

Memorandum

Date: August 16, 2006
To: CUNY Faculty
From: Howard Apsan ^(HNA)
Subject: **Call for Abstracts**

Energy and Environmental Sustainability: Science, Engineering, and Public Policy

A major CUNY-wide conference will be held at The Graduate Center on December 8, 2006 to discuss the critical issues of energy and environmental sustainability. This conference recognizes CUNY's emerging role as a leader in addressing these issues. Particular emphasis will be placed on these issues as they affect the nation, New York State, and New York City, but all of these impacts will be discussed within the context of global concerns. These front page issues include: the impacts of rapidly rising global energy use and fossil fuel demand; the connection between fossil fuel-based energy production and potentially devastating climate change; and the social, political and economic effects of rapid urbanization and its influence on energy use.

The conference will address two major themes: 1) the cutting-edge scientific and engineering innovations that will lead to breakthroughs in alternative energy sources, energy efficiency, and increasing energy supply; and 2) the policy questions to be defined and resolved to bring these innovations forward to the wider society.

This "Call for Abstracts" invites CUNY faculty from all disciplines to submit abstracts of their current research/scholarship responsive to the themes of this conference. Faculty are particularly encouraged to submit abstracts that include students and/or staff as co-authors. Topics might include, but are not limited to, the following subjects:

- 1) Emerging technologies in energy production, storage, and distribution;
- 2) The hydrogen economy;
- 3) Solar energy conversion;

- 4) Hydrocarbon production via alternative technologies;
- 5) Gas hydrates;
- 6) Nuclear energy;
- 7) Global climate change and other environmental impacts of energy use;
- 8) Environmental justice and other social dimensions of energy use;
- 9) Energy economics and the design of effective incentives;
- 10) Energy efficient design and engineering;
- 11) Impacts on transportation;
- 12) Impacts on real estate and construction;
- 13) Domestic politics and public awareness;
- 14) Sustainable practices and energy efficiency opportunities at CUNY; and
- 15) Training needs, educational development, and technology transfer.

Please e-mail abstracts to Karen Belin in the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, (karen.belin@mail.cuny.edu) by October 1, 2006. The abstract should be no more than 250 words and should include three keywords. Please indicate the CUNY affiliation and status (e.g., faculty, staff, graduate student) of each author and indicate the lead author(s) with an asterisk. An individual faculty member may submit several abstracts related to conference themes. Abstracts with non-CUNY scholars will be accepted, but the CUNY affiliate should be the lead author. Abstracts will be reviewed by members of the conference planning committee (see list of members below) and will be accepted for oral presentation or for presentation as a poster. Criteria for acceptance will be the strength of the abstract as reflected in the review comments and compatibility with the overall themes of the conference.

This conference is an opportunity for CUNY researchers/scholars to present their work on a broad range of topics related to energy and environmental sustainability science and public policy in a major forum that may also include a limited number of presenters from outside of CUNY. All abstracts, as well as the text of oral presentations, will be included in a volume of Conference Proceedings.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any additional questions.

Conference Planning Committee:

Howard Apsan, CUNY Environmental Health and Safety
Harry Gafney, Queens College
Todd Goldman, City College
Steven G. Greenbaum, Hunter College
Mumtaz Kassir, City College
Robert Paaswell, City College
Michael Seliger, Bronx Community College
William Solecki, Hunter College