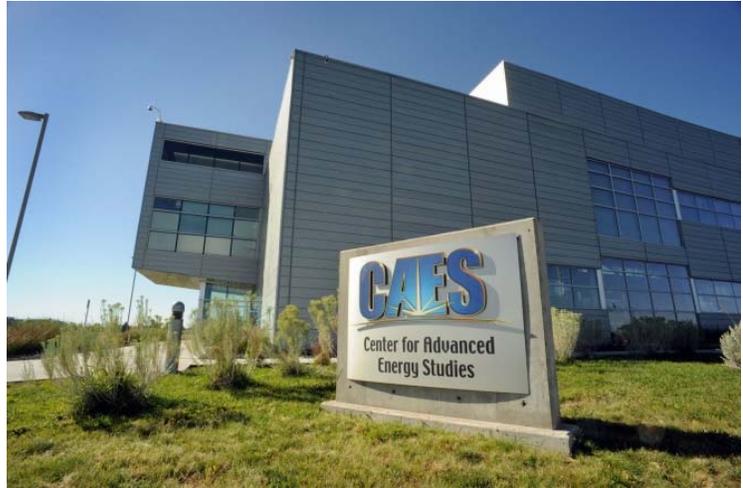


## Center for Advanced Energy Studies Department of Energy Microlab

The Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES)<sup>1</sup> is leveraging investments by the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) and the states of Idaho and Wyoming, via four universities, to promote energy security and drive regional economic growth. Significant capacity for innovation is housed in the nation's universities and national laboratories, and effectively tapping this potential is a key to increased technology-based economic growth. Although the CAES universities and INL have offices and programs promoting technology transfer, authorization and funding of a Microlab<sup>2</sup> program would accelerate their impacts on regional economic development.



A Microlab program open to all U.S. Department of Energy national laboratories would encourage and fund labs to team with their local universities to create small-scale “outside-the-fence” Microlabs that facilitate technology transfer and regional economic development. Microlabs would integrate investments and capabilities of a national laboratory with its university partners to make available to regional industries and business of all sizes:

- Simple and reasonably priced access to university and national laboratory capabilities and infrastructure,
- Accelerated and simplified transfer of technology to the private sector and
- Educational programs (especially in the STEM disciplines) that address the technical workforce needs of the region.

A CAES Microlab would bring together and make available the combined capabilities of the universities and INL through the state of Idaho owned and operated “outside-the-fence” CAES research facility located adjacent to the INL Idaho Falls campus, as well as at university campus locations throughout Idaho and Wyoming.

In addition, the CAES Microlab would build upon and leverage ongoing investments in people and infrastructure by Idaho, Wyoming and INL to promote technology-based economic development within the region.

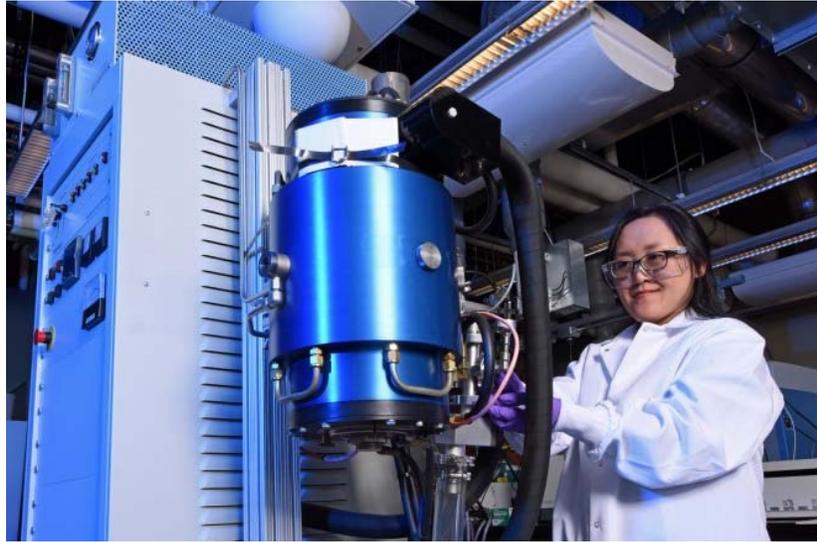
---

<sup>1</sup> The Center for Advanced Energy Studies is a formal organized consortium between Boise State University, Idaho State University, University of Idaho, University of Wyoming and the Idaho National Laboratory, which is managed by the private entity Battelle Energy Alliance. Through its collaborative structure, CAES combines the efforts of these institutions to provide impactful research and educational support on both technical and policy issues.

<sup>2</sup> Andes S., M. Muro, and M. Stepp, “Going Local: Connecting the National Labs to their Regions for Innovation and Growth” (Washington: Brookings Institution, 2014).

**CAES in 2015**

Faculty and staff affiliated with CAES conducted research valued at \$17 million in Fiscal Year 2015. CAES activities included collaboration with 84 companies, and support for 249 students working in areas involving electrical generation technologies, energy policy, material science and engineering, nuclear science, human factors and statistics. In addition, 87 students from CAES universities had internship experiences at the INL in areas including mechanical engineering, nuclear engineering, materials science, geotechnology and computer science.



In order to better advance regional industry competitiveness, CAES formed an eight-person Industry Advisory Board to guide CAES engagement with industry partners and enable technology commercialization<sup>3</sup>.

In summary, CAES is becoming a nation-leading center for innovation that leverages the assets of universities and INL to advance energy security and economic prosperity by accelerating the pace of basic research and coupling those outcomes to the private sector for deployment. Our mission embraces, and defines, a DOE Microlab.

**Request:** Authorize and appropriate \$50 million for the creation of a university-national laboratory regional Microlab program open to participation by all DOE national laboratories.

**Account:** Energy and Water Appropriation, U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

---

<sup>3</sup> Center for Advanced Energy Studies 2015 Annual Report (Idaho Falls: CAES, 2015)

For more information, please contact:

John K. "Jack" McIver, Vice President for Research and Economic Development  
[vpresearch@uidaho.edu](mailto:vpresearch@uidaho.edu) | 208.885.6689 | [www.uidaho.edu/research/federal-relations](http://www.uidaho.edu/research/federal-relations)