

Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/chriscastroideas (LinkedIn)
ideasforus.org (Company)
fleetfarming.org (Company)
greenworksorlando.com (Company)

Top Skills

Sustainability
Energy Efficiency
Renewable Energy

Languages

English (Native or Bilingual)
Spanish (Professional Working)

Certifications

Climate Ambassador
GIS Analyst
Certified Smart Cities Practitioner (SCP)
LEED Green Associate

Honors-Awards

Emerging Leader in Philanthropy
30 Under 30
Champions of Change
30 Under 30
Commitment Award Winner

Chris Castro

Chief of Staff, Office of State and Community Energy Programs at U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), #Team46
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Summary

Chris is a sustainability professional, clean energy leader, and eco-entrepreneur with a passion to co-create solutions that advance meaningful impact on the climate crisis and helps create a more equitable and sustainable future for all.

In July 2022, Chris joined the Biden-Harris administration #Team46 as a presidential appointee to serve as the inaugural Chief of Staff for a newly formed Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP) at the U.S. Department of Energy. Chris works to advance President Biden's ambitious climate and clean energy goals and transition to a net-zero emissions economy by 2050.

For 8+ years prior, Chris became a renowned public official in his role as the Senior Advisor to Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer and the Director of Sustainability & Resilience at the City of Orlando, Florida. #GreenWorksOrlando

Chris is also well-known for his entrepreneurial efforts over the last 15+ years, including co-founder and President of IDEAS For Us, a global UN-accredited 501c3 nonprofit working to incubate and fund innovative projects that advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2012, Chris also started a clean-energy firm called Citizen Energy that currently operates in DC-metro and California. In 2013 co-created Fleet Farming, the renowned urban farming social enterprise program. And in 2020, Chris joined partners to launch Climate First Bank, the first B-Corp community bank in Florida working to advance ESG & local sustainable investing.

Chris has served on over a dozen nonprofit and academic boards, including the Florida Solar Energy Center, US Green Building Council of FL, Project Greenschools, FL SUN, and Goodwill Industries of Central Florida.

Over the years, Chris has become nationally recognized for his efforts; including being named the 2018 Public Official of the Year by Governing, a 'Champions of Change' by President Barack Obama, the 'Guru of Green' by the Orlando Business Journal, the Grist 50 Fixer, Top 30 Under 30 sustainability professionals by GreenBiz, and formal recognition from President Bill Clinton, President Jimmy Carter, and VP Al Gore.

In December 2018, Chris starred in the National Geographic documentary on climate change called "Paris to Pittsburgh" to share the Orlando journey on climate action to millions of people around the World.

As a thought leader, Chris has been a Brookings Institute fellow and spoken at more than 200+ conferences and events, including the United Nations summits, Vatican Youth Symposium, Smart Cities Connect, NASA Innovation Expo, TEDx Orlando, and more.

Experience

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

Chief of Staff, Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP)

July 2022 - Present (1 year 2 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Serving as a Biden-Harris Administration appointee joining the U.S.

Department of Energy (DOE) to work with U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm to pursue President Biden's ambitious clean energy goals and transition to a net-zero emissions economy by 2050.

The Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP) works under the Undersecretary of Infrastructure and coordinates with states, tribal nations, city and county governments, utilities, and communities in the planning, design, and deployment of clean energy and decarbonization solutions.

<https://www.energy.gov/scep>

UNCF

Climate Action Advisory Board Member

April 2023 - Present (5 months)

Serving as an Advisory Board member for United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Institute for Capacity Building (ICB) to explore the development of Centers of Excellence in Environmental Leadership at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) — which will support a new generation of Black leaders in the fights against climate change and environmental racism.

<https://uncficb.org/>

City of Orlando

Director of Sustainability & Resilience, Co-chair of Future-Ready Initiative

June 2016 - July 2022 (6 years 2 months)

Orlando, Florida Area

Mayor Buddy Dyer launched Green Works Orlando in 2007 to transform Orlando into one of the most environmentally-friendly, socially inclusive and economically vibrant communities in the nation. Green Works Orlando represents our commitment to utilize the City's regional leadership position to build partnerships and share resources that foster positive environmental changes.

In my role, I assist Mayor Buddy Dyer and our senior staff with the coordination, development, integration, and administration of the City's sustainability, energy, and climate policies and programs.

<http://GreenWorksOrlando.com>

IDEAS For Us

Co-founder, President

June 2008 - July 2022 (14 years 2 months)

Orlando, Florida, United States

IDEAS For Us, Inc is a 501c3 non-profit environmental organization that is advancing sustainability solutions and environmental awareness through campus and community action around the World. We provide guidance and mentorship to a network of sustainability leaders around the World, offering professional training programs, resource and program development, and peer-to-peer mentorship to nurture the talents of leaders. We ultimately drive local solutions to global problems and implement sustainability initiatives that advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

IDEAS For Us acts as the guiding body for the IDEAS (Intellectual Decisions on Environmental Awareness Solutions) Movement and chapter network. We help to incubate new ideas and initiatives; build partnerships and connections, and develop new chapters to expand the movement and our positive environmental impacts across communities around the World.

* IDEAS For Us is an official 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

* I was the acting Executive Director from 2008-2013, and now sit as the President of the Board of Directors for IDEAS For Us.

Email: Contact@IDEASforUs.org

Website: <http://IDEASforUs.org>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/IDEASforUs>

Twitter: [@IDEAStweetsUs](https://twitter.com/IDEAStweetsUs)

Instagram: [@IDEASforUs.ngo](https://www.instagram.com/IDEASforUs.ngo)

Climate First Bank

Founding Director, Executive Committee member

January 2020 - June 2022 (2 years 6 months)

St Petersburg, Florida, United States

Climate First Bank is Florida's first B-Corp certified, values-based community bank that focuses on providing capital for communities, companies, organizations, and families in pursuit of a better world.

The status quo of sustainability is no longer an option. The future demands we work together now to reverse the damage done by our carbon addiction.

Climate First Bank is a full-service community bank offering personal and commercial banking services with a triple bottom line of people, planet, and prosperity. We will support customers, communities, and our planet by operating as a vehicle for positive change.

<http://ClimateFirstBank.com>

University of Central Florida

5 years 9 months

Steering Committee Member, Urban Resilience Initiative (URI)

November 2019 - June 2022 (2 years 8 months)

Orlando, Florida, United States

Fellow, Center for Global Economic & Environmental Opportunity (GEEO)

June 2018 - June 2022 (4 years 1 month)

Orlando, Florida Area

Led by the honorable Mr. James Bacchus, the mission of the Center for Global Economic and Environmental Opportunity (GEEO) is to advance UCF's role and enhance UCF's reputation on global economic and environmental issues, and especially on the confluence of both, by fostering links among sustainable development initiatives at every level and by exploring new forms of governance at every level that further the creation of economic and environmental opportunity. The Center will help scale and link sustainability initiatives of all kinds locally, regionally, and worldwide; help establish and strengthen the enabling frameworks of rules needed to support these initiatives and help them succeed; and help identify and help advance international rules and international institutions needed for effective and inclusive global economic and environmental governance.

<https://sciences.ucf.edu/geeo/>

Chairman, Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC), Advisory Board

October 2016 - June 2022 (5 years 9 months)

1679 Clearlake Road, Cocoa, Florida 32922

The mission of the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC) is to research and develop energy technologies that enhance Florida's and the nation's economy and environment and to educate the public, students and practitioners on the results of the research.

FSEC—a research institute of the University of Central Florida (UCF)—was created by the Florida Legislature in 1975 to serve as the state's energy research institute. The main responsibilities of the center are to conduct research, test and certify solar systems, and develop education programs.

As Florida's energy research institute — with a 35-year history of unique expertise, experience and infrastructure — we are leading research and development efforts to bring our vision of Energy Independence to fruition.

<http://www.fsec.ucf.edu/en/>

Fleet Farming

Co-Founder, Advisor, Urban Farmer

February 2014 - June 2022 (8 years 5 months)

Orlando, Florida

Fleet Farming started to redefine how we produce and distribute food by creating hyper-local, community-based, low-carbon urban farming programs in cities around the World. The Fleet Farming model is built on the mantra 'Grow Food, Not Lawns', converting underutilized land and homeowner lawns into 100% edible, organic landscapes.

Fleet Farming is a social enterprise created and managed by the global non-profit organization, IDEAS For Us. The Fleet Farming model incorporates sharecropping, fruit gleaning, educational workshops, and raised bed garden installations for schools, churches, retirement communities, business, and homeowners. Website: <http://fleetfarming.org> Email: Fleet@ideasforus.org

The Brookings Institution

Nonresident Senior Fellow, Metropolitan Policy Program

October 2021 - May 2022 (8 months)

Orlando, Florida, United States

Brookings brings together more than 300 leading experts in government and academia from all over the world who provide the highest quality research, policy recommendations, and analysis on a full range of public policy issues.

I have joined to support the Metropolitan Policy Program and the Center for Sustainable Development at Brookings, through my efforts in the City of Orlando to advance sustainability and climate policy.

Future of Cities

Advisory Board Member

April 2021 - May 2022 (1 year 2 months)

Orlando, Florida, United States

Pioneering a new approach, Regenerative Placemaking, Future of Cities (FoC) is a multisided platform comprised of real estate investment vehicle, venture capital ecosystem, and think-tank for regenerative development. By executing our flagship portfolio of projects and propagating best-practices from our partners, we intend to demonstrate how environmental-social-governance (ESG) strategies can drive outsized returns for communities and investors alike.

<http://focities.com>

Florida League of Cities

Natural Resources, Utilities, and Public Works committee, Member
September 2020 - May 2022 (1 year 9 months)

Orlando, Florida

I have joined the Natural Resources, Utilities, and Public Works legislative policy committee for the FLC 20-21 and the 21-22 legislative sessions.

With more than 400 cities, towns and villages in the state of Florida, these communities are as diverse in geography, population and culture as the residents that call them home.

Florida's cities, towns and villages are the centers of economic, social and cultural energy that enhance the quality of life enjoyed by Floridians. Municipalities are corporations. They were created because of the self-determination of their residents. Most often, the cities' founders wanted increased, better quality services and local control of how they were being governed.

The Florida League of Cities (FLC) provides members with tailored advocacy tools and training programs designed specifically for municipal officials. It also serves as administrator for the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust, offers a comprehensive package of innovative financial solutions to Florida's local governments, and provides contractual support services to several statewide municipal and professional associations.

U.S. Green Building Council

Advisor, LEED Cities and Communities Working Group

August 2020 - May 2022 (1 year 10 months)

Orlando, Florida, United States

LEED for Cities and LEED for Communities helps local leaders, planners and developers create cities and communities with responsible, sustainable and specific plans for natural systems, energy, water, waste, transportation and many other factors that contribute to quality of life.

The LEED v4.1 for Cities and LEED v4.1 for Communities certification programs revolutionize the way cities and communities are planned, developed and operated in order to improve the quality of life of people around the world. The programs provide a framework for planning, designing, measuring and managing the performance of social, economic and environmental conditions on a city-wide or community level, in a globally consistent way.

LEED for Cities gives you access to powerful measurement and management technology, which helps cities measure, and communicate, city sustainability performance across an array of metrics. Visit <http://arcskoru.com/> to learn more about how LEED for Cities is helping cities improve quality of life, improving sustainability performance and verifying and recognizing leadership.

Drive Electric Florida

Policy committee, Member

April 2020 - May 2022 (2 years 2 months)

Orlando, Florida, United States

Drive Electric Florida (DEFL) works to advance the energy, economic, and environmental security of the state of Florida by promoting the growth of electric vehicle ownership and accompanying infrastructure. Our mission is to support and accelerate the adoption of plug-in electric vehicles in Florida by engaging and educating the public, businesses, and policy-makers; facilitating collaboration; and supporting EV-friendly policy and programs.

Website: <https://www.driveelectricflorida.org/>

Goodwill Industries of Central Florida, Inc.

Board of Directors

March 2019 - May 2022 (3 years 3 months)

Orlando, Florida Area

Goodwill Industries of Central Florida is dedicated to providing opportunities for every member in our community to develop their full potential. Since 1959, Goodwill Industries of Central Florida has been fulfilling its mission of "Building Lives That Work."

We provide tools that help people overcome barriers to employment and find meaningful work. We utilize vocational services, youth programs, and disability and veteran services to enable individuals to get back on their feet, secure employment and develop their careers. Goodwill Industries of Central Florida proudly serves Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia counties.

East Central Florida Regional Planning Council

ECFR2C Steering Committee member, Co-chair of GHG Inventory TAC

January 2019 - May 2022 (3 years 5 months)

Orlando, Florida, United States

In 2018, the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council adopted a resolution recommitting to regionalism and supported a program to convene stakeholders across the region to develop a structure and framework for the East Central Florida Regional Resilience Collaborative (ECFR2C).

Three pillars were identified under the resilience umbrella; (people) Health + Equity, (places) Build Infrastructure + Natural Environment, and (prosperity) economic resilience. Woven throughout those pillars will be a reduction of the carbon footprint, risks and vulnerabilities utilizing emergency management, and increasing efforts toward sustainability, region-wide.

In October 2019, the ECFR2C was officially established with a signing ceremony with elected officials throughout cities and counties in East Central Florida.

GSA

Board member, Green Building Advisory Committee

August 2018 - May 2022 (3 years 10 months)

Washington DC

I served as the local government representative and advisory board member for the Green Building Advisory Committee at the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). This Committee advises my office, the Office of Federal High-Performance Buildings, on our mission of raising the Federal building portfolio to sustainable, high-performance levels.

The Green Building Advisory Committee's membership reflects a broad range of stakeholders including senior officials from Federal agencies as well as leading high-performance building experts from state, local, private, non-governmental, and academic sectors.

Solar United Neighbors

Florida chapter, Advisory Board Member

January 2017 - May 2022 (5 years 5 months)

Orlando, Florida Area

Solar United Neighborhoods of Florida (SUN FL) expands access to solar by educating Floridians about the benefits of distributed solar energy, helping them organize group solar installations (aka solar cooperatives), and strengthening Florida's solar policies and its community of solar supporters.

<http://flsun.org>

Valencia College

Advisory Council, College of Engineering & Computer Science

June 2016 - May 2022 (6 years)

Developing an Associates of Science (A.S.) degree entitled Energy Management & Controls Technology (EMCT).

USGBC Florida Chapter

Board of Directors, Founding member

December 2015 - May 2022 (6 years 6 months)

Orlando, Florida Area

USGBC-Florida is a mission-oriented, pro-business, non-partisan nonprofit (501[c][3]) organization dedicated to achieving a sustainable Florida through awareness, education and market transformation initiatives, as well as direct action.

USGBC-Florida is the official state-wide chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council of Florida.

<http://usgbcflorida.org>

Citizen Energy

Co-founder, Senior Energy Advisor

February 2012 - May 2022 (10 years 4 months)

Citizen Energy (CE) is a 'one-stop shop' clean energy consulting and development firm transforming commercial buildings into green, energy efficient, high performance facilities. We offer low-cost LEED consulting, ENERGY STAR benchmarking and technical ASHRAE Audits and Assessments to determine tailored energy conservation measures. In addition, we administer turn-key retrofit projects and provide alternative financing mechanisms that offer the building owners and managers with a simple, transparent and affordable energy solution.

Since our inception at the University of Central Florida, CE empowers people to solve the integrated energy issues in cities and individual buildings, through in-depth community engagement and energy awareness programs. Together with building owners and managers, their tenants, industry partners, and the next generation workforce, Citizen Energy increase adoption for energy efficiency, advances the clean energy economy, reduces energy demand, saves organizations money, and helps reduce carbon emissions.

<http://citizen-energy.com>

Email: ccastro@citizen-energy.com

Project Green Schools

Green School Advisory Board

September 2018 - April 2022 (3 years 8 months)

Orlando, Florida Area

Project Green Schools work to develop the next generation of environmental leaders through education, project-based learning and community service.

<http://projectgreenschools.org>

Rollins College

Advisory Board, Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship Hub

February 2018 - February 2022 (4 years 1 month)

Winter Park, Florida

The Rollins College Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship Hub is focused on developing curriculum to foster the next generation of social entrepreneurs and community leaders drive social and environmental change in Central Florida.

Energy Blockchain Consortium

Board Of Advisors

May 2018 - January 2022 (3 years 9 months)

Orlando, Florida Area

Energy Blockchain Consortium is a non-profit consortium of Energy and Blockchain organizations and professionals who are committed to leveraging Blockchain technology to solve the most compelling problems in the Energy industry. The Consortium is developing an Open Energy Blockchain Framework with use cases, interoperability standards and reference architecture.

<http://energy-blockchain.org/>

Orlando Science Center

NatureWorks, Advisory Board member

January 2017 - January 2022 (5 years 1 month)

Orlando, Florida Area

Represent City of Orlando on the Orlando Science Center NatureWorks Advisory Board, helping to guide environmental education curriculum and exhibit development.

U.S. Green Chamber of Commerce

Board of Advisors, Co-founder, and Past President of the Florida Green Chamber of Commerce (FGCC)

July 2014 - January 2022 (7 years 7 months)

Orlando, Florida Area

Florida Green Chamber of Commerce (FGCC), an official state chapter of the U.S. Green Chamber of Commerce, working to empower businesses and communities to grow through achieving the triple bottom line: economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Our vision is for FGCC to become Florida's premier green business organization representing the interests of businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions throughout the state by accelerating the goals of the U.S. Green Chamber of Commerce and advancing business sustainability for the betterment of society, the economy, and the environment.

<http://www.usgreenchamber.com/>

Global Shapers Community

Co-founder, Orlando Shaper, Advisor

May 2014 - January 2022 (7 years 9 months)

Orlando, Florida Area

The Global Shapers Community is a program of the World Economic Forum, and a network of Hubs developed and led by young people who are exceptional in their potential, their achievement, and their drive to make a contribution to their communities and the World at large. Shapers are united by a common desire to channel the members' tremendous energy and enthusiasm into building a more peaceful and inclusive world.

I am honored to be apart of the first group of Global Shapers in the City of Orlando, Florida.

<http://globalshapers.org/hubs/orlando>

Florida Renewable Energy Association (FREA)

Board of Directors

June 2016 - June 2021 (5 years 1 month)

Orlando, Florida Area

FREA is a non-profit 501-C3 organization dedicated to expanding the use of clean, renewable energy technologies through public awareness, political advocacy, and individual initiatives.

We are the Florida Chapter of the American Solar Energy Society (ASES).

Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC - The Reliable One)
Advisory Council, Energy Integrated Resources Plan
August 2019 - December 2020 (1 year 5 months)
Orlando, Florida, United States

Since 1923, the Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) has provided residents and businesses with reliable electricity. Today, we're the 14th largest municipal utility in the nation, serving more than 400,000 accounts in Orlando, St. Cloud, and unincorporated areas of Orange and Osceola Counties. To do this, OUC operates the most diverse power generation site in Florida and continue to improve our portfolio of clean energy resources.

As we look ahead to a cleaner, greener future, I was appointed to the Advisory Council to develop an Electric Integrated Resource Plan – our roadmap to meeting electric energy generation and transmission needs for the next 30 years. The roadmap will define OUC's electric future in a way that balances reliability, affordability, sustainability and resiliency. We are currently taking your feedback into consideration and will update this site with more information as we develop our plan.

<http://ouc.com>

<http://oucroadmap.com>

National Geographic
Paris to Pittsburgh documentary, Featured story
March 2018 - December 2018 (10 months)
Orlando, Florida, United States

Paris to Pittsburgh brings to life the impassioned efforts of individuals who are battling the most severe threats of climate change in their own backyards. Set against the national debate over the United States' energy future — and the Trump administration's explosive decision to exit the Paris Climate Agreement — the film captures what's at stake for communities around the country and the inspiring ways Americans are responding. To view the trailer, visit ParistoPittsburgh.com.

“From innovative ways to improve our food supply chain through Fleet Farming, parking lots shaded by solar paneled roofs to passionate college students making an impact in sustainable energy jobs, this documentary provides a hopeful roadmap for the future.”

Institute for Market Transformation

Senior Energy Advisor, Sustainability Program Manager, City of Orlando

April 2014 - June 2016 (2 years 3 months)

Orlando, Florida Area

The City Energy Project is a national initiative to create healthier and more prosperous American cities by improving the energy efficiency of buildings. Working in partnership, the Project and participating cities will support innovative, practical solutions that cut energy waste, boost local economies, and reduce harmful pollution.

I am a Senior City Adviser for the City Energy Project, and Community Energy Program Manager for the City of Orlando, working in the Office of Sustainability & Energy. My role is to develop a tailored set of policies and programs that will drive energy efficiency of Orlando's commercial buildings.

Key strategies of the City Energy Project are to:

- + Provide information about building energy use that will help owners and managers cut waste
- + Align financial incentives for energy efficiency
- + Ensure that building systems function optimally
- + Encourage leadership from universities, hospitals, and other major stakeholders

National Wildlife Federation

Emerging Leaders Council (ELC)

April 2011 - April 2016 (5 years 1 month)

Chris is a Founding member who was Inaugurated at the 75th Annual Conference, with more than 65 young environmental leaders from around the country who spent three days discussing ways to inspire and invigorate the environmental movement in the years ahead.

Split broadly into groups concentrating on climate change, wildlife conservation and connecting people with nature, the conference provided young leaders with a platform to have their voices heard by their elders in the field and

an opportunity to connect with similarly passionate people across the conservation community.

I am currently apart of the Emerging Leaders Council (ELC) and help to provide my insight in the youth environmental movement.

Linked In group:

www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=3033210

The Climate Reality Project

Climate Leader

September 2015 - October 2015 (2 months)

Miami

The Climate Reality Leadership Corps training took place in Miami, Florida on September 28-30, 2015, and brought together a select group of individuals committed to addressing the impacts of climate change and implementing the solutions that will define us to future generations.

IAMECO Warrior

Eco Warrior

October 2013 - October 2015 (2 years 1 month)

Eco Warriors change the world. They are game-changers — protectors. They move it forward, even when it's easier to keep the status quo.

Entrepreneur, award-winning photographer, author and visionary, Roger Moenks is internationally renowned and best known for his creative artistry that is current yet timeless. He has been a pioneer in the sustainability movement, bringing environmental issues to the forefront of pop culture since 2009, when he embarked on a worldwide journey to create the I Am Eco Warrior book, highlighting 50 'Eco Warriors' around the World.

<http://www.iamecowarrior.com/warrior/>

Post Carbon Institute

Energy Reality Ambassador

June 2013 - June 2015 (2 years 1 month)

As an Energy Reality Ambassador, I have tasked with distributing over 50 ENERGY books developed by the Post Carbon Institute via in-person meetings with politicians, city officials, energy executives, and other major energy influencers of the 21st century energy economy; with a goal of

advocating for 'Energy Literacy' and equipping the leaders of our country with unbiased knowledge about the reality of our Energy past, present and future.

<http://energy-reality.org/>

The Terra Firma Institute

Director of Sustainability

June 2011 - June 2015 (4 years 1 month)

Winter Park, FL

The Terra Firma Institute (TFI), is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on environmental education that strives to inspire and empower all of humanity through the provision of an exceptional, hands-on education in Science, Music and Art so the virtues of self-expression, scientific discovery, environmental sustainability and conservation are attainable to this and every generation.

<http://ThinkTerraFirma.org>

Email: Chris@ThinkTerraFirma.org

Peace Child International

GEEBIZ Team

March 2012 - March 2014 (2 years 1 month)

GEEBIZ is a project of Peace Child International (PCI), an organization which focuses on empowering youth to be the change they want to see in the world.

GEEBIZ a Green Eco-Business Competition aimed at highlighting young people who are becoming a part of the transition, and leading the way towards the green economy. It is a showcase for young green entrepreneurs with business plans already in operation around the world. In addition, It is a competition for youth from all over the world to come up with innovative green business plans.

I am a 'Mentor' and 'Winner' of the 2013-2013 GEEBIZ Eco-Business Competition through my company, Citizen Energy (CE). In January 2013, I had the opportunity to speaking at Yale University, the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, NY Economic Development Commission and the United Nations Global Youth Assembly.

<http://geebiz.biz>

PechaKucha

Speaker - PechaKucha Orlando

September 2013 - September 2013 (1 month)

Orange Studio

Had the honor of speaking at the Pecha Kucha Orlando vol. 11 Global Night event in Orlando, Florida. PechaKucha Night is an entertainment event held several times a year in downtown Orlando. We feature an hour of mingling and socializing, followed by an hour of PowerPoint presentations on a variety of topics, led by some of the most interesting people in the city. (Followed by more mingling.)

On Global Night, the worldwide PechaKucha community (which includes over 600 cities) comes together virtually to inspire one another with great presentations.

My topic was "The Opportunity of Crisis" The climate crisis is one of the greatest challenges to ever face humanity ... and the dangers of inaction and the opportunity to empower people (primarily the 50% under 30) to be the driving force of societal and environmental change.

POWERleap, Inc

Sales Consultant

March 2012 - January 2013 (11 months)

POWERleap is a cleantech company helping to develop self-powered technologies and applications for understanding and optimizing our built environment.

- Liaison to universities and music festival producers for the distributor of the energy-harvesting Piezo-Electric Floor
- Create personalized proposals to include: pricing, lifetime capacities, warranties, investment statistics, energy generation, estimated usage and ROI.

Email: chris@powerleap.net

TEDx Orlando

Speaker

July 2012 - October 2012 (4 months)

Winter Garden, FL

I was a keynote at the 3rd annual TEDx Orlando annual conference on October 13th, 2012.

My topic is "IDEAS For Biomimicry: How Organizations Can Learn from Nature"

This talk explores how organizations can take inspiration from biological concepts found in nature and evolve to become living organisms that have the ability to replicate, thrive, and catalyze positive change around the world.

Orange County Government

Energy Specialist

August 2011 - September 2012 (1 year 2 months)

Working in the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) as an Energy Specialist, helping to incorporate energy efficiency throughout Orange County by providing Energy Star benchmark reports, performance ratings and energy management applications for over 150 government buildings.

- EnergyCap assessment of FY10 and FY11 utility data
- Energy Star benchmarking and portfolio management of 130 buildings
- Level 1 Walk-through for 70+ buildings
- DOE Asset Rating Program: pilot program implementation
- FL Green Lodging Training Program
- 2012 Kilowatt Crackdown Award Winners
- OC Green Corrections case-study and report
- Educational Outreach

2012 World Youth Congress

USA Delegate, Panelist

June 2012 - June 2012 (1 month)

The World Youth Congress (WYC) is a biennial gathering of young activists from all over the world who are focused on expanding the role of youth in sustainable development.

This gathering was a preliminary event to the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and included cultural events, action projects in the Favela communities, interactive workshops and purposeful Round-table discussions with professionals and leaders around the World to develop 20 Solutions for a Sustainable Future and develop a charter for the UN Delegates at Rio+20.

Out of a pool of over 6,000 applicants, 350 youth representing 110 countries participated in this years WYC in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil! In addition, I participated in the UN Youth Blast Conference and the UNCSD Rio+20.

<http://wycrio2012.org>

Sterling Central Apartments

Green Education Coordinator / LEED Community Assistant (CA)
August 2009 - February 2012 (2 years 7 months)

Sterling Central Apartments is the 1st LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certified student housing in the State of Florida.

I helped to create and coordinate the "Green Education Program" and provide activities that educate the residents about energy, waste, food, ecology and water conservation; LEED rating systems; and the green building technologies incorporated throughout the property.

<http://SterlingHousing.com>

Dioko Energy

Solar Energy Consultant
March 2011 - 2012 (1 year)

Helping to provide clean, renewable energy to Florida residents and small businesses.

Solar Thermal (Domestic Hot Water), Pool heating, Solar PV (Electric), Sundome's (Lighting), +more!

Major Projects:

- 107 KW Solar Farm at UCF. December 2011

Email: Chris@DiokoEnergy.com

<http://www.diokoenergy.com>

350.org

Campaign Organizer
October 2009 - September 2011 (2 years)

-- September 2013: Draw The Line Orlando
(http://act.350.org/event/draw_the_line/search/)

-- May 2012: Connecting the Dots Orlando (FL)
(<http://climatedots.org>)

-- Nov 2011: IDEAS partners with 350.org for "Radio Wave"
(<http://radiowave.350.org/>)

--Sept. 24, 2011: Moving Orlando (coming soon! JOIN US!)
(<http://www.moving-planet.org/events/us/orlando/361>)

--Oct. 10th, 2010: Global Environmental Work Party
(<http://www.350.org/en/oct10/reports/26310>)

--Dec. 12th, 2009: International Candlelight Vigil
(<http://www.350.org/dec2009/reports/14588>)

--Oct. 24th, 2009: International Climate Change Awareness Day of Action
(<http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=342174&id=221087335084>)

YGRIN (Yellow Grease Renewable Initiative)

YGRIN Team

May 2011 - August 2011 (4 months)

Orlando, FL

I help to facilitate the YGRIN World -- a community-based social networking platform for the sustainability movement, helping to bring together individuals with ideas, business, government, non-profits and charities looking to make a positive difference in the World.

-- Fireworks 4 Energy (July 2011)

Helped to develop an 11-day fundraiser in Altamonte Springs, FL for the 'Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools.' By working with 11 businesses, we helped to generate over \$18,000 in donations to purchase 6,000 backpacks for 4th-8th underprivileged grade students in Seminole County. In addition, we have accumulated over \$5 Million in "in-kind" donations and coupons for products and services throughout the community that will be printed in a coupon booklet for each student. Find out more at:
<http://www.ygrin.com/project/fireworks-4-energy>

<http://YGRIN.com>

University of Central Florida

2 years 9 months

Sustainability & Energy Management - Campus Outreach Coordinator
February 2009 - June 2011 (2 years 5 months)

Spring / Fall 2009:

- 2008 UCF Greenhouse Gas Energy Report
- 2009 UCF Green Expo
- Energy Conservation / Efficiency
- Energy Lighting Audits
- 2009 UCF Student Housing Competition

Spring 2010:

- 2010 Establishing Renewable Energy at UCF
- Kill-a-Watt educator/presenter for Housing Seminars
- Renewable Energy Market Research Report
- Data collection for LEED/Energy Star points
- DOE Media coverage. March 2010.

Fall 2010:

- Energy Star Building Certification
- Energy Star Portfolio Manager
- UCF Sustainable Series
- UCF Green Jobs Expo

Spring 2011

- LEED Project Team Manager
- Solar powered Umbrellas at UCF
- Kill-a-Watt Energy Competition - Educator
- Next-Generation Solar Thermal presentation: Max G
- Florida Renewable Energy Tour (UCF townhall)
- E85 Ethanol Fueling Station at UCF
- Progress Energy SunSense Schools Program - 100KW Solar PV grant (\$750,000 - finalist & award winner!)

<http://Sustainable.ucf.edu>

Student Sustainability Alliance (SSA) Leadership Committee
October 2008 - May 2010 (1 year 8 months)

A Presidential Mandate for Sustainability, including the Faculty Sustainability Alliance (FSA), Operations Sustainability Alliance (OSA), and the SSA.

Leadership Board of 12 Student Leaders in Sustainability:

- Creates, promotes, and implements environmentally sustainable initiatives on campus
- Supports and coordinates volunteers at student run Community Organic Garden on campus
- Successfully increased UCF football gameday recycling through an "Green-Your-Game" initiative 2008-present

U.S. Department of Energy

2 years 1 month

Student Ambassadors Program - Outreach Coordinator

May 2010 - May 2011 (1 year 1 month)

This summer, my role was to help form the "DOE Student Ambassadors Program" and facilitate a successful student involvement outreach agenda, targeting colleges & universities across the Nation. I currently communicate and work directly with the 8 DOE Student Ambassadors, as well as with internal & external stakeholders to provide the best resources possible. In addition, we strive to provide value for existing environmental/energy outreach programs across the U.S.

DOE Energy Blog write-up:

<http://blog.energy.gov/blog/2010/09/08/student-ambassadors-connecting-campus-energy>

Student Ambassador

September 2009 - May 2010 (9 months)

DOE Student Ambassadors work to educate, engage, and recruit the next generation of energy innovators into the U.S. Department of Energy. In doing so, Ambassadors serve to raise awareness of the benefits of federal service through planning events; presenting to key faculty, staff, and students; and spreading the word about public service opportunities to others on campus.

As a DOE Ambassador, I helped to engage UCF students with energy related outreach, such as energy competitions (Kill-a-Watt) and educational seminars that educated students about DOE efforts in creating a clean energy future. In 2 months, not only did we change behaviors, we also saved UCF \$41,000 and 441,000 kWh in energy cost!

DOE Blog article:

<http://www.energy.gov/news/8821.htm>

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (EERE) Intern

May 2009 - August 2009 (4 months)

-Co-authored White Paper Proposals

----> Center of Excellence for Communication & Energy Outreach

----> Museum Consortium for Energy Outreach

-EERE Picture Database

-EERE Executive Congressional Summaries

-DOE Algae Biofuels Presentation

Center for American Progress

Campus Progress Liason

November 2009 - November 2010 (1 year 1 month)

I.D.E.A.S. is officially an "Action Alliance" member of 'Campus Progress' and is sponsored and funded by the "Center For American Progress."

I.D.E.A.S. officially wins the 2009-2010 "Best Campaign of the Year!"

Repower America

Organize To Be Heard - Campaign Organizer

October 2009 - February 2010 (5 months)

The Consequence is the largest youth coalition ever assembled to call for a comprehensive energy and climate plan that delivers clean energy jobs, less pollution, and a more secure America. Young people have an incredibly important role to play in demanding a clean energy future.

I.D.E.A.S. was a winner, on the top leadership board of the campaign and came in 8th place out of 1200+ organizations in the nation!

<http://consequence09.org/>

FYI Online Learning

Science Research Assistant

July 2008 - February 2009 (8 months)

This position involved in-depth research in science related topics for grades K-12. the purpose was to help create an educational platform online to where student could receive their high school diplomas via the internet. The research focused on pictures, videos, interactive graphics, and definitions for a number of science courses including Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Education

University of Central Florida

BS, Environmental Science & Policy, Energy & Sustainability · (2006 - 2010)

Coral Reef Senior High School

High School, International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma, Spanish /

IB · (2002 - 2006)