



Roundtable on Science and Technology for Sustainability

The National Academy of Sciences

asulightworks.com

Bill Brandt
ASU LightWorks
December 5, 2013

**What happens
if we don't solve
global
sustainability
problems?**



ASU quick facts



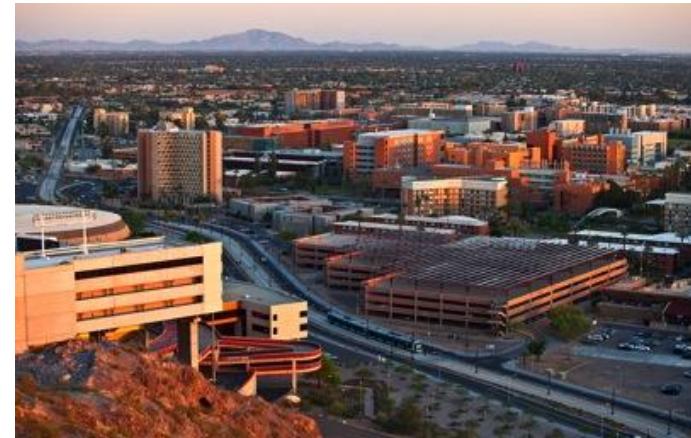
ASU is the largest university in the U.S. under a single administration with over 72,000 students

Conducted \$386M in externally sponsored research in FY12

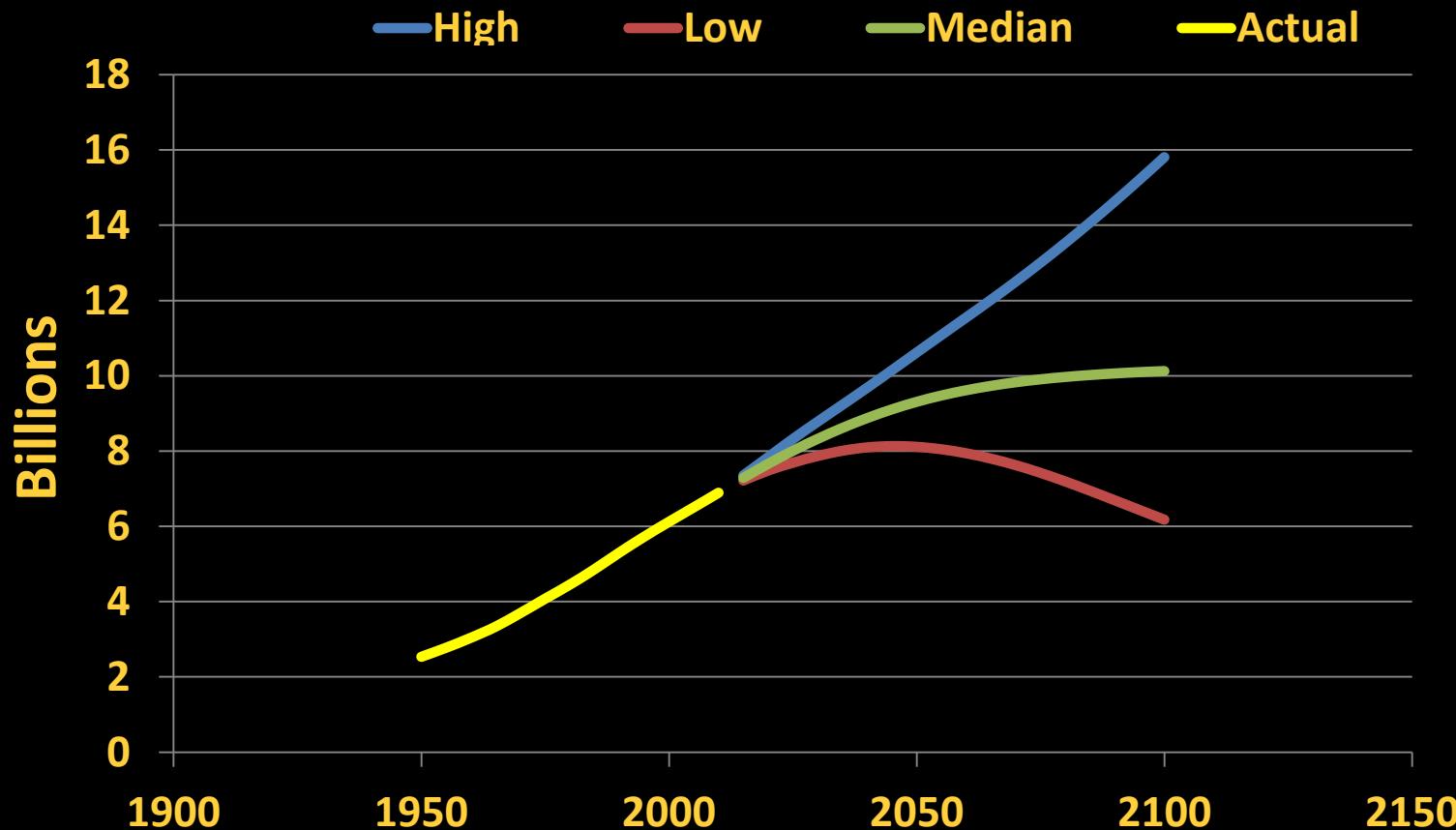
NSF ranks ASU in top-20 research universities w/o a medical school

Strong focus on “use-inspired” research

Global Institute of Sustainability



World Population



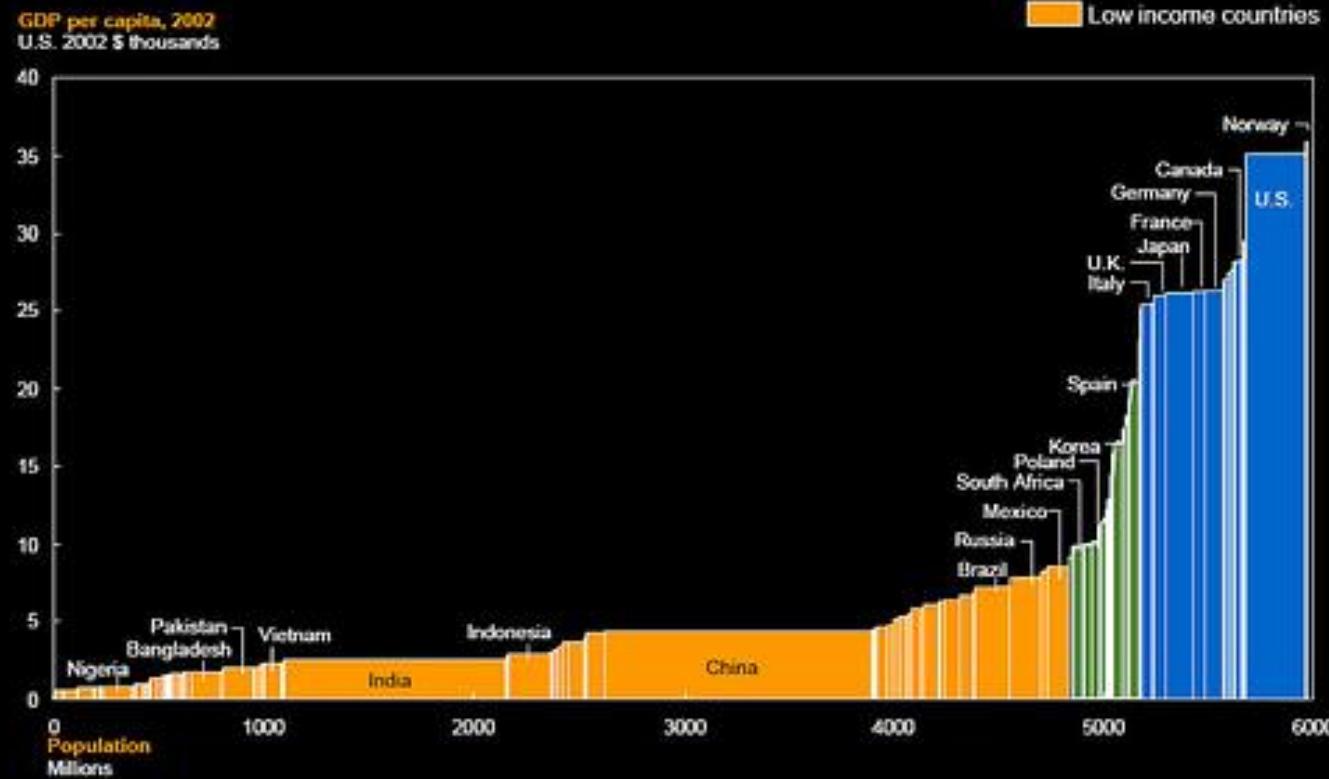
GDP per Capita



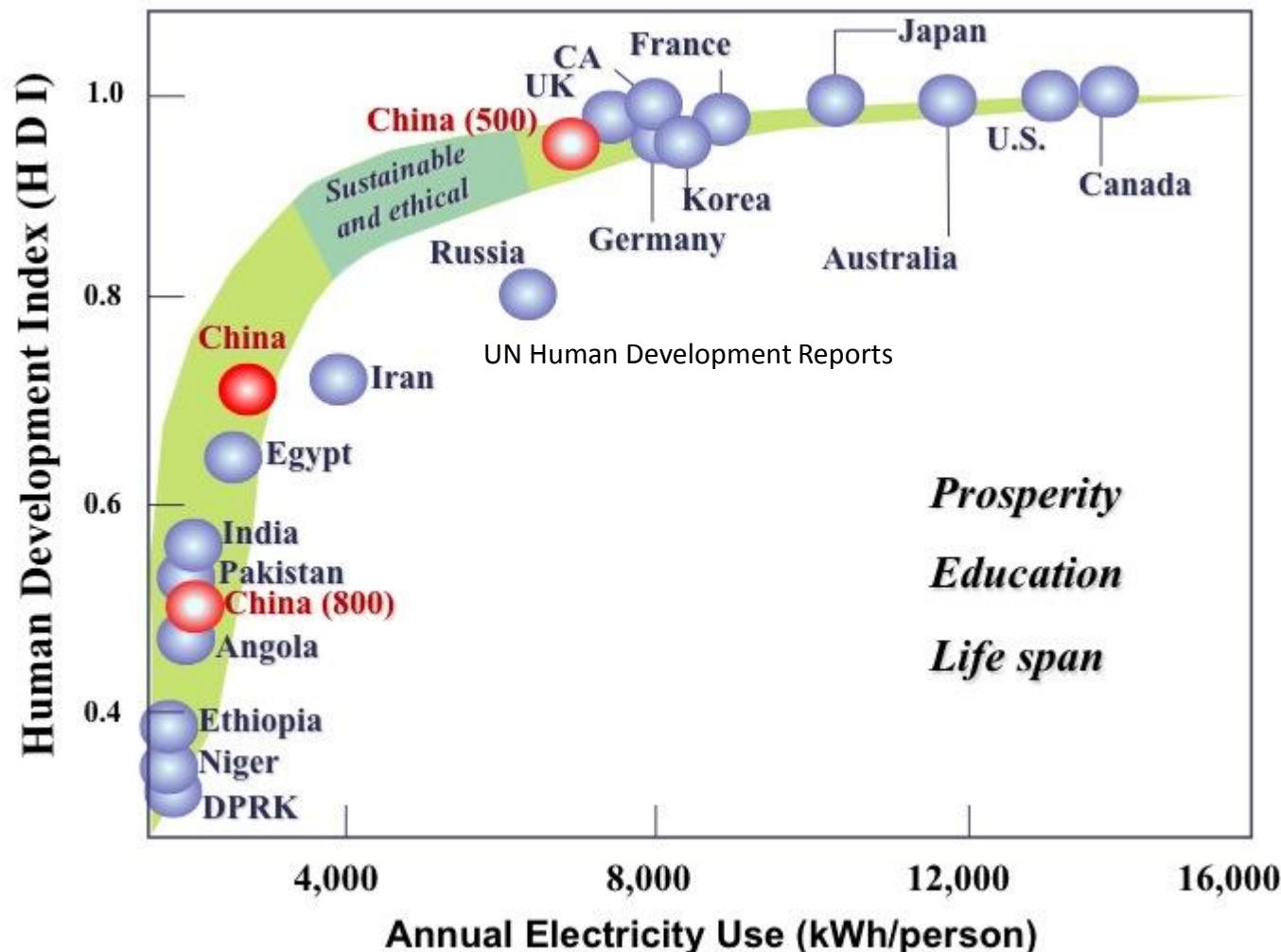
WORLD DISTRIBUTION OF PER CAPITA GDP BY COUNTRY

U.S. Dollars, at PPP

High income countries
Middle income countries
Low income countries

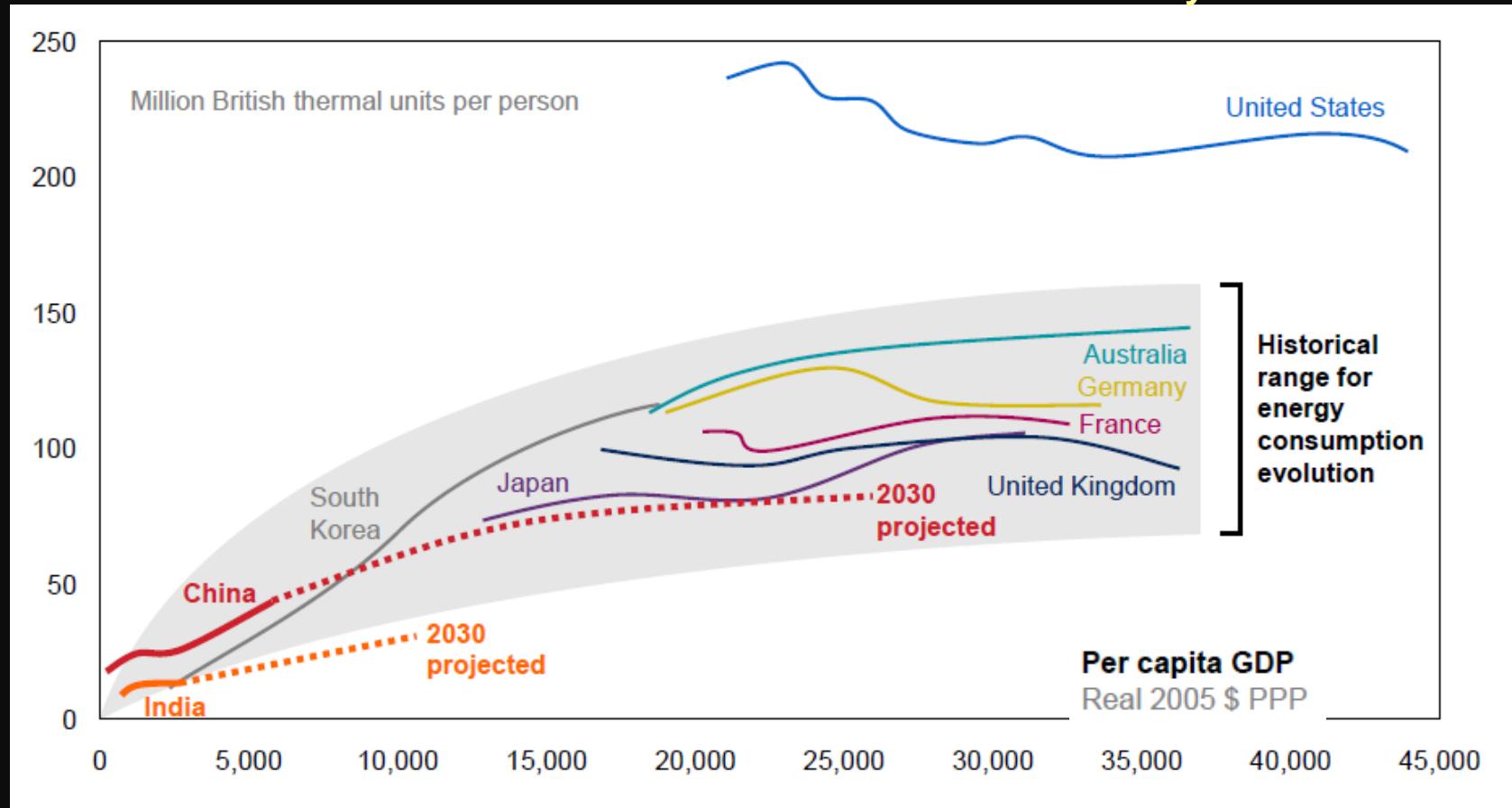


Source: McKinsey & Co.



Energy and GDP

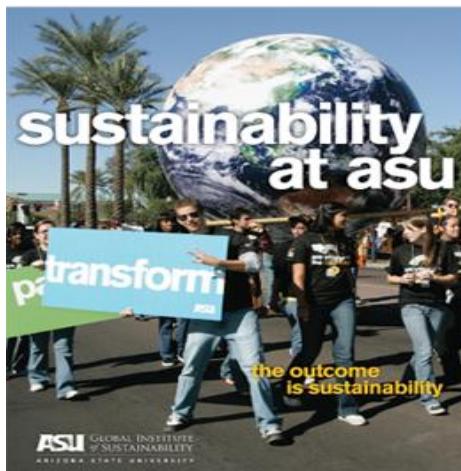
McKinsey Global Institute

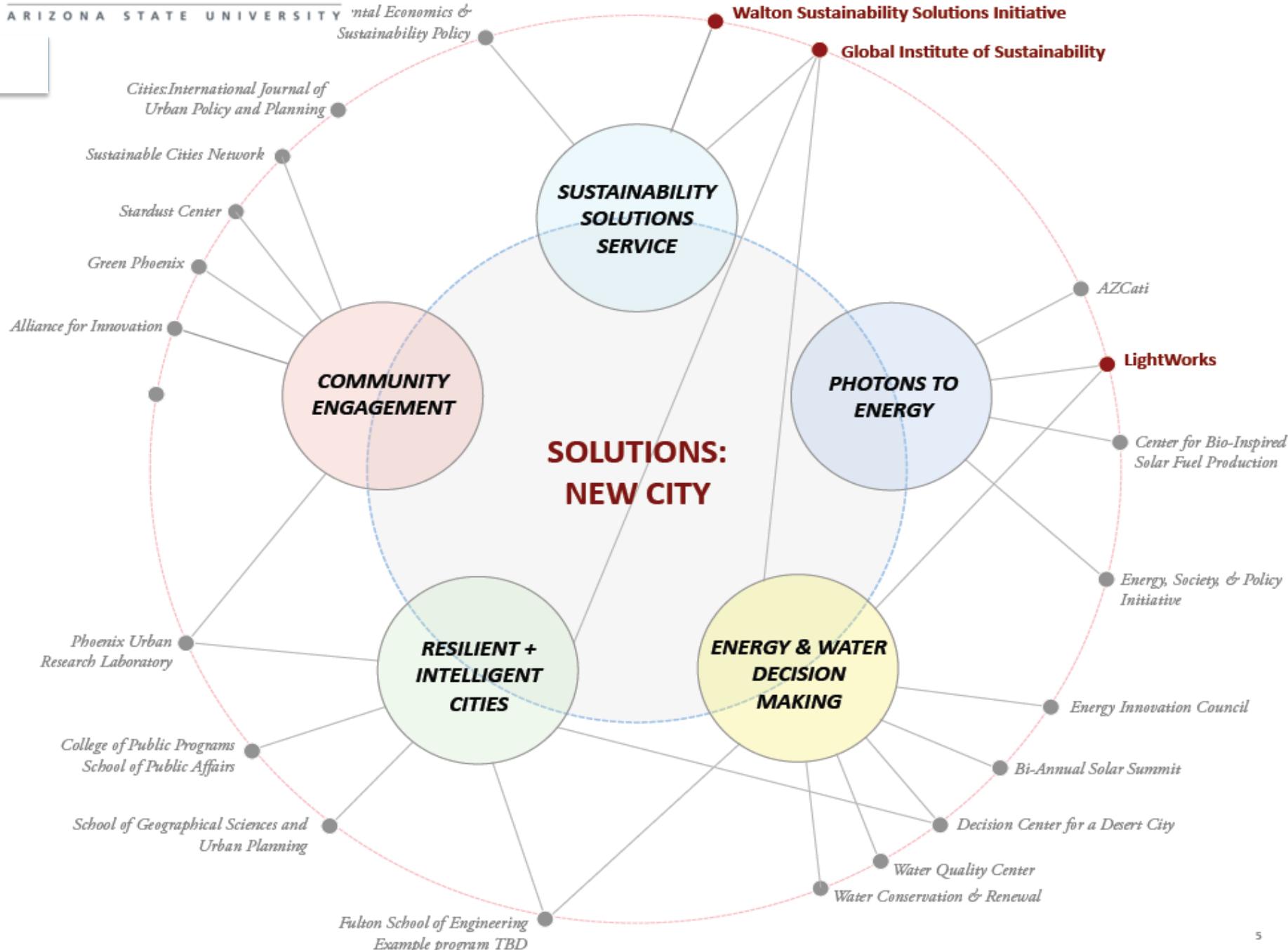




“The world’s energy system is at a crossroads. Current global trends in energy supply and consumption are patently unsustainable -- environmentally, economically or socially.”

IEA World Energy Outlook 2008





Next-Generation Sustainability Projects



**Seed, nurture, and grow
the sustainability science of
tomorrow, using innovative
approaches to problem-solving**



The world is faced with
“wicked problems”—problems
that resist solution and are
“complex all the way down”

Traditional academic research alone may not
be enough to address wicked problems

At the core: solutions



ASU LightWorks Vision



ASU will **inspire and develop** ways to revolutionize the use of energy and the large scale conversion of sunlight, carbon dioxide and water into useful products. We will support **creation of new industries** not just to power the world, but to empower it; not just to create wealth for a few, but to **enrich people's** lives everywhere; not just to light an energy revolution, but to enlighten communities across the globe; not just to achieve **energy security** but to secure **energy justice**.

Communicating ?



It's time to move from

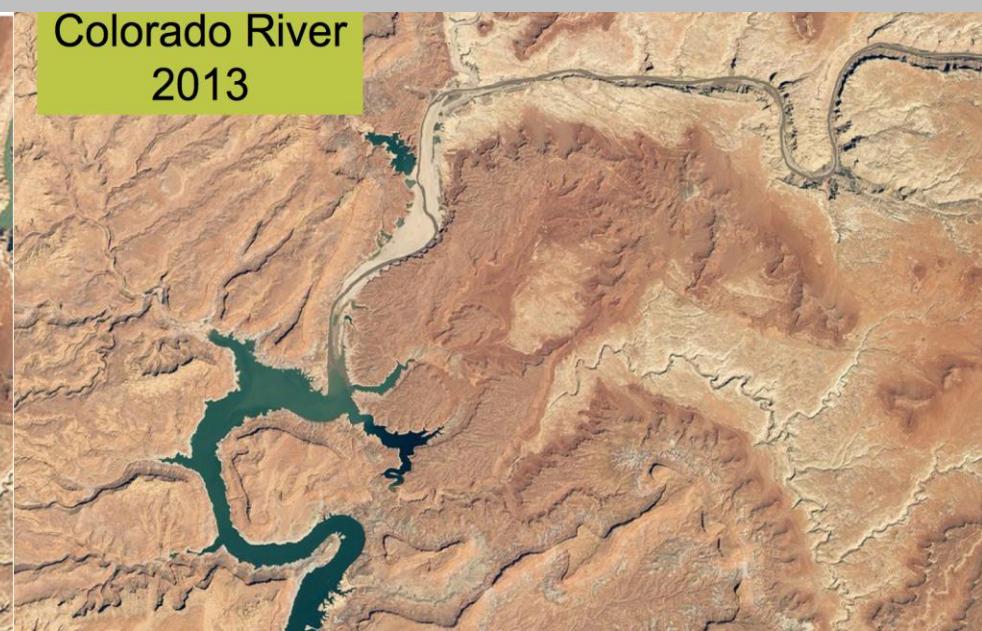
science to action

Given that our climate continually changes, we need to stimulate physical, policy, and behavioral transformation

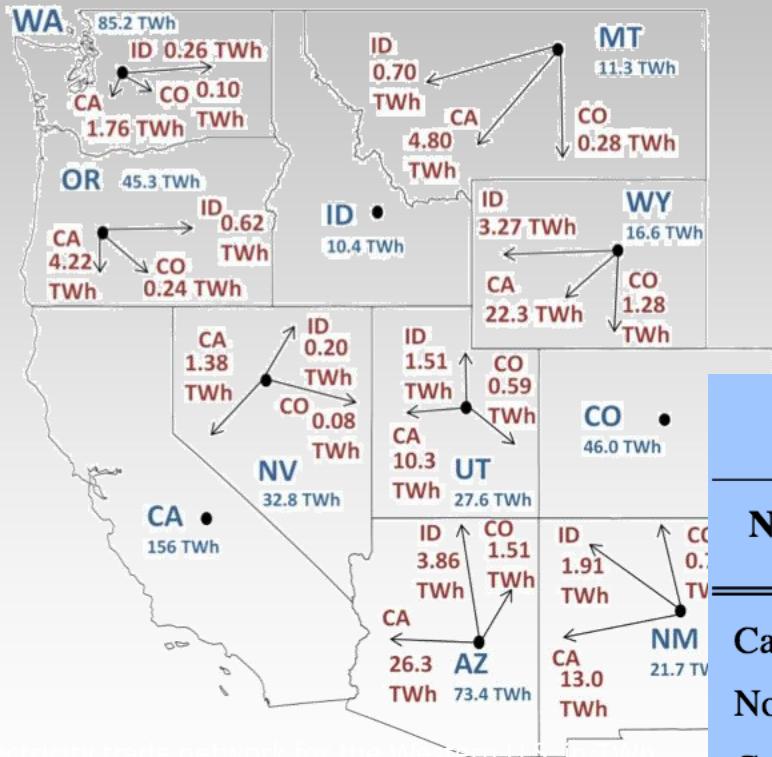
Water is liquid energy?



- The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) reports that 53% of all fresh surface water withdrawn for human use in 2005 was used by power plants.
- In 2009 the water footprint of U.S. electricity was approximately 42 gallons per kilowatt hour (kWh) produced.
- Average U.S. household requires 39,829 gallons of water for electricity; five times more than direct residential water use.
- 13% of total electricity used to move, treat and heat water.



“Value Intensity” of Water



Embedded Resource Accounting identifies the value intensity of water embedded in electricity traded across the Western U.S.

TABLE 3

Net Export from Arizona to:	Martin and Ruddell (2012)	Scott and Pasqualetti (2010)
California	4,838 Mgal	7,984 Mgal
Northwest (Idaho)	709 Mgal	1,932 Mgal
Colorado	277 Mgal	-1,100 Mgal



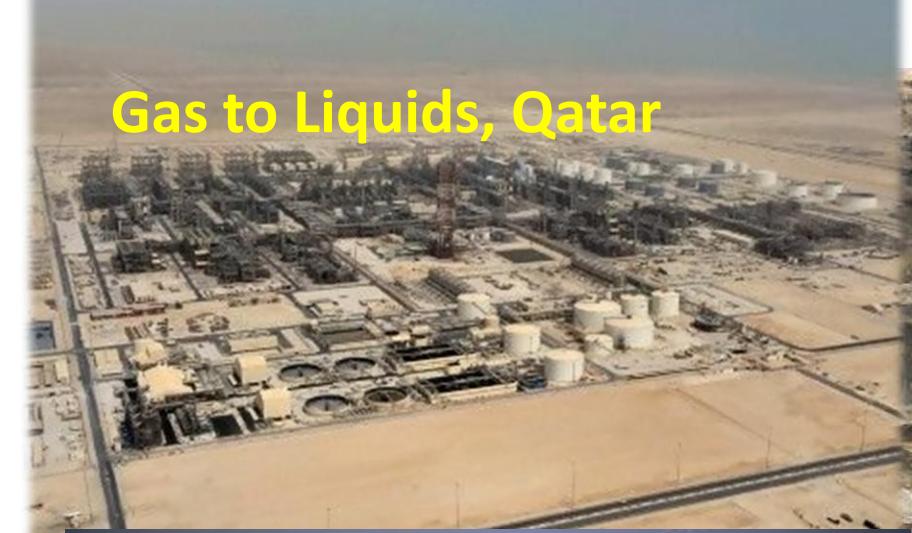
Elizabeth Martin/ Benjamin Rudder

Alternative Fuels



Gas to Liquids, Qatar

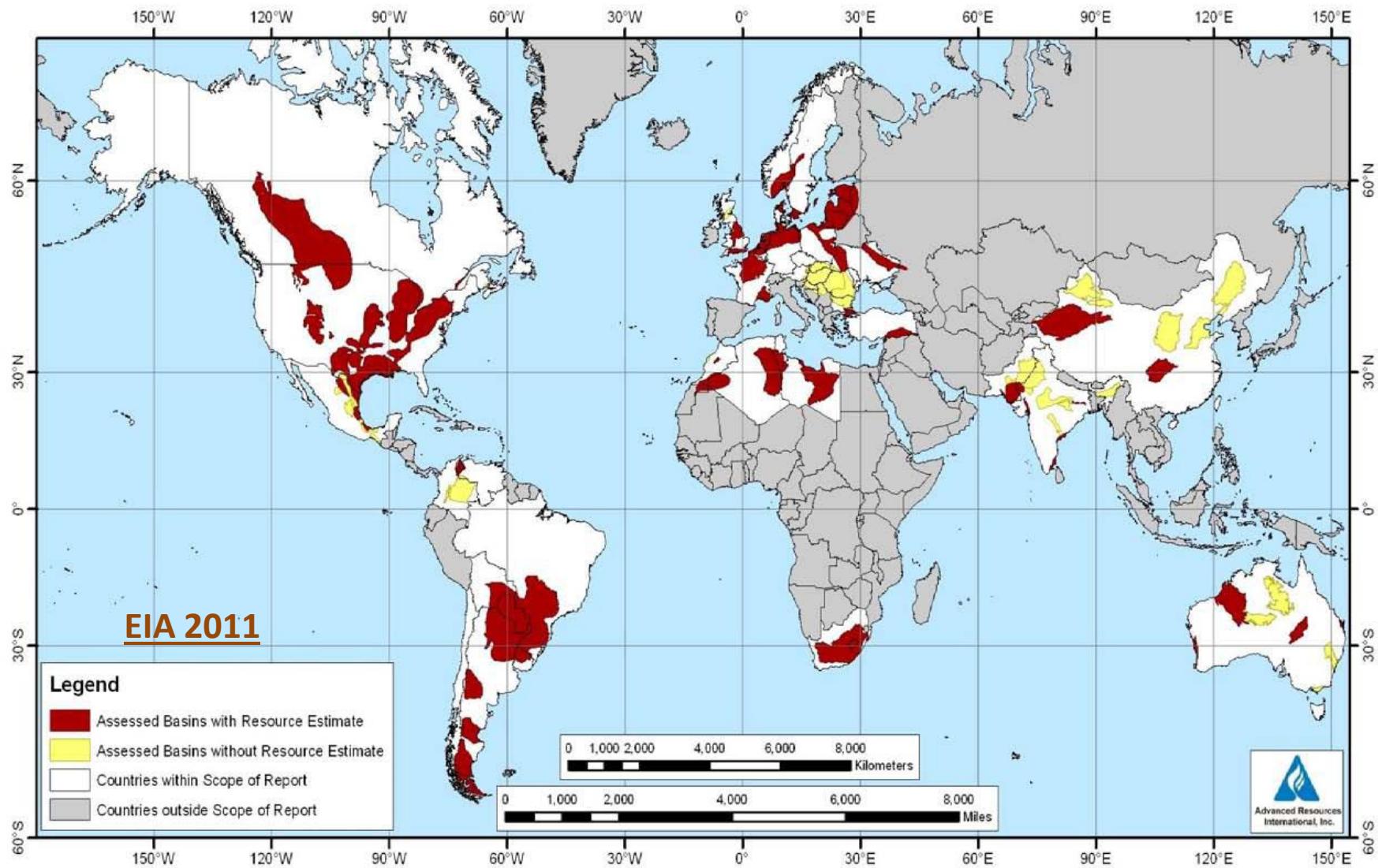
Bitumen Sands, Canada



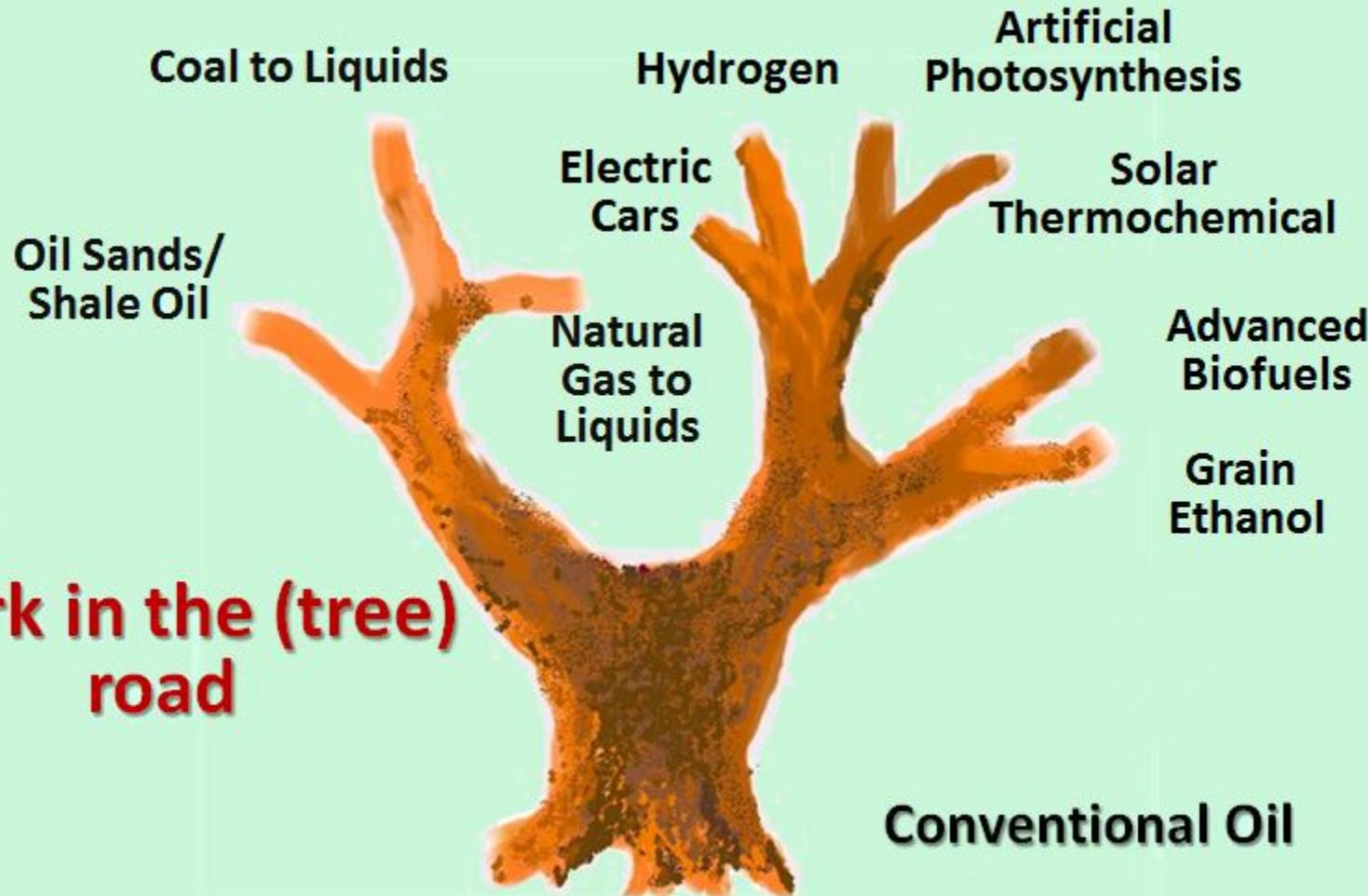
**Coal to Liquids,
South Africa**

**No shortage of fossil
carbon**

Shale Gas Reserves

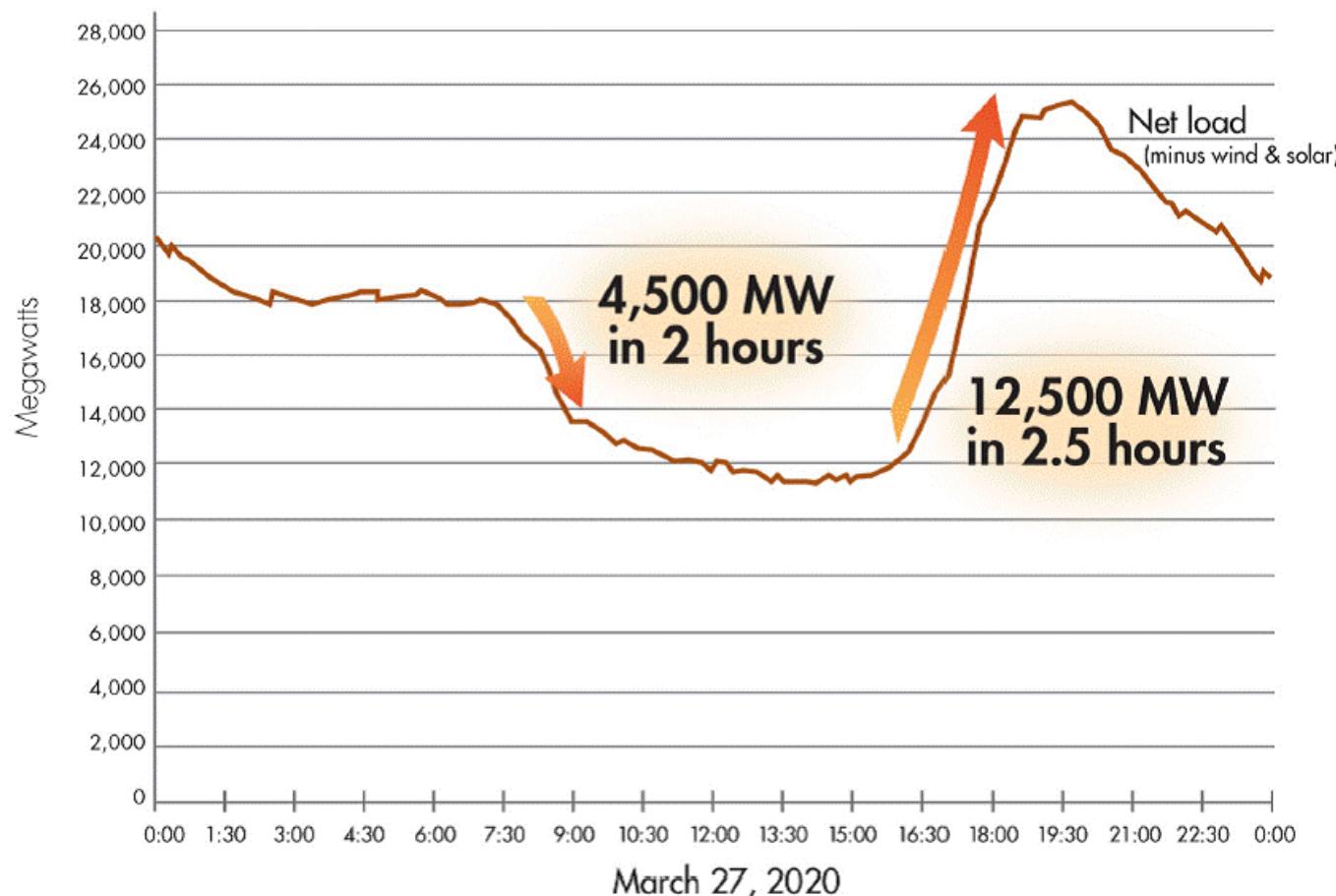


Choices to Be Made





CalSO “Duck” – an operators challenge



ASU carbon neutral 2025



Energy (Primary Source)

Purchased (all four campuses)

Current Sources: Coal Fired Plants, Hydro, Nuclear

Solution Strategy:

- Transition to On-site Renewable Energy Generation (Qualified Management Agreement or otherwise)
- Purchase Green energy generated by APS or SRP

Site Generated (Tempe Campus)

Co-Gen (Converts Natural Gas to 2 forms of energy)

Central Plant

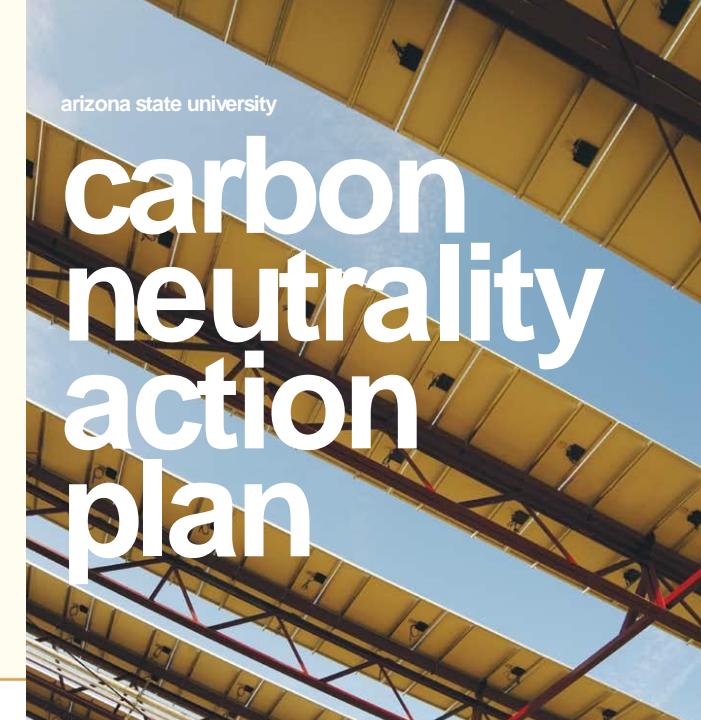
Solution Strategy:

- Decommission Current Plants
- Identify alternative fuel source
 - or-
- Capture and sequester emissions

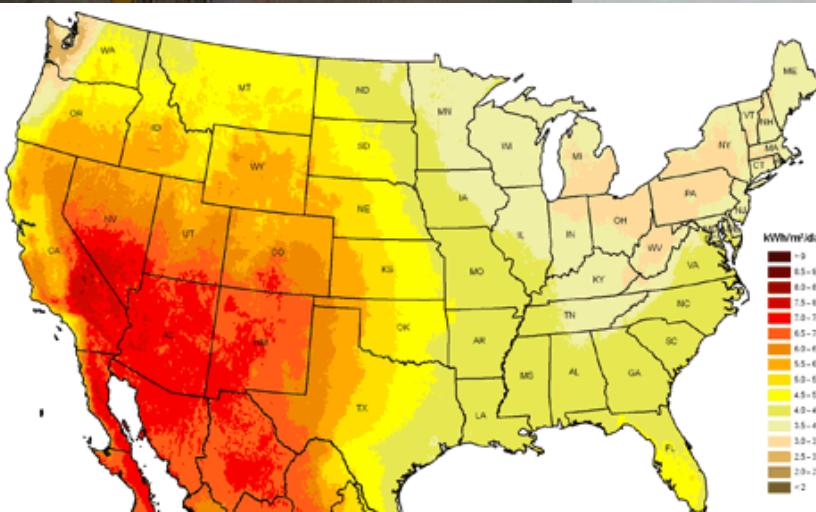
Buildings/Infrastructure (all four campuses)

Solution Strategy:

- Energy Efficiency upgrades on all buildings, consideration in all purchases, performance criteria for all new builds and renovations
- Energy Conservation Education, Awareness, Engagement of the campus community
- Evaluate each campus as a system



New high tech agriculture



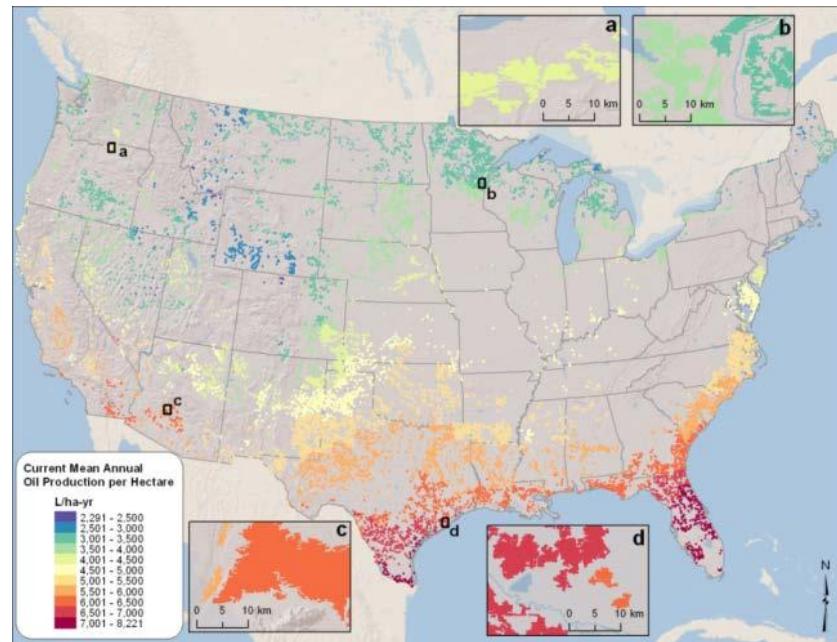
Plenty of sunshine, but...

... less water.

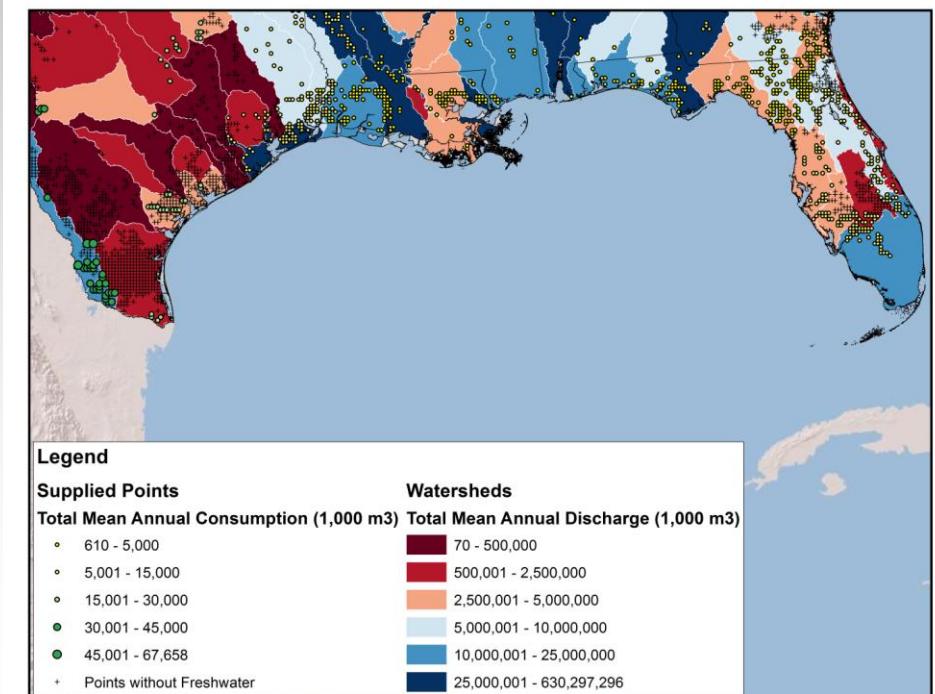
Water impact on algae agriculture



All Water option



Fresh water only

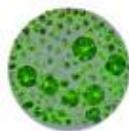


Davis, Fishman, Frank, Wigmosta – June 2012





Our network is growing (11 partners, 6 testbed sites)



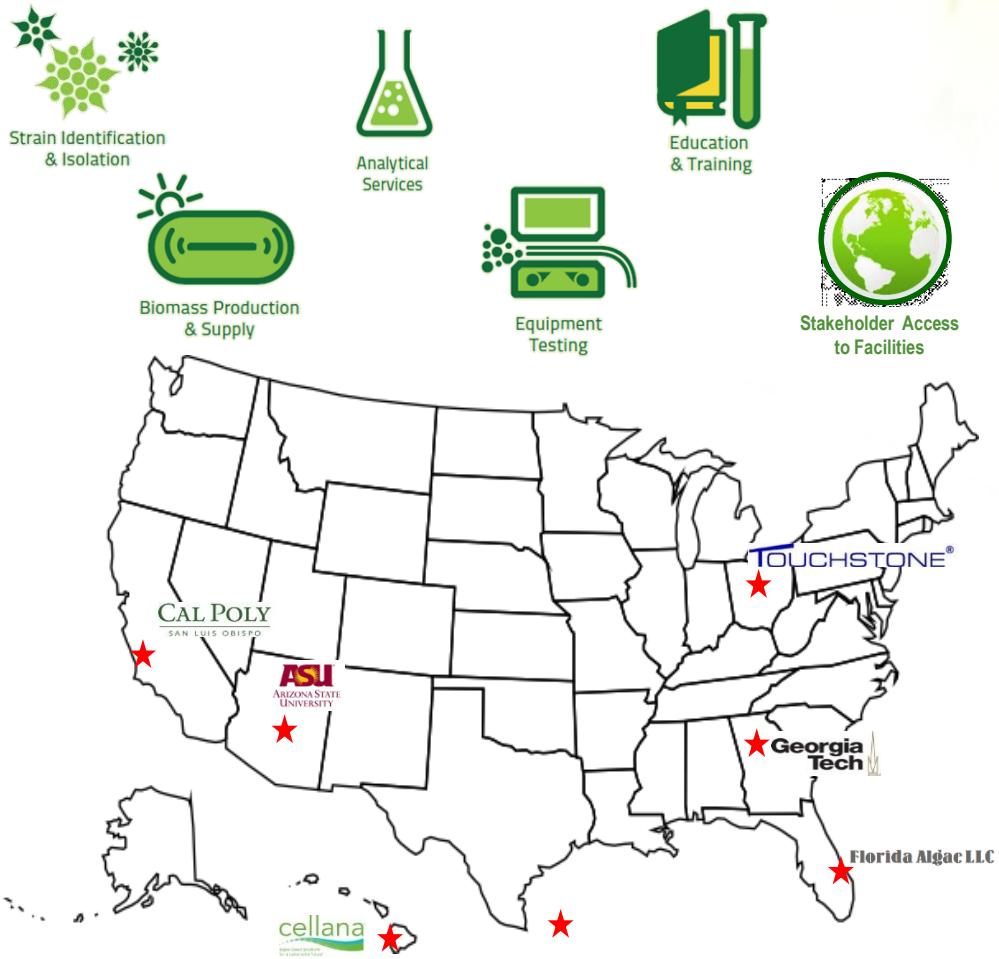
UTEX The Culture Collection of Algae
at The University of Texas at Austin



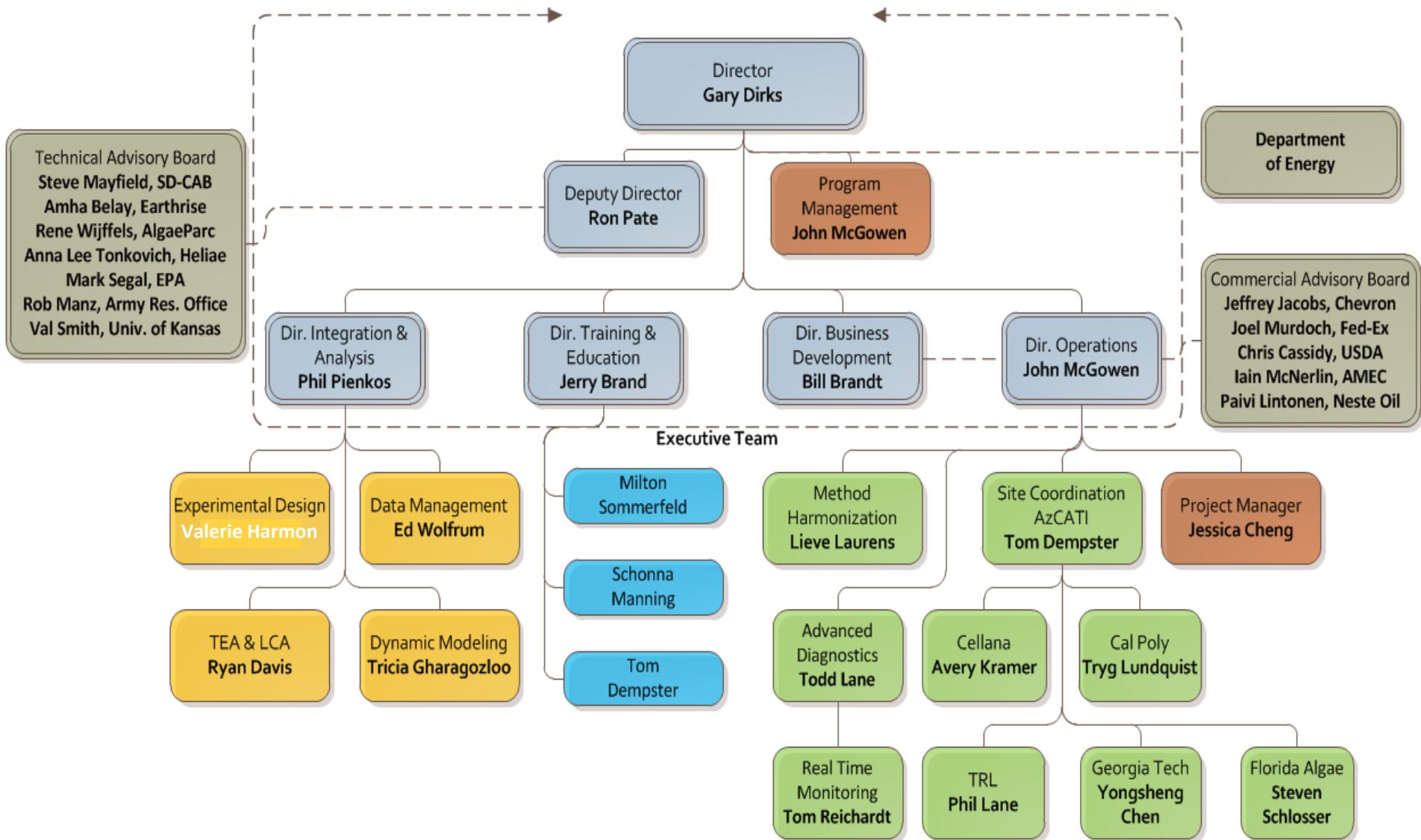
Commercial Algae
Management, Inc.



Collaborative Open Testbeds



ATP³ Organization



Manage change



“If we don’t change direction soon, we’ll end up where we’re heading”