RE-ENERGYSE: A DOE–NSF Partnership in Research and Education on Renewable Energy and a Sustainable Environment

RE-ENERGYSE (REgaining our ENERGY Science and Engineering Edge) is a developing partnership between the Department of Energy (DOE) and NSF that will inspire more young people to pursue careers in renewable energy and related environmental areas. Its goals are to address what President Obama has identified as the "generational challenge" of clean energy and to secure U.S. leadership in sustainable energy by building the clean energy workforce of the future. This partnership will build on: the scientific and engineering expertise of both agencies in the energy field, NSF's successful track record of integrating research with education using proven programs developed over the past two decades, and NSF's experience in linking research on energy, technology, and the environment with social, behavioral and economic research.

NSF and DOE will explore additional planning workshops that focus on identifying educational opportunities for sparking interest in careers related to sustainable energy and the environment, and identifying future workforce needs in these areas. NSF and DOE also have a continuing partnership in public awareness and outreach activities that support the goals of RE-ENERGYSE.

In FY 2011, NSF will invest roughly $19.0 million in RE-ENERGYSE through five existing research and education programs that help develop the future STEM workforce. These programs provide fellowships, traineeships, and research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students, as well as build collaboration between academia and industry. NSF will contribute at least 5 percent of its support for the following programs towards specific, energy-related awards:

- Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF);
- Graduate STEM Fellows in K–12 Education (GK–12);
- Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT);
- Support for community colleges through Advanced Technological Education (ATE); and
- Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) sites.

Through these investments, the Nation will prepare a generation of young people to meet the clean energy challenge.