PROGRAM

MCISCE INTERCONNECT CONFERENCE

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

8:45	**Welcome for internal portion**
9:00	**3MT-style presentations by trainees**
10:00	**Break**
10:30	**Interactive workshops**
12:00	**Lunch**
13:15	**Welcome for external portion: What is McISCE and why are we here?**
13:30	**Keynote 1 : Kelsey Kane-Ritsch** from Rewiring America
14:15	**Break**
14:30	**Keynote 2: Dr. Christina Hoicka** from University of Victoria
15:15	**Break**
15:45	**Panel discussion: Community-led from end-to-end**
17:00	**5à7 and Poster presentations**
18:00	**Announcement of lab poster winners!**

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Kelsey Kane-Ritsch
Director of Community Implementation, Rewiring America

Watt's next: expanding access to electrification through community programs

Bio: Rewiring America, an electrification nonprofit, focused on electrifying our homes, businesses, and communities with the goal of helping Americans save money, improve health, and tackle nationwide emissions goals.

There, Kane-Ritsch works closely with community partners to design and implement residential electrification programs, particularly in underserved communities.

Prior to joining Rewiring America, Kane-Ritsch worked on a range of multidisciplinary efforts at the Natural Resources Defense Council and D&R Greenway Land Trust, including equitable building decarbonization, ocean planning and fisheries management, and access to nature.

She holds a BA from Princeton University in Anthropology and Environmental Studies and an MS from Columbia University in Sustainability Management.

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Dr. Christina Hoicka
Canada Research Chair in Urban Planning for Climate Change ,

Associate Professor, Geography, Civil Engineering, University of Victora,

Visiting Professor, Chemical Engineering, McGill University,

Director of the Re-Imagining Social Energy Transitions (ReSET) CoLaboratory.

Technology or community led?: Exploring approaches to justice-oriented energy transitions research

Bio: Dr. Christina Hoicka studies the diffusion of low-carbon innovations and renewable energy and their associated socio-economic impacts.

She also studies the involvement of traditionally excluded communities in justice-oriented advocacy for low-carbon energy transitions and societal transformation.

She is co-founder and founding Chair of Women & Inclusivity in Sustainable Energy Research (WISER) Network.

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PANEL

COMMUNITY-LED FROM END-TO-END

Lowering global greenhouse gas emissions hinges on electrification, according to most experts.

Is it the best way forward? Can we do it? How do we pursue equity, justice, and community leadership across the whole spectrum of electrification, and across scales?

These and other questions will be the focus of this panel, building on insights from the keynotes.

Moderator: Dr. Darin Barney

Professor and Grierson Chair in Communication Studies, and Department Chair,

Art History and Communications at McGill University

Bio: Darin Barney is a member of the Petrocultures Research Group, the After Oil collective, the McGill Centre for Innovation in Storage and Conversion of Energy, Future Energy Systems at the University of Alberta and an associate member of the Bieler School of Environment.

He convenes the Grierson Research Group, with research interests in materialist approaches to media and communication; infrastructure; energy; environment; and insurgent political forms.

His current work includes projects on emerging energy formats, resource infrastructures, and the energy transition.

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PANEL

COMMUNITY-LED FROM END-TO-END

Panelist: Dr. Eric McCalla
Associate Professor,
Chemistry, McGill University

Bio: His research is focused on the design of new functional materials through a combination of high-throughput synthesis along with more traditional solid-state chemistry approaches.

Of immediate interest are novel materials for a wide variety of battery technologies including electrodes materials for Li- and Na-ion batteries, as well as solid electrolytes for all-solid-batteries.

He is collaborating with Hydro-Quebec, Samsung, and Umicore to name a few.

Joining the panelists will be our keynote speakers, Dr. Christina Hoicka and Kelsey Kane-Ritsch.

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WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOPS - PARALLEL SESSIONS

****ALL SESSIONS FROM 10:30-12:00 PM!****

Workshop A: How to navigate a career
Two experienced researchers recount their careers in and near academia, and you can start charting your own course with facilitation by an individual development expert at McGill.

With:
Lorna MacEachern, Associate Director of Student Engagement at Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
Dr. Sidney Omelon, Associate Professor, Materials Engineering
Dr. Gilles Bourque, Adjunct Professor, Mechanical Engineering

Workshop B: Back to battery basics and research motivations
Ever wondered how batteries work, and where the edge of research about them lies? This session will give you a tour of the science, working principles, and pressing questions.

With:
Dr. Jinhyuk Lee, Assistant Professor, Materials Engineering

Workshop C: From simulation to experiment to startup
It's easy to get lost in simulations. It's just as easy to get lost in experiments. It's even harder to spin-off a startup. We're glad to have an example of someone on that path in-house to tell us about the process from academia research to impact the industry.

With
Dr. Yee Wei Foong, of VoltLeaf Energy and McGill's Materials Engineering department.