



UT Energy Bulletin | October 2020

Energy@UT News

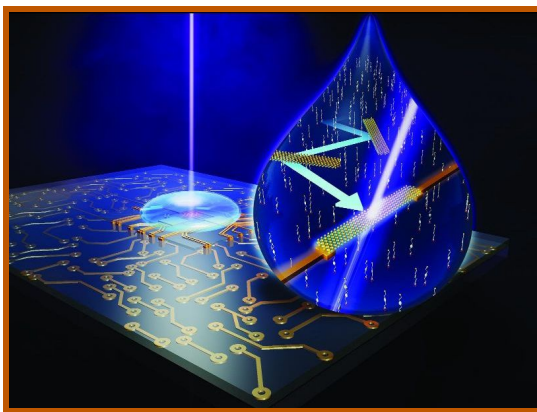


U.S. Department of Energy Selects Oden Institute for Multidisciplinary Simulation Center

The [Oden Institute for Computational Engineering and Sciences](#) was selected by the U.S. Department of Energy to establish a [Multidisciplinary Simulation Center](#), serving as an innovative hub for developing the next generation of predictive simulation capabilities. This includes research that advances technology for the most powerful high-performance computing systems.

Novel Formula Can Decontaminate Water, Advance High-Tech Computers

An [international team of researchers](#), including faculty from the [Cockrell School of Engineering](#), have found a way to refine and produce an unpredictable and hard-to-control material that could impact environmental

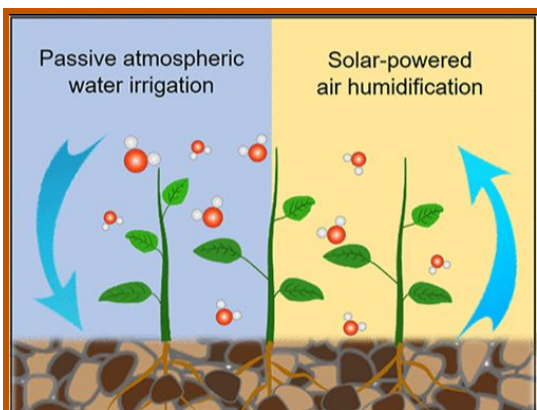


conservation, energy and consumer electronics. The material, Molybdenum Disulfide (MoS₂), holds tremendous potential for applications in energy storage, water treatment, gas, chemical and light sensing. Read more [here](#).



Discovered: Key Indicators of Climate Change's Impact on California Water Supply

Determining how climate change is affecting water supplies is difficult in a state like California that swings between floods and droughts, but [a collaborative effort](#) between researchers at UT Austin has found climate models agree on key metrics that could help water managers in the Golden State. Led by [Geeta Persad](#) of the [Jackson School of Geosciences](#), the study is [here](#) in *Climatic Change*.

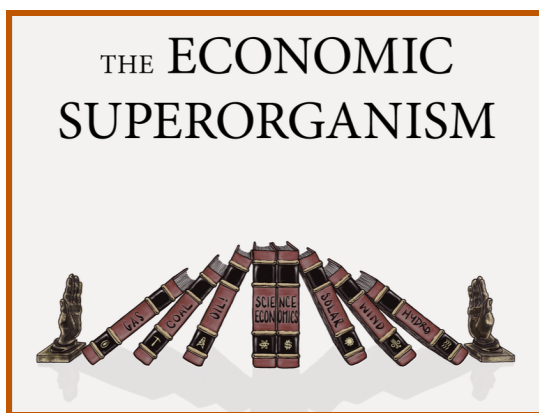


Super Moisture Absorbent Gels for Sustainable Agriculture

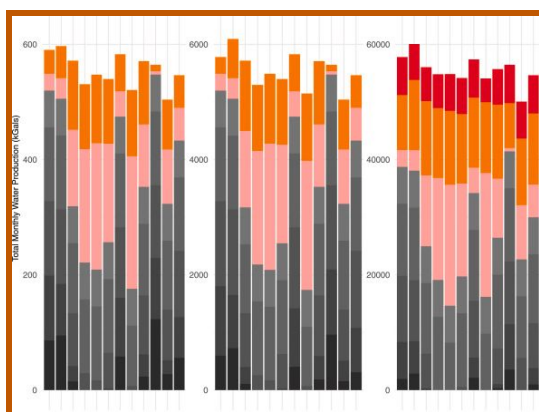
The [Yu Research Group](#) in the [Cockrell School of Engineering](#) is pursuing an advancement in the field of sustainable agriculture through the use of super moisture absorbent gels (SMAGs). These gels can be used to harvest moisture in the air to provide water to plants without access to liquid water resources. Read the group's study [here](#).

New Book: "The Economic Superorganism"

[Dr. Carey King](#), assistant director of the Energy Institute, released his latest book, "[The Economic Superorganism](#): Beyond the Competing Narratives on

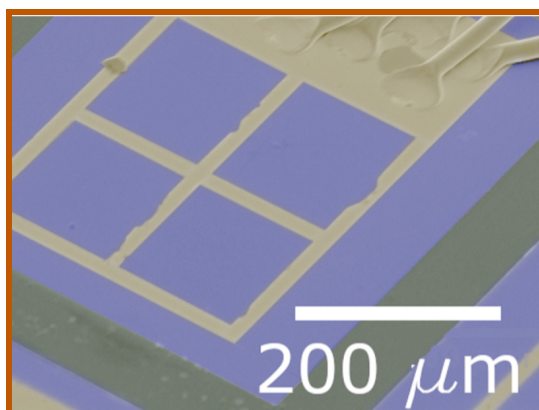


Energy, Growth, and Policy.” It explores the intersection of energy technology and the economy, covering major global trends that influence policy outcomes and generate innovative energy solutions.



Maximizing Benefits of Distributed Electricity and Water Technologies

Benjamin Leibowicz and Erick Jones of UT's [Operations Research and Industrial Engineering](#) program released a [new paper](#) modeling the benefits from optimizing community investment in energy and water systems. They examine the efficiency and cost effectiveness of distributed water and energy technologies for infrastructure, utilities, and carbon emissions. Read more [here](#).



'Wacky Materials' Enhance the Power of New Infrared LED

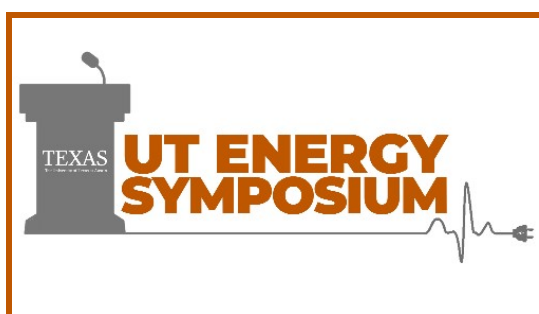
Researchers in the [Cockrell School of Engineering](#) are exploring the capabilities of a new infrared LED sensor that could greatly improve the efficiency and cost of remote sensing systems and LED infrared screens. This process allows LEDs to emit a more powerful and intense beam of light. Read more about their work [here](#).

News from Around Campus

- **UT Austin** joined universities and colleges across the U.S. in [Campus Sustainability Month](#).

- **Jackson School of Geosciences:** Patrick Heimbach will present "[Augmenting A Sea of Data with Dynamics: "The Global Ocean State Estimation Problem"](#)" at SC20.
- **Bureau of Economic Geology:** Scott Tinker presented "Switch On" at [EarthxEnergy](#) to discuss the latest in global clean technology efforts.
- **Department of Petroleum and Geosystems Engineering:** Jon Olson discusses former Vice President Biden's comments on the energy industry in the [New York Times](#)

Upcoming Events



UT Energy Symposium: Fall 2020

This semester, the [UT Energy Symposium](#) (UTES) series features guest speakers from the U.S. House Subcommittee on Energy, Arizona State University, New Consensus, ExxonMobil, Columbia University and others. The symposium, which is free and open to the public, is held virtually on Tuesdays from 5:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. See the full schedule [here](#).



Energy 2020: Black Swans and Elephants in the Room

The [KBH Center for Energy, Law and Business](#) at UT is hosting its 5th Annual Symposium virtually Thursday, Oct. 29 - Friday, Oct. 30, 2020. This year, the event explores both the black swans facing energy as well as the obvious elephants in the room, as speakers consider technology, policy and economic trade-offs for the collective energy future. Details and registration [here](#).

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