

## **First Annual Great Plains Center of Excellence Conference and Networking Event**

### **“Connecting the Dots: Creating a Clean Energy Workforce”**

#### **Day One (September 9)**

8:00-8:30	Continental Breakfast
8:30-8:55	Welcome and Opening Comments
9:00-9:50	Session One with Panel Discussion
10:00-10:50	Session Two with Panel Discussion
11:00-12:50	Networking Lunch to Include Keynote Speaker
1:00-1:50	Session Three with Panel Discussion
2:00-2:50	Session Four with Panel Discussion
2:50-3:30	Afternoon Break and Student Poster Viewing
3:30-4:30	Student Presentations
4:30-5:30	Closing Remarks

#### **Day Two (September 10)**

8:00-8:30	Continental Breakfast
8:30-9:30	Session Five with Panel Discussion
9:30-10:30	Panel Discussion: Professional Development for Students
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-11:45	Student Networking with Industry Partners & Poster Judging
11:45-12:15	Poster Awards
12:15-1:00	Closing Remarks

#### **Topics to Be Covered**

1. Current Landscape of the Clean Energy Sector
  - a. Overview of clean energy industry: trends, challenges, and opportunities
  - b. Key players in the clean energy market
2. Emerging Technologies, Strategies, and Skill Requirements
  - a. New Integrated Tools & Technology for energy efficiency and skills required to implement these strategies
  - b. New technologies in clean energy and the skills they require.
3. Workforce Development Strategies
  - a. Interactive Training programs for teaching, training, and workforce development
  - b. Training programs for emerging technologies like solar, wind, and battery storage.
  - c. Partnerships between industry and educational institutions
  - d. Apprenticeships and on-the job training programs
  - e. Train the trainer program
4. Role of Higher Education and Vocational Training
  - a. Integrating clean energy curriculum in universities and colleges
  - b. Vocational training programs for the clean energy sector
  - c. Collaboration with industry for curriculum development