

SCHOOL OF MECHANICAL & MATERIALS ENGINEERING

SEMINAR SERIES

Decarbonizing Aviation

Presented by

Michael P Wolcott, Regents Professor and Associate Vice President for Research and Director– Office of Clean Technology, Civil and Environmental Engineering, WSU

Abstract

Aviation is one of the “hard-to-decarbonize” energy sectors because of the high degree of regulation and high integration of vehicles, operations, and infrastructure. Despite this fact, the aviation industry has recognized the addressing its carbon emissions is a vital step to maintain its license to operate into the future. This fact is currently being validated by the recent “flight shaming” movement that is emerging in the European Union and has potential to spread elsewhere in the world. This presentation will review the industry impact on US carbon emissions, its commitment and processes to decarbonize, and the role of transitioning fuels. Washington State University currently co-leads ASCENT, the FAA Center of Excellence for Alternative Jet Fuels and Environment. The role of this COE will also be reviewed.

Biography

Michael Wolcott, Regents Professor, has been a member of the WSU faculty since 1996 conducting research in the field of biobased materials, chemicals, and fuels. Wolcott currently serves as the Director of ASCENT, the FAA Center of Excellence for Alternative Jet Fuel and the Environment. He was formerly Project Co-Director for NARA - Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance, a USDA AFRI Sustainable Biofuels CAP project, which most notably flew the first cellulosic biofuels flight cross-country with partners Gevo and Alaska Airlines. Many of his research projects have featured public-private partnerships with industry, government laboratories, agencies, and communities.

Thursday February 13th, 2020

11:00am to Noon

ETRL room 101

Meet the speaker before the seminar in ETRL room 119, 10:30am to 10:50am. Light refreshments will be served.



The complete schedule of the MME Seminar Series can be found at <https://mme.wsu.edu/events/>.



