WANGER INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY RESEARCH (WISER)

Strategic Plan Summary
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1. Grow the student body
   - Support interdisciplinary educational programs and student retention by developing and supporting undergraduate research in energy and sustainability related areas.
   - Develop co-terminal degrees and other distinctive educational programs in energy and sustainability related areas in partnership with the academic units.
   - Continue to provide advising and financial support for large undergraduate projects in sustainable energy including the Formula Hybrid Project, which involves more than 20 students each year.

2. Promote Innovative Thinking and Excellence Throughout the University
   - To increase research volume, WISER will continue to organize interdisciplinary research teams on energy and sustainability areas of national interest and prepare large educational and research grants and research center proposals.
   - WISER will continue its Interdisciplinary Seed Funding Grants (ISFG) program to cultivate broad-based university interdisciplinary research initiatives that demonstrate significant potential to attract major funding.

3. Elevate IIT’s visibility and reputation
   Increase WISER participation in outreach activities including organizing more local, national, and international workshops and conferences, and bring top researchers and educators to IIT in the areas of energy and sustainability for visits and seminars.
   - Develop research focus and excellence in the national priority areas related to sustainable energy, and increase WISER research partnership with other universities, national laboratories, and industry.
   - Support academic units to hire top new faculty in the areas of energy and sustainability.

4. Enhance IIT’s facilities, infrastructure, and environments
   Continue WISER action plan to make the IIT campus one of the most sustainable campuses in the nation by enhancing our programs to develop more renewable energy and to enhance micro grid, composting, recycling, and urban farming programs in collaboration with student organizations and the facilities group at IIT.

5. Develop resources to enable progress
   - Increase WISER activities in developing large grant proposals and, in turn, increase our research funding in energy and sustainability related areas.
   - Work closely with the Institutional Advancement team to engage the WISER Advisory Board in increasing philanthropy in the areas of energy and sustainability.

6. Strengthen all IIT’s Colleges/Schools
   Partner with academic units to elevate interdisciplinary education and research in energy and sustainability related areas.