

Renewable energy is a proven technology.

USF-TECO Energy Forum

Showcasing energy research to highlight solutions for the State of Florida was the foundation for "An Energy Forum to Discuss Energy Solutions" in October 2008. The USF, Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce and Tampa Electric Company (TECO) collaborated in demonstrating how scientists in the Tampa Bay area are major contributors to energy research in the State and the nation.



(L-R) CofE Dean John Wiencek, U.S. Sen. Mel Martinez and USF Provost Ralph Wilcox.

Florida's U.S. Senator Mel Martinez spoke at the Forum, where he was joined by St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Baker, Tampa Port Authority Director Joe

Wainio, Chuck Black of TECO, USF Provost Ralph Wilcox, College of Engineering (CofE) Dean John Wiencek, and CERC Directors Lee Stefanakos and Yogi Goswami.

CERC researchers fielded five technical poster presentations demonstrating the breadth and range of our ongoing energy investigations. These included:

- Overview of CERC
- Florida Energy Systems Consortium
- Solar Desalination for Potable Water
- Thermo-dynamic Cycle Simulation
- Hydrogen Production from Solar
- Photovoltaics



(L-R): CERC's Yogi Goswami, CofE Dean John Wiencek, St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Baker, USF Provost Ralph Wilcox and CERC's Lee Stefanakos.

Kids Are STARS

Summer camps are not what they used to be for kids. Now there are specialized camps for all careers, sports, arts, and other unique subjects. STARS is an ideal setting for the child who is enthralled with chemistry, engineering, scientists and inventors.



Researcher Sesha Srinivasan demos the hydrogen toy car.

The Students, Teachers and Resources in the Sciences (STARS) Summer Camp 2008 drew quite a number of middle schoolers to the USF to participate in meaningful science activities with hands-on demonstrations of various engineering areas. STARS camps provide a kaleidoscope of activity and training opportunities for young people.



Lab Coordinator Chuck Garretson demos the solar oven.

CERC graduate students Ricardo Vasquez, Gokmen Demirkaya, Huijuan Chen,

Drupati Latchman, Michael Niemann, Sam Wijewardane and Pabitra Choudhury, gave demonstrations of our current research at the Solar Charging Station adjacent to the ENB/Glenn Burdick Hall. Demonstrations included:

- Solar charging (PV panels)
- Hydrogen production (electrolysis process) and conversion through fuel cells
- Hydrogen fuel cell and solar driven vehicle
- Solar oven
- Photocatalytic water disinfection