Southeast. This center will be based out of Georgia Tech's Strategic Energy Institute (SEI) and will be distinctively regional, yet nationally relevant. The Center will explore the intersection of policy and technology and draw upon the extensive expertise in the Southeast, including academia, utilities, industry, key national labs, and other public and private stakeholders.