

The Center for Integrated Studies in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (CISNN) hosted an inspiring session on September 7, 2024, titled “Empowering Clean Futures – A Symposium on Next Generation Clean Technologies”. The symposium was attended by over 30 individuals, including community members, faculty and students, covering 12 university disciplines that included: Forensic Chemistry, Electrical Engineering Technology, Mechanical Engineering Technology, Industrial Engineering Technology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology, Political Science, Biology, Data Science Analytics, Finance, and Fashion Design.

The symposium had two major agenda items; the first included opening remarks by CISNN faculty to set the context, relevance and need for the topic of discussion: Dr. Saquib Ahmed (Founder and Director, Department of Engineering Technology), Dr. Joaquin Carbonara, (Associate Director of Data Science, Department of Mathematics), Dr. Sourav Biswas (Associate Director of Catalysis and Nanomaterials, Department of Chemistry), and Dr. Adamu Shauku (Associate Director of Ethics and Policy, Department of Political Science). This was followed by the main theme of the event: sessions by highly successful CISNN alumni who graduated in May 2023. These included Mr. Joseph Wikar, currently a Process Engineer at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and Mr. Nicholas White, currently a Design Engineer at McGard. Joe and Nick talked about their experiences in being engaged with CISNN from its inception in 2022, doing break-through work that led to the first CISNN peer-reviewed publication in 2023, focusing on next-generation solar technologies. They also spoke at length about how their involvement with breakthrough work in the Center landed them competitive federal fellowships (NEATAC) which ultimately led to their prestigious job placements.

The symposium was followed by significant informal discussion and networking sessions, connecting CISNN alumni with current student body, exploring both internship as well as post-graduate job opportunities. Additionally, CISNN faculty are proud to announce the new cohort of students; this includes a diverse group of young men and women hailing from Mechanical Engineering Technology, Political Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Computer Information Systems. Already launched research projects revolve around probing ethics and law questions of novel photovoltaic materials, conducting data analytics of energy data to elucidate methods for emergent technologies to enter energy markets, exploring novel methods to improve bio-digesters, among others.



Joseph Wikar, CISNN Alumni ('23); Process Engineer, NIST



Nicholas White, CISNN Alumni ('23); Design Engineer, McGard



Dr. Saquib Ahmed, Founder and Director, CISNN



Dr. Joaquin Carbonara, Associate Director of Data Science, CISNN



Dr. Sourav Biswas, Associate Director of Catalysis and Nanomaterials, CISNN



Dr. Adamu Shauku, Associate Director of Ethics and Policy, CISNN