The Imperial County in California is one of the most renewable-energy rich locations in the United States and the world. The county is the second largest geothermal energy producing county in the nation, offers over 350 days of sunshine annually, operates several hydroelectric plants, has a large emerging wind turbines fields, and possesses a year-round agricultural growing season with significant supply of water making it a prime location for biofuel production.

The recent legislative and research shift to producing clean energy, driven mainly by climate change, has made the energy sector of this region one of the fastest growing in the world.

Parallel with these potentials for economic transformation, the population of the region is also expected to grow by 60% during the coming decade, making it one of the fastest growing areas in the nation.

Challenges: As the region faces such inevitable economic transformation, there are a number of factors that need to be addressed for the growth to bear fruit. One such factor, for example, is the creation and retention of trained workforce. Whereas nationally some 30% of adult Americans hold a bachelor’s degree or higher, the figure in Imperial County is less than 12%.

Technical issues such as transmission lines, power quality, and yet untapped resources also need full research and legislative attention.

Purpose: The workshop will discuss opportunities and challenges associated with these potentials in a comprehensive manner. It will also serve as an opportunity to introduce SDSU’s Center for Sustainable Energy to the community.

Invited: Chukuka Enwemeka, SDSU Provost, SDSU IV Campus and main campus deans, UABC delegates, Rosa Dominguez, IID Recruitment and Selection Officer, Victor Jaime, IVC President, ...

Please RSVP with Francisco Peraza at fperaza@mail.sdsu.edu