

# INFORMATION ITEM #3

Items Approved by the President Under Delegated Authority  
Center and Institute Establishments &  
Faculty Manual Revisions  
(T. Chris Riley-Tillman)

## Establishments of Centers and Institutes

- ***Center for Trauma Education and Community Health (C-TEaCH)***

The Child and Family Research Unit (CAFRU) in the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) has been in existence for nearly 25 years, supporting underserved children, families, and communities; after over 2 decades of experience, lessons, and evolution of our mission, our goals and scope have now grown to the point that elevation to Center status will be beneficial to our work and the University more broadly. As such, the C-TEaCH was submitted to the Faculty Senate for consideration during the Fall 2024 semester.

C-TEaCH will create an enormous opportunity to support faculty, staff, and students within the CAHNRS and across Colleges/Departments to supplement our current community-based in-service efforts with pre-service training and curriculum to better educate our workforce on the importance of trauma-informed principles, practices, and mental health and well-being of students and staff. Building off existing partnerships, C-TEaCH will increase capacity across CAHNRS and the University in a way that hasn't occurred before to come together for focused work. C-TEaCH will help support translation to the broader public and communities which adds value to the work being conducted inside our system(s). The collective trauma of the COVID pandemic has taken an exceptional toll on stress levels, mental health, coping skills, and anxiety of students and educators. If we do not act swiftly, we will be losing the opportunity to support the next generation of our workforce; we risk losing skilled professionals to burnout; and we will continue to see increased rates of mental health issues in both children and adults, including depression, anxiety, substance abuse issues, and suicide. This work is occurring, but in bits and pieces and inconsistently, leading to dilution of impact. With the establishment of the C-TEaCH, WSU will reduce silos and create a central, coordinated effort to mitigate the impacts of traumatic stress on our current and future workforce to improve the long-term mental health and resilience of our communities.

- ***Institute for Northwest Energy Futures (INEF)***

The Institute for Northwest Energy Futures (INEF) will focus on the evolution of Northwest regional energy systems at multiple scales (e.g., grid, plant, manufacturing scales) through aligned research and education. This includes addressing integration of regional electricity generation derived from fossil, renewable, and nuclear energy resources, its storage and transmission and delivery. The Institute also addresses integration of energy systems with select industrial applications, including production of transportation fuels, chemicals, fertilizers, etc. This effort also necessarily addresses integration of energy systems (and

their components) with other regional facets, including water, environment, agriculture, markets, policy, etc.

Specifically, the following areas will be addressed:

1. Life cycle assessment expertise to measure the environment impact of products, materials, products and processes. Examples include evaluating the indirect carbon footprint of various energy technologies from cradle to (recycled) cradle.
2. Techno-economic analysis to assess economic feasibility and risks of processes and products.
3. Energy data analytics using big data and machine learning techniques to predict energy demand, improve distribution, and understand customer consumption patterns.
4. Expertise to assess social impacts of action or inaction, or evaluating the intended and unintended social consequences in advance or in retrospect of planned interventions — such as policies, programs, plans and projects — to help bring about more sustainable and socially equitable results.

The action items were passed by the Faculty Senate on October 3, 2024. The C-TEaCH and INEF proposals, as submitted to President Schulz for consideration, are available upon request.

### **Faculty Manual Revisions**

The Faculty Senate's Faculty Affairs Committee carefully reviewed the *Faculty Manual*, updated language and style, revised to reference other policies (rather than quoting or misquoting their content), removed broken links, etc. Section III.C (Employment) was also revised to include the appropriate references regarding career-track faculty.

The *Faculty Manual* revisions were passed by the Faculty Senate on October 17, 2024. The redlined copy, as submitted to President Schulz for consideration, is available upon request.