Student Energy’s Theory of Change

**The Problem**
- Energy enables a high-quality of life.
- Our current energy system is not sustainable or equitable.

**Sustainable Energy Future**
- Intergenerational & Global Equity
- Cultural Shifts
- Collaboration & Cooperation
- Mobilized Finance
- Policy Frameworks
- Technologies Developed, Implemented

**End Game**
- Energy serves the world’s needs in a way that is economically, socially and environmentally equitable, and does not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

**The Building Blocks**
- The conditions that lay the foundation for a sustainable energy future.

**Student Energy’s Role**
- Where we intervene to make change happen.

**How We Do It**
- **Change Agents**: We engage youth in unique programs that help them become the change agents who will accelerate the transition to a sustainable energy future.
- **Space for Youth to Act**: We work within the energy system to create space for youth to have an impact.

**Who We Engage**
- Student energy is a movement of post-secondary students and develops strategic relationships within the energy system.

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We build agents of change who will be actors in accelerating the energy transition, and we create space within existing institutions in the energy system for youth to act and shape their energy future.
CHANGE AGENTS

Complex factors currently make our energy system unsustainable. The end game for Student Energy is a sustainable energy future where energy serves the needs of the present in a way that is economically, socially and environmentally equitable, and does not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

To achieve this future, we need collaborative, resilient people who are willing to work hard for this future, both within the existing energy system, and as energy entrepreneurs. Our global community of Enernerds will be change agents who are prepared to tackle these problems.

Here’s what we do to shape the future of energy:

- **EMPOWER**
  - We empower Enernerds by instilling:
    - Value of oneself
    - Value of youth and paradigm shifts
    - A sense of possibility
    - A sense of purpose
    - Community support and connection

- **GIVE KNOWLEDGE**
  - We give knowledge by ensuring Enernerds:
    - Know a wide-range of energy information, and understand the energy system
    - Truly understand the importance and implications of energy
    - Know what technological, economic, policy, and social factors contribute to the energy system, and have a base level understanding of each and how they work together
    - Know of costs, benefits and tradeoffs of energy options
    - Understand of different social/cultural contexts
    - Know how to take action

- **TEACH SKILLS**

- **INSTILL VALUES**
Some institutions that are important actors within the energy system are in a state of inertia. They need to transform in order to be part of the energy solutions that will shape a sustainable energy future. Part of that transformation is a recognition of the need for innovative collaborative human resources that will design the tools needed for a sustainable energy future.

When institutions include youth voices and agency in their operating model, they are acknowledging that innovative ideas and collaborative solutions are a key part of creating a sustainable energy future. This can empower those who will be integral players in the future of energy, they are both investing in this future and recognizing that youth are capable of working towards, and contributing to this future.

**TEACH SKILLS**

*We teach skills that make Enernerds:*

- Ambitious
- Able to identify needs, their own and within a system
- Capable of mobilizing resources
- Risk tolerant, with the ability to fail and learn
- Value integration of multiple perspectives in research and decision-making
- Critical thinkers who question information and test assumptions
- Motivators who can mobilize others
- Chameleons, readily adaptable to changing environments and cultures
- People who can execute, see a project through from start to finish
- Active listeners
- Systems thinkers

**INSTALL VALUES**

*We work to instill values in Enernerds so they:*

- Understand the importance of balancing people, the environment, and economics
- Are empathetic
- Enjoy learning by doing
- Are action driven
- Have grit and persistence
- Are curious
- Are humble
- Are progress-driven, consistently questioning the status quo
- Are solutions focused
- Value innovation
- Are visionary

**SPACE FOR YOUTH TO ACT**

Actors in the energy system recognize that youth have a huge stake in the future of energy. These institutions understand and internalize that today’s students are tomorrow’s energy leaders, and by investing in youth organizations can positively shape future of energy.

**UNDERSTAND VALUE OF YOUTH**

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**DEVOTE RESOURCES TO YOUTH**

Recognizing how important youth are to the future of energy, institutions engaged in energy devote resources to their development and empowerment in the sector.