



## **UALBANY ATMOSPHERIC SCIENTIST INVITED TO VISIT GERMANY TO DEVELOP INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF ENERGY PROFESSIONALS COLLABORATING ON THE ENERGY SYSTEMS OF THE FUTURE**

Dr. Richard Perez, a senior research scientist at the University at Albany's internationally recognized Atmospheric Sciences Research Center and the Atmospheric and Environmental Prediction and Innovation Center, will be traveling to Germany on November 17th as part of a small group of sustainable energy experts from New York invited for a four-day study tour visiting Berlin and Hamburg. Sponsored by the German Foreign Office and supported by the German Embassy to the United States, the visit will provide a unique opportunity to develop international partnerships in the field of sustainable energy, creating an expert-to-expert and implementer-to-implementer exchange and facilitating the development of a network of professionals working to create a renewable energy-based system in both Germany and New York State. This network will take part in on-going and future discussions in Germany, New York, and beyond about the future of electricity and energy systems. This opportunity is particularly timely in the wake of the recent United Nations report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change calling for immediate governmental action to prevent irreversible effects of climate change.

A member of the New York and International Solar Energy Societies, and a Fellow of the American Solar Energy Society, Dr. Perez will be participating in discussions of the plans and challenges of the New York State Smart Grid Consortium in the context of Germany's very successful energy transition program, supported by the European Union to enable a renewable energy-led economy. The trip will involve significant policy and practice conversations on the challenges and opportunities of renewable energy models, the full range of renewable energy issues, and the role and potential of energy efficiency and smart grids. Meetings with the German Directorate-General for Economic Affairs and Sustainable Development, the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy, and with the German infrastructure development bank KfW, along with visits to Feldheim, an energy-independent village, and the North Sea Wind Farm will all feature.

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### *The University at Albany*

*Educationally and culturally, the University at Albany-SUNY puts "The World Within Reach" for its more than 17,300 students. An internationally recognized research university with 118 undergraduate majors and minors and 138 graduate programs, UAlbany is a leader among all New York State colleges and universities in such diverse fields as criminal justice, information science, public administration, social welfare, business and sociology. With a curriculum enhanced by 500 study-abroad opportunities, UAlbany launches great careers*

### *The Atmospheric Sciences Research Center*

*The Atmospheric Sciences Research Center (ASRC) was established on February 16, 1961, by the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York, as a university wide center for the specific purpose to promote and encourage programs in basic and applied sciences especially as they related to the atmospheric environment. The Center performs world-class research to study the physical and chemical nature of the atmosphere and to apply that knowledge to study the interaction of chemical, physical, geological and biological processes impacting our environment. In the performance of these research activities the Center serves to enhance the scientific capacity and infrastructure of New York State, through technology transfer and collaboration with state, federal and industrial partners, to advance the quality of life and economic well-being of its citizens.*

*The Atmospheric and Environmental Prediction and Innovation Center*

*The Atmospheric and Environmental Prediction and Innovation Center (AEPIC) is a global powerhouse of weather and climate scientists from the University at Albany's internationally acclaimed Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences (DAES) and Atmospheric Sciences Research Center (ASRC). AEPIC is home to the largest concentration of atmospheric, climate, and environmental researchers in New York State and one of the largest in the country. In the past decade, AEPIC researchers and scholars have attracted over 65 million of dollars in extramural research awards for the study of weather and climate science. In 2018, AEPIC's new home will be the \$165 million, Emerging Technologies and Entrepreneurship Complex (E-TEC), a state-of-the-art R&D facility – co-locating DAES and ASRC for the first time in University history. Recognizing AEPIC's national and international leadership roles in atmospheric and environmental, the State of New York selected AEPIC to build and lead the \$23.6 million NYS Mesonet – the most advanced weather observation network of its kind in the world.*